



**U.S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE**  
**Pharmacist Professional Advisory Committee**

**Department of Health and Human Services**

**Minutes of Meeting**  
**8 February 2007**  
**Surgeon Generals Conference Room**  
**Parklawn Building**  
**1300-1600**

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**Members Present:**

**In Rockville:**

CDR Beth Fabian Fritsch, FDA-Rockville, MD  
CDR Nita Sood (Chair), HRSA- Rockville, MD  
CDR Jacqueline Thomas, OCCO-Rockville, MD  
LCDR Richard Glabach, OCCFM-Rockville, MD

LCDR Tara Turner (Ex-Officio Executive Secretary), CMS- Baltimore, MD

**Via Telephone:**

RADM Robert Pittman (CPO), IHS-Rockville, MD  
CAPT James Bresette, IHS-Rockville, MD  
CAPT Robert McClelland, IHS-Elko, NV  
CDR Christopher Allen, CDC-Atlanta, GA  
CDR Richard DeCederfelt, NIH-Bethesda, MD  
CDR Samuel Foster, IHS-White Earth, MN  
CDR Patricia Garvey, FDA-Silver Spring, MD  
CDR Michael Long (Ex-Officio Chair) BOP-Butner, NC  
CDR Michael Shiber, BOP-Cumberland, MD  
CDR Kimberly Zietlow, IHS-Red Lake, MN  
LCDR Brian Campbell (Ex-Officio JOAG), IHS-Whiteriver, AZ

LCDR Violette Ganoë (Vice-Chair), BOP-Bradford, PA  
LCDR Jeff Mouakket, HRSA-Dallas, TX  
LCDR Jeffrey Newman, BOP-Springfield, MO  
LCDR Patrick Romero, USCG-Clearwater, FL (alt for CAPT Havens)  
LCDR Peter Vermilyea, IHS-Winslow, AZ  
LT Dan Brum, FDA-Rockville, MD (alt for CDR Tarosky)

**Members Absent:**

CAPT George Havens, NDMS-Washington, DC (Excused – alt present)  
CDR Tamara Close, IHS-Whiteriver, AZ (Excused - alt not present)  
CDR Mary Kremzner, FDA-Rockville, MD (alt not present)  
CDR Matthew Tarosky, FDA-Rockville, MD (Excused – alt present)

LCDR Kristina Joyce-Pittman (Ex-Officio JOAG), FDA-Philadelphia, PA  
LT Stacey Smith (Ex-Officio JOAG), IHS-Fort Washakie, WY

**Guests\*:**

CAPT Chris Bina, BOP-Washington, DC  
CAPT Sharon Gershon, FDA-Rockville, MD  
CAPT Jim Imholte, HHS-Kansas City, MO  
CAPT George Lyght, FDA-Silver Spring, MD  
CDR Scott Giberson, IHS-Rockville, MD

CDR Dana Hall, HHS-Kansas City, MO  
CDR Alice Knobens, FDA-Rockville, MD  
CDR Jane Kreis, FDA-Oakland, CA  
CDR Josephine Lyght, HRSA-Rockville, MD  
CDR Jill Mayes, IHS-Idabel, OK  
CDR Nina Nwaba, FDA-Rockville, MD  
CDR Judy Rose, IHS-Anchorage, AK

CDR Todd Stankewicz, CMS-Chicago, IL  
CDR Rob Steyert, FDA-Central Islip, NY  
CDR Mark Strong, BOP-Leavenworth, KS  
CDR Deborah Thompson, USCG-New London, CT  
LCDR Christine Bina, FDA-Rockville, MD  
LCDR Renu Chhabra, FDA-Rockville, MD  
LCDR James Czarzasty, HHS-Washington, DC  
LCDR Kavita Dada, FDA-Rockville, MD  
LCDR Michelle Dillahunt, FDA-Rockville, MD  
LCDR Victoria Ferretti-Aceto, FDA-Rockville, MD  
LCDR Louis Flowers, HRSA-Rockville, MD  
LCDR Lori Garcia, FDA-Silver Spring, MD  
LCDR Lori Hall, CDC-Atlanta, GA  
LCDR Thomas Hinchliffe, FDA-Rockville, MD  
LCDR Uduak Inokon, FDA-Jamaica, NY  
LCDR S. Christopher Jones, FDA-Rockville, MD  
LCDR Haksong Jin, NIH-Bethesda, MD  
LCDR Craig Kiester, FDA-Rockville, MD  
LCDR Paula LaPlant, FDA-Swanton, VT  
LCDR Jeffrey Mallette, BOP-Pensacola, FL  
LCDR Diem-Kieu Ngo, FDA-Rockville, MD  
LCDR Ryan Nguyen, FDA-Rockville, MD

LCDR Keith Olin, FDA-Rockville, MD  
LCDR Devvrat Patel, FDA-Rockville, MD  
LCDR James Saunders, FDA-Silver Spring, MD  
LCDR Kendra Stewart, FDA-Rockville, MD  
LCDR Teresa Watkins, FDA-Rockville, MD  
LCDR Karen Williams, HRSA-Rockville, MD  
LCDR Chi-Ann Wu, FDA-Rockville, MD  
LCDR Samuel Wu, FDA-Silver Spring, MD  
LT Randy Anderson, FDA-Silver Spring, MD  
LT Liatte Krueger, BOP-Rochester, MN  
LT Sohail Mosaddegh, FDA-Rockville, MD  
LT Susan Pellock, FDA-Rockville, MD  
LT Cicely Reese, FDA-Rockville, MD  
LT Christina Thompson, FDA-Rockville, MD  
LT Jeffrey Vang, IHS-Mount Pleasant, MI  
LT Joseph Zagame, BOP-Lewisburg, PA  
Dr. Katherine Knapp, Dean, Touro University  
College of Pharmacy  
Quan Luu, pharmacy student, University of  
Maryland  
Marina Sulik, pharmacy student

\*Guests attending the meeting via call in are requested to email their rank, name, agency, and location information to the PharmPAC secretary at [tara.turner@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:tara.turner@cms.hhs.gov).

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**Call to Order: CDR Nita Sood (([NSood@HRSA.GOV](mailto:NSood@HRSA.GOV)))**

CDR Sood called the February 2007 Pharmacist Professional Advisory Committee (PharmPAC) meeting to order.

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**Acceptance of January 07 PharmPAC Meeting Minutes: CDR Nita Sood (([NSood@HRSA.GOV](mailto:NSood@HRSA.GOV)))**

Minutes from the January 4, 2007 PharmPAC meeting were accepted as amended.

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**Special Presentation: Workforce Trends among U.S. Pharmacists – Dr. Katherine Knapp, Dean of the Touro University College of Pharmacy**

Dr. Knapp provided a very informative presentation on pharmacy staffing and workforce issues. She is a nationally recognized expert in this area.

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**CPO Comments: RADM Robert Pittman**

- ◆ Deputy Secretary Alex Azar has left the Department of Health and Human Services effective 2/5/07
- ◆ RADM Craig Vanderwagen has been named the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response
- ◆ Dr. Andrew VonEschenbach has been confirmed as the new head of the Food and Drug Administration
- ◆ CAPT David Rutstein has been appointed as the new acting director of OFRD
- ◆ Benchmarks 2008 have been finalized and sent to the Office of the Surgeon General for approval; expected to be released in March
- ◆ Great response from officers who assisted in getting documents scanned into eOPFs for officers who are up for promotion this year

- ◆ COSTEP selection process is taking place February 5 through March 2
- ◆ Transformation Work Groups and Policy Groups are meeting on a variety of issues. There was a meeting earlier this week on the new recruitment system and the new online application system, including discussion of the new 1-800# that OCCO will use to get applicants to the information that they need in a timely fashion
- ◆ OFRD: Basic readiness for the Corps is >80%; Basic readiness for the pharmacy category is at 87%; draft policies on preparedness and readiness are under review
- ◆ Federal Chiefs met with the American Pharmacists Association (APhA) on February 2 to discuss legislative updates, medication therapy management services, pharmacy technician certification (2/3 of pharmacy technicians are board certified), and the federal forum for the upcoming annual meeting (CAPT Chris Bina will lead this for the PHS)
- ◆ Federal Chiefs met with the American Society of Health System Pharmacists (ASHP) on February 6 to discuss ASHP's long range vision and their federal forum.

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**Section Lead Comments:**

**Communication** → CDR Samuel Foster ([Samuel.Foster@ihs.gov](mailto:Samuel.Foster@ihs.gov)) / LCDR Richard Glabach ([Richard.Glabach@hhs.gov](mailto:Richard.Glabach@hhs.gov))

**PLANT Profiles** → CDR Foster

Several new PLANT profiles have been posted and distributed via the listserv. These profiles are useful to officers in terms of providing information about different agencies and job opportunities.

**PharmPAC Website Updates**→LCDR Glabach

- ◆ Continue to send items for posting to both CDR Foster and LCDR Glabach; try to pre-format the material for a faster turnaround
- ◆ CAPT Quaglietta has developed a new proposed website
- ◆ Workgroup has reviewed the ORC-Macro website; have a template for future PAC postings
- ◆ Looking at 5 viewer audiences or user groups
  - Students
  - Prospective applicants
  - Associate Recruiters/University Points of Contact
  - Career Officers
  - Officers eligible for promotion
- ◆ Will address the PharmPAC as a separate 6<sup>th</sup> user group; will create a subsection on the new website for the PharmPAC
- ◆ Meeting next week to discuss each section layout; continuing to meet on a biweekly basis

**Recruitment** → CAPT James Bresette ([james.bresette@ihs.gov](mailto:james.bresette@ihs.gov)) / CDR Beth Fabian Fritsch ([beth.fritsch@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:beth.fritsch@fda.hhs.gov))

- ◆ **Student Programs**→LCDR Chhabra
  - FDA Student Experiential Program
    - Last year started PHS overview lecture, including presentations from LCDR Chhabra and CAPT Hess
    - If interested in serving as a presenter, contact LCDR Chhabra or CDR Kremzner
  - COSTEP program
    - Listserv message went out requesting COSTEP mentors
    - Due to lack of funding at FDA there are not as many opportunities as there have been in the past
    - Will contact students who were not selected and talk to them about PHS in general and the FDA student experiential program

- If possible at your worksite, consider mentoring a COSTEP student
- ◆ **UPOC/WACS→LCDR Vermilyea**
  - Newsletter –currently developing the first UPOC newsletter to let UPOCs know what others are doing; provide a review of events attended, including pictures; will compile materials into a newsletter format; based on response will determine how frequently to publish
  - FAQ’s document – currently developing a recruitment Frequently Asked Questions document to distribute at events and post on website
  - WACS - working to develop reports from the WACS database
  - Seeking self nominations for UPOCs for the following universities:
    - Nova Southeastern University (Florida)
    - Palm Beach Atlantic University (Florida)
    - Long Island University (New York)
    - University of Louisiana
- ◆ **Pharmacy’s Best Kept Secret (PBKS)→LCDR Inokon**
  - Document has been edited; ready for roll out on February 28; will be posted on PAC website; will be available for APhA conference in March
- ◆ **Associate Recruiter Program→LCDR Bina**
  - OCCO has secured a booth for the APhA meeting in March; LCDR Ganoie is organizing coverage (Sat, Sun, and Mon of the conference)
  - Listserve message regarding training required for associate recruiters; all associate recruiters enrolled in the program since April 2006 must complete the training and 2 activities by March 31 to maintain their active status (the 2 activities must occur between April 1, 2006 and March 31, 2007)
  - 25 new associate recruiters on board as of January 1, 2007; training requirements for the new AR’s will need to be completed by December 31, 2007

**Administration** → CDR Patricia Garvey ([patricia.garvey@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:patricia.garvey@fda.hhs.gov)) / CDR Kimberly Zietlow ([kimberly.zietlow@ihs.gov](mailto:kimberly.zietlow@ihs.gov))

- ◆ **DHS Membership Nomination → CDR Garvey**
  - Call for nominations will go out to fill CAPT Havens’ slot (to serve through the end of his term); due date for nominations is March 9
  - Call for nominations for 2007-2010 term was sent over listserv; due date for nominations is June 1
  - Based on the current process openings are as follows:
    - 1 CMS
    - 2 HRSA
    - 2 IHS
  - Workgroup received 10 responses regarding possible revision of the process; after vigorous debate the workgroup recommended that the PAC continue with the current process and revisit the issue next year; Workgroup members are RADM Pittman, CAPT Bresette, CDR Sood, CDR Garvey, CDR Zietlow, CDR Foster, CDR Kreis, and LCDR Ganoie.
- ◆ **PharmPAC Awards→ CDR Garvey**
  - Call for PharmPAC Award nominations was sent via the pharmacist listserv, the Commissioned Corps update, and to all agency liaisons
  - Nominations close on March 30
  - There are 4 awards; so far we have only received 1 nomination
  - Contact CDR Garvey with any questions

- ◆ **Student Awards → CDR Garvey**
  - Have not received any nominations
  - Due date is March 2, but extensions will be considered
  - UPOCs should contact their respective schools and encourage them to submit nominations
  - Contact LCDR Kristen Maves with any questions (klmaves@scf.cc)
  
- ◆ **Agency Liaisons → CAPT Holt ([walter.holtjr@cdc.hhs.gov](mailto:walter.holtjr@cdc.hhs.gov))**
  - American Pharmacists Association (APhA) → LCDR Craig Kiester
    - Annual Meeting is scheduled for March 16-19, 2007 in Atlanta, GA
    - Federal Forum is scheduled for March 16; there is no charge to participate
    - RADM Pittman has selected the following delegates from the PHS for the APhA House of Delegates:
      - Delegates: LCDR Gerardo Vazquez and LCDR Yon Yu
      - Alternates: CDR Sharon McCoy and LT Aaron Long
  - American Society of Health System Pharmacists (ASHP) → LCDR Keith Olin
    - Has a brand new website which contains an online program for disaster and terrorism response
    - Accepting comments on 2 guidance documents – deadline is February 9
  - American Public Health Association (APHA) → CDR Scott Giberson
    - Currently establishing new contacts within APHA; previous liaison separated from PHS, will need to develop new contacts or find old ones; Notify CDR Giberson if you know of any contacts
    - APHA announced a new website; New features include an A-Z index of health topics; they have begun to populate it with both health and advocacy information. This feature to grow exponentially in the coming months. Has pharmacy information surrounding prescription drugs and Medicare. Immunization section contains multiple articles around the topic.
    - Annual Meeting scheduled for November 3-7, 2007 in Washington, DC. The theme is *Politics, Policy and Public Health*. Great opportunity if you have never attended an APHA meeting. Call for abstracts will soon close (Feb 12-16). 2008 meeting will be in San Diego, CA.
    - Book available that may be of interest to those who deployed: “Muddy Waters” an oral history of the public health response to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita and the flooding of New Orleans.

**Career Development → CDR Michael Shiber ([MJShiber@bop.gov](mailto:MJShiber@bop.gov))**

**Immunization Initiative → CDR Shiber**

- ◆ Have been awarded funding from the American Pharmacists Association (\$2000), Commissioned Officers Foundation (\$2000) and the Archambault Foundation (\$1000); these funds will be used for training for this year
- ◆ White paper has been submitted to the CPO – goal is to receive funding to train all PHS pharmacists (Thanks to CDR Sood and CDR Pincock for helping to prepare the document)

**2007 Assimilation Package → CDR Shiber**

- ◆ Deadline is February 15; must be postmarked by this date; no faxes accepted

**JOAG Report → LCDR Brian Campbell ([brian.campbell@mail.ihs.gov](mailto:brian.campbell@mail.ihs.gov))**

- ◆ The next regularly scheduled JOAG meeting is tomorrow, February 9. We are meeting with the Acting Surgeon General to discuss transformation and other topics. Call-in information is 1-888-322-1791; password is 8331
- ◆ February 23 is the deadline for nominations for JOAG Awards; check the website for a list of the awards, the criteria, and application materials

### Agency Reports

- ◆ Ex-Minimus Agencies – CDR Chris Allen - CDC report tabled until next month
  - CDR Todd Stankewicz, Regional Pharmacist Consultant, provided a report for CMS
  - CMS pharmacists are involved in many areas, both policy and clinical, and the roles are expanding (Part D, MTM, e-prescribing, auditing of long term care facilities)
  - Jane Leitner is the CMS Liaison (410-786-1786; [Jane.Leitner@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:Jane.Leitner@cms.hhs.gov))
- ◆ Food and Drug Administration (FDA) – LT Dan Brum for CDR Matthew Tarosky
  - See written report
- ◆ Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) – LCDR Jeff Mouakket
  - No issues to report
- ◆ Office of the Secretary (OS) – CDR Jacqueline Thomas
  - New electronic CAD
  - Several job opportunities
  - OPHEP is taking over NDMS from FEMA
- ◆ DHS – LCDR Patrick Romero (USCG)
  - Possibility of retirements – officers looking for opportunities should contact CAPT Mary Fong
  - USCG pharmacy challenge coins available
  - DHS voting member slot – call for nominations
- ◆ National Pharmacy Council of the Indian Health Service (IHS) – CDR Sood for CDR Bradley Bishop
  - Annual Face to Face meeting
  - Professional Specialty Group
- ◆ Bureau of Prisons (BOP) – LCDR Jeffrey Newman
  - Completed OIG pharmacy audit; all recommendations made were closed without further follow up
  - Selected 8 COSTEPs for BOP
  - Non-formulary approval process has gone electronic
- ◆ National Institutes of Health (NIH) – LCDR Haksong Jin for CDR Richard DeCederfelt
  - Implementation of new pharmacy computer system
  - Creation of new facility
  - Chief of Pharmacy Department announced his resignation

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### **PAC Chair Report** → CDR Sood ([NSood@HRSA.GOV](mailto:NSood@HRSA.GOV))

- ◆ We have completed the first quarter of the PAC year; review of some of our accomplishments thus far:
  - Administration
    - Completed SOP update

- Responder of the year award – selection forwarded to OFRD
    - New Rx Challenge Coin – in development; to be ready for COA 2007
    - Assigned new liaisons
      - American Public Health Association – CDR Scott Giberson
      - Indian Health Service – CDR Bradley Bishop
      - Legal Liaison – LCDR Krista Scardina
  - Career Development
    - Grants for immunization training; White Paper to be presented to OSG; goal is to train all pharmacists
    - Readiness – great feat for our category to reach 87%; this is the highest among all of the larger categories
    - Mentoring program revitalized in 2006
    - Thanks to CAPT James Bresette and CAPT Charles Hoppes for volunteering to review officers' eOPFs for guidance
  - Communciations
    - PLANT – plans to update profiles; use this to highlight other opportunities
    - Public Health Pharmacy Work Group – Dr. Katherine Knapp's presentation on pharmacy workforce issues – Thanks to CAPT Bresette for setting this up
    - Website revamping – Thanks to LCDR Glabach and CAPT Quaglietta for their efforts
    - LT Brum is updating the list of civil servant pharmacists – we want to get them engaged in our activities
  - Recruitment
    - Associate Recruiter Program - information on requirements, deadlines, AR list
    - COSTEP Program – please volunteer to mentor a COSTEP student
  - Agency Reports – new endeavor, has been well received
- ◆ COA 2007 → CDR Sood for LCDR Connie Jung
    - Early bird registration deadline is April 23
    - Hotel information is available on the website
    - Still looking for volunteers to help with administrative functions
  - ◆ Need volunteer to take the minutes for the June 2007 PAC meeting
  - ◆ E-mail went out requesting PAC comments on 2 documents (HP2010 and Guide to Public Health Research Needs); please submit comments to LCDR Ganoe by March 9
  - ◆ Several pharmacists are volunteering on WPDG and WIPT working groups; need to regularly inform the PAC chair and CPO of developments
  - ◆ Looking for volunteers to review the 2008 promotion benchmarks; CDR Mike Long is the lead on this
  - ◆ We are now providing recordings of the PAC meetings on the website

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**Old/New Business:**

- ◆ None

**The meeting was adjourned @ 4:15pm.**

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**Next Meeting Date:**

**March 1, 2007, from 1300 to 1600 EST, Surgeon General's Conference Room; Agenda and call-in information will be distributed prior to the meeting**

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**Useful Links and Contact Info:**

- ◆ Emails: [PharmPAC@list.nih.gov](mailto:PharmPAC@list.nih.gov)  
[PHS-Pharmacists@list.nih.gov](mailto:PHS-Pharmacists@list.nih.gov)

[PHS-RX-JOBS@list.nih.gov](mailto:PHS-RX-JOBS@list.nih.gov)  
[PHS-Rx-Students@list.nih.gov](mailto:PHS-Rx-Students@list.nih.gov)

- ◆ Listservs: PHS Pharmacists <https://list.nih.gov/archives/phs-pharmacists.html>  
PHS Rx Students <https://list.nih.gov/archives/phs-rx-students.html>  
OFRD <https://list.nih.gov/archives/ccrf.html>  
RPh Job Vacancies <https://list.nih.gov/archives/phs-rx-jobs.html>  
CCMIS <https://list.nih.gov/archives/ccinformation-l.html>  
CC Vacancies <https://list.nih.gov/archives/ccvacancies-l.html>
  
- ◆ Websites: PharmPAC <http://hhs.gov/pharmacy>  
CCMIS <http://dcp.psc.gov>  
USPHS <http://www.usphs.gov>  
OFRD <http://oep.osophs.dhhs.gov/ccrf>

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--Respectfully Submitted,

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LCDR Tara Turner, Executive Secretary      Date

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CDR Nita Sood, Chair      Date

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RADM Robert E. Pittman, CPO      Date

**Attachments:**

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1. February FDA Agency Report
  2. February Recruitment Section Report