



U.S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE
Pharmacist Professional Advisory Committee
Department of Health and Human Services

Minutes of Meeting
06-MAR-2003
1400H – 1600H

Members Present:

In Rockville

RADM Richard Walling (CPO)
LCDR Gregg Davis (Vice Chair)

CAPT Craig Hostetler (Chair)
LT Krista M. Scardina

Via telephone

LCDR Cindy Dougherty
LCDR Daniel Hasenfang
CAPT Jim Imholte
LCDR Michael J. Long
CDR Raelene Skerda
CDR Mark Burroughs (alt/Huntzinger)

CDR Carolyn Johnson (alt/Forman)
CDR Douglas P. Herold
LCDR Michael Lee
LT Kristen Maves
LCDR Mark N. Strong
CDR James Bresette

Guests:

CAPT Richard Lawson (alt/Imholte)
ENS Mark Sellers
LCDR Mary Kremzner
CAPT Robert Pittman
CAPT Ronald Brown
LT Catherine Yu
LT Robert Hayes (alt/Lee)

LT Jeff Mouakket (alt/Hostetler)
CAPT (Ret.) Frank Nice
LCDR Ed Stein (alt/Bresette)
CDR Ray Cope
Leora Blander (pharmacy student)
LT Renu Chhabra

CPO Report: RADM Richard Walling (cporx@osophs.dhhs.gov)

- ❖ RADM Walling reported on a recent meeting with VADM Richard Carmona and flag officers. The “Admiral’s Call” was attended by 36 of the 51 flag officers. VADM Carmona emphasized three specific areas: Visibility, Leadership and Mentoring. He is very impressed with the significant impact that Commissioned Officers are having on the nation’s public health. However, he has been disappointed that on several occasions officers have not identified themselves as officers, and/or been in uniform. He also noted that officers should expect to be leaders both professionally and as officers. In addition, it is a responsibility of senior officers to assist in developing the next generation of officers. He concluded his comments by acknowledging that organizational culture will need to be addressed over the coming months, and that he is prepared to do so. The President and Secretary have given him this charge to transform the Corps and he takes that responsibility very seriously. He tasked the flag officers to begin the organizational behavior transformation.
- ❖ RADM Walling attended the IHS Oklahoma Area Continuing Education Meeting in Tulsa, OK. The meeting was excellent. I challenged the OK Area to be the first IHS Area to reach the 70% CCRF qualified level. The PharmPAC may wish to consider a similar challenge to the other categories.

- ❖ RADM Walling is pleased with the progress on the PharmPAC work plans. The goal is to target specific outcomes that we as a professional category want to achieve over the year. Therefore, he wants to remind the PharmPAC members to be realistic with time frames and focus on activities and tasks with the greatest priority.
- ❖ The 109th Annual meeting of the Association of Military Surgeons of the United States (AMSUS) is scheduled 16-21 November 2003 in San Antonio, Texas. This year VADM Carmona is serving as the President of the meeting. As a result of this leadership role, the USPHS is responsible for planning the Annual Meeting. RADM Walling and CAPT Hostetler are co-chairs for the pharmacy category session. The theme for this year's meeting is "partnership in Preparedness, Prevention, and Public Health: Protecting the Nation." VADM Carmona is encouraging more cross-service and cross-discipline collaboration at the meeting for three of the theme topics: partnership, prevention and preparedness. We encourage PHS pharmacists to consider participating in the meeting. An announcement for call to papers will be forthcoming.

PharmPAC Chair Report: CAPT Craig Hostetler (CHostetler@hrsa.gov)

- ❖ CAPT Hostetler also stressed the importance of pharmacists' involvement in the AMSUS meeting. All pharmacists should think about their roles and how they could make presentations at the meeting. Bioterrorism is a very high priority for the meeting; however, medication safety will also be a topic of interest. Pharmacists with experience in medication safety or who work in areas where a system is already in place could present on their experiences. There will be a joint session with the nursing category that is planned to be medication specific.
- ❖ The 2003 Public Health Professional Conference sponsored by COA will be held 15 – 20 June 2003 in Scottsdale, AZ. The 2003 Indian Health Service Southwest Regional Pharmacy Continuing Education Seminar (The Quad) will be held Friday, 13-JUN-2003 at 1300H until Sunday, 15-JUN-2003 at 1230H. There is a collaborative agreement between the IHS Clinical Support Center and COA that will allow those registered for COA to register for The Quad without charge. Also, if registered for The Quad, a discounted rate of \$350.00 for COA registration will be offered. The Quad offers up to 15 hours of ACPE. Registration for The Quad will be available on-line once the agenda is finalized.
- ❖ There may be a PharmPAC meeting at COA. Time, date, and structure of the meeting are TBD.
- ❖ The APhA annual meeting will be held 28-MAR-2003 to 01-APR-2003 in New Orleans. The PharmPAC will choose two delegates and two alternates to represent the USPHS. The Federal Forum will be held on Friday, 28-March-2003 with the USPHS breakout session in the afternoon. It is hopeful that if his schedule allows, Surgeon General Carmona will be stopping by for the afternoon breakout session. VADM Carmona will also be speaking the following morning to the pharmacy students. USPHS officers are encouraged to attend the session. Uniform of the day will be Service Dress Blue.
- ❖ Please note that to facilitate communications when messages to PharmPAC members are sent via email, CAPT Hostetler will designate action items with an "A" and items that require a response with an "R". Please write responses directly within the text and send back via the reply mechanism. Action items should be acted upon and appropriate confirmation forwarded upon completion.

Section Reports: (highlights and areas where volunteers are needed). Please contact the Section Leads listed below to volunteer for the activities in which you are interested.

1. Career Development Section: Lead, CAPT Jim Imholte (jimholte@hrsa.gov)
 - The section will be working on the joint service project on the effectiveness of special pay.
 - Dr. Frank Pucino, Jr. is working on making contacts within other Agencies regarding civil service pharmacists.
 - Once the Transformation of the Corps is announced, an implementation plan will be developed to carry out its intentions.
 - “Officership” will soon be a part of the promotion process. The section will work on informing pharmacists on ways to improve and become aware of officership and its importance.
 - LCDR Mark Strong and LCDR Mike Forman are working on assessing the CCRF status of current pharmacists. 30% of the commissioned corps is expected to be ready for deployment by the end of 2003 and 70% by the end of 2005. As it stands, out of 833 pharmacists in the commissioned corps, 29% are registered for CCRF and only 6% have completed all of the required training modules. The section would like to see the PharmPAC write two letters: one to congratulate present members of CCRF and one to those pharmacists that are not members. It was also stressed that civil service pharmacists can be involved in emergency preparedness other than being involved in CCRF (i.e., National Response Teams). The CCRF Activity will be changed to something like the Pharmacy Response Activity in order to include opportunities for commissioned officers and civil servants.
 - Other areas of interest for the section include the mentoring program, PHS Awards (notifying pharmacist and their supervisors of the opportunities available), and promotion mentoring for junior officers.

2. Recruitment Section: Lead, CDR James Bresette (JBresett@hqe.ihs.gov)
 - The major areas of interest in this section include the Associate Recruiter Program (ARP), student programs, Placement of pharmacists, and the Points of Contact (POCs).
 - Pharmacy’s Best Kept Secret has been updated and finalized for 2003.
 - With the decrease in staffing, the Division of Commissioned Personnel (DCP) is depending on the PharmPAC to assist them in identifying quality pharmacists.
 - There are currently eight Senior COSTEPs on duty.

3. Communications Section: Lead, LCDR Mike Long (mjlong@bop.gov)
 - The three highest priorities for the section are the website review, maintaining the listservs, and updating events and meetings.
 - The section is looking for pharmacists interested in web design to continue to develop and make needed changes to the website. Please contact LCDR Long if interested. A message will be sent out to pharmacists asking for feedback regarding the website. A group is being gathered to analyze all of the information presented. Guidelines will be developed regarding content of the website and how it will be maintained.

- LT Scardina will be sending an email regarding Pharmacists Learning and Networking Together (PLANT) and the need for additional writers and editors. PLANT has been directed to students in the past, but should also be used as a retention tool. Please contact LT Scardina if you are interested in becoming involved with PLANT (scardink@cdcr.fda.gov) .
4. Administration Section: Lead, LCDR Gregg Davis (Davisg@cdcr.fda.gov)
- Awards: The PharmPAC Honor Award nominees have been reviewed by the Section and prioritized. All PharmPAC members will soon be receiving packets with the write-ups for the three recommended nominees. Members are to review the nominations and then will be required to rank order the nominees and respond to LT Kristen Maves (klmaves@anmc.org) . A total of ten student awards nominations were received this year for the USPHS Excellence in Pharmacy Practice Award for Pharmacy Students. The Section will meet to decide which of the nominees meet the award criteria. The nominees will then be presented to the PharmPAC. POCs from the schools with awarded recipients will be contacted to attend the school's award ceremony in order to make the presentation in person.
 - Membership: Recent changes in Agencies of PharmPAC members are being reviewed. All current members must submit their alternate's information to LCDR Davis ASAP. A CV and letter from the supervisor must be submitted.
 - History: A few projects have been discussed, including documentation of the use of USPHS in the Korean Conflict and Bioterrorism. Anyone interested in history and writing should consider involvement in this activity.
 - The PharmPAC Charter is on the website. The current SOPs are available from LCDR Davis. Updates are being made to both documents. PharmPAC members are strongly encouraged to read these documents in order to guide them through PharmPAC activities.
 - External Pharmacy Affairs: This activity will look at external organizations from many perspectives and tie them into areas such as awards, legislation, and delegates.
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New Business:

- ❖ Two female patients are needed for the National Patient Counseling Competition at the APhA meeting in March. Anyone interested should contact LCDR Ed Stein as soon as possible (Edward.stein@mail.ihs.gov) . It is a great experience.
- ❖ The final draft workplan of each section will be presented at the April meeting.
- ❖ RADM R. Michael Davidson is retiring at the end of March. There has not been a position announcement for his replacement. Applicants must be 0-6 and above and the billet is an 0-8 flag rank.
- ❖ A message from RADM John Babb, director of CCRF: The National Security Council has requested the support of DHHS to immediately identify 126 Commissioned Corps Readiness Force (CCRF) members to be ready to package and ship millions of doses of smallpox vaccine in a post-event phase (which would only occur after the identification of a smallpox case). Forty-two officers in the immediate Washington metropolitan area will be identified to deploy to a transportation site in the Washington area within 2 hours of notification. A second team of 42 officers must be identified that could be on site within 8 hours of notification, and a third team of 42 officers will be required to be on site within 12 hours of notification. Because of these reporting restrictions, officers assigned to remote duty stations

without quick access to a major airport will not be asked to participate. Additionally, preference will be given to non-clinicians for this mission, as clinicians may be otherwise occupied in such a scenario. No date has been identified for this response. This afternoon, CCRF will begin identifying 126 officers that would participate in this potential mission. In other words, in the immediate future, officers will only be identified, entered into a rapid communication system called Command Caller, and stand by - continuing to perform their normal mission functions at their duty stations. If the mission is carried out, officers will report for an intense operational briefing by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and then immediately go to work. Forty-five members of the team may be asked to accompany the vaccine shipments to final destinations to ensure that the cold-chain of custody is maintained. Go to <http://oep.osophs.dhhs.gov/ccrf> and click on the CCRF logo, the complete the questionnaire on the website to join this mission. You MUST get the concurrence of your supervisor to participate. Messages from the Surgeon General to the OPDIV heads have been sent out this afternoon, asking for their support. Identical messages will also go to Agency Liaisons, advising them of this request. This team must be identified as soon as possible, per the NSC. The Department of Health and Human Services and the Commissioned Corps play an integral role in preserving and protecting the public health of the nation and the world. I thank you for your understanding, your support, and your rapid reply to this request.

- ❖ The dental category is hosting a bioterrorism meeting, but other categories are invited, since they may want to replicate this type of training.
- ❖ Combined Humanitarian Assistance Response Training (CHART) is an introductory course designed to provide basic information about complex contingency operations in an international arena to U. S. military service men and women. Pharmacists are encouraged to take this worthwhile course.

Next Meeting Dates:

03-APR-2003	@ 1300H EST in SG Conference Room, 18-57, Parklawn Building
01-MAY-2003	@ 1300H EST in SG Conference Room, 18-57, Parklawn Building
JUNE-2002	@ the COA meeting in Scottsdale, AZ, time and date TBD
JULY	NO MEETING

(Please note that all meetings start promptly at 1300H ET in the Surgeon General's Conference Room, Room 18-57, Parklawn Building, unless otherwise specified.)

Agenda and Call-In Information will be distributed prior to the meeting.

Useful Links and Contact Info:

- ◆ E-mails: PharmPAC@list.nih.gov
PHS-Pharmacists@list.nih.gov
Rx-Vacancies@list.nih.gov
Rx-Students@list.nih.gov
- ◆ Listservs: PHS Pharmacists <http://list.nih.gov/archives/phs-pharmacists.html>
PHS Rx Student <http://list.nih.gov/archives/phs-rx-students.html>
CCRF Pharmacists <http://list.nih.gov/archives/ccrf-pharm.html>

RPh Jobs/Vacancies <http://list.nih.gov/archives/phs-rx-jobs.html>

- ◆ Websites: PharmPAC <http://www.hhs.gov/pharmacy/>
 - DCP <http://dep.psc.gov/>
 - USPHS CC <http://www.usphs.gov/>
 - CCRF <http://oep.osophs.dhhs.gov/ccrf/>
 - PHS-1 DMAT <http://oep.osophs.dhhs.gov/dmat/>
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Respectfully Submitted,

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LT Krista M. Scardina Date

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CAPT Craig Hostetler, Chair Date

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RADM Richard Walling, CPO Date