

**OPTOMETRY SERVICE
CONFERENCE CALL**

AGENDA

April 15, 2011

3 p.m. Eastern Time

1 (800) 767-1750, Access Code: 16019

1. Announcements:

- a. Open VA Optometry Staff Positions
 - i. Kathleen Gernhart comment. Please follow link to see the open optometry positions available. There may be an open position in Little Rock, AR that has not been posted yet, but the point of contact is Ron Ford which is listed on the attachment below.
 - ii. http://www.navao.org/documents/04_15_2011/Open_Optometry_Positions_List_2011.doc
http://www.va.gov/OPTOMETRY/open_VA_Optomestrist_Positions.asp
or <http://www.vacareers.va.gov/index.cfm>
- b. Under Secretary for Health (USH) VHA Mission & Vision Statements
<http://vaww.ush.va.gov/Excellence>
- c. VHA Handbook 1121.01, VHA Eye Care
 - i. Dr. Townsend comment. The revised handbook was released last month. It has samples of the care collaboration agreements in which the deadline for these agreements from each facility has been extended to April 30th. They will need to go to Central office through the normal channels and reviewed by the VISN lead optometrist and ophthalmologist.
 - ii. http://www.navao.org/documents/04_15_2011/VHA_Handbook_1121.01_VHA_Eye_Care_03-10-2011.pdf
- d. AMD/Diabetes/Glaucoma Disease-Specific Component for OPPE and Joint Collaboration of Care Review Forms – examples, see below.
 - i. http://www.navao.org/documents/04_15_2011/AMD_Disease-Specific_Component_for_OPPE_02-2011_FINAL.doc
 - ii. http://www.navao.org/documents/04_15_2011/DIABETES_Disease-Specific_Component_for_OPPE_02-2011_FINAL.doc
 - iii. http://www.navao.org/documents/04_15_2011/GLAUCOMA_Disease-Specific_Component_for_OPPE_02-2011_FINAL.doc
 - iv. http://www.navao.org/documents/04_15_2011/Joint_Collaboration_of_Care_Review_Forms_02-2011_FINAL.docx
- e. USH Memorandum on Federal Government Shutdown
 - i. The Veterans Health Administration has budgetary appropriations for the year; therefore, all VHA employees are expected to work and receive uninterrupted pay and benefits.
 - ii. http://www.navao.org/documents/04_15_2011/USH_Potential_Aprop_Lapse_All_Employee_Memo.pdf
- f. Olin E. Teague Award Program Nominations

medical records as well as integration with VISTA to further improve our current system which will impact eye clinic notes as well.

- b. News release for Open Source Electronic Health Record
http://www.navao.org/documents/04_15_2011/VistA_Open_Source_NR.docx
5. Infection Control/Reusable Medical Equipment Reprocessing - Drs. Horn/White – unavailable for comment.
6. Teleretinal Imaging Screening Program - Drs. Cavallerano/Selvin – unavailable for comment.
7. DoD/VA Vision Center of Excellence & Eye Injury Registry - Dr. Barker – unavailable for comment.
8. TBI Vision Rehabilitation - Drs. Gagnon/J. Kirby – unavailable for comment.
9. Low Vision Rehabilitation EES Program - Drs. Fuhr/Gagnon/Mancil
 - a. Dr. Townsend comment. You can go to the EES low vision series created by many and lead by Drs. Fuhr, Gagnon and Elam. It is an excellent way to enhance your own knowledge about low vision or to share with residents and trainee. These learning systems are all COPE approved
 - b. Low Vision Lecture Series
http://www.navao.org/documents/04_15_2011/EES_Low_Vision_Lecture_Series.docx
10. Optometry Quality Improvement - Dr. Norden – unavailable for comment.
11. VA Systems Redesign/Wait Times - Dr. Ficarra
 - a. Dr. Townsend comment. Nationally, we are meeting the wait time goals for new and established patients, but the workload has increased about 5% from last year.
12. VA Research Announcements & Solicitations - Dr. Mancil – unavailable for comment.
<http://vaww.research.va.gov/news/announcements/default.cfm>
http://vaww.research.va.gov/funding/solicitations/default.cfm#All_ORD
13. VHA Optometry Service Websites - Drs. Ficarra/Hamilton
 - a. Dr. Townsend comment. They are still in the process of promoting a revised directory. They are also still updating new policies on the website.
14. VA Optometry Service Directory - Drs. Egusa/Lim/Pewitt
 - a. Kathleen Gernhart comment. Please be patient with the updates on the directory and websites, it is taking time for the website and links to be fully functional.
15. VA Residency Trained Optometrist Directory - Dr. Wang
 - a. Dr. Wang comment. She is re-requesting all residents to join the directory and send in their information at least 2 months in advance of completing their residency.
16. AFOS Report - Drs. Hunter/Wasik

- a. Dr. Wasik comment. It is with regret that she announces the sudden passing of Dr. Dave Simpson, the AFOS executive director, in his home on March 25, 2011. A funeral was held and she would like to thank Dr. Bernie Dolan, from the San Francisco, VAMC who was kind enough to travel to the funeral to represent AFOS, the Academy and Berkley faculty. In the interim, they have been in talks for whom will serve as the interim director until the committee can perform an executive director search. Effective today, Mike Pattison, the Navy section chief for optometry, has volunteered for that position.
- b. Contact information has changed on the AFOS website and if there are any questions, please feel free to direct any to Dr. Wasik. Her contact information and phone number are in outlook.
- c. Today is the deadline for AFOS dues. If you have not already done so, please be current in your dues for AFOS and at least a quarter of your AOA dues should be paid in order for correct representation at the AOA House of Delegates meeting in June. Because of the current situation, they are only accepting online payments through Paypal. They have no way of depositing checks at this time.
- d. The first annual business meeting will occur at the Academy meeting in Boston this year since the change from being held during SECO.

17. NAVAIO Report - Drs. Kawasaki/Storer

- a. Dr. Storer comment. We were shocked and saddened to hear about the recent passing of Dr. Dave Simpson, AFOS Executive Director. Dr. Simpson was very supportive of our organization and of VA optometry. We have published a tribute to Dr. Simpson in the current edition of our newsletter.
- b. Expired members and those interested in joining NAVAIO can still do so on our website at the \$55 rate. Please encourage other optometrists at your facility to join NAVAIO or renew their membership if they have not done so already.
- c. We are continually trying to improve our website and always appreciate feedback. Please contact our Director of Technology, Dr. Brett Zwolensky, by email at brett.zwolensky@navao.org with any comments or suggestions about the NAVAIO website.
- d. The NAVAIO strongly encourages all eligible candidates to register for the next Advanced Competence in Medical Optometry (ACMO) examination on Friday, June 3, 2011. Please visit the NBEO website at www.optometry.org for details. The deadline to register for the ACMO exam is May 3, 2011. Please login to the NAVAIO website to read our ACMO FAQ sheet as well.
- e. Our Newsletter Committee has put together an informative Spring 2011 edition of the Optimum VA Newsletter. It is now posted to our website. Please login to view it.