

**OPTOMETRY SERVICE
CONFERENCE CALL**

MINUTES

May 18, 2012

3 p.m. Eastern Time

1. Announcements:

- a. Open VA Optometry Staff Positions: Please see the links below for the open positions.
 - i. Ms. Gernhart comment. The Washington position may be closed and the Las Vegas position closes today.
 - ii. http://www.navao.org/documents/05_18_2012/OPEN_OPTOMETRY_POSITIONS.doc
 - iii. http://www.va.gov/OPTOMETRY/open_VA_Optomestrist_Positio ns.asp or <http://jobsearch.usajobs.gov/>
- b. VA Core Values and Characteristics (I CARE)
<http://vaww.va.gov/default.asp>
- c. Under Secretary for Health (USH) VHA Mission & Vision Statements
<http://vaww.ush.va.gov/Excellence>
- d. Continuous Readiness in Information Security Program (CRISP)
<http://vaww.vhaco.va.gov/CRISP/>
 - i. The VA Office of Information and Technology (OIT) Continuous Readiness in Information Security Program (CRISP) is the new operating model for protecting VA sensitive information.
 - ii. http://www.navao.org/documents/05_18_2012/Fact_Sheet_10_05_Use_of_III_in_Microsoft_and_VistA_-revise.pdf
- e. VA Directive 0004, Education and Learning Delivery Systems
 - i. This directive strengthens VA's ability to more accurately track training and reduce the risk of non-compliance with the Federal Information Security Management Act (FISMA) of 2002, requirement for security awareness training for Department personnel, including contractors and other users of VA information systems. This directive also supports VA's Continuous Readiness in Information Security Program (CRISP) by establishing the VA TMS as the official system for completing, recording and reporting VA mandatory annual FISMA compliance training.
 - ii. http://www.navao.org/documents/05_18_2012/VA_Directive_0004_Education_and_Learning_Delivery_System.pdf
- f. VHA Directive 2012-014, Cost-Based and Inter-Agency Rates
 - i. This Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Directive provides Cost-based and Inter-agency billing rates for medical care and services provided on or after July 11, 2011.
 - ii. http://www.navao.org/documents/05_18_2012/VHA_Directive_2012-014_Cost-Based_and_Inter-Agency_Rates.pdf
- g. VHA Directive 2012-015, VHA Four Tiered Leadership Development Program: LEAD

- i. This Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Directive establishes policy for the provision of leadership development through the use of the Leadership, Effectiveness Accountability, and Development (LEAD) criteria in VHA.
 - ii. http://www.navao.org/documents/05_18_2012/VHA_Directive_2012-015_VHA_LEAD.pdf
 - h. VHA Handbook 1200.05, Requirements for the Protection of Human Subjects in Research
 - i. This Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Handbook establishes procedures for the protection of human subjects in the Department of Veterans Affairs research, which must be implemented no later than May 15, 2012.
 - ii. http://www.navao.org/documents/05_18_2012/VHA_Handbook_1200.05_Human_Subjects_in_Research.pdf
 - iii. http://www.navao.org/documents/05_18_2012/AUTHORIZATION_TO_RELEASE_INFORMATION_FORM.pdf
 - i. VHA Handbook 1601C.02, Revenue Utilization Review (RUR)
 - i. This Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Handbook provides information on RUR nurse functions within the VHA Consolidated Patient Account Centers (CPAC) revenue program.
 - ii. http://www.navao.org/documents/05_18_2012/VHA_Handbook_1601C.02_Revenue_Utilization_Review.pdf
 - j. Olin E. Teague Award Announcement
 - i. Dr. Townsend comment. The nominees must be full time employees. This award is the highest honor that VA awards for outstanding rehabilitation programs. In the past, the VICTORS program in Kansas City was a recipient as well as the Palo Alto VA with polytrauma and traumatic brain injury and vision.
 - 1. http://www.navao.org/documents/05_18_2012/TEAGUE_AWARD_OVERVIEW.pdf
 - 2. http://www.navao.org/documents/05_18_2012/TEAGUE_AWARD_CRITERIA_AND_FORMAT.pdf
 - 3. http://www.navao.org/documents/05_18_2012/VA_FORM_0235.pdf
 - 4. http://www.navao.org/documents/05_18_2012/VHA_ANNOUNCEMENT_MEMORANDUM.pdf
 - k. Ms. Gernhart comment. There is a new C & P list serve and an email has been sent out to those involved in C & P exams as well as disability exams. They are now looking for volunteers to chair or co-chair the workgroup. If anyone is interested, please email Ms. Gernhart.
- 2. Optometry Service Field Advisory Committee - Dr. Selvin
 - a. Dr. Townsend comment. The joint meeting with ophthalmology is slated for September. During that time they will also have a separate optometry only service field advisory committee meeting to discuss optometry related issues in the field.
- 3. Optometric Education Programs - Drs. Messer/Slagle

- a. The Board of Directors of ASCO has announced the establishment of ORMatch, the new Optometry Residency Matching service which replaces ORMS. ASCO has entered into an agreement with the National Matching Services, Inc. (NMS) for the design and administration of the match. NMS implements sophisticated matching algorithms and software for the placement of many professions in the U.S. including residents in pharmacy, psychology, dentistry, and osteopathic medicine. The new ASCO steering committee, called ORMatch Committee, is comprised of three ASCO representatives, three Department of Veterans Affairs representatives, and a Chair.
 - i. http://www.navao.org/documents/05_18_2012/ORMatch_Press_Release_Final_4_24_12.pdf
 - b. We are considering a restructure of the field advisory committee's education subcommittee into 3 compartments: one for the development, sustainment and promotion of fellowships, another for residencies, and the third for student externships. We are soliciting a couple of names of volunteers who would like to be considered for the residency and student subcommittees. You may email me at scott.slagle@va.gov if you are interested in serving.
 - c. Department of Veterans Affairs Certificates of Residency completion is available and can be ordered. The link is:
<http://vaww.va.gov/oaa/certificates/>
 - d. Dr. Townsend comment. He wanted to mention the Rural Health Training and Education Initiative. If you are at a remote site, they are looking in partnership with the office of academic affiliations and rural health to establish 3-5 sustainable programs at VHA healthcare sites for the education and training to provide care to veterans in rural areas. There needs to be more than one program available in order to be considered. The deadline is June 29, 2012 to complete the application and you will be notified by October.
 - i. http://www.navao.org/documents/05_18_2012/Rural_Health_RFP_OAA_ORH_FY2013_4_18_2012.pdf
 - ii. http://www.navao.org/documents/05_18_2012/Annoucement_Letter_RHTI_OAA_ORH_4_18_2012.pdf
 - iii. http://www.navao.org/documents/05_18_2012/Copy_of_FY2012_Q1_ServSumByState.xlsx
4. Optometry Productivity Workgroup - Drs. Bennett/Horn/Selvin
 - a. Dr. Horn comment. Reminder to everyone to make sure that your workgroup is being mapped correctly, including the residents, because productivity is now being looked at.
 5. Electronic Medical Records/Information Technology Issues - Dr. Ballinger
 - a. Dr. Ballinger comment. The new medical record system is under development and is based loosely on the current CPRS system. The process is complex and is tied into open source architecture. It will involve modules that are developed separately. It is currently in beta testing. It will be a year or greater before it is rolled out.

6. Infection Control/Reusable Medical Equipment Reprocessing - Drs. Horn/Mancil/White/O'Connor
 - a. Dr. Horn comment. They are working on putting together a portal site to have samples of SOPs for RME available. There are new contacts at central office to help move this process along.
7. Teleretinal Imaging Screening Program - Drs. Cavallerano/Selvin
 - a. Dr. Townsend comment. There are now about 420 cameras with 170 imagers in the program, expanding dramatically within the CBOCs. They have done AMD pilot programs and they will be recommending this screening in the future.
8. DoD/VA Vision Center of Excellence & Eye Injury Registry - Dr. Barker – unavailable for comment.
9. TBI Vision Rehabilitation - Dr. Eldred – unavailable for comment.
10. Low Vision Rehabilitation - Drs. Chan-O'Connell/Mancil – unavailable for comment.
11. Optometry Quality Improvement - Dr. Norden – unavailable for comment.
12. VA Systems Redesign/Wait Times - Drs. Boyer/Horn
 - a. Dr. Horn comment. Nothing new to report.
13. VA Optometric Research & Development - Dr. Mancil - unavailable for comment.
<http://vaww1.va.gov/OPTOMETRY/research.asp>
14. VHA Optometry Service Websites - Drs. Hamilton/G. Singh
 - a. Dr. Singh comment. Nothing new to report.
15. VA Optometry Service Directory - Drs. Egusa/Lim/Pewitt
 - a. Dr. Pewitt comment. Please send the committee updates in changes in student or residency directories.
16. VA Residency Trained Optometrist Directory - Dr. Wang
 - a. Dr. Wang comment. There are about 1500 residents in the database. Just this year NAVAIO approved that current residents can get a free membership for their residency year and this can be found on the NAVAIO website.
17. AFOS Report - Drs. Hunter/Wasik
 - a. Dr. Townsend comment. For members, please lock in your government rate rooms for the conference in Phoenix, AZ for the AAO meeting.
18. NAVAIO Report - Drs. Kawasaki/Storer
 - a. Dr. Kawasaki comment. NAVAIO is conducting an online member survey regarding important aspects of our organization. Your feedback is important. An email has been sent to members with the link to take the survey. It is also posted to the News page in the members area of our website. Please take a few minutes to complete this short survey and share your thoughts about NAVAIO with us.

- b. Please mark your calendars for our 2012 annual NAVAO meeting which will be held the evening of Thursday, October 25, in conjunction with the American Academy of Optometry Meeting in Phoenix, AZ. More details about our annual meeting and registration will be available as the date gets closer.

Dr. Townsend comment. Reminder about taking the ACMO examination June 1, 2012 – please consider taking the examination if you qualify.