

U.S. Department of
Homeland Security

United States
Coast Guard



Commandant
United States Coast Guard

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JUN 16 2014

MEMORANDUM

From: P. F. Zukunft, ADM
CCG

To: Peter V. Neffenger, VADM

Subj: PRECEPT FOR ASSIGNMENT YEAR 2015 SELECTION FOR SENIOR
EDUCATION AND FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMS (PHASE I)

Ref: (a) PY15 Schedule of Officer Boards and Panels, PSCNOTE 1401
(b) ALCGOFF 038/14 SEFP Candidate Message

1. Pursuant to references (a) and (b), a Selection Panel is appointed consisting of yourself as President and the following members:

Kevin S. Cook, RADM, USCG – Member
Stephen E. Mehling, RADM, USCG – Member
James E. Rendon, RDML, USCG – Member
Peter J. Brown, RDML, USCG – Member
June E. Ryan, RDML, USCG – Member

Jeffrey B. Bippert, CDR, USCG - Non-voting Recorder

2. The Panel shall convene at 0800 on 1 July 2014, in Suite 501, Coast Guard Personnel Service Center, or as soon thereafter as practicable, for the purpose of considering officers in reference (b) for selection to the 2015 Chief of Naval Operations Strategy Studies Group (CNO-SSG) and Council on Foreign Relations (CFR) fellowship programs. Members of the Panel shall swear or affirm that they will, without prejudice or partiality, and having in view both the special fitness of officers and the efficiency of the Coast Guard, perform the duties imposed upon them, and that they will not disclose their proceedings to any person not a member of the Panel.

3. Panel members shall select senior, high-performing officers for these unique, broadening fellowships designed to prepare them for future executive leadership roles. In developing your criteria, you should select only those best-qualified officers, who, in the Panel's opinion, would best represent our Service and offer the greatest potential for executive level service in the Coast Guard. Previous assignments to graduate-level education programs or advanced training in a technical field do not disqualify an officer for selection to either program.

4. **Chief of Naval Operations Strategic Studies Group (CNO-SSG):** Generates revolutionary naval warfare concepts. Based on themes provided by the CNO, SSG focuses on war fighting concepts that have great potential to solve future challenges and maintain U.S. naval superiority, but Navy organizations are currently not pursuing. The program includes exposure to

a diverse range of speakers and disruptive thinking techniques followed by a period of intense research and concept development. The SSG produces a written report with at least first order analysis and recommendations for executable "next steps" and briefs CNO and other senior DOD/DHS leadership upon conclusion of the session.

5. Council on Foreign Relations Fellowship (CFR): An independent, nonpartisan membership organization, think tank, and publisher devoted to a better understanding of the world and the foreign policy choices faced by the U.S. and other countries. The program exposes selected officers to a wide variety of strategic issues affecting U.S. foreign policy development, international relations, and economic security. Fellows participate in CFR membership programs, meet with CFR members and staff, and engage in research and studies. The CFR Studies Program fosters independent research leading to published articles or reports, roundtable and panel speaking opportunities, and briefings apprising senior USCG and DHS leaders of significant developments and emerging views on homeland security, economic, and policy issues within the CFR.

6. In addition to the above guidance, the Panel should consider the factors explained in the Commandant's Guidance to Promotion Year 2015 Officer Selection Boards and Panels (Enclosure (1)).

7. These programs offer exceptional experience that will serve officers well in the most challenging segments of the Coast Guard. Follow-on assignments for participants will be at the discretion of the Vice Commandant but will likely target billets such as Area/District Chief of Staff, principal deputy or similar key leadership positions that will capitalize on the skills and experience of the individual in a high visibility job environment.

8. At the end of your deliberations, all panel members must certify that those selected are, in the opinion of at least a majority of the members if the Panel has five members, or in the opinion of at least two-thirds of the members if the Panel has more than five members, the best-qualified to represent the Service in the prestigious CNO-SSG and CFR programs.

9. At the conclusion of the Senior Education and Fellowship Panel (Phase I), the Panel shall submit a report signed by all members of the Panel listing the primary candidate that it found best-qualified for each program, as well as up to four alternates per fellowship in precedence order. You will direct the members of the Panel that their recommendations shall be kept confidential until I approve the report, and the names of the officers selected are released to the Service at large.

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Encl: (1) Commandant's Guidance to PY15 Officer Selection Boards and Panels