

2015 DACOWITS Committee Members

LtGen (Ret) Frances Wilson (Chair)
CMSgt (Ret) Bernise Belcer (Vice-Chair)
Dr. Kristy Anderson
Ms. Teresa Christenson
FLTCM (Ret) Jacqueline DiRosa
Ms. Sharlene Hawkes
CAPT (Ret) Beverly Kelley
Rev Dr. Cynthia Lindenmeyer
MG (Ret) John Macdonald
Ms. Donna McAleer
Ms. Monica Medina
Mr. Brian Morrison
LTC (Ret) Hae-Sue Park
MG (Ret) Gale Pollock
VADM (Ret) Carol Pottenger
SMA (Ret) Kenneth Preston
Dr. Jackie Young

Members are selected by the Secretary of Defense on the basis of their experience with the military or with women's workforce issues. They serve, without compensation, for 1-4 year terms.

For nomination requirements, please contact the DACOWITS Office.

2015 Meeting Dates

11-12 March

17-18 June

9-10 September

9-10 December

DACOWITS is authorized
under the provisions of
Public Law 92-463
(Federal Advisory Committee Act)



DACOWITS



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2015 DACOWITS



**Defense Advisory
Committee on
Women in the
Services**



History

DACOWITS was established in 1951 by then Secretary of Defense, George C. Marshall. Historically, DACOWITS' recommendations have been instrumental in effecting changes to laws and policies pertaining to military servicewomen.

Mission

DACOWITS is an independent advisory committee that, through the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, provides the Secretary of Defense with advice and recommendations on matters and policies relating to the recruitment and retention, treatment, utilization, integration, and well-being of highly qualified professional servicewomen in the Armed Forces.

The Committee provides an annual report to the Secretary of Defense based on information gathered through installation visits, focus groups with Service women and men, business meetings and briefings, meetings with military leaders, and review of relevant reports and survey data.

2015 Study Topics

The Committee's recommendations and annual report are derived from study topics identified each year. The 2015 study topics include, but are not limited to the following:

- ⇒ Gender Integration
- ⇒ Career Progression of Servicewomen
- ⇒ Female Accessions
- ⇒ Quality of Life and Family Issues for Military Servicewomen, that are Impacted by Key State and Federal Laws
- ⇒ Pregnancy and Postpartum Policies
- ⇒ Impacts of Social Media on Military Servicewomen
- ⇒ Facilitators and Barriers to Reporting Sexual Harassment and Sexual Assault



Previous Recommendations

Over the years, DACOWITS has examined and recommended many changes including:

- ◆ Gender neutral occupational job standards
- ◆ Assigning women to submarines
- ◆ Opening combat aviation to female pilots
- ◆ Standardizing sexual assault reporting and ensuring victim confidentiality
- ◆ Improving equipment and uniforms
- ◆ Post-traumatic stress disorder treatment
- ◆ Pre-deployment weapons training
- ◆ Leadership role practices
- ◆ Various issues addressing sexual harassment and sexual assault
- ◆ Ending all gender-based restrictions on assignments
- ◆ Opening all career fields, specialties, schooling and training opportunities that have been closed
- ◆ Ways to improve the accountability of military leaders in preventing and responding to sexual harassment and sexual assault
- ◆ Ways to improve the health of deployed servicewomen