

2017 DACOWITS Committee Members

Gen (Ret.) Janet Wolfenbarger (Chair)
SMA (Ret.) Kenneth Preston (Vice-Chair)

Dr. Kristy Anderson

Col (Ret.) John Boggs

Maj Gen (Ret.) Sharon Dunbar

Lt Gen (Ret.) Judy Fedder

Ms. Sharlene Hawkes

SGM (Ret.) Norma Helsham

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Ms. Kyleanne Hunter

Ms. Priscilla Locke

CSM (Ret.) Michele Jones

MG (Ret.) John Macdonald

Ms. Monica Medina

Ms. Janie Mines

Mr. Brian Morrison

FLTCM (Ret.) Jo Ann Ortloff

VADM (Ret.) Carol Pottenger

RADM (Ret.) Cari Thomas

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.

2017 Meeting Dates

22-23 March

13-14 June

12-13 September

12-13 December

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



DACOWITS



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DACOWITS



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

2017



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.

2017 Study Topics

The Committee's recommendations and annual report are derived from study topics identified each year. The 2017 study topics include, but are not limited to the following:

- ⇒ Accessions and Marketing
- ⇒ Propensity to Serve
- ⇒ Recruiting Strategies
- ⇒ Mid-Career Retention
- ⇒ Gender Integration
- ⇒ Physiological Gender Differences
- ⇒ Promotion Opportunities ("Rooney Rule")
- ⇒ Integrated Boxing at the Academies
- ⇒ Joint Colocation
- ⇒ Maternity Leave Policy
- ⇒ Childcare Resources
- ⇒ Family Care Plans



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