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

Upcoming Meeting Dates

1-2 September 2020

8-9 December 2020

10-11 March 2021



DACOWITS



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DACOWITS



Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services

2020

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



History

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

Mission

DACOWITS is an independent Federal Advisory Committee that provides the Secretary of Defense with advice and recommendations on matters and policies relating to the recruitment, retention, employment, integration, well-being and treatment of women 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, briefings from DoD and the Military Services, input from military leaders, public comments, and review of relevant reports and survey data.

Previous Recommendations

Over the years, DACOWITS has been instrumental to the Department of Defense and has made significant contributions on topics, such as:

- ◆ Opening of all career fields, specialties, schooling and training opportunities to women (e.g., Military Service Academies, infantry, submarines, Rangers).
- ◆ Improvements to the health of deployed servicewomen
- ◆ Properly fitting personal protective combat equipment, gear, and uniforms
- ◆ Increased marketing, accession, and recruitment of women
- ◆ Military culture, gender discrimination and sexual harassment
- ◆ Pregnancy and parenthood policies

