



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
59TH MEDICAL WING (AETC)
JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO - LACKLAND TEXAS

24 MAY 2016

MEMORANDUM FOR SGVT
ATTN: CAPT MARY ZANDER

FROM: 59 MDW/SGVU

SUBJECT: Professional Presentation Approval

1. Your paper, entitled **The Spiritual Needs of the Religiously Unaffiliated Airmen and Trainees in Basic Military Training** presented at/published to the **Division 19 Section, APA Conference 2016, Denver, CO 5 Aug 2016** with MDWI 41-108, and has been assigned local file #**16199**.
2. Pertinent biographic information (name of author(s), title, etc.) has been entered into our computer file. Please advise us (by phone or mail) that your presentation was given. At that time, we will need the date (month, day and year) along with the location of your presentation. It is important to update this information so that we can provide quality support for you, your department, and the Medical Center commander. This information is used to document the scholarly activities of our professional staff and students, which is an essential component of Wilford Hall Ambulatory Surgical Center (WHASC) internship and residency programs.
3. Please know that if you are a Graduate Health Sciences Education student and your department has told you they cannot fund your publication, the 59th Clinical Research Division may pay for your basic journal publishing charges (to include costs for tables and black and white photos). We cannot pay for reprints. If you are 59 MDW staff member, we can forward your request for funds to the designated wing POC.
4. Congratulations, and thank you for your efforts and time. Your contributions are vital to the medical mission. We look forward to assisting you in your future publication/presentation efforts.

Linda Steel Goodwin

LINDA STEEL-GOODWIN, Col, USAF, BSC
Director, Clinical Investigations & Research Support

PROCESSING OF PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL RESEARCH/TECHNICAL PUBLICATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

INSTRUCTIONS

USE ONLY THE MOST CURRENT 59 MDW FORM 3039 LOCATED ON AF E-PUBLISHING

1. The author must complete page two of this form:
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 - b. In Section 2, there may be funding available for journal costs, if your department is not paying for figures, tables or photographs for your publication. Please state "YES" or "NO" in Section 2 of the form, if you need publication funding support.
2. Print your name, rank/grade, sign and date the form in the author's signature block or use an electronic signature.
3. Attach a copy of the 59 MDW IRB or IACUC approval letter for the research related study. If this is a technical publication/presentation, state the type (e.g. case report, QA/QI study, program evaluation study, informational report/briefing, etc.) in the "Protocol Title" box.
4. Attach a copy of your abstract, paper, poster and other supporting documentation.
5. Save and forward, via email, the processing form and all supporting documentation to your unit commander, program director or immediate supervisor for review/approval.
6. On page 2, have either your unit commander, program director or immediate supervisor:
 - a. Print their name, rank/grade, title; sign and date the form in the approving authority's signature block or use an electronic signature.
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9. Once your manuscript, poster or presentation has been approved for a one-time public release, you may proceed with your publication or presentation submission activities, as stated on this form. **Note:** For each new release of medical research or technical information as a publication/presentation, a new 59 MDW Form 3039 must be submitted for review and approval.
10. If your manuscript is accepted for scientific publication, please contact the 59 CRD/Publications and Presentations Section at 292-7141. This information is reported to the 59 MDW/CC. All medical research or technical information publications/presentations must be reported to the Defense Technical Information Center (DITC). See 59 MDWI 41-108, *Presentation and Publication of Medical and Technical Papers*, for additional information.

NOTE: All abstracts, papers, posters, etc., should contain the following disclaimer statement:

"The views expressed are those of the [author(s)] [presenter(s)] and do not reflect the official views or policy of the Department of Defense or its Components"

NOTE: All abstracts, papers, posters, etc., should contain the following disclaimer statement for research involving humans:

"The voluntary, fully informed consent of the subjects used in this research was obtained as required by 32 CFR 219 and DODI 3216.02_AFI 40-402."

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"The experiments reported herein were conducted according to the principles set forth in the National Institute of Health Publication No. 80-23, Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals and the Animal Welfare Act of 1966, as amended."

PROCESSING OF PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL RESEARCH/TECHNICAL PUBLICATIONS/PRESENTATIONS			
1. TO: CLINICAL RESEARCH	2. FROM: (Author's Name, Rank, Grade, Office Symbol) Mary Zander, Capt, O-3, SGVT	3. GME/GHSE STUDENT: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	4. PROTOCOL NUMBER: N/A
5. PROTOCOL TITLE: (NOTE: For each new release of medical research or technical information as a publication/presentation, a new 59 MDW Form 3039 must be submitted for review and approval.) N/A			
6. TITLE OF MATERIAL TO BE PUBLISHED OR PRESENTED: The Spiritual Needs of the Religiously Unaffiliated Airmen and Trainees in Basic Military Training			
7. FUNDING RECEIVED FOR THIS STUDY? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO FUNDING SOURCE:			
8. DO YOU NEED FUNDING SUPPORT FOR PUBLICATION PURPOSES: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO			
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<input type="checkbox"/> 11a. PUBLICATION/JOURNAL (List intended publication/journal.)			
<input type="checkbox"/> 11b. PUBLISHED ABSTRACT (List intended journal.)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 11c. POSTER (To be demonstrated at meeting: name of meeting, city, state, and date of meeting.) Division 19 Section, APA Conference 2016, Denver, CO, 05 AUG 16			
<input type="checkbox"/> 11d. PLATFORM PRESENTATION (At civilian institutions: name of meeting, state, and date of meeting.)			
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DATE 01 MAY 16			
13. 59 MDW PRIMARY POINT OF CONTACT (Last Name, First Name, M.I., email) Zander, Mary, E, mary.zander.l@us.af.mil			14. DUTY PHONE/PAGER NUMBER 701-471-2442
15. AUTHORSHIP AND CO-AUTHOR(S) List in the order they will appear in the manuscript.			
LAST NAME, FIRST NAME AND M.I.	GRADE/RANK	SQUADRON/GROUP/OFFICE SYMBOL	INSTITUTION (if not 59 MDW)
a. Primary/Corresponding Author McLeod, Barbara	Capt	59 TRS/AETC/SGVT	
b. Zander, Mary	Capt	59 TRS/AETC/SGVT	
c. McGraw, Rebekah	SSgt	502 CES/CED/AETC	American Humanist Association
d. Gettman, Victoria	Civilian	N/A	
e. McGraw, Benjamin	1Lt	668 ALIS/IP/ACC	
f.			
I CERTIFY ANY HUMAN OR ANIMAL RESEARCH RELATED STUDIES WERE APPROVED AND PERFORMED IN STRICT ACCORDANCE WITH 32 CFR 219, AFMAN 40-401_IP, AND 59 MDWI 41-108. I HAVE READ THE FINAL VERSION OF THE ATTACHED MATERIAL AND CERTIFY THAT IT IS AN ACCURATE MANUSCRIPT FOR PUBLICATION AND/OR PRESENTATION.			
16. AUTHOR'S PRINTED NAME, RANK, GRADE Mary Zander, Capt, O-3	17. AUTHOR'S SIGNATURE ZANDER.MARY.E.1076466005 <small>Digitally signed by ZANDER.MARY.E.1076466005 DN: cn=ZANDER.MARY.E.1076466005, o=USAF Date: 2016.04.29 11:26:13 -0500</small>	18. DATE 27 APR 16	
19. APPROVING AUTHORITY'S PRINTED NAME, RANK, TITLE Ann S. Hryshko-Mullen, GS-13	20. APPROVING AUTHORITY'S SIGNATURE HRYSHKOMULLEN.ANN.S.1075549357 <small>Digitally signed by HRYSHKOMULLEN.ANN.S.1075549357 DN: cn=HRYSHKOMULLEN.ANN.S.1075549357, o=USAF Date: 2016.04.29 08:21:23 -0500</small>	21. DATE 29 APR 16	

PROCESSING OF PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL RESEARCH/TECHNICAL PUBLICATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

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TO: Clinical Research Division 59 MDW/CRD Contact 292-7141 for email instructions.	22. DATE RECEIVED 9 May 2016	23. ASSIGNED PROCESSING REQUEST FILE NUMBER 16199
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24. DATE REVIEWED 9 May 2016	25. DATE FORWARDED TO 502 ISG/JAC
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26. AUTHOR CONTACTED FOR RECOMMENDED OR NECESSARY CHANGES: NO YES If yes, give date. 9 May 2016 N/A

27. COMMENTS APPROVED DISAPPROVED
The author added the DoD and human research disclaimer statements to the abstract. The abstract is approved.

28. PRINTED NAME, RANK/GRADE, TITLE OF REVIEWER Rocky Calcote, PhD, Clinical Research Administrator	29. REVIEWER SIGNATURE CALCOTE.ROCKY.D.1178245844 <small>Digital signed by CALCOTE ROCKY D 1178245844 DN: cn=US, ou=US, o=Department of Defense, ou=USAF c=US, email=rocky.d.1178245844@us.af.mil Date: 2016.05.10 17:28:23 -0500</small>	30. DATE
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40. PRINTED NAME, RANK/GRADE, TITLE OF REVIEWER Christopher Carwile, TSgt/E-6, NCOIC, PA	41. REVIEWER SIGNATURE CARWILE CHRISTOPHER STEW ART.1280477229 <small>Digital signed by CARWILE CHRISTOPHER STEWART 1280477229 DN: cn=US, ou=US, o=Department of Defense, ou=USAF c=US, email=carwile.christopher.stewart@us.af.mil Date: 2016.05.17 08:59:19 -0500</small>	42. DATE May 17, 2016
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Proposal for a Poster Presentation to the Division 19 Section, APA Conference 2016

Title: The Spiritual Needs of the Religiously Unaffiliated Airmen and Trainees in Basic Military Training

Abstract

Statement of Problem:

In the United States the “religiously unaffiliated” are growing (Pew Research Center, 2015). This group includes atheists, agnostics, and “nothing in particular,” and now accounts for 22.8% of the U.S. population. These figures are not unique to civilians and are replicated across our joint branches of the U.S. Military (Military Leadership Diversity Commission, 2010); 25.50% of Service Members (SMs) identify as religiously unaffiliated and 3.61% as Humanist. Evidence points to a clear, and growing, cultural presence of the religiously unaffiliated in our U.S. Military (Hunter & Smith, 2009). There are significant differences in religious attitudes between enlisted members and their officer leadership, with only 15.65% of officers holding religiously unaffiliated beliefs compared to 27.63% of enlisted members (Hunter & Smith, 2009). In this atmosphere, without systemic support for their beliefs, many young service members may feel adrift and alienated as they attempt to assimilate into their new military culture.

In August 2014, a programmatic innovation supported by the U.S. Air Force emerged to serve this group. The Humanist Group developed after one atheist trainee requested to meet with a non-theistic chaplain. His request sparked a program that now serves Basic Trainees and Airmen every week during the 8.5 weeks they are in Basic Military Training (BMT). The Humanist Group is currently the only a-theistic programming in the Department of Defense that functions exclusively to serve the non-religious spiritual needs of this population. The program includes an 8-week sequential format through the following topics: (1) Humanism, Communication, and Military Life, (2) Morals, (3) Fallacies, (4) Coming out, (5) Separation of church and state, (6) “Nones”, (7) Grief and stress, and (8) Death.

Participants:

The participants include BMT trainees and graduates, who may or may not identify as religiously unaffiliated, as well as the Retired, Active Duty, and civilian volunteer facilitators, who identify as Atheist, Humanist, or Agnostic. Roughly 400 Basic Trainees and Airmen attend the group every week. This translates to approximately 900 individuals served annually out of a total of 35,000 recruits at JBSA-Lackland (2.57%; 737th Training Group).

Procedure and results:

The present study uses a descriptive, qualitative method to present the structure and development of this group, along with the needs it fills. Factors to be addressed in these results include: procedural description of meetings and session topics, attendance outcomes, and the systemic barriers faced by facilitators.

Conclusion:

The results of this study offer clear evidence that all branches of the military need to consider offering spiritual options for the unaffiliated. In addition, findings in this study offer guidance for the Air Force to consider broadening the chaplaincy to support the growing number of unaffiliated. Expanding the chaplaincy to incorporate Humanist chaplains would serve to address the spiritual needs of all their Airmen. Finally, implications are drawn on the impact of discrimination and systemic barriers that interfere with the development of programming for the religiously unaffiliated.

Disclaimer: The views expressed are those of the [author/presenter] and do not reflect the official views or policy of the Department of Defense or its Components. The voluntary, fully informed consent of the subjects used in this research was obtained as required by 32 CFR 219 and DoDI 3216.02_AFI 40-402.