



BIOGRAPHY



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

DR. DEBRA M. NIEMEYER, M.S., M.A., Ph.D., DAFC (USAF, Ret)

Current as of October, 26 2021



Dr. Debra (“Deb”) Niemyer is the 59th Medical Wing Chief Scientist and Human Research Protection Program Assistant Institutional Official, Joint Base San Antonio, and serves as technical authoritative liaison to federal committees/governance bodies. The 59th Medical Wing is the Air Force's largest medical wing comprised of six groups with a staff of 6,653 personnel providing care across the San Antonio metropolitan area and supporting many worldwide deployments annually. The Wing provides worldwide contingency health care support, comprehensive home station health care services, clinical research, graduate medical education, and enlisted technical training. The organization is part of the San Antonio Military Health System (SAMHS), an integrated, joint-service health system with a collective operating budget of \$1.2 billion to provide high-quality, safe and reliable health care to 254,000 beneficiaries. Dr. Niemyer is responsible for high-level collaborations working at senior executive levels as scientific advisor to the Wing Commander and the Chief Executive Officer, SAMHS to advance modernization efforts, research education and training, and oversees a diverse, multidisciplinary research portfolio supporting 70+ enterprise sites, the largest Air Force Clinical Investigations Program and Medical Technology Transfer Program, one of four Air Force Centers of Clinical Inquiry, other unique clinical research centers and leads the first nationally accredited Human Research Protection Program in the Department of Defense. She directs resources and advises on research integration into SAMHS, Major Commands, Service and Joint medical programs,

strategic plans and investment strategies to address warfighter and beneficiary needs, provides specialty consultation to the Air Force and Defense Health Agency Research & Development (J-9) offices and coordinates synergistic research with other agencies, laboratories, medical treatment facilities, academia and industry. Dr. Niemyer was commissioned through Air Force ROTC and during her active duty career directed clinical, operational and research laboratories around the world, was a first responder to and specialty consultant for anthrax releases post-911, and served in special duty and headquarters assignments prior to retiring from active duty and accepting a federal civil service appointment.

EDUCATION

1980 Bachelor of Science degree in Biology, Marywood University, Scranton, PA
1982 Masters of Science degree in Medical Microbiology, University of Minnesota, MN
1983 Clinical Laboratory Medicine Internship, Andrews Air Force Base, MD
1985 Squadron Officer School, Maxwell Air Force Base, AL
1987 Masters of Arts degree in Agency Counseling, University of Northern Colorado, Greeley CO
1995 Doctor of Philosophy degree in Microbiology and Immunology, Medical College of Virginia, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond VA, Air Force Institute of Technology
1996 Air Command and Staff College (seminar)
1999 Air War College (seminar)
2000 Medical NBC Fellowship, Office of the USAF Surgeon General, Bolling Air Force Base, D.C., AFIT
2002 Fundamental of System Acquisition Management, Defense Acquisition University, Fort Belvoir VA
2007 Federal Health Care Executives Course, Interagency Institute, George Washington University D.C

PREVIOUS POSITIONS

1. 1979 – 1982, Air Force ROTC and Medical Officer Training
2. 1982 – 1991, Director, Medical Laboratory Services, Peterson AFB, CO, and Yokota Air Base, Japan
3. 1991 – 1995, Air Force Institute of Technology, Medical College of Virginia, Richmond VA
4. 1995 – 1998, Director of Research, then Associate Director & Director (Acting) Clinical Investigation Facility, David Grant Medical Center, Travis AFB, CA
5. 1998 – 2000, Senior Staff Scientist, Air Force Protection Battlelab, Lackland AFB, TX
6. 1996 – 2000, CONUS, Southwest Asia/SOUTHERN WATCH and South Korea Technology Evaluations
7. 2000 – 2002, AF Institute of Technology, NBC Fellowship, and Director, Force Protection, Medical Readiness, Science and Technology Directorate, Surgeon General's Office, Bolling AFB, D.C.
8. 2001-2003, Joint Program Executive Office for Chemical and Biological Defense (JPEO-CBD), Pentagon, Falls Church, VA., NOBLE EAGLE; Product Manager, Joint Biological Agent Identification and Diagnostic System; Director, Biological Defense Horizontal Technology Integration; and Director, Laboratory Operations/Homeland Security and Special Events, JPEO-CBD, Pentagon, Falls Church, VA
9. 2003 – 2005, Director, Surveillance Directorate, Senior Staff Scientist and Director, Applied Technology Center,

Air Force Institute for Operational Health, Brooks City-Base, TX
10. 2005 – 2008, Deputy Assistant Surgeon General, Chief Scientist, Modernization Directorate; Commander, Air Force Medical Support Agency; Designated Approval Authority, and Military Consultant to the Air Force Surgeon General for Biomedical Research, Office of the Air Force Surgeon General, Falls Church, VA

ACHIEVEMENTS

Air Force Meritorious Civilian Service Award, First OLC, 2021
First-ever National Re-Accreditation of a Department of Defense Human Research Protection Program (AAHRPP), 2020
Brigadier General Wilma Vaught Visionary Leadership Award, Air Education & Training Command (Civilian Category) for 2020
Air Force Meritorious Civilian Service Award, 2019
59th Medical Wing Staff Team of the Year, 2018
First-ever National Accreditation of a Department of Defense Human Research Protection Program (AAHRPP), 2017
Military Health System Research Symposium Award for Excellence, 2013
59th Medical Group, Wilford Hall Medical Center, Civilian of the Year (Supervisory), 2009
Society of Armed Forces Medical Laboratory Scientists (SAFMLS) Distinguished Service Award, 2004
Certificate and Letter of Appreciation from NYC Mayor for Humanitarian Assistance during Anthrax Attacks, 2001
Certificate of Appreciation from Yokoska Hospital President, Japan, for Humanitarian Assistance, 1991
SAFMLS Outstanding Clinical Research Scientist, 1997, and Outstanding Laboratory Manager, 1988 and 1990
Society of Air Force Clinical Surgeon's Basic Science, Clinical Science & Clinical Surgeon's Awards (co-investigator), 1997-98
Air Force ROTC academic scholarship recipient, 1979

PROFESSIONAL BOARD CERTIFICATIONS AND REGISTRATIONS

Medical Technologist/Medical Laboratory Scientist and Microbiology Board of Certification, American Society for Clinical Pathology;
Registered Microbiologist, American College of Microbiology.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Society for Microbiology and American Academy of Microbiology; American Society of Clinical Pathologists; Air Force Association; and American Legion.

SELECT APPOINTMENTS

2000-2003 Joint Technology Coordinating Group Service committee member (Infectious Disease, Chem/Biodefense)
2003-2006 Adjunct Professor, Univ. of Nebraska Medical Center, Department of Pathology and Microbiology, Affiliate Professor, George Mason Univ., Dept. of Molecular and Microbiology, Fairfax, VA
2003-2006 Air Force Protection Technical Advisory Board and Chief Scientist Group, Pentagon
2003-2007 Graduate Faculty, Univ. of Texas San Antonio, Dept. of Biology, College of Sciences
2004-2005 Graduate Faculty, Univ. of Texas Health Science Center Clinical Laboratory Sciences
2005-2008 Technical Chair, Epidemic Outbreak Surveillance (EOS) Scientific Advisory Board
2006-2008 Epidemic Outbreak Surveillance Advanced Technology Demonstration Technology Manager and Co-Transition Manager (in coordination with Joint Forces Command, Norfolk, VA).
2006-2008 National Advisory Research Resources Council Ex Officio Member, National Institutes of Health
2006-2008 Pandemic Influenza Diagnostics Project Coordination Team, and Technical Evaluation Selection Panel, HHS
2006-2011 Adjunct Assistant Professor, George Washington University Medical Center, D.C.
2006-2008 Air Force Surgeon General's representative to the Air Force Principle, Armed Services Biomedical Research and Evaluation Management Committee (ASBREM) Research & Development Working Group
2009-Present Member, Air Force Chief Scientist Group
2009-Present Member, Joint Program Committees, Defense Medical Research & Development Program
2009-2014 Alternate Chair, Peer Reviewed Medical Research Program Joint Programmatic Review
DoD Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs (rotating position; PRMRP/CDMRP)
2009-2019 Scientific Advisor to USAF Surgeon General, then AFMS Lead for Clinical and Translational Research
2010-2018 DoD Hemorrhage and Resuscitation Steering Committee Service Program Representative
2010-2015 Member, Air Force Surgeon General Human and Animal Research Panel
2012-Present Chair, Wing Scientific Advisory Committee
2013-2016 DoD Genetics & Synthetic Biology Research Planning Committee and Workgroup
2014-Present Panel Member and Topics Group Chair, PRMRP/CDMRP
2014-Present Member, Science and Technology Advisor Group, ASBREM Community of Interest
2014-Present Co-Chair, SAMHS Research Consortium; Lead, San Antonio DoD Military Medical Research Leaders Consortium
2014-2016 Co-Chair, Air Force Medical Service Research and Technology Advisory Board
2015-2018 Joint Army/NIH Substance Abuse Research Program Panel Member
2015-Present BioMedSA Board of Directors Military Liaison, San Antonio Military Health System
2016-Present Authorized Institutional Official, Human Research Protection Program and Chair, Wing Steering Committee
2018-2019 AFMS Civilian Developmental Team member, Air Force Personnel Center, Randolph AFB, TX.
2018-Present Senior Consultant/Sponsor, Clinician-Scientist Investigator Research Opportunity Network program
2019-Present Member, Defense Health Agency (J-9) Science & Technology Strategic Management Integrated Product Team
Mar-May 2020 Air Force Medical Service Lead for Deputy Secretary of Defense COVID-19 Field Trials Research Plan
2020-Present 59th Medical Wing Command Lead, DoD Operation Warp Speed JBSA Astra-Zeneca COVID-19 Clinical Trials
2020-Present Secretariat Group, Biomedical Community of Interest (formally ASBREM COI)
2021-Present BioMedSA Clinical Trials Task Force Member

NUMEROUS PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS