



# Press Release

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## Heidelberg pharmacist picked for MEDCOM advisory board

By Ed Drohan  
Europe Regional Medical Command Public Affairs

**HEIDELBERG, Germany** – A Heidelberg Army Health Clinic pharmacist has been tapped to be part of a new civilian advisory board for U.S. Army Medical Command.

Julia Gannon, the clinic's pharmacy chief, will join 11 other civilians from MEDCOM units around the world as a member of the new Civilian Corps Chief Board of Advisors. She is scheduled to attend the initial training with the other new board members in San Antonio in November.

"I was shocked...flattered...surprised," Gannon said of the news she'd been selected from more than 100 applicants for the board, and the only member selected from the European theater. "I told them I'm really not deserving of this."

According to MEDCOM Civilian Corps Chief Gregg Stevens, the board of advisors will participate in committee meetings and collaborative review of issues related to the Civilian Corps and Army Medicine.

"[Participants] will learn about the Civilian Corps and the workings of the Corps Chief's office; gain hands-on experience identifying, working on, and providing input to Civilian Corps initiatives; and collaborate with other AMEDD (Army Medical Department) Corps members, both civilian and military," Stevens said in a release describing expectations for the new board of advisors. "[Participants] will work with the Civilian Corps Chief and the staff of the Corps Specific Branch Proponent Office to help shape the future of the Corps."

The AMEDD Civilian Corps represents more than 45,000 civilians serving in more than 200 different specialties. The new advisory board includes representatives from both clinical and support career fields within MEDCOM.

Gannon said she wasn't sure what the new position would entail, but she knows what she'd like to bring to the table.

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“I want to become an advisor to help make a difference and help shape the future for the next generation of civilian medical professionals,” she said in an essay that was part of her application for the position. “With the support of my command and the Army Pharmacy Council, I believe I can make a difference by representing clinical services and by communicating all initiatives and membership requirements to our fellow civilians and leaders.”

While the position will require occasional trips to MEDCOM headquarters, the majority of the work will be done through phone and video conferencing. Each person selected will serve on the board for up to two years.

Gannon has been with the Army as a pharmacist for more than 23 years and is currently working both on her master’s degree and on completing the Pharmacy Leadership Academy through the American Society of Health Systems Pharmacists. Despite the extra work that the new position brings, she said she’s looking forward to the challenge.

“I’ve come to the point in my career where I’ve seen a lot of different leadership styles,” she explained. “Now I have a chance to make a difference at the ground level. What a great opportunity to be part of that.”

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