

March 23, 2013

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## **Society of Behavioral Medicine Inducts New Officers**

**SAN FRANCISCO, CA** – The Society of Behavioral Medicine inducted three new officers at the close of its 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting & Scientific Sessions on Saturday, March 23, 2013.

Dawn K. Wilson, PhD, commences her term as SBM President aiming to continue strengthening SBM's efforts in influencing national health care issues. She plans to expand SBM's impact and reach as an organization by effectively demonstrating the utility and value of evidence-based practices to policy makers and the broader public. By engaging and developing new young scholars and continuing the Society's efforts toward supporting behavioral medicine research, she believes the field of behavioral medicine will play an integral and prominent role in the health care debate. Dr. Wilson has previously served on the SBM Board as Chair of the Program Committee, Chair of the Publications and Communications Council and as an Associate Editor of *Annals of Behavioral Medicine*. Dr. Wilson is a Professor of Psychology and Director of the Obesity Research Group at the University of South Carolina (USC).



Lisa M. Klesges, PhD, assuming the role of President-Elect, believes SBM is "uniquely poised" to influence emerging issues facing the nation's health care system – aging, chronic illness and disease prevention – and wants SBM to reexamine behavioral medicine's education and training programs to ensure early career professionals have the necessary skills to tackle such issues. She advocates a strong SBM national presence, believing the Society should back funding and public policy positions that support behavior change research. Fostering interdisciplinary partnerships that emphasize translation of evidence to and from practices and populations and providing evidence-based recommendations to an expanded audience of professional and national stakeholders, are integral to SBM's future, she says. Dr. Klesges is Founding Dean and Professor of Epidemiology and of Social & Behavioral Sciences in the School of Public Health at the University of Memphis. She is a Fellow of SBM and has served on its Membership Council, Nominating Committee, Program Committee and chaired the Translational Research to Practice Track.



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Amy L. Yaroch, PhD, is serving a three-year term on the SBM Board. Executive Director of the Gretchen Swanson Center for Nutrition (GSCN), Dr. Yaroch has been involved in behavioral medicine across multiple disciplines including nutrition, obesity prevention and sun safety/skin cancer prevention in an effort to improve public health. As member delegate, she wants to be a liaison back to the SBM community, utilizing her mentoring experiences to help emerging multi-disciplinary behavioral scientists. Dr. Yaroch sits on the SBM Health Policy Committee and holds a Special Dean appointment as Professor in the Department of Health Promotion, Social and Behavioral Health at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. She has worked at the National Cancer Institute's Health Promotion Research Branch as Program Director and Behavioral Scientist and has used her research to incorporate a social ecological approach, working at individual, environmental and policy levels for positive behavior change.



*The Society of Behavioral Medicine is a multidisciplinary organization of clinicians, educators, and scientists dedicated to promoting the study of the interactions of behavior with biology and the environment and the application of that knowledge to improve the health and well being of individuals, families, communities, and populations. [www.sbm.org](http://www.sbm.org)*

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