



Rachel Shelton inducted as Society of Behavioral Medicine member delegate

Washington, DC – Columbia Mailman School of Public Health Assistant Professor, Rachel Shelton, ScD, MPH, began her term as member delegate of the Society of Behavioral Medicine on Saturday.

Rachel Shelton, ScD, MPH is a social and behavioral scientist with expertise in implementation science, cancer prevention, and community-based intervention research. She is Assistant Professor of Sociomedical Sciences at the Mailman School of Public Health, where she is the Associate Director of Research for the Lerner Center for Public Health Promotion. She is also the Associate Director of the Community Engagement Core Resource at the Irving Institute for Clinical and Translational Research, and directs a new university-wide initiative on Implementation Science at Columbia.

Dr. Shelton has over 12 years of experience conducting mixed-methods research in both community-based and health system settings, with 60 peer-reviewed publications in journals including *Translational Behavioral Medicine*, *Social Science & Medicine*, *American Journal of Public Health*, *Implementation Science*, and *Annual Reviews of Public Health*. In addition to her work on advancing the implementation and sustainability of evidence-based interventions in real-world community and clinical settings (e.g. lay health advisor and navigator programs), she has published extensively on social and contextual factors that influence disparities in cancer and other chronic diseases among low-income African American and Hispanic populations, including social networks, discrimination, and medical mistrust.

Shelton was inducted as SBM member delegate during the society's 40th Annual Meeting & Scientific Sessions, held Wednesday through Saturday in Washington, DC. She officially began her three-year Board term during the society's business meeting Saturday morning. Shelton was selected as member delegate through a vote by SBM members.

Shelton has been a member of SBM since 2009. She oversaw the planning of three annual meetings as Program Committee co-chair, chair, and past chair.

The Society of Behavioral Medicine (SBM) is a 2,400-member organization of scientific researchers, clinicians and educators. They study how behavior, biology and the environment interact, and they turn their findings into health interventions that improve the well-being of individuals, families and communities.

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