

Society of Behavioral Medicine
37th Annual Meeting & Scientific Sessions
Washington DC– March 30-April 2, 2016
Program Committee Conference Call

Date: Tuesday, August 18, 2015
Time: 12:00 PM PT; 1:00 PM MT; 2:00 PM CT; 3:00 PM ET
Dial in: 1.800.377.8846
Pass Code: 37484465#

In Attendance

Kathleen Wolin, ScD, Chair
David X. Marquez, PhD, Co-Chair
Lila J. Rutten, PhD, MPH, Past Chair

Staff

Amy Stone
Erin Trimmer
Johanna Moss

Unable/not asked to attend

Marian L. Fitzgibbon, PhD, President
Diane M. Santa-Maria, DrPH, MSN, RN
Courtney J. Peasant, PhD, MS
Christopher N. Sciamanna, MD, MPH
Reginald Tucker-Seeley, ScD
Kristi D. Graves, PhD
Elissa Jelalian, PhD
Molly L. Greaney, PhD

1. Minutes Approval

Dr. Wolin approved the minutes from the July 14, July 22 and August 4 conference calls.

2. Abstract Submission Update

Ms. Trimmer provided an update on the status of abstract submissions. There are currently 20 abstracts submitted with 52 in draft. Last year at this time there were 14 abstracts submitted with 35 in draft.

3. Review of Abstract Reviewer Questions

Dr. Wolin suggested adding a numerical rating scale indicating a score of 1 is outstanding and 5 is unacceptable to each question to avoid reviewer confusion. During the review process for the 2015 Annual Meeting it appeared that many reviewers reversed the scale and incorrectly scored abstracts which led to confusion.

Dr. Rutten added that the meeting theme should be updated under Question 7 to reflect the 2016 Annual Meeting theme.

Dr. Wolin suggested reaching out to Dr. Breland who is responsible for media releases relating to abstract submissions to get a definition of what makes an abstract newsworthy and adding her response to Question 9.

4. Discussion of New Session Options

Ms. Trimmer offered a brief description of three session options she had recently come across from other meetings and meeting related information and asked for feedback from the committee.

a. Open-area learning: holding a session (formal or informal) in a common area of the Annual Meeting space. Dr. Wolin suggested a session on wearables, the structure of the session may invite meeting attendees to provide input, it also may allow for more interaction between attendees and exhibitors/sponsors and would reduce the feel of the “sales pitch” atmosphere of the exhibit hall. Ms. Stone recommended describing the type of session to the Digital Health Council to potentially provide the next steps and/or reach out to potential speakers.

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b. Speed Networking: (from Wikipedia) a meeting format designed to accelerate business contacts. Primarily, the practice involves multiple people that gather in a single space in order to exchange information. Participants greet each other in a series of brief exchanges during a set period of time. During an interaction, attendees share their professional backgrounds and business goals.

After a brief discussion of the purpose of networking opportunities and who benefits most, the committee determined that this may be a SIG engagement strategy. Not necessarily as a speed networking event, however, since the SIG business meetings are mainly spent on actual business and future planning, the current opportunities to network within a particular special interest group are limited. Sessions such as this may present an opportunity for newer members of a particular group to interact with senior members of the society with common interests. Dr. Wolin also suggested that it may serve as a form of engagement between potential members of SBM and senior members including SIG chairs, Committee chairs, etc.

c. Community service: Ms. Stone explained that, during a previous annual meeting in DC, the Local Arrangements Committee presented an award to a community-based organization for an evidence-based initiative relating to behavioral medicine. Dr. Marquez acknowledged that the Physical Activity SIG presents an award every year to a local innovator. It was determined that Ms. Trimmer would reach out to the Local Arrangements Committee to gauge their interest in the task.

Next Conference Call

Date: Wednesday, August 26, 2015

Time: 1:00 PM PT; 2:00 PM MT; 3:00 PM CT; 4:00 PM ET

Dial in: 1.800.377.8846

Pass Code: 37484465#