



## 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting & Scientific Sessions 2020 Program Committee Conference Call

Date: Wednesday, May 22, 2019  
Time: 11am ET/10am CT/9am MT/8am PT

### **In Attendance**

L. Alison Phillips, PhD (Chair)  
Dori Steinberg, PhD (Co-Chair)  
Eric B. Hekler, PhD (Past Chair)  
Michael A. Diefenbach, PhD (SBM President)

### **Staff**

Rachel Mizar (Meetings Manager)  
Lauren Seward (Meetings Coordinator)

### **Unable to Attend**

Lindsay Bullock (Executive Director)

#### **1. Approve 5/8/2019 and 5/13/2019 Minutes**

Dr. Phillips moved to approve minutes. Dr. Hekler seconded; minutes were approved.

#### **2. Speaker Updates**

Dr. Phillips reviewed feedback she received from the large program committee regarding speakers. The most disputed topic was Philosophy of Science.

- Dr. Karen Emmons suggested another speaker who may be more relevant than Miguel A. Hernán. Tyler J. VanderWeele, also at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, researches the application of causal inference to epidemiology, as well as on the relationship between religion and health.
- Dr. Austin Baldwin suggested a topic, mobbing away from null results and instead discussing the reproduction crisis.
- Dr. Steinberg may be able to make a connection with the Verily Chief Medical Officer if the committee moves forward with trying to reach a speaker at Verily.
- All of the large committee was happy to see the climate change topic. Dr. Hekler has a connection at UCSD to find speakers.
- Dr. Bill Sieber suggested Behavioral Medicine in Primary Care as the topic for the ICBM joint session.
- Dr. Jessica Breland suggested that although both tentative asks from Stanford are both female and represent minorities, Stanford as an institute is not upholding diversity in AI, and may not be an ideal choice for inviting a speaker. Instead she suggested Ruha Benjamin of Princeton.

#### **3. Removing Option to Accept Rejected Symposium as Posters**

The committee agreed that due to negative feedback, complications, and the general difficulty to move forward with this practice, SBM will no longer allow individual presentations submitted with rejected symposia to be accepted as posters. These authors will be allowed to re-submit their individual abstracts during the rapid submission period if they would truly like to be considered for poster presentation.



**4. Null Results, SBIR, and Works in Progress Posters**

After discussion, the committee decided that the “Null Results” checkbox should be removed from the abstract submission system. Instead, SBM will continue to accept Null Results submissions and encourage abstract reviewers not to automatically reject these submissions if they are well done, as some have done in the past.

Some options for SBIR\* and Works in Progress Posters\* include:

- Continue to have a checkbox for these options
- Add a third “Lessons Learned” checkbox
- Move all of these submissions to Saturday presentation
- Add a second poster session on Thursday or Friday to accommodate more submissions\*\*

\*Under ten SBIR submissions have been done in past years. SBM staff has suggested that the committee considers removing these options altogether.

\*\*This would mean not allowing a lunch hour, or removing another session type.

This discussion will continue at a future meeting.

**5. Pre-Conference Session and Topic Area Discussion**

These items were tabled to discuss at next week’s committee meeting.

**Next Program Committee Conference Call**

May 29, 10am CT  
*Small Committee Call*