SIG Council Conference Call
MINUTES
Tuesday, June 16, 2021
8 a.m. PT/9 a.m. MT/10 a.m. CT/11 a.m. ET
Call in number: https://zoom.us/j/96341511103

In Attendance
Robert L. Newton Jr., PhD – Chair
Kathi Heffner, PhD – Aging
Jaime Hughes, PhD, MPH, MSW – Aging
Megan Mattos, PhD – Aging
Amber Blackwood, MPH – BIT
Amy Leader, DrPH, MPH – Cancer
Bernardine Pinto, PhD – Cancer
Andrew Busch, PhD – CVD
Elizabeth Adams, PhD – CFH
Melanie Bean, PhD – CFH
Allyson Hughes, PhD – Diabetes
Caroline Presley, MD, MPH – Diabetes
Jennifer Warnick, PhD – Diabetes
Carrie Patnode, PhD – EBBM
Marleah Dean Kruzel, PhD – HDM
Courtney Scherr, PhD – HDM
Kassandra Alcaraz, PhD, MPH – Health Equity
Patricia Rodriguez Espinosa, PhD, MPH – Health Equity
Megan J. Shen, PhD – Health Equity
Cerissa L. Blaney, PhD – IPC
Jocelyn E. Remmert, PhD – IPC
Tammy Stump, PhD – MHBCM
Andrea Graham, PhD – OED
Stephanie Manasse, PhD – OED
Ahnalee Brincks, PhD – OBBI
Laura Porter, PhD – Palliative Care
Katherine Ramos, PhD – Palliative Care
Diane Ehlers, PhD – Physical Activity
Jessica Gorzelitz, PhD – PHS
Candice Kroenke, ScD, MPH – PHS
Jessica Dietch, PhD – Sleep
Kelsey Bittel – Student
Kathryn Knoff – Student
Angela D. Bryan, PhD – TTBCI
Courtney Stevens, PhD – TTBCI
Em Adams, PhD – Violence and Trauma
Bushra Sabri, PhD – Violence and Trauma
Rizwana Biviji, PhD, MS – Women’s Health
Jodie Lisenbee – Women’s Health
Andrew Schmidt (staff)

Minutes
The April 2021 SIG Council call minutes were approved as written.

Annual Report Review Reminder
Dr. Newton reminded the council that the SIG renewal timeline has been modified to place all SIGs up for renewal at the same time every three years, while the committee responsible for reviewing renewal applications will additionally review the regular annual reports and provide feedback to the SIGs in non-renewal years. A new review committee for 2021-2024 is currently being empaneled and will meet to review the 2021 annual reports in the coming weeks.

2021-2022 SIG Timeline
Dr. Newton shared an updated timeline of SIG activities for the 2021-2022 SBM year, including tentative abstract submission deadlines for the 2022 Annual Meeting, upcoming quarterly Outlook newsletter articles, SIG officer elections, and award requests.

Dr. Stump enquired about the possibility of holding SIG elections earlier in the year, to avoid overlap with the many other SIG deadlines in winter/spring and with other SIGs’ elections. Mr. Schmidt clarified that the SIG Manual only requires new SIG officers to be elected by, and begin their terms at, the end of the Annual Meeting. Timelines for campaigning and voting, on the other hand, are not specified by the SIG Manual, so SIGs would be welcome to conduct their elections further in advance.
SIG-Sponsored Healthy Living Articles
Dr. Newton reminded the council that SBM moved from biannual deadlines to rolling submissions for public-facing articles in the Healthy Living series last year. While SIGs aren’t required to prepare Healthy Living articles, they are standout items on SIG annual reports and renewal applications and can be authored by any SIG member with an interest in practicing writing for the public.

SIG Leadership Meetings
Dr. Newton notified the council of his interest in sitting in on some regular SIG meetings over the coming months. A number of council members provided the details for their next leadership or open SIG member meetings, while others noted that they were still planning their meetings for the current year but would share the schedule when it became available.

Dr. Newton asked the chairs to add their SIG’s upcoming meeting schedule to the shared attendance sheet for this council call, after which he will reach out to each SIG with the intention of joining one of their meetings this year.

Open Forum
Several council members inquired about access to additional resources, including a list of topics for upcoming Grand Rounds webinars and contact information for current SIG chairs. Mr. Schmidt noted that all SIG Council members have access to the SIG Council Listserv, and can obtain the contact information for individual SIGs’ chairs from each SIG’s page on the SBM Website. In addition, a complete schedule of upcoming webinars and their topics, as well as currently available webinar dates, can be accessed from the SIG Chair Website.

The council also discussed establishing a Slack channel to allow for more dynamic collaboration between SIG chairs than currently afforded by the listserv.

Next meeting: August 18, 2021; 11 a.m. ET