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

2022 Annual Meeting Abstract Submission
Dr. Newton reminded the council that abstracts for the 2022 Annual Meeting were now open and would be due by September 6th. As in previous years, SIG business meeting and networking session proposals are being accepted through a separate “Non-Scientific Sessions” site and must also be submitted by the abstract deadline.

SIG Annual Report Reviews
Continuing the discussion from June’s SIG Council meeting, Dr. Newton notified the council that reviews of the 2020-2021 SIG annual reports are still forthcoming and feedback on those reports will be shared with the SIG chairs shortly after the reviews are complete. As mentioned earlier in the year, SIG renewal applications will now be required from all SIGs every three years, while the committee responsible for reviewing those renewals will additionally review the regular annual reports and provide feedback to the SIGs in non-renewal years.

SIG Leadership/Membership Meetings
Dr. Newton reported on recent meetings with four SIG leadership teams and his intention to continue meeting individually with 4-5 SIGs each month through the end of the year. All SIGs with upcoming leadership meetings were encouraged to add their details to the SIG Council call attendance sheet if they haven’t already, or to reach out to Dr. Newton directly to schedule another meeting during the coming months.
SIG Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Initiatives
Dr. Newton shared SBM’s revised commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion from its recently adopted strategic framework. While the SIG Council wasn’t given a direct charge relating to DEI in the strategic plan, the SIGs are broadly encouraged to consider DEI principles throughout all of their activities. Many SIGs described their DEI efforts in their most recent annual reports, including the ways they have been incorporating DEI principles into SIG officer recruitment, Annual Meeting sessions, award offerings, and other SIG initiatives. Beyond those aforementioned activities, Dr. Newton invited the council to share any questions, comments, or challenges they have relating to DEI in their SIGs’ current work.

Dr. Leader noted that the Cancer SIG is currently assembling a diversity task force and a potential DEI subcommittee, while Dr. Vela shared an upcoming policy brief featuring contributions from the Cardiovascular Disease SIG on reducing CVD-related health disparities. Dr. Scherr also reported on the Health Decision Making SIG’s ongoing discussions relating to award criteria and the creation of new awards with a DEI focus.

Next meeting: October 20, 2021; 11 a.m. ET