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Monica Baskin inducted as Society of Behavioral Medicine member delegate

SAN ANTONIO – University of Alabama at Birmingham professor Monica Baskin, PhD, began her term as member delegate on the Society of Behavioral Medicine Board of Directors on Saturday.

The Society of Behavioral Medicine (SBM) is a 2,200-member organization of scientific researchers, clinicians and educators. They study interactions among behavior, biology and the environment, and translate findings into interventions that improve the health and well-being of individuals, families and communities.

Baskin was inducted as SBM member delegate during the society's 36th Annual Meeting & Scientific Sessions, held Wednesday through Saturday in San Antonio. She officially began her three-year term during the society's business meeting on Saturday morning.

Baskin was elected member delegate through a vote by SBM members. She has served as chair of the society's Membership Council. As member delegate, Baskin would like to continue work with SBM councils, committees, and special interest groups to attract and retain a diverse and engaged membership. She would also promote additional health policy and digital health work by the society.

Baskin is a professor in the Division of Preventive Medicine at the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Medicine. She also holds center appointments in the Comprehensive Cancer Center, Minority Health and Research Center, Nutrition Obesity Research Center, UAB Center for Exercise Medicine, and UAB Center for Outcomes and Effectiveness Research and Education.

Baskin has devoted her teaching, research and service activities to the promotion of health and health equity, particularly among populations with the highest risk of chronic disease and premature mortality. She has received funding from multiple institutes of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF), and local foundations. Her research focuses on healthy eating, physical activity, obesity, and cancer prevention and control. Current projects include translating evidence-based weight management programs into rural communities using trained local community health advisors and identifying social determinants of maternal and child outcomes of overweight and obese black and white women.

Baskin is a permanent member of the NIH Psychosocial Risk and Disease Prevention Study Section and has been an ad hoc reviewer for other NIH study sections, RWJF, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the American Cancer Society and others. She also served on The Obesity Society eHealth/mHealth Section steering committee.

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