



SOCIETY OF
BEHAVIORAL
MEDICINE

**ETCD Council Conference Call
MINUTES**

Tuesday, March 10, 2020

11:30 a.m. PT/12:30 p.m. MT/1:30 p.m. CT/2:30 p.m. ET

Call in number: 1-800-377-8846 Access Code: 33405815#

In Attendance

Amy Huebschmann, MD (chair)
Courtney P. Bonner, PhD
Vicki DiLillo, PhD
Andrea Kozak, PhD
Valerie Myers, PhD
Karen Oliver, PhD
Barbara Stetson, PhD
Andrew Schmidt (staff)

Regrets

Jamie Bodenlos, PhD
Morgan Lee, PhD, MPH
Lori Pbert, PhD
Sherri Sheinfeld Gorin, PhD

Welcome and Minutes

The February 2020 ETCD Council call minutes were approved as written.

Annual Meeting Session Planning

Dr. Huebschmann informed the council that her institution enacted a ban on nonessential travel earlier in the day, joining the growing number of members who would no longer be able to attend the Annual Meeting in person. Dr. Huebschmann added that several colleagues with whom she had been discussing the conference were already looking into remote solutions for presenting their sessions, and were expecting not to travel to the conference even if their institution continued to allow travel. Mr. Schmidt notified the council that SBM was examining virtual presentation options to supplement in-person sessions, but that no particular arrangements had been identified as of yet.

Dr. Oliver shared that her understanding of the mood among members was that SBM had already delayed cancelling the Annual Meeting for too long and that continuing to hold to conference would put public health at risk. Several council members echoed this concern and questioned how it would be possible to hold any in-person sessions with the number of presenters who would be prevented from travelling.

Dr. Huebschmann suggested that the ETCD Council could advocate for student/trainee members and conference attendees, and offered to forward the council's concerns on to the SBM board before their

meeting later in the week. Dr. Huebschmann listed the council's primary considerations as 1) the financial impact of cancelled conference registrations and travel arrangements and the recommendation that the administrative fee for cancelled registrations be waived for students, and 2) the loss of presentation opportunities for students unable to travel to the meeting and recommendation that virtual sessions be supported in some form, at the very least for poster presentations.

Dr. Oliver reported that she was aware of several faculty who were offering to volunteer some of their time that was already blocked off for the Annual Meeting for mentoring, and suggested that SBM find a way to offer remote poster mentoring if virtual poster presentations were implemented.

Dr. Huebschmann enquired whether there were plans to present any portion of the Diversity Institute virtually for participants and mentors/presenters who would be unable to attend in person. Dr. Bonner noted that the institute steering committee would be meeting before the end of the week to discuss options and that she was working with the workshop facilitator as well to determine whether any of the workshop content could be presented remotely or whether the institute would be postponed until 2021 with the same participants.

Next steps:

- Dr. Huebschmann will draft a message to SBM President Dr. Michael Diefenbach summarizing the council's discussion and requested relief for student Annual Meeting presenters and attendees.

ETCD Session Scheduling Overlap

The council briefly discussed issues with overlap of ETCD-sponsored sessions in the Annual Meeting program which has prevented certain presenters from speaking at all of their sessions in a given year.

Dr Oliver recommended that the Program Committee cross check presenters and avoid scheduling concurrent sessions before finalizing the program. It is frustrating for session planners and presenters to contribute their time and energy to a session only to realize that a speaker may be required to choose between two presentations that they'd already committed to. Dr. Huebschmann noted that a limited number of presentation times are available in the program, particularly if the ETCD Council and Student SIG continue to submit the majority of their sessions as midday meetings, but that the council's concerns could be shared with the Program Committee in the coming months.

Next steps:

- The council will share its recommendations with the Program Committee in advance of abstract submission for the 2021 Annual Meeting.

Discussion of updates to the consultation program were tabled until the council's next meeting.

Next Meeting

TBD