



SOCIETY OF
BEHAVIORAL
MEDICINE

ETCD Council Conference Call

MINUTES

Tuesday, July 14, 2020

11:00 a.m. PT/12:00 p.m. MT/1:00 p.m. CT/2:00 p.m. ET

bluejeans.com/580906236

In Attendance

Valerie Myers, PhD (chair)
Courtney P. Bonner, PhD
Vicki DiLillo, PhD
Amy Huebschmann, MD
Andrea Kozak, PhD
Morgan Lee, PhD, MPH
Carina Mnich, MSc (guest)
Andrew Schmidt (staff)

Regrets

Jamie Bodenlos, PhD
Sherri Sheinfeld Gorin, PhD

Welcome and Minutes

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

Consultation Program Needs Assessment

Dr. Myers notified the council that she and Dr. Huebschmann reach out to past ETCD Council Chair Dr. Nicole Zarrett about a prior member survey evaluating the consultation program. Using questions from that survey and suggestions from the council, a new questionnaire will be developed and shared with the SBM Champions survey panel.

Next steps:

- Dr. Myers will begin assembling a set of questions for the survey panel, and work with the Digital Health Council to reevaluate cross-council collaboration on academia-focused and industry-focused consultation programs.

Early-career Mentoring Program Proposal

Ms. Mnich shared a presentation from the Student SIG expanding upon the proposed mentoring program that was introduced on the previous month's council call. As currently envisioned, the mentoring program would consist of an initial kickoff session during the 2021 Annual Meeting, with regular virtual meetings between a senior scientist and a group of 2-6 early-career researchers and between peer mentors throughout the 2021-2022 SBM year. In summer/fall the Student SIG and ETCD Council would work together to develop a session abstract, identify and invite potential mentors, and

begin accepting applications from interested early-career members, followed by application reviews and matching mentors with peer groups in winter.

Dr. Huebschmann asked how the Student SIG was defining “early-career” for the purposes of the program, as the Meet the Fellows session has shown that researchers in a wide variety of positions with differing mentorship needs can all be considered “early-career.” Several council members recommended limiting the mentorship program to a particular subset of early-career researchers, such as current students and trainees, at least in its first year.

Dr. Myers asked whether the Student SIG had discussed how they’d like to structure the peer mentoring portion of the program. Ms. Mnich noted that some SIG members felt that advanced grad students or postdocs could be assigned to mentor new grad students, while other members thought it preferable for peers at the same stage to mentor one another. In addition, peer mentors could either be matched one-to-one and expected to meet repeatedly throughout the year, or any members of each mentoring group could simply meet based on interest and availability.

Ms. Mnich also asked for the council’s thoughts about incorporating capstone “leadership projects” like those described in Dr. Sheinfeld Gorin’s article on the mid-career Leadership Institute. The Student SIG hadn’t discussed such projects prior to developing their proposal, however the council was broadly in favor of exploring them further.

Next steps:

- The Student SIG will continue to brainstorm with a focus on current graduate students and postdocs for the initial year of the program, and develop guidelines for the group mentorship meetings and leadership projects. Ms. Mnich will also prepare a list of recommended planning “microtasks” for ETCD members to assist with by the next council call.

Career Development Webinar Series Topics

Ms. Mnich shared a list of proposed topics for a new season of the career development webinar series, and asked the council for their thoughts or additional suggested topics, particularly topics related to the COVID-19 pandemic and remote learning/working. Council members were generally supportive of the list as written, with several members encouraging the Student SIG to keep the topics relatively general (e.g., “Best practices for conducting research online,” rather than “How to conduct research during a pandemic”) as conditions could change between the planning and presentation of these webinars.

Next steps:

- Ms. Mnich will circulate the suggested topics and an invitation to participate in the 2020-21 webinar series to the SIG chairs.

Study Section Reviewer Application Form and Nomination Process

Dr. Myers shared a request from the NIH Center for Scientific Review (CSR) asking scientific societies to recommend new reviewers from among their members. To facilitate these nominations, SBM staff has developed a webform where members can indicate their interest and provide relevant details about their research and suggested study sections they’d like to be considered for. SBM’s Presidents have

asked ETCD to take the lead on reviewing the self-nominations submitted by members before they receive the SBM “stamp of approval” and are passed on to CSR.

Dr. Myers noted that there may be a significant influx of applications when the form first opens, but that the workload should become a manageable part of the monthly council call going forward. Council members would also be encouraged to nominate themselves if interested, and to share the nomination form with colleagues.

Next steps:

- SBM leadership are conducting a final review of the form and preparing targeted messages to announce the form opening before staff promotes to the broader membership. Mr. Schmidt will collect the initial member submissions and share them with the council before the August call.

Other Business

Dr. Myers asked the council to consider potential candidates for new council members. Current members were encouraged to send any recommendations to Dr. Myers before next month’s call, at which point the council can discuss nomination of suggested candidates to SBM’s Executive Committee.

Next Meeting

August 11, 2020; 1 p.m. ET