



SOCIETY OF
BEHAVIORAL
MEDICINE

**ETCD Council Conference Call
MINUTES**

Tuesday, September 8, 2020

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

Valerie Myers, PhD (chair)
Courtney P. Bonner, PhD
Vicki DiLillo, PhD
Amy Huebschmann, MD
Andrea Kozak, PhD
Sherri Sheinfeld Gorin, PhD
Carina Nigg, MSc (guest)
Lindsay Bullock, CAE (staff)
Andrew Schmidt (staff)

Regrets

Jamie Bodenlos, PhD
Morgan Lee, PhD, MPH

Welcome and Minutes

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

2021 Annual Meeting Session Planning

The council shared their prospective sessions for the upcoming Annual Meeting.

Dr. Sheinfeld Gorin reported that she intended to submit three abstracts, and asked whether the council would be in favor of sponsoring any or all of the sessions: A discussion focused on “exploring ethics and values in behavioral medicine,” which would be based upon an accepted abstract from the 2020 Annual Meeting; a panel on virtual group mentoring, with a focus on increasing diversity in leadership positions; and a panel discussing the recently developed inter-organizational obesity medicine education guidelines. The council expressed its support of providing ETCD sponsorship of all three sessions.

Ms. Nigg reported that the Student SIG was developing four sessions, however a panel on behavioral education during the COVID-19 pandemic, seemed to overlap considerably with a potential webinar that was mentioned during the previous ETCD Council meeting. Ms. Bullock clarified that Dr. Bodenlos was preparing a webinar proposal on the topic to make the content available to SBM members sooner than the Annual Meeting. Dr. Myers suggested that the Student SIG consider collaborating on the webinar, and offered to help connect the session planners with Dr. Bodenlos if helpful.

Ms. Nigg shared the Student SIG's other planned sessions, including the early career mentoring program kick-off (to be submitted as co-sponsored by both the Student SIG and the ETCD Council), a career paths in behavioral medicine Q&A, a discussion on conducting research remotely, and a roundtable on time management and work/life balance.

Next steps:

- The Student SIG will develop and submit abstracts for a professional development panel, and the early-career mentoring program kickoff session. Dr. Sheinfeld Gorin will submit abstracts for a group mentoring panel, ethics midday meeting, and obesity training standards session. Council members who would be interested in participating in the ethics meeting are encouraged to reach out to Dr. Sheinfeld Gorin. Drs. Myers, Lee, and Huebschmann will coordinate the Meet the Fellows session, which has already been tentatively scheduled by the Program Committee.

Study Section Reviewer Nominations

Dr. Myers thanked the council for their time and consideration of the newly-submitted member applications, as well as the applications that the council was asked to re-review after the August ETCD meeting. Recalling the council's discussion with Dr. Michael Diefenbach and Dr. David Conroy about nominations to CSR during that call, Dr. Myers noted that most members at the assistant professor stage and beyond should be considered eligible, and that a history of successful NIH funding would not be required.

Several of the recent applicants were recommended by all or most of the reviewers, and the council agreed that their materials should be forwarded to CSR without further discussion.

For those members with a mix of positive and negative reviews, the council considered whether they came from backgrounds underrepresented among current study section reviewers. Dr. Myers reiterated that scientific societies are not required or expected to make a final evaluation of a member's suitability as a reviewer, and that submitting members to CSR was neither an official "endorsement" of that member or any guarantee that CSR would select them. Therefore, the council was encouraged to approve applicants unless a significant reason for rejection could be identified.

Dr. Sheinfeld Gorin made note of the grant writing resources provided by SBM (including Grand Rounds webinars and the Cancer SIG's mock grant review) and NIH, and recommended that these resources be shared with applicants in the event that their materials aren't forwarded to CSR.

Of the remaining applicants, the council agreed that several were at a very early career stage and would therefore be a better fit for NIH's Early Career Reviewer Program, while at least one had no history of federal extramural funding despite being relatively advanced in their career. The council recommended that these members not be forwarded on to CSR at this time.

Next steps:

- Staff will contact the applicants with unanimous recommendations to inform them of their reviews and forward their names to CSR. Dr. Myers and Mr. Schmidt will reach out to the applicants who are not being recommended and offer suggestions for enhancing their

application materials before resubmitting or encourage them to apply for the Early Career Reviewer Program, where appropriate.

Early-career Mentoring Program Proposal

Tabled until the next meeting of the ETCD Council.

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

October 13, 2020; 2 p.m. ET