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## **Society of Behavioral Medicine Inducts New Officers**

**PHILADELPHIA, PA** – The Society of Behavioral Medicine inducted three new officers at the close of its 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting & Scientific Sessions on Saturday, April 26, 2014.

Lisa M. Klesges, PhD, assuming her term as SBM President, believes SBM is uniquely poised to influence emerging issues facing the nation's health care system – aging, chronic illness and disease prevention – and wants SBM to reexamine behavioral medicine's education and training programs to ensure early career professionals have the necessary skills to tackle such issues. She advocates a strong SBM national presence, believing the Society should back funding and public policy positions that support behavior change research. "Fostering interdisciplinary partnerships that emphasize translation of evidence to and from practices and populations and providing evidence-based recommendations to an expanded audience of professional and national stakeholders, are integral to SBM's future," she says. Dr. Klesges is Founding Dean and Professor of Epidemiology and of Social & Behavioral Sciences in the School of Public Health at the University of Memphis. She is a Fellow of SBM and has served on its Membership Council, Nominating Committee, Program Committee, Associate Editor of *Annals of Behavioral Medicine* and chair of the Translational Research to Practice Track.



Marian L. Fitzgibbon, PhD, commencing the role of President-Elect, aims to further the Society's contributions to our understanding of how lifestyle, behavior, the environment, culture, and social factors influence health. She sees opportunities to further the mission of SBM through innovation in technology, utilizing advances to strengthen communication across populations and in intervention dissemination. She is committed to stimulating successful interdisciplinary collaborations, a vital strength of the organization, she says, as well as preparing the next generation of behavioral scientists to lead. Dr. Fitzgibbon is a Professor in the Department of Medicine and School of Public Health at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC). She is Division Chief of the Division of Health Promotion Research; the Associate Director of the Population Health, Behavior, and Outcomes Program at the University of Illinois Cancer Center; and Deputy Director at the Institute for Health Research and Policy. A Fellow of SBM, Dr.



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Fitzgibbon served as Chair of the Obesity and Eating Disorders Special Interest Group and currently chairs the Health Policy Committee.

Elliot J. Coups, PhD, is serving a three-year term on the SBM Board as Member Delegate. He believes the society is positioned to lead systematic initiatives that maximize the impact and reach of behavioral medicine to improve health and well-being across diverse settings and populations. “Such initiatives,” he says, “could include developing and maintaining productive, strategic collaborations with organizations that can facilitate the dissemination and implementation of behavioral medicine science, practice, and education, increasing the role of SBM in the development of health policy, broadening the diversity of SBM members and developing additional professional opportunities and resources for members.” Dr Coups is a faculty member at Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey and an Associate Professor of Medicine at Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School and of Health Education & Behavioral Science at Rutgers School of Public Health. He served as 2013-2014 Chair of the SBM Program Committee, Co-Chair of the Evidence-Based Behavioral Medicine Special Interest Group, and co-investigator for an NIH R13 conference grant awarded to SBM.



*The Society of Behavioral Medicine is a multidisciplinary organization of clinicians, educators, and scientists dedicated to promoting the study of the interactions of behavior with biology and the environment and the application of that knowledge to improve the health and well being of individuals, families, communities, and populations. [www.sbm.org](http://www.sbm.org)*

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