

MEMBERSHIP COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Date Wednesday, March 22, 2023
Time 3 pm ET

IN ATTENDANCE	
Dani Arigo, PhD (Chair)	Yue Liao, PhD
Dalnim Cho, PhD	Angela Pfammatter, PhD
I. Shevon Harvey, DrPH, MPH	Lindsay Bullock (staff, does not count toward quorum)
Allyson Hughes, PhD	Andrew Schmidt (staff, does not count toward quorum)
Danielle Jake-Schoffman, PhD	

**quorum* = 5

REGRETS	
Chuka Nestor Emezue, PhD, MPH, MPA, CHES	Madalina Sucala, PhD

Review Strategic Plan Activities

The council discussed new developments on the strategic plan charges since the last call.

For the charge on retaining and recruiting more student members from all backgrounds:

- Dr. Arigo revisited a discussion from last summer about possibly decreasing student membership dues. Since last summer, the council has spoken to mentors and students, reviewed data from surveys completed by former student members, and reviewed student dues costs in peer organizations. Draft budget scenarios were also provided.
 - The council will focus on dues, however could pass along other ideas about reduced Annual Meeting costs for students, to the Annual Meeting Planning Committee. Council members indicated students often have easier access to travel funds, rather than dues funds, and that student interviews indicated dues was a greater sticking point than meeting registration.
 - The council suggested creating separate categories for different levels of students could buffer any financial loss to SBM while also taking into account the different financial realities of undergrads vs postdocs, for example. The current student/trainee membership includes postdocs as trainees. A very cheap undergrad rate may also attract more undergrads who might not otherwise know about behavioral medicine or join later in their careers. This could address larger SBM goals about pipeline and diversity, equity, and inclusion. Such changes may also allow people taking gap years as research assistants to continue student membership during that time, rather than lapsing.
 - The council tentatively suggested:
 - \$25: Undergraduates enrolled in a full-time, accredited program in a relevant field, and individuals 3 years post baccalaureate degree but not enrolled in a formal graduate school program
 - \$60: Graduate students enrolled in a full-time, accredited training program in a relevant field.
 - \$105: Postdoctoral fellows and others in a postdoctoral training program.
 - What about individuals who are post-masters but not yet in a PhD program?
 - Any changes to the 2024 dues cycle, which opens Oct. 1, 2023, must be presented to the Board in July 2023.

ACTIONS: Ms. Bullock will pull numbers of different types of students/trainees from within the current roster of student/trainee members and use this to put together additional budget scenarios. The council can discuss on its next call. The council will also need to review member benefits and ensure some add value for undergrads, and will need a strong communications plan that includes mentor outreach (it will not be enough to change or add tiers).

For the charge on creating collateral showing how we are relevant in solving today’s problems:

- Ms. Bullock reported video interview invites have gone out. Dr. Hughes, Dylan Serpas, Dr. Rizwana Biviji, and Dr. Val Myers have agreed. Drs. Gary Bennett and Sherry Pagoto declined. Additional invites have been sent to Drs. Monica Baskin and Phillip Fizur. Should more declines happen, staff still has other names from the Membership Council to invite. We are trying to secure a total of 6.

Approve minutes from February

Dr. Pfammatter moved to approve the minutes. Dr. Hughes seconded. The motion carried.

Review current membership numbers

Dr. Arigo shared the current membership counts compared to past years, and noted the large class of new 2023 fellows:

Feb 28, 2020		Feb 28, 2021		Feb 28, 2022		Feb 28, 2023	
Associate	12	Associate	11	Associate	7	Associate	18
Emeritus	59	Emeritus	60	Emeritus	59	Emeritus	61
Fellow	138	Fellow	126	Fellow	136	Fellow	193
Fellow (Emeritus)	50	Fellow (Emeritus)	54	Fellow (Emeritus)	54	Fellow (Emeritus)	58
Member	834	Member	669	Member	686	Member	629
Student/Trainee	629	Student/Trainee	405	Student/Trainee	433	Student/Trainee	430
Trans 1	55	Trans 1	62	Trans 1	45	Trans 1	45
Trans 2	47	Trans 2	32	Trans 2	33	Trans 2	26
Total	1824	Total	1419	Total	1453	Total	1460

Annual Meeting events

Council members should plan to attend the First-Time Attendee and New Member Meet and Greet on Wednesday at 5 p.m., and the council meeting on Thursday at 2 p.m. Dr. Arigo will also join the SIG Committee meeting to discuss webpage updates.

SIG follow ups

Dr. Arigo has talked with Dr. Newton and Mr. Schmidt about SIGs struggling to recruit new chairs, in part because that role is large but can feel thankless. We want to continue to promote the intrinsic value of service to SBM/SIGs or the benefit of a volunteer role on a CV, but the council can help think of other ways to acknowledge, appreciate, and generally thank SIG leaders.

- Reduced dues or registration discounts are a longer-term conversation and would deviate from SBM’s existing volunteer structure.
- SIG chairs will be more visibly thanked during this year’s Annual Meeting via a special poster, during Dr. Arigo’s talk at the meet/greet, in push notifications, and in tweets.
- Outlook could feature a “SIG Corner” to highlight SIG activities and recognize leaders. SIG highlights could also go in the Digest.
- SBM could provide a form letter for chairs to use in promotion and tenure packages.

- SBM could give a service award to all outgoing SIG chairs, or SIGs could do this themselves.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 3:59 p.m. ET.

Minutes respectfully submitted by L. Bullock and A. Schmidt on March 23, 2023.