



**Monica Baskin, PhD**

Biographical Sketch

Monica L. Baskin, PhD has been a member of the Society of Behavioral Medicine (SBM) since 2003 and achieved fellow status in 2017. Over the past 15 years, she has aligned with multiple Special Interest Groups (SIGs) including Health Equity, Cancer, Women's Health, Child and Family Health, and Obesity and Eating Disorders and participated on the Membership Council. Dr. Baskin has also served in multiple leadership roles. She was Membership Council Chair (2013-2015), Member Delegate (2015-2018), Nomination Committee member (2015), and Fellow Selection Subcommittee member (2017). Currently, she is a member of the Mid-Career Leadership Institute Steering Committee (2015-present), Chair of the Diversity Leadership Pipeline Working Group (2017-present), and member of the Development Committee (2018-present).

Dr. Baskin received her Bachelor of Arts in psychology and sociology from Emory University, and a Master of Science in Community Counseling and Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology from Georgia State University. She completed her postdoctoral training in pediatric psychology at Emory University School of Medicine and is a licensed psychologist. Dr. Baskin is currently Professor of Preventive Medicine and Vice Chair for Culture and Diversity in the Department of Medicine at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB). She also serves as the Associate Director for Community Outreach and Engagement at the O'Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center at UAB. Her extensive NIH-funded research history includes the design, evaluation and dissemination of behavioral and environmental interventions to address chronic conditions like obesity and cancer. Dr. Baskin's has served as Principal Investigator of multiple community-engaged research studies to identify sociocultural and environmental determinants of health among populations at greater risk of disease (e.g., racial/ethnic minorities, rural populations) (see R01MD003997, U54CA153719; R01CA160313, U54MD0008176).

In addition, Dr. Baskin is part of the inaugural cohort of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) Culture of Health Leaders Program (CoHL). She also serves as the Leader of the Jefferson County Collaborative for Health Equity, a diverse group of

academic researchers, public health practitioners, elected officials, grassroots leaders, economic developers, and community- and faith-based organizational leaders committed to advancing health equity in Jefferson County, AL. In this role, she led an effort to consolidate epidemiological data on county-level health disparities into a variety of products accessible to diverse stakeholders, including a community health equity report, a brief video on local health disparities, infographics, and communications for local policymakers.

#### Personal Statement

I have been proud to call the Society of Behavioral Medicine (SBM) my professional home for over 15 years. During this time, I have greatly appreciated the access to our proven science and the terrific networking and leadership development opportunities. My excitement for SBM fuels my vision for the Society: ***The Society of Behavioral Medicine (SBM) is the undisputed premier source for proven science, effective practice, and informed-policy making resources to ensure better health for all.***

Like many of SBM's members, my academic training is in psychology. My professional career has included appointments in psychiatry, public health, and medicine. As such, it has sometimes been challenging to describe "my discipline" to others. My vision for the field is: that ***Behavioral Medicine is recognized as the first treatment choice for population health and well-being.***

Finally, I am honored to have been nominated to be the next President-Elect of SBM. It would be a great privilege to provide leadership for a dynamic membership of trainees, scholars, and practitioners sharing a common goal of better health by studying and intervening on the biological, behavioral, psychological and/or social circumstances relevant to health and illness. But, I am most interested in this position ***to help move the needle on the dissemination and implementation of evidence-based prevention and intervention to those populations that are most burdened by poor health.*** Our membership has the scientific and clinical expertise for greater impact, but would benefit from strategic planning and resources to actualize the potential. I would welcome the challenge to keep the momentum of the past 40 years going and forge new grounds for the years ahead.