

# SOCIETY *of* BEHAVIORAL MEDICINE

*Better Health Through Behavior Change*

## **Scientific and Professional Liaison Council**

**October 23, 2017**

### **Call participants**

Katie Davis, PhD  
David E. Goodrich, EdD, MS, MA  
Jeff Haibach, PhD, MPH  
Amy Janke, PhD – Chair  
Kristin L. Schneider, PhD  
Sherri Sheinfeld Gorin, PhD  
Jennifer A. Sumner, PhD  
Erika A. Waters, PhD, MPH  
Sandra J. Winter, PhD, MHA

### **Regrets**

Martin D. Cheatle, PhD  
Syed W. Haider, PhD  
Paul B. Jacobsen, PhD  
Natalia Loskutova, MD, PhD  
Julie E. Volkman, PhD

### **Staff**

Andrew Schmidt

### **MINUTES**

The September 25 SPLC minutes were approved as written.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Dr. Janke introduced Dr. Kristin Schneider and Dr. Jennifer Sumner as new guest members of the council. Dr. Janke also announced that Dr. Sara Knight would be stepping down from the SPLC, and thanked Dr. Knight for her years of leadership on the council and many contributions to the SPLC's mission.

### **LIAISON UPDATES**

#### **American College of Lifestyle Medicine**

Dr. Winter reported that ACLM has invited SBM to participate in a Positive Psychology Think Tank conference that they are developing for next year. Dr. Janke noted that Dr. Gary Bennett will be attending ACLM's Annual Meeting later in the month and may be able to provide some insight on ACLM and on the feasibility of participating in the Think Tank conference. Dr. Winter will follow up with Dr. Bennett and Mary Dean after ACLM's meeting.

#### **The Obesity Society/ASMBS**

Dr. Davis reported that the SBM board approved signing on to an ASMBS consensus statement on best practices for the care of patients with obesity.

## **ETHICS WORKING GROUP**

Dr. Sheinfeld Gorin provided an introduction to SBM's new Ethics Working Group, on which she serves as chair. The group is charged with reviewing the annual conflict of interest disclosures submitted by the SBM Board of Directors, educating the membership on ethical practices and procedures, and advising the Board when ethical questions or concerns are raised. Dr. Sheinfeld Gorin cited the society's intention to develop additional relationships with industry as a driving factor behind the establishment of an Ethics Working Group, and noted the SPLC's potential involvement in connecting with industry partners.

## **LIAISON EVALUATION PROCESS**

Dr. Janke thanked the council for their considerable efforts during recent years which have led to an expanded roster of liaisons and products with liaison organizations. This growth has, in turn, led to some questions about the council's capacity and allocation of resources. As such, Dr. Janke suggested three areas of strategic evaluation for council members to consider going forward:

- What are your goals for your liaison activities, both short term and long term?
- How do these goals align with SBM's strategic priorities?
- Can liaisons be managed differently to achieve these goals and contribute to the strategic priorities?

Dr. Janke noted that this can apply both to how liaisons are structured within the SPLC, and how partnerships are managed across the society as a whole. For instance, are liaison relationships best served by the model of one SPLC member/one partner organization that has been the typical approach? With the SIGs already providing a structure of SBM members aligned according the research interests or practice areas, is there more that the SPLC should be doing to engage the SIGs or are there certain liaisons that might be more appropriately managed by a SIG rather than the SPLC? As with the SIGs, are there councils or committees (such as the Digital Health Council or Health Policy Council/Committee) with which the SPLC should be more closely collaborating?

## **NEXT STEPS**

Dr. Janke encouraged council members to continue thinking about ways in which liaisons should be evaluated, with the intention of returning to this discussion on future calls.

Dr. Janke also noted that, after participating on a recent SIG Council call and running into several common questions from SIG leaders, she will begin developing an FAQ for SBM members to provide an introduction to the SPLC. Dr. Sheinfeld Gorin suggested that the SPLC manual of procedures could serve as a resource, and that the council may additionally be interested in updating and re-introducing the manual as a result of the ongoing strategic discussions.