

**Scientific and Professional Liaison Council**

**Call Minutes**

**January 26, 2015**

**Call participants**

David E. Goodrich, EdD, MS, MA

Sherri Sheinfeld Gorin, PhD - Chair

Sara J. Knight, PhD

Erika A. Waters, PhD, MPH

Julie A. Wright, PhD

**Guests**

Catherine L. Davis, PhD

Marian L. Fitzgibbon, PhD

Miho Tanaka, PhD

Julie E. Volkman, PhD

**Regrets**

Jennifer K. Carroll, MD, MPH

Martin D. Cheatle, PhD

Mary A. Driscoll, PhD

Paul B. Jacobsen, PhD

**Staff**

Amy Stone

**Guest Introductions**

**Dr. Sheinfeld Gorin welcomed Dr. Tanaka and asked her to share her background with council members.**

Dr. Tanaka has recently accepted a healthcare informatics position with the VA. Her prior position was with NCI’s Office of Research and Development as a scientific manager. Because of her interests in healthcare informatics she often attends the AMIA conference as well as conferences sponsored by the Society for Medical Decision Making with which she is very involved. Dr. Tanaka greatly enjoys being part of the behavioral medicine research community. In addition to the SPLC, Dr. Tanaka is also interested in learning more about the newly established SBM Digital Health Council. She thanked Dr. Knight for encouraging her interest in SBM and the SPLC.

Dr. Sheinfeld Gorin noted that Dr. Tanaka is helping Dr. Erika Waters plan the 2015 SBM Annual Meeting Health Decision Making SIG Course, “What is a ‘Good’ Medical Decision? Perspectives from Multiple Stakeholders.”

*Action step:* Amy Stone will let Digital Health Council Chair Dr. Ellen Beckjord know of Dr. Tanaka’s interest.

**Dr. Sheinfeld Gorin then welcomed Dr. Fitzgibbon, SBM President Elect, and invited her to introduce herself.**

Dr. Fitzgibbon noted that she is a professor at the University of Illinois, Chicago, in the department of medicine. She strongly encouraged SPLC members to make annual meeting hotel reservations as soon as possible and mentioned that the early bird registration deadline is March 24, 2015.

**Scientific Liaison and conference session reports**

**NAPCRG**

Dr. Gorin reported that Dr. Carroll is in transition, having accepted a new position in Colorado. She added that in the early stages of planning the “Transforming Primary Care through Bioinformatics and Behavioral Medicine” symposium, which brings together members of NAPCRG and AMIA, Dr. Wright is gathering slides and asked if others on the call were using that or other strategies for ensuring successful sessions.

Dr. Waters said that convening a call among the discussant and speakers can also be helpful. When speakers provide a five-minute overview of their talks, the discussant can identify common themes, which helps the discussant form relevant questions.

**AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SPORTS MEDICINE**

Dr. Goodrich noted that the Thursday symposium co-sponsored with ACSM, “Exercise Promotion in Community Health Settings,” was accepted. He noted that although ACSM should have been mentioned in the Preliminary Program, it was not. Moreover, due to an abstract submission error one of the presenter’s was not cited. There will be a symposium planning call in the next few weeks that will include the vice-president of ACSM.

The ACSM is also co-sponsoring with the SBM Physical Activity SIG and the SPLC a symposium on “Technology, Exercise, and Healthcare: Using exercise in medicine."

Action step: Amy Stone will ensure that the aforementioned mistakes are corrected in the Final Program

**HEALTH DECISION MAKING SIG**

Dr. Waters reported that planning for the Health Decision Making SIG Course, “What is a ‘Good’ Medical Decision? Perspectives from Multiple Stakeholders,” is proceeding nicely.

For the Health Decision Making SIG, Dr. Waters is compiling an abstract for a special issue of either Annals or TBM, featuring SBM SIGs. The abstract is based on the aforementioned course, which, in turn, reflects cross talk between SBM and the Society of Medical Decision Making.

**EVIDENCE BASED BEHAVIORAL MEDICINE SIG**

Dr. Sheinfeld Gorin will circulate the abstract submission url for the APOS annual meeting. (Dr. Jacobsen serves as program chair for APOS and in that capacity coordinated cross promotions of the APOS and SBM conferences.)

**COCHRANE COLLABORATION**

Dr. Sheinfeld Gorin reported that she and Dr. Knight have engaged the chairs of the Cancer and EBBM SIGs in the planning process. They also disseminated a survey among the SBM membership to determine how many members are Cochrane collaborative review contributors; both activities are designed to build momentum for this continued liaison relationship. It was suggested that it would be useful to identify members who have used Cochrane reviews for policy-related purposes.

**PUBLIC HEALTH LAW RESEARCH GROUP**

Dr. Knight noted that Dr. Michael Goldstein has put together and will chair a wonderful symposium, “Veterans Health Administration System-Wide Approaches to Advancing the National Prevention Strategy.” The discussant is Dr. Carolyn Clancy, with the Department of Veterans Affairs and former director of AHRQ, and presenters include Dr. Knight who will present on research support as well as Dr. Linda S. Kinsinger with the Veterans Health Administration National Center for health Promotion and Disease Prevention.

Planning for the Wednesday seminar, “Advancing the State of the Science for Evaluating the Behavioral Health Effects of Laws,” is well underway. It will be led by Scott Burris, JD, at Temple University who heads the Public Health Law Research Group funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Dr. Knight will undertake steps to draw attendees to the session and generate interest in the topic, noting that the group funds research in addition to teaching and offering research resources.

Dr. Sheinfeld Gorin mentioned that Dr. Knight is leading a Governance Working Group established by SBM President Lisa M. Klesges, PhD, and in that capacity authored a paper discussing strategies for streamlining and otherwise improving governance functions within SBM.

**THE OBESITY SOCIETY**

Dr. Davis reported that do date, efforts to reach the society’s director have been unsuccessful thus far. She plans to enlist the help of an Obesity Society board member.

**Dr. Fitzgibbon’s remarks**

SBM President-Elect Marian L. Fitzgibbon, PhD also serves as chair of the Health Policy Committee. She noted that the goal of the committee is to develop products that can increase the relevance and impact of SBM members’ research and interventions. The committee has adopted a new working model that pairs early- to mid-career people who assess the policy issues and draft the briefs with senior members who mentor them. Increasingly, the committee is drawing upon SIG members for contributions.

Dr. Fitzgibbon then described the process used for developing a policy brief that supports the role of community health workers in diabetes self-management. This particular brief will be endorsed by other organizations, which will increase its impact. Many briefs, she noted, are shared with federal legislators’ health aides so that SBM-members’ research can influence legislation.

The role of the SPLC could be expanded, she said, to encompass policy-related liaisons (in addition to scientific liaisons); this, too, would help broaden the scope of SBM’s policy work.

**Closing remarks**

* Dr. Sheinfeld Gorin said the recently formed SBM Digital Health Council is assuming organizational shape. She and Dr. Wright joined a call with Digital Health Council Chair Dr. Ellen Beckjord to help identify potential members and council directions. Dr. Sheinfeld Gorin will invite Dr. Beckjord to join a future SPLC call.
* There will be an SPLC dinner during the Annual Meeting; Dr. Sheinfeld Gorin asked SPLC Council members to forward venue ideas to her.