Scientific and Professional Liaison Council  
November 27, 2017

Call participants  
Katie Davis, PhD  
David E. Goodrich, EdD, MS, MA  
Amy Janke, PhD – Chair  
Kristin L. Schneider, PhD  
Jennifer A. Sumner, PhD  
Julie E. Volkman, PhD  
Sandra J. Winter, PhD, MHA  

Regrets  
Martin D. Cheatle, PhD  
Jeff Haibach, PhD, MPH  
Syed W. Haider, PhD  
Paul B. Jacobsen, PhD  
Natalia Loskutova, MD, PhD  
Sherri Sheinfeld Gorin, PhD  
Erika A. Waters, PhD, MPH  

Staff  
Andrew Schmidt

MINUTES

The October 23 SPLC minutes were approved as written.

LIAISON UPDATES

American College of Lifestyle Medicine  
Dr. Winter reported that Gary Bennett presented at ACLM’s Lifestyle Medicine Conference in October and had an overall positive impression of the meeting and the organization, and voiced his support for pursuing further collaboration. A call has been scheduled with ACLM leadership to discuss the Positive Psychology Think Tank conference that they are developing for next year, which SBM has been invited to participate in. Dr. Winter added that ACLM had expressed an interest in submitting to the “best-of” poster session at the 2018 Annual Meeting, and selected abstracts from their conference should be forthcoming.

Health Enhancement Research Organization (HERO)  
Dr. Winter reported that she has identified HERO as a potential partner organization, and proposed establishing a liaison with herself as the SBM contact. Council members expressed enthusiasm for having Dr. Winter with the intention of discovering what types of activities could potentially provide mutual benefit. Dr. Winter will work to schedule a call with HERO leadership to discuss potential points of collaboration, such as SBM participation in an upcoming HERO forum or engaging HERO in SBM’s proposed industry meeting.

The Obesity Society/ASMBS  
Dr. Davis reported that the SBM-sponsored symposium at Obesity Week was well-received. The group spoke briefly afterward about the possibility of submitting a commentary to *Obesity* based on the
In addition, Dr. Davis reported that she and Dr. Sheinfeld Gorin had a productive meeting with members of the Obesity Medicine Education Collaborative writing panel on obesity medical education standards.

HEALTH POLICY UPDATES

Dr. Janke reported that several policy briefs have recently been approved, including those in support of delaying school start times, retaining school meal standards, and increasing funding for fruit and vegetable production in the Farm Bill. Several additional briefs are nearing completion, including ones on oral cancer prevention, prostate cancer screening, and opioid addiction prevention.

Dr. Janke asked the council whether they believed there would be interest among SBM’s partner organizations in collaborating on a response to the recently released AHA hypertension guidelines. It was determined that a writing group should be assembled to develop a commentary for cross-publishing in one or partner journals. Dr. Janke offered to draft an email for council members to adapt and send to their liaisons inviting them to participate, with a preliminary call to be scheduled among interested parties.

LIAISON EVALUATION AND CHANGES TO COUNCIL STRUCTURE

Continuing the discussion from last month’s call, Dr. Janke reiterated three suggested areas of evaluation for liaison relationships:

- 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?

With these considerations in mind, Dr. Janke proposed that the council adjust the way it manages liaisons on a provisional basis over the coming months, emphasizing the role that the SPLC can play in facilitating collaboration between various partner organizations and across SBM’s SIGs, councils and committees. Dr. Davis suggested that closer relationships with the SIGs and with groups such as the Health Policy Committee can help to make the SPLC more visible to the membership as a whole and amplify the impact of the council’s work.

Dr. Janke noted that the Sleep SIG had recently been in contact about connecting SBM with several organizations in the area, and this could serve as an opportunity to test this new approach by encouraging the SIG to take an active role in the management of the liaison(s) alongside the SPLC. Based on the results, Dr. Janke will develop a set of guidelines for liaison development and present them to the council for review.