



Bernard F. Fuemmeler, PhD, MPH
Candidate for Secretary/Treasurer

Personal Statement

SBM has been my professional home for nearly 20 years. I have received a great deal of mentoring and advice from my colleagues within the society over these years. I would be honored to “give back” by serving as Secretary/Treasurer.

SBM has been fortunate to benefit from sound leadership, forward-thinking strategic planning, and prudent fiscal management. This has allowed the organization to weather the impact that the recent COVID-19 pandemic has had and the necessary step of moving the annual conference to a virtual format. Moving forward it will be necessary to continue this careful planning to ensure reserves are capable of sustaining any future storms.

At the same time, what we have learned from this pandemic and the recent social justice movement is how powerful it is to have an organization, like SBM, at the helm. With challenges comes opportunities. As Secretary/Treasurer I pledge to do my best at balancing the need to remain fiscally conservative while also recognizing growth-oriented opportunities to expand the organization’s national prominence. As Secretary/Treasurer I will work diligently with the leadership to ensure that all decisions align the board’s values of being good stewards of SBM resources.

Biographical Sketch

Bernard F. Fuemmeler is a Professor and Gordon D. Ginder, MD Chair in Cancer Research in the Department of Health Behavior and Policy at Virginia Commonwealth University. He is Associate Director of Population Science at VCU’s Massey Cancer Center and is an acting Program Leader for the Center’s cancer prevention and control program. He also directs the NCI funded T32 institutional training program in cancer prevention and control.

Dr. Fuemmeler’s research focuses on understanding the biological, behavioral, social and environmental factors that contribute to lifestyle factors linked to cancer (e.g.,

tobacco, unhealthy diet, physical inactivity, and obesity). His work often applies a life-course framework and incorporates multi-level methods to study these factors. In addition, he is interested in how the field can harness novel statistical methods and leverage digital technologies (e.g., social media, big data, mobile phones and wireless sensors) to address behavioral and social science problems.

Dr. Fuemmeler's research work has been continuously supported by NIH, NCI, and private foundation grants since 2006. He has over 100 peer-reviewed publications, one US patent for his mHealth-related work, and another patent pending. Before being recruited to the Massey Cancer Center, he served as a faculty member at Duke University rising from Assistant to Associate Professor with Tenure. He completed his graduate work in clinical psychology at Oklahoma State University and a clinical internship and postdoctoral fellowship at the Medical University of South Carolina. He then subsequently completed a master's degree in public health at Harvard University. He received further postdoctoral research training through the National Cancer Institute's (NCI) Cancer Prevention Fellowship program where he worked in the Health Behavior Research Branch.

He has served the field in numerous ways, including serving on NIH and NCI study sections and within the organization of SBM. He has been a member of SBM for nearly 20 years and was inducted as a Fellow in 2019. He has been active in the Cancer and Obesity Special Interest Groups over the years. From 2013 to 2016 he was chair of the Child and Family Health SIG. While in this role he expanded the SIG membership, worked to create bridges with other organizations, and helped lead a SIG-initiated manuscript highlighting future direction for child and family health research within the field of behavioral medicine. He has also served as associate editor for the flagship journal of SBM, *Annals of Behavioral Medicine* from 2018 to 2019.

