

Bio: Christine M. Hunter, PhD, ABPP

Christine Hunter, Ph.D., ABPP, has been active in SBM for over 25 years as a member, through SIGs, and as a presenter, moderator, and reviewer. The SBM mission and members have been central to shaping her career and vision for behavioral medicine research and practice. She was awarded SBM's Robert Croyle Behavioral Medicine Service Award for outstanding service to SBM and the broader field through non-traditional pathways. In addition to 17 National Institutes of Health (NIH) and 19 public health service or military awards for excellence in science and service, she received a Meritorious Research Service Commendation from the American Psychological Association for outstanding contribution to psychological science by enhancing opportunities for the field.

Dr. Hunter obtained her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from The University of Memphis, completed her psychology internship and postdoctoral training at Wilford Hall Medical Center, and is Board Certified in Clinical Health Psychology. Until recently, she worked at the NIH as Deputy Director and then Acting Director of the Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research. In these positions, she focused on enhancing the impact of behavioral and social sciences research, coordinating and integrating these sciences within the larger NIH research enterprise, and improving the communication of behavioral and social sciences research to many audiences. Previously, she was the Director of Behavioral Research at the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases where she led a broad and innovative behavioral science research portfolio. Prior to joining the NIH, she was active duty in the U.S. Air Force and worked in clinical, research, leadership, and health policy positions. She recently retired from the NIH and is focused on identifying new ways to contribute professionally.

Dr. Hunter's research interests span the translational continuum and are grounded in a commitment to improve the health of all people. She is interested in research to uncover multilevel drivers of health and mechanisms of behavior change and identify ways to rapidly translate these findings into meaningful and equitable approaches to improve health. Her research efforts focus on employing rigorous but varied methodologies. She understands the importance of identifying the contributors to poor health and levers of change that range from the individual level to systems and society. She is also passionate about implementation science to more rapidly advance the reach, uptake, and scale up of evidence-based approaches into routine care, community settings, and public health practice.