



SOCIETY OF BEHAVIORAL MEDICINE

SIG Council Conference Call MINUTES

Wednesday, September 19, 2018

9 a.m. HT/12 p.m. PT/1 p.m. MT/2 p.m. CT/3 p.m. ET

Call in number: <https://bluejeans.com/493133939>

In Attendance

Brian Gonzalez, PhD – *Chair*

Neha Gothe, PhD – *Aging*

Beth Orsega-Smith, PhD – *Aging*

Dani Arigo, PhD – *BIT*

Lisette Jacobson, PhD – *CFH*

Amanda Shallcross, ND, MPH – *CAIM*

Claire Spears, PhD – *CAIM*

Lyndsay Nelson, PhD – *Diabetes*

Maria Ramirez Loyola – *Diabetes*

Heather McGinty, PhD – *EBBM*

Lisa Carter-Harris, PhD, APRN, ANP-C – *HDM*

Aisha Langford, PhD, MPH – *HDM*

Kimberly Nelson, PhD, MPH – *HIV & Sexual Health*

Cerissa Blaney, PhD – *IPC*

Jennifer Funderburk, PhD – *IPC*

Ryan Kalpinski, PhD – *MVH*

Jerry Suls, PhD – *Multi-Morbidities*

Kathryn Ross, PhD, MPH – *OED*

David Cavallo, PhD, MPH, RDN – *OBBI*

Siobhan Phillips, PhD, MPH – *PA*

Molly Waring, PhD – *PHS*

Natasha Williams, EdD, MPH, MSW – *Sleep*

Jill Bormann, PhD, RN, FAAN – *Spirituality*

Jason Cohen – *Student*

Warren Bickel, PhD – *TDP*

Susan Czajkowski, PhD – *TTBCI*

Jackie Maher, PhD – *TTBCI*

Emily Mailey, PhD – *Women's Health*

Sherry Pagoto, PhD (guest)

Sandra Winter, PhD, MHA (guest)

Lindsay Bullock (staff)

Andrew Schmidt (staff)

Minutes

The August 2018 SIG Council call minutes were approved as written.

Public-Facing Article Update

Dr. Pagoto thanked the council for the many public-facing articles that have been submitted or are currently undergoing revisions. These articles are intended to be the first part of a wider campaign to communicate members' science and position SBM as a source for health information for the general public. The research that SBM members do relates to the most searched-for and written-about health topics, however the voices of behavioral medicine researchers and evidence from their work are often absent from the public discourse.

Dr. Pagoto noted that she appreciates the comments from the council about workload and difficulty recruiting authors from among the SIG membership, and offered some suggestions for encouraging rank-and-file SIG members to participate in these types of opportunities. Dr. Pagoto mentioned that she includes writing for non-academic publications on her CV and that universities are increasingly putting value on this type of writing. In addition, the SBM presidents have also discussed offering an award to encourage members to write public-facing articles in the future. Dr. Pagoto will also be sharing resources and training opportunities with the SIG Council that members can use to develop their skills writing for the public, and encouraged council members to reach out to her individually to discuss strategies for writing relevant and accessible articles and/or activating SIG members to contribute.

Dr. McGinty shared a concern that an emphasis on public-facing content on the website could be viewed by the membership as competing with SBM's mission and traditional member benefits; Dr. Pagoto responded that engaging more proactively with the public is not intended to redirect society or SIG resources away from their primary responsibilities to the membership, but to enhance SBM's mission and magnify the impact of members' research.

Collaboration Opportunities with HERO

Dr. Winter introduced herself as a member of SBM's Scientific and Professional Liaison Council (SPLC), which works to develop inter-organizational linkages and identify opportunities for collaboration with other associations, societies, and nonprofit groups. One organization that the SPLC has been working to forge a relationship with recently is the Health Enhancement Research Organization (HERO), a non-profit organization consisting of corporations, insurers, providers and educational institutions that focuses on workplace health issues.

Potential opportunities for SBM members to collaborate include presenting at the annual HERO Forum, writing for the *American Journal of Health Promotion*, and directly connecting with HERO's corporate members to share their work.

Any SBM members whose research has a particular relevance to workplace health or well-being would be encouraged to consider these opportunities; SIG chairs are welcome to share the call for collaboration and webinar recording with their members, and interested individuals should reach out to Dr. Winter to discuss further.

Other Business

Dr. Gonzalez responded to some of the concerns raised on the August SIG Council call regarding expectations for SIG chairs and opportunities for feedback or discussion. As part of an initiative to make the monthly council calls more collaborative and provide a venue for chairs to share feedback publicly, Dr. Gonzalez announced that "Open Forum" time will be built in to the end of each call, and opened the floor to questions or comments from the council.

Dr. Kalpinski asked the council whether any SIGs had tips or best practices for driving member engagement that they would be able to share. The Military and Veterans health SIG has experienced some difficulty recruiting volunteers to participate in public-facing articles and *Outlook* pieces.

Dr. McGinty noted that the EBBM SIG utilized their listserv to recruit writers for their recent *Outlook* article, particularly members who have an article that they're currently writing or have recently published in another publication that they'd be willing to adapt. Advance notice of individual SIG deadlines for *Outlook* on the SIG activities timeline may help with finding authors in advance.

Dr. Jacobson reported that the Child and Family Health SIG has seen success with activating their membership by establishing a SIG Advisory Committee. Though the group is informal, they hold regular, structured meetings and help maintain buy-in from former SIG leaders and other interested members who aren't current SIG officers.

Dr. Gonzalez suggested that further discussion of member engagement strategies be added to the agenda for next month's council call.

Dr. Funderburk noted that the IPC SIG has been exploring alternative uses for their SIG funds, particularly support for Annual Meeting speakers. With a significant portion of their members and invited speakers being government employees, the SIG isn't able to offer them honoraria or travel reimbursement. The IPC SIG developed a pre-conference course for the 2018 Annual Meeting with several government employees participating; the presenters expressed an interest in donating the funds that would have gone to their speaker fees as travel or registration reimbursement for students, however SBM was unable to put a process for this in place before the meeting.

Dr. Gonzalez suggested adding a discussion of SIG finances and reimbursement options to the agenda for a future council call as well.

Next meeting: Wednesday, October 17 at 9 a.m. HT/12 p.m. PT/1 p.m. MT/2 p.m. CT/3 p.m. ET.