SIG Council Conference Call
MINUTES
Tuesday, December 15, 2020
9 a.m. HT/12 p.m. PT/1 p.m. MT/2 p.m. CT/3 p.m. ET
Call in number: https://zoom.us/j/96341511103

In Attendance
Brian Gonzalez, PhD – Chair
Kathi Heffner, PhD – Aging
Elizabeth Orsega-Smith, PhD – Aging
Danielle Jake-Schoffman, PhD – BIT
Karen Syrjala, PhD – Cancer
Andrew Busch, PhD – CVD
Matthew Whited, PhD – CVD
Melanie Bean, PhD – CFH
Allyson Hughes, PhD – Diabetes
Nora Henrikson, PhD, MPH – EBBM
Carrie Patnode, PhD – EBBM
Shannon Christy, PhD – HDM
Kassandra Alcaraz, PhD, MPH – Health Equity
Kimberly Nelson, PhD, MPH – HIV & Sexual Health
Cerissa Blaney, PhD – IPC

Jennifer Funderburk, PhD – IPC
Katherine Hall, PhD – MVH
Tammy Stump, PhD – MHBCM
Angela Plammatter, PhD – OBBI
Rebecca Kukowsk, PhD – OED
Laura Porter, PhD – Palliative Care
Kathryn Ramos, PhD – Palliative Care
Linda Trinh, PhD – Physical Activity
Candice Kroenke, ScD – PHS
Jessica Dietrich, PhD – Sleep
Eric Zhou, PhD – Sleep
Terence Penn, MA – Student
Liao Yue, MPH, PhD, CPH – TTBCI
Bushra Sabri, PhD – Violence and Trauma
Alicia Dahl, PhD – Women’s Health
Andrew Schmidt (staff)

Minutes
The October SIG Council call minutes were approved as written.

2021 Annual Meeting New Attendee Meet and Greet
Dr. Scherezade Mama, SBM Membership Council Chair, joined the call to introduce a new Annual Meeting networking event designed to promote engagement with first-time attendees. Like the New Member Meet and Greet sessions at previous years’ conferences, this event will give attendees an opportunity to learn more about SBM membership broadly, and about each SIG in particular. New for the virtual format, SIGs will be asked to record brief video introductions in lieu of the SIG posters that are traditionally hung in the reception area.

Full descriptions and mission statements for each SIG will be provided to attendees in advance, so the video clips are intended to be a platform for chairs to share what they find most exciting about their SIG and describe opportunities for getting involved that might not be reflected in its formal description.

The Membership Council will reach out to SIG chairs directly in the coming weeks with recording guidelines and instructions for submitting their SIGs’ clips.

2021 SIG Awards
Dr. Gonzalez reminded the council that award requests for 2021 are being accepted via an online form through February 22nd. As in previous years, SIGs will have the opportunity to select certificates or framed plaques for each award, and can choose to include monetary prizes with the awards when they ship.

For awards to be processed and delivered by the time of the Annual Meeting, requests must be received by the February 22nd deadline. Requests for checks or unframed certificates may still be submitted after the deadline, however they will be shipped after the Annual Meeting has concluded.
SIG Strategic Planning
As an update to the discussion from the previous SIG Council meeting, Dr. Gonzalez reported that the SBM board recently completed a strategic planning retreat and would be finalizing a new strategic plan document in the coming months. SIGs that are planning their own strategic planning exercises in the coming months may consider waiting until that document is available to be shared, hopefully by spring of 2021.

Dr. Gonzalez also thanked the Cancer and Health Decision Making SIGs for sharing recent surveys conducted which are now available for reference via the SIG Chair website.

Upcoming Webinars & Suggested Topics for Career Development Webinar Series
Mr. Penn shared a list of upcoming webinars in the Student SIG/ETCD Council-sponsored Career Development Webinar Series. Opportunities for collaboration exist for any of the scheduled webinars over the next several months, while SIGs interested in contributing to a future webinar on one of the Student SIG’s proposed topics, or who would like to suggest a new topic, are encouraged to reach out to Ms. Nigg.

Endorsement of Policy Briefs/Position Statements
Responding to recent questions from a number of SIG chairs, Dr. Gonzalez shared a set of procedures for proposing public policy position statements and for signing on to statements authored by partner organizations.

While SIGs are not empowered to publish or endorse position statements on their own, requests may be submitted to SBM’s Executive Committee for either endorsement by SBM as a whole, or joint endorsement by SBM and the sponsoring SIG.

Open Forum
Mr. Penn reported on the new Early-Career Mentoring Program, another recent initiative from the Student SIG and ETCD Council. Chairs were encouraged to share the program application materials on their listservs if they had not already, and to invite students from their own networks to apply.

A council member enquired whether it was necessary to pay for job postings on SIG listservs through SBM’s advertising order system. Mr. Schmidt clarified that members are always welcome to post job opportunities directly to any of their SIGs’ listservs at no charge. In addition, current SBM members are entitled to two weeks of complimentary job advertisements in the SBM digest email.

Dr. Funderburk followed up on a recent message from the Integrated Primary Care SIG regarding COVID-19-related behavioral medicine resources in a primary care context. All SIGs were invited to contribute relevant research, which the IPC SIG would translate into a handout designed specifically for a primary care provider audience.

Next meeting: February 16, 2020; 11 a.m. ET