



SOCIETY OF BEHAVIORAL MEDICINE

SIG Council Conference Call MINUTES

Wednesday, April 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://bluejeans.com/358238410>

In Attendance

Brian Gonzalez, PhD – *Chair*
Neha Gothe, PhD – *Aging*
Kathi Heffner, PhD – *Aging*
Jaime Hughes, PhD, MPH, MSW – *Aging*
Elizabeth Orsega-Smith, PhD – *Aging*
Madhura Phansikar – *Aging*
Danielle Jake-Schoffman, PhD – *BIT*
Amy Leader, DrPH, MPH – *Cancer*
Julia Rowland, PhD – *Cancer*
Karen Syrjala, PhD – *Cancer*
Matt Whited, PhD – *CVD*
Melanie Bean, PhD – *CFH*
Carrie Patnode, PhD – *EBBM*
Shannon Christy, PhD – *HDM*
Courtney Scherr, PhD – *HDM*
Kassandra Alcaraz, PhD, MPH – *Health Equity*
Tiffany Carson, PhD, MPH – *Health Equity*
Brett Millar, PhD – *HIV & Sexual Health*
Peter Giacobbi, PhD – *MHBCM*
Tammy Stump – *MHBCM*
Ryan Kalpinski, PhD – *MVH*
Ahnalee Brincks, PhD – *OBBI*
Andrea Graham, PhD – *OED*
Rebecca Krukowski, PhD – *OED*
Kathryn Ross, PhD – *OED*

Ana-Maria Vranceanu, PhD – *Pain*
Katherine Ramos, PhD – *Palliative Care*
Dori Rosenberg, PhD, MPH – *Physical Activity*
Linda Trinh, PhD – *Physical Activity*
Jessica Breland, PhD – *PHS*
Candyce Kroenke, ScD, MPH – *PHS*
Tracy Trevororrow, PhD – *Sleep*
Jennifer Hulett, PhD – *Spirituality & Integrative Health*
Stephanie Sohl, PhD – *Spirituality & Integrative Health*
Claire Spears, PhD – *Spirituality & Integrative Health*
Carina Mnich – *Student/TTBCI*
Terence Penn – *Student*
Ekin Secinti – *Student*
Adati Tarfa – *Student*
Paul Branscum, PhD, RD – *TTBCI*
Derek Hevel – *TTBCI*
Yue Liao, MPH, PhD, CPH – *TTBCI*
Jaclyn Maher, PhD – *TTBCI*
Em Adams, PhD – *Violence and Trauma*
Bushra Sabri, PhD – *Violence and Trauma*
Angela Jacques-Tiura, PhD – *Violence and Trauma*
Alicia Dahl, PhD – *Women's Health*
Veronica Njie-Carr, PhD – *Women's Health*
Lindsay Bullock (staff)
Andrew Schmidt (staff)

Minutes

The January SIG Council call minutes were approved as written.

SIG Annual Meeting Sessions

Dr. Gonzalez asked any SIGs that were interested in scheduling a virtual business meeting but hadn't yet done so to reach out to SBM staff for assistance with setting up a videoconference. Dr. Gonzalez notified the council that SBM would not be hosting other virtual Annual Meeting sessions, with the exception of select keynotes and master lectures and posters/paper presentations uploaded to the online conference planner and mobile app. SIGs would be welcome to schedule their own videoconferences to share content that had been planned for the meeting, or to submit session content as an SBM Grand Rounds webinar. Dr. Gonzalez noted that while webinars are free for SBM members, non-members are required to pay a fee to join or view recordings, which is provided to the SIG(s) that present a given webinar.

Several council members enquired about presenting content outside of the regular webinar lineup since Grand Rounds webinars are only held once per week. Dr. Gonzalez suggested that the council could recommend expanding the schedule if SIG-sponsored sessions end up outnumbering the available webinar dates.

Ms. Secinti asked how SBM was planning to recognize SIG award winners in the absence of the in-person awards ceremony and other promotion that typically takes place during the Annual Meeting. Mr. Schmidt reported that award winners would be recognized on the SBM website, on social media, and in an upcoming issue of the *Outlook* newsletter. In addition, award certificates and plaques will be shipped along with SIG award checks, to whichever address the award winner provided on their W-9 form. Awards winners who had either not submitted their W-9 or who needed their award to be mailed to a different address were asked to reach out to SBM staff as soon as possible.

SIG Mergers and SIG Renewals

Dr. Gonzalez reminded the council that SIG renewal applications would once again be due in June for review by the renewal review committee and SBM board in July. While the original schedule had 1/3 of the SIGs applying for renewal every year, the review committee and the board agreed after the first round of renewals that it would be more effective to review all of the SIGs at the same time, once every three years. As such, every SIG that did not already apply for renewal in 2019 would be required to submit an application in 2020.

Dr. Syrjala noted that the Cancer SIG was approved for renewal in 2019 for three years, which would require them to next apply for renewal in 2022 rather than 2023. Dr. Gonzalez clarified that the board elected to renew the first round of SIGs for four years in order to put all of the SIGs on the same renewal schedule going forward.

The council was informed that the board considered two merger proposals during their virtual meeting earlier in April, and voted to approve the merger of the Complementary and Integrative Medicine and Spirituality and Health SIGs into the new Spirituality and Integrative Health SIG, and the merger of the Multiple Health Behavior Change, Multi-Morbidities, and Trans-Disease Processes SIGs into the new Multiple Health Behavior Change and Multi-Morbidities SIG. Dr. Stump encouraged those SIGs that might be considering a merger to begin collaborating promptly to allow for time to survey their members and prepare a proposal before the fall or spring board meetings. Dr. Gonzalez added that the renewal process, much like the standard Annual Report, provides an opportunity for SIG chairs to delegate responsibility to junior SIG members who may be interested in SIG leadership in the future.

Call for COVID-19 Blog Posts

Dr. Gonzalez thanked the chairs for circulating Dr. Michael Diefenbach's call for COVID-19-related blog posts on their SIG listservs, and noted that SBM would continue to accept new posts for the foreseeable future. Dr. Gonzalez reiterated that the articles for this series are intended to be less formal than the regular public-facing articles and are an opportunity to share first-person accounts of living and working during the pandemic.

Call for Public-Facing Articles

Dr. Gonzalez reminded the council that SBM is again seeking public-facing articles from the SIGs, to be published in mid-to-late 2020. Interested SIGs are asked to submit drafts to Mr. Schmidt by April 30th. Public-facing articles are intended for a general audience and should include "evergreen" content; while articles with relevance for the COVID-19 pandemic would certainly be welcome, they should not be specific to current events.

SIG Council Meeting Structure

The SIG Council considered potential changes to its monthly conference call schedule and format. Suggestions included a return to the "idea lab" format, with a number of SIGs assigned to provide updates each month. Alternatively, all SIGs could be given certain topics to discuss, with more advance notice to prepare questions or updates between each call.

Several chairs also suggested less frequent calls with email updates to fill in as needed, and opportunities for particular SIGs to submit discussion topics before each call.

Dr. Gonzalez recommended that the council transition to bi-monthly meetings for the time being, and will follow up with via email regarding other potential format changes before the next call.

Next meeting: TBD