



SOCIETY OF BEHAVIORAL MEDICINE

Membership Council Minutes

Date Thursday, April 27, 2023
Time 2 p.m. MST

ATTENDEES	
Dani Arigo, PhD (Chair)	Yue Liao, PhD
Dalnim Cho, PhD	Angela Pfammatter, PhD, FSBM
Chuka Nestor Emezue, PhD, MPH, MPA, CHES	Lindsay Bullock (SBM Staff, does not count toward quorum)
I. Shevon Harvey, DrPH, MPH	Amy Myers (SBM Staff, does not count toward quorum)
Allyson Hughes, PhD	
Danielle Jake-Schoffman, PhD	

**quorum* = 5

REGRETS	
Madalina Sucala, PhD	

INVITED GUEST ATTENDEES

President-Elect Bernard Fuemmeler, PhD, MPH, FSBM
Cynthia Castro Sweet, PhD, FSBM (Industry Connections Committee Chair)
Linda Trinh, PhD (Outlook Editor)
Robert L. Newton, Jr., PhD, FSBM (SIG Committee Chair)
Aliye Cepne (Student SIG)

Welcome

Dr. Arigo reviewed the agenda and welcomed the council members, guests, and President-Elect Bernard Fuemmeler, PhD, MPH, FSBM.

Dr. Fuemmeler mentioned that the new member meet and greet was a success, and the work that the Membership Council is doing is exciting and important to the organization.

Industry Connections Committee

Dr. Castro Sweet presented a report on the Industry Connections Committee, a committee of five members who work in the private sector, primarily at various digital health companies.

The committee's goals include programming at the annual meeting and throughout the year, bringing awareness that there are members at SBM from industry, and sharing the work happening in the world of digital health and real-world healthcare.



SOCIETY OF BEHAVIORAL MEDICINE

The committee had a successful webinar this year and multiple articles in Outlook that focused on career development.

The committee has a LinkedIn group with 38 members. SBM currently has 40-50 members in industry.

Dr. Castro Sweet mentioned that the committee does not have any immediate needs and that Membership Council could continue to support the Industry Connections Committee on an as-needed basis.

Outlook Update

Dr. Trinh shared that Outlook articles are published quarterly, and the next issue will be coming out first week in July.

The priority goals and topics for Outlook include more representation from student authors, diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) integration into labs or research, engagement of students in DEI research, industry-related articles, career development articles, and climate change and health corner.

Dr. Trinh will forward the set deadline schedule for the Outlook to Dr. Arigo.

SIG Committee Update

Dr. Newton shared an update from the SIG Committee.

Many SIGs are struggling with membership in terms of getting new members and retaining them. They were also struggling with leadership, having people come in and take over the SIG once the current leader is gone. The SIG Committee has discussed this in breakout groups to identify solutions. The immediate focus will be on making the SIG webpages more inviting so that new members can come and see what a SIG is all about and exactly how to get involved.

The SIG chairs have also expressed that they feel undervalued and underappreciated, and would like some sort of discount or general recognition. Dr. Arigo shared that the Membership Council and the board have already taken that feedback and translated it into action at the Annual Meeting with thank-you signage, slides, a mobile app icon and push notification, and verbal acknowledgement in the Business Meeting and other sessions. Dr. Newton also created SIG awards, which are presented at the Annual Meeting and promoted on SIG webpages; these can also go in the next Outlook issue. SIGs are also encouraged to use their Outlook submissions to feature the work of their leaders.

Dr. Arigo and Ms. Bullock talked about a process that SIG chairs could request a personalized letter from SBM for a promotion or tenure to show that their value to SBM has been documented to help them grow and succeed in their ventures. SBM staff member Andrew Schmidt is working on this currently.



SOCIETY OF BEHAVIORAL MEDICINE

Student SIG Update

Ms. Cepne shared that the Student SIG created a survey that showed a high demand for seeking jobs in industry.

Dr. Arigo suggested working with the student leaders of other SIGs to make sure that all student leaders have the opportunity to talk with each other about issues.

Ms. Cepne and Dr. Arigo will connect after the Annual Meeting to talk about creating another student survey regarding how students can find value beyond the annual meeting in their SBM membership.

Membership Council Official Business

Dr. Arigo introduced Amy Myers as the new SBM Staff Senior Communications and Membership Manager.

Dr. Arigo provided an update on the membership numbers, which showed SBM is holding strong since the dip during the early days of the pandemic. The committee was reminded to try and increase affiliate member numbers. Student numbers were also strong, but there are challenges they are experiencing (to be addressed as part of the council's strategic plan charge).

New Member Meet and Greet

Dr. Arigo thanked everyone who attended the meet and greet. The setup was in the perfect location and the presentations/audio worked well. However, there were concerns raised that some of the SIG reps/chairs did not show up. The tentative plan is to communicate to the SIGs earlier to let them know how valuable this event can be for them. It was also suggested to collect sign-ups for the event in advance to ensure someone is assigned to attend from every SIG. In the event a SIG truly cannot find someone to attend, a Membership Council member could fill in for that SIG.

There may also be a conflict with the transitions from old chairs to new chairs, so there may need to be clearer information given to new chairs.

Strategic Planning Activities

The committee discussed retaining and recruiting more student members from all backgrounds.

The Membership Council is working on creating Behavioral Medicine 101 videos to showcase the value of behavioral medicine as a field, which includes individual interviews and a day in the life series. The goal of this project is outward facing, the value of behavioral medicine as a field, not just SBM as a society.

The committee will continue working closely with the Student SIG representative, Ms. Cepne, as well as focusing on updating the SIG webpages to be more navigable for students.



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Next Meeting

The next meeting will focus on membership dues for students and trainees.

Date of the next meeting: May 17.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 2:50 p.m. MST

Minutes respectfully submitted by A. Myers on April 27, 2023.