



HEALTH POLICY COUNCIL CALL MINUTES

Date Wednesday, February 3, 2021
Time 12 p.m. CT

MEMBERS	
Joanna Buscemi, PhD (Chair)	Marian Fitzgibbon, PhD
Melanie Bean, PhD	Carly Goldstein, PhD (CPEC Chair)
Pamela Behrman, PhD	Brian Gonzalez, PhD
Michelle Cardel, PhD, MS, RD, FTOS	Amy Janke, PhD (SPLC Chair)
Akilah Dulin, PhD (Health Policy Committee Chair)	Leo Wilton, PhD, MPH

Introduce Michelle Cardel, PhD, MS, RD, FTOS

Dr. Buscemi welcomed new council member Dr. Michelle Cardel. Dr. Cardel introduced herself to the council.

Approve minutes from January call

Dr. Buscemi made motion to approve the January minutes; seconded by Dr. Dulin. The motion carried.

Legislative Committee Rosters Discussion

Dr. Buscemi noted that she had wanted this meeting to focus on where or if SBM's legislators had moved to different committees. She had wanted the council to determine where to build the ambassador program, as there were currently 14 ambassadors and 16 legislators. Only Sen. Doug Jones had lost re-election. Rep. Marcia Fudge would be moving to HUD, but would be kept in the program regardless. However, most online rosters were not yet updated. Dr. Buscemi charged the liaisons to monitor the committee sites for roster updates.

The council would proceed to look at the committee rosters when updated to determine how to grow the program. Dr. Buscemi brought up that the ambassadors did not make contact with her oversight and direction. The council discussed whether the contact and content should be determined by the council. It was noted that the ambassadors may not know what to send their legislators, or when to contact them. The council agreed that the ambassadors could set up a google alert for relevant items to send to their legislators. Additionally, the council noted that talking points should be updated quarterly and discussed the parameters for an engaged ambassadors. They questioned if the ambassadors needed more support, or if there were barriers that held them up. It was determined to set up an anonymous survey to send the ambassadors. SBM staff would assist Dr. Buscemi.



SOCIETY OF BEHAVIORAL MEDICINE

The council also noted that motivated ambassadors could be found through other means: new ambassadors could be discovered through the SIG chairs. The council agreed to fix the problems of the program before seeking out new members, though Dr. Buscemi only wanted to grow the program by 7 additional members. Dr. Dulin also stated that the ambassadors may become more engaged with more work: one group could work on a brief, and another could write an op-ed, etc. This way, there would be a strategic effort across sci-comm that would ground their work.

Dr. Bean mentioned that the SIGs had a remediation plan in place for non-engaged groups; it may be beneficial to create a similar plan for the ambassadors, as a monthly nudge by Dr. Buscemi would simply enable them to wait for the reminder. The ambassadors mainly needed more guidance on touchpoints and how to build an infrastructure.

Update on Collaborating with Policy Organizations

Child Nutrition: Dr. Buscemi's NOPREN presentation went well.

Rural Health: The meeting with the Rural Policy Research Institute would happen soon.

Pain/Opioid: The liaison would follow up with the American Physical Therapy Association shortly, as they were also waiting for committee rosters to be updated to create their strategic plan.

Updates from our other council and committee chairs

HPC – Dr. Dulin stated that the committee was working to build a student mentoring program and planning a webinar for the summer.

CPEC – Dr. Goldstein mentioned that the committee was working Annual Meeting presentations and a join webinar series with the Health Policy Committee and the Health Equity SIG.

Adjourn

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:00 pm CT. *Minutes respectfully submitted by R. Borzon on February 5, 2021.*