

MEMBERSHIP COUNCIL CALL MINUTES

Date Wednesday, February 23, 2022
 Time 3 pm ET

IN ATTENDANCE	
Dani Arigo, PhD (Chair)	Yue Liao, PhD
Cynthia Castro Sweet, PhD	Angela Pfammatter, PhD
Claire Conley, PhD	Scherezade K. Mama, DrPH
I. Shevon Harvey, DrPH, MPH	
Allyson Hughes, PhD	Rebecca Borzon, Lindsay Bullock (staff)

REGRETS	
Loneke Blackman Carr, PhD	Lorna McNeill, PhD

Approve minutes from January call

Dr. Castro Sweet made motion to approve the January minutes; seconded by Dr. Hughes. The motion carried.

Review current membership numbers

The council reviewed the 2022 membership numbers. While renewals were pacing behind the previous year, the council agreed to continue monitoring before proposing any new action. It was noted that there had been several record-breaking membership years prior to the pandemic, and SBM’s membership may be evening out. Likewise, the council noted that SBM has always tried to find the balance between being large enough to have impact, but small enough to make personal and professional connections. The council agreed to consider how big our members want our society to be.

Membership Numbers the Week of February 23			
2021 Member Numbers		2022 Member Numbers	
Associate	6	Associate	4
Emeritus	60	Emeritus	59
Fellow	115	Fellow	112
Fellow (Emeritus)	54	Fellow (Emeritus)	54
Member	550	Member	512
Student/Trainee	312	Student/Trainee	202
Trans 1	49	Trans 1	28
Trans 2	26	Trans 2	28
TOTAL	1173	TOTAL	1004

Referral Raffle outcome

Ms. Borzon informed the council that the winners of the referral raffle had been selected. The prizes had not been sent, but now SBM staff would be returning to the office and mailing the prizes. The winners and membership-at-large would be notified after the prizes had been sent.

Strategic Planning

Student SIG meeting update: Dr. Arigo met with the Student SIG to hear their concerns, priorities, and their thoughts on how the council could assist them. The council discussed the cost of SBM's membership compared to the value. Likewise, students can typically only afford one professional membership. If other organizations offer less expensive membership with better benefits, then SBM may want to consider collaborating with other organizations for a joint membership option. The council also had to consider that students often struggle with low funds, and should be mindful that what is considered affordable for a regular member is much different from a student perspective. Student career trajectories are often unpredictable, and some student members may not renew because they have found another field.

BIT SIG Student Liaison meeting update: Dr. Arigo would be meeting with the liaison from the BIT SIG, as well as others SIGs, to get crucial feedback from them.

The council also discussed the low renewal rate for fellows. The new leadership structure could give the council an opportunity to add a service requirement to the fellow membership level. The council could also converge their student plan with a fellow retention plan to fulfill both of their professional needs: fellows need mentees, and students need mentors.

The council also reviewed SBM's organizational restructuring. The restructuring was confidential until a full-member vote in April.

First Time Attendee and New Member Meet & Greet

Video Update: Ms. Borzon was waiting until the February 28 deadline for the SIGs to submit their video for the meet & greet. After the deadline, she would replace any 2021 videos with newly submitted SIG videos.

Invitations to speakers: Speaker invitations had not yet been sent, but would be before the end of the month.

Membership Council – Registration Desk at Annual Meeting

The Membership Council could sign up for an hourly shift during the AM on a volunteer basis. The council would be expected to welcome new members and attendees, and to notify them of the meet & greet.

Adjourn

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4 p.m. ET. *Minutes respectfully submitted by R. Borzon on February 28, 2022.*