

Professional Advancement Council Conference Call MINUTES

Tuesday, April 30, 2024 11:00 a.m. PT/12:00 p.m. MT/1:00 p.m. CT/2:00 p.m. ET https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87204480042

In Attendance

Sharon Manne, PhD (chair) Erika Montanaro, PhD Carina Nigg, PhD Andrew Schmidt (staff)

Regrets

Lisa Goldman Rosas, PhD, MPH, FSBM Morgan Lee, PhD, MPH Margaret Schneider, PhD, FSBM Sherri Sheinfeld Gorin, PhD, FSBM

Welcome and Review of February PAC Meeting Minutes

The February 2024 PAC call minutes were approved as written.

2024 Annual Meeting Session Debrief

Dr. Manne reported that the Meet the Fellows session was once again well-attended and well-received by participants. Interest continues to exceed what the session able to accommodate each year, and while it may be possible to increase the number of attendees who can participate by holding the session in multiple larger rooms and setting up more tables with only one Fellow each, attendees and Fellows alike seemed to appreciate having more than one senior member in each group. Dr. Nigg added that, as with ECR Mentoring Program, interest in industry networking and mentoring is increasing among Meet the Fellows participants, and PAC may want to work ahead to identify and invite additional industry representatives before next year's conference.

While attendance at the Meet the Councils session was lower than expected, Dr. Manne reported that PAC members suggested several potential changes to improve attendance at future sessions, including additional promotion, avoiding scheduling conflicts with other networking sessions, particularly SIG sessions, and adapting the session to include information about committees and other SBM volunteer roles in addition to the councils.

PAC Support for Additional Networking Opportunities

Dr. Manne asked the council to consider potential networking opportunities that SBM could facilitate throughout the year, with PAC members echoing earlier comments regarding industry-focused offerings.

In addition to virtual networking sessions, which PAC members mentioned they'd had mixed results with in the past, the council discussed further promotion and potential expansion of the Consultation Program as an SBM networking/mentoring resource outside of the Annual Meeting. Consultants could be asked to participate in informal "office hour" or "coffee break" sessions similar to those hosted by SIGs in recent years, which could be more engaging for members and help avoid some of the potential pitfalls of other virtual networking formats.

To specifically address student and early-career members' growing interest in industry, Dr. Manne will get in contact with Dr. Cynthia Castro Sweet and the Industry Connections Committee to explore potential collaborative networking opportunities outside of the Annual Meeting.

Early-Career Mentoring Program Updates

Dr. Nigg reported that members of the Early Career Researcher Mentoring Program Committee have been following up with program participants and mentors to and address any questions or concerns they may have and confirm that they've been able to organize their first meetings. Several groups met in person during the Annual Meeting, and all groups have scheduled at least one virtual meeting with their mentors while most groups have begun planning peer mentoring meetings as well.

Next Meeting

Tuesday, May 28, 2024; 2 p.m. ET