

ACADEMY OF BEHAVIORAL MEDICINE RESEARCH



PRESIDENT:

Susan M. Czajkowski, PhD
National Heart, Lung, & Blood Institute
National Institutes of Health*
susanczajkowski@hotmail.com

February 2, 2015

PAST PRESIDENT:

Karina W. Davidson, PhD
Columbia University Medical Center
kd2124@columbia.edu

PRESIDENT ELECT:

Gregory Miller, PhD
Northwestern University
greg.miller@northwestern.edu

SECRETARY:

Maria M. Llabre, PhD
University of Miami
mllabre@miami.edu

TREASURER:

Kenneth Freedland, PhD
Washington University in St. Louis
freedlak@bmc.wustl.edu

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR:

Anna Marsland, PhD, RN
University of Pittsburgh
marsland@pitt.edu

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL:

Elizabeth Brondolo, PhD
St. John's University
BRONDOLE@stjohns.edu

Elissa Epel, PhD
University of California, San Francisco
EEpel@lppi.ucsf.edu

Susan Lutgendorf, PhD
University of Iowa
susan-lutgendorf@uiowa.edu

James McCubbin, PhD
Clemson University
jmccubb@clemson.edu

Frank Penedo, PhD
Northwestern University
fpenedo@northwestern.edu

Joseph Schwartz, PhD SUNY at
Stony Brook
Joseph.Schwartz@stonybrook.edu

Daichi Shimbo, MD
Columbia University Medical Center
ds2231@cumc.columbia.edu

Dear Fellow ABMR Members,

A belated Happy New Year to all! I want to provide a few updates concerning ABMR and the upcoming Annual Meeting, which I hope all members will consider attending.

ABMR's New (2014) Members. First, I'd like to congratulate the new members elected to ABMR this past fall: Dan Mroczek, Doug Bremner, Gene Brody, John Ruiz, Joshua Smyth, Mark Vander Weg, Sherry Pagoto, Susan Michie, Teresa Seeman, Warren Bickel, and William (Bill) Riley.

We welcome you to ABMR and look forward to engaging you in the Academy's activities, starting with this year's Annual Meeting!

ABMR's 2015 Annual Meeting. The planning committee is hard at work organizing this year's Annual Meeting, **which will begin the evening of Thursday, June 25th and continue through mid-day on Sunday, June 28th, 2015 at the Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay (<http://chesapeakebay.hyatt.com/en/hotel/home.html>) on Maryland's beautiful Eastern Shore.**



Thanks to our new, improved ABMR website, developed by Jim McCubbin and Lori McBurney, registering for the meeting and reserving a room is a breeze! **Just go to the ABMR website's Annual Meeting link at <http://www.academyofbmr.org/#/annual-meetings>**, where you can register for the meeting and reserve your hotel room quickly and easily online. The site also contains links to information on the hotel and nearby sights, as well as travel tips to help make your stay on the Eastern Shore a memorable experience! And while there, be sure to check out the improvements to our website, including content about ABMR's history (<http://www.academyofbmr.org/#/who-we-are/history-of-abmr>) and links that make it easy to pay dues and donate (<http://www.academyofbmr.org/#/members-pages>).

<http://www.academyofbmr.org>

**Dr. Czajkowski is serving in her personal capacity, and not as a representative of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, National Institutes of Health or the United States Government.*

This year's theme is **"From Ideas to Efficacy: New Frontiers in Basic-to-Clinical Translation."** We're planning an agenda that features cutting-edge research translating basic behavioral and biological findings into innovative behavioral interventions. The meeting will consist of a series of panels highlighting novel fundamental and interventional research on pressing behavioral health problems, including addictive and mental health disorders, obesity, adherence, chronic illness, and health inequities. In each panel, speakers will frame key clinical and/or policy questions, present research on new approaches to prevention and treatment, and identify challenges and opportunities for integrating the promising new behavioral interventions being explored into clinical care and community settings.

In addition to these panels, the meeting will include a New Member symposium, a discussion of recent Strategic Planning activities and recommendations, roundtables featuring conversations with NIH and other federal behavioral scientists, and a special Sunday Brunch highlighting creative new behavioral medicine ideas and innovations. And of course it wouldn't be an ABMR meeting without several thought-provoking keynote speakers and plenty of time to enjoy interactions with colleagues and friends in a relaxing waterfront setting!



All of this will take place at the **Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay**, a beautiful resort located in Cambridge, MD on Maryland's scenic Eastern Shore. This distinctive venue, easily accessible by car from the Baltimore-Washington International (BWI) Airport, is close to Annapolis, St. Michael's, Easton, Oxford and many other historic towns. The hotel and surrounding area offer a wealth of activities and amenities that include swimming, tennis, boating, fishing, hiking, biking, golf and a many family-friendly activities. It is close to the beach resorts of Maryland and Delaware (Ocean City, Bethany Beach, Rehoboth Beach) as well as to the Eastern Shore's beautiful natural parks & wildlife areas (Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge, Assateague & Chincoteague Islands), making it an ideal place to bring your family & extend your visit so you can enjoy all the area has to offer. For a "taste" of Eastern Shore highlights, see <http://travel.nationalgeographic.com/travel/road-trips/maryland-eastern-shore/>.



I urge you to register and reserve your room early to ensure availability and so that we can accurately estimate attendance and meal needs. As is typical of ABMR, I believe this year's meeting will be an invigorating experience, combining state-of-the-science talks with fun, friends and new adventures in a lovely venue. ABMR meetings are notable for allowing in-depth exploration and cross-fertilization of

<http://www.academyofbmr.org>

**Dr. Czajkowski is serving in her personal capacity, and not as a representative of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, National Institutes of Health or the United States Government.*

ideas, with lots of time for stimulating discussions and networking that often leads to new collaborations. If you haven't been to ABMR for a while, or if you are a new member who has not yet been to a meeting, I encourage you to attend this year and see why for many of our members, ABMR's Annual Meeting is their favorite among the scientific conferences they attend!

OBSSR's 20th Anniversary Celebration. As I wrote in my last newsletter, 2015 marks the 20th anniversary of the creation of NIH's Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (see http://obssr.od.nih.gov/news_and_events/obssrnews_anniversarymessage.aspx for a perspective on the anniversary and reflections on the importance of behavioral and social sciences research to NIH's mission by Bill Riley, OBSSR's Acting Director and ABMR Fellow).

To celebrate its 20th anniversary, OBSSR is holding a 1-day meeting on **Thursday, June 25, 2015** on the NIH campus in Bethesda, MD, with the theme *"Healthy Lives through the Behavioral and Social Sciences."* This meeting, which is free and open to all, will feature talks by key behavioral and biomedical thought leaders – including some of our own ABMR members -- on a broad range of behavioral and social sciences research supported by the NIH.

The meeting will take place from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm on June 25 in the Natcher Conference Center on the NIH campus. The agenda is still being developed but will feature a number of notable speakers, including Alan Leshner, Henry Yin, Santosh Kumar, Elissa Epel, Bonnie Spring and David Williams, among others.

If you plan to attend this event, you are encouraged to make your reservations early (there is no "room block" for this event) at any one of several local hotels that are close to the NIH. These include the **Doubletree, Bethesda Hyatt, Hilton Garden Inn, and Residence Inn.** All are within walking distance or 1-metro stop away from the NIH campus.

Information on OBSSR's 20th Anniversary meeting, as well as other OBSSR events being planned during this anniversary year, can be found on ABMR's homepage (www.academyofbmr.org) under "**OBSSR.**" Links to local Bethesda hotels can be found there, and the meeting registration website and agenda (currently under development) will also be posted there as soon as they are available.

I encourage you to attend the OBSSR event, if you can, to show support for OBSSR and its role in facilitating behavioral medicine research over the past 20 years – and then continue on to the Eastern Shore of Maryland for ABMR's 2015 Conference the evening of June 25th!

The 2015 Neal Miller Award. If you know of or work with an outstanding junior colleague, please consider nominating her or him for the Neal Miller Award, which ABMR awards each year to an early-career physician or scientist for outstanding research in behavioral medicine. Awardees receive a plaque, a cash award, and give an invited lecture at the Annual Meeting. **Nominations are due by February 15** -- please see the following link for information on eligibility and nomination procedures: http://storage.cloversites.com/academyofbehavioralmedicineresearch/documents/Neal%20Miller%20Investigator%20Award%20Announcement_3.pdf

This is a wonderful opportunity for new investigators to present their work and network with senior colleagues at the Annual Meeting, exposing them to the Academy and potentially providing a path to future ABMR membership. It is also a learning opportunity for ABMR members, as our junior colleagues often contribute exciting new ideas that generate great discussions both during the meeting and

<http://www.academyofbmr.org>

**Dr. Czajkowski is serving in her personal capacity, and not as a representative of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, National Institutes of Health or the United States Government.*

afterward! I want to especially encourage nominations of outstanding scientists from diverse backgrounds -- this applies to nominations for both the Neal Miller award and for membership in the Society itself.

Best wishes to all for an enjoyable and productive 2015, and I look forward to seeing you in June on the lovely Eastern Shore of Maryland. In the meantime please do not hesitate to email me at susanczajkowski@hotmail.com if you have questions, need further information or assistance, or if you have suggestions for making the meeting and/or ABMR better.

Take care,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susan Czajkowski".

Susan Czajkowski, PhD
ABMR President