

Academy of Behavioral Medicine Research



Since 1978, a forum for established scientists and thought leaders working in the field of behavioral medicine

December 21, 2020

Dear ABMR Colleagues, and 2021 Meeting Guests,

Hello! I hope this email finds you well, winding down for the holidays, and recovering from 2020. Here we are in December and we still find ourselves in tough times, with COVID abound. Fortunately, we will see a roll-out of vaccinations in 2021. With university and healthcare jobs, it is likely that ABMR members will be very fortunate to receive a timely vaccination this year.

NEW DATE FOR ABMR ANNUAL CONFERENCE! We are writing about our next ABMR in person meeting that was changed from June 2020 to June 2021. Although travel and meetings may be closer to normal by June 2021, to be safe we have pushed our meeting back to the Fall. 1440 Multiversity has been very accommodating. They have an opening we can fill on a weekend in **Fall 2021, October 8-11**, and will allow us to move the conference to this weekend, honoring the cost in the original contract.

It was not an option to move the meeting to 2022 and so this is our best path. We hope you will still plan to join us. If so, **please move your room reservation to the 2021 Fall date ASAP** (email template below), **with a deadline of January 20th**. You will still be able to cancel for a full refund up to 30 days before the 2021 meeting (September 6th, 2021).

Please note that ABMR is contractually liable for 70 rooms we have reserved for 2021. We ask you to rebook your 1440 reservation soon, so we have a sense of attendance, by January 20th to reduce the Academy's liability and honor the gracious terms we have negotiated with 1440 Multiversity. **The price you paid before will not change.** If you had a shared pod or a double room, you will now have a single for the same cost. The new schedule is on the [ABMR website](#). We will still include the previous geroscience agenda and add COVID related outcomes when relevant throughout the conference. As before, Lori McBurney will still keep your registration fee safe for 2021. However, *if you do not plan to attend in Fall 2021*, please let her know and she will issue you a refund of your registration fee.

If you are one of our newly elected members, we hope you will attend, and speak at our new members introduction session. We suggest you sign up for the conference as soon as possible, as we have a limited number of rooms.

VIRTUAL ABMR MEETINGS: We have a [virtual winter meeting on Jan 22](#), on biobehavioral predictors of viral infection and vaccination responses with a focus on COVID, which you recently received an email about. We will have a virtual meeting on the date you originally saved for our summer conference, 9 am

- 11am PST, June 18th. At the June virtual meeting we will have a presentation and discussion about climate and behavioral medicine. We are considering a March meeting on COVID and mental health issues. Please let Elissa (elissa.epel@ucsf.edu) or Anna (marsland@pitt.edu) know if you are interested in helping plan or contribute to a March (mental health) or June (Climate) meeting.

We are wishing you all some restoration and recovery from an exhausting year, and a lovely break as we welcome the new year with hope and optimism.

With warm regards,

Elissa, Elena, and ABMR Council members-- Anna, Annette, Frank, Tica, Paige, Richard, Mustafa, Shari, Annette, Ed, Suzanne, and Viola

Now for the TO DO item: I know this seems like Déjà vu and I apologize for the hassle but please **email the template below to 1440 reservations now to let them know** if you are moving the date of your reservation to 2021 or if you are cancelling.

Please send this email to 1440 at cathy.brock@1440.org and cc Lori McBurney at lorimcb33@gmail.com.

Ms. Cathy Brock, Director of Events, 1440

Dear Ms. Brock,

I am signed up to stay at 1440 for the June 20201 ABMR meeting. Thank you for allowing us to move the date back. I am writing to approve moving my reservation from the June dates to the new dates (and the charges on my credit card will remain the same). I understand we will now have single rooms as a default unless we have noted a roommate below and that 1440 has graciously kept the price of doubles and made them single rooms.

*Specifically, under this name (and note any roommate you are still going to room with) _____, *I had a reservation June Friday June 18th to Sunday June 21st. I will now be arriving Friday afternoon, October 8th, and departing Monday after lunch, Oct. 11th. **

**OR if you are on council use this below:*

I had a reservation on Thursday June 17th to Sunday June 21st. I will now be arriving Thursday afternoon, October 7th, and departing Monday after lunch, Oct. 11th.

With thanks,