Hi All,

We hope this e-mail finds you well. This year’s annual ABCT conference was a wonderful event for our SIG. Congratulations and thank you to everyone who presented as well as all who attended.

**ABCT 2016 SIG Meeting Recap:**

* Jen Snyder, President, opened the meeting
* [Steve Silverstein](http://ubhc.rutgers.edu/dsr/people/Steven_Silverstein.html) received Trailblazer Award for his innovative work in the field and gave presentation on “What Accounts for situational variability in level of Performance in chronic schizophrenia” (presentation slides attached).
* Thursday’s Public Forum on CBTs for People with Psychotic Disorders attracted approximately 60 attendees, 10 of whom were community members (non ABCT members). This successful pre-conference panel, hosting presenters Jay Boll, LMSW, Emily Kingman, LCSW, Alice Medalia, PhD, Kim T. Mueser, PhD, and Til Wykes, PhD and moderator Lisa Dixon, MD, helped engage persons from the mental health care industry that are not current ABCT members.
* Jen discussed the listserv. Registrees will receive invitation and announcement containing instructions on how to post on listserv.
* Rebecca Lesser, M.A., psychology intern at Yale won this year’s student poster award for her poster on psychometrics of social cognition measures for clinical trials in schizophrenia. This research replicated test-retest findings of Dr. Amy Pinkham’s SCOPE study publications and tested reliability and criterion validity of several other measures, of which Dr. van der Gaag and colleagues’ DACOBS was a particularly promising measure for cognitive biases.
* Jen Snyder encouraged students to continue submitting SIG posters at future conferences.
* Membership dues were collected ($10 for all non-student members)
* Jerome Yoman gave Treasurer report: Pre-2016 collection has $165.31. Member networking seems to be working well as evidenced by increased meeting attendance. Group PR may be another effective way to increase membership.
* Elections:
	+ Jerome Yoman (lsresource@comcast.net) elected as new President
	+ Charlie Davidson elected as new Treasurer
	+ Motion passed to create Student Outreach Coordinator position- Rebecca Wolfe was nominated and confirmed by vote
* Jen presented ABCT submission numbers/acceptance rate:
	+ 35 out of 39 (90%) of our submissions were accepted; ABCT’s overall acceptance rate this year was 1803/2203 (82%) (not including workshops)
	+ The program committee attempts to have a balanced acceptance rate for each topic area; 80-90% posters, 40-60% panels and symposia
	+ Identifying the primary keyword as Schizophrenia/SMI is one of the most important things for our submissions
* Submissions/Workshops (Obstacles):
	+ Feedback is not received for submission even when rejected, as at this time the system is not configured to provide it. However, Katharina Kircanski reportedly responded to e-mails with mean score and comments
	+ There are typically not as many schizophrenia/SMI-related ticketed workshops
* Group discussed having more information SIGs history, recognizing Mary Sullivan as the group’s Historian
* What worked well for the SMI SIG at this year’s Conference?
	+ David Penn’s students and Charlie Davidson worked together to compile an e-mail listing all conference SMI related events that was circulated via listserv pre-conference weekend.
	+ Members noted the convenience of printing a schedule or using a digital calendar.
* What should we do/continue to do next year?
	+ Distribute e-mail listing all conference SMI related to the group before conference weekend
	+ Distribute handouts of all SMI-related events via e-mail as well as printing hard copies so we can hand them out after presentations to those interested.
	+ Presenters can print out the handout PDF and have those available for attendees
	+ Presenters can announce the next SMI-related event(s) for those in attendance so they will have an easier time navigating where to go next
* A special thank you to our SIGs website manager Andrea Avila. Andrea encourages members to e-mail her with any news, articles, events, trainings, etc. that they would like posted on the website.
* Here is the Link to our [Schizophrenia and Other Serious Mental Disorders Special Interest Group’s Website](http://psychology.unl.edu/schizsig/welcome)

Congratulations again to all who presented! We want to thank all involved with our group and those in attendance at the conference for the meaningful work you are doing, as well as your support.

Please e-mail student outreach coordinator, Rebecca Wolfe (Rebecca.wolfe763@gmail.com) to get involved as a student liaison at your current University/Institution.

For members who have not yet paid dues, please contact Charlie Davidson (charles.davidson@yale.edu) or via Paypal (SMIResearchGroup@gmail.com).

Thank you all for your time, and we look forward to keeping in touch throughout the year!

Best regards,

Charlie Davidson and Rebecca Wolfe

*The Schizophrenia and Other Serious Mental Disorders Special Interest Group of ABCT provides a forum for mental health professionals and students with an interest in schizophrenia and other serious mental disorders to discuss innovative behavioral and cognitive treatments, basic and applied research, and public policy issues.*

Please **disperse this link** with information on **how to become a member** of our SIG to anyone you think might be interested: <http://psychology.unl.edu/schizsig/membership>

**Like** and **Follow us** on Facebook: [Schizophrenia@ABCT](http://www.facebook.com/pages/SchizophreniaABCT/186884267343) or email Jen Snyder (snycock@gmail.com) to join the listserv.