

Department of Psychiatry School of Medicine

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- TO: Fellow Status Committee/Sub-committee Society of Behavioral Sleep Medicine
- FROM: Christina S. McCrae, PhD, CBSM Professor, Department of Psychiatry Psychologist – Missouri License 022789 Director, MizZzou Sleep Research Lab – ORCID iD 0000-0003-4313-6867
- RE: S. Justin Thomas PhD, DBSM Application for Fellow Status, Society of Behavioral Sleep Medicine

Dear Committee/Sub-committee Members:

I am delighted to write this letter in support of Dr. S. Justin Thomas' application for Fellow status with the Society of Behavioral Sleep Medicine (FSBSM). I have known Justin for over 10 years and served as his clinical and research mentor during his predoctoral internship year at the University of Florida. Over the past two years, I have had the opportunity to observe his contributions to the SBSM as a Member-at-Large of the Board of Directors. I have also reviewed his application materials. As a result, I am in a position to comment on his activities and can attest that his contributions to SBSM and the field of behavioral sleep medicine (BSM) have had national and international impacts. I believe I am well qualified to provide this attestation based on my own sustained contributions to the SBSM as a founder and current member of the executive board, and to the BSM field as a clinical researcher, clinician, and mentor.

Dr. Thomas has made significant contributions to BSM clinical service, teaching, and research. In terms of clinical service, he has developed a behavioral sleep medicine clinic and SBSM accredited training program at his home institution, the University of Alabama in Birmingham (UAB). At UAB, he provides pediatric and adult BSM services and training. Dr. Thomas also teaches sleep and BSM related courses at UAB as well as externally. In addition to his mentoring of graduate students through faculty at UAB, he also provides external mentoring through SBSM's mentoring program. Dr. Thomas is an active BSM researcher with external funding from multiple sources (i.e., American Heart Association, NIH, PCORI), and he regularly presents his work at national and international scientific conferences. His receipt of the Arthur J Spielman Early Career Distinguished Achievement Award provides further evidence of the significance of his scientific and clinical contributions to the BSM field. A review of his CV reveals his impressive record of BSM service as a member and chair of SBSM's Practice Committee, co-chair of two SBSM conference committees, and as mentioned previously, as a current Member-at-Large of SBSM's Board of Directors.

Overall, I highly recommend Dr. Thomas for Fellow status in the SBSM. He is a founding member of SBSM with a sustained pattern of clinical service, teaching, mentoring, professional service, and research contributions to SBSM and the field of BSM that have had and will continue to have national and international impacts. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about this attestation and recommendation – +1.573.882.0982 (office) or mccraec@health.missouri.edu.

Sincerely,

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Christina S. McCrae, Ph.D. Professor Director, Mi**zZzou** Sleep Research Lab

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