August 25, 2021

Dear Review Committee,

I am writing in support of Fellow status in the SBSM for Don Townsend, PhD, FAASM, DBSM. Dr. Townsend has served on the executive committee of the ABSM as well as being President. In addition, he has chaired important committees for the SBSM.

I served on the SBSM board of directors and executive committee with Dr. Townsend for a number of years. He was always very enthusiastic about promoting behavioral sleep medicine and increasing recognition of the SBSM and the expertise of its of its members. While president, he approached other professional organizations and commercial entities to help increase awareness and importance of expertise in BSM and promote collaboration. Throughout his time on the board, Dr. Townsend offered fresh ideas and always encouraged discussion among board members.

Dr. Townsend has also served as Chair of the SBSM Credentialing Committee and Exam Development Committee. He devoted considerable time and expertise to both of these positions especially the very important task of building a question catalogue for the exam. This ultimately resulted in an international examine for behavioral sleep medicine with the associated credential of DBSM. Under his guidance as chair, this was done quickly and effectively with the new exam meeting the national requirements for a professional board exam.

Dr. Townsend’s service to the SBSM have helped the society and the field to grow. He exemplifies the best in our field and deserves to be recognized as a Fellow in the SBSM. I strongly endorse Dr. Townsend’s application for Fellow status without hesitation.

Sincerely,

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Donna Arand, PhD, DABSM, FAASM

Associate Professor, Wright State University School of Medicine