

# Special Events

ABAI Special Events are listed below, by date and time.

## Friday, May 22, 2009

### #1 Special Event

5/22/2009

7:15 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Valley of the Sun A-E, Sheraton

#### **SQAB: Society for the Quantitative Analyses of Behavior**

Chair: Alliston K. Reid (Wofford College)

**Purpose:** ABAI thanks the Society for Quantitative Analyses of Behavior (SQAB) for sponsoring tutorials focusing on quantitative analysis. ABAI encourages its members to take advantage of the SQAB program that occurs immediately before the ABAI program. The SQAB program includes many presentations on quantitative applications in behavior science. A separate registration fee and badge are required to attend the SQAB meeting.

### #3 Special Event

5/22/2009

8:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.

Encanto AB, Sheraton

#### **Reception for SABA Donors**

Chair: Janet S. Twyman (Headsprout)

**Purpose:** The reception honors ABAI members who made a donation to the Society for the Advancement of Behavior Analysis (SABA) in 2008 and 2009. We are very grateful to the generosity of those who support the activities of ABAI and SABA through their donations. These contributions support student fellowships, the Master's Thesis and Doctoral Dissertation Endowment, and grants for students who are presenting authors during ABAI events.

## Saturday, May 23, 2009

### #4 Special Event

5/23/2009

7:00 a.m. - 7:50 a.m.

Maryvale B, Sheraton

#### **Pilates/Yoga Workshop**

Chair: Amanda Adams (California State University, Fresno)

**Purpose:** This session, sponsored by the Health, Sport, and Fitness SIG, is open to all participants. Rejuvenate and relax with this barefoot workout led by certified instructors. No mat necessary - please wear comfortable clothing.

## #5 Special Event

5/23/2009

7:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Valley of the Sun A-E, Sheraton

### **SQAB: Society for the Quantitative Analyses of Behavior**

Chair: Alliston K. Reid (Wofford College)

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## #8 Special Event

5/23/2009

10:00 a.m. - 10:50 a.m.

North 120 A

### **Parents and Other Caregivers: Welcome to the ABAI Convention**

Chair: David A. Celiberti (Association for Science in Autism Treatment)

**Purpose:** David Celiberti, Ph.D., BCBA and Barbara Wells (Parent) Co-Presidents of the Parent Professional Partnership SIG will present this event together. Parents and other caregivers of individuals with special needs are attending the ABAI convention in increasing numbers but may have questions about how to make the most of the experience. Furthermore, an event as large as ABAI may seem overwhelming to newcomers. Parents who may be attending ABAI for the first time are encouraged to participate in this convention orientation and visit our webpage at [www.PPPSIG.org](http://www.PPPSIG.org). We will provide an overview of ABAI and its convention and highlight the types of events that parents will encounter.

## #9 Special Event

5/23/2009

10:00 a.m. - 11:20 a.m.

Phoenix Ballroom B-C, Sheraton

### **International Development Brunch**

Chair: Randolph C. Grace (University of Canterbury)

**Purpose:** The international development brunch is scheduled for the first day of the convention to welcome international members and review the international development of behavior analysis being conducted at ABAI. All members are welcome.

## #10 Special Event

5/23/2009

11:30 a.m. - 12:50 p.m.

West 301 CD

BACB CE Offered. CE Instructor: Janet S. Twyman, Ph.D., BCBA

### Opening Event: Society for the Advancement of Behavior Analysis Awards

Chair: Janet S. Twyman (Headsprout)

#### 2009 SABA Awards

##### Award for Distinguished Service to Behavior Analysis: Brian Iwata, Ph.D. (University of Florida)



**Dr. Brian Iwata** is Professor of Psychology and Psychiatry at the University of Florida, where he directs research programs on disorders of learning and behavior. He has published over 200 articles and chapters and has received over \$6 million in research grants to support that work. Brian is the former editor of the *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis* and past president of the Association for Behavior Analysis, Division 33 of the American Psychological Association, the Florida Association for behavior Analysis, the Society for the Advancement of Behavior Analysis, and the Society for the Experimental Analysis of Behavior. He has chaired study sections for both the National Institutes of Health and the National Institute of Mental Health and is a fellow in the American Association on Mental Retardation, the American Psychological Association, and the American Psychological Society. Brian has received a number of significant awards for his work, including the D.F. Hake Award for Contributions to Basic and Applied Research as well as the Award for Applied Research from APA, the Award for Distinguished Contributions to Service from ABA, and the R. B. Dillard Award for Excellence in Research from AAMR. Brian is just as much a teacher of researchers as he is a researcher: Half of the recipients of the B. F. Skinner Award (APA Division 25) have been his former Ph.D. students.

##### Award for Impact of Science on Application: Travis Thompson, Ph.D. (University of Minnesota)



It may be said that **Dr. Travis Thompson** has been a major and often pioneering contributor to more areas relevant to behavior analysis than any other living researcher. Among these are behavior pharmacology, ethology and behavior analysis, complex stimulus control, genetic disorders and behavior analysis, behavioral treatment of developmental disabilities, and behavioral approaches to architectural design. He is the author of 26 books and more than 200 research articles and book chapters. The quality and impact of his research has resulted in millions of dollars in continuous grant funding spanning more than 40 years. He has received numerous honors and awards for his research contributions including Presidents of Divisions 28 and 33 of the American Psychological Association, the Don Hake Award, Career Scientist Award from the Academy of Mental Retardation, Earl Sutherland Prize, and the Edgar Doll Award. Dr. Thompson will present, "A Poet Gone Wrong."

**Abstract:** The novelist and poet, George Meredith wrote, "The man of science is nothing if not a poet gone wrong. " I began my career as a laboratory scientist but spend more time in world of the poet and artist with each passing year. I have not abandoned science. Quite the contrary, I am more dedicated to the science of behavior than ever. But I find, as Maria Mitchell, the distinguished astronomer commented, "We especially need imagination in science. It is not all mathematics, nor all logic, but it is somewhat beauty and poetry. " In my efforts to translate the tools of the science into practical solutions, I have had the good fortune to work with many doctoral students and postdoctoral trainees from whom I have learned, and who have made their unique contributions. Attempting to understand the nature of addiction, and improving the lives of adults with intellectual disabilities in institutions and providing novel learning opportunities for young children with autism and their families, involves integrating the best of science with an understanding of what it means to be human. The degree to which those efforts have been successful is a measure of the impact of science on application.

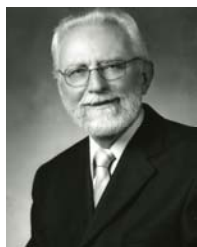
**Award for Effective Presentation of Behavior Analysis in the Mass Media: Amos Rolider, Ph.D.**  
(Emek Yezreel College, Israel)



**Dr. Amos Rolider** is a professor of Behavioral Sciences and the chair of the Institute for Research and Prevention of Antisocial Behavior of Children in Educational Settings at the Emek Yezreel College. He also chairs the M.A. Program in Educational Counseling. Dr. Rolider is currently the president of the newly established Israeli Association of Professional Behavior Analysts and heads the Graduate Behavior Analysis Certification program at the University of Tel Aviv. Dr. Rolider received his M.Sc. in Health Sciences and Physical Education from Brigham Young University and his M.A. and Ph.D. in ABA and Special Education from Ohio State University. He has been teaching, researching, and practicing behavior analysis for over 30 years in a variety of settings in North America and Israel. Dr. Rolider, a board certified behavior analyst, has published articles in major journals including *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, *Behavior Therapy*, *Journal of Behavior Therapy and Experimental Psychiatry*, *Education & Treatment of Children*, *Child and Family Behavior Therapy* and many other educational publications in Hebrew and English. He has presented more than 250 papers at professional conferences in Europe and North America. In the last few years, Dr. Rolider's research and clinical work have focused on studying anti-social behaviors of children in home and typical school settings. His popular lecture series has led him to frequent guest appearances on Israeli television and radio. Recently, Dr. Rolider began hosting a weekly live television program and radio show that is gaining popularity among audiences. Dr. Rolider's talk is titled "Behavior Analysis in Every Home: Translating 'Cold Science' and Gaining National Acceptance. "

**Abstract:** Perhaps nothing has been more frustrating to behavior analysts than the fact that the effective interventions they have developed have been met with hostility and apathy from other professionals and the public at large. As a result of this lack of acceptance, the field of behavior analysis, so far, has not been able to penetrate the walls of the general education system. Thus, millions of children, educators, and parents still only rarely take advantage of its scientifically well-documented effectiveness. I propose that one of the reasons for the rejection of behavior analysis by the general public is behavior analysts' use of technical language to communicate interventions to their consumers. Studies have shown that terms such as "negative reinforcement", "extinction", and "punishment" serve to inhibit popular acceptance of behavioral philosophy and application. One of my professional missions has been to translate the behavior analytic knowledge and experience I have into a user-friendly, conversational-style approach to dealing with problem behavior. A golden opportunity came when two and a half years ago I was asked to appear as a guest expert on the topics of parenting and education on Israeli's leading daily morning television news broadcast. After several guest appearances, the network responded to positive viewer feedback and requested that I appear weekly for a 15-minute segment on parenting. The weekly segment soon evolved into the opportunity to host a freestanding live television program called "Parenting 101", where I present behavioral issues and solutions using layperson terminology. As a result of the show's continued success – as is reflected by its ratings – there is a growing interest in behavior analysis and its applications to educating children at home and other typical educational settings. As of recently, I am able to reach an even larger audience via a weekly radio program, magazine column, online forum, and online newspaper blog.

**Award for International Dissemination of Behavior Analysis: João Claudio Todorov, Ph.D.**  
(Universidade Católica de Goiás)



**Dr. João Claudio Todorov** was born in Santo Anastácio, State of São Paulo, Brazil, on June 8<sup>th</sup>, 1941. He obtained his undergraduate degree in psychology from the University of São Paulo in 1963. Admitted to the Master's Program of the University of Brasília, he was a teaching assistant from 1964 to 1965, moving in August 1965 to the Ph.D. Program of Arizona State University, where he was Faculty Associate.

Returning to Brazil in 1969, he was Assistant Professor of Psychology at the Medical School of the University of São Paulo in Ribeirão Preto. From 1973 to 2000 he was a professor of the University of Brasília.

His publications include a book of readings, 10 chapters in books, and 80 articles published. He was editor of *Psicologia: Ciência e Profissão* and of the *Brazilian Journal of Behavior Analysis* and served on the editorial board of the *Journal of the Experimental Analysis of Behavior*, *Mexican Journal of Behavior Analysis*, *Behavior and Philosophy*, and *Psicologia: Teoria e Pesquisa*.

He is Professor of Psychology at the Catholic University of Goiás and Coordinator of the undergraduate course of psychology at the *Instituto de Educação Superior de Brasília* (IESB). Dr. Todorov's talk is titled "The Globalization of Academia. "

**Abstract:** In spite of being in danger of becoming unlivable for us, the world is somewhat a better place to live now than some fifty years before. Knowledge travels faster across borders, and the number of people going places around the world as tourists or looking for work, is record breaking. In such a global world, limitation of student formation within the borders of any country makes no sense. The further dissemination of behavior analysis will depend on the sharing of knowledge and the uniform development of one science of behavior.

I begin with thanks to the board of directors of SABA for this distinction. The prize for the International Dissemination of Behavior Analysis is an honor that I cherish. I must point, however, a bunch of people who were co-responsible for my deeds, beginning with Gil Sherman, my teacher in São Paulo, who suggested my name to Carolina Bori, who invited me to join the Fred Keller gang that went to Brasília. I was supposed to apply for a Ph.D. in Columbia, but Keller convinced me to come to Arizona State University where I met, as teachers, Greenspoon, Bachrach, Brownstein, Pliskoff, Verhave, Jack Michael, Lee Myerson, and worked as teaching assistant with Keller and Gil Sherman developing the Personalized System of Instruction. My colleagues in the graduate program of the good old times are today in the list of "Who is Who" in behavior analysis: Rick Shull, Randy Flory, Donald Green, Jon Bailey, Scott Lawrence, Scott Woods, and Andre Fleming-Holland. With that quality of influence I had to do something good in life!

I owe also appreciation to my students from the US, where I started my teaching career at the Mary Washington College of the University of Virginia, invited by my former teacher James Russell Nazzaro, then chair of the Department of Psychology. In Mexico, invited by Emílio Ribes, I had the chance to learn from Mexican, Colombian, and Venezuelan students. In Brazil, initially at the University of São Paulo, then the University of Brasília, and now the Catholic University of Goiás and IESB, I was fortunate to meet excellent students, like Deisy das Graças de Souza and Elenice Hanna, some of them behind the movement that resulted in my nomination for the consideration of the Board of Directors of SABA.

As a teacher and researcher, I always prepared my students for a Ph.D. outside the country, even after our graduate programs were established. From the beginning, the students were directed to different countries (US, Mexico, Wales, Belgium) and different research areas, trying to avoid inbreeding. Unfortunately, Brazil has gone the other way for the last 15 years. No more scholarships for a Ph.D. abroad if we have a similar program in Brazil. That is too bad for a country who speaks Portuguese. Brazilian researchers are staying in the country, publishing in Portuguese, as *monoglotas* as American researchers (but in an unpopular language!). The present ceremony gives me the opportunity to begin another program for the dissemination of Brazilian behavior analysis abroad, asking my colleagues to at least publish in English! For that purpose we have the *Brazilian Journal of Behavior Analysis*.

**Award for Public Service to Behavior Analysis: Thomas L. McKenzie, Ph.D. (San Diego State University)**

**Award for Programmatic Contributions to Behavior Analysis: Experimental Analysis of Behaviour Research Unit at the University of Auckland, New Zealand**

**Michael Davison, Ph.D.** will accept the award on behalf of the Experimental Analysis of Behaviour Research Unit at the University of Auckland.

**Abstract:** It has been 40 years since this, the seed of this research unit, was sown. In this time it has had many formal names and probably even more informal names – including "The Ph.D. Factory" – and has had three locations. Still, some things have not changed: It has always been a cooperative lab with all academic staff and graduate students taking a weekly bird-running day; ensuring that no data are private and that everyone has equal responsibility. Also, from the very earliest days, the focus has not changed; indeed some are of the opinion that the experiment has not changed. We have always been interested in choice and behavior allocation; how this is affected by aspects of reinforcers, stimuli, and procedure; and how these processes can be understood quantitatively. If success is to be measured by formal "outputs" then we have outputted nearly 40 Ph.D.s, even more Masters and honors dissertations, and nearly 150 well-cited publications. However, much less quantifiable and far more gratifying, we have – I believe – enjoyed the whole business, the playfulness of doing research, and the realization that each year we have more and more questions that need to be answered. This award goes to everyone whom has contributed to the lab and its research over this long time.

## 2008 International Grant Awards

The Board of the Society for the Advancement of Behavior Analysis is very pleased to announce the winners of the 2008 International Development Grants are Dr. Morgan Chitiyo (Southern Illinois University), Dr. Mihyun Grace Cho (Nam Seoul University and South Korean Institute of ABA) and Erick Dubuque (University of Nevada, Reno).

## 2009 Fellowship Awardees

SABA Fellowships are awarded to doctoral students by way of a competitive process in two areas of concentration: child development and experimental analysis of behavior.

The *Sidney W. and Janet R. Bijou Fellowship* provides an annual fellowship to a doctoral student investigating child development from a behavior analyst perspective. Recipients in 2009 are Cara Phillips (University of Florida) and Kevin Luczynski (Western New England College).

The *SABA Experimental Analysis of Behavior Fellowship* provides an annual fellowship to a doctoral student in psychology or behavior analysis who is conducting research in the experimental analysis of behavior. The 2009 recipients are Carlos Cañado (West Virginia University) and Patrick Johnson (University of Kansas).

## 2009 Doctoral Dissertation Grant Awards

The Board of the Society for the Advancement of Behavior Analysis is very pleased to announce the recipients of the 2009 Doctoral Dissertation Grant Awards are Nigel Vahey (National University of Ireland Maynooth) and Diann Gaalema (Georgia Institute of Technology, Zoo Atlanta).

## 2009 Master's Thesis Grant Awards

The Board of the Society for the Advancement of Behavior Analysis is very pleased to announce the recipients of the 2009 Master's Thesis Grant Awards are Bess Puvanthingal (Temple University) and Charlotte Carp (Texas Christian University).

## #94 Special Event

5/23/2009

5:00 p.m. - 5:50 p.m.

West 301 CD

### Presidential Scholar's Address

Chair: William L. Heward (Ohio State University)



**Dr. Lonnie G. Thompson** is a Distinguished University Professor at the School of Earth Sciences and Senior Research Scientist at the Byrd Polar Research Center at The Ohio State University. Dr. Thompson, one of the world's most renowned paleoclimatologists, has been described as an "ice hunter," and a "translator" who deciphers messages trapped in ice cores that tell the history of the world's climate. He has led more than 50 expeditions during the last 30 years, to remote ice caps in Peru, Bolivia, China, Antarctica, Russia, Kenya, and other regions. Thompson's findings have resulted in major revisions in the field of paleoclimatology by demonstrating how tropical regions have undergone significant climate variability, countering the earlier view that higher latitudes dominate climate change. Thompson's research has been featured in hundreds of publications, including National Geographic and the National Geographic Adventure magazines, and is highlighted in An Inconvenient Truth, Al Gore's documentary film on global warming, for which Thompson was a consultant. One of Time magazine's 2008 Heroes of the Environment, Thompson was identified in the magazine's October 6 issue as one of six scientists and innovators whose work is key to addressing global climate change. Thompson's many honors and awards include the Tyler World Prize for Environmental Achievement (2005), the environmental sciences equivalent of a Nobel Prize, and the U.S. National Medal of Science (2007), the highest honor the United States bestows on an American scientist. The story Thompson's data tell of the history of the Earth's climate and its implications for climatic change should be of great interest to ABAI's membership, as one of the most pressing issues facing humankind is whether we will change our behavior sufficiently enough to protect the environment.

## Understanding Global Climate Change and the Human Response: A Paleoclimate Perspective from the World's Highest Mountains ()

**Abstract:** Glaciers are among the first responders to global warming, serving both as indicators and drivers of climate change. Over the last 35 years ice core records have been recovered systematically from both polar regions as well as twelve high-elevation ice fields, eleven of which are located in middle and tropical latitudes. Analyses of these ice cores and of the glaciers from which they have been drilled have yielded three lines of evidence for abrupt climate change both past and present. They are: (1) the temperature and precipitation histories recorded in the glaciers as revealed by the climate records extracted from the ice cores; (2) the accelerating loss of the glaciers themselves, specifically Quelccaya ice cap, Peru, Kilimanjaro, Africa and Naimona'nyi, Himalayas will be updated with 2009 results and; (3) the uncovering of ancient plants and animals from the margins of the glaciers as a result of their recent melting, thus illustrating the significance of the current ice loss. The current melting of high-altitude, low-latitude ice fields is consistent with model predictions for a vertical amplification of temperature in the tropics. The ongoing global-scale, rapid retreat of mountain glaciers and more recently the margins of the Greenland and Antarctic ice sheets is not only contributing to global sea level rise, but is also threatening fresh water supplies in many of the world's most populous regions. The current and present danger posed by ongoing climate change is clear. Climatologically we are in unfamiliar territory and the world's ice cover is responding dramatically however the human response to this issue is not so clear. Even though the evidence both from data and models becomes more compelling each year, and numerous documentations of global climate change such as in four IPCC documents, the rate of global carbon dioxide emissions for example, continues to accelerate. As a society we have three options (1) prevention, (2) adaptation and (3) suffering. The lecture will explore the human response to environmental changes in the past and what makes the current issues surrounding global climate change different.

### #119 Special Event

5/23/2009  
7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.  
North 121 BC

#### **Practicum on Quantitative Methods and Data Analysis**

Chair: Randolph C. Grace (University of Canterbury)

**Purpose:** Quantitative methods are becoming increasingly important for behavior analysis. This practicum will attempt to demystify such methods by showing how they can be used to detect patterns in data. We will cover fundamental techniques of exploratory data analysis, model development, parameter estimation, and model comparison. A framework for understanding inferential statistics as model comparison will also be presented. Participants will gain hands-on experience with quantitative methods based on a variety of real-world examples. (Note: Participants should bring a laptop with Excel or Open Office spreadsheet software). This event is co-sponsored by the ABAI Science Board and SQAB.

### #133 Special Event

5/23/2009  
10:30 p.m. – 1:00 a.m.  
Valley of the Sun A-E, Sheraton

#### **Behavioral Bash**

Chair: Erick M. Dubuque (University of Nevada, Reno)

**Purpose:** ABAI welcomes all of its members to Phoenix. Join us for a night of fun and entertainment, which will include videos submitted by student members, a skit competition, the Student Committee mentor awards, and entertainment from local talent. We hope to see you all there!

**Sunday, May 24, 2009**

**#148 Special Event**

5/24/2009

8:00 a.m. - 8:50 a.m.

North 132 A

**ABAI Program Committee Meeting**

Chair: Ramona Houmanfar (University of Nevada, Reno)

- AUT: Autism - Dr. William Ahearn (The New England Center for Children) and Dr. Jeffrey H. Tiger (Louisiana State University)
- BPH: Behavioral Pharmacology - Dr. Jesse Dallery (University of Florida) and Dr. Karen G. Anderson (West Virginia University)
- CBM: Clinical, Family, Behavioral Medicine - Dr. Ann D. Branstetter (Missouri State University) and Dr. Jonathan Kanter (University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee)
- CSE: Community Interventions, Social and Ethical Issues - Dr. Maria Ruiz (Rollins College) and Michael Weinberg (Orlando Behavior Health Services, LLC)
- DDA: Developmental Disabilities - Dr. Mark Dixon (Southern Illinois University) and Dr. Joel E. Ringdahl (University of Iowa)
- DEV: Human Development, Gerontology - Dr. Martha Pelaez (Florida International University) and Dr. Gary Novak (California State University, Stanislaus)
- EAB: Experimental Analysis of Behavior - Dr. James S. MacDonall (Fordham University) and Dr. Robert W. Allan (Lafayette College)
- EDC: Education - Dr. Ronnie Detrich (The Wing Institute) and Dr. Cathy Watkins (California State University, Stanislaus)
- OBM: Organizational Behavior Management - Dr. Alicia Alvero (Queens College & Graduate Center of City University of New York) and Dr. Heather M. McGee
- OTH: Other - Dr. William Palya (Jacksonville State University)
- TBA: Teaching Behavior Analysis - Dr. Denise E. Ross (Teachers College, Columbia University) and Dr. Jessica Singer-Dudek (Teachers College, Columbia University)
- TPC: Theoretical, Philosophical and Conceptual Issues - Dr. Sam Leigland (Gonzaga University) and Ted Schoneberger, BCBA (Stanislaus County Office of Education)
- VRB: Verbal Behavior - Dr. Matthew Normand (University of the Pacific) and Dr. Caio Miguel (California State University, Sacramento)
- Program Board Coordinator - Dr. Raymond G. Miltenberger (University of South Florida)

**#288 Special Event**

5/24/2009

4:00 p.m. - 5:20 p.m.

North 120 D

AUT

BACB CE Offered. CE Instructor: Lorri Unumb

**Legal Reform and Autism: How to Shape Public Policy**

Chair: Jonathan J. Tarbox (Center for Autism and Related Disorders, Inc.)

LORRI UNUMB (Senior Policy Advisor and Counsel, Autism Speaks)

**Abstract:** It is clear that Autism Speaks and ABAI have much in common in working together to ensure that all children diagnosed with autism are provided appropriate services and that the insurance mandate bills, both at the state and federal levels, are passed. She will provide a clear picture of the state of the situation, as well as advocacy efforts that we behavior analysts can engage in to help this effort.

Monday, May 25, 2009

### #345 Special Event

5/25/2009

8:00 a.m. - 8:50 a.m.

North 122 BC

#### **ABAI Business Meeting**

Chair: William L. Heward (ABAI President)

- Marc N. Branch (Publications Board Coordinator)
- Timothy D. Hackenberg (Science Board Coordinator)
- Linda J. Parrott Hayes (Practice Board Coordinator)
- Philip N. Hineine (Membership Board Coordinator)
- Ramona Houmanfar (Senior Program Co-Chair)
- Maria E. Malott (Chief Executive Officer)
- Charles Merbitz (Education Board Coordinator)
- Raymond G. Miltenberger (Program Board Coordinator)
- Pamela G. Osnes (Affiliated Chapters Board Coordinator)

**Abstract:** This event is the business meeting to the ABAI; where the President, Chief Executive Officer and Board Coordinators provide an update about current developments.

### #486 Special Event

5/25/2009

5:00 p.m. - 5:50 p.m.

West 301 CD

BACB CE Offered. CE Instructor: Raymond G. Miltenberger, Ph.D., BCBA

#### **Presidential Address**

Chair: William L. Heward (Ohio State University)

**Why Are We Not Acting to Save Lives?** RAYMOND G. MILTENBERGER (University of South Florida)



**Dr. Ray Miltenberger** received his Ph.D. in clinical psychology from Western Michigan University in 1985 after completing a pre-doctoral internship at the Kennedy Institute at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. Currently, he is the director of the Master's Program in Applied Behavior Analysis at the University of South Florida. Dr. Miltenberger serves on the Executive Councils of ABAI and FABAA and is a member of the board of directors of SABA. He is on the editorial boards of JABA, Behavioral Interventions, and Journal of Positive Behavioral Interventions and serves as an associate editor for Behavior Analysis in Practice and Education and Treatment of Children. Dr. Miltenberger's research

focuses on teaching safety skills to children and individuals with mental retardation, analysis and treatment of repetitive behavior disorders, and functional assessment and treatment of problem behaviors. He has published over 175 journal articles and chapters, has co-edited a text on analysis and treatment of tics and repetitive behavior disorders, and has written a behavior modification textbook, now in its fourth edition. Dr. Miltenberger has received a number of awards for his teaching and research including the 2008 APA Division 25 Award for Distinguished Contributions to Applied Behavioral Research.

**Abstract:** Applied behavior analysis has a rich history of helping people change a wide range of socially significant behaviors. In spite of ABA's great success in changing behaviors to better people's lives, some life-or-death behaviors have not received as much attention from behavior analysts. Let's face it, many people regularly fail to engage in safe behaviors and instead, willingly engage in unsafe behaviors that can (and often do) end up killing them. Changing these behaviors has the potential not only to better people's lives but to

save lives. If behavior analysts did a better job of saving lives, recognition of behavior analysis and its contributions to society would likely grow. In this address I will discuss what I believe to be important target behaviors for behavior analysts to address in future research and practice with the likely impact of saving lives. I will review some of my own work in safety skills training as an exemplar of this research and discuss important issues that need to be addressed in future research and dissemination efforts.

## **#504 Special Event**

5/25/2009

10:30 p.m. – 1:00 a.m.

Valley of the Sun A-E, Sheraton

### **ABAI Social**

Chair: William L. Heward (Ohio State University)

**Purpose:** Please join us, your friends, and colleagues for music and dancing at the ABAI Social.