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ON THE COVER: Fabio Luz plays during the ABAI 42nd Annual Convention Cultural Event. Art is a product of behavior.



Complexity Revisited

BY M. JACKSON MARR

Some 16 years ago, I served as president of the then ABA and, as such, was asked to write a column for this newsletter. The main theme of my column was my growing understanding of the complexity of the organization I was now representing. In a sense, this current piece is a reprieve of that much earlier column, except I now find that ABAI has become at least an order of magnitude more complex since I had left its governance years ago.

For most of its members, ABAI is the annual meeting in late May, plus perhaps other special meetings like the annual autism conference coming up this January. As long as these experiences are satisfactory, much of what lies behind them is often ignored—and, this is a good thing. What makes for a well-run conference is that the conditions are set up to ensure that all attendees enjoy what the conference is supposed to offer them: paper sessions, addresses, workshops, SIG meetings, social gatherings, exhibits, and the like—and all the essential personnel, organization, machinery, and dedicated hard work making these events happen is in the background, not calling attention to itself—unless, of course, something goes wrong!

But, as essential as the annual meeting is, as most of our members recognize and appreciate, it is not the only function of the organization. ABAI is a complex system with many interacting components. One definition of a system is: "... an

interconnected set of elements that is coherently organized in a way that achieves something... a system must consist of three kinds of things: *elements*, *interconnections*, and a *function* or *purpose* (Meadows, 2008, p. 11). Clearly, this definition can apply to many things from molecules to ecologies to organizations like ABAI. Systems are dynamic in that they act on and react to external forces and to internal, ongoing coupling influences between components of the system, all of which can lead to changes in the system. Complexity is manifested through the multiple reciprocal interactions between system components and outside influences so that, for example, simple cause-effect relations are difficult to discern. Moreover, in complex systems there is a diversity of components and their interactions, including some redundancies, whose operations typically confer a stability not achievable by relatively simple, less diverse systems. System, in general, is a *holistic concept* in that we typically ask of it questions like: What is *its* purpose? What does *it* do?

So much for technical descriptions; how does ABAI exemplify a complex system? We can help address this question by seeing how the three essential elements mentioned above apply. First, what is ABAI's function or purpose? This is embodied in its mission:

"The mission of the Association for Behavior Analysis International is to contribute to the well-being of society by developing, enhancing, and supporting the growth and vitality of the science of behavior analysis through research, education, and practice."

In some manner or other, all the "elements" or sub-systems making up ABAI must have a role in furthering the mission of the organization, and to make this happen they must interact in useful ways. A column of this sort is not the place to discuss all the entities of the organization and their various interactions (some essential operations in the ABAI office, for example, I know nothing about). But I can illustrate a few features of our system by very briefly discussing a major effort just completed by the ABAI Council this year: A strategic plan for ABAI to be enacted over the next three years or so. The actual details of this plan will be forthcoming in a future column, but here I wish to focus on its process as opposed to its substance.

Developing such a plan was a major undertaking involving interactions with every major component of the organization and based on multiple sources of data to help guide decisions about the evolving state of the organization, where it should be going, and proper measures to ensure the plan will be achieving its stated goals. In general, such measures reflect ABAI as a *consequence-driven system* (to use a description from robotics)—outcomes of actions should feedback to control subsequent actions—one definition of operant behavior! Our most important feedback is from the membership—you tell us what we are doing right and

certainly what we are doing wrong—through surveys and other sources of your input. As such, the membership is an integral component of the ABAI system. Of course, in a larger sense, the membership is ABAI.

While the Council is the major "clearing house" of information from all segments of the organization, including its members, and the principal deliberative, decision- and policy-making body, it cannot act independently of all the other segments. These subsystems include the various Boards, each with their special interests, missions, and goals, but all interacting closely with the Council and, in many cases, with each other. The Council itself reflects the various interests and concerns of the membership through its elected positions: Presidents—current, past, and elect, president of SABA, at-large representatives, the international representative, the applied representative, the experimental representative, and student representatives. Maria Malott serves as CEO and secretary/treasurer.

To develop the strategic plan, at least two members of the Council were held responsible for each domain of interest as reflected in the various Boards and other segments of the organization, all having essential roles in ABAI's mission. Examples include the boards of Practice, Accreditation, Science, Membership, Program, Publications, and Affiliated Chapters, along with liaison organizations and administration. Each board has its own coordinator, membership, council liaison, and stated mission or goal. In total, boards, their membership, liaisons, etc. include nearly 400 dedicated volunteers.

The assigned Council members carried out a so-called SWOT analysis (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats) in collaboration with, for example, the assigned board coordinator and that board's membership. Careful assessment of all relevant data was essential to making proper decisions regarding the suggested actions comprising the plan. Of particular significance in relation to ABAI as a system is that by having the Council as a single body carefully deliberate the results of respective SWOT analyses and proposed actions, we could see how decisions regarding one board, for example, could affect the functions of other boards. In ABAI, there is "no island entire unto itself."

I have already mentioned the dynamic nature of the ABAI system—ABAI is an evolving organization that has seen spectacular growth over the years. It began with a few hundred members and with a very limited scope. Now with its thousands of members from around the world, active support of every aspect of the field, and outreach to other domains with interests in the science of behavior and its applications, we look forward to even greater accomplishments in the years to come.

Reference

Meadows, D. (2008). *Thinking in Systems*. D. Wright (Ed.). White River Junction, VT: Chelsea Green Publisher.



Moving Behavior Analysis Forward:

BY MARIA E. MALOTT

ABAI's 42nd Annual Convention in Chicago set a new high for convention attendance and contributed to this year's record membership numbers. In post-convention feedback surveys, nearly 90% of attendees indicated that they appreciated the choice of Chicago as host city, while our major invited events and B. F. Skinner Lecture Series were also positively reviewed. This year's complex

An aerial, black and white photograph of the Chicago skyline and Lake Michigan. On the right side, a tall, modern skyscraper with a grid-like facade of windows and balconies dominates the foreground. The view extends across the city towards the lake. In the distance, the city's skyline is visible across the water, including a prominent building with two minaret-like structures. Several boats are scattered across the lake's surface. A bridge or pier structure is visible in the middle ground, separating the city from the open water.

A RECAP OF ABAI'S 42ND ANNUAL CONVENTION IN CHICAGO

program featured inspiring presentations from behavior analysis leaders, engaging talks by speakers from complimentary disciplines, new research from students, exhibits by behavioral organizations, and much more.

New events at this convention include popular sessions such as our opening Cultural Event, featuring music by acclaimed classical pianist Fabio Luz. Founder of the Franz Liszt Foundation (www.fondation-franzliszt.org/) in France, Mr. Luz is the recipient of numerous prestigious awards and is considered to be among the best classical musicians alive today. The event featured additional artistic performances by ABAI members, including Francis Mechner, whose piano skills were impressive in their own right; Ruth Anne Rehfeldt, who played a lovely J. S. Bach piece on the viola; original poetry by William Root; and classical flute music from Andrea Mazo. The program also featured special events honoring Vic Latties and Jay Moore, some of the field's most beloved personalities; reunions and receptions for association boards, committees, publications, and accredited programs (see page 10 for more).

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information on these ABAI-approved college programs); and the ABAI Expo.

Several exciting new ideas and developments were discussed at this convention that indicate a healthy and growing field. Our Invited Presenter and B. F. Skinner Lecture series were an indication of this; the outstanding quality of these talks was reflected in feedback, with nearly 95% of attendees giving high scores to both the track of invited presentations and the B. F. Skinner Lectures. On a whole, the convention program was a rich collection of diverse topics and provocative ideas.

Foxes, Hedgehogs, and Rats:

Presentations by the Field's Leaders

The convention opened with the SABA Awards Ceremony—an annual event honoring leaders in behavior analysis. This year the accomplishments of Travis Thompson (Award for Distinguished Service); Kennon Andy Lattal (Award for

International Dissemination of Behavioral Analysis); Alan Poling (Award for Scientific Translation); University of California, Santa Barbara's Koegel Autism Center (Award for Enduring Programmatic Contributions in Behavior Analysis, accepted by Lynn Kern and Robert Koegel); and David Freedman (Award for Effective Presentation of Behavior Analysis in the Mass Media). The acceptance speeches for each award were all informative and set the convention off on right foot with presentations from some the science's most recognizable figures. Dr. Travis Thompson discussed how behavioral sciences can benefit from integrating reductionistic and artistic elements in order to answer the study's big remaining questions and address the psychological challenges facing humanity. Dr. Andy Lattal's talk focused on the behavior-analytic world view and described the major changes and milestones that occurred during the past century to make the field what it is today. Dr. Alan Poling talked about his 40 years of experience conducting behavior analysis research and outlined the lessons he learned during

B. F. Skinner Lecture Series Presentations

Applied Animal Behavior

Lance J. Miller, "Behavioral Science and Zoo Animal Welfare"

Behavioral Development

Marion Forgatch, "Implementing an Evidence-Based Intervention Worldwide: Collaboration as the Core of Sustainable Fidelity"

Behavioral Pharmacology and Neuroscience

Gary Aston-Jones, "Unraveling Brain Circuits for Drug Seeking and Demand"

Clinical/Family/Behavioral Medicine

James Murphy, "Novel Behavioral Economic Approaches to Measuring Substance Abuse Severity and Motivating Change"

Community Interventions, Social and Ethical Issues

John Hagedorn, "Stereotypes Can Kill: Processes of Injustice in Criminal Trials"

Developmental Disabilities

Randall Buzan, "Neuroscience of Self, Mindfulness Meditation, and Neuropsychiatric Applications in Traumatic Brain Injury and Intellectual Disabilities"

Education

David N. Rapp, "The Surprising and Problematic Consequences of Exposure to Misinformation"

Experimental Analysis of Behavior

Mark E. Hauber, "Self-Recognition in an Ecological Context: Lessons From Avian Host-Parasite Interactions"

Organizational Behavior Management

Michael Kim, "Designing Sustainable Behavior Change"

Other

Germán Gutiérrez, "Learning, Sexual Differences, and Sexual Competition"

Practice

Thomas M. Campbell, "The Role of Nutrition in Medicine: Dietary and Other Behavioral Interventions for the Management of Significant Health Conditions"

Science

Charles Gallistel, "Prospective and Retrospective Contingency in Operantly Conditioned Behavior"

Deborah Cory-Slechta, "The Cognitive Consequences of Children's Exposure to Lead Revealed by Behavior Analysis"

James S. Nairne, "Adaptive Memory: Remembering With a Stone-Age Brain"

Teaching Behavior Analysis

Mary Sonnenberg, "Preparing Teachers and Practitioners to Meet the Needs of All Students in Early Care and Education Settings: How Do We Do It?"

Theoretical, Philosophical, and Conceptual Issues

Phil Zuckerman, "What is Secular Humanism?"

Verbal Behavior

Jan De Houwer, "A Functional-Cognitive Framework for Cooperation Between Functional and Cognitive Researchers and Practitioners"

that time about how to succeed as a researcher. Accepting the SABA Award for Enduring Programmatic Contributions in Behavior Analysis on behalf of the Koegel Autism Center, founders Lynn Kern and Robert Koegel gave a presentation on the power of programmatic research in autism and outlined areas where there is still a need for such research and intervention. Finally, journalist David Freedman talked about why behavior analysis doesn't enjoy the same level of public appreciation as other scientific pursuits and how science communicators might overcome the public relations challenges that are facing the field.

Behavior analysis leaders and innovators—including some honored during the awards ceremony—presented throughout the convention as part of the Invited Events and Tutorials track. These talks, featuring presenters invited by the Program Board, covered new and/or important information in one of the convention's major specialty areas. Topics this year included research on giant African pouched rats to train them to detect land mines and tuberculosis, the relation

between academic performance and challenging behaviors, the role behavior analysis can play in drafting public policy, and much more.

In his presidential address, "The Future of Behavior Analysis: Foxes and Hedgehogs Revisited," Dr. Jack Marr discussed several themes addressing the evolving complex relations between basic and applied behavior analysis. He stressed that behavior analysis's long-term survival as a coherent discipline depends on finding solutions to the field's most stubborn challenges.

As with every convention, poster sessions were a key component of the program. These graphic presentations of data and research have long provided up and coming researchers with exposure to the comments and feedback of a scientific audience and made the latest research and practices available to attendees. Session chairs were tasked with assigning a number of discussants to a group of posters who engaged with their assigned presenters; asking

See CHICAGO on page 8

Invited Presentations and Tutorials

Applied Animal Behavior

Alan Poling, "Big Rats, Big Opportunities, and Big Challenges: HeroRATS and Me"

Autism

Gregory P. Hanley, "Sleep Problems of Children With Autism: Prevalent, Relevant, and Treatable by Behavior Analysts"

Behavioral Development

Jesús Rosales-Ruiz, "Behavioral Cusps: Twenty Years Later"

Behavioral Pharmacology and Neuroscience

Kenneth Silverman, "The Therapeutic Utility of Employment in Treating Drug Addiction"

Clinical/Family/Behavioral Medicine

Jessica Minahan, "Being Part of the Solution: Antecedent Interventions for Students With Anxiety-Related Behaviors"

Community Interventions, Social and Ethical Issues

E. Scott Geller, "Making a Difference With Applied Behavioral Science: Actively Caring for People"

Developmental Disabilities

Timothy R. Vollmer, "Behavioral Treatments When Extinction is Not an Option"

Education

Jennifer McComas, "The Relation Between Academic Performance and Challenging Behavior"

Experimental Analysis

Christopher Franck, "Characterization of Delay Discounting Using Multiple Models and Effective Delay 50"

Randolph C. Grace, "Philosophy of Science and the Quantitative Analysis of Behavior"

Peter Killeen, "The Syncretic Analysis of Behavior"

Gregory J. Madden and Jillian Rung, "Reducing Impulsivity: Current Knowledge & Future Directions"

Peter Urcuioli, "Associative Symmetry, Emergent Relations, and Stimulus Class Formation"

Organizational Behavior Management

Brad Huitema, "Final Fusillade"

Fabio Tosolin, "Science Needs Experiments, but Experiments Are Not Enough to Get People and Institutions' Consensus About Science: How to Spread Behavior Analysis in Italy"

Other

João Claudio Todorov, "Behavior Analysis and Public Policy"

Practice

George H. Noell, "Treatment Implementation in Child Behavior Therapy and Education"

Ilene Schwartz, "Don Baer Invited Address: Taking EIBI to School: A Review of School-Based Early Intensive Behavioral Interventions"

Science

Eric Donny, "Should the FDA Reduce the Nicotine Content of Cigarettes? The Science and Potential Public Health Impact"

Blake Hutsell, "Quantitative Modeling in Behavioral Analysis, Part 2: How?"

Federico Sanabria, "Quantitative Modeling in Behavioral Analysis, Part 1: Why?"

Peter Urcuioli, "Emergent Relations and Stimulus Class Formation"

Teaching Behavior Analysis

Henry D. Schlinger Jr., "Designing Courses Based on Research and Theory in Behavior Analysis and Psychology"

Theoretical, Philosophical, and Conceptual Issues

Dermot Barnes-Holmes, "Relational Frame Theory, Acceptance and Commitment Therapy, and Cognitive Behavioral Therapy: What Are the Connections?"

Susan M. Schneider, Timothy D. Hackenberg, and Henry D. Schlinger, "Panel: The Real Evolutionary Psychology: Nature-Nurture, Behavior Analysis, and the Systems Approach"

Verbal Behavior

Mark L. Sundberg, David C. Palmer, and Henry D. Schlinger, "Panel: VBSIG Award Winners Discuss Jack Michael's Influence on Theory, Research, and Practice"



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CHICAGO continued from page 7

informed questions and providing helpful feedback while amongst attendees.

From Caveman to Iron Man:**Presentations by Non-Behavior Analysts**

This year's collection of presentations from non-behaviors were especially interesting and sparked many lively discussions. The B. F. Skinner Lecture Series featured talks on a range of subjects that stand to benefit from a behavioral analytic perspective, as many of the lecturers themselves acknowledged. With provocative talks on understanding how memory works in a "stone-aged" brain to combatting the effects of stereotypes in the legal system to addressing the effects of misinformation in our daily lives, the series is sure to expose attendees to new avenues for behavioral research and application.

One of the convention's most popular talks was the Presidential Scholar Address, delivered by Dr. Miguel Nicolelis. In his presentation, "Brain-Machine Interfaces: From Basic Science to Neurological Rehabilitation" Dr. Nicolelis described how state-of-the-art research on brain-machine interfaces makes it possible for the brains of primates to interact directly and in a bi-directional way with mechanical, computational, and virtual devices. He reviewed a series of experiments that reveal how brain-machine interfaces can be used not only to study fundamental aspects of neural ensemble physiology, but how they can also serve as an experimental paradigm aimed at testing the design of novel neuroprosthetic devices. This research raises the hypothesis that the properties of a robot arm, or other neurally controlled tools, can be assimilated by brain representations as if they were extensions of the subject's own body. The potential of this research was dramatically expressed with video from the 20th FIFA World Cup, which featured a young man with complete paraplegia of the lower limbs giving the tournament's symbolic first kick-off while wearing an exoskeleton controlled by his brain activity. This exoskeleton was developed by the Walk Again Project, an international

consortium of scientists and engineers lead by Dr. Nicolelis. The talk was one of the most positively reviewed sessions of the convention (89% very good-excellent) and ABAI is grateful for Miguel Nicolelis's contribution to the program.

Beyond the Convention

We remain pleased with the impressive attendance the annual convention continues to enjoy. Still, we know there are many who were not able to attend. For those, we are happy to once again announce that many of the convention's popular presentations, including B. F. Skinner lectures, invited speakers, and the presidential and presidential scholar addresses, are now available in our online Learning Center. If you were unable to attend the convention or weren't able to make one of the highlight presentations, we encourage you to use this valuable resource, which also includes the option to purchase and earn CEs. Join the growing number of ABAI members who are discovering just how valuable the Learning Center can be for furthering educational and professional goals. We proud to offer this valuable resource, which makes learning from incredible speakers on behavioral science and practice convenient and accessible. Visit the Learning Center today at www.abainternational.org/learning-center.aspx.

We look forward to our return to Denver, Colorado, and the Colorado Convention Center for the 43rd Annual Convention. The last ABAI event held in Denver was the 37th Annual Convention in 2011, and the positive reviews from that convention has us excited to bring an even stronger program to the Mile High City in 2017. Call for Papers will be launching soon, so be sure to check www.abainternational.org/events/annual-2017.aspx for an upcoming announcement!

The ABAI 42nd Annual Convention would not have been possible without the hard work of the program committee and area coordinators, whose expertise and care led to the development of a high-quality program of events. Special thanks to ABAI's staff and interns, who work tirelessly every year to prepare for and run the annual convention. Finally, Thanks to everyone who joined us in Chicago; we look forward to seeing you all again next year! ❖

1 Outgoing Affiliated Chapters Board coordinator Gordon Bourland with Martha Hübner at the Presidential Address. **2** SABA Award winners (from left to right) Kennon Andy Lattal, Alan Poling, Lynn Kern Koegel, Robert Koegel, David Freedman, and Travis Thompson. **3** Francis Mechner plays piano during the Cultural Event. **4** Convention attendees at a social session. **5** William Root recites poetry during the Cultural Event. **6** Mike Mozzoni talks with Student Committee member Christina Peters during a poster session. **7** Francis Mechner and Victor Laties await the start of a convention presentation. **8** Per Holth delivering a talk. **9** Incoming ABAI president Jack Marr with ABAI experimental representative Peter Killeen. **10** Outgoing Fellows Committee chair Carol Pilgrim with Martha Hübner at the Presidential Address. **11** Andrea Mazo plays the flute during the Cultural Event.

Program Committee

The program content of this convention was made possible thanks to the hard work of the ABAI Program Committee and Area Coordinators.

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School of Medicine)

Clinical, Family, Behavioral Medicine (CBM): Steven R. Lawyer (Idaho State University) and Jeannie Golden (East Carolina University)

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Human Development (DEV): Per Holth (The Behavioral Center, Oslo) and R. Douglas Greer (Columbia University Teachers College and Graduate School of Arts and Sciences)

Organizational Behavior Management (OBM): Julie Slowiak (University of Minnesota, Duluth) and Douglas Johnson (Western Michigan University)

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Science (SCI): M. Christopher Newland (Auburn University)

Teaching Behavior Analysis (TBA): Nicole Luke (Surrey Place Centre) and Amoy Hugh-Pennie (Ontario Western University)

Theoretical, Philosophical, and Conceptual Issues (TPC): Edward K. Morris (The University of Kansas) and Darlene Crone-Todd (Salem State University)

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The Behavior Analysis Accreditation Board of ABAI's rigorous accreditation program helps ensure the integrity of behavior analysis education.

The Behavior Analysis Accreditation Board standards encourage and support exemplary training of behavior scientists and scientist-practitioners in the experimental and theoretical foundations of behavior analysis and in ethical and evidence-based practice.



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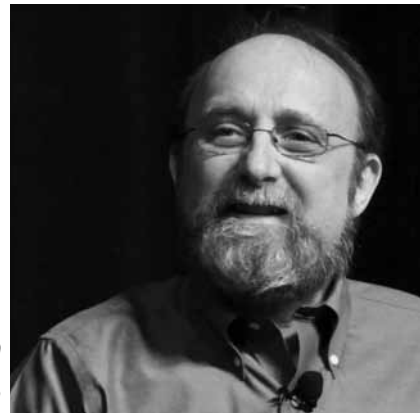
Modules from the 42nd Annual Convention now available!

Did you miss a popular presentation from the convention?
Or would you simply like to review your favorite talks? Several of
the best talk are now available from the online Learning Center!
Continuing education credits are available for modules.

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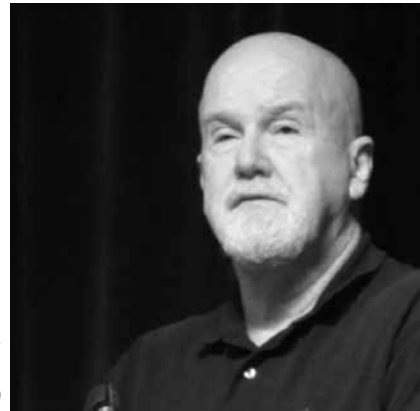
Miguel Nicolelis

*Brain-Machine Interfaces: From Basic Science
to Neurological Rehabilitation*



Alan Poling

*Big Rats, Big Opportunities, and Big Challenges:
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Tom Campbell

*The Role of Nutrition in Medicine: Dietary
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2016

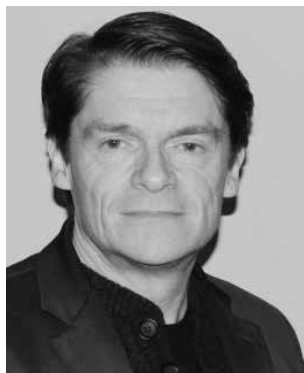
ABAI is proud to announce the 2016 Fellows of the Association for Behavior Analysis International.

FELLOWS OF ABAI



Keith D. Allen

Dr. Keith D. Allen received his Ph.D. from West Virginia University and currently serves as professor of psychology and pediatrics at the Munroe-Meyer Institute for Genetics and Rehabilitation at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. His impactful research spans the disciplines of behavior analysis, pediatrics, and dentistry, and he is nationally known for his expertise in behavioral approaches to managing child behavior during dental treatment and pain management. Dr. Allen has been particularly influential in promoting behavior analysis in medicine through his many publications in the top journals for pediatrics, and in the broader field of psychology through his extensive publications in top-tier clinical psychology journals, in addition to his substantial contributions in the best outlets in behavior analysis. The quality of his work is recognized by ongoing funding for his research and training as PI or co-PI on federal (e.g., NIDR, NIH, DOE), private, and local grants. Dr. Allen's contributions to teaching and service have also been exemplary. He has served on numerous editorial boards and NIH review panels, he supervises interns directly and serves as the coordinator of internship training at Munroe-Meyer, and he is co-director of internship training in the state of Nebraska. Dr. Allen has been the recipient of numerous teaching and service awards.



Dermot Barnes-Holmes

Dr. Dermot Barnes-Holmes received his D.Phil. in behavior analysis and behavioral biology from the University of Ulster, Coleraine, N. Ireland. He currently serves as Senior Full Professor and Odysseus Laureate at Ghent University, Belgium, having previously served on the faculties of the National University of Ireland, Maynooth, and University College Cork. Dr. Barnes-Holmes is an extraordinarily prolific researcher who has made extensive contributions to the behavior analytic literature, especially in the areas of language and cognition. The competitive and prestigious Odysseus Laureate awarded to Dr. Barnes-

Holmes in 2015 is just the most recent recognition of the esteem in which his work is held among behavioral scientists internationally. He contributed substantively to the development of Relational Frame Theory and has been a major source, either directly or through his more than 35 doctoral students, of the frequently cited empirical studies that support the theory. Since 1989, Dr. Barnes-Holmes has published 224 peer-reviewed articles, 40 book chapters, and 7 books or edited volumes. His work is known for its creativity and breadth in addressing complex questions about human language and cognition, with a coherent conceptual and methodological approach. This work has received more than €3.5 million in competitive funding since 2000, and has resulted in a number of prestigious awards and recognitions.

Dr. Mark Galizio earned his Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and currently serves as professor of psychology at the University of North Carolina Wilmington, having previously served as department chair (2004–2011). Dr. Galizio's highly productive research career includes more than 80 published articles and chapters, a textbook now in its seventh edition, an edited book, more than \$1 million in grants, service as associate editor and editorial board member of multiple prominent behavior analytic journals, and extensive leadership service to the field (e.g., president of APA Division 25, NIH Study Section on Biobehavioral Regulation, Learning, and Ethology). His contributions have included empirical, conceptual, and methodological advances across an impressive range of specialties within the experimental analysis of behavior, including rule-governed behavior, aversive control, complex stimulus control, behavioral pharmacology, and learning and remembering. His work exemplifies the best of the benefits of translational research, taking a thoroughly behavior analytic approach to issues of broader interest in the behavioral, social,



Mark Galizio

and biological sciences, for which he has been recognized as a Fellow in four different divisions of APA. Dr. Galizio's teaching and mentorship are also noteworthy, and have resulted in numerous awards and recognitions.

Dr. M. Christopher Newland earned his Ph.D. in experimental psychology from the Georgia Institute of Technology and currently serves as professor of psychology at Auburn University. By drawing from concepts and methods of behavior analysis he has sought to deepen our understanding of the behavioral consequences of exposure to drugs and environmental contaminants. He has distinguished himself as a leading scientist in environmental health sciences, and the fields of behavioral pharmacology and toxicology, neuromotor and learning effects of drugs and toxicants, and the quantitative analysis of behavior, having published more than 80 peer-reviewed articles and chapters. The quality of Dr. Newland's creative and integrative research contributions is clearly documented by his record of funding from the most competitive federal agencies, totaling almost \$5 million. Dr. Newland has also provided significant service to the field of behavior analysis in his role as associate editor of *Neurotoxicology* and editorial board member of multiple journals, his extensive involvement on federal scientific review panels (e.g., NIH, EPA), and his leadership positions (e.g., president of the Behavioral Toxicology Society and the Neurotoxicology Specialty Section of the Society of Toxicology, coordinator of the ABAA Science Board), to name just a few highlights.

Dr. Jennifer Zarcone earned her Ph.D. in the experimental analysis of behavior from the University of Florida. She currently serves as associate professor in the Department of Psychiatry at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine and the Kennedy Krieger Institute, having held previous appointments at the

University of Kansas and the Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry. Dr. Zarcone is a nationally recognized researcher, best known for her work in the area of autism and intellectual disabilities, with specialization in the assessment and treatment of severe behavior disorders. She has published more than 60 influential articles, chapters, and books, and has served as principal investigator or co-principal investigator on numerous federally funded grants. She serves on the editorial boards of multiple behavior analytic journals and as associate editor of the *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, and has held significant leadership positions in our most important behavior analytic organizations (e.g., coordinator of the ABAA Practice Board, president of the Maryland Association for Behavior Analysis). She is also known as a particularly impactful mentor to her students and junior colleagues. ❖



M. Christopher Newland



Jennifer R. Zarcone

Designation as a Fellow of ABAA

The purpose of the ABAA Fellow designation is to recognize outstanding contributors to behavior analysis in one of the primary areas of (a) scholarly research, (b) professional practice, or (c) teaching/administration/service or any combination of (a), (b), and (c).

- Only Full members of ABAA are eligible to be named Fellows.
- The nominee must have a documented record of sustained and excellent contributions in one or more primary areas. An aggregate of contributions across the three areas may also make an individual eligible.
- Nominations are only accepted from current Fellows of ABAA, each of whom may make a single nomination per year, and who solicits a second letter of support from another Fellow.



FROM SPACE EXPLORATION TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF BRAIN-MACHINE INTERFACES:

INTERDISCIPLINARY COOPERATION IS THE WAY TO THE FUTURE

BY AMEL BECIREVIC

In the middle of the 20th century, during the time of the cold war and the beginning of the space age, creative scientists and visionaries from the U.S. Army Ballistic Missile Agency and the Experimental Analysis of Behavior Laboratories at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center worked together on pretests for Project Mercury—the goal: human space exploration.

Behavior analysts, among them Joseph V. Brady, Charles Ferster, and Jack Findley, conducted laboratory experiments with nonhuman primates using operant conditioning principles to train complex behavioral repertoires. Shortly after, Ham became the first chimpanzee to be launched into space. Following the successful flight by the space chimp, Alan Sheppard became the first American astronaut to travel into space, paving the way for John Glenn to become the first human to achieve orbit (see Brady, 2007). Fast forward several decades and another spectacle is on the horizon for humanity ... one that has the potential to improve the lives of individuals suffering from paralysis, spinal cord injury, and other motor movement impairments. Comparable to the innovative endeavors that made human space exploration a reality, the restoration of sensory and motor movement functions is soon becoming a reality

Illustration: MARTIN BURCH

thanks to the pioneering work of Dr. Miguel Nicolelis and his research team.

Nicolelis, a neuroscientist and professor at the Duke School of Medicine, has spent most of his career studying arguably the most complex object in the universe—the human brain. With over 400 articles, book chapters, written and edited books, including *Beyond Boundaries: The New Neuroscience of Connecting Brains with Machines – and How It Will Change Our Lives*, Nicolelis spearheaded the field colloquially referred to as neuroengineering. Similar to those interdisciplinary collaborations that made Project Mercury possible, Nicolelis has worked diligently bridging the gap of various disciplines including neuroscience, biomedical engineering, robotics, behavioral science, and computer science in the attempt of making the Walk Again Project possible. The ultimate goal of this project is to improve the lives of individuals suffering from severe paralysis due to spinal cord injury, motor impairments resulting from neurological disorders such as stroke and cerebral palsy, and possibly even those with missing limbs. These herculean feats are not the product of science fiction; advancement in technology has made direct brain-machine interfaces (BMIs) a reality.

All of the early experiments with BMIs were conducted on nonhuman animals in laboratory settings. Microwire arrays have been implanted in several cortical motor regions of the primate's brain, which allow for measuring extracellular activity of neurons and for generating real-time models that can be used to control the movements of prosthetic devices (Nicolelis, 2001, 2003). Furthermore, sensory feedback through neuron stimulation has the potential of reinforcing specific motor movements. Schlinger (2015) proclaims that “the physical basis of behavioral plasticity is neuroplasticity; that is, interactions between an organism's behavior and its environment cause changes in the structure of the brain” (p. 1). Nicolelis (2001, 2003) similarly acknowledges that neuroscience has had a long tradition of examining sensory feedback; therefore, it is reasonable to conclude that the merging of single-subject methodology and operant principles can aid in the clinical goals of neuroengineering. Skinner anticipated the cooperative endeavors of behavior analysis and neuroscience when he stated:

“The physiologist of the future will tell us all that can be known about what is happening inside the behaving organism. His account will be an important advance over a behavioral analysis, because the latter is necessarily “historical” – that is to say, it is confined to functional relations showing temporal gaps.... What he discovers cannot invalidate the laws of a science of behavior, but it will make the picture of human action more nearly complete” (1974, pp. 236-237).

Perhaps Nicolelis is Skinner's “physiologist of the future”, set to provide additional insight between the interaction of

behavior and neurobiology (see Silva, Gonçalves, & Garcia-Mijares, 2007; Timberlake, Schaal, & Steinmetz, 2005 for a discussion about behavior and neurobiology).

The clinical relevance of the Walk Again Project and BMI in general is remarkable and is clearly in line with the goals of applied behavior analysis and the field's leading journal, the *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*—the understanding and improvement of human behavior. Interestingly, one of the earliest studies to apply the principles of operant conditioning to human behavior consisted of increasing arm movement of an 18-year old boy with profound intellectual and developmental disabilities. Specifically, Fuller (1949) describes, “He lay on his back and could not roll over; he could, however, open his mouth, blink, and move his arms, head and shoulders, to a slight extent” (p. 588). Fuller shaped movement of the right arm to a vertical or nearly vertical position by providing a warm sugar-milk solution contingent on approximations to the target behavior. Fuller reports:

“The attending physicians...thought it was impossible for him to learn anything – according to them, he had not learned anything in the 18 years of his life – yet in four experimental sessions, by using the operant conditioning technique, an addition was made to his behavior which, at his level, could be termed appreciable” (p. 590).

Fuller's study was conducted nearly 70 years ago. Imagine what could have been achieved with the application of BMI technology.

What may have once been envisioned as the work of science fiction or fantasy is quickly becoming reality. Nicolelis and his team are at the forefront of innovative research and technology that may eventually “become the core of a new experimental approach with which to investigate the operation of neural systems in behaving animals” (Nicolelis, 2003, p. 417). Just as the cooperative efforts of various disciplines paved the way for human space exploration in the 20th century, the efforts of Nicolelis' team, combined with the science of behavior, have the potential to significantly improve humanity once again. Perhaps neuroscience and behavior analysis have matured enough that an integration holds great promise. It may leave us wondering: what does science promise next?

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Updates From ABAI's Affiliated Chapters

ABA España

BY DAVID GARCÍA-GONZÁLEZ AND JAVIER VIRUES-ORTEGA
The past year has been full of exciting developments for ABA España: There has been steady growth in the network of applied programs offering placement opportunities to students following the ABA España course sequence as agreements have been signed with newly established programs: Centro Dabadá in Alicante led by Jose Alberto Monseco, BCBA, and Centro Algoritmus in Malaga led by Javier Plaza, BCBA.

ABA España realizes that, along with limited practica placement opportunities, an additional challenge to the growth of the field results from the limited availability of high-quality reference materials. ABA España recently signed an agreement with Pearson to translate the Cooper, Heron, and Heward book, *Applied Behavior Analysis*, into Spanish. A team of 30 contributors has been working intensely over the last few months to complete this task as soon as possible. The online version of the Spanish edition is expected to be available before the end of this year.

Another exciting development has been the signing of an agreement with the University of Cadiz in Southern Spain to create the ABA España Chair in Applied Behavior Analysis. This chair will create research and training opportunities for doctoral students and faculty at the University of Cadiz, and it could provide the basis for the first university-based approved course sequence in the country. Initial activities of the chair include a seminar in applied behavior analysis to take place January 26–27, 2017.

ABA Germany

BY ROBERT SCHRAMM

ABA Deutschland has continued its strong work bringing further awareness to the community. After a well-attended workshop last year led by Mary Barbera, members of ABA Deutschland have presented ABA principles to hundreds of new parents and professionals. Additionally, several of our members participated in the Scientific Meeting for Autism Spectrum Conditions (Wissenschaftliche Tagung Autismus Spektrum; WTAS), organized by the Society for Research in Autism Spectrum Conditions (Wissenschaftliche Gesellschaft Autismus Spektrum; WGAS) on March 10–11, 2016 in Freiburg.

The topic of the conference was Therapies for Individuals With Autism Spectrum Disorders, and there was a panel discussion called “Early Interventions in Autism” with experts from different therapy fields. Günther Stratmann participated in the panel as a child psychiatrist, father of a son in an ABA/VB program, and a member of ABA Deutschland. Other members of the panel were Dr. Anne Häußler, Dr. Karoline Teufel, and Claus Lechmann. The panel members agreed that behavioral approaches

that include parents and other caregivers (kindergarten teachers), use a developmental approach and mainly a natural paradigm, and see the motivation of the child and functional goals as key are best suited to teach children on the spectrum. The need to adhere to ethical and humanistic principles in the choice of intervention goals and interaction with the child was also stressed.

Additionally, two of our members, Natalie Werner, Dipl. Psych., M.Sc., BCBA, and Julia Buchenau-Schlömer, Dipl. Psych., M.A., BCBA (AutismusTherapieZentrum Köln), recently had an article published in the journal *Autismus*: “ABA und Autismus: Ein Blick auf Kernkriterien und Professionelle Standards der Angewandten Verhaltensanalyse (ABA and Autism: A Look at Core Criteria and Professional Standards of Applied Behavior Analysis).”

Our yearly meeting was in May, and we are now up to 36 members!

ABA India

BY SMITA AWASTHI

ABA India is a not-for-profit, non-governmental organization registered in 2006. In the last nine years, awareness of behavior analysis has grown in India. This is evident from the increasing number of students enrolling in various ABA courses in India and overseas. India has seen a 200% increase in the number of certified behavior analysts. There are 22 certified behavior analysts across the country as of April 2016.

The only BACB-approved ABA course sequence in India, BMI-ACS, is running its fourth cohort. This shows a growing interest in the field in India. ABA India has played an important role in developing this interest through its annual conferences.

In 2015 some BCBAs took the initiative to train and supervise registered behavior technicians (RBT). There are currently 24 RBTs working in various organizations throughout the country.

ABA India has regularly invited psychiatrists and developmental pediatricians to their annual conferences. Some organizations have regular visits from clinical psychologists for observing practice based on behavior analytic principles. This has helped build awareness of evidence-based practice in a few major cities where pediatricians regularly refer new cases of developmental disorders and autism for ABA-based interventions as the most preferred choice—a fairly new trend. Additionally, one of the largest government hospitals in Delhi endorses ABA-based interventions in its awareness booklet.

ABA professionals in India continue to make sustained efforts in building awareness, disseminating scientific practice, and building capacity for providing quality services for special needs individuals. Workshops organized in cities like Ludhiana, Jamnagar, Hyderabad, and Bangalore

have continued advocacy and awareness in evidence-based practice in clinical work. ABA India members have also been involved in extending services beyond Indian territory into places like Bangladesh and Dubai.

Participating in the ABAI 42nd Annual Conference in Chicago was an enriching experience for ABA India members. A team of three members traveled to the US to be part of this important event. The team presented the poster “Advancement of Applied Behavior Analysis in India 2015–16” at the Expo, participated in the affiliated chapter leadership training, and networked and discussed with other non-U.S. chapters the experiences and challenges facing ABA organizations. The highlight of the convention for those who traveled long distances was the International Reception. ABA India members also presented research papers in a symposium.

In 2015–16, ABAI announced a delegation visit to India by four eminent members. The visit is scheduled for September 2016. Dr. Maria Malott, Dr. Martha Hübner, Dr. Linda Hayes, and Dr. Ingunn Sandaker will make this historic visit to Delhi, Kolkata, and Bangalore to support chapter activities and forge new liaisons for the development of ABA in India. ABA India members are excited about this visit and are busy networking and planning for various meetings and presentations by the delegation to institutions, organizations, and the government of India. A team of motivated members have formed various committees under the leadership of the ABA India president, Gita Srikant.

The delegation visit will culminate with the ABA India sixth annual conference, “Moving Forward With ABA,” to be held in the southern Indian IT city of Bangalore on September 23–25. Conference conveners Svetlana Iyer and Tasneem Hegde are busy with preparations for an exciting event, which will include presentations on original research in the field. Participants from across the globe have shown interest and will travel to India to present original research papers, posters, and workshops. We welcome all colleagues and leaders in the field of behavior analysis to support our initiatives and dissemination efforts.

ABA of Italy

BY PAOLO MODERATO AND FRANCESCO POZZI

The Istituto Europeo per lo Studio del Comportamento Umano (IESCUM) is an Italian chapter of ABAI and was established to translate into specific actions a vision of science in Italy, both on the experimental and on the applied side. Since its constitution, IESCUM has been committed to promoting the full range of behavior analytic scientific and humanistic potential. From this premise, IESCUM committed to the training, development, and evaluation of behavior analysis in clinical settings. Experiential trainings in clinical behavior analysis, in acceptance and commitment therapy, and in functional assessment procedures with scholars and professionals like Kelly Wilson, Linda Hayes,

and Shahla Ala'i-Rosales have been offered in Italy in the last year through IESCUM. The dissemination of a sound culture in applied behavior analysis (ABA) has been carried out institutionally through a 2-year postgraduate BACB-approved coursework, organized in partnership with Kore University in Enna, along with several 180-hour BACB-approved courses targeting operators whose aim is to become assistant behavior analysts.

IESCUM looks at its BACB-approved coursework as an opportunity to spread behavior analysis beyond the boundaries of autism treatment and has favored the development of an integrated model of intervention called the Italian Model of Early and Intensive Intervention for Autism (MIPIA). MIPIA is characterized by individual (tailor-made), early, intensive, integrated, inclusive, and sustainable programs. Although interventions are deployed in family homes, baseline assessment and program efficacy and effectiveness procedures of evaluation are centralized. This allows for the creation of a homogeneous environment both for clinical and research goals. Though we may speak of a “virtual” structure, in the absence of a specific building in a specific location, the model of the project and the association behind it may represent a feasible way to spread ABA intervention procedures and models throughout a wide territory while maintaining a high quality of service within the spirit of BACB standards of quality. This model includes designing and delivering ABA interventions to children and their families, but also uses clinical behavior analysis to train and support tutors and consultants, as well as the families of the children, in an integrated and clinically comprehensive fashion.

IESCUM organized the 11th International Congress on Behavior Studies in Milan, Italy in 2014. The title of the congress, “Behavior Science and Policy,” reflected the interest in applying behavioral science to social issues and social policies. The congress set the occasion for the foundation of the first Italian nudge unit, Nudge Italia (www.nudgeitalia.it), and the presentation of TEN, The European Nudge Network.

In 2016, IESCUM is hosting the Eighth Conference of the European Association for Behavior Analysis. The congress will be in Enna, at Kore University, September 14–17 and will see the participation of many international representatives of the behavioral research fields. Information about the congress is available at www.europeanaba.org.

In 2017 IESCUM, in partnership with ACT-Italia, is organizing the first Italian conference on third-generation behavior therapies. More information about the conference will be published on our website.

All of these actions have been developed under and with the supervision of IESCUM, working as an umbrella organization, and are detailed at www.iescum.org.

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Alabama ABA

BY PAIGE MCKERCHAR

The Alabama Association for Behavior Analysis (ALABA) is a scientific and professional organization that embraces the principles and practices of behavior analysis. Its goals are to promote research that will advance the understanding of behavior, and to identify and promote the use of effective and humane behavioral procedures that meet individuals' educational and habilitative needs. In addition, ALABA strives to serve as a resource for political, legislative, and policy-making bodies in Alabama in ways that support the scientific and professional interests of behavior analysts.

Each fall, ALABA's Executive Committee hosts workshops, keynote addresses, and paper presentations lead by behavior analysts from across the nation and by active researchers and practitioners from within our state. Furthermore, we offer members opportunities to gather with former schoolmates, colleagues, and friends while also networking with new professionals who often become important colleagues and collaborators. The annual convention is particularly important because it offers our state's Board Certified Behavior Analysts a local opportunity to earn continuing education credits—we provided 759.5 CEUs to 87 members this year. Last year's convention was October 7–9 at the DoubleTree Hotel in Birmingham. Forty-seven members attended workshops, which included “Developing Skill Acquisition Programs Using the Assessment of Functional Living Skills (AFLS) in Home, School, and Community” by Ashlie Walker and “Ethical Considerations for Behavior Analysts Working With Children With Developmental Disabilities” by Dr. Alice Shillingsburg. Attendance at the two-day, one-track presentation portion of the convention was the highest it's been in almost a decade: 177 attendees. The keynote addresses emphasized research in verbal behavior training for children with developmental disabilities; Dr. Shillingsburg presented “Assessing and Programming for Emergence of Verbal Behavior in Children With ASD and Language Delays,” and Dr. Tiffany Kodak presented “Assessment-Based Intervention for Receptive Identification Training.” Member-submitted presentations stressed methods for increasing eye contact, social skills training, choice making, responding to facial expressions, kinesiology and ABA, and behavioral approaches to college math remediation. Additionally, the president-elect, Sacha Pence delivered her presidential address “Considerations With Training Behavior-Analytic Skills to Staff.”

Congratulations to the new president-elect, April Rapp, and student-at-large, Odessa Luna. The 2016 Executive Committee, which also includes Sacha Pence, Sara Bicard, Ashlie Walker, Sabrina Franks, Ryan Zayac, and Sarah Haygood, is preparing for the 25th annual convention, to

be held October 5–7 at the DoubleTree in Birmingham. Please visit www.alabamaaba.com for more information and to register.

In legislative news, the Alabama Behavior Analyst Licensing Board is strengthening its licensure statute and working on the rules and regulations. Although they are anxious to begin issuing licenses after initially passing legislation in spring of 2014, they are grateful that they will have a well-developed system in place before doing so. The ALABA executive director worked closely with legislators to assist Autism Speaks's efforts to bring insurance reform to Alabama—a long overdue change. Families of individuals with autism have been very patient, and the state's Board Certified Behavior Analysts continue to offer remarkable services despite limited funding sources—special thanks to all!

Alaska ABA

BY RACHEL L. WHITE

Greetings from the Land of the Midnight Sun! The Alaska Association for Behavior Analysis (AKABA) was formed in January 2014 and became affiliated with ABAA in March 2016. AKABA is a nonprofit organization with a goal to promote the science and theory of behavior analysis through the support of research, education, and practice. Though small, AKABA is a growing and determined organization.

AKABA membership is open to all persons interested or actively engaged in behavior analysis and consists of Full, Affiliate, and Student members. Full membership is appropriate for any individual holding a graduate degree in a discipline directly related to or involving behavior analysis and whose professional commitment includes teaching, research, and/or practice in behavior analysis. Affiliate membership is appropriate for any individual evidencing interest in the discipline of behavior analysis. Student membership is appropriate for any individual pursuing formal training in the discipline of behavior analysis, but not yet gainfully employed therein on at least a half-time basis.

Membership benefits include low-cost CEUs, discounted registration for the annual Behavioral Sciences Conference of the North at the University of Alaska Anchorage, access to a private members-only online forum, and updates on legislation and other events related to the practice and research of behavior analysis in Alaska. Visit the website (www.alaskabehavior.org) for current events, news, and membership information.

AKABA holds quarterly membership meetings and offers continuing education opportunities throughout the year. In 2015, AKABA hosted Bobby Newman, Ph.D., BCBA-D, for a presentation called “20 Do and Don't Strategies for Sex Education for People With Autism Spectrum Disorder” that drew in both behavior analysts and community members. Last year was also the first time that Alaska had a professional license for practicing behavior

analysts. AKABA helped to disseminate information from the state to our members as the process of obtaining licensure was gaining momentum.

The focus for AKABA in 2016 is dissemination of behavior analytic information to members of the behavior analysis community and beyond. AKABA will be launching its first newsletter and expanding opportunities for its members to connect with each other.

Arizona ABA

BY JOSEPH GENTRY

The Arizona Association for Behavior Analysis (AZABA), founded only a few short years ago, has been regularly growing and continues to be very busy this year. The association has added 21 new members, for a total of 134 full members. We have opened our membership to students as well, as we have more and more interest from students who have started a new ABA program at Arizona State University. Our growth has increased the need for more communication to, and between, our members, and AZABA has started a number of changes to accomplish this task. First, we increased the publication of our association newsletter from quarterly to monthly and now include regular updates from each of our committees. We have also started using social media more effectively. Finally, we have started to regularly update our website for more immediate communication with members.

Our five committee chairs, including the program committee chair, have started to hold quarterly socials to share their progress and attract possible new committee members. This year, we have added group sponsorships, allowing larger agencies to be able to support AZABA while also providing free chapter memberships to all their employees. Sponsors receive free space in the monthly newsletter to advertise and highlight their agency as well as reduced rates on AZABA workshops and conferences. Sponsors also have the option to hold a social hour during the month of their choosing to highlight and promote their organization, giving members another opportunity to meet and socialize.

This year AZABA had a great turnout at our annual conference, with approximately 130 people in attendance; we were able to collaborate with another agency to offer CEUs to our members. AZABA also held two pre-conference workshops for members, one on TAGteach and the other on family-centered interventions. Recently, we sponsored another local workshop on precision teaching and standard celeration charting. Due to the higher number of local workshops we are able to put together, AZABA is currently planning on applying to become an ACE provider ourselves. Finally, as we continue to grow, the Executive Committee has realized the need to update the chapter's bylaws. To this end, we have successfully applied for pro bono work assistance from a local nonprofit attorney. We look forward to having members vote on these changes at our upcoming annual meeting.

Our Legislative Committee has been working closely with the Board of Psychology Examiners, which licenses behavior analysts in Arizona, in an advisory role pertaining to subjects related to behavior analysis. A small group of AZABA members have also joined an interdisciplinary committee made up of psychologists and behavior analysts throughout Arizona with the goal of building relationships between the two groups of professionals. Behavior analysis in Arizona continues to grow and become standard practice throughout the entire state, and AZABA looks forward to further growth and being able to support our wonderful BCBA's, BCaBA's, and RBT's.

Arkansas ABA

BY SHEILA K. BARNES

The Arkansas Association for Behavior Analysis (ArkABA) is excited to rejuvenate our organization! We currently have 21 members following years of dormancy. ArkABA is a nonprofit professional membership organization devoted to developing, supporting, and enhancing behavior analysis through research, education, and practice.

The mission of ArkABA is the advancement of the science and application of behavior analysis. We are committed to promoting research, education, and practice based on the principles of behavior analysis. ArkABA strives to disseminate knowledge from the science of behavior analysis to the public and to professional behavior analysts.

The first meeting was held at the annual Autism Symposium, March 10–11, 8:30 am–4 pm at the Hilton Garden Inn in Fayetteville. ArkABA had a table at the symposium and we recruited new members. The ArkABA president, Dr. Sheila Barnes; president elect, Jennifer Kirby; and vice president, Beth McKee, presented a session for BCBA's on ethics and professional responsibilities for BCBA CEUs.

The first annual ArkABA Conference will be October 21, 2016. We are pleased to announce the keynote speaker will be SungWoo Kahng. Reservations can be made by calling 479-926-HOPE (479-926-4673) or by following the link on the ArkABA homepage.

We would also like to take this opportunity to announce a call for papers. ArkABA program proposals are now invited from ArkABA members, student members, and affiliate members interested in experimental and applied behavior analysis. The ArkABA conference is a time for everyone in Arkansas interested in behavior analysis to hear from leading figures in our field and share our activities of the last year with each other. A successful and interesting conference depends on presentations and participation by our members, so please consider contributing. Submissions can be made via the ArkABA website (www.arkaba.org). The deadline for all submissions is September 1, 2016.

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ArkABA is also pleased to report that we are in the process of becoming an Approved Continuing Education provider. We anticipate being able to offer up to six CEUs for BCBA's and BCaBA's at the annual conference.

Association for the Advancement of Radical Behavior Analysis

BY ALESSANDRO VALDINA

It has been a year full of commitments and satisfactions for Association for the Advancement of Radical Behavior Analysis (AARBA); we are happy to share our experience with other ABAA chapters because we think that by sharing our strategies and successes we are reinforced, we learn lessons, we instill hope, and we are instilled with hope.

The Ninth European Conference on Behavior-Based Safety (Bologna, Italy, October 13–14, 2015) and Other Events

The Ninth European B-BB Conference took place in Bologna October 13–14, 2015. The main theme was “Organizational Behavior Management: The Scientific Way to Manage Whole Companies With Measurable Results,” and cover efforts to disseminate behavior analysis techniques as the only tools to improve work behaviors in safety, management, quality, and productivity.

The president of the Italian Republic gave his endorsement to the conference, sending an opening message.

AARBA hosted Michael McCarthy (Sustain Your Gains Consulting), Terry McSweeney (Quality Safety Edge), and Ron Van Houten (Western Michigan University), who were able to gather more than 400 attendees, including CEOs, HSE managers, HR managers, consultants, students, researchers, teachers, therapists, and more.

The next sessions took place in Milan June 24–25, 2016, as part of the 12th Applied Behavior Analysis Conference, organized by AARBA and the Italian Association of Behavior Analysis and Modification (AIAMC), which was held in Milan, Italy, June 24–25, 2016. The conference was divided into four sessions on different applications of ABA to civil society: clinical/medical psychology, educational psychology, behavioral dentistry (for patient compliance), and organizational behavior management. ABAA's past president, Martha Hübner, and CEO, Maria Malott were among those present.

In 2015, AARBA also participated in a couple of conferences at two exhibitions in Bologna: one dedicated to cooperation between companies, organized by the local Confederation of Industries (FaRETE, September 2015) and one dedicated to occupational safety and health (Ambiente Lavoro, October 2015).

A Company Achieved the First BBS Certification by Complying the Rigid AARBA-CCBS Requirements

Alstom Grid Italia has a plant of about 50 blue-collar workers in eastern Italy, close to Venice, and they have been running a behavior-based safety process since 2012, with remarkable results in terms of behavior enhancement and very low index of accident frequency and severity.

At the end of 2015, they achieved the first European BBS Certification after a 3-day auditing visit performed by RINA (one of the main certification bodies in Italy and Europe) and AARBA specialists. This certification states publicly the consistency of a BBS process with principles of behavior and the results achieved; this focus on results and on effectiveness—and not only on process activities—is an important novelty element in the world of managing system certification, usually committed to examining only the coherency with a bureaucratic standard.

This BBS certification is the last step of a path begun in 2012–2013, when AARBA and the Cambridge Center for Behavioral Studies developed the “Behavior-Based Safety Requirements” document that describes operationally what a company should do and should achieve in order to declare to their stakeholders that they care about occupational safety with an evidence-based effective method, in other words, BBS. This certification is the first step to export the CCBS accreditation approach successfully implemented in USA.

BBS as a Best Practice: The Way to Get a Discount on Occupational Safety Insurance Premiums

AARBA aims for Italian State Occupational Insurance (INAIL) to discount insurance premiums for companies that run a complete and effective BBS process in their facilities. With the help of a 300-employee salami producer based in central Italy that implemented BBS in 2015, AARBA is presenting their BBS case studies as best practices in the field of occupational safety to the Italian Labor Ministry. Even if hundreds of experiments demonstrate the BBS effectiveness, the Italian Labor Ministry and INAIL require that a commission establish which practices deserve a discount because of the effectiveness of safety indices. In the second half of 2016, we hope to learn whether our effort have been valuable, after the commission evaluation.

Preserving the Integrity of Behavior Analysis Interventions by Improving Knowledge, Skills, and Expertise of Italian Behavior Analysts

The Academic Master Course in ABA—created in 2012 by Parma University in collaboration with TICE and AARBA—is active, with the aim to educate psychologists and other specialists on behavior analysis principles applied to educational, clinical, and organizational areas.

The president of AARBA, Prof. Fabio Tosolin, is also a member of the scientific committee of AIAMC.

In September 2014, AIAMC members voted him as president-elect of the association. His mission is to bring back professionals to adopt a rigorous scientific approach in their practice. His mandate ends in 2020. AIAMC has more than 2,500 members and 13 associated schools all over Italy, officially recognized by the Italian Ministry of University and Research. These schools may educate psychologists willing to practice psychotherapy, which is required for attending a 4-year, part-time specialization course. At the end of 2015, AARBA and AIAMC started to work with the educational committee of these schools to make their program recognized by ABAI and by the BACB.

AARBA is committed to teaching safety professionals how to train and motivate people's safe behaviors. In 2015–2016 we reached the 30th edition of the 80-hour Behavior-Based Safety Master Course, organizing three more editions, one in Rome for the naval section of the Italian Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport, one in Bologna with the local Confederation of Industries, and one in Milan organized independently by our association.

Grant in Memory of Ettore Caracciolo for Behavior Analysis Research

Since the death of Prof. Ettore Caracciolo, the pioneer of behavior analysis in Italy and founder of AARBA, our association established a grant in his memory to finance behavior analysis research. AARBA has assigned the 2015 grant to two researchers for a value of €10,000, funded by Prof. Silvia Perini, one of Caracciolo's first students. One researcher is committed to testing the efficacy of precision teaching for early detection of oral cancer; the other is dedicated to developing ABA-based an application for the maintenance of healthy behaviors in obese persons.

During the Ninth European Conference on Behavior-Based Safety the results of the two previous winners were presented: Arianna Gatti presented her work on promoting correct checklist use in general aviation with behavior analysis technology, while Gaia Arrigotti presented the incredible safety data obtained after 1 year of B-BS intervention for improving hygiene and safety behaviors in health facilities.

The Organizational Behavior Management Network's Outstanding Contribution Award to AARBA President

During the 2015 ABAI Convention in San Antonio, Texas, the president of AARBA, Prof. Tosolin, was awarded the Organizational Behavior Management Network's (OBMN) Outstanding Contribution Award. OBMN bestows this award to individuals or corporations who have made significant and measured contributions to the field of OBM and who are deserving of special recognition.

AARBA Became a Member of European Association for Behavior Analysis

In August 2015, AARBA became an organizational member of the European Association for Behavior Analysis, to strengthen its effort in spreading behavior analysis in Europe.

Association Française—Les Professionnels de l'Analyse du Comportement

BY DIANE FRASER

Association Française—Les Professionnels de l'Analyse du Comportement (AFLPA) began its third cohort this past September with six BCaBA candidates and five BCBA candidates. This is the first cohort with students from disciplines other than psychology. We have several teachers and two speech-language pathologists. We welcome both Christos Nikopoulos, BCBA-D, and Simon Dejarin, BCBA, AFLPA's new treasurer, to our teaching staff. We also welcome Cherice Caldwell, BCBA, as our new president. This third cohort will be actively preparing presentations for the European Association for Behaviour Analysis Conference in Sicily this coming September. As our alternate pathway extension will come to an end in December 2016, one of our most pressing projects is finding a university home. As universities in France have their own set of regulations, it is very difficult to locate a university home that meets BACB course requirements. This is why we are now looking to the USA for an affiliation. We hope to have an update on the status of this effort within the next few months.

Atlantic Provinces ABA

BY PAUL MCDONNELL, MARLENE BREITENBACH, SHELLEY MCLEAN, HOLLY SENIUK, SHERI GALLANT, AND EMILY FORESTALL

The Atlantic Provinces Association for Behaviour Analysis (APABA) began the journey as an official ABAI chapter in February 2014, so we are pleased to reflect on our second year. Given the somewhat daunting challenge of increasing membership across four Canadian provinces (New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island), one of our primary goals has been to find innovative ways to bring together academics, researchers, and practitioners for professional development, networking, and research endeavors. This year we have increased our membership from 44 in 2014 to 58 in 2015. Our chapter has been represented at the ABAI convention for the past two years (in Chicago and San Antonio) at the chapter training session, the Expo, a business meeting, and last year we initiated and hosted a lunch meeting for other Canadian chapters.

We have taken full advantage of the Internet to assist our efforts. Our awesome Communications Committee,

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led by Holly Seniuk, has provided us with a new website and Facebook page (www.atlanticprovincesaba.com; www.facebook.com/ABAAtlantic/) and guided us in the storage and sharing of our chapter documents in the cloud. Through the website, interested professionals can now apply for membership and register for online events and CEUs. This year we hope to be able to include online elections to facilitate that process as well as add a BehaviorBits blog to enhance public engagement. The blog is designed to communicate behavior ideas to the general public.

As an approved BACB CEU provider, APABA is actively working to create opportunities for professional development, both in person and via webinars. In June 2015, in partnership with the New Brunswick Department of Education, APABA provided CEUs for a full-day workshop in Moncton, New Brunswick by Dr. Greg Hanley, "Treatment and Prevention of Challenging Behavior." The evidence-based strategies shared by Dr. Hanley were inspiring and are starting to be shared and implemented here much more widely.

At our second Annual General Meeting in November in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, we had an opportunity to connect personally with members, share progress, and discuss new directions for the chapter. Increasing public engagement and awareness of ABA through our media connections was identified as a strong focus in the coming year. In addition, a new annual award was established and presented for the first time. This award recognizes individuals who have contributed significantly to the development and implementation of ABA in our region.

At the meeting, we were also honored to host Dr. Tony Biglan as our guest speaker for a webinar, "The Nurture Effect: How the Behavioral Sciences Can Improve Our Lives and Our World." Dr. Biglan was eloquent in describing how current research provides the framework we need to help families, schools, and communities create more positive outcomes. Dr. Biglan's presentation was interactive (no small feat via a webinar!) and spurred active discussion. We were pleased to provide CEUs to participants for this presentation. We are already looking forward to our next AGM in October 2016, when Dr. Linda LeBlanc will present "A Proposed Model for Selecting Measurement Procedures for the Assessment and Treatment of Problem Behavior."

On April 5, the APABA Education Committee hosted an online study group. The members have prioritized topics related to ethics for CEUs, and our first discussion was on "Ethics, Controversial Treatments, and Applied Behavior Analysis," a chapter by Dr. Peter Sturmey. We are looking forward to stimulating discussion and extend thanks to the Manitoba ABA chapter for their encouragement to try this form of continuing education.

Regional Updates

In our region, as well as across Canada, it is clear that government, and in particular the respective provincial Departments of Health and Education, are increasingly recognizing the need to have well-trained professionals supporting children and youth with special needs. Much of the growth in our region has focused on services for learners with autism; however, it is becoming clearer that other learners with complex needs also benefit from the support of professionals trained in ABA. As one indicator of the increase in capacity to provide these supports, we note that the number of BACB certified professionals has increased significantly across Canada and doubled in the region including in our chapter in just a few years (in Canada, from 496 in 2013 to 862 in 2016; in the Atlantic Region from 16 to 33).

In addition, all four Atlantic provinces are now participating in the recently established National Autism Surveillance System (NASS). This system, overseen federally by the Public Health Agency of Canada, will provide essential information about Canadian ASD prevalence and incidence rates. Accurate knowledge in this area will be invaluable in terms of the provinces' planning for resources to help children and families affected by ASD.

Several of our members are part of another organization having a significant impact in our region, the Autism in Education Atlantic Provinces Partnership. This advisory group, working under the auspices of the Atlantic Provinces Special Education Authority (APSEA), a collaboration of the four provinces, has been very active in promoting evidence-based approaches for students with disabilities. (<http://aie.apsea.ca/>). Recently this group developed a 40-hour online training, "ASD and Behavioural Intervention: An Introduction for School Personnel," which has been made available to resource teachers, classroom teachers, and educational assistants across the four provinces. The training is offered in both English and French as there is a significant francophone population in all four provinces. The good news is that more than 2,000 educators have completed the course in the first year! This will make a huge difference in classrooms around the Atlantic region.

Going Forward

While we hope to increase our numbers over the next few years, we feel encouraged by the progress thus far and appreciate the dedication of our members who support these efforts. We extend a very special thank you to those professionals who have been kind enough to share their expertise to support a chapter on the first steps of the road.

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Australian Association for Cognitive Behaviour Therapy

BY ROSS G. MENZIES

Our chapter has been focused on hosting the Eighth World Congress of Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies (WCBCT), which was held in Melbourne, June 22–25, 2016. Melbourne is Australia's first Olympic city, and is still considered the sporting, food, and shopping capital of "Oz." With its style and sophistication, the city is known for its distinct bohemian atmosphere and cultural charm. It's no surprise that this cosmopolitan treasure has been voted the "World's Most Livable City."

Our congress venue, the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre (MCEC), was the world's first "Six Green Star" environmentally rated center. It is fully integrated with the Hilton South Wharf Hotel and is nestled on the Yarra River with fabulous restaurants, bars, cafés, shops, hotels, and galleries. Notably, the MCEC is among the most centrally located large convention centers in the world. A simple stroll across the Yarra takes you directly into the heart of Melbourne.

The theme of the Eighth WCBCT is "Advances and Innovations in the Behavioural and Cognitive Therapies Across the World." We are seeking to showcase the latest and greatest developments in cognitive and behavioral procedures. We are particularly interested in research from emerging countries, and in regions where CBT has not been the dominant treatment modality in the past. We also invite delegates from beyond the traditional disciplines of mental health. CBT is not owned by any single profession—we want to hear about applications of the cognitive and behavioral sciences in experimental psychology, clinical psychology, psychiatry, nursing, social work, and a range of related areas in allied health and health policy. The Eighth WCBCT is an inclusive event and is relevant to all individuals and organizations that seek to apply cognitive and behavioral principles to help people change their lives.

We hope to bring together more than 4,000 practitioners, researchers, and policy specialists from around the world to discuss advances and innovations in the behavioral and cognitive therapies. The congress will provide delegates with a scientific program of global significance and regional relevance, and will aim to share ideas, upskill practitioners, inform researchers, and facilitate networking amongst the cognitive and behavioral therapy community. We live in exciting times with research outcomes, clinical and other applied expertise, and policy developments constantly augmenting our understanding of how best to help treat dysfunction and maximize well-being. The Eighth WCBCT will bring together the best practitioners, researchers, and thinkers in our domain. The scientific program will consist of:

- State-of-the-art keynote addresses by internationally renowned experts covering key areas within the cognitive and behavioral therapies
- Invited addresses by international experts on specific topics
- Symposia, both invited and submitted
- Panel discussions and forums with experts, invited and submitted
- How-to sessions of symposia length, invited and submitted
- A comprehensive program of full-day and half-day workshops presented by world-class practitioners
- Coverage of controversies in the cognitive and behavioral therapies, invited debates and panels
- Streams of individual papers highlighting specific topics of interest
- Short oral presentations and interactive poster sessions
- Specific invited and submitted streams highlighting issues in the cognitive and behavioral therapies, including policy developments in healthcare systems, the use of technologies, and working in multidisciplinary teams
- Visits to some of Melbourne's best-known research facilities

In addition to an outstanding scientific program, you can be assured of an exciting range of social events including dinners, dancing, wine tastings, and pre- and post-congress tours. We understand that for many delegates, Australia seems a long way to come. So be assured that we will do all we can to facilitate your trip "down under" by offering you an exceptional range of tour options direct from the congress website. We want you to see as much of Australia as you can when you come to visit us in 2016.

Finally, we wish to emphasize that the future of the cognitive and behavioral therapies rests in the minds of the young. So we make a special call to postgraduate students and early career researchers and clinicians—come and show us where you will take the field in the decades ahead. Come to Melbourne and make this the greatest meeting in the history of our disciplines. You can read more on the event at www.wcbct2016.com.au.

Behavior Analysis Association of Michigan

BY JAMES T. TODD

We are pleased to once again report the tremendous growth of behavior analysis in Michigan over the last year, and the many positive contributions of our members to the effective, ethical, and science-based treatment of problems associated with autism, traumatic brain injury, addiction, and other conditions—but also not forgetting the important work of those in organizational behavior management, behavioral medicine, education, behavioral research, university and college instruction, animal training, and other areas.

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A few years ago there were about 90 BCBA's and BCaBA's in Michigan. Now, there are now almost 400. That number supplements the many behavior analysts already credentialed as master's and doctoral-level clinical psychologists, and those working in other fields.

The 30th annual convention of the Behavior Analysis Association of Michigan (BAAM) was an incredible success. It was held February 18–19, 2016 at the Student Center on the campus of Eastern Michigan University (EMU). We had more than 600 attendees. Attendance was up by about 80 from the 2015 conference, which itself saw an increase by about 100 from 2014. The 600-plus attendees came from more than two dozen universities and colleges, more than a dozen states, and two Canadian provinces. The rising attendance figure is even more impressive when we consider that the Michigan Autism Conference, offered in September by our friends at Western Michigan University, is also growing and attracts about the same number of attendees as BAAM does.

In addition to the record attendance, BAAM had a record number of submissions, presentations, and posters—expanding the conference to five tracks over two days. Sessions had to be booked in the largest rooms available in the Student Center, and some were, unfortunately, so full that some attendees had to be turned away. We hope to expand the number of sessions again next year, and plan to offer some of the more popular sessions twice, once on each day, to accommodate demand. We are especially grateful to Dick Malott and his students at Western Michigan University for their poster presentations and enthusiastic participation.

Many local and regional agencies sent staff and administrators, reflecting the expansion of behavior analysis opportunities in the state. The growing participation of faculty and students from Central Michigan University, Michigan State University, and Oakland University did not go unnoticed. We were pleased to be able offer some space in our schedule and poster session to our friends in related areas of clinical and applied intervention. BAAM appreciates and recognizes the work of others who do good science-based, empirical investigations of behavior.

BAAM scheduled all regular sessions in meeting rooms overlooking EMU's Lake House area. We extend special thanks to the staff of the EMU Event Planning Office, especially Linda Moore, the Catering Department, and all the workers in the Student Center for their contributions to making the conference run smoothly. The support of the Eastern Michigan University Psychology Department, BAAM's sponsor, was again essential to our success. Special thanks to the Psychology Department Head, Carol (Keti) R. Freedman-Doan. As always, the BAAM staff and volunteers, led by EMU students Caitlyn Sorensen, Ambreen Shahabuddin, and Leanna Gonzales, did excellent work planning and managing the event.

BAAM once again had two keynote addresses. The Thursday keynote, "The Nurture Effect: How the Behavioral Sciences Can Improve Our Lives and Our World," was delivered by Anthony Biglan. Biglan's well-received presentation emphasized large-scale behavioral interventions and their importance in the modern era. The Friday keynote, "The Early Skills Assessment Tool," by Rebecca MacDonald of the New England Center for Children, described recent research on very early detection and treatment of autism.

The many other convention sessions are too numerous to list fully. Here is just a sampling: "The Theoretical, Philosophical, and Conceptual Evolution of Psychology," by Jay Moore (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee); "Applications of Behavior Analysis in School Settings: Lessons Learned Through Collaboration," by Jessica E. Frieder, Andrew Bulla, and Allaina Sheltrown (Western Michigan University); "Parental Impact of Child-Focused Autism Treatment," by Shelby Wilson, Nancy Howells Wrobel, and Justin W. Peer (University of Michigan-Dearborn); "The Value of Percentile Schedules as a Shaping Procedure: Explanation, Empirical Validation, and Technology for Applied Implementation," by Eric French, Robert D. Wyse, and Mark P. Reilly (Central Michigan University); "Acceptability of ABA Training in a Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Rehabilitation Center," by Rachel Armstrong, Claudia Drossel, Ted Allaire, and Matt Dwyer (Eastern Michigan University); "Decreasing Unsafe Lifting Techniques to Reduce Back Injuries in the Workplace," by Alexis Robinson and Emily Morris (Spark Center for Autism); "Differential Prediction of Alcohol Versus Drug Use Problems by Urgency and (Lack of) Premeditation," by Amy V. Paggeot, Renee A. Romer, Erica Szkody, and E. Julia Bush (Eastern Michigan University); "Autoclitics of Order and Syntactic Constructions," by Robert J. Dlouhy (Western Michigan University); and "What Behavior Analysts Should Know About IQ Testing in Children With Autism," by Carol R. Freedman-Doan and Kira Boneff (Eastern Michigan University). A full copy of the 2016 convention schedule is available on the BAAM website.

We had once again hoped to positively report on behavior analysis licensure in Michigan, which had passed the Michigan Senate 33–4, but could not pass the House in the final minutes of a lame-duck session. Now, in 2016, we are working with the office of Senator Rebekah Warren to reintroduce the bill, with the collaboration of Wayne Fuqua of Western Michigan University, Colleen Allen of the Autism Alliance of Michigan, Kimberly Gaedeke of Michigan's Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, and others from around the state. This bill is being given high priority. We especially appreciate the support of our friends in clinical psychology, and hope to help them on their bill to improve practice rules for licensed psychologists in Michigan. It is our desire to create legislation that brings needed protections for consumers of behavior analysis and provides for clarity of

practice scope between us and our friends in related mental health and behavioral treatment professions.

BAAM will hold its 31st annual convention February 16–17, 2017 in the Student Center on the EMU campus. BAAM intends to continue to offer a mix of basic, applied, and theoretical presentations and workshops. Online program submission and registration will again be available, as we look for even greater attendance and will add some new convention features to accommodate growth. For more information, visit the BAAM website at www.baam.emich.edu.

Behavior Analysis Association of Mississippi

BY DANIEL GADKE

The Behavior Analysis Association of Mississippi (BAAMS) serves to promote the science of behavior analysis and its associated technologies within the state of Mississippi. This includes acting as the scientific and professional reference group for those interested in behavior analysis in the state, promoting research, and identifying and promoting effective, humane, and ethical behavioral procedures to meet the needs of individuals. Additionally, BAAMS aims to advise in policy-making related to behavior analysis, host an annual convention, and disseminate a quarterly bulletin promoting research and technological achievements within the scope of behavior analysis.

BAAMS was established on February 7, 2015 by 32 founding members from across the state of Mississippi. Since the organization's inception, membership has more than doubled, with a current total of 77 members. Our original elected Executive Council included Dan Gadke (president), Carlen Henington (secretary), and Matthew Davison (treasurer). The first order of business was the creation and official approval of a constitution and bylaws, which were initially approved by membership in March 2015. The constitution and bylaws were updated and approved in their current form in August 2015. Shortly after the original constitution and bylaws were established, the rest of the Executive Council was formally elected, including Neelima Duncan (president-elect), Kate Kellum (ABAI representative), Keith Radley (APBA representative), Bailey King (region 1 representative), Sarah Studyvin (region 2 representative), Evan Dart (region 3 representative), Walt Chamberlain (region 4 representative), and Joy Wimberly (student representative).

In addition to formally adopting the constitution and bylaws, and electing an Executive Council, BAAMS was approved as a 501(c) (6) nonprofit organization by the Internal Revenue Service. BAAMS was also accepted as an affiliated chapter of ABAI and as an affiliate of APBA. Finally, BAAMS created a website featuring information on the chapter, its development over the past year, and membership: www.baams.org.

Legislatively, BAAMS formally endorsed Mississippi House Bill 885, which recognizes and legally protects the field of behavior analysis in the state of Mississippi. As a result of the passage of HB885, the Mississippi Autism Board, which licenses and regulates the practice of behavior analysis in the state, was formed. Individuals licensed by the board are able to bill insurance for behavior analysis-related services provided to individuals with autism spectrum disorder. Three members of BAAMS were appointed to the board in May of 2016: Drs. Kasee Stratton (secretary), James Moore (chair), and Emily Johnson. As of January 1, 2016, those meeting the minimum requirements in Mississippi can apply for licensure at <http://sos.ms.gov/autismboard/>.

Currently, BAAMS is working on becoming an Approved Continuing Education provider through the Behavior Analyst Certification Board. We hope to provide regional opportunities for continuing education units in the near future. Additionally, BAAMS is preparing to host its first annual convention in March 2017, which is being coordinated by Executive Council members Keith Radley and Kate Kellum. Please check out the website for additional news and planning as the convention unfolds. We look forward to growing as an organization, providing services to our membership, and supporting the expansion of behavior analysis in Mississippi in the year ahead!

Behaviour Analysis in Ireland

BY JENNIFER HOLLOWAY

Conference Reviews 2015–2016

The Ninth Annual Conference of the Division of Behavior Analysis (DBA), Psychological Society of Ireland for 2015 was a huge success. The event took place in the Galway Bay Hotel on April 17–18, 2015. The DBA are delighted that this meeting is growing in attendance year by year. As in previous years, the meeting was well supported by the behavior analysis community, with leading experts from Ireland and the US.

Ninth Annual Conference in Galway

The conference was well attended by academics, clinicians, and students from Ireland and Europe. The conference opened Friday, April 17 with two workshops, one led by Professor Brian Iwata (University of Florida) titled, "Clinical Challenges for Functional Analysis Methodology" and one led by Professor Julian Leslie (Ulster University) titled, "Applying Behaviour Analysis to Sustainability." This was followed by refreshments and a poster session, which showcased a wide array of research undertaken by students from a variety of Irish universities and who are currently enrolled in behavior analysis courses. The evening was drawn to a close with a social event.

The second day consisted of a series of three parallel sessions, with a wide variety of both experimental and applied research. Presentations were of extremely high

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quality and covered a diverse range of topics. They included “Applications of Behaviour Analysis in Special Schools,” “Teaching Skills for School,” “Evidence-Based Practice and ‘Non-Evidence-Based Practice,’” and “Relational Frame Theory and Behavioural Fluency.” Sessions were interspersed with two keynote speeches, from Professor Peter Killeen (Arizona State University), “The Four Causes of ADHD”; and Professor Brian Iwata (University of Florida), “Continuing Controversy Over Shock.” The second day was drawn to a close by a panel discussion chaired by Denis O’Hora (National University of Ireland, Galway). Dr. O’Hora invited questions from the audience and engaged both the panel and audience in a lively discussion on various current topics in behavior analysis in Ireland.

Other Events

In addition to the annual conference, the DBA also hosted two workshops offering continuing education credits. The first was hosted by Rita Honan on supervision requirements of the BACB on November 28, allowing members to fulfill their BCBA requirement for training in supervision. This offered board certified behavior analysts the opportunity to discuss issues in ethics in practice and supervision of trainee behavior analysts. For the second, Dr. Rick Kubina made his first trip to Europe to host workshops on March 10 and March 12 at the National University of Ireland, Galway and Trinity College, Dublin. The workshop was entitled “Precision Teaching: Reaching Every Learner by Adapting to How They Each Learn Best!” and was designed for behavior analysts, teachers, and parents to get a better understanding of how to use precision teaching within the classroom, home, or learning environment.

Professional Accreditation for Behavior Analysts Within the Psychological Society of Ireland

For the last few years, the DBA have been working with the Psychological Society of Ireland (PSI) toward the professional recognition of behavior analysts across the country. This work focused on outlining the core competencies deemed necessary for professional recognition of behavior analysts within the PSI. The DBA believe that this is a crucial step, and that achieving this recognition will lead to a better standing for behavior analysts within schools and services across Ireland. Accreditation of postgraduate professional programs in behavior analysis was identified as the next step.

In December 2015, a subcommittee of the DBA was formed in order to develop guidelines for the assessment of postgraduate professional programs in behavior analysis. The subcommittee has met on three occasions in order to develop a document for submission to PSI. A meeting was also held with Toni Morrissey (chief executive officer, PSI) to discuss the process of pursuing accreditation for behavioral psychology courses. The document was finalized and

submitted to the CEO for approval. Achieving accreditation will ensure that graduates will have greater recognition of their professional specialization in Ireland.

Upcoming Events

In the coming year, DBA intends to host its 10th Annual Conference at the National University of Ireland, Maynooth and are delighted to have amongst their speakers Dr. Jon Bailey (Florida State University), Professor Peter Sturmey (Queen’s College, City University of New York), and Professor Gregory Madden (Utah State University). The DBA we will continue in our endeavor to make significant progress toward having behavior analysis recognized as a professional specialization in Ireland.

DBA Membership

PSI is the body representing professional psychologists in Ireland. The DBA represents recognized qualified professionals in the science of behavior analysis. Those wishing to apply for membership must be members of PSI and hold a postgraduate qualification in behavior analysis recognized by the Division Committee. Relevant experience will also be considered. Membership application forms can be found on the PSI website:

www.psychologicalsociety.ie/division-behavior-analysis.

Berkshire Association for Behavior Analysis and Therapy

BY ALAN HARCHIK

The Berkshire Association for Behavior Analysis and Therapy (BABAT) is New England’s primary membership association for behavior analysts. Our website is babat.org.

Annual Conference

The chapter’s 36th annual conference was October 14–16, 2015. The BABAT conference, the nation’s oldest regional behavior analysis conference, is one of the largest and most well regarded behavior analysis conferences in the US.

Last year’s conference was again sold out, with more than 1,100 professionals in attendance. We expanded the conference to offer a day of advanced workshops, entitled The Behavior Analyst Master Series, taught by internationally recognized experts in ABA, including Brian Iwata, Dennis Reid, Charles Catania, Mark Sundberg, Darnell Lattal, Greg Hanley, and William Ahearn. The series was well attended, and we are already developing our line-up for 2016. The conference also included an online continuing education management tool that was well received by attendees.

The results of our most recent online survey regarding the 2015 conference were overwhelmingly positive and affirmed recent changes in the conference’s structure and offerings that were, in part, based on previous feedback from attendees. Overall, the BABAT Board views the

current and previous results as continued evidence that the annual BABAT conference is one of the top behavior analytic conferences.

Planning is well underway for the 37th Annual BABAT Conference, to be held October 12–14, 2016, at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. We plan to continue to offer opportunities to earn continuing education credits from the BACB and APA.

Student Awards

BABAT is proud to hold three annual student research competitions to support the exemplary research of students of behavior analysis. We applaud the many students from around the country who submitted outstanding projects and proposals to the competitions this year. The review process is rigorous, and we are grateful for the service of esteemed researchers from around the country who served as reviewers. Congratulations to our winners.

- Amy J. Henley (University of Kansas; Florence DiGennaro-Reed, advisor) was the winner of the Eighth Annual BABAT Student Paper Competition.
- Casey Dipsey (Caldwell University; Jason Vladescu, advisor) won the BABAT/B. F. Skinner Foundation Student Research Award.
- Zoe Newman (New England Center for Children, Western New England University; Allen Karsina, advisor) was awarded the BABAT/B. F. Skinner Foundation Student Poster Award.

Legislative Activity

Licensing in Massachusetts has been progressing rapidly. Since Governor Baker's office provided final approval of the behavior analyst licensing regulations, nearly 1,000 persons have become licensed to practice applied behavior analysis. Applications for licensure were made available in June 2015, and grandfathering will remain in place for the 24 months from when the applications were released. During grandfathering, BACB-credentialed persons qualify for licensure as long as their certification status is in good standing, they pass a background check, appropriately fill out the applications, and pay the application and licensing fees. Following grandfathering, the coursework, supervision, and examination requirements are closely aligned with the BACB standards.

The New England Behavior Analyst

BABAT recently sent out its 10th semi-annual newsletter, *The New England Behavior Analyst*, to more than 1,000 members. The newsletter provides our membership with important updates on legislative matters, conference highlights, student award winners, reflections on recent trends in the literature, and upcoming events for behavior analysts in New England. It is available on our website.

BABAT Social

The fifth annual BABAT Social was held April 14, 2016. The event was an opportunity for New England behavior analysts to gather in an intimate setting to socialize, network, and receive updates on our field. It's also a fun night out with colleagues and other local behavior analysts. BABAT members from more than 35 New England schools and agencies attended. Our invited speaker was Dr. Peter Gerhardt. BCBA attendees qualified for 1.0 CE unit.

Bermuda ABA

BY ERICA SMITH, THEA FURBERT, EMMA MARTIN, AND NATASHA PEDRO-PETTY

It was a milestone year in Bermuda for the ABA profession in 2015. Through the continued partnership with Tomorrow's Voices–Bermuda Autism Early Intervention Centre, Bermuda's first and only autism early intervention center, Bermuda ABA (BABA) has seen growth in its members' skills, experiences, and numbers.

The 2015 growth in the awareness and use of ABA in Bermuda was directly linked to the development and continued sustainability of Tomorrow's Voices. Over its eight years of existence, the clinical center has hired and trained 32 staff in the use of ABA/VB, not to mention the dozens of parents, volunteers, students, educators, and allied health professionals trained through workshops, seminars, and internships. The formation of BABA in the fall of 2011 was due in part to the ongoing work by Tomorrow's Voices. BABA's membership in 2015 grew to 12; 2015 goals were to:

- Sustain the members we have while growing the profession of ABA/VB in Bermuda.
- Increase BABA membership.
- Lobby local insurance companies for coverage of ABA/VB services.
- Continue to influence public policy and legislation in Bermuda.
- Provide continuing professional development for educators, allied health professionals, parents, and the wider community.

The partnership between Tomorrow's Voices and BABA continued and led to the following training workshops and seminars being presented by BABA members in 2015 in subjects related to ABA and disability issues:

- February 7: Tomorrow's Voices Autism Centre: Overview of Behavioral Services
- February 17: Strategies to Assist Parents in Working With Their Children on the Spectrum
- March 18: Tomorrow's Voices Autism Centre: Who Are We?
- April 15: In Touch With Autism
- April 30: Natural Environment Teaching and Effective Teaching Procedures

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- May 21: Managing Challenging Behaviors and Effectively Working With Groups
- September 23: ABA: Autism and Beyond
- October 25: Daily Living Skills: Moving Towards Independence
- November 27: Introduction to Verbal Behavior Analysis

Continuing the partnership with Tomorrow's Voices, 2016 planned workshops and seminars will focus on the following topics:

- February 2016: Skills Generalization: What Does This Really Mean?
- April 2016: Early Learning Skills and Challenging Behaviors
- June 2016: Why Play and Using Technology as an Effective Teaching Tool
- September 2016: Intrinsic Motivation (Part 1): Does It Exist! Exploring History and Theory
- November 2016: Intrinsic Motivation (Part 2): Using What We've Learnt Practical Application

Tomorrow's Voices and BABA led the way with regards to growing the ABA profession in Bermuda. BABA members met with Ministry of Education officials to discuss partnership and cross-agency collaboration with Tomorrow's Voices and continued to influence public policy. BABA members currently serve on the ASD taskforce.

BABA member Ms. Natasha Pedro-Petty gained her Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) designation in May 2015, making her one of only three BCBAs in Bermuda and the first Bermudian to achieve this certification. BABA member Emma Martin, BCBA, was a contributing author to two books published in September 2015: *TrainABA Supervision Curriculum BCBA Reference Manual* and *TrainABA Supervision Curriculum BCBA Independent Fieldwork* (by Benjamin Theisen, Zach Bird, and Jason Zeigler). She contributed 12 sections in total to both books, including sections on reinforcement, how to define behavior in observable and measurable terms, how to evaluate changes in level, trend and variability, and what determinism is.

Additionally, there has been marked growth in the interest to become board certified as behavior analysts, as currently there are two members in Bermuda (Tomorrow's Voices staff) studying to achieve this designation.

BABA members participated in Tomorrow's Voices open house hosting visits from key members of the public including the Minister of Health, Seniors and Environment and the Minister of Education. Throughout the year they worked at information booths at two community events and participated in the UN International Day of Persons with Disabilities

BABA members and Tomorrow's Voices partnered with Autism Speaks, the largest autism advocacy organization in the world, to work on getting applied behavior analysis

covered by health insurance in Bermuda. Through assistance from Mrs. Lorri Shealy Unumb, Vice President, State Government Affairs, a proposal was submitted for ABA to be covered under the Bermuda Standard Health Benefits to the Bermuda Health Council (BHEC) in August 2015. Although the application was not successful, we will continue to lobby the BHEC, insurers, and government to bring this basic right to families caring for children with ASD.

Anyone interested in becoming a member of BABA or finding out more information should contact Erica Smith at 297-4342 or info@tomorrowsvoices.bm.

Brazilian ABA

BY BRAZILLIAN ABA BOARD

Since its establishment in 2013, the Brazilian Association for Behavior Analysis (Associação Brasileira de Análise do Comportamento; ACBr) has been working to promote behavior analysis teaching and practice in Brazil. Per the association's statute, the chapter's purpose is "...to promote nationally the study and dissemination of the cultural matrix known as Behavior Analysis, in its contemporary verbal practices, as they are presented in journals published under the auspices of the national and international communities of behavior analysts."

Some accomplishments of ACBr so far were its approval as the first associate chapter of ABAAI and the establishment of task forces to answer specific demands of behavior analysts in Brazil, such as the elaboration of materials to support the teaching of basic behavioral principles and documents to promote applied behavior analysis in Brazil (especially the treatment of individuals diagnosed with autism). Those efforts, combined with an intense routine for internal organization, helped to establish ACBr's role as an independent entity working in collaboration with other organizations in psychology and behavior analysis in Brazil, namely, the Brazilian Association for Behavioral Psychology and Medicine (Associação Brasileira de Psicologia e Medicina Comportamental) and the Brazilian Society of Psychology (Sociedade Brasileira de Psicologia).

In 2015, ACBr invested in a continuing education agenda. Among other services, ACBr offered support for events promoted by behavior analytic graduate programs and organized online talks by prominent national and international scholars on diverse subjects such as applied animal behavior, behavior principles, and autism treatment. It is worth noting that each talk was affordable for our student members and the community in general (less than \$5 each).

We have started 2016 with the renewal of our Board of Trustees, the inauguration of the current president (Dr. Fábio Baia), and the election of the future president (Dr. Raquel Aló). With the support of those past contributions and the recently vested team, ACBr has new energy and is looking forward to further growth. Soon, the association will have a more user-friendly website, with new tools

for members, such as discussions forums, a newsletter, continuing education materials, and job opportunities.

ACBr has many other goals for 2016. As the association always appreciates active participation of student members, we are looking for student leaders and are committed to helping them implement local projects across Brazil, aimed at strengthening behavior analysis among beginning students and supporting their first steps.

It's also part of ACBr's plan for 2016 to organize its first annual convention. In keeping with the association's mission, the convention will be fully online, so we can expand access for members and nonmembers. That is just part of the effort to further applied and basic research networks, which is one of ACBr's main goals. In Brazil, behavior analysis meetings, symposia, and conventions are increasing. They are usually promoted independently, by different groups and associations, and have, mostly, a local range. Beyond ACBr's own convention, we are interested in supporting these local events, enhancing their scientific quality, and disclosing behavior analysis' verbal practices.

British Columbia ABA

BY HEIDI ST. PIERRE

BC-ABA has finished another successful year. We had seven positions up for election this year, four of which were contested. We distributed 335 ballots and a total of 113 members, or 33% of our membership (both full and student members), participated in voting.

Our organization also continues to be financially healthy, largely in part to our highly successful annual conference and partnership with other local autism education agencies to offer continuing education credits for BCBAs. We held our eighth annual conference this year and were privileged to have Dr. Ron Van Houten as our keynote speaker. In addition to the keynote address at our main conference, Dr. Van Houten also presented a pre-conference workshop on behavior analysis and traffic safety. We had 97 people attend the pre-conference workshop and 222 people attend the conference. We were also able to offer continuing education credits at three other events offered in partnership with a local autism education agency. Additionally, we sponsored a one-day workshop, presented by Ron Martella and Nancy Marchand-Martella, on classroom instruction and behavior management strategies in the classroom.

BC-ABA has also been working to increase the benefits of membership with the organization beyond discounted conference rates and affordable continuing education offerings. We continue to offer our members access to the *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, the *Journal of the Experimental Analysis of Behavior*, *Behavior Analysis in Practice*, *The Behavior Analyst*, *The Analysis of Verbal Behavior*, and *The Psychological Record*.

Our membership and public relations committees have been working diligently to increase our exposure both by

continued development of our website and increasing our presence on social media such as Facebook. Additionally, several members of the membership committee have presented to local university classes and attended community events such as the Autism Speaks walk to increase our community exposure and recruit new members. Our Student Representatives have organized a Student Alliance that consists of four representatives from local colleges and universities. They are working to organize student-specific events as well as put together a resource of undergraduate and graduate programs in ABA and potential funding sources for current and potential students.

Finally, BC-ABA has had several preliminary meetings with the College of Psychologists of BC regarding partnering with them to create a licensure category for behavior analysts in the province. The federal government in Canada is currently asking provincial licensing boards to increase the licensure categories for master's-level providers to increase access to psychological services, and thus the college is currently motivated to explore licensure for behavior analysts. They have been very collaborative and have been using the BACB's model licensure act as guidance for defining behavior analytic activities. We have worked with them to put together a joint proposal outlining the preliminary steps of regulation, which has been released to our membership. We will be working with them to pursue regulation for behavior analysts with a goal timeline of late 2016. We have been successful in developing a positive working relationship with the college and look forward to continued collaboration.

BC-ABA would like to thank all of its board and committee members, both past and present, for their hard work and dedication to the organization and their commitment to advancing the practice of behavior analysis within the province of British Columbia.

For membership inquiries, upcoming events, and other useful information please visit our website. www.bc-aba.org.

California ABA

BY LISA STODDARD

CalABA is looking forward to the many exciting events, opportunities, and challenges on the horizon. Consistent among our mission, vision, and core values is the cultivation of an informed and engaged membership. With this in mind, we are very excited to share some of the new things in store for our members—ways to engage with each other and stay informed about the important developments in our science and field.

The New CalABA.org

If you haven't checked out our website lately, there's no time like the present! Members will find not only information about our annual conference (<https://calaba.org/conference-2016/121>), but can access up-to-the-minute

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updates on what's happening in Sacramento (<https://calaba.org/news.aspx?year=2015>), get face-to-face with our board of directors (<https://calaba.org/board-of-directors/113>), find out how to get involved with CalABA projects and committees (<https://calaba.org/get-involved/195>), access California jobs in behavior analysis in our Career Center (<https://calaba.org/career-center/182>), and so much more. The new website will be dynamic and continue to grow both in content and design based on our members' needs and feedback. Furthermore, the website is a place we can all return to reconnect with our guiding principles (<https://calaba.org/about-us/1>).

Your Board in Action!

As we seek increased communication among the CalABA membership, we're thrilled to highlight an additional new section of the website: "Notes From the Board" (<https://calaba.org/notes-from-the-board/december-2015/3>). Following each quarterly board of directors meeting, look for highlights about upcoming initiatives, events, and other items your board is tackling, and find ways to get involved and have your voice heard.

Conference Chair Sarah Trautman-Eslinger reviewed the roll-out of the new CVENT registration and membership portal, which will make planning future conferences much smoother. In addition, CVENT will allow much easier tracking of CEUs (no more paper!). Last year's after party was a huge success, and we continued the fun this year at Pure Lounge in Sunnyvale on Friday the 26th. This year's luncheon was held in a huge room, so all who wanted to join the fun were able to do so. In addition, rooms sold out for the conference hotel!

Public Policy Chair Bryan Davey updated the board on the current status of California's behavior analyst licensure bill. As January began the new legislative session, we worked with a new author, assembly member Chris Holden of the 41st District, on the introduction of our new AB 1715. We will also be working directly with the governor's office to address the remaining technical issues, including the management of paraprofessionals. Most importantly, we want to hear directly from our members regarding any questions and concerns so we may present a unified front throughout the legislative process, for the betterment of our field and the protection of California consumers. To discuss licensure, please reach out directly to Bryan Davey (ppc_chair@calaba.org) or Matt McAlear (mattmcalear@calaba.org).

Professional Standards Chair Linda LeBlanc reviewed CE opportunities, including invited workshops and tutorials, offered at the conference. In total, more than 55 different CE events were approved, offering CEUs for boards including the BACB, SLPAB, BBS, and CPA.

Southern California (Ellie Kazemi and Jennifer Harris) and Northern California (Megan Heinicke and Becky Penrod) liaisons provided the board with updates on

upcoming events and member services. Invitations were sent to California professors and researchers to participate in the 2016 Science Retreat. Topics for this year's retreat include issues for higher education in California and means for increasing collaboration between the science and practitioner arms of our membership. In addition, the liaisons are preparing a member survey; please be on the lookout for the survey, and prepare to give honest feedback to help the board more effectively address member needs. Finally, we are in need of a new Student Representative this year. Professors are asked to nominate exceptional students who'd like to get involved; contact your liaisons to pass along your nominations.

Get Social!

Communication is a two-way street. Social media is one way to get it flowing, so be sure to like CalABA on Facebook (www.facebook.com/California-Association-for-Behavior-Analysis-147449735278469/) or follow us on Twitter (@Cal_ABA) for interesting articles, photos, news relevant to behavior analysts in California, discussions, and so much more.

Central China ABA

BY LARISSA FENG XIN

In the past year, the China Association of Persons With Psychiatric Disabilities and Their Relatives (CAPPDR)—which runs the ABAI affiliated chapter Central China ABA (CCABA)—has held meetings to inform the public about the "Support Parents in the Community" project. CAPPDR helps 8.7 million people in China, including parents and service providers to people with ASD, and the aim of "Support Parents" is to establish service centers that will provide ABA training to families.

During one of these meetings, a CCABA member was challenged with a question from the audience over whether the chapter would support a parent group for families to share their experiences with applied behavior analysis treatments and discuss "newer, better methods" for treating ASD. The representative smiled and responded:

"You must have your ideas on what you've heard, as we still believe firmly that ABA is an effective method to help children with autism. So the answer is 'yes,' you should hold a parent group sharing ABA experience."

CCABA's members and leadership have such confidence in the science of behavior analysis because our chapter's faith in ABA comes from years of careful study and learning. This includes the wealth of information and ideas brought back from the CCABA members who attended ABAI's Ninth Annual Autism Conference in Las Vegas and the guidance of leaders like Ms. Sharon Chien, who was invited last year to give a presentation about behavior analysis at an international conference on inclusive education. It also includes the experience gained in 2015, during which the

chapter was able to hold four sessions to train 167 people (28 in second CNABA Senior, 39 in third CNABA Junior, 33 in High, and 100 in parent sessions) from 18 Chinese provinces. These sessions were led by qualified ABA professionals from the U.S. branch of SEEK and those trained left fully equipped to educate the public about the theory and practice of behavior analysis. This year, the chapter has planned eight such sessions (third CNABA Senior, fourth CNABA J/H/S, SBT J/H/S, and a parent session) and expects there will be about 180 persons who will attend.

Chinese ABA

BY KARINA MIAO MIAO CHEUNG

Last year, the China Association for Behavior Analysis (CABA) focused on promoting the science of behavior analysis in Mainland China by (a) applying as a professional committee of the China Association of Rehabilitation of Disabled Persons (CARD); (b) initiating the process of developing both BCBA and BCaBA approved training course sequences; and (c) organizing its second biannual conference.

On January 9, 2016, CABA was officially accepted by CARD as one of its professional committees—ABA Professional Committee of CARD (ABA-CARDP). We held a one-day conference in Beijing and scholars, practitioners, and interested individuals from all around the country attended. We invited Dr. Guo Yan Qing to share his academic, language, social, and occupational skills (ALSO) theory for helping ASD families via the integration of those four key elements in their everyday lives. Dr. Dorothy Zhang Xuan was invited to provide a talk about the history and development of ABA. Dr. Zhang's presentation gave a simple and clear view to our audience of the understanding of ABA. Dr. Wang Li Ying presented her research on both adolescent and adult interventions at her center in Jilin—the ABA principles being used and the outcomes of her students is an inspiration for those working in similar settings in China. Ms. Cheung Miao Miao explained to the audience how to use ABA principles to teach verbal behaviors. The conference ended with a discussion on the future development of ABA in China. Dr. Guo's concepts of Professional-Elite Training Series (PETs), Professional-General Training Series (PGTs), and Public Awareness Training Series (PATs) were well accepted by the CABA/ABA-CARDP committee members, and details were discussed.

In early 2016, CABA/ABA-CARDP submitted an application to be approved as an alternative pathway course provider for BCBA and BCaBA certification. The reasons for our application were as follows:

- Currently there are less than 30 BCBAs and BCaBAs working in China.
- There are no universities that provide a behavior analysis course sequence as either a degree or a certificate program
- Those teaching and working with children in with special needs are highly interested in obtaining a professional

certificate that could both prove their ability to provide qualified service and strengthen their understanding of the principles behind their practice.

We hope that starting in late 2016, CABA/ABA-CARDP can start cultivating our own board certified behavior analysts.

In 2016–2017, we will be actively working toward the goal of providing high-quality and professional services to the Chinese public in three ways. These are the PETs, PGTs, and PATs. Our PETs training is for ABA specialists for the special education field in mainland China; for this training, we've invited Chinese-speaking BCBA-Ds and BCBAs to provide systematic training programs for local therapists who hold at least a bachelor's degrees and have been working in an educational setting for more than 3 years. PGTs programs aim to invite qualified speakers to provide year-long training programs to both local therapists and parents. PATs training, provided by trained therapists, focuses on public awareness of how powerful ABA is, and to stress the fact that the principles of ABA are not only evidence-based training programs for ASDs, but also can be used in school settings as well as any settings that include human behavior.

Colorado ABA

BY KARINA MIAO MIAO CHEUNG

The Colorado Association for Behavior Analysis (COABA) was founded as a nonprofit Colorado corporation in June 2014. It is both a chapter of the Association for Behavior Analysis International and an affiliate of the Association of Professional Behavior Analysts. COABA's mission is to advance awareness about the development of and access to the science and practice of behavior analysis in Colorado.

COABA held its second election of officers in October 2015, and its resulting executive board is as follows: president, Jim Carr (2015–2016); president-elect, Bill Frea (2016–2018); secretary, Bridget McKenna (2015–2017); treasurer, P. J. Self (2015–2016); director, Dixie Eastridge (2015–2016); director, Christine Ratcliff (2015–2017); and director, Molli Luke (2016–2018).

COABA accepts members in three categories: full, affiliate, and student. By the end of 2015, there were 86 members (including an affiliate and three student members).

COABA's recent activities include networking events for members in Denver, Colorado Springs, and Fort Collins, and six live or webinar training events delivered by Jim Carr, Molli Luke, Dave Lennox, Dixie Eastridge, and Dave Wilder. In 2015, COABA received Approved Continuing Education (ACE) provider status by the BACB and 501(c)(6) tax-exempt status from the U.S. Internal Revenue Service.

The COABA executive board is currently planning the organization's inaugural convention, to be held in late 2016. More information about COABA can be found at www.coaba.org and www.facebook.com/groups/COABA.

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Connecticut ABA

BY MARK J. PALMIERI

The Connecticut Association for Behavior Analysis (CTABA) has enjoyed another exciting and productive year in its ongoing efforts to support the development and advancement of the field of behavior analysis within the state of Connecticut through research, education, and the dissemination of information. This year, CTABA has successfully hosted a variety of events for our community including a fall workshop for practitioners and families, a series of supervisor training workshops, professional networking events, and our annual conference. As our past professional networking event was very successful, we have started to expand these opportunities for practitioners throughout the state. Our networking opportunities have been very well attended, and upcoming events are going to include professional training and discussion sessions.

This year's conference was held in New Haven, and CTABA again welcomed more than 375 participants. Pre-conference workshops included an ethics symposium, a supervision workshop, and a session on applied research. These workshops marked the second time we extended our conference in this fashion, and they were extremely well attended. Participant feedback was very positive, and we are planning such events to be a stable part of our conference series. Michael Dorsey, Ph.D., BCBA-D, LABA, and Shaunessy Egan, MSED, BCBA, gave a workshop titled "Independent Educational Evaluations and the Behavior Analyst: Objective Measure of Best Practice in Special Education"; Shaunessy Egan, MSED, BCBA, and Jessica Rohrer, MS, BCBA, gave a workshop titled "Common Ethical Dilemmas: Strategies for Practitioners Within Schools"; James Diller, Ph.D., BCBA-D, John Molteni, Ph.D., BCBA-D, and Melissa Olive, Ph.D., BCBA-D, provided a workshop titled "Consuming, Conducting, and Connecting Research to Practice"; and finally Maris Pelkey, MA, BCBA, and Melissa Hunsinger-Harris, MSED, BCBA, gave a workshop titled "Evidence-Based Supervision." Invited speakers included Ray Romanczyk, Patrick McGreevy, Bob Putnam, Rick Graff, Christopher Podlesnik, Amanda Karsten, and Judah Axe.

These individuals again allowed CTABA to provide a diverse set of topics to be discussed among our participants and invigorated the conference's professional development activities. Our speakers hosted discussions on school-wide interventions, criterion-reference assessment, ethical dilemmas, behavioral skills training, translational research, college transitions, and verbal behavior. The 12th Annual Conference welcomed our largest number of professional exhibitors and organizational members. In addition, many organizational members provided parent sponsorship, allowing families free access to the

conference. This outreach activity was made possible by a strong collaborative effort between CTABA's new Family and Consumer Outreach Committee and the standing Conference and Organizational Membership committees.

CTABA has once again had an exceptionally busy year with respect to our public policy efforts. We submitted a licensure bill for behavior analysts in 2015. And despite much support from members and from parents, the bill failed to pass. In early 2016, a second bill was submitted by an agency unrelated to CTABA, and we are working with members to support it.

The Legislative Committee also started brown bag lunches and happy hours for members. The online meetings served to allow members to learn about the legislative process, how to submit written testimony, how to testify in person, licensure in Connecticut, and related legislation in Connecticut (e.g., Medicaid coverage of ABA). In addition, we are trying to grow interest in legislative activities by inviting one member from each CTABA organizational member to attend legislative meetings. We hope this will continue to grow interest in serving CTABA member needs.

Delaware ABA

BY KAORI NEPO

The Delaware Association for Behavior Analysis was established in 2011. The purpose of the organization is to promote the science, understanding, and practice of behavior analysis through (1) encouraging cooperation among local behavior analytic organizations; (2) advising political, legislative, and policy-making bodies with respect to all matters pertaining to behavior analysis in the state of Delaware; (3) arranging an annual meeting to discuss aspects of behavior analysis; (4) maintaining a website containing information about the chapter and behavior analysis in Delaware and elsewhere; and (5) functioning as a contact for and affiliate of ABAI.

Governance

Current executive officers of Delaware ABA consist of a president, Kaori Nepo; a vice-president, Gary Allison; a secretary, Susan Pfadt; a membership director, Marcie Brown; and members-at-large, Cathleen Albertson and Kristine Peters. An election was held in April 2016 to fill a vacancy in the treasurer position.

Membership

There are four categories for Delaware ABA membership: (1) professional member, defined as an individual holding a terminal degree in a discipline directly related to or involving behavior analysis, and whose full- or part-time professional commitment includes teaching, research, and/or practice in behavior analysis; (2) full member, defined as an individual engaged on a full- or part-time basis in any profession or vocation that uses the principles

or procedures of behavior analysis; (3) affiliate member, defined as any individual evidencing interest in the discipline of behavior analysis, but lacking formal training therein; and (4) student member, defined as anyone who currently attends undergraduate or graduate school. The membership fee is \$5 for student members and \$10 for other members annually.

Conferences

In May 2015, Delaware ABA representatives attended the chapter leadership training at the ABAI annual convention in San Antonio to learn and network with other chapter representatives. We also presented a poster at the Expo to promote our organization.

In July 2015, the Delaware ABA executive committee had a conference call with Dr. Gina Green to gain knowledge about the licensure process.

In August 2015, the president of Delaware ABA attended a workshop in Colorado to gain further knowledge on the licensure process.

In April 2016, Delaware ABA representatives attended seminars and meetings at the Association of Professional Behavior Analysts (APBA) annual convention in Washington, DC to gather updated information regarding licensure and policy.

In May 2016, Delaware ABA presented a poster at the ABAI annual convention to promote the chapter. In addition, representatives attended the chapter leadership training.

Activities for 2015–2016

The first task was modification of bylaws to add membership fees in order to build the financial ability to become an ACE provider and hold conferences in the future. The committee discussed the possibility to create behavior analyst licensure and its need in the state of Delaware. The committee also identified speakers for future workshops. At the annual meeting, the committee gathered information from members on how to further promote behavior analysis in Delaware and decided to develop activity groups to accomplish tasks more efficiently and hold more frequent meetings with all members to further develop community among behavior analysts.

Plan for 2016–2017

Delaware ABA plans to become an ACE provider. Following this effort, we plan to hold a few events to offer CEUs for members and to educate the general public regarding the science of behavior analysis. We will also continue to work on planning a conference in the coming year. Additionally, we will continue to gain knowledge and work on tasks to develop behavior analyst licensure in the state of Delaware.

Experimental Analysis of Behaviour Group

BY CARL HUGHES, AMY HULSON-JONES, REBECCA SHARP, AND MIKE BEVERLEY

The Experimental Analysis of Behaviour Group (EABG) conference meets biennially. With the next meeting taking place in the spring of 2017, we can reflect on the successful 2015 meeting as we eagerly anticipate next year's conference!

The meeting was held at University College London over 3 days (30 March–1 April, 2015). The 2015 meeting was a huge success, with more than 230 registrants. The quality of the presentations was extremely high, and presenters came from all backgrounds in behavior analysis. Presentations covered a range of areas: conceptual papers, basic research, applied research, and practice settings. An encouraging mix of academics, applied researchers, parents, and non-academics who work in the field as applied behavior analysts attended, many of whom had traveled internationally.

The 2015 EABG conference was dedicated to Professor Fergus Lowe, who passed away in December 2014. Fergus had been active in behavior analysis, and he was one of the main drivers for promoting behavior analysis in Europe across nearly five decades. Fergus started organizing the EABG meetings in 1978 and had supported it ever since. Many will be aware of the impact that Fergus had on behavior analysis in Europe and wider afield. His academic contributions spanned 50 years, and he publicized basic, theoretical, and applied research papers of the highest quality. He was also one of the founding members of the European Association for Behaviour Analysis.

It was a great privilege to have Professor George Sugai present the first Professor Fergus Lowe Memorial Keynote Address. Professor Sugai, from the Neag School of Education at the University of Connecticut, did not disappoint and closed the last day of the conference with a highly informative and thought-provoking talk on school-wide positive behavior support.

We had a number of very distinguished invited addresses at the conference. We were very excited to welcome Professor David Gast from the University of Georgia, who delivered a great tutorial on single-case experimental designs. Dr. Maggie Hoerger from Bangor University closed the first day with a very illuminating and insightful talk on the standard provision of ABA in schools. Dr. Hoerger outlined some key messages for the field of ABA. One of the take-home messages was how we as behavior analysts can work within the existing systems and funding constraints.

Dr. Jennifer Austin (president) provided an update from the UK Society for Behaviour Analysis on behalf of the current panel members: Mecca Chiesa, Kate Grant, Suzy Yardley, Neil Martin, Richard May, Mandy Williams, Jane McCready, and Shelley Swain.

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Continuing Education Units (CEUs)

The 2015 EAGB meeting reflected the strong position that prevails in the UK and Europe in providing a large proportion of the CEUs for Board Certified Behavior Analysts for no additional charge. EAGB 2015 offered 24 events, including symposia, invited addresses/tutorials, panel discussions, and workshops, accumulating a total of 47.5 CEUs. The number of CEUs being awarded to BCBA and BCaBA delegates this year exceeded the amount awarded during EAGB 2011 and EAGB 2013 (see Figure 1).

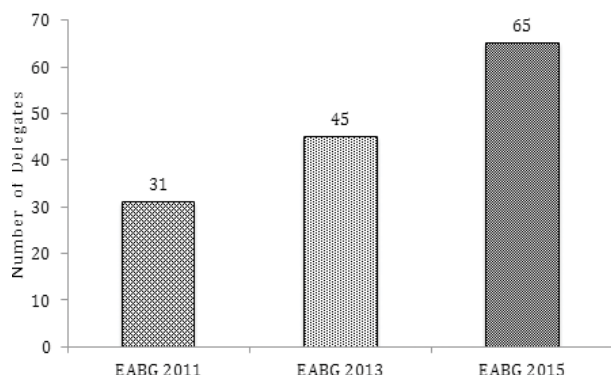


Figure 2. Comparison of total number of delegates collecting CEUs at the 2011, 2013, and 2015 EAGB conferences.

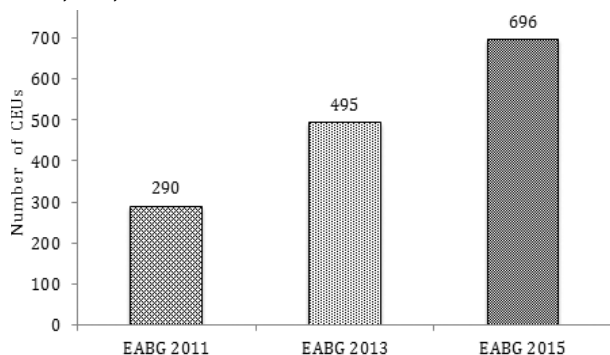


Figure 1. Comparison of total number of CEUs awarded at the 2011, 2013, and 2015 EAGB conferences.

The EAGB team wishes to thank all the delegates and presenters who attended the 2015 conference and our invited speakers who delivered truly inspiring and thought-provoking talks. Special thanks are due to students from Bangor University, Wales who volunteered and worked hard to facilitate the smooth running of the conference. A huge thank you also must be given to John Draper and the support team at University College London for assisting and hosting the event yet again. If this trend in attendance persists, we might need to consider looking for a larger conference venue!

The broad range of high quality behavior analytic research and training disseminated during EAGB 2015 was an encouraging reflection of the strength and continued evolution of behavior analysis in Europe. We look forward to seeing you at EAGB 2017 London conference.

Florida ABA

BY AMY POLICK

The exciting and momentous 35th Anniversary Meeting of the Florida Association for Behavior Analysis (FABA) took place September 30–October 3, 2015 at the beautiful Hilton Daytona Beach Resort Oceanwalk Village. The conference was attended by more than 1,400 members and featured 24 paper sessions; 28 symposia; 7 panel discussions; 9 IGNITE presentations; 18 pre- and post-conference workshops; 24 posters; 5 invited speakers; 1 keynote; 1 presidential address; and 25 other meetings, socials, and special events, including the Nathan Azrin Film Festival. The 2015 meeting was the largest conference FABA has organized to date, and it was extremely well received by members. FABA's programming committee worked tirelessly during the months prior to the big event, and the anniversary conference had a stellar lineup of presentations. From Wednesday's workshops, to Thursday's incredible and inspiring keynote address by Dr. Bridget Taylor, Friday night's Anniversary Cabaret, and the first-ever Saturday morning papers and presentations, attendees had access to a wealth of information and education each day.

What was better was the constant buzz about the high quality of the presentations. Speakers traveled from all over the country and presented on an incredible variety of topics, all of which illustrated the diversity of ABA applications. Presentations included strategies for autism early intervention, functional analyses, and ethics/professional issues, to name a few. Moreover, FABA's invited speakers did a tremendous job discussing recent research in ABA effects on practice (Greg Hanley), factors affecting motivation (Steve Martin), the role of joint control in teaching listener responding (Vince Carbone), behavioral pediatrics (Pat Friman), and the new professional and ethical compliance codes (Mary Jane Weiss).

Also during this past year, FABA's Executive Committee and its Legislative and Public Policy Committee continued to have the good fortune of being guided by lobbyist Eric Prutsman. The committee and Eric have been extra busy monitoring issues in the legislature related to funding and insurance coverage of ABA services, expansion of ABA services, and policies regarding restraint and seclusion in public schools.

The first week of every September is Florida Behavior Analysis Week. Also happening this September is FABA's 36th annual meeting, which will take place at the beautiful and luxurious Fort Lauderdale Marriott Harbor Beach Resort and Spa September 14–17. Exciting things are in store for this meeting, including an incredible lineup of invited speakers. Due to high demand for presentations, FABA successfully added a full half-day of conference events on Saturday (workshops, papers, symposia, invited speakers, etc.), and the expansion was well-liked by attendees at the 2015 meeting. Therefore, FABA has decided to offer

Saturday conference events this year. Additionally, many excellent speakers will address a wide range of topics, including effective and ethical professional practice, scientific research, developmental disabilities, autism, verbal behavior, education, parenting, organizational behavior management, and animal training and welfare.

FABA's annual meetings not only provide valuable education and information, they also include important social events to enhance networking opportunities and make the conference more enjoyable for attendees. Some of the favorite events are speed networking, speed recruiting, poster poker run, roundtable lunch special interest group discussions, and book signings. Other popular social events include the well-known hospitality suite and the FABA social, which is a traditional big social gathering occurring during one of the evenings of the conference. FABA also has the benefit of holding its meetings at some of the most beautiful beaches in the world, and members are encouraged to bring family members and significant others and use this conference as an opportunity to stay at the beach post-conference for some vacation time.

As always, the upcoming FABA conference will feature the FABA store, which includes a wide array of FABA gear (clever and cool behaviorally related clothing and gifts), office supplies, and books. To learn more about FABA and its upcoming conference (including access to the conference program), or to become a FABA member, please visit www.FABAWorld.org or contact Executive Director Amy Polick at polick@psy.fsu.edu or Secretary/Treasurer-Media Coordinator Jon Bailey at jonbailey1@mac.com.

Four Corners ABA

BY AMY KENZER

The mission of Four Corners ABA (4CABA) is to promote the science of behavior and evidence-based technologies derived from the basic science in the Four Corners region (Utah, Arizona, Colorado, and New Mexico). The chapter had another strong year of providing behavior analysts in the Four Corners region with an intellectual home. Ken Winn, MS, BCBA (Firefly Autism Chief Clinical Officer), is the current president of 4CABA and organized our ninth annual convention in April.

The eighth annual convention was held in Loveland, Colorado, nestled in the foothills of the Rocky Mountains, just 45 minutes north of Denver. The convention was hosted at the Embassy Suites Convention Center and Hotel, which provides all-suites accommodations and easy access to popular attractions. Consistent with 4CABA's focus on balancing basic and applied research, we had a strong lineup of speakers from both areas. The convention was attended by nearly 200 members, several exhibitors, and 10 amazing presenters. This year's speakers included Eb Blakely (Florida Institute of Technology; Quest, Inc.), Dennis Reid (Carolina Behavior Analysis and Support Center), Anthony

DeFulio (Western Michigan University), Richard Kubina (Pennsylvania State University), Scott Herbst (SixFlex Training and Consulting), Joshua Pritchard (Florida Institute of Technology), Clive Wynn (Arizona State University), and Jim Carr (Behavior Analyst Certification Board). We also always include a speaker from outside the field of behavior analysis to talk about behaviorally relevant subject matter, and this year we had a joint presentation by Dr. Fran Hickey (Children's Hospital Colorado) and Michael Hickey (Firefly Autism House).

Each year, 4CABA gives a Best Poster Award to a student based on the quality of his or her poster presentation. This poster competition takes place on the first night of our annual convention. Award recipients receive a free membership and registration for next year's convention.

In our ongoing efforts to increase membership and let other behavior analysts know what we've been up to, 4CABA had a poster at the Expo at the ABAI 42nd Annual Convention in Chicago, Illinois. 4CABA also published our annual newsletter with relevant updates from around the Four Corners region.

4CABA is open to anyone interested in the science and practice of behavior analysis. While most of our membership resides in the Four Corners region, we have numerous members from various parts of the country who have found our organization and annual convention an important part of their professional lives. There are numerous benefits to being a 4CABA member, including being a part of a group of individuals who value the science and practice of behavior analysis and enjoy being part of a strong, productive, and vibrant community of scholars and practitioners. Our members are also invited to our annual convention where they are exposed to cutting-edge knowledge regarding behavior analysis and receive free CEUs! If you think you might be interested in being a part of 4CABA, please take a look at our website for more information (www.4caba.org) and follow us on Facebook.

French ABA

BY LAURENT MADELAIN

This year, French ABA members continued to focus on providing adequate training for young applied behavior analysts; this is our most important mission. We strongly support the international development of the University of Lille's master's program in experimental and applied behavior analysis, as we believe that this program is the key to the future of behavior analysis in France. We continue to receive valuable help from the behavior analysis programs at West Virginia University and the Universidade de Brasilia. It is very important for us to have renowned behavior analysts from other parts of the world coming to meet with professionals, students, and academics in order to develop new collaborations and bring new perspectives on behavior

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analysis. This year we are fortunate to host Professor Ralph Miller, from Binghamton University, who obtained a prestigious Fulbright Fellowship to spend a sabbatical year with our research group in Lille. We believe that the opportunity to collaborate and share ideas with prominent members of the behavior analysis scientific worldwide community is key to providing students, professionals, and academics with the most updated theoretical and applied developments. It is very important for us to have renowned behavior analysts from other parts of the world coming to meet with professionals, students, and academics in order to develop new collaborations and bring new perspectives on behavior analysis. This year we are looking forward to hosting Professor Ralph Miller, from Binghamton University, who obtained a prestigious Fulbright Fellowship to spend a sabbatical year with our research group in Lille.

The University of Lille is the only French university hosting a research group studying experimental and applied behavior analysis. Aside from conversations at international conferences, we also try to reach out to academics in France as well. We organized two symposia during the 2015 meeting of the Société Française de Psychologie in Strasbourg, along with Céline Clément and Jacques Forget.

Aside from our involvement in the academic development of ABA, we also pursue the task of organizing behavior analysis professionals and developing behavior analysis in France by supporting a network of local associations of parents and professionals devoted to providing help to individuals with autism. To this end, the chapter is making changes to better take advantage of the organizational help provided by ABAAI.

Georgia ABA

BY JOANNA LOMAS MEYERS

The behavior analytic community continues to grow in Georgia. There are now 44 board certified behavior analysts-doctoral (BCBA-Ds), 255 board certified behavior analysts (BCBAs), and 30 board certified assistant behavior analysts (BCaBAs). As an affiliated chapter of ABAAI, we continue to support the local behavior analysis community through an annual conference, newsletters, and networking.

The Eighth Annual Conference was held online in December and featured presentations by Mindy Scheithauer, Ph.D., BCBA-D; Clint Trusty, BCBA; Judith Ursitti; Mirari Elcoro, Ph.D., BCBA; and Melissa Nosik, Ph.D. The conference covered topics relevant to a wide audience within the behavioral community. Topics included issues related to certification and licensure, bridging the divide between applied and basic research, treatment of self-injurious behavior, and understanding how new laws in Georgia will affect behavior analysts.

Our goals for 2016 include increasing student participation in the organization, updating the website, and

increasing the use of social media to connect with members. In addition, we plan to hold our annual conference in a new location as part of an effort to increase networking opportunities for members.

Hawai'i ABA

BY KRISTEN KOBABURDT

The Hawai'i Association for Behavior Analysis (HABA) is a dynamic and innovative state chapter seeking to expand behavioral knowledge, support service providers implementing behavioral interventions, and promote behavior analysis with the aloha spirit. In 2015, the chapter was heavily involved in public policy and legislative efforts, which resulted in the successful enactment of both autism insurance reform and licensure for behavior analysts in Hawai'i, along with the roll-out of Medicaid coverage for autism treatment. HABA's legislative committee focused on a behavior analytic approach to legislative action, which resulted in an exceptional grassroots campaign. HABA partnered with local organizations to host a community town hall, established a parent representative position within the chapter, and spoke at multiple events across the state focused on educating families about ABA and insurance reform. Through these efforts, HABA has been able to establish strong ties with the local community, including many parents, doctors, legislators, and other professionals who did not have prior knowledge of behavior analysis. HABA was awarded the Autism Speaks Advocacy Group of the Year award in November 2015 at the Autism Law Summit, which was a great honor! HABA has continued to focus on dissemination of behavior analysis and involvement in public policy efforts, both locally and nationally. Part of this effort has included working to support other state chapters focused on passing licensure, and supporting families and advocacy groups working to pass meaningful autism insurance reform. HABA president, Kristen Koba-Burdett, and past president, Dr. Amanda N. Kelly, presented at the ABAAI convention: "Licensure of Behavior Analysts: Ethical Considerations, Lessons Learned, and Next Steps."

The chapter has also worked diligently to increase participation on all islands and created a neighbor-island representative position to ensure both rural and urban parts of the state have representation. The chapter works to make as many events as possible available via remote participation and has hosted a chapter-affiliated event on the islands of Oahu, Maui, and Kauai. HABA's membership has increased significantly and closed 2015 with more chapter members than certified analysts in the state!

HABA has also continued to elevate the profession of behavior analysis in Hawai'i through quarterly events and our annual convention. In 2015, the 11th annual convention featured keynote speakers Dr. Dick Malott and Dr. Jim Carr at the beautiful East-West Center at the

University of Hawai'i Manoa campus. The 12th annual convention will be at the Japanese Cultural Center's Manoa Grand Ballroom in Honolulu, September 2–3, 2016, and will feature keynote speakers Dr. William Heward and Dr. Janet Twyman. This year's convention theme is the Hawai'i word *pono*, which means to live righteously or to do what is right. As HABA looks to the future, the chapter will continue to focus on public policy, implementation and expansion of insurance reform, and dissemination of behavior analysis, and seeks to expand other applications of behavior analysis in the islands including sustainability and behavioral gerontology. The chapter is proud to welcome behavior analysts from across the country to the only behavior analysis convention with aloha and welcome all to the majestic rainbow state. Membership in the chapter is extremely affordable, with full and affiliate membership rates of \$25 and a student membership rate of \$15. To become a HABA member or learn more about the chapter please visit hawaiiaba.org.

Heartland ABA

BY KATHRYN PETERSON

Heartland ABA (HLABA) held its eighth annual conference March 3–4 in Omaha, Nebraska. We were honored to recruit Drs. SungWoo Kahng and Alice Shillingsburg to conduct pre-conference workshops. Dr. Kahng offered a workshop titled “The Functional Analysis of Problem Behavior: Practice and Research.” Dr. Shillingsburg's workshop was titled “Improving Social Initiation, Engagement, Communication, and Play in Children With Autism.” Both workshops were attended by individuals from a variety of fields and from surrounding states. Dr. Kahng served as our keynote speaker on Friday, when he presented “A Simplified Outcome Measure for Use During Treatment Evaluations.” He was followed by Dr. Shillingsburg, who presented “Strategies to Assess and Promote Emergence of Verbal Behavior in Children With Autism.” We also had several invited conference presenters, including Dr. Cathleen Piazza, who presented “A Comparison of a Modified Sequential Oral Sensory Approach to an Applied Behavior Analytic Approach in the Treatment of Food Selectivity in Children With Autism Spectrum Disorders”; Dr. Regina Carroll, who presented “Procedural Variables Influencing Student Learning Outcomes During One-on-One Teaching”; and Dr. Nicole DeRosa, who presented “Efficiency and Adaptations of Functional Analysis.” In addition, we received four submissions for paper addresses, which were presented during the conference. Presenters included Linda Phosaly, Vivian Ibañez, and Caitlin Kirkwood, who presented “Recent Advancements in the Assessment and Treatment of Pediatric Feeding Disorders.” For the eighth year in a row, we hosted a poster session and competition. We offered a poster presentation award to contribute

financial support to a student attending the ABAAI convention. The winning poster was titled “Individual and Combined Effects of Noncontingent Reinforcement and Response Blocking on Problem Behavior Maintained by Automatic Reinforcement,” presented by Valdeep Saini. In addition, Dr. Kathryn Peterson was awarded the Heartland Association for Behavior Analysis Award of Excellence for her contributions to the field of applied behavior analysis in the Heartland area. We welcomed 49 and 47 attendees for Dr. Kahng's and Dr. Shillingsburg's pre-conference workshops. We had a total of 105 conference attendees, which was consistent with years past.

Our 11th annual conference will be March 2–3, 2017. We are in the process of identifying prominent behavior analysts to lead workshops.

The 2016–2017 HLABA executive board includes Amber Paden as our past president, Dr. William Higgins as our president, Dr. Kevin Luczynski as our vice president, Dr. Amanda Zangrillo as our secretary, Dr. Steven Taylor as our treasurer, Jessica Niemeier as our representative at large, and Victoria Smith as our student representative. HLABA continues to provide ongoing training opportunities to behavior analysts in Nebraska and the surrounding states. We offer a monthly speaker series that is free of charge to HLABA members. The speaker series allows members to obtain continuing education units for BCBA certification, and many members join the speaker series remotely.

Hong Kong ABA

BY EMILY KWAN

The Hong Kong Association for Behavior Analysis (HKABA) is so delighted to see the growth of board certified behavior analysts (BCBAs) and board certified assistant behavior analysts (BCaBAs) in Hong Kong during the past year. Five years ago, there were only a few BCBA–Ds, BCBAs, and BCaBAs in Hong Kong and none in China. Today, more certified behavior analysts have come or returned to Hong Kong and China from overseas. Meanwhile, more behavior analysts also pursued their certification locally. As of April 2016, there are 3 BCBA–Ds, 29 BCBAs, and 8 BCaBAs in Hong Kong. In nearby China, there are 22 BCBAs and BCaBAs! Through their dedication and professionalism, more individuals and families have encountered ABA practice and have gained an increased understanding of what ABA is.

In August 2015, HKABA successfully launched the BCBA and BCaBA program at Hong Kong Polytechnic University. The launch of the program has attracted the highest number of students that HKABA had ever accepted and we now have a group of enthusiastic learners who are eager to apply the behavioral strategies learned in the classroom to various settings such as service centers and schools. This is a very exciting development and we are

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looking forward to growing the science and awareness of ABA through this expanded platform!

In September 2015, many HKABA members also attended ABAT's Eighth International Conference in Kyoto, Japan. We have not had an international event in Asia for a few years, and having it in Japan made it particularly exciting! We all enjoyed the workshops, as well as the culture and the food of the host city!

In November 2015, we had the pleasure of hosting a workshop on soliciting attention, led by Mr. Raymond Fung. Raymond is a behavioral consultant from a private organization that offers various services for individuals with different developmental profiles. During the workshop, Raymond shared how to shape a behavior and solicit attention. He also pointed out some problems that are commonly seen during attempts to solicit attention from children. Videos of some case studies were shown and a lively discussion followed.

We are excited about these promising developments for behavior analysis and HKABA. In the upcoming years, the chapter will continue to work toward our current goals of implementing standards for practice in the field and increasing understanding and recognition of behavior analysis in Hong Kong and China.

Hoosier ABA

BY PAUL MCCOMAS

Throughout the past year, the Hoosier Association for Behavior Analysis (HABA) continued to grow as universities in Indiana expanded educational opportunities in the field of ABA and as ABA providers continued to meet the demand for high-quality services throughout our state. In 2015 HABA expanded its membership types to include organizational membership. This new value-added approach seeks to better accommodate large provider groups that wish to grant chapter membership to their employees and includes benefits such as reduced conference and membership rates and easier annual renewals. To cap off a great year, the 2015 HABA Annual Conference focused on behavioral pediatrics. With strong attendance and an exciting speaker lineup, we were encouraged and challenged as we engaged with researchers and practitioners on this important topic.

HABA members and the executive committee, via the public policy sub-committee, have continued efforts related to various policy concerns throughout the state. Conversations were held and key HABA members represented our chapter on various governmental committees and work groups related to areas such as state licensure for board certified behavior analysts, policies and procedures regarding the addition of coverage of ABA services under Medicaid throughout our state, and proposed legislation related to the practice of ABA in Indiana. In addition, key members on our best practice sub-committee represented

HABA in strategic communications with third-party payers for ABA services. HABA has a goal to position our group as a key resource for various entities throughout Indiana. Our focus in this regard is to speak to best practice standards of ABA and to highlight research that supports the effective use of ABA technologies. These conversations have proven fruitful as many of our key recommendations and practice standards have become codified into revised third-party payer policies and procedures as well as governmental guidelines and work group goals and objectives. HABA hopes to continue to shape the growth of ABA in this manner for years to come and continues to look for strategic opportunities to inform key individuals in our state about the effective use of ABA services.

In 2015, HABA continued its efforts to enhance communication with our members and stakeholders. New online communication tools were rolled out that have supported us in these efforts, and we are enjoying the benefits of better marketing, more timely meeting reminders, and easier communication within our membership group. Additional features are being explored and tested in conjunction with our communications sub-committee as we also venture into the world of social media as a way to keep in touch and show our constituents the great and exciting work that our members are doing. Whether it's our excellent CEU presentations at our quarterly meetings or the fun we are having at our annual conference social gathering, we want our members to be informed and given the opportunity to join in the critical work that HABA is doing in Indiana.

Last year was great under the leadership of president Ann Baloski. Her efforts were critical in helping HABA begin the transition to using sustainable communication tools, expanding new value-added memberships, and keeping HABA well represented on key governmental and practice work groups. We hope to continue these efforts as our membership and influence grows throughout the state.

Icelandic ABA

BY BÁRA KOLBRÚN GYLFADÓTTIR, ÁSA RÚN INGIMARSDÓTTIR, AND GYÐA DÖGG EINARSDÓTTIR

The Icelandic Association for Behavior Analysis (ICEABA) continues to promote the development of behavior analysis as a basic and applied science in Iceland and introduce the applications of behavior analysis to professionals and students alike.

We are a small and growing association of 40 members—about half of whom are living abroad. Part of the association's purpose is to make known the various behavior analysis master's and doctoral programs available to Icelandic students. Applied behavior analysis has a longstanding and well-established footing at the University of Iceland and, more recently, at the University of Reykjavík. Some students opt to do postgraduate research in behavior analysis in Iceland.

Traditionally, Icelandic students have completed their graduate studies in applied behavior analysis abroad, such as in the US, UK, and Norway. Right now, seven students are studying abroad. The options for Icelandic students have recently expanded as Reykjavik University now offers a MSc program for 20 students each year in clinical psychology with a BACB approved course sequence in applied behavior analysis, with the first group graduating this year.

The association places emphasis on informal meetings where members can share information on research and work in the field. We find this very important for the vitality of our group. Our regular coffeehouse meetings are popular and continue throughout the year. Our email list has also been a great venue for lively discussions, and these continue with verve on our email list and Facebook page.

ICEABA's largest events this past year included a workshop on teaching intraverbal behavior to children with autism and other developmental disorders by Dr. Einar Ingvarsson, a workshop on behavioral interventions for feeding and sleeping problems by Dr. Helena Lydon, a talk by Dr. Kristján Guðmundsson on the friendship of Skinner and Boring, a workshop by Dr. Magda Stropnik on developing effective instructional programs for students with ASDs, and a workshop on building general repertoires for children with autism by Dr. Chata Dickson.

The association is in the midst of planning its fourth conference, which will take place November 3–4 this year. The keynote speakers will be Dr. William H. Ahearn, Dr. Einar Ingvarsson, and Dr. Jennifer Austin.

The official language of Iceland is Icelandic, a North Germanic language. It is spoken by only the 320,000 people of Iceland. Icelandic behavior analysts and students often run into problems when trying to talk about behavior analysis in Icelandic. Because of this, ICEABA nominated four of its members, G. Adda Ragnarsdóttir, Ingi Jón Hauksson, Kristján Guðmundsson, and Þorlákur Karlsson, to translate and coordinate professional behavior analytic terms from English to Icelandic. We expect to publish this work this year.

The members of ICEABA are excited for the future. We aim to continue working on promoting the science of behavior in Iceland and being a professional reference group for scientists and practitioners in the field of behavior analysis.

Illinois ABA

BY AUTUMN MCKEEL

The Illinois Association for Behavior Analysis (IL-ABA) is a state organization whose purpose is to promote behavior analysis, primarily through an annual convention. IL-ABA is a state affiliated chapter and also the first state Associate chapter of ABAI. The goals of the organization include encouraging collaboration among behavior analysts in Illinois, fostering relations between practices and universities, and creating a licensing bill for behavior analysts in the state.

The fifth annual convention was held in Springfield, Illinois, April 14–15, 2016. The speakers included a variety of professionals from university professors to practitioners and educational leaders in behavior analysis. The agenda included a pre-conference workshop, poster session, and 10 symposia-relevant speakers who discussed current faculty research agendas, practice agendas, and student research agendas for Illinois and the surrounding areas. As in past conventions, the research agendas included new developments among universities in and around the state, translational research ideas, and opportunities for students. Practice agendas included discussion collaboration with universities; the need to disseminate behavior analysis to areas in need; and its place in homes, schools, and universities. The student research agenda discussed student opportunities during and after graduating from behavior analysis programs in the state. In addition, a poster session took place for the second year, and two poster presentation winners were chosen to speak about their research. An annual business meeting addressed organization progress and proposed changes. During the April 2016 business meeting, board members voted to fill empty positions and discuss directions to take IL-ABA.

The licensing committee of five members has continued to work closely with national figures who are knowledgeable in the area of licensure, as well as working with state legislators to make progress on the licensure bill in Illinois. A mid-annual event was held in July 2015 to educate professionals on the progress of the bill. The board members continue to advocate for licensure and gain support from other behavior analysts and professionals in the state.

Future conferences will maintain a non-compete structure that will emphasize science and practice within the state. This organization will serve as a connection and collaborator among behavior analysts across Illinois to continue effective strategies based on research. Also, by connecting university professionals, students, and practitioners, it will build foundations for contacts, resource management, research opportunities, and experience for students. The IL-ABA annual convention will allow students, practitioners, and researchers to voice their concerns and discuss ethical guidelines in practice. One of the major objectives of IL-ABA continues to be the establishment and progress toward gaining support of a licensing bill. IL-ABA published a newsletter for the first time this year and will continue to do so annually.

IL-ABA members are contacted through mass email via the IL-ABA email account, Behavior Analyst Certification Board contact lists, ABAI, the IL-ABA Facebook page, and updates on www.ilaba.org. An annual meeting will continue to be held at the ABAI annual convention.

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Iowa ABA

BY MARIA G. VALDOVINOS

The Iowa Association for Behavior Analysis (Iowa ABA) annual members' meeting was held November 6, 2015, in West Des Moines, Iowa, in conjunction with the chapter's third annual conference. New officer Stacy Volmer was elected a member of the board of directors. Sean Peterson was elected president-elect.

Conference presenters provided for varied interests of the 77 attendees. Dr. SungWoo Kahng (Thompson Center for Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorders, University of Missouri) presented "A Simplified Outcome Measure for Use During Treatment Evaluations." Dr. Kevin C. Luczynski (Munroe-Meyer Institute, University of Nebraska) presented "Overcoming Measurement and Geographic Barriers to Providing Home-Based Services in Applied Behavior Analysis." Dr. Jennifer McComas (University of Minnesota) presented "Functional Behavior Assessment Quantitative Data Analysis for Effective Intervention of Problem Behavior in Middle School Math Classes." Dr. Nicole Rodriguez (Munroe-Meyer Institute, University of Nebraska) presented "Behavioral Variability and Autism." Dr. Corey Stocco (Briar Cliff University) presented "Interview Skills Training for College Students." And Dr. Stephanie Hood (Briar Cliff University) presented "An Individualized Approach to Teach Greeting and Conversational Skills With Persons With Autism: Efficacy, Generalization, and Social Acceptability Outcomes."

Monetary support for the conference was provided by local, state, and regional organizations with an interest in behavior analysis. As a result of the conference, membership numbers were maintained at a high level, allowing the organization to continue to plan for future opportunities for its members.

Iowa ABA continues to be actively involved in ABAI through member and board participation at the ABAI annual convention. The board conducts open meetings on the second Thursday of each quarter and invites interested members to participate in meetings and on committees. The Publications Committee produced excellent work, maintained the organization website, and updated social media. The Legislative Action Committee took action this past year and surveyed Iowa ABA members to develop a strategic plan, part of which includes seeking licensure for behavior analysts. Furthermore, Iowa ABA became a BACB ACE provider, was incorporated within the state, obtained 501(c)(6) nonprofit status, and advocated on behalf of behavior analysts with respect to proposed language regarding the role of direct-care paraprofessionals and delivery of services to those with autism.

The fourth annual conference is currently being planned and will be held in West Des Moines on November 4,

2016. Committed speakers include Dr. James Carr, Dr. Gina Green, Dr. Florence DiGennaro Reed, Dr. Matthew O'Brien, and Dr. Joel Ringdahl.

Israel ABA

BY EITAN ELDAR, MICHAL HIRSCHMANN, AND EINAV COHEN

Israel ABA (IABA) was established in 2003, held its first conference shortly afterward, and has been offering a yearly conference and workshops ever since. IABA is growing steadily and currently has nearly 200 members. All of the IABA members actively support ABA in various academic and clinical fields, and hundreds of professionals participate in IABA's activities each year. IABA recently became an ABAI associate chapter in addition to an affiliated chapter.

More than 200 students are studying yearly in six approved BACB programs. This figure is growing dramatically and consistently, indicating a substantial need and interest among educators, clinicians, and decision-makers.

IABA has published the Hebrew version of ABA ethical principles and a Hebrew glossary of ABA terms. The BACB task list has been translated too, in cooperation with the BACB. A committee of experts representing IABA and the Association for Certified Behavior Analysts (MENTA) has completed the translation of the BACB exams to Hebrew. The exams are now offered in Israel—in its native language. A few textbooks have been published in Hebrew, written by several Israeli scholars. Notably, most of the students who have graduated from the above-mentioned programs were employed in a variety of educational and clinical agencies in Israel. Some are already holding key positions in the educational system and in other organizations. The Ministry of Education has appointed a nationwide ABA advisor, and in time, regional advisors will take the lead in their areas. This is an important development, showing the growing interest of educators in our field. On the same note, the Ministry of Health has issued regulations defining the role of behavior analysts in their special education institutions, while allocating specific ABA hours to the curriculum.

A new initiative by IABA encourages minorities to join the ABA professional community. IABA is supporting the dissemination of ABA among Israeli Arabs, and has invited a representative of the religious sector (Charedic) to join the board of directors.

The 2016 newsletter is about to be released; it provides an in-depth discussion of collaboration between behavior analysts and other professionals.

IABA's has set the following organizational goals:

- Promote ABA as a leading science in human behavior.
- Gain recognition of the discipline as a distinct and unique profession, by the Ministries of Health and Education.
- Have more members and friends join IABA.
- Establish an ABA newsletter/journal in Hebrew.

- Establish additional approved ABA programs in other universities and initiate the first full graduate program in ABA.
- Promote both experimental and applied ABA research in Israel.
- Strengthen our ties with the BACB and ABAI and encourage more Israelis to take part in their activities.
- Maintain the association's website (www.iabaonline.com), Facebook page, and yearly newsletter in Hebrew sharing applied behavior analysis projects and theoretical papers. The most recent issue is devoted to ethical issues and to regulations related to ABA in the educational system.

The 2016 IABA convention dealt with issues relating to behavior analysis and intervention programs with people with mental disorders. It included lectures by professionals in the areas of ABA, psychiatry, and psychology. Following are some of the topics discussed:

- Collaboration among behavior analysts and psychiatrists.
- "Is it psychiatric or just behavioral?" Conflicts and similarities between psychiatry and behavior analysis.
- The "fixation" on diagnosis.
- The law, the educational system regulations, and the code of ethics, including ethical dilemmas while working with students diagnosed with mental disorders.

Japanese ABA

BY SATORU SHIMAMUNE

The Eighth International Conference of ABAI was held in Kyoto, September 27–29, 2015. We welcomed 400 participants from abroad as well as 226 participants from Japan; the total attendance was the highest in the history of the ABAI international conference. We are most grateful to all who made such a successful event possible.

We had been discussing whether we should make *The Japanese Journal of Behavior Analysis* an open-access journal. Currently, electronic subscriptions are a major income source, and there is concern that membership may decrease if the journal is freely available on the Internet. However, we decided to take the high road and make our research will be more accessible to scientists, practitioners, and students within and outside our community. We will plan how to execute this transition over the next year.

Jordanian ABA

BY MAHMOUD SHEYAB

The mission/objectives of Jordanian ABA (Jor-ABA) are to allow for communication among behavior analysts and others interested in behavior analysis in Jordan and other Middle Eastern and North African countries; to advance the science of behavior analysis and disseminate and encourage its application for changing socially relevant

behaviors, advocating ethical practices, and providing leadership in the practice of the science in diverse fields like education, developmental disabilities, autism, mental health, organizational behavior management, and research; and to contribute to the well-being of society by developing, enhancing, and supporting the growth and vitality of the science of behavior analysis in Jordan and the region through research, education, and practice.

Description of Membership

The chapter has about 40 members right now, all of whom have MS degrees in applied behavior analysis. The majority are 2007–2012 graduates of the Behavior Health Analysis Master's Program at the Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST). Currently, four members of the association have obtained their BCBA certification, and seven members are ready to sit for the BCBA exam.

Annual or Recurring Events

An annual conference is planned for August 30 on evidence-based practices.

Newsletters/Publications

Members of Jor-ABA are working to develop a newsletter. One article was already published by the president in 2014:

Sheyab, M., Pritchard, J., & Malady, M. (2014). An extension of the effects of praising positive qualifying autoclitics on the frequency of reading. *The Analysis of Verbal Behavior*, 30, 2, 141–147.

Specifically of Interest to Behavior Analysts

The chapter is made up of graduates of the first graduate training program in behavior analysis in the Arabic-speaking Middle Eastern and North African countries.

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Kansas ABA

BY EDWARD K. MORRIS

The mission of the Kansas Association for Behavior Analysis (KansABA) is to (a) advance the science and practice of behavior analysis, along with education and training; (b) maintain disciplinary, professional, and ethical standards; and (c) recruit and enhance interest in behavior analysis throughout the state and the Kansas City metropolitan area.

Governance

KansABA is governed by an Executive Committee that consists of a president, Ed Morris; a full member representative, Linda Heitzman-Powell; an affiliate representative, Jill Koertner; and a student representative, Jessica Foster. The committee is assisted by a secretary, Jessica Foster, and a treasurer, Linda Heitzman-Powell. In addition, KansABA has a Legislative Affairs Committee chaired by Nan Perrin; a legislative liaison, Kelley Harrison; a Membership Committee chaired by Jill Koertner; a Web Site Committee chaired by Kelley Harrison (see www.Kansaba.org); a BACB Certification Committee co-chaired by Linda Heitzman-Powell and Jill Koertner; and a Professional Development Committee chaired by Tyler Re.

Membership

KansABA has membership categories for Full members: members who meet the requirements for Full membership in ABAI (\$50 membership fee); Affiliate members: citizens of the State of Kansas and the Kansas City metropolitan area who have an interest in behavior analysis in Kansas (\$40); Adjunct members: citizens in other states and countries who have an interest in behavior analysis in Kansas (\$30); and Student members: students who meet the requirements for Student membership in ABAI (\$20). Membership includes registration at the annual KansABA conference, admission to the conference's career and education fair, food and beverages throughout the conference, lunch, and an evening reception. The membership year is from conference to conference. Membership without conference registration is \$25.

Annual Conference

KansABA's annual conference is our main professional activity. Unlike most affiliates, our conferences normally do not include a program of notable behavior analysts from outside the state. Instead, our programs are built around themes in research, training, and practice in Kansas and heavily feature Kansan presenters. Our out-of-state presenters are often alumni of the Department of Applied Behavior Science at the University of Kansas.

The conference theme this year was Expanding the Scope of Applied Behavior Analysis. Presenters and titles

included Ron Van Houten (Western Michigan University), "Novel Applications of Behavior Analysis: The Less Traveled Road"; Jonathan Baker (Western Michigan University), "Behavioral Gerontology: State of the Science, 1999–2015"; Jim Para-Cremer (NeuroRestorative), "ABA Strategies for Supporting Individuals With Brain Injuries"; Derek D. Reed (University of Kansas), "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Research: Using Behavioral Science to Understand Issues of Environmental Importance"; and Vincent T. Francisco (University of Kansas), "Behavior Analysis and Public Health: Wicked Solutions for Wicked Problems."

In addition, Mike Wasmer (Autism Speaks) provided a legislative update on ABA for autism in Kansas. We held a student poster session, hosted a career fair for service providers and nonprofit agencies, and closed the conference with an awards ceremony. The awards were for the best student posters and for distinguished service to KansABA. This year, the latter went to Jason M. Hirst (Southern Illinois University) and Sean M. Swindler (Kansas Center for Autism Research and Training). An evening reception was held at the president's house. The conference provided CEUs and certificates of attendance. Attendance was about 100.

Legislation and Licensure

For the past five years, the parents of children with autism, providers of autism services, Autism Speaks, and KansABA have worked to develop licensure for board certified behavior analysts in Kansas. Independent of these efforts, the insurance industry sponsored a bill late in the 2015 legislative session that addressed the licensing of behavior analysts, but it was highly restrictive in defining the roles of BCBAs and funding for services. Before being passed, the bill underwent several iterations and then went into effect on July 1, 2016. Although still restrictive, it provides for licensing behavior analysts under the Kansas Behavioral Science Regulatory Board (BSRB), but not as vetted by the BACB. Kansas does not allow other entries to define its requirements for licensure. Nonetheless, the BACB Task List defines, in part, who may practice behavior analysis in Kansas. The BSRB has established a subcommittee on behavior analysis licensure that includes one KansABA EC member, Linda Heitzman-Powell, and one KansABA member at large, Claudia Dozier. Currently, it is advising the BSRB on trailer legislation that clarifies the criteria for licensing behavior analysts in Kansas. KansABA thanks Gina Green (APBA), Jim Carr (BACB), and Mike Wasmer (Autism Speaks) for consulting with KansABA and the BSRB about Kansas legislation and its rules and regulations for behavior analytic services for the state's citizens.

Recent Initiatives

In 2014, KansABA included chapter membership with its conference registration and held its first career fair, which required conference registration. This increased our

membership from about 10 (e.g., Executive Committee members) to 90 members. In 2015, we created a composite mailing list of KansABA members, autism contacts, career fair service providers, and friends of KansABA (e.g., college, university, community, and other ABAI affiliate contacts). This greatly increased the range of our communications.

Present Initiatives

With a representative affiliate membership, KansABA's main initiative for 2015–2016 is to move toward implementing its bylaws by holding elections for its three Executive Committee members: president and full member representative, affiliate member representative, and student member representative. The secretary and treasurer and the committee positions are appointed. KansABA's other initiatives are to seek Internal Revenue Service tax-exempt status, advance the Professional Development Committee's colloquium series that addresses topics in behavior analysis in the Kansas City metropolitan area, and assist with legislation and licensure for behavior analysts in Kansas.

Kentucky ABA

BY ERICK M. DUBUQUE

Mission

The Kentucky Association for Behavior Analysis (KYABA) is an affiliated chapter of ABAI. Its mission is to advance awareness, development, and access to the science and practice of behavior analysis in the Commonwealth of Kentucky by (1) encouraging the understanding of behavior analysis in academic, research, and natural environments; (2) supporting the design and application of effective behavioral procedures to improve the quality of life of the citizens of Kentucky; (3) serving as a professional reference group for those who identify themselves as scientists or practitioners in disciplines that embrace the principles and practices of behavior analysis; (4) advising political, legislative, and policy-making bodies with respect to all matters pertaining to behavior analysis; (5) organizing colloquia, symposia, and conferences that serve as forums for the presentation of scientific and technological achievements, clinical practice, and discussion of the affairs of the organization; and (6) publishing and distributing information on behavior analysis.

Executive Committee

KYABA is governed by an Executive Committee composed of a president, past president, president-elect, three representatives, and one student representative. The 2016 Executive Committee includes Brandon Franklin (president), Stephen Foreman (past president), Erick Dubuque (president-elect), Molly Dubuque (representative), Becky Nastally (representative), Robert Pennington (representative), and Jon Burt (student representative). The Executive Committee is assisted by a director of operations

and a treasurer. The 2016 director of operations is Kellina Merriis, and the treasurer is Lindse Mitchell.

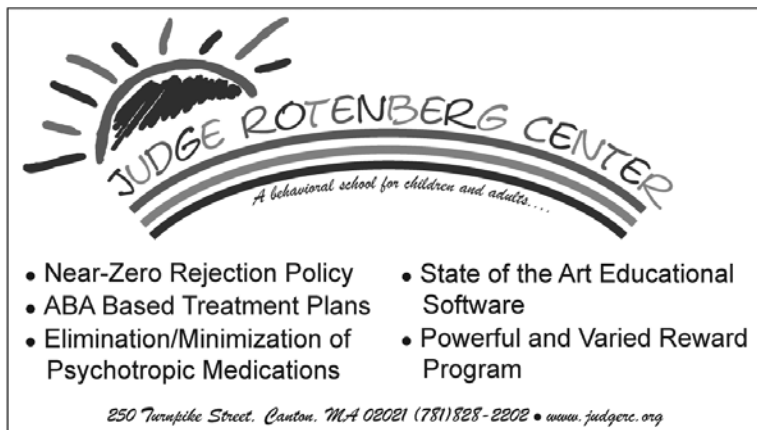
Membership

KYABA offers three categories of annual membership: Full, Affiliate, and Student. Full membership status may be obtained by any individual who holds at least a master's degree in a discipline explicitly related to behavior analysis with training or professional experience in behavior analytic teaching, research, and/or clinical applications, or who currently holds certification as a BCBA or BCaBA. Only Full members of KYABA are allowed to vote on matters of interest to the organization and hold office. Affiliate membership status may be obtained by any individual who is interested in the field of behavior analysis, but who does not qualify for Full membership. Affiliate members enjoy all the benefits of Full membership, except for the right to vote on matters of interest to the organization and the right to hold office. Student membership status may be obtained by any individual enrolled at least half-time in a behavior analytic or related degree program. There are multiple benefits to becoming a member of the organization. These benefits include, but are not limited to, reduced annual conference registration and CEU fees, notifications about continuing education opportunities, access to the latest issue of *Bluegrass Behavior* and our newsletter archive, listing of the latest job opportunities in the field, eligibility for Chapter/Adjunct membership in ABAI, subscription to our professional listserv network, access to the latest news in behavior analysis, a vote on issues pertinent to the organization (Full members only), and the opportunity to hold office in the organization (Full members only).

Events

KYABA has hosted events in the state since 2012. For the last few years, the organization has held an annual spring conference and a fall workshop series. These events have consistently sold out and drawn registrants from every corner of Kentucky and its surrounding states. In November 2015, KYABA's workshop series included training on a variety of topics (e.g., ethics, philosophy of science, staff training and measurement) by distinguished speakers such as Drs. Rick Radar, Robert Ross, Robert Pennington, Matthew Normand, and Erick Dubuque. In April 2016, KYABA held its annual conference. This year's theme was behavioral assessment and KYABA was fortunate to play host to Drs. Mark Dixon, Mark Sundberg, and Patrick McGreevy. In an effort to increase outreach efforts, the KYABA Executive Committee is seeking to expand its presence into more remote areas of the state by setting up smaller events in rural locations throughout the year. More information about KYABA can be found on the organization's website: www.kentuckyaba.org.

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Korean ABA

BY YUNHEE SHIN

Korean ABA and the Korean Association of Child and Adolescent Behavior Therapy will collaborate on an international conference and future innovations. Additionally, the chapter submitted a proposal to ABAI for the 2019 international conference. Our hope is to share interests, research, and growth of behavior analysis in East Asia.

Korean ABA held an annual conference and activities including professional training programs this year. We will also publish four issues of the Journal of Emotional & Behavioral Disorders this year. Korean ABA grants a Certificate of Behavior Therapist to individuals who complete 2-year training courses and pass the certification examination. The training, designed primarily for new professionals, includes online and on-site programs in ABA theories.

Newsletters/Publications

We have published a quarterly journal that has been ranked by the Ministry of Education as one of the best publications for 23 years. The Journal of Emotional & Behavioral Disorders is in Korean and targets the education and general welfare of children and youth with emotional and/or behavioral disorders. Publishing date for volume 32 are March 31, June 30, September 30, and December 31.

Conferences

The chapter held its 2016 Spring Conference on May 28 at Gonju University. We are planning our Annual Autumn Conference—details and dates are still being finalized.

Professional Training

Korean ABA is holding two 2016 on-site training programs:

- Summer Program: July–August, “Assessment, Diagnosis and Evaluation for individuals With EBD”
- Winter Program: December–January, “Abnormal Behaviors and Psychology”

Additionally, the chapter is currently offering four online training programs:

- Assessment, Diagnosis, and Evaluation for Individuals With EBD
- Abnormal Behaviors and Psychology
- Intervention for Individuals With EBD
- Applied Behavior Analysis on PBS

Membership

In order to join, membership applicants must meet at least one of the following requirements:

- Currently studying applied behavior analysis and interventions for individuals with emotional, behavioral, or learning disabilities in a graduate program
- Working and using ABA with individuals with emotional, behavioral, or learning disabilities
- Recommended by staff or current members

Korean Association of Child and Adolescent Behavior Therapy

BY JUNG-YEON CHO

Founded in 2008, the Korean Association of Child and Adolescent Behavior Therapy (KACBT) is an affiliated chapter serving the Republic of Korea. The mission of KACBT is to support the Behavior Analyst Certification Board as the credentialing body for practitioners of applied behavior analysis in the region and to promote evidence-based behavior practices in Korea.

With more than 600 members, KACBT consists mainly of college members, including professors and undergraduate students, but its membership is also open to practitioners, special education teachers, and behavior analysts. Supporting members with practicum placement, KACBT has many officially affiliated institutions and partners.

KACBT holds and participates in many events, including annual conferences, biannual workshops, and seminars. In 2015 and 2016, these events hosted college professors, students, practitioners, parents of disabled children, and special education teachers:

- February 2015: Signing Ceremony for Newly Affiliated Institutions as KACBT Official Partners
- March 2015: Workshop for KACBT Supervisors on the Topics of “Behavior Intervention Strategy,” “Measurement and Data Collection,” “Research Designs,” and “Functional Behavior Assessment”
- April 2015: Invited Presentation on Research Design, BCBA Passing Strategy, and Some Anecdotes
- June 2015: Spring Annual Case Conference
- September 2015: Participation in the ABAI International Conference in Kyoto, Japan (Jung-Yeon Cho)
- October 2015: Special Lecture at Daegu Cyber University’s Annual Festival, “School-Wide Positive Behavior Intervention and Support”

- November 2015: 23rd Annual Conference of the Korean Society for Emotional and Behavioral Disorders, “Education and Behavioral Intervention for Students With Emotional and Behavioral Disorders”
- November 2015: Autumn Annual Case Conference
- December 2015: Invited Presentation for Teachers of the Interfering Behavior Research Group in Daegu Province, “Positive Behavior Support”
- January 2016: 2016 Spring Conference, “BCBA & BCaBA Certification,” “A Case Study on Aggressive Behaviors,” “A Study of ADHD Cases,” “Clinical Case Reports and Reviews,” and “Kindergarten Case Study Examples”

In addition, the chapter has many local supervisors, all of whom hold the KACBT supervision credential and are dedicated leaders. KACBT organizes training programs for practitioners and students on the assessment and diagnosis of developmental disabilities, evidence-based practices for behavior analysis and intervention, functional behavioral assessment and implementation of tactics, evaluation of interventions, and presentations of case studies and seminars. Case conferences are held four times a year, where students and practitioners share case research under supervision.

KACBT supports several research groups from many regions in the country (Seoul, Busan, Daegu, and Gwangju) whose objectives are sharing clinical cases and experiences among members, giving members opportunities to cooperate with each other, and binding members in a mentor-mentee program. For more information about KACBT, please visit our website: www.kacbt.or.kr.

Lone Star ABA

BY GERALD E. HARRIS

The Lone Star Applied Behavior Analysts (LSABA) chapter was established in 2009 to provide community support for professionals and students in the field of applied behavior analysis. Houston-area members include practitioners, educators, and those working in public and private sectors. While the majority members are involved in the application of ABA to children with autism, LSABA recognizes and supports professionals who show the utility of ABA in application to a wide variety of populations and problems.

The regular LSABA meetings continue to be an excellent forum to inform practitioners of ABA-related news, events, and issues. At the beginning of each meeting, different members will present specific information on current issues, followed by a discussion of local relevance.

For the second year we have improved accommodations for the professionals around Houston by alternating a North and a South meeting throughout the year. Houston covers a large area, and traffic can be difficult. By having meetings in more convenient locations, we have increased attendance, including from the outlying communities.

Legal issues related to the practice of ABA are of course forefront in professional minds. The LSABA Legal Committee is devoted to monitoring, informing, and (where appropriate) influencing local laws and regulations concerning the practice of ABA. LSABA monitors new or evolving laws and regulations affecting the practice of ABA in the Houston area. LSABA members are informed about opportunities to voice their opinions and concerns to governmental individuals and agencies enacting and implementing those laws and regulations. Information is also given to providers and the community on the practical impact of legislative actions. This past year LSABA has voiced positions on several ongoing Texas legislative and regulatory issues, including definitions of ABA provider for public assistance programs and licensing.

Many local ABA practitioners are particularly interested in third-party insurance issues related to ABA treatment for children with autism. LSABA continues to work with insurance companies as they develop their systems to accommodate ABA services, informing and shaping the evolution of reasonable payments for quality services. LSABA has also provided information to ABA providers to assist them in complying with and benefiting from the new third-party payment systems.

A new topic of interest this year is awareness of and compliance with evolving ethical and professional standards in the practice of ABA. With the increase in ABA providers in the Houston area, LSABA has begun developing resources for increasing awareness of the current best standards for practice. LSABA believes it is in everyone's best interest to maintain the highest professional standards in our field of expertise and is working to make it easier to achieve that goal.

Each LSABA meeting includes a continuing education component, with BACB-approved CEU credits. Current ABA research articles are selected and are presented and discussed in depth. The mix of practitioner and scholar viewpoints involved typically results in a very informative, lively, and interesting educational experience.

An important goal of LSABA is to inform and support the use of applied behavior analysis in the Houston area. To that end, we work closely with the Houston Families for Early Autism Treatment (FEAT). An LSABA representative attends and participates in FEAT board meetings in order to facilitate communication between the two groups and help coordinate local ABA support activities. Such activities include LSABA BCBAs providing regular full-day ABA workshops for the community. The ABCs of ABA workshops provide a basic foundation in ABA for parents, teachers, and others, while the 123s of ABA provide more detailed information about specific ABA applications. This past year, LSABA conducted six full-day workshops for the community. These were well attended and feedback was very positive.

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LSABA also supports local organizations and participates in local events to promote ABA within the community to both professionals and consumers. For example, LSABA had representatives at many of the Houston-area autism awareness events this year. Information is provided to attendees about the profession of ABA and local services available.

LSABA continues to be very appreciative of support and recognition from the state chapter, Texas ABA (TxABA), and works cooperatively with them to further the goals of ABA professionals. There is a good system of information exchange in place, and LSABA and its members individually participate in and assist with TxABA activities and events, such as the annual TxABA conference.

At the national and international level, LSABA has certainly been supported and encouraged by ABAA, and expresses gratitude for all the assistance of that organization. As an Affiliate of APBA, LSABA has also received welcome support and encouragement from that organization.

Overall, for a still-young organization—about 7 years old now—LSABA appears to have a good foundation and a good track record of accomplishments. LSABA is certainly blessed with having dedicated and caring members, and excellent support from the ABA professional establishment.

Louisiana Behavior Analysis Association

BY JANICE HUBER

Mission and History

The Louisiana Behavior Analysis Association (LaBAA) is a nonprofit organization that promotes ABAA's mission to contribute to the well-being of society by developing, enhancing, and supporting the growth and vitality of the science of behavior analysis through research, education, and practice. LaBAA serves as a scientific, professional, and networking group for its members. LaBAA also promotes access to behavior analysis services in the state of Louisiana.

LaBAA was established in April 2012 and became the ABAA-affiliated state chapter in the fall of 2012. LaBAA is also an Affiliate of APBA and a BACB ACE provider.

Officers

LaBAA is governed by an Executive Committee composed of a president, vice-president, treasurer, and secretary. Officers for 2014–16 were Grant Gautreaux, Ph.D., BCBA-D, LBA, president; Melissa Raymond, MA, BCBA, LBA, vice-president; Kakie Fontenot, MEd, BCBA, LBA, treasurer; and Janice Huber, MA, BCBA, LBA, secretary. The LaBAA Board of Directors is comprised of regional representatives from across the state, a parent representative, and a student representative. Regional representatives for 2014–16 were Chad Favre,

MS, BCBA, LBA; Katie Jenkins, MEd, BCBA, LBA; Kelly Spears, MS, CCC-SLP, BCBA, LBA; Rachel Wright Lyons, MA, BCBA, LBA; and William Mauldin, MA, BCBA, LBA. Lydie Neumann from Nicholls State University was the student representative, and Carmen Vara-Napier was the parent representative. Elections for all officers and representatives are conducted in April or May every other year. Please visit the website, www.labaa.net, to view the 2016–18 officers. The LaBAA membership voted to amend the bylaws, effective May 2016, to revise the position of vice-president to president-elect.

Membership

There are three classes of membership; Full, Affiliate, and Student. Benefits of membership include:

- Professional representation—LaBAA is committed to protecting the interests of LaBAA licensed behavior analysts in the Louisiana state legislature.
- Consumer/affiliate representation—LaBAA is committed to protecting the interests of consumers of ABA in the Louisiana state legislature.
- Full members have the right to vote in all matters brought before LaBAA.
- Full members have the option to be listed as service providers on the website.
- Full and Affiliate members have the option to post employment opportunities on the website.
- Advocacy and professional networking are provided for all levels of membership.

LaBAA has grown from 150 members in the spring of 2015 to approximately 230 members at the time of writing. Member meetings were held in April 2016 in Baton Rouge and May 2016 at the ABAA annual convention in Chicago.

Committees

The Membership Committee chair for 2015–16 is Kelly Spears, MS, CCC-SLP, BCBA, LBA. The goal of the committee is to continue encouraging Louisiana behavior analysts and advocates to join and actively participate in supporting LaBAA's mission. LaBAA membership is included as an option in conference registration. At the 2015 conference, membership reached nearly 300.

The Fundraising Committee co-chairs for 2015–16 are Kakie Fontenot and Janice Huber. The committee conducted raffles and sold items at the 2015 conference. A “Wear a T-Shirt” fundraiser was held in April at a Baton Rouge school to raise funds to support LaBAA's mission.

The Social Media Committee maintains a website (www.labaa.net), a Facebook page, and a Twitter account for the purpose of disseminating information about LaBAA, behavior analysis, and related events to the public and chapter members. The 2015–16 chair is Kakie Fontenot. The LaBAA website is host to employment ads, service

providers, the ongoing t-shirt fundraiser, and news and updates regarding behavior analytic events.

The Legislative Committee chair is LaBAA president Grant Gautreaux. The committee monitors Louisiana legislative activity relevant to the field and practice of behavior analysis. Since June 2013, Louisiana has had a title and practice act for behavior analysis regulated by an independent board of behavior analysts. In April 2016, Dr. Gautreaux represented LaBAA at a legislative forum to review legislation in the 2016 session. Along with the continued advocacy and support for the independent regulatory board of behavior analysts, another of LaBAA's top priorities is conducting professional conferences.

Co-chairs for the 2015 Conference Committee were Katie Jenkins and Daniel NoackLeSage. LaBAA hosted the third annual Gulf Coast ABA Conference in October 2015 in New Orleans, Louisiana. Approximately 230 people attended the two-day conference. Presenters and attendees from across the United States and from multiple countries took part in workshops conducted by Grant Gautreaux and Rich Mancil, symposia, a poster event, a social, and a keynote address by Dorothea Lerman, Ph.D., BCBA-D, from the University of Houston-Clear Lake. The 2016 Conference Committee is chaired by Daniel NoackLeSage.

The fourth annual Gulf Coast ABA Conference is scheduled for October 6–8, 2016 in New Orleans at the beautiful Le Meridien Hotel. LaBAA invites all of you to join in on the fun down in the Big Easy! For information and updates, go to www.labaa.net.

Other Activities

LaBAA collaborated with LBAB to conduct an election for open board positions. LaBAA submitted four nominees to the governor's office, three of whom were LaBAA members: G. Richard Mancil, Ph.D., BCBA-D, LBA; Alfred Tuminello, Jr., BCBA, LBA; and Scott Williamson, BCBA, LBA.

LaBAA president, Dr. Gautreaux, represented LaBAA at the APBA affiliate meeting at the annual APBA conference in Washington, DC in March 2016.

Vice-President Melissa Raymond, BCBA, LBA, and Regional Representative Rachel Wright Lyons, BCBA, LBA, organized and hosted LaBAA's first regional research review meeting for members in southwest Louisiana. The first meeting was conducted in April, and members had an opportunity to earn a Type 2 CEU for attending a presentation by Lee Leger, BCBA, LBA, and Scott Williamson, BCBA, LBA.

A priority for LaBAA in 2016 is the completion of an ABA infographic, which will serve as a starting point for a PSA. The purpose of the PSA is to educate the public on the science and practice of behavior analysis. The LaBAA board hopes to have the project completed in 2016 and plans to make it available to any interested parties.

Manitoba ABA

BY ASHLEY BORIS

The Manitoba Association for Behaviour Analysis (MABA) is proud to be in its 11th year as an affiliated chapter of ABAAI. During our 10th year, several objectives were met, including offering CEU events for BCBAs and BCBA-Ds, successfully publishing two newsletters, organizing our Third Annual Student Poster Competition, hosting our Fourth Volunteer Appreciation Night and our 10th Annual Conference, and holding our annual general meeting. To promote MABA as an affiliated chapter of ABAAI, we presented an Expo poster and attended the leadership training session at the ABAAI 41st Annual Convention in San Antonio, TX.

This past year, MABA's Advisory Committee has been working to review licensing and certification options for behavior analysts in our province. Discussions are underway, and our goal is for certification and licensing to be an option for behavior analysts who have received their degrees from distance education ABA programs or who have degrees in applicable fields other than psychology. The Advisory Committee is also continuing to advocate for additional faculty positions in ABA at the University of Manitoba.

In October 2015, MABA was successful in partnering with the Department of Psychology at the University of Manitoba to host Dr. Gina Green (executive director, APBA) for a psychology department colloquium. Dr. Green was also the keynote speaker at our 10th Annual Conference and delivered a presentation titled "How Reviews of Research Evidence Influence Policies on the Practice of ABA." The conference also featured presentations by our invited speakers, Dr. Adrienne Leslie-Toogood (Canadian Sport Centre Manitoba) on the application of behavior analysis for sport psychology consulting and Dr. Gregg Tkachuk (Pan Am Pain Clinic) on the history and evolution of behavioral pain psychology. Our conference also included a panel discussion with Drs. Gina Green, Toby Martin (University of Manitoba), and Adrienne Leslie-Toogood, as well as Caroline Simard, MA (St. Amant Autism Programs) on the topic of knowledge translation in ABA.

We are already looking forward to our 11th Annual Conference, to be held Thursday, October 6, 2016 at the University of Manitoba. The conference will feature presentations by our keynote speaker, Patrick Friman, Ph.D. (American Board of Professional Psychologists, Behavioral Health Boys Town, University of Nebraska); our invited speakers, Janine Montgomery, Ph.D. (University of Manitoba), and Genevieve Roy-Wsiaki, Ph.D. (University of St. Boniface); along with poster presentations by a number of students and other researchers.

MABA became a continuing education (CE) provider in 2013, and in 2015 we organized several events that offered affordable CEUs to our members who are BCBAs and

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BCBA-Ds. We held three CEU events, including our student poster competition, our annual conference, and a web-based journal seminar in collaboration with Ontario ABA. In 2016, we will host our first workshop by Caio Miguel, Ph.D. (California State University).

MABA also hosted its Third Annual Student Poster competition at the University of Manitoba. All psychology students with behaviorally oriented research were invited to submit their research posters, and eight students were accepted into the competition. Our judges, Dr. Toby Martin and Flavia Julio-Martin, evaluated posters and presentations to select our graduate and undergraduate winners.

In pursuit of our mission to disseminate information on behavior analysis, MABA participated in the Manitoba Psychological Society's annual psychology month event in February 2015. We sponsored presentations on managing and coping with challenging behaviors. The general public was welcome to attend, and there was an excellent turnout of parents and ABA practitioners. Additionally, we sponsored an information booth at St. Amant to promote behavior analysis.

In May 2015, MABA attended the ABAI 41st Annual Convention in San Antonio, TX, and presented a poster at the Expo. We greatly enjoyed participating in the affiliated chapter leadership training session and also had the opportunity to meet with fellow Canadian chapter board members to share suggestions and ideas.

Our key objectives for 2016 include advocating for additional ABA faculty at the University of Manitoba; exploring licensing and registration options in the province; increasing our membership through various recruitment initiatives; providing a variety of presentations for the general public on matters relating to behavior analysis; organizing events that will provide CEUs and promote our membership; partnering with local organizations, colleges, and universities to promote awareness of ABA in Manitoba; and hosting our 11th Annual Conference.

Maryland ABA

BY CARRIE S. W. BORRERO AND NICOLE HAUSMAN

The Maryland Association for Behavior Analysis (MABA) held its 18th Annual Meeting in Baltimore, Maryland on Friday, December 11, 2015. Our conference is devoted to the dissemination of behavior analysis, both basic and applied, to our members from the Mid-Atlantic area. We had a record-breaking year in terms of attendance. Nearly 400 members heard presentations from James Carr (Behavior Analyst Certification Board), Iser DeLeon (University of Florida), Mark Lewis (University of Florida), Michael Perone (West Virginia University), and Timothy Vollmer (University of Florida). Additionally, James Carr conducted an engaging workshop on the topic of functional assessment. Three students (Kelly Calile from Caldwell University and Barbara Davis and Julia Iannaccone from the University of

Maryland, Baltimore County) were selected to participate in the MABA Student Paper Symposium. Poster presenters included staff and students from organizations such as Bancroft, the Ivymount School and Programs, the Kennedy Krieger Institute, and the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. We would like to thank our sponsors: ACE 4.0, Behavior Development Solutions, Connections Therapy Center, the Kennedy Krieger Institute, Little Leaves Behavioral Services, Mid-Atlantic Human Service Corporation, Relias Learning, and Verbal Beginnings.

At the conclusion of the conference, Jennifer Zarcone (Kennedy Krieger Institute) stepped down as president, Christine Accardo (Shafer Center) assumed the office of president, and Louis Hagopian (Kennedy Krieger Institute) was elected president-elect. Stacy McIntyre (Ivymount) was elected member at large, and Denise Pichardo (University of Maryland, Baltimore County) was elected student representative. We would like to thank the executive committee for their time and dedication.

Plans are currently under way for the 19th Annual Meeting, to be held Friday, December 16, 2016 in Baltimore, Maryland. We expect to include distinguished behavior analysts in our line-up of speakers. Additionally, we will conduct a pre-conference workshop on Thursday, December 15, 2016. We will also have our annual MABA Student Paper Symposium, which is open to all behavior analysis students. For more information about our upcoming conference, please go to www.mdaba.org.

Massachusetts ABA

BY ROBERT ROSS

The Massachusetts Association for Applied Behavior Analysis (MassABA) was established in 2010 to support the science and practice of behavior analysis in Massachusetts. As the home of more than 1,600 BCBA's and 17 BACB Approved Course Sequences, Massachusetts boasts the highest per capita concentration of behavior analysts in the world. MassABA has focused its efforts to support the growth of our field by the following means:

- Supporting landmark autism insurance legislation.
- Assisting with the passage of a behavior analyst licensing law with strong consumer protections.
- Supporting the expansion of Medicaid coverage for ABA services.
- Hosting an annual conference that brings diverse behavior analytic voices and applications to our membership.

Over the past year we have continued to work with our state government leaders to keep them abreast of issues of importance to our membership. In February 2016, MassABA hosted an informational lunch meeting for legislators at the state house. This highly successful event featured practitioners and family members sharing their experiences with ABA-based services in personal and moving ways.

MassABA has several active committees that work to address specific areas of interest to our members:

- **The University Coordinators Committee:** The members of this committee focus on addressing areas of common interest such as curriculum support, supervision and mentoring issues, impact of governmental regulation, research collaboration, and participation in the annual conference. This committee is currently co-chaired by Dr. Joe Vedora and Dr. Jeff Skowron.
- **The School-Based BCBA Committee:** This newly formed committee is focusing on a broad range of issues of concern to BCBAs who work for or in public school settings. The committee has focused itself into two main sub-committees addressing clinical issues and administrative concerns. The clinical committee is holding a series of ongoing meetings to develop resources and standards for school-based behavior analysts. The administrative group is addressing issues such as state Department of Education recognition of the BCBA license and credential as well as clarifying clinical and administrative roles within the school system hierarchy. Rachel Freedman and Bob Ross co-chair the committee; active committee participants include Dan Almeida, Christina Stuart, Brain Ziman, Lisa Gurdin, and Jason Zeigler.
- **The Annual Conference Committee:** MassABA has hosted a conference for each of the past five years. The conference has grown steadily in attendance and quality. Last year more than 25 presenters and 700 attendees made it a tremendous success. The 2016 conference featured keynotes by Anthony Biglan (author of *The Nurture Effect: How the Science of Human Behavior Can Improve Our Lives and Our World*), David Allen (author of *Getting Things Done: Staying Relaxed, Focused, and in Control in a World of Too Much to Do*), and Tim Vollmer (University of Florida, who gave a talk called “The Detrimental Effects of Behavioral Rigidity in Autism: Assessment and Solutions”). There were more than 24 breakout sessions, and speakers at these sessions included Jim Carr, Eric Larsson, David Palmer, Greg Hanley, Caio Miguel, Mary Jane Weiss, Justin Leaf, Dennis Dixon, Robert Volpe, Jessica Frieder, Judah Axe, Julie Kornack, William Dube, Missy Olive, Tim Courtney, Tom Byrne, Bob Putnam, Tom Zane, Mike Dorsey, Darlene Crone-Todd, and many others. The conference was sold out for the fourth year in a row.
- **The Legislative Committee:** This committee continues to monitor legislative activity of interest to our members and attends relevant political events to maintain a high level of visibility for MassABA. This committee organized a state house presentation for members of the state legislature in February (mentioned above) and is actively tracking legislation relating to behavior analysis, restraint regulation, insurance implementation, public school behavioral services, and many other areas that may impact the practice of behavior analysis in Massachusetts. This group has also

worked to develop an ongoing dialogue with some of the key insurance companies in Massachusetts and serves to advise them on the positions relating to provision and oversight of ABA-based treatment services. This dialogue has helped ensure that these companies are familiar with best practice research in areas of ABA treatment services and shaped policies that are consistent with the provision of high-quality ABA treatment.

MassABA looks forward to continuing to be at the forefront of policy making and professionalization of service provision in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. We recognize that the rapid growth of providers of ABA services requires that the field step up to meet the challenge of supporting these new practitioners with resources to help ensure that they are providing high-quality and effective ABA services. MassABA will continue to focus its efforts to ensure that we strengthen the science and practice of behavior analysis.

Mid-American ABA

BY JULIE A. ACKERLUND BRANDT

The Mid-American Association for Behavior Analysis (MABA) is a regional affiliate of the Association for Behavior Analysis International. MABA is a membership organization devoted to promoting scholarly interchange in behavior analysis through its annual convention. The annual convention also allows for dissemination of the science of behavior analysis to the public and to professional behavior analysts residing in the Midwestern United States.

The 16th annual MABA convention was held October 16–17 in Kansas City, MO at the Phillips Hotel. More than 160 people attended the convention, which featured an outstanding speaker lineup. The 2015 MABA president, Derek Reed (University of Kansas), began the conference with opening remarks and an address entitled, “The Reinforcement Pathologies of Ultraviolet Indoor Tanning: A Behavioral Economic Approach.” Next, speaker Dean Williams (University of Kansas) discussed “Behavioral Mechanisms of Drug Action in IDD: Why Should I Care.” This was followed by Valerie Volkert (Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta), who presented a symposium entitled, “Chewing Innovations in Outpatient Feeding Therapy.” Anthony DeFulio (Western Michigan University) then gave a presentation entitled, “Contingency Management as a Case Study for Ethical and Conceptual Challenges to Behavior Analytic Interventions.”

The afternoon began with Tiffany Kodak (University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee), who presented “Assessing and Teaching Prerequisite Skills for Auditory–Visual Conditional Discrimination,” which was followed by Keith Allen (Munroe-Meyer Institute), whose talk was entitled, “Getting Children to Sit Still at the Dentist Is Like...Well, It’s Like Trying to Pull Teeth: Applied Behavior Analysis to the Rescue.” Closing out our Friday session were Brian Kangas (Harvard Medical School) who presented a symposium

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on “A Preclinical Pharmacology of Complex Behavior in Monkeys” and Laura Martin (University of Kansas Medical School), who spoke on the topic of “The Brain and Obesity: Neural Responses to Food, Money, and Decisions.” These presentations were succeeded by the first of two winners of our Forrest J. Files Student Travel Award (presented annually to the winner(s) of the Student Research Paper competition)—Brent Kaplan (University of Kansas). Brent’s talk was entitled, “Effects of ‘Episodic Future Thinking’ on Discounting: Personalized Age-Progressed Pictures Improve Risky Long-Term Health Decisions.” MABA then held an open business meeting, and the day ended with poster presentations by students and faculty. This year’s convention featured 45 posters representing work conducted at 11 different institutions. The 2015 MABA conference also included the third annual silent auction, held during the poster session, during which attendees could purchase tickets to bid on behavior analytic books and relics. The auction was a success and we plan to continue holding this event annually.

The second day of the convention began with a panel discussion on “Explanting the Reach of Behavior Analysis” with Florence DiGennaro Reed (University of Kansas), Valerie Volkert (Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta), and David Jarmolowicz (University of Kansas). Following the panel was the second winner of our Forrest J. Files Student Travel Award, Samantha Bergmann (University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee). Samantha’s paper was titled, “Effects of Programmed Errors of Omission and Commission During Auditory-Visual Conditional Discrimination Training With Typically Developing Children”; she presented a 20-minute report on her findings. This was followed by a symposium by David Jarmolowicz (University of Kansas) entitled, “On the Behavioral Economics of Sexual Choice.” Tara Fahmie (California State University, Northridge) finished the conference with a talk entitled, “The Prevention of Problem Behavior: Emerging Areas of Research.”

We are looking forward to our upcoming 2016 convention, to be held October 14–15 in Wisconsin Dells, WI at Chula Vista Resort and Waterpark. The conference will again include addresses on both basic and applied behavior analytic research and theory. Registration fees for the conference include MABA membership and are \$25 for students and \$75 for faculty and professionals. CEUs are available for \$10 each, and we will offer approximately 10 over the 1.5 days of talks. Students and faculty are encouraged to present posters on their research or theoretical efforts. In addition, 1–2 students are annually awarded with the Forrest J. Files student researcher award to help offset travel costs.

The current president of MABA is Dr. Carla Lagorio (University of Wisconsin–Eau Claire), and the president-elect is Dr. Jeff Tiger (University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee). More information about MABA, the annual convention, student awards, registration information, and

joining our email list can be found at the organization’s website (www.midamericanaba.com) or by contacting the operations coordinator, Dr. Julie Ackerlund Brandt (Behave Your Best), at julieab@behaveyourbest.com.

Minnesota Northland ABA

BY MATT H. NEWQUIST

Greetings from the Minnesota Northland Association for Behavior Analysis (MNABA)! We enjoyed a 2015 that brought continued membership growth; applied behavior analysis became more widely recognized as an important resource in communities across Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota; and MNABA participated in multiple legislative efforts across multiple states. We welcomed two new faces to the executive council: Mary Halbur (St. Cloud State University) as the student liaison and Kelli Thron as the communications chair. We also said goodbye to Jamie Waldvogel, who helped us with our website and social media presence during her time as communications chair.

In 2015, the chapter, led by our legislative liaison, Eric Larsson (Lovaas Institute For Early Education–Midwest), continued to work at the capitol in support of autism insurance for ABA-based therapy. We also worked toward licensure for behavior analysts in both Minnesota and South Dakota. As part of the process, we have held several stakeholder meetings in Minnesota and we have met with the board that may have oversight of licensed behavior analysts. We will continue to work to expand the opportunity for behavior analysts to practice in the Minnesota Northland.

Student membership in MNABA is significant, and so has been the work of our MNABA student liaison over the last year. The fifth annual MNABA Data Blitz was a great success, with excellent student presenters. We moved the date to be closer to the ABAI convention this year so that students could practice their presentations.

MNABA’s Executive Council liaisons have continued to work diligently to connect with their communities for speaking engagements about ABA with local organizations and county human services departments. Liaisons have also been more active in commenting on public policy. The MNABA Facebook page remains an oft-used resource for the Executive Council to disseminate information across the state and for our members to network. Check it out at www.facebook.com/pages/Minnesota-Northland-Association-for-Behavior-Analysis-MNABA/108618934790.

MNABA closed 2015 with the annual conference at the Minneapolis Marriott NW in Minneapolis, MN, which was an engaging and inspiring night and day of behavior analysis with local, regional, and national flavor. Our pre-conference workshop on functional behavioral assessment, led by Claudia Dozier, was an excellent tutorial and introduction to functional assessment and analysis. The workshop was followed by our poster session and networking social later that evening. On Friday, conference-

goers attended stimulating presentations on a variety of topics from Dr. Dozier (“Recent Advances in Functional Behavioral Assessment and Treatment”), Dr. Joe Reichle (“Establishing the Conditional Use of Communication Skills”), Dr. Jonathan Baker (“Applications of Skinner’s Analysis of Verbal Behavior to Older Adults”), Dr. Carla Lagorio (“Three Minutes to Midnight: Are We Still Not Acting to Save the World?”), Dr. Matthew Brodhead (“Mand Variability in Children With Autism”), Dr. Tiffany Kodak (“Assessing and Teaching Prerequisite Skills for Auditory-Visual Conditional Discrimination”), Dr. Derek Reed (“What Can Behavioral Economics Contribute to Understanding Tanning Addiction?”), Dr. Julie Ackerlund Brandt (“There’s Something About Mary: How Attention May Affect Preferences for People”), Jamie Waldvogel (“Extending the Reach of ABA to Parents and Teachers of Typically Developing Children”), Dr. Corey Stocco (“Interview Skills Training for College Students”), and Jim Erickson (“Update on the ASD Licensing Bill”).

We are very much looking forward to our MNABA 2016 conference on September 22–23. Please check www.mnaba.org soon for details on registration and presenters—we would love to see you in Minnesota!

Missouri ABA

BY JOHN M. GUERCIO

The Missouri Association for Behavior Analysis has been very active over the past year, especially in regards to proposed mandates with the state of Missouri pertaining to the practice of applied behavior analysis. The Department of Mental Health in Missouri has introduced the use of CPT codes for behavioral services. These new codes will go into effect in July 2016. The Missouri Association for Behavior Analysis has worked with the state to help with this process. The current system for the approval of behavioral services has been quite cumbersome, and the new system was designed to address a number of issues. The end result should be greater access to behavioral services for those with disabilities in the state who need services in order to become more autonomous. The organization has also published position statements related to a new Medicaid proposal and the best options for its use with respect to applied behavior analysis services. The board also welcomed two new members this year: Dr. Duane Lundervold and Dr. SungWoo Kahng joined as members at large prior to our last conference in November. Dr. Lundervold and Dr. Kahng have been very strong advocates for behavior analysis services in the state of Missouri and have made a tremendous impact in furthering our agenda of being more active throughout the state when it comes to increasing advocacy for the science and practice of behavior analysis.

Montana ABA

BY WILLIAM CALDERHEAD

The Montana ABA (MT ABA) was founded in 2013 to support students and professionals in the field of behavior analysis through education, research, and practice. It gained tax-exempt status as a 501(c)(6) organization in 2014 and established a Facebook page to keep its growing membership informed of developments in the field.

Many members, students, teachers, and parents attended the 2015 Autism Conference in Billings. The conference featured Mary Lynch Barbera, author of *The Verbal Behavior Approach*, and Mark L. Sundberg, author of the *Verbal Behavior Milestones Assessment and Placement Program* and co-author of the original ABLLS and the book *Teaching Language to Children with Autism or Other Developmental Disabilities*, and offered 12 free Type 2 CE credits. Our 2016 Autism Conference in June featured a verbal behavior workshop, also offering 12 free Type 2 CE credits.

MT ABA members lobbied state legislators on behalf of bills to expand Medicaid coverage of autism services in 2015. The Medicaid Children’s Autism Waiver, in existence since 2009, provided autism training, respite, and ABA treatment yearly for approximately 55 children ages 1–4, but the legislature considered expanding Medicaid coverage for early periodic screening, diagnosis, and treatment (EPSDT). This would allow provision of ABA services to eligible youth through age 20 under the EPSDT child health criteria. Montana’s Department of Public Health and Human Services estimated that as many as 1,200 persons with autism might be eligible under EPSDT. Another bill called for the provision of ABA treatment under the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP), specifying that ABA services “must be designed and overseen by an individual who is certified by the Behavior Analyst Certification Board as a board certified behavior analyst.” MT ABA members continue to actively participate when public comments are open.

On November 10, 2015, MT ABA members met via teleconference with Dr. Gina Green of ABPA and Dr. Jim Carr of the BACB about the steps of getting licensure passed in the state of Montana. We are diligently working toward expanding our membership and demonstrating our presence in the state as we move forward. Montana ABA’s membership numbers have increased from 19 to 38 full members and students.

Due to Montana’s vast geographic expanse, networking is important yet difficult. Members use social media and web conferencing tools to stay in touch and advocate for expanded ABA services for children with autism. They’ve also made great strides in educating parents, schools, and physicians about the importance of using scientific, evidence-based practices. As a result, there has been growing recognition at the highest levels of state

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government that early intervention using ABA can reduce the need for later intensive services and vastly improve the quality of life of families and children with autism.

Nebraska ABA

BY STEVEN TAYLOR

This was a year of development and growth for the Nebraska ABA (NEABA). We filed our incorporation documents with the State of Nebraska in March 2015. Shortly thereafter we learned our name was unavailable because it was “deceptively similar to the... Nebraska Association for Behavioral Health Organizations.” Upon our appeal, the Secretary of State concluded the likelihood of consumer confusion was negligible. We could keep our name! Our articles of incorporation were approved on June 8, 2015. We appointed an interim board of directors: Steve Taylor, president; Terri Newton, vice president; Elizabeth Bullington, secretary-treasurer; Todd Owen, representative-at-large; and Lindsay Stanley, representative-at-large.

On September 11, 2015, we held our first conference at Midland University in Fremont, NE. There were more than 50 people in attendance. The theme was “ABA Services in Nebraska: What Does the Future Hold?” Jody Horner, president of Midland University, gave the opening remarks. Lorri Unumb (Autism Speaks) reviewed progress in the national movement toward autism insurance reform and coverage of ABA services for autism interventions. Dr. Jim Carr gave an update on the BACB. Eric Larsson (Lovaas Institute for Early Intervention) gave a talk titled, “Bringing an Intensive Treatment Team Into Your Home: How to Make Sure That This Expensive Home Invasion Will Be Worth It.” Annette Wragge (NE Dept. of Education, ASD Network) presented “ABA in the School Setting: Facts, Myths, and Teaming for Success.” Dr. Wayne Fisher (University of Nebraska Medical Center, Center for Autism Spectrum Disorders) spoke on what parents and teachers should know about functional communication training. Todd Streff (Streff Behavioral Consulting) spoke on the lessons learned on Missouri’s path to licensure of behavior analysts. Nebraska State Senator Bob Krist concluded the day with suggestions on how to impact legislation in the state.

Dr. Gina Green was the featured speaker at a teleconference on January 19, 2016, in Lincoln, NE. The title of her presentation was “Licensure of Behavior Analysts: A Primer,” which was followed by a very informative question and answer period. NEABA also became an affiliate of APBA. On March 3–4, 2016, NEABA had a display at the Heartland Association for Behavior Analysis 10th Anniversary Conference in Omaha, NE, and a display on April 7 at the Nebraska ASD Conference. Finally, NEABA was recognized as an affiliated chapter of ABAAI in March 2016.

Nevada ABA

BY GENEVIEVE DEBERNARDIS

The Nevada Association for Behavior Analysis (NABA) seeks to grow and increase membership and active involvement in the organization. Chapter membership is currently at 172 and growing. NABA offers four levels of membership (Full, Affiliate, Sustaining, and Student). Membership applications can be completed on our website, www.nevadaaba.org. Membership in NABA provides access to a yearly newsletter and reduced pricing for our annual conference. NABA is open to anyone interested in intellectual exchange and professional development in the field of behavior analysis in all its facets: philosophical, theoretical, experimental, applied, and practice. While most of our members reside in Nevada, we have members from various parts of the country who have found our organization and annual conference to be an important part of their professional lives.

NABA held its non-concurrent 2015 conference at the Embassy Suites Convention Center in Las Vegas, Nevada on October 16–18, offering an outstanding line-up of events with more than 160 members in attendance. The conference showcased the diversity of behavior analysis with presentations across experimental, applied, and theoretical areas. Notable speakers included Maria Malott (Association for Behavior Analysis International), Janet Twyman (University of Massachusetts Medical School/Center on Innovations in Learning), Martha Pelaez (Florida International University), Mitch Fryling (California State University, Los Angeles), Nancy Neef (The Ohio State University), Peter Killeen (Arizona State University), Daniel Gottlieb (Sweet Briar College), Claudia Drossel (Eastern Michigan University), Shannon Crozier (University of Nevada, Las Vegas), and Jessica Love (University of Nevada, Las Vegas). Presentations included talks on cultural cusps, behavioral technology, infant development, the development of constructs, evidence-based teaching, Premackian conditioning, the power of variable interval schedules, and aging issues. The conference offered up to 19 continuing education credits for BACB-credentialed individuals, which included a workshop on ethics and another on understanding neuropsychological evaluations. NABA supported a range of student work through the Student Research Presentation Award (recipient: Ashley Greenwald) and the poster session.

In our ongoing efforts to increase membership and disseminate information, NABA hosted an Expo poster and held a business meeting at the ABAAI 42nd Annual Convention in Chicago, IL. NABA also published our annual newsletter with relevant updates from around the state.

This year, NABA will host the annual conference on October 21–23 at the Whitney Peak Hotel in Reno, NV. This non-gaming, non-smoking hotel is centrally located

just two blocks from the scenic Truckee River Walk and adjacent to the historic Reno Arch as well as just a 45-minute drive from beautiful Lake Tahoe. Speakers will include Michael Cameron (The Cedar Group/California State University, Northridge), Peter Gerhardt (Virginia Institute of Autism), Al Poling (Western Michigan University), Carol Pilgrim (University of North Carolina-Wilmington), Mark Dixon (Southern Illinois University), Linda J. Parrott Hayes (University of Nevada, Reno), Mark Mattaini (University of Illinois, Chicago), and Melissa Nosik (Behavior Analyst Certification Board). Additionally, Michael Cameron will offer a workshop on ethics, and Molly Dubuque (University of Louisville) will offer a supervision workshop. NABA will continue to support students through presentation opportunities via the Student Research Presentation Award and poster sessions, and provide supplemental conference funding through volunteer positions and conference scholarships.

Moving forward, NABA seeks to increase our membership base and to encourage more involvement from members throughout the year. We are also invested in garnering more participation from our members on committees and providing the board with ways to better serve our membership. NABA remains committed to building partnerships in our community to advance the field of behavior analysis. For more information on NABA:

- Visit our website: www.nevadaaba.org
- Connect with us on LinkedIn: Nevada Association for Behavior Analysis
- Like us on Facebook: Nevada Association for Behavior Analysis
- Follow us on Twitter: @NABAOfficial

New Hampshire ABA

BY THEA DAVIS AND CATHY BOOTH

It was a very busy year for the New Hampshire Association for Behavior Analysis (NHABA). The chapter hosted its very first annual conference on March 12, 2016. The event was sold out within the first month of registration and was well attended by the behavior analytic and educational community, with attendees coming from New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Maine, and Vermont. The chapter was proud and honored to host well-known speakers from the behavior analytic community. Dr. Patrick Friman presented the keynote address titled, "EIBI, ASD and the Forward March of Behavior Analysis." Dr. Adel Najdowski presented "Taking a Walk in Someone Else's Shoes: Recent Research in Teaching Perspective Taking to Children With Autism." Dr. Jonathan Tarbox presented "Minding My Own Mind: Toward the Application of Behavior Analysis to 'Executive Function.'" The final presentation of the day was by Dr. Matthew Normand, "Nature or Nurture? Either Way It's Your Parents' Fault." BCBA and BCaBA attendees earned six BACB Type 2 CEUs for attending the day-long

conference. The conference provided an opportunity for behavior analysts and those interested in behavior analysis in northern New England to not only hear some pretty amazing talks, but to network with fellow behavior analysts.

Thea Davis, NHABA chapter president, attends monthly NH Autism Council Meetings. She also represents the chapter on the State Plan Work Group, which rolled out a plan for autism services in the state of New Hampshire in April 2016. Through the work of various focus groups and stakeholder meetings, the group generated a comprehensive statewide plan for improving the system of care for children and youth with ASD in New Hampshire.

The NHABA website (www.nhaba.net) contains information regarding the goals and mission of the chapter as well as events such as the NHABA conference and chapter meeting dates, times, and locations. Plans to expand the website include resource lists of New Hampshire providers, recent research, parent resources, and expanded announcements of local events and workshops. Through this website the NHABA mission statements of (1) advancing the development of awareness of behavioral services in New Hampshire and (2) raising awareness of the association will be supported.

This past year, the NHABA chapter was again able to offer BACB Type 2 CEU workshops. These were free professional development opportunities provided to chapter members often offered at meetings with several workshops offering CEUs for ethics. The chapter plans to continue to offer free CEU workshops with the hope to offer ethics and supervision workshops to its members.

In the upcoming year the NHABA chapter plans to develop a sub-committee to begin to explore the issue of licensure in the state. Several members have reached out to other state chapters and organizations for information regarding the process of state licensure. This will be an important step in promoting the mission of supporting the development of standards of practice for behavior analysis within New Hampshire.

For more information on chapter meetings or to learn how to join, please contact us at admin@nhaba.net.

New Jersey ABA

BY ERIC ROZENBLAT

The New Jersey Association for Behavior Analysis (NJABA) enjoyed another successful year in 2015. Dr. Kevin Brothers's presidential term ended; however, he was nominated and appointed treasurer of the organization and assumed that role July 1, 2015. Dr. Eric Rozenblat, last year's president-elect, has assumed the role of president, and Dr. Sandra Gomes was elected president-elect. The remainder of the board of directors remained consistent, thereby maintaining stability within the organization. This year, three new at-large representative positions were up for election. We are pleased

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to announce that Dr. Elena Garcia-Albea; Leif Albright, MA, BCBA; and Catherine Taylor-Santa, MA, BCBA won their elections and will assume their new roles beginning July 1, 2016. We look forward to having these dedicated professionals join the NJABA board of directors.

A large organizational initiative was to offer opportunities for behavior analysts within the state to join workgroups based upon a particular topic of interest. Dr. Suzanne Buchanan, NJABA's government affairs chairperson and executive director of Autism NJ, has organized several such workgroups (i.e., early intervention, insurance, public schools, and adult services). These workgroups have helped to streamline communication among behavior analysts in New Jersey. As a result, relationships were established with behavior analysts who otherwise might not have relied upon NJABA as a resource. These workgroups have also helped to increase our membership by reaching various geographic regions within the state.

Since its inception, NJABA has consistently held an annual conference. Our annual conference is now routinely attended by more than 250 people. This year, the 11th annual conference, which was held on March 18, was attended by nearly 300 people! We were honored to have Dr. Louis Hagopian, associate professor in psychiatry and behavioral sciences at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and the Kennedy Krieger Institute, deliver the keynote address, "Delineating Subtypes of Self-Injurious Behavior Maintained by Automatic Reinforcement." In addition to Dr. Hagopian's presentation, there were several workshops and symposia on topics including, but not limited to, teaching safety skills to individuals with autism, the use of behavioral economics to influence choice in learners with autism, teaching learners with autism complex social skills, advancements in teaching verbal behavior, and using equivalence-based instruction. Additionally, we conducted a poster session that included more than a dozen posters on a wide array of topics. All presentations were required to be data-based with demonstrations of experimental control. The conference was well received, and we look forward to reading the evaluations.

NJABA continued its advocacy on the professionalization of and standards of care for ABA services for individuals with autism. Our efforts have been strategic, collaborative, and focused on (1) the implementation of the autism insurance mandate to cover medically necessary ABA services, (2) school districts' use of the Department of Education (DOE) job code we secured in 2014 that allows districts to hire BCBA's who do not also possess a DOE-recognized certificate, and (3) policy development for provider qualifications and reimbursement rates for behavioral services for adults with autism. We are also exploring state-regulated professional credentialing and learning from other states' experiences.

The commitment and dedication of the NJABA board of directors certainly does not go unnoticed. These individuals continue to volunteer their time to promote the effective and ethical practice of behavior analysis. Without the individuals listed below, NJABA would not be the organization it is today.

Executive Committee

- Kevin Brothers, Ph.D., BCBA-D—Treasurer
- Sandra Gomes, Ph.D., BCBA-D—President-Elect
- Kate Cerino Britton, MEd, MA, BCBA—Secretary/Continuing Education Chair

Board of Directors

- David Wilson, Ph.D., BCBA-D—Representative at Large/Events Chair
- Dennis Machado, MA—Representative at Large/Communications Chair
- Lauren Schnell, MEd, BCBA—Representative at Large
- Suzanne Buchanan, Psy.D., BCBA-D—Government Affairs Chair
- Colleen Cullari, MBA—Finance Committee Chair
- Emily Gallant, MA—Student Representative/Membership Chair
- We greatly appreciate the support of ABAA

New York State ABA

BY FRANK CICERO

Once again, this has been a fun and busy year for the New York State Association for Behavior Analysis (NYSABA). As always, we have been active in providing learning opportunities for our members as well as the community at large. In the fall, we held our 26th annual conference in our state capital of Albany. It was attended by more than 450 people, including behavior analysts, teachers, speech therapists, psychologists, other service providers, and families. We were honored to have Drs. James Johnston and V. Mark Durand as keynote speakers as well as a number of distinguished invited presenters. The conference was also a great time to discuss important legislative issues affecting behavior analysis in the state, see research projects conducted by student behavior analysts, and network with colleagues and have fun at our first annual NYSABA social. We were excited to award Dr. Johnston with our John Jacobson Award for Consistent and Long Lasting Contributions to Behavior Analysis, Debora Thivierge with the NYSABA Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Field of Behavior Analysis in New York, and Julia Brodsky of Queens College with the Jeffrey P. Hamlin Student Research Award.

Board members this year included Frank Cicero, president; Dana Reinecke, president-elect; Deborah Napolitano, past president; Linda Matey, treasurer; Nicole DeRosa, secretary; Emily Jones, representative-at-large and education chair; Dan Lesinski, consumer representative;

Denise Lombardi, finance chair; Tricia Moss representative-at-large and student activities chair; Nicole Pearson, marketing co-chair; Shari Schatzman, conference co-chair; Kim Shamoun, legislative chair; Niall Toner, membership chair; and Heather Walker, marketing co-chair. In January we welcomed Nancy Dib and Cindy Alterson to the board as at-large representatives. We are looking forward to another fun and active year as board members. We urge all behavior analysts in the state to join or renew. We also welcome members to become active on board committees and to present research posters and make presentations at our conferences. NYSABA is only as strong as its membership. Unfortunately, increasing membership continues to be a struggle for our membership committee. There are significantly more Board Certified Behavior Analysts in the state than there are members of NYSABA. In order to increase our legislative power, we need to correct this issue. All BCBAs should be supporting our field by joining NYSABA. In an effort to increase membership, we held our first regional behavior analyst meet-ups this year, one in Staten Island and one in Buffalo. Both were well attended, and all had fun networking and sharing information with local colleagues and representatives from the NYSABA board. We are looking forward to more local meet-ups.

This year, we continued to keep ahead of legislative issues affecting behavior analysis in New York. As reported last update, our state license in behavior analysis went into effect in July 2014. Our state licensing board was created and has been holding meetings on a regular basis. NYSABA board members are present at most meetings in order to keep as up to date as possible on legislative issues so that our membership can be properly informed. As of January 2016, New York State requirements for licensure went into effect. These requirements are not consistent with those for BACB certification. Unfortunately, the state has not 100% ironed out some procedural details, and this is causing confusion for current students within programs to obtain certification and licensure. NYSABA is continuing to be a resource for students and professionals through this confusing time. One of the biggest issues affecting behavior analysts in New York continues to be the restriction of our scope to the treatment of individuals with a diagnosis of autism or related disorders. Unless behavior analysts are in an exempt setting or hold another license, we are restricted from practicing outside of autism. Student fieldwork hours will also not count if done outside of autism. Despite decades of research supporting a broader scope of practice, New York State restricts our focus. NYSABA is currently in the process of starting a campaign to address this restriction of scope. It will, however be a long and difficult process, which is why, once again, we are urging all behavior analysts in the state to support NYSABA through membership, financial support for legislative efforts, volunteering for board work, and gathering grassroots support in your communities when called into action. Stay

tuned for more information on this highly important issue.

We are now in the process of planning our 27th annual conference, being held in Albany on October 27–28, 2016. We are pleased to announce keynotes by Drs. Iser Deleon and Wayne Fuqua as well as 11 other distinguished invited speakers. Be on the lookout for local one-day conferences, which will be planned throughout the state, as well as more regional behavior analyst meet-ups. Anyone interested in hosting a regional meet-up should contact Niall Toner, membership chair; Heather Walker, marketing co-chair; or Frank Cicero, president. All contact information can be found on our website, www.nysaba.org. That's the news from New York State. Wishing you all a great year to come!

New Zealand ABA

BY ANNE MACASKILL

The New Zealand Association for Behaviour Analysis (NZABA) is a community of people working, teaching, and researching in behavior analysis in, or with a connection to, New Zealand (Aotearoa). Our main event each year is the NZABA conference held in late August. In 2015, we convened in Christchurch. This was the first time that it was possible to have a meeting in Christchurch since the destructive 2010 and 2011 earthquakes, so we were very happy that the University of Canterbury was able to host the conference. The conference was very successful, with 35 papers and 22 posters.

We particularly value the contribution that students make to our conference, and student presentations were outstanding in 2015. Two particularly high-quality presentations received awards from a panel of judges, with prizes supplied by NZABA. Two major awards were presented to Surrey Jackson from the University of Waikato for her talk, "A microanalysis of body weight as a motivating operation," and Vikki Bland from the University of Auckland for her talk, "Impact of signaled alternative reinforcement on persistence of target responding." Additional commendations were given to Rebecca Olsen (Victoria University of Wellington) for her talk about delay discounting and student success, Rana Asgarova (Victoria University of Wellington) for her poster about probability discounting in experiential tasks, Renee Lee Cachia (Monash) for her poster about mindfulness interventions for parents of children with autism spectrum disorder, and Vincent Thor Allen (University of Waikato) for his project using technology to promote exercise.

We were also pleased to welcome a larger number of people who work in behavior analysis outside universities. NZABA has been an approved continuing education provider for the Behavior Analyst Certification Board since 2006. Many of our NZABA conference papers provide the opportunity for Board Certified Behavior Analysts to receive continuing education units. Our organization is proud to be

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able to support the professional development of practicing behavior analysts in this way.

In 2016, our conference will be held at Waikato University in Hamilton. Hamilton is only a few hours' drive from Auckland International Airport. We hope that you will consider attending. Please visit our website, www.nzaga.org, for more information about our organization and activities. You can complete a form to join NZABA; we do not charge a membership fee. The website also provides contact information for people working in behavior analysis at each New Zealand university and allows you to sign up for our email list to receive updates about events and issues of interest to those working in behavior analysis in New Zealand. This will include the call for papers and other information about upcoming NZABA conferences.

North Carolina ABA

BY DUKE SCHELL

The North Carolina Association for Behavior Analysis (NCABA) held its 27th anniversary conference in Wilmington, NC, February 24–26, 2016. The conference was a great success thanks to the leadership of Callie Plattner, president (Carolina Center for ABA), as well the rest of our Executive Council, including Kristie Thompson, past president (Optum Health), Melanie Bachmeyer, president elect (University of North Carolina-Wilmington), Whitney Luffman, vice president (Carolina Center for ABA), Beth Schmitt, secretary (Murdoch Developmental Center), Nancy Poteet, treasurer (private consultant), Kristi Toward, member-at-large (Carolina Center for ABA), Selene Johnson, member-at-large (ABC of NC), Brad Stevenson, student representative (University of North Carolina-Charlotte), Jamie Clary, publications editor (Gaston College), Fred Spooner, senior NCABA advisor (University of North Carolina-Charlotte), Duke Schell, liaison to ABAAI (Riddle Developmental Center), and a host of other NCABA volunteers.

The 27th anniversary NCABA conference opened with the presentation of awards to honor North Carolinians who have promoted behavior analysis in research and everyday practice. Laura Thompson Quinn (Behavior Intervention Professional, Triangle) received the Fred S. Keller Excellence in Behavior Analysis Award, Nicole Vinson (Behavioral Consultation and Psychological Services) received the Technical Utilization Award, Mark Stafford (Stafford Behavioral Consulting) received the “Do Things” Award, and Leigh Patterson (East Carolina University) received the NCABA Student Scholarship Award. In addition, Beth Schmitt, our outgoing NCABA secretary who has served for the past 10 years, received an award of appreciation for her longstanding service to NCABA. You can see descriptions of the NCABA awards and photos of our award recipients at our website, www.nc-aba.com.

Invited speakers at this year's conference included Jim Johnston (Auburn University), Adam Ventura (World Evolve, Inc./COEBO), Jarrett Barnhill (University of North Carolina, School of Medicine), Cynthia Anderson (Appalachian State University), Molly Pinney (Global Autism Project), Lorri Unumb and Patrick Ballantine (Autism Speaks), Mike Perone (West Virginia University), Jeannie Golden (East Carolina University), and Jim Carr (BACB). More than 20 other speakers participated in workshops, concurrent sessions, and the highlighted student symposium hosted by Brad Stevenson (University of North Carolina-Charlotte).

There were 19 research and 4 vendor posters in the NCABA poster session the first evening of the conference, which was coordinated by Whitney Luffman. Several people were recognized for outstanding posters including Whitney Luffman, Erica Brown, and Alexander Myers (Autism Society-NC) in the Professional category, Brad Stevenson and Charles Wood (University of North Carolina-Charlotte), Alana Iannello and Caroline Borkey (Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools) in the Graduate Student category, and Jessica Williford and Paul Winterhoff (Meredith College) in the Undergraduate Student category. Special thanks to our volunteer poster judges, Jeanne Golden (East Carolina University), Carole Van Camp (University of North Carolina-Wilmington), Christine Hughes (University of North Carolina-Wilmington), Ray Pitts (University of North Carolina-Wilmington), Jessica LeBeouf (Autism Society-NC), Matt Alcalá (Autism Society-NC), Erica Brown (Carolina Center for ABA), Kerin Weingarten (Carolina Center for ABA), Jarrett Barnhill (University of North Carolina, School of Medicine), and Holly Moses (Crossvine Clinical Group).

The 27th annual conference had almost 300 participants, including attendees and presenters. NCABA offered free registration for the first 20 student members, including 10 who volunteered in varied activities at the conference. The evening social on the second night of the conference was a wonderful gathering filled with behavior analytic conversations, assorted free food and beverages, and a DJ spinning the tunes—or more likely, dialing them up digitally.

Results of the NCABA 2016 officer elections included Selene Johnson (ABC of NC) as vice president, Leigh Ann Strain (Carolina Center for ABA) as secretary, Erica Brown (Carolina Center for ABA) as member-at-large, and Chelsi Brosh (University of North Carolina-Charlotte) as student representative.

NCABA provided both certified behavior analyst and NC psychologist continuing education credits. During the conference 137 certified behavior analysts from seven states earned 1,679 continuing education credits, and 37 psychologists earned 371 continuing education credits in workshops and invited addresses co-sponsored by NCABA and the NC Psychological Association. The NCABA

conference continues to receive excellent feedback from attendees seeking professional continuing education. Using a 1–4 scale with “4” being “excellent”, the cost of CEs scored a 3.6, breadth of CE topics scored a 3.4, and the CE verification process earned a 3.7.

At the ABAI 42nd Annual Convention in Chicago in May, NCABA's president, Melanie Bachmeyer, hosted the NCABA poster at the Expo. For the second year the NCABA Executive Council approved partial financial assistance in order to send the president or another designated board member to the convention and annual chapter leadership training. This opportunity for financial assistance for an NCABA officer to attend the ABAI convention is reviewed annually by the Executive Council.

Please visit our website at www.nc-aba.com and see additional highlights from our 27th anniversary conference, including photos of the festivities this year and in years past and our newly elected officers, and to find information on becoming an NCABA member. The NCABA website also provides information about our history, including the “25 Year History” slide show, links to newsletters, and information about the conference and upcoming events, including NCABA-sponsored workshops and planning for our 28th annual conference to be held February 22–24, 2017, at Wrightsville Beach, NC.

Norwegian ABA

BY ERIK ARNTZEN

In 2015, Norwegian ABA had about 727 members, and this number has been relatively stable for the past 15–18 years. The vast majority of the members hold a bachelor's degree in social welfare; however, there is an increasing number of members who hold a master's degree in behavior analysis.

Norwegian ABA arranges an annual conference. The number of attendees at the annual conference was 660. The conference is 4 days long with five–six parallel tracks. In 2015, we had presentations within all domains of behavior analysis and there is growing interest in both experimental and conceptual issues. Also, translational research was presented. Dr. Sundberg, (Mark.Sundberg.com, Atlanta), was the invited speaker, and he gave a couple of presentations: “Skinner's Analysis of Motivation: Ten Applications for Improving Autism Treatment” and “Equivalence, RFT, Naming, or Joint Control: The Quantification of Private Events Can Move Us Forward.” A couple of years ago, we included a poster session as part of the program at the annual conference. This session is a welcome opportunity for students to participate.

Norwegian ABA publishes two journals: *The Norwegian Journal for Behavior Analysis* and *The European Journal of Behavior Analysis*. *The Norwegian Journal for Behavior Analysis* is published twice a year. The journal is peer-reviewed and publishes papers on research, practice, and conceptual issues in behavior analysis—mainly in Norwegian. Since 2011,

abstracts in English have been included. *The European Journal of Behavior Analysis* (EJOBA, www.ejoba.org) is also peer-reviewed and published twice a year. EJOBA is primarily for the original publication of experimental reports and theoretical or conceptual papers relevant to the analysis of the behavior of individual organisms. EJOBA has published a number of special issues since the first volume in 2000. EJOBA now has a collaboration with Taylor & Francis.

Ohio ABA

BY JENNIFER SWEENEY AND BRYAN DROESCH

The mission of the Ohio Association for Behavior Analysis (OHABA) is to support the growth and dissemination of applied behavior analysis in the public and private sectors, with special emphasis on application in educational settings. Objectives include providing professional development in the form of a yearly conference; supporting the certification of BCBAs, especially in Ohio; and providing an informational website as a portal to support behavior analysis for businesses, schools, and clinics. The website will also provide up-to-date information from legislative agencies and advocacy groups related to the practice of behavior analysis in Ohio.

OHABA is an organization for people interested in behavior analysis and is primarily an interest group. OHABA works to advance behavior analysis by (a) promoting it in educational settings, (b) promoting university programs that specialize in applied behavior analysis, (c) providing a forum for the discussion of research and conceptual issues in behavior analysis, (d) maintaining a website containing information about the organization and about behavior analysis in Ohio and elsewhere, and (e) functioning as the Ohio contact for and affiliate of ABAI.

The OHABA Executive Board members as of March 2015 were Past President Morten Haugland, Ph.D., BCBA-D, COBA; President Tracy Guiou, Ph.D., BCBA-D, COBA; President-Elect Bryan Droesch, MEd, BCBA, PC, COBA; Secretary Jennifer Sweeney, Ph.D., BCBA-D, COBA; and Treasurer Elizabeth Henry, MS, BCBA, COBA. The OHABA Board is committed to making the organization a resource to members across the state of Ohio. The board added additional positions and developed committees to assist chairs in completion of their duties. The additional board members include marketing and technology chair, Ron DeMuesy, MEd, BCBA, COBA; membership chair, Whitney Sims, MA, BCBA, COBA; professional standards chair, Nichole Bordner, MA, BCBA, COBA; education chair, Hal Houseworth, MA, BCBA, COBA; co-program chairs, Nikki Powell, Psy.D., BCBA-D, COBA, and Janette Long, MA, BCBA, COBA; and Student Representative Nate Bishop.

During 2015, the full board and committees worked hard to coordinate opportunities for members. In April 2015,

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OHABA was proud to offer a two-day conference at the Columbus Convention Center. Speakers included Dr. Patrick McGreevy, Dr. James Carr, Dr. Gina Green, and Dr. Bryan Davey. In addition, the board developed a town hall meeting series that includes ethics CEU opportunities for members across the state. Town hall meetings were held in Twinsburg and Cincinnati, Ohio, where 10 participants attended each event. In addition, the board worked with a conference held by the Autism Society of Greater Akron to offer CEUs to BCBAs in the northern region of the state. Over the past two years, the OHABA board has worked closely with the Ohio State Board of Psychology to educate BCBAs in the state on the process and importance of becoming Certified Ohio Behavior Analysts (COBA). All individuals wanting to become COBAs must attend a workshop and pass an exam on rules and regulations of practice in Ohio. The board has committed to having representation at each of these workshops to assist in answering questions and to ensure that newly certified members are aware of OHABA as a resource.

OHABA's marketing and technology chair, Ron DeMuesy, dedicated his time to creating an accessible website to better serve our members. The website features information about OHABA and its mission, conference updates, options for membership and conference registration, and the option for individuals to make inquiries (www.ohaba.org). In addition, OHABA has posted updates regarding the state certification process and other local events on the website as well as on Facebook and Twitter.

Ontario ABA

BY LOUIS BUSCH

The Ontario Association for Behaviour Analysis (ONTABA) made great gains in 2015. Our chapter's membership reached an all-time high, with 745 members—an 18% increase from the previous year—counted at our December 2015 annual general meeting. During 2015, we formed a research partnership with Autism Ontario to investigate the current state of client and professional resources related to behavior analytic services. We published three issues of *The ONTABA Analyst* with a stunning new look and introduced “The Cusp,” a section that profiles local and international behavior analysts. We sponsored four satellite conferences in locations across the province, facilitated a joint journal seminar with the Manitoba Association for Behaviour Analysis (MABA), and supported the development of local behavior analytic communities of practice.

We created and bestowed three new awards: an innovation award, a dissemination award, and a student award with a \$1,000 scholarship. We held a smashingly successful post-conference social as well as a first annual summer event dubbed “An Evening of Behaviour Analysis” with presentations from local researchers and clinicians. We participated in the Walk Now for Autism Speaks event in

the summer and significantly expanded our social network with 1,300+ members on Facebook, 498 followers on Twitter, and 383 connections on LinkedIn.

ONTABA's 22nd Annual Conference in December 2015 was our biggest conference yet, with 13 presentations from local and international speakers, 35 posters presented, and 22 approved CEUs made available for BACB certificants. The conference quickly sold out. Our Public and Community Relations Committee produced a timely response on police involvement in group homes in Ontario, advocating for increased behavior analytic services as an alternative to managing the challenging behavior of youth with special needs with law enforcement.

As part of the organization's regulation efforts, the Professional Regulation Committee (PRC) met with government officials, engaged in an environmental scan, and obtained the results of a government commission feasibility study on the regulation of behavior analysis in the province. The PRC reviewed the report and recommendations and provided a formal response to the government in support of regulation. The PRC initiated an investigation of two new models in neighboring provinces, and continued to work closely with ABAA, APBA, and BACB in the pursuit of a regulation model in line with the best professional standards in the field. ONTABA made several bylaws amendments to improve organizational efficiencies.

Our accomplishments in 2015 were significant, but we have greater ambitions for 2016. With the encouraging growth of our membership, we have been provided an opportunity to develop as an organization while meaningfully advancing the science of behavior across Ontario. To achieve our mission and to manage our growth responsibly, we initiated efforts to ensure a durable governance structure, increased organizational safeguards, and a well-informed strategic plan. To start this process, the Board of Directors engaged an external consultant with expertise in not-for-profit governance in the fall of 2015, an effort dubbed the ONTABA Governance Improvement Project. The project aims to assess and ultimately improve ONTABA's governance processes, its documentation practices, and its overall capacity to effectively meet the needs of its members. Phase One of the project consisted of four parts:

- Part 1: An assessment of board capacity and effectiveness in seven general areas: (1) mission achievement, (2) organizational performance, (3) financial management, (4) compliance with relevant legislation, (5) transparency, (6) risk management, and (7) not-for-profit governance.
- Part 2: A thorough review of the board's policies and processes.
- Part 3: Development of omitted or incomplete documents, policies, and processes.
- Part 4: Delivery of customized governance training with curricula based on the knowledge gaps identified in the assessment.

As of January 2016, all four parts of Phase 1 of the Governance Improvement Project were completed on schedule. Part 1 led to a comprehensive report on the organization's performance, with more than 100 recommendations for further development. Part 2 identified a list of outstanding documents, policies, and processes necessary for optimal organizational performance and compliance with current and upcoming not-for-profit legislation, while Part 3 saw the development of necessary policies and processes. Part 4 built the capacity of the Board of Directors to represent its membership and serve the mission of the organization through comprehensive and customized governance training.

Phase Two will include the implementation of the recommendations of the board capacity assessment, including, most significantly, engagement in a collaborative strategic planning process. In the coming year we intend to continue to serve our mandate, build our membership, and expand our political influence with the goal of advancing the science of behavior in Ontario. At the board level we plan to:

- update all necessary policies and protocols
- initiate a mandatory full audit engagement
- establish key performance indicators
- undertake a comprehensive strategic planning process with input from all key stakeholders
- identify organizational skill deficits and train to fluency
- produce an annual report for members and stakeholders
- explore additional revenue sources
- At the committee level we plan to:
- expand our membership affinity program
- hold a joint conference with the Quebec ABA
- continue to support the professional development of behavior analysts in innovative ways (sponsoring journal clubs and communities of practice)
- maintain and modernize our website
- continue to publish high-quality newsletters
- recognize the accomplishments of behavior analytic educators, researchers, and practitioners
- respond to relevant events in the media
- aggressively advocate for evidence-based behavior analytic services and regulation of the profession in the province

ONTABA is excited for another productive year and to work on its mission of demonstrating leadership, knowledge, and innovation in education, training, and research for the ethical and effective application of behavior analysis.

Oregon ABA

BY JENNIFER BASS

Over the last year, the Oregon ABA (ORABA) has continued to provide quarterly continuing education opportunities and has seen an increase in attendance at its meetings. Training topics included joint attention, token reinforcement, and

an update on the BACB ethics code by Jim Carr. Our website has been redesigned, and we have updated our email service to better stay in touch with our members. We are excited to announce that there is a new BACB-approved coursework sequence at Portland State University, giving Oregonians two in-state options for becoming BCBAs (the other is the Oregon Institute of Technology). Legislation continued to be a top priority for us in 2015 and the regulatory board for licensing behavior analysts (BARB) was dissolved and reformed. BARB will further refine laws relating to interventionists and grandfathered providers in 2016. ORABA facilitates a monthly journal club to ensure practitioners and students stay informed of current research.

Visit our new website, www.ORABA.org, and become a member today!

Pennsylvania ABA

BY JONATHAN IVY AND LACEY BAILEY

For many, the Pennsylvania ABA (PennABA) conference has become a yearly tradition. PennABA has received numerous messages of support for the unique blend of opportunities for continuing education, networking, and scholarship that defines the annual conference. In 2016, we extended our conference to three days and had more than 250 attendees. We were fortunate to have great speakers such as Judy Favell, James Todd, Bill Ahearn, and Dan Mruzek. Our supervision workshop brought many participants, led by Jonathan Ivy and Jeffrey Garito. Additionally, during an extended lunch and social hour on March 30, poster presentations featuring research, clinical work, and evaluation of behavioral technologies were on display.

New Initiatives

As many of you have undoubtedly noticed, the PennABA website was recently revamped. In the upcoming year, we plan to further develop the site to be more user friendly, contain links to valuable resources, and better serve chapter members. Additionally, we have updated our Facebook page and introduced a conference hashtag: #PennABA2016.

Additionally, following this year's conference, a call for nominations for various Executive Council positions will be sent to all voting members, with an election to occur shortly thereafter.

Finally, an ongoing endeavor is to expand and diversify our membership base and connect with behavior analysts practicing in various capacities across the state. In the coming year, PennABA will be exploring various topics of special interest to the behavior analytic community as well as working to strengthen our ties with professionals practicing behavior analysis within related disciplines, such as the educational and medical fields.

Our primary goal continues to remain the same: Improve the state of behavior analytic practice in Pennsylvania.

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Philadelphia Metropolitan ABA

BY AMANDA FISHER

The Delaware Valley Association for Behavior Analysis was created more than two decades ago with the mission to bring together new and established behavior analysts from Philadelphia and the surrounding area. Last year, the chapter changed its name to the Philadelphia Metropolitan Association for Behavior Analysis (PMABA) to better reflect the originally intended regional scope. The Philadelphia Metropolitan region includes areas surrounding Philadelphia in the states of Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, and Maryland. Specifically, this includes but is not limited to, areas such as New Castle County, Delaware; Cecil County, Maryland; Burlington, Camden, Cumberland, Gloucester, Mercer, and Salem Counties in New Jersey; and Berks, Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, and Philadelphia Counties in Pennsylvania. Members include professionals in various areas within behavior analysis including applied, basic, organizational, higher education, and more.

Our objective is to provide continuing education for behavior analysts in an informal setting that has the atmosphere of a social gathering. Another primary goal of PMABA is to increase correspondence among local behavior analysts who might otherwise be isolated as a result of working in diverse settings with service providers and researchers who are not behavior analytic, as many of our members are the only behavior analysts at their places of employment. Our email listserv provides announcements on local workshops, conferences, events, employment opportunities, and recent legislative or advocacy issues relevant to local behavior analysts.

PMABA seeks to better serve as a scientific and professional reference and networking group for its members by making a number of changes this year. PMABA has held business meetings, continued membership efforts, and is renewing its commitment to dissemination of information relevant to local behavior analysts as well as providing three to four continuing education events per year. The chapter is led by the following executive council members: Amanda Guld Fisher, president; Donald Hantula, secretary/treasurer; and Beth Rosenwasser, information officer. PMABA is also developing a website that will act as a resource for local behavior analysts, providing information on membership, local events, and other important topics.

Anyone interested in becoming a member of PMABA should contact Beth Rosenwasser at beth.rosenwasser@gmail.com to be added to our email listserv and receive information about the membership process, upcoming events, and our soon-to-be-released website.

Philippines ABA

BY MARIA TERESA COJUANGCO

In 2015, Philippines ABA (PABA) continued to assist public schools and government health centers by giving training and workshops to special education teachers and health workers. The training assistance extended to these organizations was modified according to the needs of their students and constituents. Teachers were assisted in creating comprehensive programs based on individualized curricula for each of their special needs students. Health workers were given assistance in creating home programs for families with special needs children. Guidelines were created and consultation sessions were provided to parents in giving assistance and care for their children. These organizations continued to collaborate with PABA in increasing its scope of aid to children at the secondary level.

PABA increased ABA internship acceptance by practitioners and centers for students from several universities throughout the Philippines. This coincided with an increase of students in 2015 who joined internship programs and gave assistance to public schools and health centers toward implementing comprehensive and effective programs for children with learning disabilities. PABA continued to conduct several fundraising events to sustain projects like providing affordable workshops to parents and health practitioners in low-income communities, such as the training conducted last year by Mr. Rick Gutierrez, BCBA.

The chapter has collaborated with several board certified behavior analysts and medical professionals to assist local behavior practitioners to become registered behavior technicians (RBT) through a comprehensive training program fully supervised by a BCBA. The RBT training program will allow local practitioners to gain more supervision and apply proper and standard ABA program implementation, which local medical professionals prefer for their clients. This training program will be offered once a year starting in 2016. PABA plans to work with several BCBA professionals from the US in the absence of local BCBA's to supervise and mentor interested RBT trainees.

Likewise, PABA will also continue to increase its collaboration with local government agencies in conducting intervention and awareness workshops to health workers and public school teachers. It will also facilitate collaboration between local medical professionals and insurance groups to include ABA therapy in all medical insurance benefits.

Polish Association of Behavioral Therapy

BY EWA KULIGA

Polskie Stowarzyszenie Terapii Behawioralnej (the Polish Association of Behavioral Therapy; PABT) is a countrywide nonprofit organization, consociating active practitioners of behavioral therapy. PABT's mission is to

provide multidirectional, comprehensive, and professional help to the disabled—in particular to persons suffering from emotional and intellectual disabilities—and to their families. Another vital purpose of PABT is promoting behavioral therapy among therapists and academics.

Currently, PABT has more than 80 registered members from every significant behavioral therapy center in Poland, as well as the parents of persons undergoing behavioral therapy and other concerned experts (physicians, academics, and students). It provides substantial patronage for and cooperates with a number of Polish centers and institutions (in Gdansk, Kielce, Krakow, Warsaw, Zabrze, etc.) focused on providing effective help to persons with autism, and publishes the informational periodical *Krok za krokiem (Step by Step)*, which contains articles by world-renowned experts on teaching persons with autism.

PABT has promoted behavioral therapy by organizing specialist trainings for a wide range of attendees (mainly the teachers and parents of the emotionally and developmentally disabled). More than 1,050 participants attended such trainings in 2015.

In 2014, the association formed non-public schools (called “I CAN”), which have taught 19 students with autism spectrum disorders.

The boards of Poland’s two ABAI affiliated chapters (i.e., PABT and the Polish Society for Behavioral Psychology) have initiated a joint program aimed at unifying the formal requirements for behavioral therapists in Poland. The aim of these actions is to consolidate and formalize the occupational trainings for behavioral therapists that are currently in place in Poland and thus define the requirements for practicing therapists in order to make behavioral therapy clearly identifiable with the highest quality of therapeutic services. Therefore, in light of that common goal, the two associations have decided to create a registry of practicing behavioral therapists in Poland to integrate and regulate the existing system of trainings and occupational education that enables applicants to obtain the title of behavioral therapist. As of this moment, 166 people in Poland have been granted the title of licensed behavioral therapist. A set of theoretical and practical trainings framed as six preparatory routes, as well as the appropriate examination criteria, have been prepared for persons applying for the granting of the occupational title of behavioral therapist:

- Route I (for practicing therapists) includes completion of a three-level course in behavioral therapy and at least five specialization courses, no less than 2 years of professional practice under supervision, completion of no fewer than 50 internship hours at any of the collaborating centers, and a positive reference from the head of the relevant therapy center.
- Route II includes completion of a three-level course in behavioral therapy and at least five specialization courses, completion of no fewer than 120 internship hours at any

of the collaborating centers, professional practice under supervision (a minimum of 50 hours of supervision), and a positive reference from the supervisor.

- Route III includes completion of the following courses from the Institute of Psychology at Jagiellonian University: “Wprowadzenie do psychologii behawioralnej (Introduction to Behavioral Psychology)” and “Terapia behawioralna: teoria i praktyka (Behavioral Therapy: Theory and Practice),” completion of at least five specialization courses, no fewer than 100 internship hours of at any of the collaborating centers, professional practice under supervision, and a positive reference from the supervisor.
- Route IV includes completion of the postgraduate studies in applied behavior analysis at the School of Social Sciences and Humanities, completion of no fewer than 80 internship hours at any of the collaborating centers, professional practice under supervision (a minimum of 50 hours of supervision per year), and a positive reference from the supervisor.
- Route V includes completing second-degree studies in the Faculty of Psychology of the University of Social Sciences and Humanities (also as a unified master’s degree student), “The Psychology of Shaping and Modifying Behavior” master’s degree studies in psychology at the University of Social Sciences and Humanities in Poznan, “Application of behavior therapy in education for children of normal and disordered development—an introduction” module, other relevant studies including a module covering applied behavior analysis lasting at least 60 didactic units (the coursework has to be presented to the Board of Polish License of Behavior Therapy system for official acceptance), at least five specialty courses, at least 100 hours of training in one of the collaborating facilities, including at least two training periods of a minimum of five consecutive days each (at least 20 hours each), and work under supervision of a current holder of a Supervisor’s License (at least 50 hours of supervision).
- Route VI includes obtaining BCBA certification.

PABT has conducted practical trainings (training and observational internships) for pedagogy (The Pedagogical University of Cracow, Jagiellonian University) and psychology (Jagiellonian University) students and tutors from other educational institutions.

PABT continues to fulfill statutory activities in forms focused on helping the disabled:

- The Behavioral Therapy Clinic (BTC) in Cracow and a local branch of the BTC in Wroclaw and Raciborz provide therapeutic support for the families of developmentally and emotionally challenged persons from all over Poland. The BTC’s operations include diagnostic consultations for children with suspected developmental disorders

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(performed usually by a committee consisting of a psychiatrist, a psychologist, a speech therapist, a special education teacher, and a rehabilitator) and conducting home therapy programs. The consultations are an opportunity to establish a program for therapy, and the parents are instructed on its implementation; during subsequent visits, such a program undergoes the necessary modifications and the parents' skills are further improved. Currently PABT's BTC oversees home therapy for almost 2,500 families throughout Poland.

- The Emergency Intervention Team (EIT) is a short-term (up to 2 weeks) intensive therapy for persons with developmental and behavioral disorders and their families facing material and other hardships. In 2015, around 20 families from all over Poland used this form of therapy.
- The integration classes (IC) are aimed at younger children with disabilities identified as belonging to the spectrum of autism, but possessing basic group-work skills. The classes are conducted on the basis of preschool teaching methodology and the principles of applied behavior analysis. The objectives of the classes are to integrate the children within a group and develop their social competence. There are currently eight children participating in the classes.
- The social skills training (SST) are classes conducted in small groups and intended to develop positive social behaviors. The classes are aimed at older children with emotional disorders, Asperger's syndrome, and high-functioning autism. Eight students currently attend these classes.
- PABT works to obtain resources that allow further development of the organization and introduce new statutory activities (including research programs).

One of the more important events of 2015 was a behavioral rehabilitation camp. Twenty families from across Poland participated in the event. The camp involved intensive therapy work aimed foremost at instructing and supervising parents and guardians of persons with developmental and emotional disorders under the care of the BTC. The camp also included theoretical trainings, the purpose of which was to broaden and deepen the scope of the parents' and guardians' knowledge of applied behavior analysis.

Polish Society for Behavioral Psychology

BY MONIKA SUCHOWIERSKA-STEPHANY

The Polish Society for Behavioral Psychology (PTPB) was founded on November 16, 2002, and the last 13 years seem to have gone by in a blink of an eye! Membership consists mainly of psychologists (university lecturers and clinicians); students of psychology (undergraduate, graduate, and

postgraduate studies); and people representing other helping professions, mainly teachers and speech therapists. The most important statutory goals of PTPB include:

- Developing and promoting psychological knowledge, with special attention paid to behavioral analysis as a science of behavior.
- Improving professional qualifications of the members of the society, as well as of people who set for themselves goals similar to those of the society.
- Supporting scientific initiatives of the members.
- Disseminating knowledge of successful applications of behavior analysis to unfavorable social phenomena and individual/personal problems.
- Promoting professional ethics and their implementation.
- Educating the general public about behavioral treatment as a form of psychological treatment, as well as disseminating knowledge on its effectiveness.

Since 2009, PTPB has been a stronger organization due to a fusion with another behaviorally oriented society in Poland: Polish ABA. This fusion was done with mutual understanding of the two organizations' governing bodies with regards to favorable outcomes for dissemination of behavior analysis in Poland. ABAI has approved PTPB as the organization that is going to continue in the international arena the work of Polish ABA.

The main accomplishments of PTPB in the last 3 years include the organization of three national symposia:

- The IX International Scientific Symposium of PTPB, "Developmental Disabilities From the Perspective of Behavior Analysis and Childhood Psychiatry," gathered more than 300 attendees. We hosted expert psychiatrists and psychologists from Poland as well as international presenters from California State University, Stanislaus (USA); Marshall University (USA); Bangor University (UK); University of Kansas Medical Center, Center for Child Health and Development (USA); Istituto G. P. Fabris, Università IULM (Italy); and Innlandet Hospital Trust, Psychiatric Division (Norway). The symposium was organized to disseminate publications on developmental disabilities and behavior analysis in the special issue of *Progress in Medicine*, a medical journal devoted to family doctors. The symposium was organized jointly by PTPB, the Department of Behavior Analysis at the Warsaw School of Social Sciences and Humanities, and Step-by-Step Charitable Foundation for Children with Developmental Disabilities and Their Families.
- The X International Scientific Symposium of PTPB, "Problem Behaviors From the Perspective of Behavior Analysis and Psychiatry," gathered more than 300 attendees. More than 50 students participated in the symposium. We hosted expert psychiatrists and psychologists from Poland as well as international presenters from California State University, Stanislaus (USA); Stanislaus County

Office of Education (USA); Bangor University (UK); and Innlandet Hospital Trust, Psychiatric Division (Norway). The symposium was organized jointly by PTPB, the Department of Behavior Analysis at the Warsaw School of Social Sciences and Humanities, and STEP BY STEP Foundation for Children with Developmental Disabilities and their Families.

- The XI International Scientific Symposium of PTPB, “The Clinical Context Of Behavior Analysis: Three Waves Of Behavior Therapy,” gathered more than 200 attendees, and about 40 international students participated in the symposium. We hosted psychologists from Poland; California State University, Stanislaus (USA); Bangor University (UK); University of Gothenburg (Sweden); and the National University of Ireland, Maynooth. The symposium was organized jointly by PTPB, the Department of Behavior Analysis at the Warsaw School of Social Sciences and Humanities, and STEP BY STEP Foundation for Children with Developmental Disabilities and their Families.

PTPB extended patronage over three books on behavior analysis: *Behavior Analysis From A to Z*, by Przemysław Bąbel, Monika Suchowierska-Stephany, and Paweł Ostaszewski, for which we received a SABA International Grant. The forewords to this book were written by Prof. W. Joseph Wyatt and the late Jerry Shook. *Behavioral Interventions for Children With Autism: Theory, Research, and Practice of Applied Behavior Analysis*, by Monika Suchowierska-Stephany, Paweł Ostaszewski, and Przemysław Bąbel, is the first book in Poland that deals comprehensively with applied behavior analysis. The forewords to this book were written by Prof. William Heward and Prof. Gary Novak. Finally, *Behavior Analysis: Vademecum*, by Babel, Suchowierska-Stephany, and Ostaszewski was published last year. The foreword was written by Prof. Jane Howard and Mrs. Suzanne Letso.

The society financed the translation (into Polish) of a second book by B. F. Skinner, *About Behaviorism*. This translation was published in February 2013, and two members of PTPB (Prof. Paweł Ostaszewski and Dr. Przemysław Bąbel) served as scientific editors for the project. The first book by B. F. Skinner translated into Polish was *The Behavior of Organisms*, and it was published in 1995. It was high time for another!

The society provided financial support for an autism conference—From Science to Practice—which gathered world-renowned experts and was organized by Jagiellonian University. The conference took place in Kraków, September 25–27, 2015.

PTPB continues work with the Polish Association of Behavioral Therapy on the certificate of behavioral therapist—we now have more than 160 behavioral therapists and 25 behavioral supervisors. A new website for behavioral

therapists was launched (www.terapeutabehawioralny.pl/home/) to support this effort. PTPB provides conceptual and financial support for the certification initiative.

The President of PTPB (Dr. Lukasz Paw) is a member of a national group working on ethical standards in the treatment of people with disabilities. PTPB members Dr. Monika Suchowierska and Prof. Paweł Ostaszewski created the first Polish specialty in applied behavior analysis at rhw University of Social Sciences and Humanities (SWPS). The courses are taught in English both on the undergraduate and graduate levels. In 2006, one-year, BACB approved postgraduate course sequence in applied behavior analysis was added and clone in 2015 in two new locations—in Katowice and in Poznan, where SWPS University has its campuses.

Finally, PTPB organized the second competition for the best behavior analytic master's thesis. Two scholarships for students and their mentors were awarded. The awarded theses are projects conducted jointly by students and professors from the University of Social Sciences and Humanities (Warsaw, Poland) and California State University, Stanislaus (USA).

Our plans for 2016 include organizing the XII International Scientific Symposium of PTPB, organizing the third student master's thesis competition, launching a website for evidence-based approaches to child therapy, and increasing membership.

Québec ABA

BY MYRA-JADE LUI

The Quebec Association for Behaviour Analysis (QcABA) enjoyed a milestone year in 2015. We were approved as an ACS provider in 2014, and the first cohort of students started the coursework offered by QcABA in September 2015. This cohort consisted of 19 students, who were the first in Quebec to have the coursework available in French. Our newsletter committee surveyed the students; so far the feedback has been wonderfully positive and we look forward to watching our students continue through the entire course sequence. Journal clubs are another way we have continued to inform and educate our members, and although the coursework overshadowed these events for a while, QcABA held five journal club events last year, in addition to our annual conference. We have managed to continue offering free type 2 CEUs for these events to our certified members, which have grown to almost 40 across Quebec. Throughout the year, we made 12.5 CEUs available through chapter events and issued them to more than 20 behavior analysts. We now have more than 175 followers on Facebook, up 75 from last year, and anticipate that the collaborative conference to be held with ONTABA later in 2016 will further increase these numbers. Our website committee made significant changes to our forms and website, as well as integrating PayPal as a payment option for any of our events—a change that has greatly improved our efficiency as an association.

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Our sixth annual conference was March 3 at the Université de Montréal, and we were exceptionally pleased to welcome Dr. Raymond Miltenberger, director of the applied behavior analysis program at the University of South Florida. His first presentation discussed the importance of teaching safety skills to children, and offered a review of the research on how this is best achieved. His second presentation touched upon a subject that is as important as it is difficult to manage for clinicians: staff reactivity and monitoring staff performance. Dr. Marc Lanovaz kindly replaced Malena Argumedes for a presentation on applications of the Prevent-Teach-Reinforce model, and some adaptations that have been made in Quebec. Finally, we developed a discussion panel on the topic of clinical supervision in order to emphasize the work that has been done recently by the BACB to improve the quality of supervision. Our conference was very memorable this year and we would like to thank not only our speakers, but also our members for continuing to support this annual event and further the field of behavior analysis in Quebec.

This upcoming year has already hinted at being a busy one as we prepare for the collaborative conference in October 2016. We will welcome Dr. Brian Iwata as our keynote speaker, for which we are deeply grateful, as well as local presenters from both Ontario and Quebec. We plan on hosting our regular annual conference in March or April of 2017, and are preparing our next issue of our newsletter. We are in discussions with insurance companies regarding professional liability policies for certified members; policies offered through bodies such as ABAI exclude Quebec—the only excluded province/state in North America. With this work in progress and the work we have already accomplished over the past year, we are proud to be achieving so many of the goals from our strategic plan and look forward to what our board members can do for the association in the year to come.

Rhode Island ABA

BY JANE I. CARLSON

This has been a big year for behavior analysis in our little state. The Rhode Island chapter has been instrumental in establishing licensing for behavior analysts as several of our members led the charge to pass licensing and insurance reimbursement legislation a few years ago. This year, members helped establish the ABA licensing board at the RI Department of Health. The board began approving candidates for licensure in January 2016, and all behavior analysts practicing in Rhode Island were required to be licensed by the state beginning April 1, 2016.

This year, our organization will again co-sponsor, with the Groden Center, a 2-day symposium on evidence-based practices in autism treatment. This event will offer a day focused on children and a day focused on adults. The symposium will be run in conjunction with training for first

responders, sponsored by the state chapter of ASA. CEUs will be available for BCBAs.

Our organization will continue its political advocacy this year by working with the state legislature to improve legislation governing insurance reimbursement for autism treatment. This effort will be directed at improving access to quality, evidence-based services for children with autism. As our membership grows, we hope to expand our ability to educate and advocate in our state. Join us and become a member at riabai.net.

Saudi Arabia ABA

BY MONA AL-HADDAD, SUSAN AINSLEIGH, SHUMAILA JAFFREY, AND KATELYN CRAIG

ABA Saudi Arabia was accepted as an affiliated chapter of the Association for Behavior Analysis International on May 31, 2013. Upon its founding, ABA Saudi Arabia published the following mission statement:

“ABA Saudi Arabia was created with the mission to disseminate information about the science of applied behavior analysis and support the development of and access to behavior analytic services for people in need. To accomplish this mission, the chapter seeks to support the development of graduate opportunities for appropriate candidates within Saudi Arabia, plan and support continuing education for practicing behavior analysts, and advocate for the right to community-based access to behavior-analytic services through governmental and regulatory channels in Saudi Arabia.”

The current officers are Mona Al-Haddad, MEd, BCBA, president; Susan Ainsleigh, Ed.D., BCBA-D, president-elect; Shumaila Jaffrey, MS, BCBA, secretary; Katelyn Craig, BCaBA, treasurer; and Razan Bukhari, student officer. ABA Saudi Arabia continued a membership drive this year, focusing on recruitment and offering an additional year of free membership to old members. Currently, ABA Saudi Arabia has 56 members.

The chapter plans to hold meetings with members and send emails to those who can't attend for the election of a new president-elect to replace Dr. Susan Ainsleigh, who is now residing in Boston, USA.

ABA Saudi Arabia is focused on continued involvement in translating terms, documents, task lists, and forms published by the board. The chapter started the second phase of revising one of the three translated projects: an ABA glossary. A second revised edition of the glossary has been finalized and was published on the board website in April 2016. The chapter announced the publication of the translated documents via its website, through sending emails to bilingual students who study ABA, and posts on the ABA Middle East Facebook page. In addition, the chapter collected Arabic resources in ABA and sent them to all bilingual members.

ABA Saudi Arabia translated its first and second newsletter into Arabic to reach people in the country, including parents, centers for special needs, and schoolteachers. The chapter finalized its third newsletter, published in April 2016. As in the previous newsletters, the third edition celebrated the increased number of certified behavior analysts not only in Jeddah, but throughout the kingdom of Saudi Arabia as well. The issue also shared information on workshops by keynote behavior analysts (e.g., Dr. James Partington, BCBA-D) in Jeddah, provided clinical topics of interest and upcoming events related to ABA, and continued providing resource information for those interested in learning more about applied behavior analysis. This issue will be distributed to families, professionals, centers, workshops, and schools throughout the kingdom.

ABA Saudi Arabia officers continued conducting professional development events within Saudi Arabia designed to advance knowledge and improve practice of ABA. Forty hours of intensive training of RPT provided the community with knowledgeable and educated technicians. This training was conducted by President-Elect Susan Ainsleigh in August and September 2015 at the Jeddah Institute for Speech and Hearing. Ms. Mona Al-Haddad, BCBA, presented a 2-day workshop in Jeddah on selecting objectives from ABLLS in 2015 and 2016. These events were designed to both increase the behavior analytic skills of professionals in Saudi Arabia and to disseminate information about ABA and the chapter.

ABA Saudi Arabia is devoted to increasing awareness of evidence-based treatment for children with special needs to be provided with behavior analytic services. The chapter is submitting a proposal to be hosted by Dar Al-Hekma University, where the only ACS in Saudi Arabia is provided. The collaboration with Dar Al-Hekma will help introduce the chapter to a larger community of professionals and will facilitate future ABA Saudi Arabia events and meetings at its campus. Furthermore, the chapter has plans for an annual conference in 2016, to be held at Dar Al-Hekma, on continuing education opportunities for practicing behavior analysts and to increase knowledge about ABA for all members of the Jeddah community and throughout the region. To this end, the chapter discussed with the university the process of applying for licensure of certified behavior analysts to be recognized within the kingdom.

Ms. Mona Al-Haddad and Ms. Razan Bukhari attended the chapter leadership training during the ABAI 42nd Annual Convention in Chicago and learned about various ways to recruit members and improve marketing.

ABA Saudi Arabia welcomes members at the full, affiliate, and student level. Membership is open to all individuals interested in or actively engaged in behavior analysis. Any person wishing to become a member must submit a completed application form and pay annual membership dues. Contact abasaudiaria@gmail.com or malhaddad@dah.edu.sa for membership information.

South Carolina ABA

BY CECILIA H. KNIGHT

The South Carolina Association for Behavior Analysis (SCABA) celebrated our seventh year with our November 12–13 conference in beautiful downtown Greenville, SC. The 2015 conference was our largest event to date, thanks to the our leadership: chapter President Meghan Helman (Project Hope Foundation), Vice President Cecilia H. Knight (Institute for Behavioral Training), Secretary Scott Braud (Project Hope Foundation), Treasurer Aaron Check (Aaron Check Consulting), Past President Billie Edwards (Center for Behavior Analysis), and many wonderful SCABA volunteers.

Invited speakers at this year's conference included Linda LeBlanc (Trumpet Behavioral Health), Denny Reid (Carolina Behavior Analysis and Support Center), Jennifer Yakos (Institute for Behavioral Training), and Stacie Neff (Center for Behavior Analysis). Our workshop and keynote address were delivered by Linda LeBlanc, who challenged practitioners to take a close look at their programming for children diagnosed with autism. Denny Reid spoke about adults with developmental disabilities and current best practices. Jennifer Yakos enlightened our group with her talk on higher level social programming for individuals diagnosed with autism, and Stacie Neff ended our day with a fabulous ethics presentation.

Our seventh annual conference had 108 attendees, with 81 people attending the workshop that opened our event. SCABA had 126 members in 2015; 53 of those members were professionals, 32 were general members, and 31 were student members. We had 11 posters presented and our poster contest winner was Shannon Tyner (Project Hope Foundation). Her poster was titled, "Decreasing Escape and Avoidance in the Presence of Dogs: Contact Desensitization Plus Reinforcement for Approach Responses in Children With Autism." We were also pleased to have had three major sponsors for our event: ACE ABA Software, Project Hope Foundation, and the Institute for Behavioral Training. We were also happy to elect Adam Brewer (Florida Institute of Technology) as our vice president for 2016.

For more information, please visit our website, www.sc-aba.org, or like us on Facebook (South Carolina Association for Behavior Analysis). We invite you to attend our 2016 conference in downtown Greenville, SC, October 23–24.

Southeastern ABA

BY CHRISTINA ALLIGOOD

The Southeastern Association for Behavior Analysis (SEABA) is a regional affiliate of ABAI. Like its parent organization, SEABA seeks to promote scholarly discourse within and about behavior analysis. SEABA membership is open to anyone with a scholarly interest in behavior analysis who registers for our annual meeting. Current members

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include established scholars, professionals, and students in psychology as well as related disciplines such as education, psychopharmacology, and social work. Most members reside in the Southeast, although some members participate from other parts of the US.

History

In 1984, Aaron Brownstein (University of North Carolina-Greensboro) rallied a group of prominent behavior analysts in the Southeastern US around the idea of a regional conference on the science and philosophy of behavior analysis. The Southeastern US contained a large number of strong but geographically scattered academic and research groups (e.g., Florida, North Carolina, West Virginia, Alabama, and others) without a venue for scholarly interaction. For many, the Southeastern Psychological Association had served this purpose, but the content of that conference had become overwhelmingly professional rather than scientific (i.e., following the direction of APA). SEABA was founded to be that venue for behavior analysts. SEABA was structured specifically to foster high-level discourse on research and theory in behavior analysis. The organization's sole activity would be to conduct an annual conference. The conference format was developed specifically to replicate the environment of early behavioral conferences and scientific specialty organizations (e.g., the Behavioral Pharmacological Society). To this end, the conference was to be a day-and-a-half, single-track program so that all participants could conveniently attend all presentations, establishing a common basis for discussion and interaction. Speakers were to be selected based on content and quality of their empirical and theoretical work, and to comprise a well-balanced program of basic, applied, conceptual, and philosophical presentations. The fall was selected to complement the main ABAI convention held in the spring, and the first meeting was held in the fall of 1984 in Myrtle Beach, SC.

A Special Emphasis on the Future of Behavior Analysis

A guiding philosophy of SEABA is that students are junior colleagues, with an emphasis on the latter portion of the term. Consequently, SEABA strives to keep membership and convention registration fees low to facilitate student attendance. Additionally, students typically assist in the planning and orchestration of the annual meeting, introduce the invited speakers, and contribute to its scholarly well-being through numerous poster presentations.

Mission for Behavior Analysis

SEABA serves the development of behavior analysis by advancing and reinforcing its scientific underpinning. A SEABA member who served as student introducer, speaker, and president summarized SEABA's role in the development of behavior analysis as follows:

"SEABA has never sought to influence behavior analysis directly, but its influence is wide nevertheless. A disproportionate number of JEAB and JABA editors and editorial board members in recent years are SEABA members and alumni. One could argue that the nurturing of students in the science and philosophy of behavior analysis is the organization's greatest accomplishment."

The 33rd annual conference will be held October 13–15, 2016 in Winston-Salem, NC. More information, registration, and CEU pre-purchase are available at www.SEABAonline.org.

Swedish ABA

BY DAG STRÖMBERG

The Swedish Association for Behavior Analysis (SWABA) had 145 members in 2015. One objective during the year was to increase SWABA's activity on social media, in the form of disseminating research and news concerning behavior analysis, as well as providing opportunities for discussion among members. More than 560 people are currently following SWABA on Facebook, a 40% increase from the year before, and we also have Twitter and LinkedIn accounts.

SWABA's fall meeting in October 2015, in Stockholm, was attended by 50 members. The program included a variety of talks on topics ranging from behavior analysis and politics to CRAFT. In March 2016, the annual chapter meeting was held in Stockholm, with 130 participants. Topics covered included quality of early intensive behavioral interventions for children with autism, school-wide positive behavior support, and the good behavior game. Additionally, two smaller gatherings took place in Gothenburg in 2015, reflecting the fact that SWABA has members from all over Sweden.

Several international interactions took place during the year. One of them was in the form of a poster presentation at Norwegian ABA's annual conference in April 2016. Swedish ABA was also represented at the ABAI 42nd Annual Convention in Chicago. As usual, a poster was presented during the Expo. Bids were accepted for a unique SWABA t-shirt, the proceeds of which were donated to the SABA unrestricted fund.

SWABA supports the formation of special interest groups (SIG)—information about each group is on the chapter website. In 2015, the Animals SIG, the OBM SIG, and the Certified Behavior Analysts SIG had meetings, while some of the other groups have had contacts through social media.

SWABA would like to encourage anyone who plans to visit Sweden or Scandinavia to contact the board (info@swaba.se), to explore the possibility of meeting and/or lecturing. SWABA holds its annual meeting during the first quarter of each year. In 2016, we are planning to celebrate SWABA's 20th anniversary with an extended fall meeting/conference October 21–22 in Stockholm. Please visit the SWABA website for updates concerning the program.

Switzerland ABA

BY ERIKA GLAUS, CHARLOTTE ESCANE, MARIE LECLERC,
SILJA WIRTH, AND AMANDA REBERT

So much has been accomplished by ABA Switzerland this year! The chapter has worked hard on the dissemination of behavior analysis in the country. This effort has been successful thanks to a variety of member-lead initiatives.

Our primary goal is to help promote our science in the three main Swiss languages and to make ABA information more accessible to the public. A big part of our work is to translate documents into German, French, and Italian. This year, we worked with the Association for Science in Autism Treatment (ASAT) in translating documents for their website. Unfortunately, this collaboration was put on hold in 2015 because of ASAT's website reorganization. We also started a collaboration with the Operants Journal in assisting the German translation for the presidential column, the opening feature of every edition of the Operants Journal. We had tried to establish a collaboration with the Behavioral Economics Network in Zurich; unfortunately, this effort was not successful.

Another activity in the dissemination of information is our newsletters, which provide information about our chapter actions, upcoming events in Switzerland and neighboring countries, online resources, and other current topics.

Lastly, ABA Switzerland continues to be present on the board of the Comité du 2 avril. This committee helps to raise autism awareness across the French part of Switzerland, similar to Autism Speaks's Light It Up Blue campaign. This involvement has been a great way to further decrease behavior analysis misconceptions and to spread information about the treatment of people with developmental disabilities. In 2015, the Comité du 2 avril produced a great documentary on the state of therapies for adults with ASD in Switzerland.

Another chapter activity is providing behavior analytic professionals with opportunities to improve their practices. In 2015, the chapter continued to provide CEU opportunities during a variety of events. To this end, ABA Switzerland hosted its first workshop and welcomed Dr. Guy Bruce in September 2015 for a presentation entitled "Effective Supervisors Do What It Takes! Organizational Performance Engineering to Improve Client Outcomes." This workshop targeted all service providers who wanted to improve their managerial skills and outcomes as a whole. It also provided eligibility for the 8-hour supervision training required by the BACB. The seminar was held in Geneva; there were approximately 20 participants from all over Switzerland and France, but mainly from the Swiss Romandie. The feedback was positive, encouraging us to welcome more behavior analysts in the future. In December 2015, we organized a webinar for our members and other professionals. The topic was "Functional Behavioral

Assessment via Remote Technology" and hosted by Dr. Stephanie Peterson from Western Michigan University.

CEU opportunities were offered in collaboration with other associations as well. For instance, a local association providing behavior analytic services to children with autism held a workshop in June 2015. Dr. Patrick McGreevy and Troy Fry presented "Teaching Functional Skills to Children and Adults With Moderate-to-Severe Disabilities, Including Autism" to an eager group of parents and both behavior analytic and non-behavior analytic professionals. We were also able to provide our members with an opportunity to meet with Dr. McGreevy and Troy Fry and discuss in further detail information presented during the workshop.

We hope to continue providing regular CEU opportunities for professionals in Switzerland and neighboring European countries, in addition to providing special surprises exclusive to our members. One of our first steps toward this goal will be to offer at least two webinars in 2016, with CEU opportunities, to our members and other professionals.

One more important activity for our organization is to support research that promotes the dissemination and acceptance of behavior analysis. This is conducted through our partnership with the Swiss Early Intervention Project in Autism (Swiss EIPA). The Swiss EIPA team has recently submitted a pilot study to a peer-reviewed journal. The aim of the pilot study is to shed light on hurdles impacting the application of EIBI models for children with autism in Switzerland in government-subsidized university clinics. The study also provides some preliminary outcome data on the model as it was applied in Zurich under real-life conditions. The main Swiss EIPA study is still recruiting children for its behavioral, eclectic, and treatment-as-usual groups.

Finally, chapter members have also been lobbying and collaborating with professionals to bring behavior analysis to universities in Switzerland. It is important that behavior analysis be taught in the local languages for it to be accessible to professionals in the country. We are also looking for ways to gain recognition by the Swiss Federation of Psychologists. Within the same objective of providing courses and getting professional recognition, ABA Switzerland board members have increased their efforts to connect with organizational and behavior management professors across the country.

For next year, we are planning to expand our dissemination efforts and change the misconceptions about behavior analysis. We would also like to review our online communications and develop a more user-friendly website!

Taiwan ABA

BY SHU-HWEI KE

The Taiwan Association for Behavior Analysis (TABA) was affiliated in 2005 as a chapter of ABAA. One of our missions is to spread the knowledge of behavior analysis

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to professionals and parents. In order to disseminate the practical use of ABA principles in the education and treatment of people with special needs, TABA has been working closely with the Taiwanese government to provide ABA training workshops every year. TABA's accomplishments in the past year include the 2015 annual conference with special focus on verbal behavior teaching and problem behavior issues; an introductory series of ABA workshops for parents, teachers, and professionals; intermediate workshops for professionals; and an ABA early intervention grant for low-income families.

For the 2015 annual conference, practitioners were invited to present their papers in applied areas, and agencies were also invited to present on the effectiveness of ABA supervision models. We were glad to see active participation, sharing, and discussion on issues of how to better disseminate ABA to the general public and better serve populations with special needs. TABA currently offers two BCaBA course sequences. Furthermore, as TABA develops and matures, demands from both parents and practitioners are increasing on how to systematically apply ABA techniques, how to conduct assessments, and what to teach. We are delighted that the Child Welfare Bureau, Ministry of the Interior, acknowledges the need for training for parents and practitioners and continuously provides funding for intermediate training. The goal of intermediate ABA training workshops is to provide parents and practitioners with basic knowledge of ABA principles and prepare them to work more effectively for the long-term well-being of their children. In addition, TABA also receives funding to offer social skills training workshops for parents. TABA continues to work with universities and nonprofit organizations to promote behavior analysis.

Finally, we are pleased to announce that in January 2016, TABA launched an electronic, comprehensive, competitive, primary-source, peer-reviewed journal—*Taiwan Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*. TABA intends to publish applied research, literature reviews, commentaries, brief reports, and case studies. To better serve readers, we will publically announce when articles are ready. TABA would like to thank the editorial reviewers for their time, knowledge, support, and commitment to this journal.

Tennessee ABA

BY ANNETTE LITTLE

Thanks to our attendees and presenters for an amazing turn-out at the 2015 Tennessee ABA (TNABA) conference! This was by far the best TNABA conference yet. An extra special thank you to Nea Houchins-Juarez, Paul Malanga, and the conference planning committee! After a brief post-conference pause, the TNABA executive council has hit the ground running: The new CEU Committee Chairs, Nea Houchins-Juarez and Joey Staubitz, found a venue that can

support our growing needs for the 19th Annual Conference on October 27–29, 2016. The event will be held at the Music City Center in Nashville; invited speakers include Patrick C. Friman, Gina Green, and Jeffry H. Tiger.

This year, we welcome several new members to the executive council: Tiffany Denton joins our team as the Middle Tennessee regional representative and Erin Szarka is the new East Tennessee representative. We have three new student representatives: Annie McDonald (University of Memphis), Mary Lees (Lipscomb University), and Krystal Kennedy (Tennessee Technological University). Esther Bledsoe is returning as the West Tennessee regional representative. The Professional Standards Committee co-chairs, Jason Grosser and James Meindl, have already met and have been looking closely at the chapter's legislative objectives. Thanks to Jason Otto's work, our website became fully functional in early 2016. Allison Crawford is returning as the membership chair and she will be sending renewal reminders to our members soon. Remember, membership runs from January 1–December 31! Shiloh Beene has been working hard to keep our Facebook page updated and will continue to inform us with fabulous newsletters. Thanks for an amazing 2015! We look forward to an even better year in 2016.

Texas ABA

BY DOROTHEA C. LERMAN

Texas ABA Executive Council

The 2015–2016 Executive Council for the Texas Association for Behavior Analysis (TxABA) consisted of President Dorothea C. Lerman, Past President Jennifer Fritz, Secretary Rachel Koelker, Treasurer Carla Smith, and members Sarah A. Lechago, Einar T. Ingvarsson, and Richard G. Smith. The student representative was Wai-Ling Wu. Elections were held in February for president and a council member position. Einar Ingvarsson was elected president and Kate Patagoc-Johnson was elected to the council. The nominee with the second-highest number of votes, Kathleen Strickland-Cohen, agreed to complete the remainder of Einar Ingvarsson's term as council member. Heather Barahona served as TxABA's executive director. In addition, student members elected Taylor Custer from the University of Houston-Clear Lake as the student representative for 2016–2017.

Committees

TxABA's Public Policy Committee was chaired by Gordon Bourland. The Public Policy Committee plays a very important role in TxABA's activities, as it monitors legislative activity and other public policy issues that may impact behavior analysts and their consumers in the state of Texas, and recommends action to the Executive Council. This year, the Public Policy Committee worked closely with the council to pursue licensure of behavior analysts in Texas. TxABA hired a full-time lobbyist, provided input on drafts

of the proposed licensure bill, met with legislative staffers, and provided testimony to legislators about the proposed bill. Although the bill was successfully passed in the House, it failed to come before the Senate for a vote. Moving forward, the Public Policy Committee has reorganized as the Behavior Analysis Public Policy Group to better coordinate legislative activities and raise funds to support initiatives like licensure.

The Professional Issues Committee was chaired by Einar Ingvarsson, and this committee focused on professional development strategies for TxABA membership. Jennifer Kaut has agreed to chair this committee in the upcoming year. The Public Relations and Merchandising Committee was chaired by Sarah Lechago. This committee assisted in developing official TxABA merchandise and will play an important role in promoting behavior analysis in Texas. Karen Toussaint agreed to chair this committee in the coming year.

Special Interest Groups

In 2015–2016, TxABA had four active special interest groups (SIGs) arranged around members' common interests and geographical locations, including a brand-new SIG, Behaviorists for Social Responsibility (BFSR). Robin Rumph is serving as the first president of BFSR. Regina Crone served as the president of the Dallas-Fort Worth Area Autism SIG. Domonique Randall served as the president of the Organizational Behavior Management SIG. Rebecca Morgan served as the president of the Behavior Analysis in Public Education SIG.

Annual Conference and TxABA Awards

The 2016 Regional Conference of TxABA was held March 4–6, 2016 at the Worthington Renaissance Hotel in downtown Fort Worth, Texas. This year marks the fifth year in a row with a record-breaking number (1,049) of conference attendees. Attendees included professional behavior analysts, faculty, students, teachers, caregivers of individuals with development disabilities, and service providers from related disciplines. Local behavior analytic service providers, including Butterfly Effects, Behavioral Innovations, Therapy & Beyond, and The Shape of Behavior, sponsored the event.

The conference hosted five tracks this year. The General Track included speakers Dr. Jay Moore (University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee), Dr. Bethany Raiff (Rowan University), Dr. T. V. Joe Layng (Generategy, LLC.), Dr. Anna Petursdottir (Texas Christian University), and Dr. Cynthia Pietras (Western Michigan University). Topics discussed included behaviorism as philosophy, the use of technology in applied behavior analysis, verbal behavior, topical versus systematic clinical intervention, and punishment.

Invited speakers in the Autism Track included Dr. Linda LeBlanc (Trumpet Behavior Health), Dr. Florence DiGennaro Reed (University of Kansas), Dr. Wesley Dotson (Texas Tech University), Dr. Louis Hagopian

(Kennedy Krieger Institute), and Dr. Tiffany Kodak (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee). Presentations covered topics such as ethics, treatment integrity, autism services in post-secondary education, subtypes of self-injurious behavior, and assessment-based instruction and instructive feedback to improve early intervention outcomes.

Invited speakers in the Professional Track were Dr. Gina Green (Association of Professional Behavior Analysts), Dr. Ron Van Houten (Western Michigan University), Dr. Darnell Lattal (Aubrey Daniels Institute), Dr. Dennis Reid (Carolina Behavior Analysis and Support Center), Dr. Joshua Pritchard (Florida Institute of Technology), and Shylo Bundy (Bouer Law, LLC.). Presenters provided information on licensure, novel applications of behavior analysis, how to shape a better world, ethics at work, services for adults with severe disabilities, entrepreneurship, and insurance billing.

New this year was a track arranged by the TxABA SIGs. Speakers included Dr. Mark Claypool (Educational Services of America), Dr. Kathleen Strickland-Cohen (Texas Christian University), Rep. Ron Simmons (Texas State Representative), Dr. Jennifer Fritz (University of Houston-Clear Lake), Dr. Mark Mattaini (University of Illinois at Chicago), and Dr. Dr. Cloyd Hyten (Aubrey Daniels International). Topics covered involved autism and special education, training school professionals to design and implement function-based support, public policy issues, engaging critical societal and global issues, and behavioral safety in heavy industry.

The Basic and Applied Behavioral Research Track consisted of speakers Dr. John Borrero (University of Maryland, Baltimore County), Dr. Christine Hughes (University of North Carolina Wilmington), Dr. Jonathan L. Katz (Drexel University College of Medicine), Dr. Greg Madden (Utah State University), and Dr. Joel Ringdahl (University of Georgia). The presenters delivered talks on application-driven laboratory research, aversive events and positive reinforcement, the place of behavior analysis in the behavioral neuroscience era, experimental manipulations of delay discounting, and variables affecting the persistence of appropriate communication.

TxABA also hosted a special dinner and awards ceremony to honor the 30th anniversary of the association. The "Public Service Contributions to Behavior Analysis in Texas" award was presented to Sen. Eddie Lucio III, Rep. Larry Gonzales, and Rep. Ron Simmons. Rep. Gonzales, who spoke at the awards dinner, and Rep. Simmons, who spoke as part of the Special Interest Group Track, discussed their experiences as parents of children with autism and provided reasons for championing legislation to provide more autism services for families throughout Texas. Rep. Simmons also provided information regarding the proposed bill to license behavior analysts in Texas and gave recommendations for pursuing licensure in the next

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legislative session. The “Pioneers of Behavior Analysis in Texas” award was given to Dr. John Mabry and Dr. Jack Michael. Dr. Mabry described his experiences as a graduate student of Dr. Michael and the exciting work that they pursued while at the University of Houston. Finally, the “Career Contributions to Behavior Analysis in Texas” award was presented to Ed Hutchinson and Cloyd Hyten.

Each year, if revenue permits, TxABA awards James L. Kopp Memorial Scholarships to students of behavior analysis who plan to present their research at the upcoming ABAI annual convention. These competitive scholarships of \$500 each are intended to help defray the cost of attending the annual convention. A student must be listed as the presenting author of an accepted poster or symposium presentation to be eligible to apply for the scholarship. This year there were two recipients of the 2016 James L. Kopp Memorial Scholarship: Ashley Matter (Texas Tech University) for her research entitled, “A Comparison of Equivalence-Based Strategies to Teach Foreign Language Nouns,” and Lauren Philips (University of Houston-Clear Lake) for her research entitled, “Effectiveness of Diaphragmatic Breathing on Decreasing Escape-Maintained Problem Behavior.”

The poster session featured TxABA’s annual student poster competition. This year’s winners were Katherine Ledbetter-Cho (University of Texas at Austin) who presented, “Effects of Behavioral Skills Training and In-Situ Feedback on the Abduction-Prevention Skills of Children With Autism” and Bridgette White (University of Houston-Clear Lake) who presented, “A Clinic-Based Assessment for Evaluating Job-Related Social Skills.”

The outstanding 2016 conference committee consisted of conference coordinators Carla Smith and Heather Barahona, ACE provider Richard Smith, and program chairs Einar Ingvarsson, Sarah Lechago, Domonique Randall, Jeanne Donaldson, and Karen Toussaint. PowerPoint slides from many of the presentations given at the 2016 convention can be accessed at www.txaba.org/conference/conference2016.php.

Upcoming Activity

The upcoming year is an extremely busy one for TxABA. We will continue to work with a lobbyist to pursue licensure for behavior analysts in Texas in the upcoming legislative session. In addition, TxABA will remain very active in supporting legislation relevant to behavior analysis and practitioners, including Medicaid coverage of our services. The 2017 conference will be held on January 26–29 at the Sheraton Austin Hotel in Austin, Texas.

Turkish ABA

BY ELIF TEKIN IFTAR

The BACB Fourth Edition Task List and BACB Professional and Ethical Compliance Code for Behavior Analysts were translated into Turkish. Behavior analysis

is an emerging field in Turkey. Therefore, it is important to have a Turkish translation of these documents. These translations can be found at the following links:

- <http://bacb.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/151122-fourth-edition-task-list-turkish.pdf>
- <http://bacb.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/151122-compliance-code-turkish.pdf>

United Arab Emirates ABA

BY SHARIFA YATEEM, MICHELLE KELLY, RASHA BARUNI, AND NIPA BHUPTANI

The United Arab Emirates Association for Behavior Analysis (UAE-ABA) was created with the mission to disseminate behavior analysis in the UAE. Specifically, the organization shall serve as a scientific and professional reference and networking group for its members, disseminate information to promote its mission to a wider audience, and hold meetings to discuss the advancement of ABA in the region.

The UAE has become a leading country in many aspects and domains. UAE-ABA continues to be an active committee of the Emirates Autism Society to help the chapter in contributing to the well-being of society by developing and enhancing the science of behavior analysis through practice and education. UAE-ABA has successfully started to run practical workshops both in English and Arabic. The first Arabic workshop was presented by Tasneem Abu Rouza, MSED, BCBA, professional development specialist at New England Center for Children, Abu Dhabi. Tasneem graduated from the University of Jordan with a master’s degree in special education. She became a board certified behavior analyst through Northeastern University in Boston, USA. The workshop was “Effective Reinforcement Procedures and Preference Assessment: Overview of the Principles of Reinforcement and How to Incorporate Their Use in Improving Students’ Communication and Appropriate Behavior.” Information on preference assessment methods were also reviewed. Learning objectives included the importance of reinforcement for learning, types of reinforcement, characteristics of an effective reinforcement, how to know if an item is a reinforcer, and practical tips in using reinforcement.

The second workshop was presented by Katarzyna Kopacz, MS, BCBA, and Linda Bailey, MS, BCBA, both of the New England Center for Children, Abu Dhabi. Katarzyna Kopacz is a board certified behavior analyst and holds a master of science degree from Northeastern University in Boston, USA. She has been in the field of behavior analysis for 10 years, specifically working with individuals with autism. She has worked in clinic, school, and home settings. She currently works at the New England Center for Children in Abu Dhabi as a program specialist. Ms. Linda Bailey is a board certified behavior analyst and holds a master of science degree from Northeastern University. She has been in the field of behavior analysis

for 7 years, specifically working with individuals with autism. She currently works at the New England Center for Children in Abu Dhabi as the graduate studies specialist. Linda also serves on the board of UAE-ABA. They presented a workshop that reviewed the basic ideas of reinforcement and using a token-based system. They discussed the importance of token economies, how to use them, and how to systematically fade out these systems. One of the goals of this workshop was to provide an interactive opportunity for the participants. Participants were taught how to create a simple token board. In addition, they were given an opportunity to role-play the correct use of tokens.

UAE-ABA is proud to be part of organizing the first Autism Awareness Community Walk at New York University (NYU), Abu Dhabi. In the efforts of increasing autism education within the UAE community, NYU lit the campus plaza with a heartwarming sea-blue light—shining the light in support of families on the spectrum to feel more accepted and integrated. It was overwhelming to see more than 250 attendees walking hand in hand in recognition, supporting and accepting autism. Additionally, UAE-ABA was involved to be part of organizing an autism education conference at NYU. This conference accumulated different professionals in the field of autism education to talk about different topics related to autism. Events included a workshop in Arabic discussing how to deal with challenging behaviors, a discussion on vocational training for young adults, and an Arabic workshop explaining what task analysis is and how to use it to teach daily living skills. Additionally, parents were invited to speak about their experience, and a multi-disciplinary panel of speech and language therapists, occupational therapists, and board certified behavior analysts highlighted their roles in intervention for persons with autism.

Finally, UAE-ABA's upcoming plans involve increasing marketing strategies such as creating posters and flyers with beneficial information about ABA and certifications. Additionally, UAE-ABA and the Emirates Autism Society will collaborate on a website. Last, UAE-ABA will continue to expand workshops and lectures in different Emirates of the UAE. For more information, please email uaeaba@gmail.com.

Utah ABA

BY SHAWNEE COLLINS

We're excited about the progress of applied behavior analysis in Utah! In July 2015, legislation requiring licensure for professionals practicing behavior analysis went into effect. We worked with our Office of Licensing to develop rules for implementation of the law. Furthermore, in January 2016, Utah's insurance mandate for ASD-related services (i.e., ABA) was enacted. We're excited for the opportunity this has given to so many children and youth with an ASD diagnosis to access evidence-based services.

Our professional development committee successfully hosted our first webinar in March 2016. Dr. Paula Braga-Kenyon presented, "Teaching Visual Conditional Discriminations Using Errorless Learning: The Role of Prompts Requiring Simple and Conditional Discriminative Control." We look forward to future webinars!

Our annual conference was held June 10, 2016. Our keynote speakers were Mandy Rispoli and Michael Himle.

Vermont ABA

BY MERLIN POUTRE

Vermont ABA (VtABA) is proud to continue its mission of expanding knowledge and expertise in behavior analysis. On March 25, 2015, VtABA hosted its fifth annual conference, which took place in Burlington, Vermont and was attended by more than 150 behavior analysts, community members, and other allied professionals. Patrick Friman, Ph.D., ABPP, gave two presentations, entitled, "Anxiety in Persons on the Spectrum" and "The Myth of Underlying Psychopathology." The first talk covered anxiety in straightforward terms, illuminated the extent to which it affects virtually everyone to a certain degree, and, more to the point of the conference, the extent to which it affects persons with ASD even more. Dr. Friman also discussed treatment in terms of experimental study and clinical application. Attendees became familiar with the origins of the Freudian concept of psychopathology and why the assumption of underlying psychopathology persists. Three tests for underlying psychopathology were reviewed, and there was discussion about why at least four prevalent behavior problems fail all three tests.

The conference was followed by the annual VtABA meeting on October 29, 2015—45 members participated. Prior to a report by the board, Merlin Poutre, BCBA, gave a training called "Ethics Overview and Applications" that reviewed the transition to the Professional Ethical and Compliance Code and gave examples of ethical issues faced by practitioners. Three free CEUs were provided. The meeting also included updates about the work of the

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board. These included reports regarding membership, and specifically mentioned an increase in membership to 123 members. Additional highlighted membership activity was that VtABA continues to offer free CEUs to members at the annual conference as well as through other related events. A financial update was given and set the long-term goal of creating an annual budget and providing support to ongoing legislative efforts.

On April 1, 2016, VtABA hosted its sixth annual conference in Burlington, VT, which was attended by more than 100 behavior analysts, community members, and other allied professionals. Peter Gerhardt, Ed.D., gave two presentations, entitled, “Sex and Sex Education With Individuals on the Autism Spectrum: What You Need To Know” and “Transition to Adulthood and Life in Community for Young Adults with ASD.” He reviewed current research related to the topics of transitioning to adulthood and explored the extent to which our work with school-age learners has resulted in employment and productive life in the community. He identified gaps in the knowledge base and offered recommendations for an understanding of quality of life beyond the classroom. Dr. Gerhardt also provided an overview of current research on sexuality and sexual intervention in ASD and offered recommendations for assessment and proactive intervention in his second presentation.

VtABA thanks all the professionals who attended the events in the past year, with special emphasis on the contributions of Patrick Friman and Peter Gerhardt, our far-traveling presenters. We are excited to begin planning for the 2017 conference and will host our annual meeting in fall 2016 (date yet to be determined).

Virginia ABA

BY CHRISTY EVANKO

The Virginia Association for Behavior Analysis (VABA) serves those who live and/or work in the Commonwealth of Virginia. The chapter mission is to promote and support the practice, research, and dissemination of behavior analysis throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia. In order to meet our mission VABA has set forth the following goals:

- Be well-known in the community.
- Provide quality service to our members.
- Inspire a new generation of behavior analysts.

Our organization is still in a growth period, and we look forward to offering increasing value for our members. We are still excited about our 12th Annual Conference, held in Newport News, VA in April. We have also recently announced CEU events beyond the conference, happy hours and networking events, and a quarterly newsletter. We have increased the offerings on our website and continue to work with policy makers to improve the climate

for behavior analysis in the state.

Our conference this year featured a workshop and keynote address by Dr. Pat Friman, director of Boys Town Center for Behavioral Health. Other speakers included Dr. Keri Bethune, Dr. Adam Brewer, Dr. Harvey Jacobs, Dr. Kathy Matthews, and Dr. Josh Pritchard.

Wisconsin ABA

BY MATT ANDRZEJEWSKI

The Wisconsin Association for Behavior Analysis (WisABA) was founded in 2004 and continues to serve the needs of behavior analysts in Wisconsin. In August 2015, we held our eighth annual conference at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, hosting a number of internationally recognized speakers, offering several practical workshops, and providing continuing education credits for board certified behavior analysts. The conference was our best attended yet! Roger Bass was given the annual WisABA award for his continued dedication to behavior analysis and its dissemination. Funding for our keynote speaker was provided, once again, by Corrine Donley, our first president and benefactor of our Founder's Fund. Bill Ahearn, Pat McGreevy, Amir DiPuglia, and Mike Miklos traveled from afar to bring their expertise to Wisconsin and our conference attendees. Matt Nonemacher expertly fundraised for the 2015 conference, enough so that each attendee went home with a “Keep Calm and Do ABA” WisABA t-shirt. Special thanks go to our sponsors Achieving Collaborative Treatment, the Wisconsin Early Autism Project, and Lund Van Dyke (now Caravel Autism Providers).

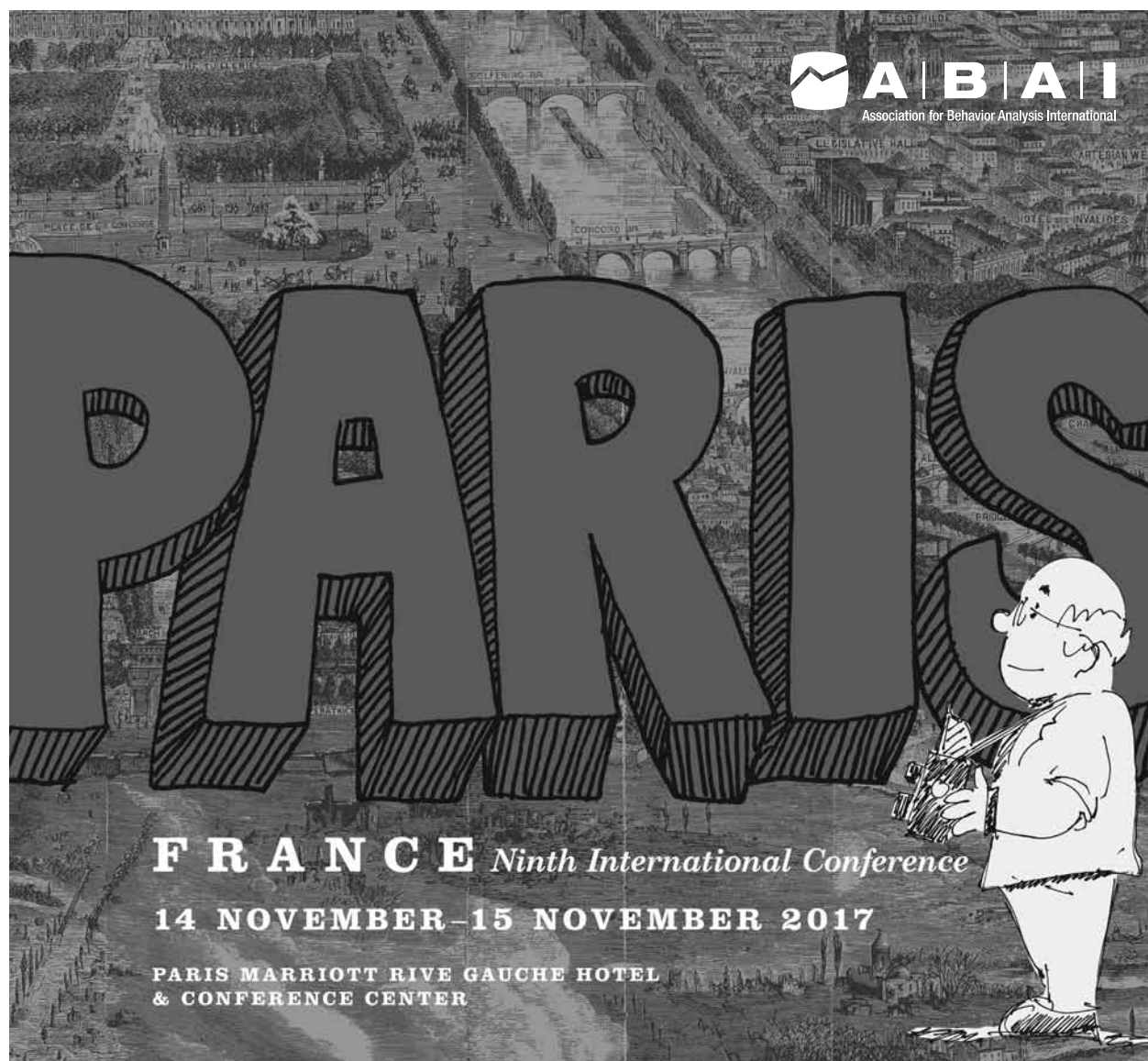
We also held a “roadshow” data blitz at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee during the fall, where students shared some of their data and findings to members from around the state. Jeff Tiger and Tiffany Kodak from the university helped bring this great networking opportunity to fruition; many thanks for their continued support of WisABA. In prior years, we've traveled to the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire to hear from Kevin Klatt's undergraduate students, and hope to do so again in the future.

The state of Wisconsin continues to offer licenses for behavior analysts contingent upon Behavior Analyst Certification Board (BACB) certification. Currently, we have more than 120 licensed behavior analysts in Wisconsin. Behavior analysis training programs at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, and University of Wisconsin-Whitewater continue to produce a substantial number of expertly trained behavior analysts, but many agencies and providers, state-wide, are hiring additional BCBAs. We offer continuing education credits at our annual conference; many thanks to Jennie Edes-Pierotti for her CE credit acumen!

In 2016, we are preparing to launch a newsletter

(currently planned for two to three issues per year) for members to keep informed of the myriad events and opportunities for behavior analysts in Wisconsin. The newsletter will contain updates on activities in Wisconsin, theoretical pieces, government and licensure news, and employment opportunities. In such a large state, with a number of geographically separate behavior analytic communities, we hope that this will help unify us further in providing the best training in, and application of, behavior analysis. WisABA and its members continue to confront a number of obstacles in our great state and funding, oversight, and cooperation are constantly under attack. We continue to lobby and advocate for behavior analysis while educating our elected officials on the benefits of our science in our schools, clinics, workplaces, and communities around Wisconsin.

WisABA continues to advocate for and represent behavior analysts throughout Wisconsin. Now in our 12th year, and building on the enormous success of our eighth conference, WisABA will hold its ninth annual conference at the University of Wisconsin-Madison on August 8–10, 2016. Alisa Morrison, conference organizer extraordinaire, is once again putting together a superb lineup of presenters. Join us for workshops, talks, forays onto State Street, the Suzuki strings of Madison, poster sessions, social hour, our famous member-speaker dinner, and plenty of opportunities to network. Membership and conference information can be found on our website, WisABA.org. ❖



Updates From ABAI's Special Interest Groups

Applied Animal Behavior

BY TERRI BRIGHT

The focus of the Applied Animal Behavior SIG is both to communicate with SIG members, ABAI members, and applied animal behaviorists in other organizations, and to promote scholarship in applied animal behavior. The membership is diverse and includes academicians, researchers, and practitioners from a variety of disciplines who are dedicated to, affiliated with, or interested in animal behavior and/or behavior management or behavior therapy with animals in applied settings. We welcome new members who share our interest in animal behavior and applied behavior analysis. Our SIG's Yahoo Group continues to serve as the primary means of communication among members and the vehicle for strategic-planning discussions. To join the Yahoo Group, contact SIG president, Terri Bright at terribright@comcast.net. We welcome dialogue with other SIGs as we grow our group, disseminating uses of behavior analysis that reflect the transition from experimental to applied behavior analysis in the human world, and now back to the world of animals that live in proximity to humans.

We again recognized excellent student scholarship in applied animal behavior this year with the Marian Breland Bailey Award for Student Research and Scholarship, and expert reviewers carefully choose the winners each year. Those interested in our group might also want to visit our website, created by SIG member Nathaniel Hall: www.animalbehavioranalysis.org. If you have an applied animal behavior-related abstract to submit to the site, please write to terribright@comcast.net.

At the 2016 ABAI Annual Convention in Chicago, the B. F. Skinner Lecture Series included Lance Miller, senior director of Animal Welfare Research for the Chicago Zoological Society. He spoke about how behavioral data can be used to track animal welfare in zoos. Alan Poling, Ph.D., was an invited presenter, sharing research on giant African pouched rats and their use in detecting land mines in former war zones and tuberculosis in humans. Symposia included research that featured human-animal interactions and animal-assisted interventions, shelter dogs and behavior interventions, translational issues of applied behavior analysis in zoos, and identifying precursors of dog behavior. Additionally, three posters involving research on animal behavior were presented. The SIG also conducted our annual business meeting and presented a poster at the ABAI Expo, and SIG leaders attended the ABAI Special Interest Group Leadership Training.

We presently have a set of bylaws, as well as nonprofit status. For more information, do not hesitate to contact SIG president, Terri Bright.

Autism

BY ROBERT K. ROSS

The Autism SIG has undergone significant changes in structure and function over the past few years. It has refocused its mission and resources away from the creation and publication of a quarterly newsletter and resource website. Instead, it has focused its efforts on developing collaborations with other entities to develop resources and supports for families, practitioners, agencies, and other consumers and providers of ABA-based treatment services.

After successfully completing a time- and labor-intensive revision of the SIG's Consumer Guidelines for Identifying Qualified Providers of ABA-Based Treatment Services, the SIG leadership team has worked to re-format this technical document into a more family-friendly resource. The SIG has partnered with Autism Speaks to accomplish this task. Over the past year, the SIG has conducted four focus groups of parents of individuals with ASD in New Jersey and California. The feedback obtained during these focus group meetings is being used to re-structure and simply the document so that it can be used more easily by consumers and to determine how to better disseminate the final product. The redesigned/refocused document was discussed at the SIG meeting at the annual convention.

While the SIG no longer develops and disseminates a newsletter, we have partnered with the Association for Science in Autism Treatment to disseminate their newsletter to our members in lieu of our own.

The next project on the SIG's agenda once the consumer guidelines project has been completed is the development of resources to help identify quality school-based ABA programs. This will likely be a multi-year program with many collaborators. We continue to seek committed volunteers (both on an individual and organizational level) to assist with this endeavor. Anyone interested in participating in the project is encouraged to email Bob Ross at bross@beaconservices.org.

Behavioral Development

BY PER HOLTH AND PATRICE MILLER

In his book, *Coercion and its Fallout*, Murray Sidman (1989) wrote about the tendency among researchers in psychology to focus on behavior that has "face validity" by going directly to the study of the type of behavior in which one is interested, rather than to some representative behavior. Although such an approach can yield interesting data, according to Sidman, it may be less useful in the long run: "Using 'face validity' as the criterion for deciding what to observe and measure inhibits the development of a science of behavior by creating independent mini-sciences." Thus, in psychology, there are experts in every small and limited field, such as marriage counseling, child development, child behavior problems, autism, sex, divorce, animal training, and more.

Similarly, Henry D. Schlinger, Jr. (1995), in his book *A Behavior Analytic View of Child Development*, made a similar point that, in spite of the fact that psychology has generated an enormous amount of research, very little of that research is united and the whole field remains very theoretically fractured. In addition, in their book *Child and Adolescent Development: A Behavioral Systems Approach*, Gary Novak and Martha Pelaez noted that textbooks in psychology often leave students without a consistent overview of how theory and data are connected. Facts simply do not hang well together in a coherent system, and they are easily forgotten.

Research within the cognitive-developmental tradition has typically focused on identifying characteristic patterns of responding in different groups of children and on the consistency of responding across situations and over time (cf., Moore & Dunham, 1995). In spite of the fact that the whole body of “cognitive” research on such phenomena as “joint attention” focuses on behavior that needs to be analyzed in great detail, such fields often start out and develop almost completely apart from behavior analysis. Sometimes researchers have even argued specifically against behavior analytic interpretations (e.g., Bruner, 1995; Tomasello, 1995).

In a behavioral view of development, the facts hang nicely together. Behavior analysis provides a set of strong basic behavioral principles as a unifying background. This background provides practitioners with principles that they can apply to socially relevant behavioral issues in natural environments. As Sidman (1989) pointed out, “an alternative to studying actions that seem important in their own right is to do just the opposite. Select an arbitrary sample... The discovery of general principles, subject to identifiable limitations, places a science in a better position to extend its relevance.” Accordingly, Schlinger (1995) aimed to show that behavior analysis can offer the field of development a more unified theoretical approach, and Novak and Pelaez (2004) set out to provide a more “coherent approach to development, on which students can understand the facts of development.”

Thus, the Behavioral Development SIG and its associated ABAAI program area (DEV) include research and theory designed to identify environmental variables that establish and interact with behavioral development, and show how these variables relate to behavioral principles and instructional procedures in other areas, and how they can be manipulated to promote desirable developmental outcomes. For those interested in solving problems traditionally labeled mental illness or psychological problems, using a behavior developmental approach can generate a unified and empirically verified set of explanations. This approach can be particularly helpful in planning effective interventions.

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Behavioral Gerontology

BY CLAUDIA DROSSEL

The Behavioral Gerontology SIG (BGSIG) provides a forum for students, practitioners, and researchers who have an interest in applying the science, practice, and philosophy of behavior analysis to problems encountered by adults in later life, which typically refers to ages 65 and older. Our goal is to promote the development, implementation, and evaluation of behavior analytic approaches to a wide variety of topics of high public health significance in the older adult population. Among these topics are, for example, self-management for health promotion and disease prevention, functional assessments of and interventions for behavioral changes commonly associated with neurocognitive disorders (e.g., due to Alzheimer's disease), effective participation in inter- or multidisciplinary teams, or aging with a disability. Because knowledge of the behavioral, medical, cultural, and social contexts of aging is necessary when working clinically with older adults, the BGSIG is fostering a strong collaborative mentorship model. In the spirit of stimulating scholarship in behavior analysis and aging, the BGSIG honors a student presenter during its business meeting at ABAAI's annual convention. Members are alerted to convention presentations in the area of aging through the BGSIG's spring edition of its biannual newsletter.

The BGSIG uses its biannual newsletter, its website, and social media (Twitter, Facebook) for dissemination. As the BGSIG's membership is increasing, we will create a mechanism whereby members who self-identify as students or professionals concerned about the behavior analysis of age-related issues will be able to communicate with each other. The BGSIG invites participation and encourages collaborative endeavors to promote behavior analysis in a fast-growing area with high need.

For more information, including details about membership, go to <http://bgsig.wordpress.com>.

Behavioral Medicine

BY GRETCHEN A. DITTRICH

The Behavioral Medicine SIG of ABAAI focuses on the application of behavior analytic methodology to the prevention and treatment of behaviors associated with

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chronic illness and disease, and the promotion of behaviors associated with improved health and treatment adherence. The role of behavior analysis is important in the field of behavioral medicine. It is the mission of the SIG to encourage interdisciplinary research in the area of behavioral health promotion, emphasizing the need for function-based and empirically validated treatments for chronic health disorders.

The Behavioral Medicine SIG offers students, researchers, practitioners, and consumers opportunities to discuss issues related to public health promotion and disease prevention. All are welcome to join the Behavioral Medicine SIG. We hope that the SIG will help consumers and practitioners better understand the role of behavior analysis in the field of behavioral medicine and provide an outlet for discussions of current and developing research within the field.

To learn more about the Behavioral Medicine SIG, visit our website (<https://sites.google.com/site/bmedsig/>) or like our Facebook page (Behavioral Medicine SIG of ABAI). You may also contact us at bxmedsig@gmail.com to receive additional information about the SIG or to become a member. The Behavioral Medicine SIG offers opportunities for members to engage in research collaboration and discussions about behavior analysis and health promotion.

The Behavioral Medicine SIG sponsored two special events at the ABAI annual convention in Chicago. The first was a panel discussion on research methodology, "A Discussion Regarding Methodology Utilized in Healthy Psychology Research: Advantages and Limitations of Within-Subjects and Between-Groups Experimental Designs." The panel was composed of Richard K. Fleming, Raymond G. Miltenberger, and Michael Perone. The SIG also sponsored a symposium, "A Sampling of Current Research in Behavioral Medicine and Health Promotion." Presenters included Sandy Jin, Melanie Byrne, and Royce Manifold ("Assessment and Treatment of Sleep Problems of Young Children: Application of Behavioral Medicine"); Ashley E. Greenwald and Larry Williams ("Momentary Prompting and Modeling of Behavior-Based Labor Strategies"); Keith D. Allen ("A Review of a Program of Research in Behavioral Dentistry"); and Gretchen A. Dittrich and Richard K. Fleming ("Current Publication Trends in Behavioral Medicine Research").

The annual Behavioral Medicine SIG meeting was held during the ABAI convention in Chicago. During the meeting, SIG members voted on new officers and discussed strategies to enhance benefits of SIG membership. During the upcoming year, the SIG will be working on methods to improve dissemination of behavioral medicine technologies and research among behavior analysts, consumers, and the medical community. We will also provide opportunities for webinars and CEUs for SIG members, and are working to establish a student research scholarship.

Behavior Analysis and Selectionist Approach to Robotics

BY JOSEPH CAUTILLI

The Behavior Analysis and Selectionist Approach to Robotics SIG has existed for 7 years. It is composed of roughly 79 members, who take part in its Yahoo listserv. In addition, it has a Facebook page, which has 21 "likes." This group is focused on research and development in the area of improving robots to learn by consequences. Topics covered include reinforcement learning, neural networks, stacked neural networks, matching models of reinforcement, motor learning, building of relational frames, and acquisition of communication skills and personality in robots from behavior analytic models. This group hopes to further the discussion between behavior analysts and robotics engineers. In the past, we have referred to robots as the future, but in many ways robots are the now.

Behavior Analysis for Sustainable Societies

BY JULIA H. FIEBIG

The Behavior Analysis for Sustainable Societies (BASS) SIG has had decreased participation over the last year, as measured by diminished participation on the SIG's listserv and a need for SIG officers. This year in Chicago, elections for new BASS officers were held at the business meeting on Monday, May 30. Positions presented included the chair, associate chair, membership coordinator, communications director, at-large representative, and student representative. While BASS officers support the SIG on a 2-year cycle, many of the officer positions remained vacant over the last cycle. With elections held for the 2016–2018 term, topics of increasing member involvement and outreach of the SIG were discussed. Revitalizing participation of current members and getting new members involved in supporting the mission of BASS is a priority for the SIG.

Future conferences in line with the SIG's mission were also discussed. The ABAI Behavior Change for a Sustainable World Conference was held in Columbus, OH in 2012. Discussions that began in San Antonio at the ABAI 2015 convention continued this year to initiate a committee to draft a proposal for a second conference. This year's ABAI convention included a few presentations/panels addressing applications of behavior analysis to environmental issues:

- Professional Development Series: Non-Traditional Research Topics: Suggestions for Future Research in Sustainability (Alavosius, Newsome, & Luke, 2016)
- The Role of the Community in Eco-Conscious Change (De Bernardis, 2016)

- Encouraging Environmentally Responsible Behavior: Will Social Identity Increase the Use of Reusable Shopping Bags (Poli, Roedinger, & Geller, 2016)

Next steps for BASS include SIG leadership meetings on a regular basis throughout the year and initiating strategies to keep members involved in helping the SIG meet its goals.

Behavior Analysis and Technology

BY KEN KILLINGSWORTH

Over the past year, the BATEch SIG focused on establishing a hub of resources for behavior analysts interested in technology. Specifically, these efforts were focused on creating an online computer software code bank and a list of behavior analysts with programming skills for hire in building behavior-based computer programs.

The online code bank was created to host software designed by behavior analysts, and it is freely available to all BATEch SIG members. This serves two purposes: First, behavior analyst programmers can upload their programs to the code bank for others to use and modify and second, non-programmers can also access the code bank to make use of these programs. Each program is housed within a folder in the code bank with an accompanying instruction document that describes the program and how to use it. Also, the original programmer's contact information is included.

The code bank can benefit a large swath of the behavior analytic community. For example, graduate students can peruse the code bank for existing programs relevant to their research interests. The students can use these programs in thesis and dissertation research and can work with the original programmer on modifications. The modified program will then be available in the code bank for other graduate students. This can save students time and money because they do not have to build a program from scratch or hire a programmer without a behavioral background. Additionally, practitioners may download programs for use in instruction and data tracking. For example, the code bank currently contains a worksheet-building app and a percentile schedule calculator. These programs can save substantial time in creating stimuli and tracking responses. Our ultimate goal is for the code bank to be a hub for talent and resources and to inspire collaboration within the behavior analytic community.

Another initiative over the past year was to create a list of behavior analysts with programming skills. The goal in creating this list is to link those who program with those who need programming. When working on behavioral software, the programmer and client benefit when both have a background in behavior science. In essence, a behavior analyst client will have to translate his or her ideas less when the programmer shares a common understanding of

behavioral principles. The programmers on this list range from beginner to advanced, and their fees for programming reflect their skill levels. This list is available on the BATEch SIG website (BATEchsig.com). If you are a programmer and would like to add your name to the list, send a request to BATEchSIG@gmail.com and we will send a survey to collect your information. Membership is not necessary to be on the list. The BATEch SIG does not benefit financially from hosting this list. Financial negotiations are between programmer and client.

Membership in the BATEch SIG is free and allows access to the online code bank. To become a member, simply send an email to BATEchSIG@gmail.com and you will be given access to the Google Drive folder that contains the software. Membership is not necessary to view the BATEch SIG website, which is primarily used for the SIG's blog. Blog posting is available to guests; however, we encourage membership if you would like to contribute content on a regular basis. All are welcome to join the SIG regardless of technological or behavior analytic competency.

Behavior Analyst Online

BY MICHAEL LAMPORT COMMONS

The Behavior Analyst Online SIG (BAO SIG) has supported online journals since 1999. The group was founded by Joseph Cautilli and the first featured journal was the *Behavior Analyst Today*—a newsletter primarily focused on certification, current issues in the field, and evidence-based practices. Presently, the peer-reviewed journals supported by BAO SIG have over 20,000 readers internationally. The SIG has long emphasized peer reviews without content or theoretical judgments.

As of January 1, 2015, the American Psychological Association (APA) is the owner and publisher of the BAO SIG's two journals—*Behavior Analysis: Research and Practice* and *Behavioral Development Bulletin*. As these two journals get up and running under new ownership, they will be in all APA databases and have an impact rating. Google Scholar now includes data on how often articles from these journals have been cited.

Behaviorists for Social Responsibility

BY MARK MATTAINI AND MOLLI LUKE

Beginning at our annual meeting at the ABAI convention in 2015, the Behaviorists for Social Responsibility (BFSR) SIG reorganized using a board of planners structure (drawing on the structure of the Walden Two community in Skinner's book of the same name). SIG decisions are made by this board—currently Kendra Combs, Tara Grant, Roberta Lemos, Molli Luke, Mark Mattaini, Richard Rakos, and Jomella Watson-Thompson—who

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meet monthly. A considerable number of other active members are involved in the BFSR activities discussed below. The planner structure, the easy availability of digital communications, and the resulting increased level of mutual accountability are now producing a substantially higher level of activity than had been true for some years. The following material summarizes some of those activities.

Behavior and Social Issues

The journal *Behavior and Social Issues* (BSI) has long been the flagship project of the SIG. BSI (as *Behaviorists for Social Action Journal*) began in 1978, essentially concurrent with the origins of BFSR, and was retitled *Behavior Analysis and Social Action* in 1986. The journal operated independently with all volunteer effort until 1990, when the Cambridge Center for Behavioral Studies took on editorial and publishing responsibilities. In 2001, the Cambridge Center determined that it could no longer sustain the journal, and it returned to BFSR SIG manament. Under the name *Behavior and Social Issues*, the journal has had 24 volumes as of 2015. The editorial board continues to grow with new members including Traci Cihon, Jeff Weatherly, Angela Sanguinetti, Jomella Watson-Thompson, and Holly Seniuk. We are always interested in adding qualified scholars to the editorial board, and nominations are encouraged. As the current editor and associate editor have been with the journal for a considerable period, the board of planners will soon need to begin exploring succession plans. In addition, the editorial board has a 2016 goal to upload and provide electronic access to articles from *Behaviorists for Social Action* and *Behavior Analysis and Social Action*.

Social Media

Recognizing the importance of social media in the current context, BFSR has for several years hoped to achieve a meaningful social media presence. Under the energetic leadership of planner Kendra Combs, our presence on Facebook and Twitter has substantially expanded, and the quality and consistency of postings have greatly improved. Of particular importance for a group wishing to be truly international, the number of followers from outside the US (particularly from Brazil) now exceeds those from the United States. Expansion into other media (including YouTube) is being actively explored and pursued, and volunteers to assist in that work are encouraged to contact the group.

International Initiatives

Like ABAI, the mission of BFSR is global in scope. However, until recently, nearly all our work has been US based. Consistent with our intention to expand efforts internationally, BFSR SIG is now shaping a proposal for an international conference on behavior analysis, large-scale social change, and social policy—tentatively for Brazil in

2017. Roberta Lemos of Brazil, with assistance from Tara Grant and Jomella Thompson-Watson, is leading this effort. The hope is to bring extensive work in social and policy change occurring in Brazil to the attention of those elsewhere, as well as to bring researchers from the US, Europe, and throughout the world to share their work linking social policy and behavior analytic science. Funding support for this effort is needed. Other possibilities for international initiatives, including online options, will also be explored and suggestions are encouraged.

Sustainability and Community-Based Initiatives

Sustainability and community-level initiatives are among the most important issues that fall within the mission of BFSR SIG. As an early effort, this year the SIG offered two free webinars to better inform behavior analysts and other interested parties of what behavior analysis and behavioral systems science may be able to contribute to sustainability, climate change, and related challenges. The planners are also in discussions with university-based scholars and other ABAI special interest groups about possible think-tank meetings and conferences to expand the impact of behavior science in these global challenges.

The Matrix Project

In our BSI editorial in volume 23 (Mattaini & Luke, 2014), we introduced the Matrix Project, in which BFSR SIG is exploring practical approaches for expanding attention within behavior analysis to societal and global issues. The planners and several other SIG members are currently fleshing out a behavioral systems analysis of practical steps that might be taken across more than a dozen sectors within the discipline and outside it, as well as an advocacy plan to encourage first steps during 2016. Our progress on the Matrix Project was reported at the 2016 ABAI annual convention in Chicago.

ABAI Annual Convention

BFSR SIG held an annual business meeting jointly with the editorial board of Behavior and Social Issues at the ABAI convention. We were also represented at the convention Expo, offered a panel discussion, and presented a poster on the early results of the Matrix Project.

Crime, Delinquency, and Forensic Behavior

BY KELLY KATES MCEL RATH AND JOSEPH CAUTILLI

The mission of the Crime, Delinquency, and Forensic Behavior Analysis SIG is to ensure that those in the criminal justice field have access to appropriate, evidence-based behavior analytic therapy to reduce crime and delinquency.

Behavioral interventions can reduce prison misconduct (French & Gendreau, 2006). SIG members have testified on the effectiveness of behavioral intervention to reduce crime,

in some cases by approximately 13–20% (Redondo-Illescas, Sánchez-Meca, & Garrido-Genovés, 2001) and prison misconduct (French & Gendreau, 2006). The SIG plans to remain active in this area over the coming year.

Elderly and Veteran Populations

The SIG plans to expand its focus to include clinical issues for the elderly and post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) for veterans. The SIG has been active in sending letters to the state of Pennsylvania to support use of behavior analysis for addressing the needs of these populations.

The group is currently exploring collaboration with the Practitioner Issues in Behavior Analysis SIG and the Behavior Analysis in Military and Veterans' Issues SIG about ways to allow licensed behavior analysts to work in the Veteran Affairs system.

This SIG has much to offer those behavior analysts who are interested in prevention and treatment of offenders to prevent recidivism, lessen the burden on our prison system, save society money, and overall reduce crime and the damage it does to families.

The SIG operates and maintains a listserv. We currently have 150 members. Discussion topics pertain to such subjects as providing consultation for veterans in prison, child medications, psychology of false confessions, risk assessments, and functional behavioral assessment. Finally, the SIG also posts employment positions for members seeking employment or a career change.

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Direct Instruction

BY ANN F. FILER

Direct instruction is a logical choice for a wide variety of learners. Frequently, the instructional needs of learners with ASD and other learning challenges are similar to the needs of typically developing learners. As a stated goal, the Direct Instruction Special Interest Group (DI SIG) strives to coordinate and support a continuum of ongoing education, training, and networking opportunities for all individuals interested in direct instruction as an effective, evidence-based instructional practice. The significance of evidence-based instructional practices has been established, and numerous studies support direct instruction as an effective practice within this domain. Direct instruction is a system of teaching in which instructional variables are controlled through the use of carefully designed instructional materials, instructional sequences, and teaching strategies to ensure students will master content at a reasonable rate.

DI SIG members met for the annual business meeting at the ABAA 42nd Annual Convention in Chicago, Illinois.

The agenda for this meeting was as follows:

- Introductions and DI SIG mission statement
- Highlights of 2015 meeting reviewed
- Review updates to DI SIG Facebook page and wiki
- Direct instruction sounds presentation demo
- Discussion and demo of reading mastery and language for learning online materials
- Future directions of DI SIG

Participants in the 2016 business meeting received a tour of both the DI SIG Facebook page and wiki website. At last year's meeting a question was posed as to whether the wiki page was necessary given that the Facebook page was fully developed and active. It was decided that the Facebook page and wiki served different functions and therefore both were worthy of upkeep. The newly produced Reading Mastery Sounds Production online training was shared with participants followed by an open discussion of future DI SIG goals. The following goals for the upcoming year were established:

- Continue updates to DI SIG Facebook page and wiki
- Post a link to the sounds presentation on the Facebook page
- Post a review of the Reading Mastery Sounds and LFL online materials
- Identify additional DI SIG officers to take on leadership roles for 2016 and beyond

The DI SIG is working to develop a collaborative relationship with members of the Autism SIG. Suggested goals for this collaborative group continue to include planning for and providing ongoing training for professionals on multiple levels (introductory, intermediate, and advanced/research level) and offering education and support for parents and practitioners attending ABAA-sponsored workshops and presentations.

The DI SIG continues to seek to identify various challenges, administrative practices, and implementation strategies pertaining specifically to evidence-based instructional practices as they relate to teaching typical learners and learners with special needs, including individuals on the autism spectrum. These elements are analyzed and discussed with respect to learner characteristics and addressed in relationship to obstacles and challenges to DI implementation. Members seek to propose and catalog solutions to instructional obstacles, including modifications and adaptations. Participants will continue to develop a systematic process for determining best practice guidelines and publishing standardized processes for implementing solutions. The DI SIG continues to discuss the development of research projects validating the effectiveness of direct instruction implementation with special needs learners on the autism spectrum.

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Dissemination of Behavior Analysis

BY MEGAN MILLER

The Dissemination of Behavior Analysis Special Interest Group (DBA SIG) looks to release behavior analysis from its pigeon-holes and publicize the potential our science has to develop global solutions in all aspects of life. Behavior analysts have demonstrated our efficacy in very specific populations, and we're really good at proving that our interventions work... to ourselves. We are not as good at getting the word out to those who aren't aware of the science of behavior! DBA SIG member benefits include free webinar participation with free CEUs, access to PowerPoints about behavior analysis, and a community to bounce ideas off of like-minded individuals who all share the same passion for disseminating behavior analysis.

The DBA SIG engaged in a variety of activities in 2015. Over the summer, Megan Miller, our SIG chair, provided a free webinar with CEUs for DBA SIG members about the various applications of behavior analysis. More than 40 people attended the webinar, and positive feedback was provided by all attendees. For 2016, the DBA SIG plans to host additional free webinars with CEUs for members. Potential topics include dispelling myths about behavior analysis with other professionals, how to collaborate with medical professionals, and how to use social media to disseminate behavior analysis. To learn more about these and other webinars, visit our website to join the SIG today: <http://aboutbehavior.webs.com/>.

Another initiative for 2015 was to become more active on the DBA SIG Facebook page. Christy Evanko, the SIG webmaster, posts weekly with topics related to disseminating the science of behavior analysis. These topics include activities that behavior analysts are engaging in to promote the science of behavior analysis and news stories about behavior analysis in the mainstream media. For 2016, the SIG would like to promote more active discussion of these posts. If you would like to join in the discussion, please like our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/DBASIG/.

In 2015, the SIG also started hosting PowerPoints on a Google Drive account. These PowerPoints can be accessed by SIG members for use in disseminating behavior analysis. Examples include "Advancements in Autism Intervention," "I Didn't Know ABA Could Do THAT!," "Mental Health and Behavior Analysis," and "The 7 Steps of Instructional Control." For 2016, the SIG would like to grow this collection to include PowerPoints or presentations from various members of the field related to behavior analysis. Additionally, volunteers are needed to provide translations of current PowerPoints or provide PowerPoints in other languages to help disseminate

behavior analysis throughout the world!

At the 2016 convention, we met to determine webinar topics and discuss new initiatives for 2016. An example of a potential initiative is recognition of other behavior analysts who are engaged in dissemination activities. The growth of social media and technology has led to an increase in individual and group dissemination projects, and the DBA SIG would like to recognize those who are helping to disseminate information about behavior analysis.

Ethics and Behavior Analysis

BY MATT BRODHEAD AND SHAWN QUIGLEY

The past year has been exciting for the Ethics and Behavior Analysis Special Interest Group (EBA SIG). Through our growing membership and formalized officer election process, and through conference presentations and research dissemination, the SIG has been able to advance the appreciation for and impact of ethics and behavior analysis to ABAI membership and beyond.

A major accomplishment of the past year was the introduction a formal membership application process. At the time of this publication, there are 35 members of the EBA SIG, and that number continues to grow. The introduction of the formal membership also allowed the SIG to raise funds to help support efforts to advance EBA SIG interests in the coming years.

A second accomplishment in 2015 was the initiation of the first formal election of SIG officers. Dr. Matt Brodhead was elected president, Dr. Shawn Quigley was elected vice-president, and Dr. Nicolle Matthews was elected secretary. Dr. Thomas Zane now serves as past president. In fall 2016, the SIG will hold officer elections for vice-president and secretary positions.

David Cox, who has played a pivotal role in SIG business over the past 3 years, stepped down from his formal leadership position to devote more time to pursuing his Ph.D. at the University of Florida. Due to his expertise in web design, David has agreed to donate his services toward the maintenance of the EBA SIG website and listserv. The EBA SIG would like to thank David for his time and effort.

The EBA SIG would also like to thank Dr. Jon Bailey for his service to the SIG over the last 3 years. As ABAI members are well aware, Dr. Bailey has been, and continues to be, a leader in matters related to ethics. The EBA SIG thanks Dr. Bailey for his service to the SIG and looks forward to his guidance over the coming years.

In addition to growing the EBA SIG membership and implementing an officer election process, the EBA SIG organized and sponsored a symposium at the 2015 Annual Convention focused on ethical issues related to telehealth autism services. Due to the popularity of the symposium, the EBA SIG, with the help of Dr. Al Poling, arranged for the symposium presentations and additional invited manuscripts to be submitted to *Behavior Analysis Research and*

Practice. Due to the success of the symposium and the topic it addressed, the EBA SIG plans to continue to organize and coordinate symposia at future ABAI events in order to further disseminate research related to ethics and behavior analysis.

EBA SIG members, and those interested in SIG activities, can expect the SIG to continue to develop ways to advance the dissemination of topics related to ethics and behavior analysis. For example, the EBA SIG plans to provide a small financial award to support either a discussion paper or research project related to ethics and behavior analysis. Dr. Brodhead will serve as the chair of this grant committee. Expect a call for proposals in fall 2016. In addition to the grant competition, Dr. Quigley will continue to spearhead efforts to coordinate symposia at the ABAI convention to maintain EBA SIG presence and continue to advance SIG interests.

As the impact the EBA SIG makes continues to grow, we welcome all ABAI members who are interested in participating to consider joining our listserv or becoming formal members. Instructions for both can be found at our website, <http://ebasig.xyz/>.

Experimental Analysis of Human Behavior

BY J. ADAM BENNETT AND MANISH VAIDYA

The mission of the Experimental Analysis of Human Behavior Special Interest Group (EAHB SIG) is to promote basic experimental and translational research with human participants. The EAHB SIG works toward this mission by:

- Sponsoring an annual Student Paper Competition. The goal of the paper competition is to encourage basic experimental and translational research by recognizing the best exemplars from the work of students. Student submissions receive journal-style reviews from established researchers in the field. Winners are recognized at the annual meeting of the EAHB SIG where students are asked to present their experiments to the audience.
- Sponsoring an annual Distinguished Contributions Award. The goal of this award is to recognize the contributions of behavioral scientists whose work has helped to define EAHB as an interesting and viable area of study. Prior recipients have included Alan Baron, Murray Sidman, Joe Brady, Joe Spradlin, A. Charles Catania, David Schmitt, Grayson Osborne, Travis Thompson, Jack Michael, Howard Rachlin, Nate Azrin, Harry Mackay, and Deisy de Souza.
- Sponsoring the *Experimental Analysis of Human Behavior Bulletin*. This publication (ISSN 1938-7237) is an ongoing online journal (www.eahb.org) dedicated to original, peer-reviewed empirical articles, notes on research in progress, technical notes, and descriptions of other activities related to human operant research.
- Sponsoring an annual meeting for interested parties at the ABAI annual convention. The goal of these

meetings is to discuss the business of the EAHB SIG, the *Experimental Analysis of Human Behavior Bulletin*, and the general state of affairs in EAHB, EAB, behavior analysis, and the world. The meeting is also used to recognize our Student Paper Competition winners and to deliberate and decide upon the next recipient of the Distinguished Contributions Award.

Report of 2014–2015 activities

The SIG held its annual meeting at the ABAI 41st Annual Convention in San Antonio, TX. At the meeting, Dr. Kathryn Kestner agreed to coordinate the annual Student Paper Competition. The SIG is also grateful for the efforts of Dr. J. Adam Bennett, who continues to serve as chair; Dr. Yusuke Hayashi, who continues to serve as treasurer; Dr. Manish Vaidya, who continues to serve as editor of the *Experimental Analysis of Human Bulletin*; and Mr. Zach Voss, who continues to serve as our webmaster.

In October 2014, the SIG selected Dr. Deisy de Souza to receive the Distinguished Contributions Award for 2015. Drs. João Claudio Todorov and Joanne Kledaras introduced Dr. de Souza, each providing a summary of her many contributions to the experimental analysis of human behavior. Dr. de Souza then gave an award address reflecting on her research career with an eye toward the future. The session was chaired by Dr. J. Adam Bennett.

In 2015, the SIG recognized the work of two young scholars in the Student Paper Competition. Dr. J. Adam Bennett coordinated the competition. The first award was presented to Megan Boyle for her manuscript “A Human-Operant Investigation of Positive and Negative Behavioral Contrast.” Dr. Andrew Samaha served as Megan’s faculty sponsor. The second award was presented to Melissa Nosik for her manuscript “Methodological Refinements in the Behavior-Analytic Study of Distraction: A Preliminary Investigation.” Dr. W. Larry Williams served as Melissa’s faculty sponsor. Both students were presented with a plaque and received reimbursement for their ABAI convention registration.

Upcoming plans for 2015–2016

Plans for the upcoming year will remain focused on our three primary goals: promoting the experimental analysis of human behavior and basic behavioral research by encouraging student research and scholarship in the experimental analysis of human behavior, recognizing outstanding career-long contributions to the field, and maintaining an outlet for publishing human operant research.

The 2016 Distinguished Contributions Award was presented to Dr. Carol Pilgrim, professor at University of North Carolina Wilmington. Drs. Christy A. Alligood and Manish Vaidya introduced Dr. Pilgrim and provided a summary of her many contributions to understanding human behavior. Subsequently, Dr. Pilgrim gave an award

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address reflecting on her research career with an eye toward the future. The session was chaired by Dr. J. Adam Bennett. Many people joined us in celebrating the outstanding contributions of Dr. Pilgrim.

The EAHB SIG continues to increase the size of its membership (currently 118 ABAI members) by presenting a poster at the ABAI Expo, promoting the annual Distinguished Contributions Award address, and increasing the visibility of the *Experimental Analysis of Human Behavior Bulletin*. During this year's meeting, we also discussed business related to the bulletin, including election and term limits of the editorial board and strategies for increasing the bulletin's impact. We also discussed possible nominees for next year's Distinguished Contributions Award.

Additional information on the EAHB SIG, the bulletin, and membership can be found at <http://www.eahb.org>. Those interested in the Student Paper Competition should consult the website for contest rules and instructions. Submissions to the *Experimental Analysis of Human Behavior Bulletin* are always welcome.

Health, Sport, and Fitness

BY GABRIELLE TORRES

The mission of the ABAI Health, Sport, and Fitness Special Interest Group (HSF SIG) is to support research and application of behavior analytic methods, practices, and principles to human challenges in health, sports, and fitness. Through the HSF SIG we aim to bring together behavior analysts with interest in health, sports, and fitness, and provide opportunities for networking, collaboration, and support of research and application.

At the ABAI 42nd Annual Convention in Chicago, we were proud to host two special events: Julie Slowiak led a group on a Soldier Field 10-mile run, and Joyce Tu led an hour of yoga. Additionally, we hosted a symposium titled "Using Behavior Analytic Strategies to Reduce Sedentary Behavior, Increase Physical Activity, and Improve Dietary Behaviors." At the symposium, Louis Busch talked about using the science of human behavior to get fit, Michael Sofis shared his findings on research related to decreasing rates of delay discounting with a physical exercise intervention, Kelly Dulak discussed the use of goal-setting and self-monitoring, and Nicholas Green talked to us about ways to decrease bouts of prolonged sitting among office workers.

The highlight of the convention for the HSF SIG was our annual business meeting where we discussed the future of the SIG. In the last year, the SIG experienced some changes in leadership. Gabrielle Torres took over as the chairperson, and at the annual meeting we elected a set of new officers, including a new treasurer, web and social media manager, and events and resources coordinator. In addition to elections, decisions were made about our membership structure, dues, and development of members-only benefits.

There is ever-growing interest in working as behavior analysts in the fields of health, sports, and fitness, and our members have expressed interest in establishing stronger local and regional networking opportunities. As a result, we are now actively working on some new initiatives including a members-only area on our website where members can access resources, including networking opportunities. We also want to explore options for collaboration and networking between those already successfully working in the field and students and transitioning behavior analysts looking to work in HSF. Plans were also made to continue expanding the resource section of the website, which currently includes blog posts and journal articles related to weight management, workplace wellness, technology for self-management, living healthy lifestyles, sports and athletic performance, smoking cessation, and addiction, and will also include a webinar series in the future.

The HSF SIG would like to thank Bethany Nelson, Jennifer Klapatch, Kelly Killen, Bobby Newman, Bethany Raiff, Julie Slowiak, Amanda Adams, Joyce Tu, Louis Busch, Michael Sofis, Kelly Dulak, and Nicholas Green for their contributions to events in Chicago and their efforts to help improve and expand the HSF SIG's offerings.

For more information, to join, or if you are interested in making contributions to the website or taking a more active role, please contact Gabrielle Torres at hsf.abai@gmail.com. Please also check our Facebook page ([facebook.com/ABAI.HSF.SIG/](https://www.facebook.com/ABAI.HSF.SIG/)) and website (www.hsfsigabai.com).

History of Behavior Analysis

BY EDWARD K. MORRIS

The aim of the History of Behavior Analysis (HoBA) SIG is to advance behavior analysis nationally and internationally through knowledge and understanding of its history. Our mission is to advance that knowledge and understanding. Our objectives are to cultivate and nurture, enrich and improve, and communicate and disseminate the field's history and historiography. Our purview is the field's long past, short history, and recent origins. Our audience includes behavior analysts, other scientists and humanists, and the public at large.

Why HoBA?

In addition to the forgoing reasons for founding the SIG are the rationales for conducting historical research and pursuing its scholarship and disseminating them. Jack Michael (2004) offers one such rationale:

Students of behavior analysis who know little of its history will be less than optimally effective in acquiring new knowledge. They will also be unaware of relations among various parts of their professional and scientific repertoires. In short, it is important to know where we came from (p. 93).

For instance, the field's history can place its subfields in relation to each other. The field has breadth and depth that extend beyond any topic, area, or subfield. In addition, its history describes the interdependence among the field's system, its sciences, and its practices. Behavior analysis is greater than the sum of its parts. Also, its history addresses the discipline's relations with the biological, psychological, and social sciences. Behavior analysis is defined, in part, by its comparisons and contrasts with them.

Beyond this, historiography has more general rationales. Cicero (106–43 BCE) offered among the first: "Those who know only their own generation remain children forever." Perhaps the most common rationale is attributed to the Spanish philosopher George Santayana: "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." Another is based on Mark Twain's (1869) observation about travel in *The Innocents Abroad*: "(History) is fatal to prejudice, bigotry, and narrow-mindedness..." (p. 243). Farmington (1949) summarizes these and other rationales: "History is the most fundamental science for there is no human knowledge which cannot lose its scientific character when men forget the conditioning under which it originated, the questions which it answered, and the function it was created to serve. A great part of the mysticism and superstition of educated men consist of knowledge which has broken base from its historical moorings." (p. 173)

Membership

Our membership is open to anyone interested in the SIG's aim, mission, or objectives. This includes members of ABAAI and other behavior analytic organizations (e.g., APA Division 25, the Cambridge Center for Behavioral Studies, the B. F. Skinner Foundation), as well as members of organizations outside of behavior analysis (e.g., the Society for the History of Psychology, Cheiron, the History of Science Society) and independent scholars. The SIG's members need not be members of ABAAI. We have no membership dues at the moment.

Governance

At the moment, our governance consists of a president, Edward K. Morris (University of Kansas); a vice-president, Karen Wagner (Behavior Service of Brevard, FL); and a secretary-treasurer, Todd McKechar (Jacksonville State University, AL). Our listserv owner and moderator is Pat Williams (University of Houston-Downtown).

Activities

The SIG was established in 2011 and our listserv in 2012. The first annual business meeting was held at the 2013 ABAAI annual convention. We have approximately 185 members. The attendees at the 2015 meeting were Gordon Bourland, Eric Common, Darlene Crone-Todd, Benjamin Giraldo, Abdul Inman, Sam Leigland, Todd McKechar,

Ed Morris, Sherry Serdikoff, Ben Witts, and Diego Zilio. The minutes were prepared by Todd McKechar and are available on the HoBA SIG website.

The business meeting was spent mainly identifying objectives that the SIG could address in the coming years with committees (and subcommittees), each of them ensuring HoBA does not become, as they say, history.

- **Archives:** One means of ensuring that HoBA does not become history is to have archives for its artifacts. To date, HoBA has no central archives, but it does have a plethora of distributed archives and can generate more. First, any institution or business (e.g., university, research center, service provider) that ever employed a behavior analyst probably has an "archive" (e.g., records, correspondence). Ben Witts (St. Cloud University, MN), for instance, is working with students to organize Gerald Mertens's materials, many of them on the founding of MABA/ABA, including correspondence with Skinner and Kantor. Second, although the field's most senior members are deceased, Darlene Crone-Todd (Salem State University) suggested that the SIG prompt the remaining members to organize and store their materials. Third, Gordon Bourland (coordinator, ABAAI's Affiliated Chapters Board) proposed that each chapter establish an archive. Ed Morris noted that the ABAAI SIGs might do the same and that each chapter and SIG appoint a historian. An Archival Committee (and subcommittees) could address these and other topics (e.g., identifying existing archives and "archives").
- **Teaching:** A second means of ensuring that HoBA does not become history is to teach it. The institutional and professional supports for this are, at the moment, meager, but are easily improved. First, although ABAAI accreditation does not require a HoBA course, a course on the field's historical foundations could meet the requirement for a course on the field's conceptual foundations. The two can be melded together. Second, although teaching HoBA is not easy—no one is trained to teach it—this can be addressed by publishing articles on teaching HoBA in *The Behavior Analyst* and offering workshops at ABAAI and affiliated chapters' conferences. Third, Sherry Serdikoff (Savannah State University) aptly noted that the field has few ready resources for teaching HoBA, but this can be addressed, in part, by creating a bank of HoBA course syllabi and an edited book of HoBA readings. A Teaching the History of Behavior Analysis Committee (and subcommittees) could address these and other topics (e.g., syllabi for a week's coverage of the history of the experimental analysis of behavior; bibliographies on HoBA).
- **Website:** A third means of ensuring that HoBA does not become history is to maintain an active SIG website. Todd McKechar (Jacksonville State University), the

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SIG's webmaster, volunteered that the SIG's website could easily be expanded, but that this would require more than just a webmaster. It would require a committee made up, in part, of representatives of the aforementioned committees (and subcommittees) and others. A History of Behavior Analysis Website Committee (and subcommittees) could address these and other topics (e.g., links to other websites).

Discussing the website set the occasion for a subsequent meeting among the Executive Committee members about the SIG's and the website's unique function among the plethora of related organizations and websites. These include the B. F. Skinner Foundation, the Cambridge Center for Behavioral Studies, the Harvard University Archives, and the Center for the History of Psychology; projects such as Bob Bailey's (Behavior Matters), Sigrid Glenn's (University of North Texas), and Karen Wagner's (University of Central Florida) video interviews of established behavior analysts; Benjamin Giraldo's (Richmond State Supported Living Center, TX) website of links to a wide variety of materials relevant to HoBA (e.g., interviews, YouTube videos, TED Talks, movies); and organizations and websites nominally outside of behavior analysis (e.g., APA's Division 26 for the Society for the History of Psychology; the International Society for the History of the Behavioral and Social Sciences, aka Cheiron). The HoBA SIG and its website need not duplicate these efforts, but instead can serve as the go-to gateway for them, that is, to high-quality websites of interest to members, behavior analysts in general, behavioral and social scientists, and the public at large. The SIG's and its website's focus will be on the unique objectives discussed above and others.

Among the others that the SIG discussed were (a) developing an awards program for publications, presentations, and posters in HoBA; (b) addressing finances and membership fees, which may be handled initially with a donation link on the SIG's website; and (c) increasing HoBA presentations and posters at the ABAI convention. This last point has been addressed, in part, by renaming the Theoretical, Philosophical, and Conceptual Issues (TPC) conference program area the Theoretical, Philosophical, Conceptual, and Historical Issues (TPCH) program area, approved by ABAI's Executive Council last winter.

To join the SIG, go to the HoBA website (www.historyofbehavioranalysis.org) or contact Ed Morris:

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email: ekm@ku.edu

To join the HoBA listserv, contact Pat Williams (University of Houston-Downtown) at WilliamsP@uhd.edu.

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Military/Veterans

BY KENT A. CORSO AND ABIGAIL B. CALKIN

The Military/Veterans (MilVet) SIG is entering its fifth year of ABAI operation. The SIG focuses on how the field of applied behavior analysis (ABA) can contribute to those who have served in the military. Given that this is a young SIG and there are also many issues the military and veteran communities currently address (autism, suicide, PTSD, and TBI), co-chairs, Abigail Calkin and Kent Corso, and members remain excited about discussing the issues and needs of this specific population. During the SIG's four years, a significant amount of time was devoted to increasing membership, while also examining viable ways of accessing the military and veteran community. Finally, some projects are officially in progress, which we hope increases the impact of the SIG members.

At present, the Tricare ECHO program for treating autism spectrum disorder (ASD) among the children of active-duty beneficiaries remains the only official entry point into the Department of Defense (DOD) healthcare system for behavior analysts. According to the most recent data, behavior analysts are currently treating .059% of the military/veteran population through these official and reimbursable means, yet this only includes qualifying beneficiaries diagnosed with ASD. Moreover, the only federally authorized positions for behavior analysts within the DOD and the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) are for those who will be practicing as licensed psychiatrists, psychologists, or social workers. There are no known official positions or other policies addressing the role of behavior analysts within the DOD and the VHA healthcare systems. Given these challenges, the current activity of the MilVet SIG continues to work to raise awareness about the obstacles that lie in the path of delivering applied behavior analysis to the military and veteran population. We continued our grassroots approach to penetrating the DOD and the VHA in order to spread ABA to the MilVet community.

During the 2016 ABAI annual convention, the SIG was involved in many activities. For the first time, co-chairs, Kent Corso and Abigail Calkin, were invited to speak on a panel about ABA with the military and veteran communities. This was an exciting and significant

landmark for the SIG considering that immense barriers remain to opening doors within the DOD and the VHA. As in prior years, Dr. Corso and Dr. Hoch participated in a symposium on issues relevant to helping the military and veteran community. This year, SIG newcomer Amy Wiech and ABAAI newcomer James Meador participated in the symposium, presenting fascinating data related to police use of force, the media's promotion of it, and the associated social effects of these phenomena. Another SIG newcomer, Seth Whiting, presenting his work on problematic gambling. The 2016 ABAAI convention also included the Expo poster, "Respondent and Operant Influences in Military Training," which explored how the military's methods of training and cultural indoctrination intentionally or unintentionally hinge on these conditioning principles.

The co-chairs are pleased with the SIG's membership growth. When the co-chairs first applied to be a SIG there were 14 members. The MilVet SIG currently has a total of 56 members, a growth of 22% since last year. With the current projects in motion, members will begin playing more active roles in the actual delivery of ABA to the military and veteran community.

One of the MilVet SIG members, Megan Miller, created a Facebook page on May 28, 2014, named Behavior Analysis in Military and Veterans' Issues SIG. The site is a closed group which grew to 86 members in its first year and as it approaches the end of its second year, it currently hosts 190 members—an increase of 220%!

In 2015–2016, the SIG has also officially sponsored a study that has been approved by the Human Subject Review Board of George Mason University, and has already enrolled five participants. This project focuses on assessing the verbal operants of service members/veterans with and without a history of TBI, using an instrument created by Drs. Hoch and Corso called VOCAL-MilVet (Verbal Operant Channel Assessment of Language for Military and Veterans). Dr. Calkin also has submitted a proposal to the Institutional Review Board at the University of Utah to study suicidal inner behaviors among student veterans. We hope this increases exposure of the SIG's activities, participation by SIG members, and dissemination of ABA to the community of stakeholders concerned with the welfare of the military and veteran community. Last, the SIG has been considering an expansion of its mission to include the military and veteran communities of countries outside of the U.S. who are our allies. More discussion about this was held at this year's SIG meeting in Chicago.

There is much that ABA can contribute to evaluate functional communication deficits associated with TBI, improving the management of suicidal behavior and related prevention programs, using the standard celeration chart to monitor individual and program changes, and occupational training for veterans and service members. The MilVet SIG will continue to support the efforts of Dr. Hoch's team,

Ms. Wiech and Mr. Meador's projects, Dr. Whiting's work, Dr. Calkin's team on the Utah suicide project, and any other clinical, research, and development initiatives aimed at increasing the use and recognition of ABA as an important modality for the military and veteran communities. Membership in the SIG is free, and we will continue to have a presence at ABAAI events. This remains a great opportunity to meet prospective members of the MilVet SIG, current members, and the co-chairs. Any parties interested in the MilVet SIG, contact Dr. Corso at kent@ncrbbehavioralhealth.com or Dr. Calkin at abc@abigailbcalkin.com.

Multicultural SIG: Multicultural Alliance of Behavior Analysts

BY PREETINDER NARANG, ELIZABETH FONG, AND SAKURAKO TANAKA

The Multicultural Alliance of Behavior Analysts (MultiABA) is the first nonprofit multicultural association established to support research, growth, and networking around multicultural issues in behavior analysis. Our vision is to connect behavior analysts with a common interest and/or experience in serving diverse communities, whether they be ethnic, religious, geographic, socioeconomic, or linguistic.

We are eager to share the incredible progress made by the organization with the global community of behavior analysts within ABAAI. This year, we experienced many exciting changes in our organization. Sadly, Dana Garner, Ph.D., BCBA-D, and Jane Yip, Ph.D., stepped down from their positions. We thank them for their many years of service as vice president and secretary, respectively. Preetinder Narang, MEd, BCBA, was elected to replace Dana Garner as vice president. Robyn Catagnus, Ed.D., BCBA-D, also took a leave of absence and is expected to return this year.

In 2015 and 2016, MultiABA was well-represented at ABAAI's annual conventions in San Antonio and Chicago, as well as at ABAAI's international conference in Japan. There, our members presented both a panel discussion and symposia on ethics, geriatrics, cultural diversity, and cultural competency. Our annual business meeting was similarly successful as we expanded our membership and discussed our exciting plans for 2016. Aside from ABAAI's conventions, our members were also present and/or presented at events of the Association of Professional Behavior Analysts, the American Psychological Association, the Institute of Rehabilitation, and numerous other engagements.

In addition to presenting at various speaking engagements, our members were also busy engaging in the dissemination of behavior analysis and multiculturalism. One example of this was the publication of "Developing the Cultural Awareness of Behavior Analysts" in *Behavior Analysis in Practice* (Hughes Fong, Catagnus, Brodhead, Quigley, & Field, 2016).

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Another notable event was the approval of the first BACB approved course sequence in Japan. We currently have nine students enrolled in our courses, which began in April 2016. Many thanks to William Heward, Ed.D., BCBA-D; Neil Martin, Ph.D., BCBA-D; Sakurako Tanaka, Ph.D., BCBA; Kozue Mastuda, MSc, BCBA; Yukie Kurumiya, BCBA, LBA; Elizabeth Hughes Fong, MA, MA, BCBA; Robyn Catagnus, Ed.D., BCBA-D; the staff at Children's Center in Japan; and the task force members of MultiABA for supporting this exciting opportunity.

A major continued focus of the organization over the past year has been to obtain affiliation with the United Nations. We are happy to report that in January 2014, MultiABA became an official Civil Society Organization (CSO) with the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs. As a CSO, we now have a platform to share the scope of our work in social development with more than 24,000 CSOs registered with the United Nations.

Looking ahead, MultiABA has an ambitious agenda for 2016–2017. As a CSO, we are currently in the process of applying for consultative status with the UN Economic and Social Council. If granted, MultiABA will have the ability to participate in international conferences convened by the UN, as well as the preparatory meetings for said conferences. MultiABA aims to use our consultative status to discuss the rights of individuals with disabilities, including autism, and advocate for the inclusion of the right to effective treatment for persons with disabilities in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. In addition, we hope to continue to build our membership and continue to be a driving force in ensuring that behavior analysts have the tools and support they need to provide culturally competent services.

Neuroscience SIG

BY SUZANNE MITCHELL

The Neuroscience SIG brings together researchers, academics, clinicians, and students interested in the intersections of behavior analysis and neuroscience and has four primary missions: (1) to introduce behavior analytic research to the neurosciences and introduce neuroscience research to behavior analysis; (2) to provide both a meeting spaces and training environments for students and professionals alike interested in basic and applied neuroscience research; (3) to provide forums for collaborative relationships, funding applications, and the sharing of best practices; and (4) to advocate for and promote high standards in the application of behavior analytic treatments for individuals with neurological dysfunction.

A SIG business meeting and Expo poster were included in the program for the ABAI 42nd Annual Convention in Chicago. Over the next 12 months, increasing the profile and relevance of the SIG to ABAI members is a major focus, and anyone who is interested in contributing to this effort or has ideas for additional initiatives is encouraged to join and

become involved in the SIG by contacting Suzanne Mitchell (mitchesu@ohsu.edu). Membership is open to all ABAI members, as well as academics, researchers, administrators, clinicians from other organizations, and consumers. We welcome anyone with an interest in the intersection of behavior analysis and neuroscience and look forward to an exciting year ahead.

Organizational Behavior Management Network

BY HEATHER M. MCGEE, JONATHAN HOCHMUTH, BRANDON MARTINEZ-ONSTOTT, KYLE DITZIAN, JAMES MORRISON, CAROLYN BRAYKO, STEVIE COLLINI, AND AMBER CANDIDO
The Organizational Behavior Management Network (OBMN) has had a busy and exciting year! We welcomed Barbara Bucklin as our new president-elect. Barbara will join Heather M. McGee, Siggi Sigurdsson (past president), and Manny Rodriguez (current president) to make up the OBM Network Board of Directors. Ryan Olson will be rotating off the board, but not before he implements the Change Makers Speaker Series, a collaboration between OBMN and Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU) that will provide OBMers and the general public with professional talks from leaders in performance change. Be sure to check the OBMN website for details! Meanwhile, Manny and several OBMN team members are designing a variety of services for OBMN members and individuals interested in learning more about the field (see liaison section below). We are also happy to announce the recipient of this year's D. Chris Anderson Research Grant: Crystal Loza was awarded the \$700 grant for her research entitled, "Using Performance Feedback to Increase Treatment Integrity in Early Intervention Employees: An Investigation of Feedback Delivery Methods." Finally, see the awards section for news about the latest recipient of the OBMN Outstanding Contribution Award!

Membership

OBMN is proud of the role that organizational behavior management (OBM) played at the 2016 ABAI annual convention in Chicago, where the subject was well represented with 24 presentations, 7 workshops, and 22 posters—a 350% increase in workshops and a 37% increase in posters compared to 2015. In particular, the growth in workshops suggests that demand for OBM techniques and solutions may be increasing. As that demand continues to increase, OBMN and its membership are positioned to provide their knowledge and experience to those seeking to improve organizational performance.

Receiving printed versions of the latest *Journal of Organizational Behavior Management* and full access to them online continues to be a great reason to join OBMN. However, we are always looking for new opportunities to add to our membership benefits, and we are very excited

for the new outreach activities that are part of the current presidential project, which have the potential to expand our membership along with the reach of OBM technology.

We are continuing our efforts to grow in 2016 and are involving students and faculty from universities with OBM graduate programs in our effort to recruit and retain members. Recently, we designed a program for emailing members whose membership has lapsed in advance of new *Journal of Organizational Behavior Management* issues, which may serve as both a prompt and an incentive for renewing their membership.

OBMN has approximately 360 members and continues to have a great international presence with members representing 21 countries. Thank you to those of you who have helped recruit new members into the network from around the globe!

Please consider joining the SIG and learn how OBM can help improve performance in your organization! Join at www.obmnetwork.com.

Content Development and Web Administration

In 2015, Brandon Martinez-Onstott took over both the position of content development officer and web administrator. He completed training with Dale Gregory and Brian Molina by the end of spring that year. Though not formally an officer, Dale Gregory stayed on in the capacity of a senior advisor, and was crucial to ensuring that the website had another successful year. Brandon was trained on Drupal 6, Photoshop, and local web hosting.

In collaboration with the other OBMN officers, the current administrator focused on updating the website to display the latest network-related information. We are excited that the new website is well under way, and are preparing to make a seamless transition. Last, OBMN is working in partnership with bSci21.org to bring both organizations' membership relevant content. We are hoping that this initiative grows our membership and increases exposure of the field of OBM as a whole.

Liaison Outreach Program

The purpose of the liaison program is to increase involvement of OBMN members around the world and to expand the reach of the network by increasing its presence at conferences and other professional events. The liaison program has been up and running for two years now and has expanded significantly over the past year to include members from all over the country (and one international member too!). Currently, we have liaisons from Illinois, Louisiana, Nevada, Texas, Florida, and Stockholm, Sweden.

Although many of the goals of the liaison program have remained the same over the last year, the scope and purpose have changed slightly since its inception to focus more on helping the OBMN president accomplish goals and help the group itself with various tasks, as necessary. The liaisons have

continued to create content for OBMN to use to disseminate the field and to educate our membership. Currently the largest task facing the liaisons is to help the current OBMN president, Manny Rodriguez, work toward his presidential project. As part of this project, the liaisons are currently laying the foundation for a mentorship program for people looking to learn more about OBM. Additionally, we are beginning to create materials for workshops, research awards, and several other exciting educational and practical projects to advance OBMN and the field in general.

Our goals for the coming year are to continue creating content that promotes OBM and network as well as to further increase the number of liaisons to include individuals from other schools (and possibly countries).

Social Media

OBMN's social media presence has grown considerably over the last year. Most of that growth was seen in Facebook, which expanded from 773 to 985 followers between January 1 and December 31, 2015. Postings to Facebook reached, on average, more than 200 people. Twitter followers increased from 95 to 152. Twitter does not offer the same data analytics so it is not possible to report how many people may have been reached through this medium.

OBMN Newsletter

The OBMN newsletter, *Network News*, continues its tradition of disseminating OBM scholarly work and reports and commentary from the field to the network. For 2015, *Network News* featured a bonus newsletter issue in June to account for the influx of article submissions. Aside from the serial column "Leaders in OBM," brought to us by Amber Candido (University of Nevada, Reno), the four newsletters featured articles from 12 unique authors, with an even split between faculty, practitioners, and students from institutions and organizations in the United States and Canada. The newsletter has added a new serial column supported by Manny Rodriguez (ABA Technologies, Inc.) called "A Moment in OBM History," which revisits seminal articles from the *Journal of Organizational Behavior Management*.

In addition to spreading information on new research and technology, the newsletter also promotes and celebrates its members. Each spring, the Network News announces and celebrates the individuals who have won the OBM Network Outstanding Contribution and Lifetime Achievement Awards. In efforts to encourage student involvement and continued engagement with the field, the newsletter recognizes recent graduates with a discount on their next year's membership.

We strongly encourage submissions to the newsletter from new and seasoned members alike! Please see the website for more details, or contact the current newsletter editor, Carolyn Brayko, at cabrayko@gmail.com.

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Treasury

OBMN is in excellent financial health. Funds currently total \$16,865.06 from membership fees and surplus from previous conferences. Most of these funds cover costs related to the *Journal of Organizational Behavior Management*, website and software costs, professional and legal fees, marketing and copy costs, conference costs, and costs from the business meeting at the annual ABAI convention. The Chris Anderson Research Fund currently totals \$5,114.90. The General Donations Fund currently totals \$37,620.25, a result of the generous donations from OBMN supporters and conference sponsors. Donations can be submitted to:

The OBM Network
c/o Dr. Heather M. McGee
Western Michigan University
Department of Psychology
Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5439

Please make checks payable to "OBM Network" and specify which fund you would like to donate to (e.g., Chris Anderson Research Fund; General Donation Fund; other). If you prefer, you can join the network, pay for membership, and donate (through a secure system) online at www.obmnetwork.com.

Awards

This year, the OBMN awards committee has selected Dr. Julie Smith as the recipient for the OBMN Outstanding Contribution Award. Please visit the OBMN website for more information about award criteria and a list of past recipients: http://obmnetwork.com/obm_community/distinguished_member_awards.

Pediatric Feeding Disorders

BY TESSA TAYLOR, CATHLEEN C. PIAZZA, KEITH E.

WILLIAMS, MICHAEL F. CATALDO, AND PETER A. GIROLAMI

The Pediatric Feeding Disorders SIG now has more than 100 members, and new queries continue to be received.

Individuals interested in the SIG may direct their questions to Cathleen Piazza at cpiazza@unmc.edu. The mission of the Pediatric Feeding Disorders SIG is to generate interest; foster collaborative research; share clinical information; as well as impact training, practice, and reimbursement for evaluation and treatment of pediatric feeding disorders. As such, the SIG will attempt to tackle some tough issues that face clinicians who treat children with feeding disorders.

Over the past few years, steps have been taken to form the Pediatric Feeding Disorders Consortium, a multi-site collaborative effort of programs providing feeding treatment services. The initial purpose of this effort is to better understand existing resources associated with the treatment of feeding disorders of young children, including the techniques employed, as well as costs and outcomes. With this

information and the existence of a working consortium, the second objective would be for these programs to work together on improving treatment techniques and outcomes, as well as to help both parents and payers navigate the sometimes confusing process of identifying the best combination of treatment modalities for each individual child. More than 100 sites have been identified. Initial pilot Phase 1 survey data (e.g., program affiliation, setting, disciplines, population, services available, and payment sources) and Phase 2 survey data (assessment/treatment approach/orientation for disciplines including medicine, nutrition, behavior analysis, oral motor/sensory, psychiatry, and child counseling; formal assessments; assessment procedures; and treatment components) were collected. In addition, input was solicited concerning interest in the consortium, feedback on the surveys, and scope of data to collect in future phases. Also, programs were encouraged to send supplemental materials such as program brochures and materials (e.g., intake forms, goal and outcome forms, data collection materials). Based on input from the group, we compiled information to share as resources regarding obtaining reimbursement (e.g., reference list, specific insurance policies on feeding programs, video of legal presentation on the right to treatment and managed care, and documents and practice guidelines pulled together by the ABAI Practice Board that could be used as resources to secure funding or assist in dealing with insurance companies).

We have discussed how the consortium members could collaborate to everyone's benefit. One area identified by many feeding clinics was approval and payment from insurance companies for services. Collaboration across sites would establish a mechanism on a scale that could not otherwise be conducted by a single clinic, as well as data that would be of particular interest to the payers for such services (e.g., insurance companies) as well as consumers. To do so would require knowledge about the range of outcomes of treatments and the variables that correlate with these outcomes, as well as which treatments work for which patients. Important to the further development of this idea would be commonly accepted and economically implemented measures across sites, particularly outcome measures. In light of this, we wish to begin collecting data across sites on the effectiveness of assessment and treatment of pediatric feeding disorders this year. We have requested input from the group regarding how they currently collect information and measure outcomes.

The SIG has focused on developing a draft of practice guidelines for behavior analysts working in the area of pediatric feeding disorders. A committee of SIG members has begun collaborating on an outline; the guidelines will cover the target population (e.g., age, comorbid conditions, specific feeding targets), severity level and corresponding intensity of treatment warranted, pre-treatment issues, assessment/intervention/implementation guidelines, and treatment follow-up guidelines. The SIG will coordinate with the ABAI Practice Board on these guidelines.

Anyone interested in these issues is encouraged to contact the SIG Consortium Coordinator, Tessa Taylor, at DrTessaTaylor@gmail.com. Members were encouraged to exchange ideas throughout the year via email, telephone, and the Yahoo group site. We also generated a list of the members with contact information and program affiliation. We will resume discussion of these issues next year. Input is welcome and appreciated from all interested parties.

Positive Behavior Support

BY ROSE IOVANNONE

The Positive Behavior Support Special Interest Group (PBS SIG) is dedicated to promoting research-based strategies that combine applied behavior analysis and biomedical science with person-centered values and systems change to increase quality of life and decrease problem behaviors. The PBS SIG's goals are to create awareness of how behavior analytic principles are applied in PBS activities and promote the use of PBS interventions in schools, communities, agencies, and homes, and support practitioners in its use. The PBS SIG members are those engaged in experimental and applied analyses of behavior who are interested in positive behavior support. The SIG was established in 2005 and has experienced three presidents since its inception.

The PBS SIG held its annual business meeting at ABAI's 2015 annual convention. Approximately 25 people attended the business meeting. Combined with the people expressing interest the previous year, the current stable membership of the PBS SIG is approximately 42 individuals, an increase of about 15 people from the previous year. During the annual business meeting, the group received an overview of the PBS SIG. The majority of the hour was open to the members to provide input on what the SIG should emphasize and set as goals for the next year. The primary goals for which consensus was reached were to try to build a greater partnership between APBS and ABAI and to have a greater presence at both organizations' conferences. Some suggestions were to get more sessions that focused on uses of PBS approaches in the ABAI program, while also having more presentations focusing on ABAI during the APBS conference. The group also discussed having a listserv or website that would provide a forum for members and others to provide information and queries related to PBS and ABA approaches and generate more dialogue. The group reviewed the bylaws that had been established previously and agreed to accept them. As a result of the business meeting, the SIG developed an action plan identifying goals for 2015–2016. The goals included:

- submitting a symposium application to APBS that would describe the ABA principles used in PBS
- developing an article or brief defining ABA

terminology appropriate for implementation of PBS approaches

- continuing to pursue using a listserv to communicate across members

The SIG has met the first goal. A symposium was presented in March 2016 at the APBS 13th Annual International Conference. The symposium consisted of three presentations related to ABA and PBS by three SIG member presenters and a discussant who is also SIG member. Information about ABAI was disseminated at the symposium as well as accurate information on the relation of ABA principles and PBS. The session was well attended (approximately 100 people) and was well received.

The second goal has been initiated and will be continued into the next year (2016–2017). The listserv will continue to be used to provide information to the members. For example, a message will be sent to the SIG to let them know the date and time of the business meeting and ask them to share the information with colleagues who may be interested in becoming part of the group.

To grow and maintain the PBS SIG within ABAI, it will be essential for the convention to be seen as a place where members can feel valued and gain information that is relevant to their settings and practices. Thus, the goals of the PBS SIG for the next year will be:

- Continue to explore having the PBS SIG sponsor sessions/symposia for the 2017 ABAI and APBS conferences.
- Establish goals to increase membership through subscribing more people to the listserv.
- Develop a website that can be used to inform the public of the SIG and provide accurate information.
- Continue to engage in a dialogue with the ABAI Executive Council.

Anyone who is interested in behavior analysis or positive behavior support is welcome to join the SIG. To become involved, email Rose Iovannone at iovannone@usf.edu.

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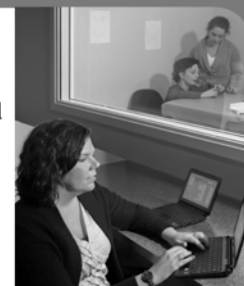
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Practitioner Issues in Behavior Analysis

BY MICHAEL WEINBERG

The Practitioner Issues in Behavior Analysis (PIBA) SIG is a special interest group that focuses on all areas of specialization for behavior analyst practitioners. This SIG developed a model licensing act for behavior analysts in 2007. The BACB's model licensing act also drew heavily from the PIBA SIG's model act to meet the needs and concerns of BCBA and BCaBA practitioners. Current membership is at 65 and we maintain a Yahoo listserv for communication among these members.

This SIG has worked with members and other groups on legal and ethical issues pertaining to the practice of behavior analysis. We promote and support means of ensuring the continued ability for behavior analysts to practice independently. The SIG provides a means of discussing current trends and concerns pertaining to the practice of behavior analysis and efforts to place barriers for such practice by outside organizations or individuals. We help support and promote the ability for behavior analysts to be on insurance panels to provide services to family members with autism and other areas of that benefit from behavior analytic methods.

There are currently 25 states that have licensure laws in place, with more states considering legislation at this time for the practice of behavior analysis. In the past year, the PIBA SIG made an effort to coordinate with other relevant groups and is working to promote our mission and collaborate with all ABAI SIGs. Given the growth in the number of states with licensure bills in place and ongoing expansion of this process, our SIG can be a place for practitioners to share information and discuss opportunities and strategies to promote the practice of behavior analysis. We also participate as an integral part of ABAI overall by working together with the other groups on this matter of great importance and concern in our evolution as a profession.

We extend our support to efforts of the ABAI Practice Board. This may include providing training, linking practice to the research literature, and making resources available to practitioners.

PIBA SIG has not limited itself to the adoption of licensure. The SIG also is involved in other support efforts to promote the practice of behavior analysis with various client populations and types of behavior. We promote the science of behavior, and evidence-based practice, and see the need to ensure this linkage continues.

We are seeking nominations for officers for the coming year. Please join our PIBA SIG list in Yahoo Groups to post your nominations for officers. We welcome new members and hope to meet with those interested at the annual convention and other ABAI conventions. Please request to join the listserv at abapractice_group@yahoogroups.com.

Rehabilitation and Independent Living

BY CHRIS PERSEL

The Rehabilitation and Independent Living (RAIL) SIG has continued to meet and provide diverse discussions regarding the use of behavior analysis outside of the autism population. Traumatic brain injuries, stroke, and neurological disabilities related to concussion and mild brain injury have gained a great deal more attention recently, including by a major motion picture starring Will Smith. The demand and need for services related to behavior challenges following such injuries continues to be high, but the acknowledgement for this need in healthcare is lacking. Also, the availability of experienced specialty services is limited, placing greater demand on those providing behavior support. Issues related to reimbursement, healthcare coverage, and funding further impact and, in some cases limit, treatment for this population. Variability amongst the states with regard to legislation supporting the need for rehabilitation services only adds to the confusion and potential discrimination of this population. There is a clear need for post-acute rehabilitation following brain injury and such services have proven effective; now the appropriate supports must be in place to provide the treatment needed.

The SIG continues to be an opportunity for rehabilitation treatment professionals involved in brain injury rehabilitation to gather and compare thoughts, brainstorm ideas, and gather support for the field. The RAIL SIG has had members from states across the US and from as far away as Germany and Ireland. Discussions have centered around continued communication amongst the members using social media and other techniques such as periodic conference calls. Time constraints have historically interfered with accomplishing goals set at previous meetings; however, renewed energy from the annual convention has always pushed the group forward. Past goals include developing guidelines for the use of behavior analysis with brain-injured survivors (some headways was made with a preliminary outline) and reviewing legislation issues related to rehabilitation to provide professional support and acknowledgement of effective staff training techniques or programs (presentations recently have outlined effective training programs).

Continued interest in the principles of ABA as they relate to brain injury rehabilitation has fueled interest in better understanding how to train BCBA's in neurological issues. Do we have better information on what factors are essential to understand regarding the brain, the injury, and related health issues for those developing behavior plans? What medications are common and how do they impact learning? What is the rehabilitation funding environment like? Who are the other staff providing treatment in rehabilitation including behavior plans? Programs such as ReMed and Centre for Neuro Skills

have been providing such services and can assist with input from many others in the field to outline possible coursework that can be used to augment the current ABA courses. Several university instructors have participated in the group to shed light on student development challenges. Opportunities for ABA student interns at facilities treating those with brain injuries must be developed to promote the career path for the future. Research collaboration is also essential for this specialized area to gain recognition for the powerful impact it can have on this population.

At least one follow-up meeting was held this year to discuss further research opportunities and student internships. The common goals of rehabilitation and behavior analysis make such collaboration seamless and effective. Functional skills development programs, maladaptive behavior reduction plans, and social reintegration outlines are areas clearly in need of strong behavior analysis, yet frequently not managed by BCBAs. Once again, the RAIL SIG is positioned to help guide the better integration of behavior and rehabilitation services. Successful behavior analysts can expect daily challenges from this population while experiencing a great sense of pride as they regain their life skills and return to a productive quality of life.

Future goals have to focus on furthering the structure of the SIG and growing the membership through consistent communication. Thank you to all members who continue to support the SIG and this population.

Sexual Behavior: Research and Practice

BY BRIGID MCCORMICK

The Sexual Behavior: Research and Practice SIG of ABAI disseminates empirically verified information regarding sex education and therapy and supports basic and applied research on the emergence and maintenance of sexual behaviors. Members are professionals, teachers, direct service providers, parents, and consumers who are concerned with issues of sex therapy, sex education, and research. Check out our website: <http://sexualbehaviorsig.webs.com/>.

Sexual Behavior: Research and Practice SIG was founded in 2007 and has been providing a symposium at ABAI's annual convention since its inception. Past topics have included sex education for students with developmental disabilities, the ethical treatment of inappropriate sexual behavior, and scientific descriptions of basic processes involved in the formation of sexual behavior. At the 2016 convention, SIG interests were demonstrated during the group's three symposia and a panel discussion on ethics in the area of sexual behavior. Symposia topics included research on the treatment of sexual behavior for individuals with disabilities; professional, ethical, and legal considerations when working with individuals with autism

on socio-sexual behavior; a discussion of behavior analytic sex research in the areas of gender, sex, and romantic relationships; the effects of a treatment package on listening behaviors of adults in romantic relationships; and the effects of physical and emotional infidelity scenarios on biological processes and self-report. The SIG also introduced web-based informational meetings discussing various topics on sexual behavior where members can get information and support and have their questions answered. Check our website for upcoming events!

This year, the Sexual Behavior: Research and Practice SIG plans to update its new website with posts relevant to the community in an effort to reach new members. We also will continue to release the annual newsletter to spread information about sexual education and research. We're looking forward to the changes the year ahead will bring!

SIG Español

BY MAPY CHAVEZ

Artículo en Español

El SIG Español se dedica a la difusión del análisis del comportamiento entre los miembros del ABA que hablan español, así como a toda la comunidad de habla hispana.

Nuestra misión incluye el establecer lazos de comunicación y colaboración entre miembros de ABA que hablan español, ya sea como lengua materna, o segunda lengua. Otro objetivo del SIG es promover la presentación de investigaciones logradas en países de habla hispana durante la convención anual de ABA.

El SIG Español se reúne cada durante la Convención Anual de ABA. Aquellos interesados en obtener más información, o hacerse miembros, pueden comunicarse con Mapy Chavez a mapy.chavez@alcanzando.org.pe.

English translation

The Spanish SIG is dedicated to the dissemination of behavior analysis among ABAI members who speak Spanish as well as the whole Spanish-speaking community.

Our mission includes establishing communication links and collaboration among ABAI members who speak Spanish, either as mother tongue or second language. Another objective of the SIG is to promote the presentation of research accomplished in Spanish-speaking countries at the ABAI annual convention.

The Spanish SIG meets during each ABAI annual convention. Those interested in more information, or in becoming members, may contact Mapy Chavez at mapy.chavez@alcanzando.org.pe.

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Speech Pathology-Applied Behavior Analysis

BY NIKIA DOWER

The mission of the Speech Pathology and Applied Behavior Analysis (SPABA) SIG is to promote dissemination of behaviorally oriented speech and language research and the application of evidence-based practices to speech and language professionals, as well as to foster active dialogue between behavior analysts and speech-language pathologists (SLP) studying issues in speech, language, and communication.

The SPABA SIG is grateful for the support and continued guidance from the past SPABA SIG chair, Barb Esch. We would also like to thank our current slate of officers and volunteers and look forward to expanding our core group of members. Tracie Lindblad and Nikia Dower are the current co-chairs. Additional committee chairs include Amber Valentino Girman (grant awards), Tracie Lindblad (communications), and Landa Mark (membership). The SIG would like to formally extend an invitation to any members who may want to serve as committee chairs or volunteer on a committee to contact us at SPABASIG@yahoo.com.

In 2015, our paid members increased to 39, up from 35 in 2014. As our previous updates indicated, this continued to be due to increased free access to SIG information and interaction through our Facebook presence. However, when we combine our SPABA Facebook group (www.facebook.com/groups/SPABA.SIG/) membership with our formal membership, we can confidently confirm that our efforts to increase our SLP and BCBA membership, through the use of social media, has been successful, with 1,300 Facebook group members at the end of 2015, as compared to only 594 members at the end of 2014. The SPABA Facebook group has enabled our members to connect in order to share or request pertinent information in a timely fashion. Since our decision to make our Facebook group an open group for anyone requesting to join without requiring SIG paid membership, the interest in this group has increased exponentially; however, the impact of this free membership on our operating funds has also been significant. Discussion regarding membership fees took place at the annual SIG meeting in 2015 where it was decided that instead of a set membership fee, a donation would be requested of members and potential members.

Our website has also enabled us to continue connecting with our members and other interested professionals. We are proud to announce that there are close to 300 SLPs who are BCBAs or BCaBAs worldwide. We are present in 40 states and nine countries. We continue to provide and maintain an online database of practitioners dually certified as SLPs and BCBAs from around the world (www.pinterest.com/

dowerassociates/slp-bcbas-slp-bcabas/) and have a document available for upload detailing online/distance options for approved course sequences and full master's programs in ABA. These features continue to provide families and individuals with the pertinent information in one place.

We have been active during the past year conducting research; disseminating information regarding evidence-based practice; applying the principles of applied behavior analysis to the research and treatment of speech, language, and communication disorders in children and adults; and teaching and/or mentoring students in both the fields of ABA and speech pathology. These activities have taken place in North America and internationally and have furthered the SIG's mission. Our members presented at the 2015 ABAI convention, ASHA 2015, and at annual state speech/language association conferences and applied behavior analysis association conferences. Many members were speakers at non-speech/non-behavior analytic conferences as well during 2015. One SLP who is also a BCBA was a co-author of the book *Behavioral Principles in Communicative Disorders: Applications to Assessment and Treatment*, published in December 2015.

Over the past year, the SIG decided to change our award structure and divide the research and the application and dissemination grant into two \$250 awards. These grants are available to ABAI members who, as students or practicing clinicians, conduct empirical research or raise awareness about behavior analysis among SLPs. Research projects should advance the evidence base for behavior analytic conceptualization or treatment of speech, language, communication, and feeding disorders. Application or dissemination projects should involve effective application of the science-based principles of behavior by SLPs or distribution of accurate information about the science-based field of behavior analysis among SLPs. This year's grant recipients presented their research at the SIG's business meeting during ABAI's annual convention in Chicago. Each year, student members and practitioners may obtain updated information about submitting grant proposals for the current year on our website, www.behavioralspeech.com. The deadline for grant submissions for the 2017 grants will be in early April 2017, with the application advertised and available in January 2017.

This year, during the 2016 SPABA SIG business meeting, Giri Hegde, retired professor of speech-language pathology in the Department of Communicative Disorders at California State University, Fresno, presented his latest work on the behavioral analysis of creative verbal behavior and elaborated on what kind of shift is needed in everyday SLPs' work to better align it with behavior analysis. His contributions to the field of speech pathology and his behavior analytic approach have been so helpful to the field SLPs work to understand behavior analysis and apply its principles to their work. Highlights of the discussion can be

found on the SPABA website.

The SPABA SIG is looking forward to expanding our membership through various initiatives and social media and also increasing member participation on the executive and our committees. We are also planning to complete a number of projects over the year to support our members:

- Develop web-based tutorials and in-person courses to disseminate information regarding a behavioral approach to the study and treatment of speech, language, and communication disorders in children and adults.
- Work with the Verbal Behavior SIG on joint programs and initiatives.
- Continue disseminating behavior analytic information on speech/language to ASHA members through the ASHA Community Forum listservs and to speech pathologists in various speech/language Facebook groups.

The identified initiatives are only feasible with increased financial support from our members. Please consider donating your expertise/services in-kind, making financial contributions, or serving on a committee so that we may meet the needs of our membership and complete our targeted activities.

If you are interested in learning more about the SPABA SIG, wish to volunteer for a committee, or assist with a specific project, please visit us at www.behavioralspeech.com, email us at SPABASIG@yahoo.com, or join our SIG and Facebook group.

Standard Celeration Society

BY DONNY NEWSOME AND KENDRA NEWSOME

The Standard Celeration Society (SCS) became affiliated as an ABAI special interest group in 1995. The mission of the SCS is to uphold and advance the defining features and conventions of the standard celeration chart. The SCS aims to be a friendly and enduring forum, supporting application and dissemination of standard celeration charting across an expanding range of individuals, practitioners, and stakeholders. The values of the SCS that guide behavior in fulfilling the mission include acknowledgement and appreciation, standing on the shoulders of giants, generosity in our interactions with others, driving and embracing change, social beneficence, commitment to evidence-based practice, and having fun. In 2015, the SCS board of directors and leadership team were actively working on the implementation of several new initiatives designed to further the organization's mission.

One of our initiatives has been the implementation of a more sustainable and effective leadership structure. A few of the goals we hope to achieve through our new structure include increasing sustainability within leadership roles, achieving a greater number of mission-driven goals throughout the year, and providing more frequent and prioritized guidance over activities of the SCS. We have

an active board of directors (five members, 3-year terms); president(s), president-elect, vice presidents (5); and co-chairs (5) who make up the organizational framework. The board of directors provides guidance and decision making for the SCS president(s), who are tasked with carrying out board initiatives with vice presidents, associate vice presidents, and volunteers. Current officers include co-presidents Drs. Kendra and Donny Newsome (term ending November 2017); president-elect Courtney Peppers-Owens (term beginning in 2016); vice-president (VP) Nicky Carter, with associate vice president (AVP) Amy Evans (finance); VP Courtney Peppers-Owens, with AVP Samantha Spillman (programs); VP Megan Miller, with AVP Tiffany Aninao (membership); VP Melissa R. Nosik, with AVP Timothy C. Fuller (scientific and academic affairs); VP Sheila Habarad, with AVP Ali McManus (communications and publications); and VP Scott Miller, with AVP Courtney Smith (operations management). Since the beginning of 2015, our group has been actively developing the underlying systems to support the new structure and facilitate institutional memory as there is transition in our leadership roles, an important component for voluntary leadership teams to maintain productivity.

Another exciting development over the past year has been the redesign of our website (www.celeration.org)!

While some components of the new website are already in place, we are completing the development of several other features, including a redesigned member gateway, free continuing education opportunities for members, publication resources, and training program locations for students interested in academic training, internships, and externships, among others. SCS membership fees are very reasonable and include discounted rates to IPTC each year, access to the historical publication database of the *Journal of Precision Teaching and Celeration*, and soon-to-be-announced web-based continuing education events (annual fees: sustaining, \$100; full, \$50; student, \$25).

Finally, as in many prior years, new and seasoned precision teachers gathered to learn and share research and clinical data at the IPTC in November 2015. The society was honored to have Janet Twyman and Tim Slocum as keynote speakers last year. The conference took place in St. Pete Beach, Florida. This year, the 29th Annual IPTC will be November 3–5 in Reno, Nevada at the Whitney Peak Hotel with keynote addresses by Pat Friman and Amanda VanDerHeyden. The society will continue to secure passionate keynote addresses and data-filled presentations to sharpen the skills of any parent, behavior analyst, teacher, or other professional. Please visit www.celeration.org for more information regarding the conference. The SCS eagerly welcomes new charters and precision teachers into our fold. This nurturing community is full of brilliant and seasoned professionals who are always willing to offer advice or mentorship. Simply become a member and see the opportunities unfold!

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Theoretical, Philosophical, and Conceptual Issues

BY BENJAMIN N. WITTS

The ABAI 42nd Annual Convention in Chicago marked the Theoretical, Philosophical, and Conceptual Issues SIG's (TPC-SIG) second year. Now that we've built a little momentum, so to speak, we are in a position to share with you some of the great accomplishments from this past year.

Overview

The TPC-SIG was created in response to ABAI's having a TPC track, but no SIG to help support it. A group of behavior analysis's best philosophical and theoretical thinkers, up-and-comers, and students joined together to help put forth the SIG. One year ago, we were pushing 30 members, and today we boast nearly 100. As we continue to spread the word and take on new initiatives, we hope to see that number continue to grow at a similar pace.

Membership

We held our second meeting for the TPC-SIG on May 29. Member turnout at this year's TPC-SIG meeting easily ranked as one of the top two highest attended meetings we've had. We continue to welcome anyone interested in theoretical, philosophical, and conceptual issues in behavior analysis. To encourage cross-field collaborations, our membership is open to anyone, even those outside of ABAI or behavior analysis in general. We continue to have no membership dues and anyone can join our listserv community at <http://lists.stcloudstate.edu/mailman/listinfo/tpc-l>.

Mission

The TPC-SIG is an accepting and encompassing group. We value all theoretical and philosophical orientations, as well as challenges to current conceptualizations in behavior analysis. Philosophical concerns are readily open to debate and diversity among members is necessary for the health of the field. The TPC listserv serves as our primary outlet for discussion and debate.

Accomplishments

During our first year we set out to complete three objectives: (1) create a listserv, (2) publish an article about theory and philosophy aimed toward a general behavioral audience, and (3) identify other means of dissemination (e.g., short YouTube videos). We are pleased to report that the listserv is up and running and is the place for discussion and debate on all things TPC in behavior analysis!

Naomi Homayouni and Benjamin Witts published (with the help of Billy Baum) an article on bSci21.com called "Do Theory and Philosophy Even Matter?" The article has been

viewed by thousands of readers, and emphasizes the role that TPC plays in practitioners' lives. The article can be accessed here: www.bsci21.org/do-theory-and-philosophy-even-matter/.

Other dissemination projects were discussed at the TPC-SIG meeting, and with the formation of new committees, we anticipate success in this area as well in the coming year.

Verbal Behavior

BY JUDAH B. AXE

This has been a wonderful year for the Verbal Behavior (VB) SIG. The VB SIG is proud to have accomplished many goals with respect to advancing the theory, research, and practice of Skinner's (1957) analysis of verbal behavior, by providing awards to students conducting research in verbal behavior, honoring the enduring contributions of a scholar in verbal behavior, providing rich content in two newsletters, offering inspiring events at the ABAI convention, engaging students interested in verbal behavior, and increasing our presence on the web. During this past year, the VB SIG had 72 members who received the eight benefits of being a VB SIG member: (1) receiving the VB News newsletter twice per year and having access (members only) to past issues on the website; (2) receiving emails about SIG-related events and opportunities; (3) joining the SIG listserv to engage in discussions about verbal behavior; (4) becoming eligible to submit to the three VB SIG awards; (5) becoming eligible to be elected to positions on the VB SIG Council; (6) becoming involved in the VB SIG student group; (7) gaining professional development; and (8) joining an active community of people passionate about verbal behavior. The VB SIG is proud of its many accomplishments this year.

The VB SIG was pleased to support student research in verbal behavior by providing plaques and financial rewards to two winners of the VB SIG Student Grant Competition for outstanding research proposals, and three winners of the VB SIG Student Research Competition for exemplary research projects on the analysis of verbal behavior. The winners were all accomplished graduate students from well-respected graduate training programs in behavior analysis. In addition, the VB SIG honored the enduring contributions of an advanced scholar in the analysis of verbal behavior through the Jack Michael Award. It was wonderful providing monetary prizes and plaques to the deserving winners at the VB SIG business meeting in Chicago.

A previous goal for the VB SIG was increasing the quality of its newsletter, *VB News*, by inviting more articles from more esteemed and varied authors. In addition to updates from the VB SIG Council, highlights of the December 2015 newsletter were Dr. Judah Axe reflecting on the "Verbal Behavior Family" he experienced at the ABAI 2015 VB SIG business meeting; Dr. Mark Sundberg discussing the tact as the most important verbal operant; Dr. James Carr remarking on the strength of *The Analysis of Verbal Behavior*; Dr. Jason Vladescu sharing highlights of the verbal behavior

research in his lab; Dr. Amanda Laprime describing how she incorporates the analysis of verbal behavior in her practice; and Stephanie Phelan providing a review of Michael, Palmer, and Sundberg's (2011) paper on multiple control. This was the most content-rich *VB News* in many years and a tremendous resource for VB SIG members.

The VB SIG coordinated with the verbal behavior area co-coordinators of the ABAI Program Committee to plan invited events in verbal behavior at the annual convention in Chicago. Dr. Jan de Houwer from Ghent University in Belgium served as a B. F. Skinner Lecture Series presenter and delivered a fantastic address entitled, "A Functional-Cognitive Framework for Cooperation Between Functional and Cognitive Researchers and Practitioners." In addition, there was an invited panel in the verbal behavior area comprising the first three winners of the Jack Michael Award: Mark Sundberg, David Palmer, and Hank Schlinger. Their panel was entitled, "VB SIG Award Winners Discuss Jack Michael's Influence on Theory, Research, and Practice." This event was extremely well-attended and well-received.

The VB SIG Student Group continued to bring students together and increase its activities. This past year, there were 11 VB SIG Student Group members. Each member studies at a different college or university from around the United States and conducts research in verbal behavior under the advisement of a prolific researcher. A lead student group member served as a Student Group liaison to the VB SIG Council. Catherine "Cat" Taylor-Santa from Caldwell University held this position this year. Cat led four videoconferences in which the Student Group members shared their research interests, discussed an article of shared interest, and made plans to meet at regional and national conferences. At the ABAI convention in Chicago, many of the students assisted with promoting the VB SIG at the Expo, as well as signing members in to the VB SIG business meeting. The VB SIG Student Group serves as a tremendous opportunity for graduate students from around the country to have a community in which to discuss theory, research, and practice related to verbal behavior.

The VB SIG continues to promote verbal behavior and enhance its presence through its website, Facebook group and page, and listserv. The website, <http://verbalbehaviorsig.org/>, provides information about the VB SIG officers and student group members. Through the website, interested people can join as members and make donations to the VB SIG. Members can access the newsletters and find out information about the three awards. There are fantastic slideshows of photos highlighting events related to verbal behavior at the ABAI conventions. The VB SIG Student Group hosts a Student Research Resource Center on the website containing article reviews. Finally, there are resources related to the study of verbal behavior and a list of colleges

and universities offering coursework and research experience in verbal behavior. On Facebook, the VB SIG Public Group has 1,032 members, and the VB SIG page has 1,632 likes. Through Facebook, the VB SIG shares information related to verbal behavior and provides a forum for members to discuss issues related to verbal behavior. The verbal behavior listserv, <http://lists.csustan.edu/mailman/listinfo/verbalbeh-l>, had rich discussion, with calls for forming symposia for conferences, sharing articles on criticisms of Skinner, and the role of private events in explaining complex behavior.

All these activities would not be possible without the contributions of the outstanding VB SIG Council. This is a group of researchers and professionals dedicated to the advancement of theory, research, and practice in verbal behavior. It is a group of "who's who" in the verbal behavior arena, and nearly all Council members have published in, and served on the editorial board of, *The Analysis of Verbal Behavior*. The nine Council members are Dr. Judah Axe, Simmons College, chair; Dr. Tina Sidener, Caldwell University, secretary; Dr. April Kisamore, Caldwell University, treasurer; Dr. Rocio Rosales, University of Massachusetts-Lowell, student grant competition coordinator; Dr. Alice Shillingsburg, Marcus Autism Center, student research competition coordinator; Dr. Amber Valentino, Trumpet Behavioral Health, newsletter editor; Dr. Amanda Laprime, Center for Children with Special Needs, Website Coordinator; Catherine Taylor-Santa, Caldwell University, Student Group Liaison; and Dr. James Carr, executive director of the Behavior Analyst Certification Board, editor of *The Analysis of Verbal Behavior*. The Council holds monthly meetings to coordinate the numerous activities of the SIG, as well as brainstorm and execute new efforts.

In summary, the VB SIG had a remarkable year of promoting theory, research, and practice in verbal behavior. We hope more members of ABAI, as well as others from the behavior analysis community, get involved. In the coming year, the VB SIG hopes to gain nonprofit status and offer more awards to recognize exceptional contributions to the study and practice of verbal behavior. ❖

You had us at S^D....
Now let us give you S^{r+}

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2016 Calendar of Upcoming Conferences

For more details, please visit the websites indicated and the Chapters section of the ABAI website.

September

Hawai'i ABA 12th Annual Conference

September 2–3
Honolulu, HI
Manoa Grand Ballroom
www.hawaiiaba.org

ABA of Brazil 25th Annual Meeting

September 6–10
Foz do Iguaçu, Paraná, Brazil
Centro Universitário Dinâmica das Cataratas
<http://abpmc.org.br>

Japanese ABA 34th Annual Meeting

September 9–11
Osaka, Japan
Osaka City University,
Sugimoto Campus
<https://sites.google.com/site/jabaosaka2016/>

Florida ABA 36th Annual Conference

September 14–17
Fort Lauderdale, FL
Marriott Harbor Beach Resort & Spa
www.fabaworld.org

ABA India Sixth Conference

September 23–25
Bangalore, Karnataka, India
www.aba-india.org

ABA Australia Inaugural Conference

September 24–25
Melbourne, Australia
<http://auaba.com.au>

October

Ontario ABA and Québec ABA Joint Conference

October 1–2
Ottawa, ON
Carleton University, River Building
www.qcaba.org

Alabama ABA 25th Annual Convention

October 5–7
Birmingham, AL
Doubletree Hotel
www.alabamaaba.com

Manitoba ABA 11th Annual Conference

October 6
Winnipeg, MB
University of Manitoba
Marshall McLuhan Hall
www.maba.ca

Gulf Coast ABA Conference

October 6–8
New Orleans, LA
Le Meridien Hotel
www.labaa.net

Berkshire Association for Behavior Analysis and Therapy Annual Conference

October 12–14
Amherst, MA
University of Massachusetts, Amherst
www.babat.org

Southeastern ABA 33rd Annual Conference

October 13–15
Winston-Salem, NC
Embassy Suites
www.seabaonline.org

Mid-American ABA Annual Conference

October 14–15
Wisconsin Dells, WI
www.midamericanaba.com

Swedish ABA 20th Anniversary Conference

October 21–22
Stockholm, Sweden
Rörstrands Konferenscenter
www.swaba.se

October (cont.)

Nevada ABA Conference and Workshops

October 21–23
Reno, NV
Whitney Peak Hotel
<http://nevadaaba.org>

South Carolina ABA Fifth Annual Conference

November 24–25
Greenville, SC
www.sc-aba.org

New York State ABA 27th Annual Conference and Workshops

October 26–28
Albany, NY
The Desmond Hotel
www.nysaba.org

Tennessee ABA 19th Annual Conference

October 27–29
Nashville, TN
Music City Center
www.tennesseeaba.org

November

Iowa ABA Fourth Annual Conference

November 4
West Des Moines, IA
Hilton Garden Inn
<http://iowaaba.com>

Ontario ABA Annual Conference

November 10–11
Toronto, ON
InterContinental Hotel
www.ontaba.org

Georgia ABA Ninth Annual Conference

November 11–12
Savannah, GA
www.georgia-aba.com

Sociedad Mexicana de Análisis de la Conducta 26th Annual Conference

November 22–25
Puerto Vallarta, Jalisco, Mexico
Universidad de Guadalajara,
Centro Universitario de la Costa
<http://smac.org.mx>

ABAI DENVER

2017

43rd Annual Convention

May 25–29, 2017

Colorado Convention Center
www.abainternational.org

@ABAIEvents

550 West Centre Avenue, Suite 1
Portage, MI 49024
www.abainternational.org

