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ON THE COVER: Paris as seen from Notre-Dame.
 Illustration: MARTIN C. BURCH



President's Column

BY MICHAEL J. DOUGHER

At its fall and convention meetings, the ABAI Executive Council deliberates and acts upon proposals and recommendations that come largely from the various boards and committees within our organization that do most of the groundwork necessary to move it forward.

These boards and committees are comprised of over 450 smart, dedicated, and creative individuals who are committed to the advancement of behavior analysis as a field and to ABAI as an organization. The Council is absolutely dependent upon its boards and committees in order to do its work effectively, and it is greatly appreciative and thankful for the thoughtfulness, insight, and hard work that characterizes their work. This past year, Council discussed and acted on a number of proposals that affect our membership and convention, our journals, our appointments, and our future directions.

Membership and Convention

I am happy to report that ABAI set records this year in both membership and convention attendance. Our current membership, including associate members, totals nearly 7,500. ABAI's 95 affiliated chapters report almost 28,000 members around the world, and our 36 Special Interest Groups (SIGs) serve roughly 5,500 people enthusiastic about the expansive professional and scholarly opportunities within behavior analysis. Council voted to add the Alberta and Lebanon Associations for Behavior Analysis to our list of affiliated chapters and to add Translational Research to our list of SIGs. Congratulations and welcome to all involved. These data suggest that our organization has never been stronger.

From the beginning of its existence, ABAI's main purpose has been to organize an annual convention. Judging from membership surveys, it appears that the organization is doing a good job in this regard. While convention attendance is partly a function of location, it has been trending higher over the past several years and reached a record high of over 5,000 registrants this year in Denver. Number of submissions presented at the convention was right at the average of the past 10 years, and program content was rated "very good" or "excellent" by over 90% of post-convention survey respondents. These high ratings have been consistent for several years and reflect the outstanding work of the various Program Boards and area coordinators who have continuously suggested ways to improve the convention experience for ABAI members.

Improving the convention, however, is a perpetual process and several recommendations were made by the Program Board and senior area coordinators to improve future conventions. Many of these recommendations will be considered at the fall 2017 Council meetings, but two changes have already been adopted for 2018. One is to reduce the duration of the poster sessions from three hours to two, and the other is to move business meetings from early mornings to evenings. The consensus seems to be that the attendance at the poster sessions dramatically falls off during the last hour and that the morning business meetings make for a very long day. As always, the Program Board and Council will monitor registrants' responses to these changes as well as other aspects of the convention in an effort to optimize members' convention experience.

Journals

As we look at the data at the end of the third year of our collaboration with Springer, it is clear that the collaboration has been mutually beneficial for both organizations. All four of our journals, *The Behavior Analyst* (TBA, edited by Don Hantula), *The Analysis of Verbal Behavior* (TAVB, edited by Jim Carr), *Behavior Analysis in Practice* (BAP, edited by Mark Dixon), and *The Psychological Record* (TPR, edited by Ruth Anne Rehfeldt) saw increases, some quite substantial, in number of published articles, number of submissions, number of downloads, earned revenue, and number of institutional and university library subscriptions. In line with these data, starting in 2018, TAVB will move from one to two issues per year, and BAP, which celebrates its 10th anniversary in 2018, will have already moved from two to four issues per year. These numbers are very encouraging and are largely due to the commitment, skill, and hard work of the editors, associate editors, and editorial boards of these journals, to whom we owe many thanks.

Both Jim Carr and Ruth Anne Rehfeldt complete their very successful terms as editors at the end of 2017. Both have done an outstanding job, and ABAI is deeply appreciative of their extraordinary service. As is customary

when editors' terms end, the Publication Board submitted recommendations for their successors. After thorough discussion, Council appointed Mark Dixon as the new editor of TAVB and Mitch Fryling as the new editor of TPR. Because Mark Dixon had a year remaining in his second term as editor of BAP, Council selected Jonathan Tarbox to replace him as editor of BAP at the end of this year so that Mark could move to TAVB. We warmly welcome Mitch, Jonathan, and Mark (again) and wish them the best in their new roles.

Elections and New Appointments.

As happens at the end of every convention, several Council members fulfilled their terms of office, others moved to new titles, and newly elected Council members began their terms. Members whose terms expired are Martha Hübner (past president), Peter Killeen (experimental representative), Ingunn Sandaker (international representative), and Kenneth Jacobs (past student representative). These individuals served our organization with intelligence, dedication, perspective, and grace, and ABAI is deeply grateful for their good and hard work. On a personal note, I'd like to add that it was a pleasure serving with each of them.

Those moving to new titles on Council are Jack Marr (past president), Mike Dougher (president), and Mark Mattaini (president-elect), Christina Peters (past student representative), and Lorraine Becerra (student representative). We welcome new Council members Chris Newland (experimental representative), Per Holth (international representative), and Kathryn Roose (student representative-elect). As always, Council has a full agenda this year, and I look forward to working with the continuing and new members.

Moving to other appointments, Council approved the recommendation of the Fellows Committee (chaired by Mike Perone) to appoint as Fellows Amy Odum, Raymond Pitts, Alan D. Poling and Henry S. Roane. Fellow status is a special recognition given to individuals who have made outstanding contributions to behavior analysis through research and scholarship, professional practice, or teaching and service. Hearty congratulations and thanks to each of our new Fellows.

Future Directions

ABAI's mission is to contribute to the well-being of society through its support of the science of behavior analysis. In some domains (e.g., autism, developmental disabilities, education, safety), through our journals, conventions and conferences, we have been extremely successful. But it is time now to extend our efforts in other areas that could have significant impact in improving society. As an example, behavior analysis has a long tradition of excellence in both

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the basic and applied sciences concerned with substance abuse. In line with that record of excellence, ABAI asked Mark Galizio to organize a special, interdisciplinary conference on substance use and addiction. That conference is now scheduled for November 18–20, 2018 at the Grand Hyatt, Washington, D.C., immediately following the annual convention of the Association for Behavior and Cognitive Therapies. In character, Mark has put together an outstanding program consisting of several internationally renowned substance abuse researchers. The program and call for posters will be published later this year.

Two other ABAI conferences have also been scheduled. The Ninth International Conference, organized with the support of the France ABA, will be in Paris, France, November 14–15, 2017 at the newly renovated Paris Marriott Rive Gauche Hotel & Conference Center.

Conference registrants will get a significant room discount, and will also receive complimentary coffee, lunch, a reception, and entertainment. ABAI's 12th Annual Autism Conference, chaired by Ruth Anne Rehfeldt and Jonathan Tarbox, will be February 4–6, 2018 at the Hyatt Regency, Miami, Florida.

Moving forward, for ABAI to fully realize its mission, it is critical that we more widely publicize the success of our science and its applications, collaborate with scholars and scientists from related and compatible academic disciplines and organizations, and find ways to use our science to influence public policy at multiple levels. To be sure, that is a big agenda, but there is a lot at stake. Towards these ends, Council has been discussing several initiatives that we hope to implement this year and that I hope to be able to report in the next column. ❖



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Top of the World:

*A Recap
of ABAI's
43rd Annual
Convention
in Denver*

BY MARIA E. MALOTT

Photo: Courtesy of the Library of Congress

ABAI's 43rd Annual Convention in Denver was the latest in a long line of strong, successful behavior analysis gatherings. Once more, this event was well-attended (over 5,000 registrants) and favorably reviewed: In post-convention feedback surveys, over 90% of the attendees evaluated highly the 40 invited events and B. F. Skinner's lectures.

Additionally, the convention overall, host city, and some of the event's major services, was highly rated as well. This year's robust 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. Other popular events included the ABAI Trivia Night (organized by the Student Committee), the International Welcome Reception, ABAI Expo, and the ABAI Social. Several exciting new ideas and developments were also discussed, indicating a healthy and growing field. On a whole, the convention program was a rich collection of diverse topics and provocative ideas.

The convention opened with our yearly tradition of honoring leaders in behavior analysis: the SABA Awards Ceremony. This year, we celebrated the accomplishments of Carol Pilgrim (Award for Distinguished Service); the New England Center for Children (NECC; Award for International Dissemination of Behavioral Analysis); Anthony Biglan (Award for Scientific Translation); and the Psychology Department at the University of North Carolina Wilmington (UNCW; Award for Enduring Programmatic Contributions in Behavior Analysis).

The event featured informative acceptance speeches from some of the field's most recognizable figures and set the tone for an energetic and engaging convention. Dr. Carol Pilgrim discussed what exactly it means to act in service to behavior analysis. Dr. Anthony Biglan reminded us of our duty to the findings from our science to improve communities and help solve large-scale human problems; arguing that in order to do so, it is necessary to foster collaboration between behavior science related organizations. Dr. Vincent Strully, accepting the award for NECC, discussed growing international acceptance of and demand for behavior analytic services and the challenges to developing sustainable models for delivering those services, including language, cultural practices, and funding. Finally,

accepting the SABA Award for Enduring Programmatic Contributions in Behavior Analysis on behalf of UNCW, Psychology Department chair Julian Keith highlighted the history of one higher education's most influential programs in the field of behavior science thanks to the impact of their graduates, the caliber of their faculty, and the research that have been generated by the department over its many years. This important program remains strong and committed to the advancement of our science.

In his presidential address, Michael Dougner focused on the important topic of identity and reflected on the identity of behavior analysis as a field. He argued that our field is currently experiencing something of an "identity crisis," with the success of the applied wing overshadowing basic behavioral research and diminishing our identity as a viable, comprehensive science. These views are sure to generate some strong opinions among our members and we look forward to hearing your feedback and thoughts.

The convention's rich program offered presentations on a variety of subjects that stand to benefit from collaboration with those working in the behavior sciences. Starting with our presidential scholar, Dr. Wendy Rogers, an expert on human-automation interaction, cognitive aging, skill acquisition and training, and many related topics. She is the Khan Professor of Applied Health Sciences at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and the director of the Human Factors and Aging Laboratory. Dr. Roger's presentation focused on the work of the Human Factors and Aging Lab and the potential for technology to enable older adults to age successfully; and shared behavior strategies to that can help the aging population.

Other topics covered during the convention were discussed by a diverse group of expert presenters both from within behavior analysis and from complimentary fields. These talks were delivered by speakers with backgrounds in academia, research, clinical setting, business, and more; offering an impressive variety of subjects for attendees to learn about. The program included presentations on behavioral economics and obesity, health care fraud, educating children with autism, cardiovascular disease, animal training, the social and cognitive foundations of language acquisition, theoretical issues, cultural selection, pediatric feeding disorders, and much more.

Another accomplishment of the convention was bringing together representatives from all of ABAI's 95 affiliated chapters and 36 special interest groups to interact with each other and receive special training organized by their respective boards. The convention also brought in more than 120 exhibitors, which generated tremendous enthusiasm and energy during job placement and career building activities.

Additionally, the program included nearly 100 papers, more than 300 panels and symposia, and almost 700

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43rd Annual Convention Highlights

Invited Presentations and Tutorials

APPLIED ANIMAL BEHAVIOR

Clive Wynne, "What, if Anything, Is Special About Dogs?"

AUTISM

Linda A. LeBlanc

"Creating Recommended Practice Guidelines for Applied Behavior Analytic Service Delivery"

Corinna F. Grindle

"We Can Teach You That Too! Using Behavior Analysis to Teach Reading, Maths, and Writing to Children With Autism"

BEHAVIORAL DEVELOPMENT

R. Douglas Greer, Caio F. Miguel, and Deisy Das Graças de Souza

"Bi-Directional Naming: Perspectives From Four Laboratories"

BEHAVIORAL PHARMACOLOGY AND NEUROSCIENCE

Brian D. Kangas

"Recent Advances in the Behavioral Pharmacology of Cannabis"

CLINICAL/FAMILY/ BEHAVIORAL MEDICINE

Teresa Camille Kolu

"Schedule Effects in Behavior Streams: Supervision Topics for Analysts Interested in the Ethical Application of Behavior Analysis to Child and Family Welfare"

COMMUNITY, SOCIAL, AND SUSTAINABILITY ISSUES

Criss Wilhite

"Sustainability and Student Engagement at Fresno State"

EXPERIMENTAL ANALYSIS OF BEHAVIOR

Douglas Elliffe

"How Much of Apparent Complex Cognition Can a Purely Behavioral Account Explain?"

William M. Baum, "Behavioral Ephemeria"

ORGANIZATIONAL BEHAVIOR MANAGEMENT

Christoph F. Bördlein

"On Disseminating Behavior Analysis in an Anti-Behavioristic Environment: Behavior Based Safety in Germany. Why Radical Behaviorism is Essential for Organizational Behavior Management"

Julie Smith

"Accelerating Strategy Execution by Orchestrating Leadership Role Modelling and Reinforcement"

PRACTICE

Lorri Shealy Unumb

"Don Baer Lecture: Autism, ABA, and Health Care Fraud"

SCIENCE

Gregory J. Madden, Matthew

P. Normand, and Raymond G.

Miltenberger

"Behavioral Economics and the Obesity Crisis: A Panel With Discussion"

David P. Wacker, Wayne W. Fisher,

and Maggie Sweeney

"Treatment Relapse: A Panel With Discussion"

Donald A. Hantula

"Why Behavioral Scientists Can and Should Be Involved in Federally Funded Research"

Christopher A. Podlesnik

"Translational Research Using Laboratory Models of Persistence and Relapse"

TEACHING BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS

Michael Marks, "Supportive

Education for Returning Veterans

(SERV): An Evidence-Based

Curriculum"

PHILOSOPHICAL, CONCEPTUAL, AND HISTORICAL ISSUES

Richard Gilbert

"A Fictional B. F. Skinner"

Neville M. Blampied

"Skinner on Averaging: Was He Right? Should We Keep the Faith?"

VERBAL BEHAVIOR

Svein Eikeseth

"A Nonsocial Reinforcement Hypothesis of Autism Spectrum Disorder and its Implication for the Acquisition of Verbal and Social Behaviors"

Vincent J. Carbone

"The Role of Joint Control in Teaching Complex Listener Responding to Children With Autism and Other Disabilities"

OTHER

Robert C. Mellon

"Discriminative Processes in the Differential Reinforcement of Stereotyped and Varied Response Forms"

Rogelio Escobar

"Electronics and 3D Printing: A Basic Guide for Behavior Analysts"

Francis Mechner

"A Behavioral Analysis of Aesthetic Responses"

B. F. Skinner Lecture Series Presentations

APPLIED ANIMAL BEHAVIOR

Temple Grandin

"How Being a Visual Thinker Helped Me Understand Animals"

BEHAVIORAL DEVELOPMENT

Terje Ogden

"The National Implementation and Evaluation of Parent Training in Norway"

BEHAVIORAL PHARMACOLOGY AND NEUROSCIENCE

Joshua Anthony Life

"Cannabis Use Disorder: Determining Mechanisms and Developing Interventions"

CLINICAL/FAMILY/ BEHAVIORAL MEDICINE

Matthew Whited

"Treating Depression to Reduce Behavioral Risk Factors for Cardiovascular Disease: A Preventive Behavioral Medicine Perspective"

COMMUNITY, SOCIAL, AND SUSTAINABILITY ISSUES

Amy Cosper

"Disruption and the Impact of Creating a New Future and New Opportunities" Developmental Disabilities

Bryan H. King

"Psychopharmacotherapy of Disruptive Behaviors in Intellectual and Developmental Disorders: Past, Present, and Future"

EXPERIMENTAL ANALYSIS OF BEHAVIOR

Sheena S. Iyengar

"In Search of the Authentic Self"

EDUCATION

Susan M. Sheridan

"Conjoint Behavioral Consultation: What Works, How It Works, and What It Means for Practice"

PHILOSOPHICAL, CONCEPTUAL, AND HISTORICAL ISSUES

Michael T. Ghiselin

"Toward a Behavioral Analysis of B. F. Skinner's Philosophical Discourse"

PRACTICE

Robert Lustig

"Darwin, Diet, Disease, and Dollars"

SCIENCE

Erik Oleson

"Behavioral Economic Applications Reveal a Role for Dopamine in the Valuation of Negative Reinforcement"

Alex Kacelnik

"Intelligent Behaviour of Animals and Plants"

Ryan Vandrey

"Cannabis Dose-Effects Across Routes of Administration: Subjective, Performance, and Pharmacokinetic Differences"

TEACHING BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS

Sandra S. Sundel and Martin Sundel

"Teaching Principles of Behavior Analysis: An Evolving Model for Developing and Testing Knowledge and Skills"

VERBAL BEHAVIOR

Paul Ibbotson

"The Social and Cognitive Foundations of Language Acquisition"

OTHER

Björn Brembs

"Peering Into Skinner's Black Box: The Evolutionary Conserved Neurobiology of Operant Learning"





Previous page:
1 Carol Pilgrim accepts the SABA Award for Distinguished Service to Behavior Analysis. **2** Vincent Strully, Jr. accepts the SABA Award for International Dissemination of Behavior Analysis on behalf of the New England Center for Children. **3** Julian Keith represents the Psychology Department at the University of North Carolina Wilmington, recipient of the SABA Award for Enduring Programmatic Contributions in Behavior Analysis. **4** Anthony Bliglan delivers his acceptance speech for the SABA Award for Scientific Translation of Behavior Analysis. **5** Temple Grandin speaks with an attendee in the ABAI bookstore. **6** B. F. Skinner Lecturer Martin Sundel at an author signing. **7** Eric Oleson delivers his talk as part of the B. F. Skinner Lecture Series. **8** Lori Unumb speaks during a panel session. **9** Denise Pichardo discusses her poster. **10** Francis Mechner speaks during the convention. **11** (From left to right) M. Jackson Marr, Martha Hübner, and Michael Dougher. **12** Attendees cut loose on the dance floor during the ABAI Social.



This page: Outgoing board and committee members and Student Committee Mentorship awardees with past president M. Jackson Marr
13 Outgoing past president Martha Hübner. **14** Ingunn Sandaker, outgoing international representative. **15** Outgoing experimental representative Peter Killeen. **16** Outgoing past student representative Kenneth Jacobs. **17** James E. Carr, outgoing editor for *The Analysis of Verbal Behavior*. **18** Outgoing Program Board coordinator Mark Mattaini. **19** Outgoing Publication Board coordinator Anna Petursdottir. **20** Karen Anderson Student Committee Mentorship awardee. **21** Student Committee Mentorship awardee Jason Travers. **22** Timothy Vollmer, recipient of a Student Committee Mentorship Award.



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posters. These sessions were organized across 16 different subject areas and rounded out a healthy convention program. All this would have not been possible without the extraordinary work of Mark Mattaini (Program Board coordinator) and Federico Sanabria (Program Committee chair). This was Mark Mattaini's last year as Program Board coordinator and the convention has enjoyed tremendous success under his guidance. His influence will still be felt in the organization of our conventions, as he moves into the role of Council liaison to the Program Board. Federico Sanabria will take over as board coordinator and we look forward to his work in an expanded capacity, as well as the insight and energy of the new Program Committee chair Jonathan Tarbox. A program of this size and scope requires the hard work and talent of 30 volunteers serving as area coordinators. These dedicated individuals are listed below and have our sincere gratitude for their expertise and care in developing of a high-quality program of events. To support the Program Committee, and the organization as whole, ABAI relies on the contributions of more than 400 volunteers fulfilling numerous roles in our various boards, committees, and task forces. This work contributes either directly or indirectly to our ability to produce a successful convention and we are grateful to everyone who has volunteered their time and knowledge to ABAI over the years. Finally, special thanks to ABAI's staff and interns, who work tirelessly every year to prepare for and run the annual convention.

Attendance for the annual convention remains

impressive and we anticipate even better turnout next year. Still, we know there are many who were not able to join us in Denver. For those individuals, we are happy to offer many of the convention's popular presentations—including B. F. Skinner lectures, invited speakers, and the presidential and presidential scholar addresses—through our online Learning Center. If you were unable to attend the convention or couldn't make one of the highlight presentations, we encourage you to take advantage of this resource, which includes the option to purchase and earn CEs. Each year, more and more ABAI members are discovering the value of the Learning Center for furthering educational and professional goals. This important service makes access to incredible presentations on behavioral science and practice both convenient and enjoyable. Visit the Learning Center today at www.abainternational.org/learning-center.aspx.

We are very excited about next year's 44th Annual Convention in San Diego, California—a city ABAI hasn't visited since 2007. Behavior analysis continues to grow and we look forward to offering an amazing and exciting program next year. If you have never been to an ABAI convention or haven't attended for some time, this is one you won't want to miss. Call for Papers launches soon, so check www.abainternational.org/events/annual-2018.aspx for an upcoming announcement!

Lastly, we would like to thank the over 5,000 attendees that made this convention a remarkable, record-setting event; we look forward to seeing you all again California! ❖

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

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

**PROGRAM BOARD
COORDINATOR**

Mark A. Mattaini

PROGRAM COMMITTEE CHAIR

Federico Sanabria

**PROGRAM AND CONVENTION
MANAGEMENT AND CE
COORDINATION FOR APA**

Maria E. Malott

CE COORDINATION FOR BACB

Richard W. Malott

AREA COORDINATORS

Applied Animal Behavior (AAB): Susan Kapla (Northern Michigan University) and Valeri Farmer-Dougan (Illinois State University)

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Behavioral Pharmacology and Neuroscience (BPN): Matthew Johnson (Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine) and Carla Lagorio (University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire)

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

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

Practice (PRA): John Guercio (Benchmark Human Services) and Robert Ross (Beacon ABA Services) Science (SCI): M. Christopher Newland (Auburn University)

Teaching Behavior Analysis (TBA): Amy Hugh-Pennie (The Harbor School - Hong Kong) and Gabrielle Lee (Michigan State University)

Verbal Behavior (VRB): Judah Axe (Simmons College) and Einar T. Ingvarsson (Child Study Center; University of North Texas)

2017

ABAI is proud to announce the 2017 Fellows of
the Association for Behavior Analysis International.

FELLOWS OF ABAI



Amy L. Odum

Dr. Amy L. Odum received her Ph.D. from West Virginia University (WVU) in 1998. She completed a postdoctoral fellowship with Warren K. Bickel at the University of Vermont's Human Behavioral Pharmacology Laboratory and was an assistant professor of psychology at the University of New Hampshire before joining the faculty at Utah State University in 2003, where she now holds the position of professor of psychology. At WVU Dr. Odum collaborated with David W. Schaal on research concerned with the effects of drugs on timing. At Vermont, she applied her expertise in timing to the experimental analysis of delay discounting and its relation to addictions. Since then, she has made major contributions to our understanding of delay discounting, in particular its "state" and "trait" qualities. Dr. Odum's other interests include matching to sample, resistance to change, and response variability. Her research has attracted substantial federal support, including grants from NIMH and NIDA. She has held key leadership positions in ABAI, the Society for the Experimental Analysis of Behavior (including a term as president), and Division 25 of the American Psychological Association (including a term as president). Dr. Odum has been deeply involved in editorial work on behalf of numerous scientific journals, culminating in her appointment as editor of one of our field's flagship publications, the *Journal of the Experimental Analysis of Behavior*, in 2015. In this role she is known as striking just the right balance between high expectations for experimental rigor and freedom for authors to explore the theoretical and practical implications of their findings.

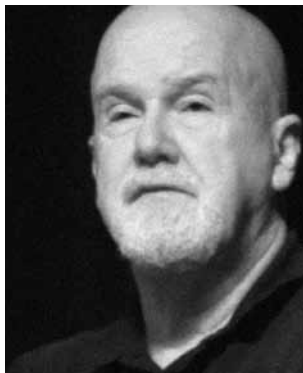


Raymond C. Pitts

Dr. Raymond C. Pitts received his Ph.D. in 1989 from the University of Florida, where he worked with E. F. Malagodi and Marc N. Branch. He conducted research in behavioral pharmacology as a postdoctoral research associate at the Bowman Gray School of Medicine and as a research

assistant professor at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill before joining the faculty at the University of North Carolina Wilmington (UNCW) where, since 2005, he has held the position of professor of psychology. Among Dr. Pitts's noteworthy contributions is his influential work on behavioral mechanisms of drug action. By the early 2000s, the field of behavioral pharmacology had become increasingly focused on pharmacological variables with the receptor action of drugs providing the main theoretical impetus. Since then, however, Dr. Pitts has published an important series of studies demonstrating how quantitative analyses can help us understand drug effects in behavior analytic terms. Dr. Pitts has also made enduring contributions as an educator and as a leader in professional organizations. He has served terms on the Executive Council of Division 25 of the American Psychological Association and as co-chair of the Division 25 convention program. He has had a major impact on ABAI in a number of capacities, including as a member of the Science Board, co-chair of the convention program committee, and experimental representative to the Executive Council. Dr. Pitts was a key member of the group that founded the graduate programs in behavior analysis at UNCW, and he has opened his laboratory to train and inspire scores of students. He is known as a thoughtful and good-natured mentor who shapes both methodological sophistication and enthusiasm in his students, and many new behavior analysts have found their way into the field because of him.

Dr. Alan D. Poling received his Ph.D. in 1977 from the University of Minnesota, where he worked with Travis Thompson. He spent a year at the University of South Carolina as a research associate and instructor before joining the psychology faculty at Western Michigan University (WMU) in 1978. He was promoted to the rank of professor in 1988. Dr. Poling



Alan D. Poling

Designation as a Fellow of ABAI

The purpose of the ABAI 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 ABAI 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 ABAI, each of whom may make a single nomination per year, and who solicits a second letter of support from another Fellow.


is a prolific author whose research includes significant contributions to a broad array of topics including basic learning processes, preclinical and clinical psychopharmacology, research methods, animal welfare, and gender issues in science. In 2009 Dr. Poling joined APOPO, a non-governmental organization, to advance the behavior science involved in training giant African pouched rats to detect landmines and tuberculosis. He has published a dozen books and more than 300 articles in a staggering array of scientific journals, from those explicitly in the domain of behavior analysis (including the *Journal of the Experimental Analysis of Behavior*, the *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, *The Analysis of Verbal Behavior*, *Behavior Analysis in Practice*, and *The Psychological Record*) to those that represent the dissemination of our science to other audiences (including the *Journal of Veterinary Behavior Clinical Applications and Research*, *Psychopharmacology*, *Journal of ERW and Mine Action*, and *Tuberculosis Research and Treatment*). His work has been supported with grants from NIDA, NIH, NIMH, and the U.S. Army, and it has been recognized by numerous awards including the International Humanitarian Award from the American Psychological Association and the Award for Scientific Translation from the Society for the Advancement of Behavior Analysis. Dr. Poling has been a leader in shaping our field through his editorial work, often as an action editor, for almost 30 different journals, and in his role as an educator at WMU, where he has taught 18 different courses and mentored 36 doctoral students.

Dr. Henry S. Roane received his Ph.D. from Louisiana State University in 2000. He is the Gregory S. Liptak Professor of Child Development in the Department of Pediatrics

at the State University of New York's Upstate Medical University. Dr. Roane is known as an outstanding leader, clinician, researcher, and mentor. He is currently Chief of Developmental Pediatrics and Medical Genetics and Director of the Center for Development, Behavior, and Genetics at Upstate Medical University. Prior to his current appointment, he worked closely with Wayne Fisher to establish major clinical research programs at the Marcus Center in Atlanta and the University of Nebraska Medical Center—highly successful programs that have launched the careers of many outstanding researchers in behavior analysis. His clinical practice is data-driven, with ongoing data collection and analysis used to refine treatments, leading to high levels of success with patients who display severe, chronic, and treatment-resistant problem behavior. Dr. Roane is bridging the gap between academic and practice-oriented applied behavior analysis, and in this he is a role model. Although he sees patients and practices behavior analysis with individuals across the lifespan on a daily basis, he also conducts research that has had a broad impact on the field, resulting in more than 70 scientific articles and chapters, and three co-edited books. His work has been supported by major grants and contracts from NIH, NIMH, and the New York Office of People with Developmental Disabilities. Dr. Roane has helped shape our field by mentoring more than two dozen predoctoral interns and postdoctoral fellows, by his service on federal grant panels, and by his extensive editorial contributions to journals in and outside behavior analysis. He has served as associate editor of the flagship publication *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis* and is editor in chief of the *Behavioral Development Bulletin*, an academic journal published by the American Psychological Association.



Henry Roane



As life expectancy increases, a concern for society is addressing the care provided to older adults. Dr. Wendy A. Rogers is at the forefront of research aimed to meet this challenge. Specifically, Dr. Rogers' research explores how technology may be utilized to support older adults in effective interactions with their community as they age.

Her research aims to improve the lives of older adults and understand how technology may contribute to extending the length of time in which older adults may maintain independence from family members and health care providers, through supporting tasks such as medication maintenance by using robotics (Rogers, Mayhorn, & Fisk, 2004; Rogers & Mitzner, 2015). She has highlighted that this population will only continue to grow based on projections, and eventually represent over one fifth of the population (Rogers & Mitzner, 2016).

Dr. Rogers' contributions have significant implications for our society, behavior analysis, and the advancement of behavioral gerontology.

As a director of the Research Training in Cognitive Aging grant, Dr. Rogers has also facilitated a profusion of research regarding human-factors. Through this grant, research has continued for the relationship between memory and aging. As lab director of the Human Factors and Aging Laboratory at Georgia Tech, Dr. Rogers has facilitated and supported research concerning human-robot interactions as a method to reduce older adults' isolation, technology improving medication adherence for older adults, as well as older adults' perceptions of technologies within the home (Prakash, 2016; Prakash et al., 2013; Burnett, Mitzner,

Dr. Wendy A. Rogers:

**Association for Behavior
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BY TALIA G. HAMM



Wendy A. Rogers

Rogers, & Fisk, 2009). Rogers' lab has produced research which integrates older adults' perceptions of using technology for assistive living. This work recognizes the importance of understanding how older adults (individuals 65 and older) respond to technological support in their home environments (Beer, 2013).


Dr. Rogers' research recognizes that to understand how older adults interact with technology, it is important to understand what behavioral deficits may affect the usability of certain technologies. In addition, it is important to consider how trainings for older adults may be tailored to address these deficits. For example, research from Rogers has shown deficits in perceptual abilities, motor issues, and memory issues may impede on older adults' interactions with technology (Hancock, Fisk, & Rogers, 2001). Factors such as unidentifiable symbols can inhibit older adults' ability to optimally interact with technological devices (Hancock, Fisk, & Rogers, 2001). Rogers' identification of these common deficits has been fundamental in further research regarding older adults' interaction with technology. It allows a basis of understanding for which aspects of human-technology interaction, specific to the older adult population, may require modification to improve usage and ultimately use technologies beyond their primary function.

By synthesizing information regarding how psychology may inform design of technology, and ultimately improve the usability of technology for older adults, Rogers has also brought attention to human-factors within the psychological community as a whole (Rogers & Fisk, 2010). Rogers has provided models proposed to create a functional model of training older adults with technology use. She has distinguished the importance of tailoring a training program to an individual and the tasks they will encounter

when using technology. Instead of proposing a single mode of instruction, Rogers has acknowledged the need for training which will evolve based on individual history, individual goals, and continued research which may inform training efficacy (Rogers, Campbell, & Pak, 2001). This may have implications for human-technology interaction, beyond the specific population of older adults.

Dr. Rogers' research considers how technologically-based interventions may inform how adjusting environments of older adults' homes can support physical wellness and social wellness. In a recent article, Rogers proposed considering specific human-factors in the context of older adults' lives within the next 35 years and shows that based on projections, older adults will make up one fifth of the population by 2050 (Rogers & Mitzner, 2016). In considering the likelihood of a continuously increasing population of older adults, it becomes apparent how pertinent Rogers' research is today, and will be for coming decades. Within the population of older adults' Rogers' research also acknowledges individual differences which require attention when considering technology design for interventions (Beer, Mitzner, Stuck, & Rogers, 2015). Vision, hearing, and mobility are common deficits for older adults and regarded as disabilities (Beer, Mitzner, Stuck, & Rogers, 2015). Her research proposes the possibility for using technology to promote physical activity, which is correlated with life expectancy. Within this aspect of her research, Rogers again underscores the importance of considering usability of technology based on individuals' needs and goals. She has emphasized the importance of considering an individual's deficits and behavioral goals (both in interacting with technology as well as behaviors that may decline with age, such as memory regarding medication adherence), prior to determining the appropriateness of utilizing a given technological intervention.

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Dr. Rogers' research provides understanding of human-factors for the field of behavior analysis as a whole. At the base of her work are the components of understanding how certain individuals interact with their environment, what behaviors are produced, and what interventions may improve socially-relevant behaviors. Dr. Rogers has aimed to integrate interventions which utilize apparatuses that are relevant to the modern environment of the 21st century, while improving the lives of the population. Research within Dr. Rogers' lab has proven to show the possibility of future efficacy integrating these interventions, such as the use of therapeutic robots to address social isolation among older adults (McGlynn, Kemple, Mitzner, King, & Rogers, 2017; McGlynn, Snook, Kemple, Mitzner, & Rogers, 2014). By utilizing relevant technological devices, Rogers has been able to propose interventions which are relevant in an increasingly technological society. Dr. Rogers has been able to recognize the continually changing environment of modern society, and the heavy role that technology plays. Her research may facilitate the improvement of older adults living environments for decades to come, and opens the door for a new chapter of behavioral gerontology in an increasingly technological world. ❖

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Updates From ABAI's U.S.A. Affiliated Chapters

Alabama ABA

BY PAIGE MCKERCHAR

The Alabama Association for Behavior Analysis (ALABA) serves as a scientific and professional organization that embraces the principles and practices of behavior analysis. Our goal is 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 analysis.

Each fall, ALABA's Executive Committee hosts an annual convention offering workshops, keynote addresses, and paper presentations from behavior analysts across the nation as well as active researchers and practitioners within our state. Furthermore, we offer members opportunities to gather with former schoolmates, colleagues, and friends while networking with new professionals who often become important colleagues and collaborators. The annual convention is particularly important because it offers the state's board certified behavior analysts a local opportunity to earn continuing education credits—we provided 816 CEUs to 87 members last year. Last year's convention was October 5–7, 2016 at the DoubleTree Hotel in Birmingham. Sixty-five members attended workshops, which included ethics practice in “Using Interactive Teams to Problem Solve Ethics Scenarios” (conducted by Dr. Jon Bailey) and verbal behavior training in “Equivalence-Based Instruction in Early Intensive Behavioral Intervention” (conducted by Dr. Caio Miguel). Attendance at the 2-day, one-track presentation portion of the convention was similar to the 2015 convention with 174 attendees. The keynote addresses offered reviews of research in safety skills training, physical activity training, verbal behavior, and treatment integrity: Dr. Miltenberger, “Lessons Learned From 25 Years of Research on Teaching Safety Skills” and “Get Up and Go! Using ABA Procedures to Increase Physical Activity”; Dr. Caio Miguel, “Bidirectional Naming and Verbal Behavior”; and Dr. Claire St. Peter, “Not All Treatment Challenges Are Created Equal: Effects of Reduced Integrity on Treatment Outcomes”; while member-submitted presentations concerned assessment and treatment of problem behavior and training behavior analytic skills. The Commissioner of the Department of Mental Health, James Perdue, also provided a brief overview of his role in supporting behavior analysts and their customers—something becoming more important as the Alabama Behavior Analysis Licensing Board establishes itself within his department. Finally, the president-elect, April Rapp, shared her presidential address, “A Behavior Analytic Quagmire: A Call to Action.”

Congratulations to the new president-elect, Sabrina Franks, and student at-large member, Anna Kate Edgemon. The 2017 Executive Committee, which also includes Sacha Pence, April Rapp, Ryan Zayac, John Rapp, Paul Agostini, Jules Starr, and Odessa Luna, is actively preparing for this fall's 26th annual convention being held October 18–20 at the DoubleTree in Birmingham. Please visit www.alabamaaba.com for more information and to register for the convention.

In legislative news, the Alabama Behavior Analyst Licensing Board passed statute amendments that allowed the board to create the administrative code necessary to conduct business as well as to open an account to accept fees. The board expects to begin offering licenses this spring or summer. The ALABA executive director is working closely with legislators to assist Autism Speaks' 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!

Arkansas ABA

BY JENNIFER KIRBY

The Arkansas Association for Behavior Analysis (ArkABA) is excited to announce our second annual conference. The 1-day event will be in Bentonville, Arkansas, October 27, 2017. More information will be posted on the ArkABA conference homepage.

We would also like to take this opportunity to announce a call for posters. ArkABA poster proposals are now invited from ArkABA members, students, and others interested in experimental and applied behavior analysis. The ArkABA conference is a time for everyone in the region interested in behavior analysis to hear from some of the leading figures in our field and share our activities of the last year with each other. We were pleased last year to have attendees from four different states. A successful and interesting conference depends on presentations and participation by our members, so let us know how you can contribute. ArkABA is an Approved Continuing Education (ACE) provider. The organization is also able to provide continuing education credits for SLPs, OTs, and teachers. Please check the ArkABA website for more information on CEU availability in early fall.

If you are interested in becoming a member or registering for the conference, visit our website and send us your contact information. We are always looking for new members who are dedicated to the acquisition, evaluation, and dissemination of information regarding behavior analysis.

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Berkshire Association for Behavior Analysis and Therapy

BY ALAN HARCHIK

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

BABAT Leadership

Stacie Bancroft was elected as the new president of BABAT, succeeding Joe Ricciardi, who had served as president since 2010. BABAT also elected two new at-large members: Candice Colon-Kwedor and Jorge Reyes.

Annual Conference

The chapter's 37th annual conference was October 12–14, 2016. 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 USA.

Last year's conference was again sold out with more than 1,100 professionals in attendance. The conference included 38 invited speakers and distinguished presenters. This was our second year of expanding the conference with offerings of advanced workshops. The conference also included an online continuing education management tool, called CEU Helper, that was well-received by attendees. BABAT gives a special thanks to the members of the 2016 Conference Planning Committee and co-chairs Maureen Kelly and Rick Graff.

Planning is well underway for the 38th Annual BABAT Conference, to be held October 11–13, 2017, at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst. We plan to continue to offer opportunities to earn continuing education credits from the BACB and APA.

Honors and Awards

BABAT proudly presented the following honors and awards this year:

- **The Jerry Shook Practitioner Award:** Ashley L. Williams (ABACS, LLC and Simmons College)
- **BABAT Student Paper Award:** Jessica D. Slaton (Western New England University and Nashoba Learning Group)
- **Skinner Foundation/BABAT Student Research Award:** Amy Henley (University of Kansas)
- **BF Skinner Foundation/BABAT Student Poster Award:** Hannah V. Greenwood (Regis College)
- **Murray Sidman Award for Enduring Contribution in Applied Behavior Analysis:** James M. Johnston (Auburn University)

The New England Behavior Analyst

BABAT recently posted its 12th semi-annual newsletter, *The New England Behavior Analyst*. It is available online and 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.

BABAT Social

The Sixth Annual BABAT Social was held April 13, 2017. 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 local behavior analysts. BABAT members from more than 35 New England schools and agencies attended. Our invited speaker was Jorge Reyes, Westfield State University. BCBA attendees qualified for 1.0 CE for attending the event.

California ABA

BY JENNIFER HARRIS

The California Association for Behavior Analysis (CalABA) has had yet another busy year driven by our founding mission to advance, promote, and protect the science and practice of behavior analysis. To that end, our focus this year has been threefold: solidifying our internal processes to enable an active and results-driven board of directors, creating opportunities for our members via professional events and dynamic communication efforts, and protecting our practice and those who benefit from our services by proactively attending to legislative action and related policy decisions.

Our Board

Our board and staff continue to use our strategic plan as our guiding principle and blueprint for moving the organization forward. This has been a year of streamlining our processes, developing detailed work flows and orientation materials, and providing our board members with the tools to keep them performing at the highest level. Perhaps most imperative and exciting this year was the hiring of our first official employee. Our beloved board consultant transitioned to the role of executive director this year and has provided both the continuity and leadership that have and will continue to truly transform our association. In addition to our new executive director, we have also improved our technology for communication and reporting, delineated our liaison positions to include both academic and practice-oriented foci, and hired support staff to ensure our board is spending their valuable time dedicated to their job descriptions. We also have a new office space for our team in Oakland, California.

Membership and Benefits

CalABA membership continues to grow each year with an overall 47% increase during the last 5 years. At the end of the 2017 first quarter, we noted a total membership of 2,181 (and increasing), making our chapter one of the largest in the country. With membership in the thousands, CalABA seeks to provide many benefits to its members including but not limited to our annual conference, professional development, continuing education opportunities, access to advertising and job placement, public policy sessions, and much more, with the ultimate goal of ensuring an active, well-informed, and supported professional membership.

Annual Conference

On February 10–12, 2017, CalABA hosted its 35th Annual Western Regional Conference at the Anaheim Marriott and Anaheim Convention Center. The event featured 22 invited speakers from across the country, presenting on diverse topics from the use of behavior analysis in smoking cessation to the influence of behavior analysis on current practices at zoological institutions. For the first time in CalABA history, all 2,500 attendees were registered two weeks prior to the conference and registration was closed due to capacity limits. The conference was a huge success with 90% of attendees surveyed rating it “Very Good or Excellent Overall.” For a full recap of all conference events, visit our event website at <http://www.cvent.com/events/calaba-35th-annual-western-regional-conference-on-behavior-analysis/event-summary-b91da6f8b6164799bd811ca2836b1aa0.aspx?RefID=2016CAC>.

We have already started planning for our 2018 Annual Conference scheduled for March 9–11 at the Santa Clara Hyatt Regency and Santa Clara Convention Center. Mark your calendars and register early!

Practice Support

Inspired by our membership and their reported challenges and needs, CalABA hosted our first ever “Business Bootcamp” event this year; attended by ABA business owners and featuring symposia delivered by experts in finance, technology, human resources, risk management, and OBM. This event quickly sold out and included participants from seven states. A follow up to this event was scheduled and well attended during our annual conference, and board members and staff presented similar information at the APBA conference in New Orleans. These events were the direct result of feedback from our members requesting guidance on practice management related issues.

Membership Communication

We have continued to work to ensure our members stay actively engaged throughout the year. Similar to this past year, six town hall meetings across the state are scheduled for this year to provide our members with an opportunity to share their experiences and challenges and have an active face-to-face dialogue with their board. In addition, we have significantly increased our social media and email communication to the membership and have increased membership engagement substantially as a direct result. We have also introduced a newly designed website, advertising center, and member portal over the course of the year where members may now easily interact with and access information from their CalABA Board of Directors.

Collaboration With Academia

As an organization, we are committed to supporting the needs and concerns of our members working in academia. Our dedicated university liaisons have continued to support California's ABA faculty by providing an annual forum, coined the “Science Retreat,” for conversation related to the

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needs of brick and mortar university programs. The liaisons brought feedback from the Third Annual Science Retreat back to the CalABA board as action items, and this feedback led to the addition of five invited tutorials and a student poster competition at our 2017 annual conference.

Legislative Action

CalABA's public policy efforts are guided by our mission to protect and advance the practice of behavior analysis. In California, our members and those they serve are increasingly faced with new obstacles and roadblocks which threaten both the practice of and access to behavior analysis. As such, our public policy efforts are ongoing and have necessitated the expertise of our contracted lobbyist. Licensure continues to be a priority for our association. Though our previously sponsored licensure bill was not enacted into law this year, we remain committed to its passage and are in the process of developing and implementing grassroots plans within our membership to guarantee the success of our upcoming licensure bill. In addition to licensure, we have and will continue to work closely with our lobbyist to advocate for legislation that encourages best practice and appropriate regulation for behavior analysis.

Looking Ahead

As we continue to respond to the growing population of behavior analysts and those they serve in California, we look forward to increasing our membership and benefits offered to our members, providing state-wide representation of behavior analysts in California, ensuring sustainability of our practice through legislative efforts aligned with best practices, and collaborating and partnering with those working in academia and related fields. As members of the larger behavior analytic community, we remain committed to our core values and driving mission to advance, promote, and protect the science and practice of behavior analysis in California and beyond. To learn more about CalABA or join our association, please visit calaba.org.

Colorado ABA

BY TRAVIS BLEVINS

Exciting things are happening in Colorado! We had an amazing first convention last December, and already have our next scheduled for November 2017 in Denver, CO. The state continues to expand services, increasing the demand for qualified behavior analysts. It is an great time to be in Colorado! Check out <http://www.coaba.org> for more information.

Connecticut ABA

BY MELISSA OLIVE

CT ABA had a very busy year! Our membership continues to grow and by the end of the latest membership cycle, we had 582 members comprising of 72 student and family members, 41 professional members, and 469 voting members. Interest in governance activities and participation at monthly meetings was at an all-time high. We are grateful to our membership chairs, Gina Corso and Kate Cormier, for their work on this important committee. We are also appreciative that Shelly Jones stepped up to assist with membership committee responsibilities. Additionally, our Organizational Membership Committee, led by Melissa Saunders, Stephanie Reinoso, and Kristin Weglarz, grew our organization membership from 6 to 18!

Our most exciting event, the annual conference, moved to a bigger location in Hartford to support our growing chapter. The conference sold out this year for the first time with 400 people attending! Attendees enjoyed invited presentations by Dr. Dennis Reid, Dr. Janet Twyman, Dr. Justin Leaf, Dr. Caio Miguel, Dr. Kevin Murdock, and Tim Courtney. We are grateful to our conference chairs, Melissa Saunders and Dr. Kara Reagon, along with Dr. Steve Woolf and the Conference Committee for their work on such a successful event. Additionally, we are thankful for our Student Support Committee, led by Jamie Jensen, who organized our student volunteers.

Members and officers created a bylaws committee led by Dr. Jim Hoko and Dr. Steve Woolf, who worked diligently to revise our bylaws. The members voted to pass the bylaws, which went into effect in early 2017. Our current governance includes a Board of Directors voted upon by the membership: Andrea Courtmanche, Ph.D., BCBA-D; Joe Dracoby, Ph.D., BCBA-D; Melissa Hunsinger-Harris, MSED, BCBA; Shelly Jones, MEd, BCBA; Melissa Olive, Ph.D., BCBA-D; Kara Reagon, Ph.D., BCBA-D; Stephanie Reinoso, MS, BCBA; Victoria Ryan, MS, BCBA; and Michael Weinberg, Ph.D., BCBA-D.

Our Legislative Committee kept very busy last year. The Legislative Committee, led by Dr. Melissa Olive and Dr. Kara Reagon, worked to keep members apprised of the behavior analyst licensure bill as well as changes to the restraint and seclusion law.

Following discussions at the 2016 conference, a special interest group formed for those interested in working in public school settings. We are so pleased that Stephanie Reinoso and Victoria Ryan volunteered to lead this group to support member needs.

Since 2013, CT ABA recognizes an outstanding student in behavior analysis each year in memory of Rachel D'Avino, a student who was killed in the Newtown school shooting. This year, Julia Ferrelli received the

award. Congratulations Julia! Our Family and Consumer Outreach Committee organized an annual workshop for families and our Workshop Committee, led by Melissa Hunsinger, organized two additional continuing education events, including the 8-hour supervision training. And finally, our organization would not be visible without our Technology Committee, led by Dr. Joe Dracobly and Dr. James Diller. This committee is responsible for keeping our website up to date as well as coordinating our electronic voting and systems for maintaining an up to date membership list. We are pleased with our continued growth, and we look forward to our continued role as the voice of behavior analysis in Connecticut.

Florida ABA

BY AMY S. POLICK

The 36th meeting of the Florida Association for Behavior Analysis (FABA) took place September 14–17, 2016 at the beautiful and luxurious Marriott Harbor Beach Resort & Spa in Ft. Lauderdale, FL. The conference was attended by more than 1,400 members and featured 25 paper sessions; 25 symposia; 8 panel discussions; 7 IGNITE presentations (offered for the first time on Friday night); 22 pre- and post-conference workshops; 27 posters; 5 invited speakers; 1 keynote; 1 presidential address; and 8 other meetings, socials, and special events, including a second Nathan Azrin Film Festival and the inaugural and incredibly interesting special event: “Inside Behavior Analysis” (an interview similar to *Inside the Actor’s Studio*) with Richard Foxx (we hope to continue this special tradition each year). The 2016 meeting of FABA was extremely well received by members. FABA’s programming committee worked tirelessly during the months prior to the big event, and the conference had a stellar lineup of presentations. From Wednesday’s workshops, to Thursday’s wonderful and inspirational keynote address from Dr. Richard Foxx, Friday night’s Fiesta & Salsa Social, and the continuation of Saturday morning papers and presentations, attendees had access to a wealth of information and education with each passing 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 a great 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 interventions for infants at risk for developmental delays (Martha Pelaez), diversity of ABA practice (Jim Carr), radical behaviorism (Hank Schlinger), and parent training (Tristram Smith and Cynthia Johnson).

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 committees and Eric have been extra busy monitoring issues in the legislature related to funding and insurance coverage of ABA services, regulation of Medicaid coverage of ABA services, and policies regarding restraint and seclusion in public schools.

The first week of September is Florida Behavior Analysis Week, and we will continue that tradition in 2017. Also happening this September is FABA’s 37th annual meeting, which will take place at the beachfront Hilton Daytona Beach Ocean Walk Village Hotel October 4–7, 2017. Exciting things are in store for FABA’s 37th annual meeting, including an incredible lineup of invited speakers. Due to high demand for presentations, FABA successfully added a half-day of conference events (workshops, papers, symposia, invited speaker, etc.) to the Saturday of the annual meeting weekend in 2015 and again in 2016. The expansion was well-liked by members and attendees can once more expect Saturday 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 most popular 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 large social gathering occurring during one of the evenings of the conference. FABA also has the benefit of holding 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.

Georgia ABA

BY JOANNA LOMAS MEVERS

The behavior analytic community continues to grow in Georgia. The state is now home to 47 doctoral-level board certified behavior analysts (BCBA-Ds), 301 board

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certified behavior analysts (BCBAs), and 21 board certified assistant behavior analysts (BCaBAs). As an affiliated chapter of ABAI, we continue to support the local behavior analysis community through an annual conference, social media, and networking.

The ninth annual GABA conference was in Savannah in November 2016. We had more than 150 attendees. The conference featured presentations by Thomas Higbee, Ph.D., BCBA-D; Michael Kelley, Ph.D., BCBA-D; George Noell, Ph.D., BCBA-D; Anna Petursdottir; SungWoo Kahng, Ph.D., BCBA-D; and Michael Perone, Ph.D. In addition, this year we held an ethics workshop by Alice Shillingsburg, Ph.D., BCBA-D, and a student poster session with more than 30 posters. The conference covered topics relevant to a wide audience within the behavioral community including assessment and treatment of problem behavior, verbal behavior, training teachers to implement behavior intervention, and behavioral process.

In 2017, we plan to hold our 10th annual GABA conference again in Savannah in the fall. We are looking to have a fantastic line-up of speakers who will address a wide variety of topics relevant to BCBAs in Georgia. We will also have a supervision workshop by Mindy Scheithauer, Ph.D., BCBA-D. In addition to the workshop and speaker events, we will have a poster session focused on student presenters. Information about this year's conference can be found on our website, www.georgia-aba.com.

This year, we also welcome back Sherry Serdikoff, Ph.D., BCBA-D; Mirari Elcoro, Ph.D., BCBA-D; Valerie Volkert, Ph.D., BCBA-D; Adrian Caciur, BCBA; Amanda Mohnoe, Ph.D., BCBA-D; and Kimberly Frame, Ph.D., BCBA-D, who are retuning board members. We welcome Kara Wunderlich, Ph.D., BCBA-D; Mira Stallings, BCBA; Ginger Subom, BCBA; Bethany Hanson, Ph.D., BCBA-D; Ruby Jade Lewis, BCBA; and Dana Zavatkay, Ph.D., BCBA-D, who are new board members this year.

Our goals for 2017 include increasing membership, updating the website and functionality of online registration, and updating our logo.

Hawai'i ABA

BY KIM PHAN WOLFF

Aloha from the Hawai'i Association for Behavior Analysis (HABA)! We are excited to share our legislative accomplishments in the last year. In 2016, Luke's Law became effective, which mandated private health insurance to cover autism diagnosis and services, including applied behavior analysis services up to age 14. Additionally, Act 199 was made effective, which established licensure for the practice of behavior analysis, including a requirement for direct support staff to be credentialed as registered behavior technicians. Our annual conference last year took place in Waikiki with keynote speakers Janet Twyman,

Ph.D., and William L. Heward, Ed.D., BCBA-D. Many mahalos to our speakers and everyone who attended. HABA is looking forward to our upcoming annual convention, September 7–8, on the island of Oahu in Waikiki. Our keynote speakers are E. Scott Geller, Ph.D., and Mark L. Sundberg, Ph.D., BCBA-D.

Iowa ABA

BY SEAN P. PETERSON

The Iowa Association for Behavior Analysis annual members' meeting was held November 4, 2016, in West Des Moines, Iowa, in conjunction with the fourth annual conference. Jesse Logue was elected president-elect. Lisa Daniel was elected to another term as our secretary/treasurer, and new officers, Brenda Bassingwaithe and Emily Donovan were elected as members of the Board of Directors.

Conference presenters spoke to the varied interests of the 90 attendees. Dr. Jim Carr (Behavior Analyst Certification Board) presented, "A History of Professional Credentialing in Behavior Analysis" and Dr. Gina Green (Association of Professional Behavior Analysts) presented, "Regulation of ABA Practitioners." Both of these talks were invited to help in efforts toward creating licensure in the state of Iowa. Dr. Joel Ringdahl (University of Georgia) presented, "Variables Affecting the Persistence of Appropriate Communication." Dr. Florence DiGennaro Reed (University of Kansas) presented, "ABCs of Staff Support: Evidence-Based Performance Management." Dr. Matthew O'Brien (University of Iowa Children's Hospital) presented, "Telehealth and Large-N Studies in Behavior Analysis: A Randomized Controlled Trial of Functional Analysis Procedures for Children With Autism." The conference also hosted its first ever student poster presentation.

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 increased, allowing the organization to continue to plan for future opportunities.

Iowa ABA continues to be actively involved in ABAI through member and board participation in the annual convention, including three board members attending the 2016 ABAI annual convention chapter training. 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 hired a lobbyist to pursue licensure in the state of Iowa. Unfortunately, the bill did not pass through the first funnel, with a difficult year for licensure in the state overall. This remains a top priority of the Iowa ABA board and our members. Iowa ABA provided an additional CEU opportunity in the summer

of 2016, with a 3-hour ethics and professional behavior seminar, a first of its kind for the organization.

The fifth annual conference is currently being planned and will be held in West Des Moines on November 3, 2017. Plans are also underway to offer our membership an opportunity for supervisory CEUs in summer 2017.

Louisiana BAA

BY DEREK SHANMAN AND KATIE JENKINS

Mission and History

The Louisiana Behavior Analysis Association (LaBAA) is a nonprofit organization that promotes ABAI'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 as a 501(c)(4) and became an ABAI 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 comprising a president, past president, president-elect, treasurer, and secretary. Current officers are Derek Shanman, Ph.D., BCBA-D, LBA, president; Grant Gautreaux, Ph.D., BCBA-D, LBA, past president; Janice Huber, MA, BCBA, LBA, president-elect; Kakie Fontenot, MEd, BCBA, LBA, treasurer; and Katie Jenkins, MEd, BCBA, LBA, secretary. The LaBAA Board of Directors comprises regional representatives from across the state, a parent representative, and a student representative. Current regional representatives are Chad Favre, MS, BCBA, LBA; Kelly Spears, MS, CCC-SLP, BCBA, LBA; Carmen Vara-Napier, MEd; Brandon Orso, MS, BCBA, LBA; Sydna Oakley, MA, BCBA, LBA; and Lloyd Boudloche, Ed.D., BCBA-D, LBA. Savannah Meier from Texas Tech University is the student representative and Lauren Guy is the parent representative. Elections for all officers and representatives are conducted in April/May every other year.

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 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 230 members in the spring of 2016 to 236 members at the time of writing. Member meetings were held in May 2016 in Chicago during the ABAI annual convention and October 2016 in New Orleans.

Committees

The 2016–2017 Legislative Committee is chaired by 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 forum to review legislation in the 2016 session. Along with continued advocacy and support for the independent regulatory board of behavior analysts, another of LaBAA's top priorities is conducting professional conferences.

The 2016–2017 Social Media Committee maintained a website, www.labaa.net, a Facebook page, and a Twitter account for the purposes of disseminating information about LaBAA, behavior analysis, and related events to the public and LaBAA members. The 2015–2016 chair was Kakie Fontenot. The LaBAA website hosts employment ads, service providers, an ongoing t-shirt fundraiser, and news and updates regarding behavior analytic events.

LaBAA hosted the fourth annual Gulf Coast ABA Conference in October 2016 in New Orleans, Louisiana. The 2016 Conference Committee was chaired by Daniel NoackLeSage and co-chaired by Derek Shanman. Approximately 230 attended the 2-day conference. Presenters and attendees from across the United States took part in workshops, symposia, a poster event, a social, and a keynote address by Jesus Rosales-Ruiz from the University of North Texas. The 2017 Conference Committee is chaired by Derek Shanman and co-chaired by Tricia Thibodeaux.

The first annual LaBAA Award for Distinguished ABA Advocacy was presented to Vondra Etienne-Steib, director of special education in St. James Parish, for her advocacy of ABA in the school system. LaBAA also held its first annual student poster competition during the conference; the winner was Victoria Verdun (Teachers College, Columbia University).

The fifth annual Gulf Coast ABA Conference is scheduled for October 6–7, 2017 in New Orleans at the beautiful Le Meridien Hotel (same location as 2016).

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LaBAA invites all of you to join in on the fun down in the Big Easy! For more information and updates on the conference, go to www.labaa.net. LaBAA membership is included as an option in conference registration.

The 2016-2017 Fundraising Committee was co-chaired by Kakie Fontenot and Janice Huber. The committee conducted raffles and sold items at the 2016 conference.

Other Activities and Initiatives

Last year, LaBAA collaborated with the Louisiana Behavior Analyst Board (LBAB) to conduct an election for open board positions. LaBAA submitted four nominees to the governor's office, three of which were LaBAA members. Two of these members, Alfred Tuminello, Jr., BCBA, LBA, and Scott Williamson, BCBA, LBA, were appointed and are currently serving on the LBAB board.

LaBAA president, Dr. Shanman, represented LaBAA at the APBA affiliate meeting at the annual APBA conference in New Orleans, LA in March 2017. Dr. Shanman, Past President Grant Gautreaux, and member Carmen Vera-Napier, were invited presenters and spoke on observational learning, particularly as it relates to instruction in the school system.

In May 2016, LaBAA hosted an insurance workshop in coordination with Little Star Center of Indiana, put on by Hoosier Association for Behavior Analysis members Vince LaMarca and Angela Vargas. This workshop was attended by approximately 40 LaBAA members.

LaBAA completed one of its primary goals of 2016 with the unveiling of its first public service announcement. The announcement highlights the number of ways, common and less common, that behavior analysis can be applied and continues to be circulated throughout the state of Louisiana and is viewable on the LaBAA website.

As the state of behavior analysis continues to take shape within Louisiana, LaBAA has been very active in ensuring that the development and growth of behavior analysis

remains beneficial to further developing the science of behavior analysis, the practice of behavior analysts, students of behavior analysis, and most importantly consumers of behavior analytic services. We ended 2016 with many of our members joining the new group Louisiana Coalition for Access to Autism Services. This coalition was formed in part to help ensure the future viability of those practicing behavior analysis in Louisiana, as cuts to insurance reimbursements are a constant threat. In addition, the coalition worked with LaBAA members to educate the public and raise awareness about autism services that behavior analysts and others provide.

LaBAA has also entered into conversations with the State Department of Education and will be meeting with the Special Education Directors of Louisiana regarding the promotion and expansion of ABA in schools. LaBAA members have also been working with Medicaid of Louisiana to support this effort.

Maryland ABA

BY CARRIE S. W. BORRERO

The Maryland Association for Behavior Analysis (MABA) held its 19th Annual Meeting in Baltimore, Maryland, December 15–16, 2016. 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 Jesse Dallery (University of Florida), Christine Hughes (University of North Carolina-Wilmington), Kennon Andy Lattal (West Virginia University), Linda LeBlanc (Trumpet Behavioral Health), and Cathleen Piazza (Munroe-Meyer Institute). Additionally, Linda LeBlanc conducted an engaging workshop on the topic of supervision. Three students from University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC), Jessica Becraft, Allen Porter, and Samantha Young, were selected to participate in the MABA Student Paper Symposium. Poster presenters included staff and students

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from organizations such as Bancroft, The Ivymount School and Programs, Kennedy Krieger Institute, and The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. We would like to thank our sponsors for their continued support of MABA.

At the conclusion of the conference, Christine Accardo (The Shafer Center) stepped down as president, Louis Hagopian (Kennedy Krieger Institute) assumed the office of president, and Jolene Sy (UMBC) was elected president-elect. Cara Phillips (Kennedy Krieger Institute) was elected member-at-large, and Noor Javed (UMBC) was elected student representative. We would like to thank the executive committee for their time and dedication.

Plans are currently underway for the 20th Annual Meeting, to be held on Friday, December 15, 2017 in Baltimore, Maryland. Speakers will include Pat Friman (Boys Town), SungWoo Kahng (University of Missouri), Tiffany Kodak (University of Wisconsin-Madison), Cynthia Pietras (Western Michigan University), and Alan Poling (Western Michigan University). Additionally, Tiffany Kodak will conduct a pre-conference workshop on Thursday, December 14, 2017. 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 <http://www.mdaba.org>.

Massachusetts ABA

BY JOE VEDORA

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 BCBAs 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 behavior analysts seeking licensure and advocating on their behalf to ensure applications are processed in a timely manner.
- Assisting with the development of a bill that would create a separate licensing board for behavior analysts.
- Supporting the expansion of insurance coverage for ABA services.
- Advocating for timely reimbursement of ABA services by state funding sources.
- 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. This included assisting with the development of a bill that would create a separate licensing board for behavior analysts. Such a board would comprise behavior analysts and would focus solely on

the licensure of behavior analysts, rather than multiple disciplines under the mental health board.

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

- **University Coordinators Committee:** The members of this committee focus on addressing areas of common interest such as licensure and impending changes to the regulations (e.g., ending of a grandfathering period), curriculum support, supervision and mentoring issues, research collaboration, and participation in the annual conference. The committee also worked to formalize guidelines for student representative positions. 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 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. The committee is also working on developing a survey to better understand the roles and responsibilities of behavior analysts working in public schools. Rachel Freedman and Bob Ross co-chair the committee; active committee participants include Dan Almeida, Christina Stuart, Brian Ziman, Lisa Gurdin, and Jason Zeigler.
- **The Annual Conference Committee:** MassABA has hosted a conference for each of the past 6 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, presenting, “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

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fourth year in a row. The 2017 conference has already sold out and features several keynote speakers, including Robert Horner, Tom Freeman, and Lori Frost. There are also numerous notable invited speakers, including Tiffany Kodak, Anna Petursdottir, Laura Grow, Alice Shillingsburg, Laura Seiverling, Mary Jane Weiss, Michael Dorsey, Bobby Newman, Missy Olive, Tom Byrne, Robert Ross, and Judah Axe.

- **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 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 the 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. Additionally, MassABA worked closely with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts to add billable treatment planning time to cases receiving ABA.

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.

MassABA also received the Autism Insurance Resource Center's 2017 Champion Award. The Autism Insurance Resource Center provides information, technical assistance, trainings, webinars, and other resources on issues related to medical insurance for autism treatment. The award was given to MassABA for its support of the center and families who need help accessing ABA treatment.

Mid-American ABA

BY JULIE A. ACKERLUND BRANDT

The Mid-American Association for Behavior Analysis (MABA) is a regional affiliate of ABAI. 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 14–15 in Wisconsin Dells, WI at the Chula Vista Resort

& Waterpark. More than 150 people attended the convention, which featured an outstanding speaker lineup. The 2016 MABA president, Carla Lagorio (University of Wisconsin–Eau Claire), began the conference with opening remarks. After the opening remarks, she gave her presidential address entitled, “What Ought We To Do? Who Ought We To Be? Some Lingerin’ Questions for Behavior Analysts.” Jonathan Baker (Western Michigan University) gave the next symposium, “Behavioral Gerontology: State of the Science, 1999–2016.” This was followed Nicole Rodriguez (University of Nebraska Medical Center’s Munroe Meyer Institute), who presented a symposium entitled, “Teaching Children With Autism to Request Help with Difficult Tasks,” and Jessica Weafer (University of Chicago), presenting, “Inhibitory Control and Risk for Drug Abuse,” to close out the morning.

The afternoon began with Jennifer Asmus (University of Wisconsin–Madison), who presented, “Shaping Best Practices in Assessment and Intervention: School Problem Solving Teams as the Unit of Analysis,” which was followed by Kevin Luczynski (University of Nebraska Medical Center’s Munroe Meyer Institute), whose talk was entitled, “In-Home Measurement and Treatment of Pediatric Sleep Disturbance With Children Diagnosed With Autism.” Closing out our Friday session were Kerri Peters (University of Florida), who presented a symposium, “Assessment and Intervention for Core Features of Autism,” and David Maguire (UT Health Science Center at San Antonio), who spoke on the link between impulsivity and drug abuse using choice procedures. MABA then held an open business meeting and the day ended with poster presentations by students and faculty. This year’s convention featured 25 posters representing work conducted at eight different institutions. The 2016 MABA conference also included the fourth-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.

Richard Smith (University of North Texas) was our first presenter on Saturday morning with his symposium, “Faster, Easier, Safer: Evolution of Functional Assessment Procedures to Improve Efficiency and Reduce Risk.” His presentation was 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)—Adam Briggs (Munroe Meyer Institute). Adam’s talk was entitled, “Investigation of Differential Reinforcement of Alternative Behavior Without Extinction for Escape-Maintained Problem Behavior.” The second winner of our Forrest J. Files Student Travel Award—Amy Henley (University of Kansas)—presented, “Nickel-and-Dimed: A Crowdsourced Behavioral Economic Approach to Analog OBM Research.” Both

student award winners presented a 20-minute report on their findings. This was followed by a symposium by Heather McGee (Western Michigan University) entitled, "Look Before You Leap! Using Behavioral Systems Analysis to Plan Large-Scale Organizational Change Initiatives" and Erica Feuerbacher (Carroll College) presenting a talk entitled, "What Does Man's Best Friend See in Us: Using Behavior Analysis to Study the Human-Dog Relationship." Jeff Tiger (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee), the 2016 president-elect and 2017 president of MABA, ended the conference with his closing remarks.

We are looking forward to the upcoming 2017 convention, which is slated to be held November 3–4 in Milwaukee, WI at the Hyatt Regency Milwaukee. 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 \$35 for students and \$100 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, one to two students are annually awarded the Forrest J. Files Student Researcher Award to help offset travel costs.

The current president of MABA is Jeff Tiger (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee), and the president-elect is Thomas Critchfield (Illinois State University). More information about MABA, the annual convention, student awards, registration information, and joining our email list can be found at the organization's website, <http://www.mid-aba.com>, or by contacting the operations coordinator, Julie Ackerlund Brandt (The Chicago School of Professional Psychology) at jbrandt@thechicagoschool.edu.

Minnesota Northland ABA

BY ASHLEY WARLING-SPIEGEL

Greetings from the Minnesota Northland Association for Behavior Analysis! We welcomed many new faces to the executive council this year, including Ashley Warling-Spiegel as president, Michele Traub as conference chair, Matt Newquist as full member liaison, Trista Linn as treasurer/secretary, Icha Arief as Southern MN representative, Amber Bruns as South Dakota representative, Holly Johnson as North Dakota representative, and Sara Snow as student liaison.

In 2016, MNABA's legislative liaison, Eric Larsson, continued to work at the capitol in support of autism insurance for ABA-based therapy. We also continued to work toward licensure for behavior analysts in Minnesota, and 2017 brings us closer to licensure. We will continue to work to expand the opportunity for behavior analysts to practice in the Minnesota Northland.

Due to challenges finding presenters, we weren't able to hold our annual Data Blitz this year. We look forward to

bringing this back for our members in 2017.

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 <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Minnesota-Northland-Association-for-Behavior-Analysis-MNABA/108618934790>.

MNABA closed 2016 with the annual conference at the Minneapolis Marriott in downtown 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 challenging behavior, led by Dr. Pamela Osnes, was a great source of discussion on problem behavior when behavior analysts work with a team. On Friday, conference-goers attended stimulating presentations on a variety of topics from Dr. Osnes ("Thoughts and Themes After 40 Years of Practicing Behavior Analysis"); a panel discussion, "Ethics in Applied Behavior Analysis," with Dr. Eric Larsson, Dr. Molli Luke, and Dr. Tim Moore; Dr. Moore ("Promoting Treatment Adherence Within a Behavior Analysis Framework"); Dr. Brian Greer ("Strategies to Mitigate the Recurrence of Problem Behavior Following Functional Communication Training"); Kevin Schlichenmeyer ("The Role of Analysis in Creating Meaningful Treatments"); Dr. Luke ("The Evolution of Certification Standards for Behavior Analysts: A History"); Dr. Larsson ("Update on MN Behavior Analytic Licensure Bill"); Dr. Jonathan Miller ("Why Weight? A Call for Behavior Analysts to Address Obesity"); Dr. Rachel Freeman ("Using Data, Systems, and Practices to Embed Person-Centered and Behavioral Support Approaches Within Organizations Supporting People With Disabilities"); and Dr. Jessica Simacek ("An Overview of the UMN Telehealth Model: Parent-Implemented Communication and Challenging Behavior Intervention for Children With Developmental Disabilities").

We are very much looking forward to our MNABA 2017 conference, scheduled for September 21–22. Please check www.mnaba.org soon for details on registration and presenters—we would love to see you in Minnesota!

Missouri ABA

BY JAMIE M. SEVERTSON

The Missouri Association for Behavior Analysis (MOABA) is an organization founded to support and promote scientific research on basic principles of behavior and the effective and ethical application of those principles across the great state of Missouri. This year we said "so long" to John Guercio, who served as MOABA president for 5 years. John plans to remain an active MOABA member through committee work, and we thank him for his past and continued service to our organization. Our board welcomed Jamie M. Severtson, Ph.D., BCBA-D,

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LBA, from Southeast Missouri State University as our new president beginning in 2017. Dr. Severtson serves alongside Jenny Frisbee (vice president), Todd Streff (treasurer), Jennifer Nowak (secretary), SungWoo Kahng (member-at-large), and Duane Lundervold (member-at-large).

MOABA's primary event since our conception has been our annual conference held in November, which was a great success in 2016. We offered six conference presentations and four workshops, and our invited presenters included Tim Vollmer, Aubrey Daniels, Johnathan Baker, Mark Shriver, Melissa Nosik, Jamie Waldvogel, Scott Gaynor, Jane Barbin, and our own Terry Rogers. Our 2017 conference line-up is currently taking shape, and we are proud and excited to welcome Greg Hanley, Raymond Miltenberger, Florence DiGennaro Reed, and Derek Reed to our great state in November. We will be announcing additional speakers and workshop presenters soon. Our speakers and topics are selected based on member feedback, and our members have consistently asked for topics that demonstrate the breadth of behavior analysis and offer information that they can incorporate into their practice. In the past, MOABA has also been actively involved at the state level by providing input on practice issues through publishing position statements and offering input on state legislation, and we will continue to serve our members in this capacity through our revitalized Legislative Committee.

Goals for 2017

The field of behavior analysis is growing, and our organization is evolving to meet the needs of the changing landscape in Missouri. We want to be an inclusive organization with membership that represents all regions of our state. With this in mind, the board has already been very busy in 2017. We appointed an interim student representative, Madison Jameson, who is completing her master of arts in applied behavior analysis at Southeast Missouri State University. She will serve as the student representative until elections are held in the fall. We are breathing life into our committee infrastructure, and we have appointed members to serve on these committees from all parts of the state. We are hoping to have fully functioning Membership, Continuing Education, Publications, and Legislative committees by summer. According to our bylaws, committee members may serve a 1-year term and can be reappointed. In 2017, our main goals are to (a) recruit more professional and student members from across the state, (b) survey our members to identify needs specific to their region, (c) provide more frequent communication with our members through social media and a revamped quarterly newsletter, and (d) plan quarterly events that are held in different regions or offered online to ensure that the needs of our members are being met. We are currently planning a survey for all BCBA's, BCaBA's, and RBT's in the state as a first step in

meeting our goals and planning for next year's conference, including a possible change in venue. If you are interested in being active in MOABA, please contact us about joining a committee and let us know what the needs are for you and your region or offer a suggestion for one of our quarterly events. We would love to hear from you!

Join Us!

If you are a student, BCBA, BCaBA, RBT, or if you are interested in behavior analysis, please become a member and have in voice in what MOABA does for you and our state in the future: <http://www.moaba.org/>.

Nevada ABA

BY JARED A. CHASE

The Nevada Association for Behavior Analysis (NABA) seeks to grow and increase membership and active involvement within the organization. Chapter membership is currently at 220 and growing. NABA offers four levels of membership (Sustaining, Full, Affiliate, 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 an important part of their professional lives.

NABA held its 2016 conference at the Whitney Peak Hotel in Reno, NV, October 21–23, offering a non-concurrent event featuring an outstanding line-up with over 200 participants in attendance. The conference showcased the diversity of behavior analysis with presentations across experimental, applied, and theoretical areas. Notable speakers included Michael Cameron (The Cedar Group/California State University, Northridge), Peter Gerhardt (Virginia Institute of Autism), Carol Pilgrim (University of North Carolina Wilmington), Mark Dixon (Southern Illinois University), Linda Parrott Hayes (University of Nevada, Reno), Mark Mattaini (University of Illinois, Chicago), Gregory Madden (Utah State University), and Melissa Nosik (Behavior Analyst Certification Board). Additionally, Michael Cameron offered a workshop on ethics while Molly Dubuque (University of Louisville) conducted a supervision workshop.

Presentations included talks on advanced verbal behavior/relational frame theory, stimulus equivalence, morality, weight management and exercise adherence, behavioral economics of delay discounting, behavioral systems, evidence-based practices, education training, updates from the Behavior Analyst Certification Board, and a panel

discussion on how behavior analysis can facilitate and effect change. The conference offered up to 16 continuing education credits for BACB credentialed individuals, which included a workshop on ethics and another on supervision. NABA supported a range of student work through the Student Research Presentation Award (recipient: Amber Maraccini) and a well-attended poster session.

In our efforts to increase membership and disseminate information, NABA had an Expo poster and held a business meeting at the 43rd ABAI Annual Convention in Denver, CO. NABA also published our annual newsletter with relevant updates from around the state.

This year, NABA has created a Dissemination Subcommittee and a Legislative Subcommittee to help keep our members current on events that may influence their education, work, and behavior analytic practices. Additionally, NABA will host the annual conference October 20–22, 2017 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 short 45-minute drive to beautiful Lake Tahoe. Speakers will include Fran McSweeney (Washington State University), Leonard Green (Washington University in St. Louis), Sigrid Glenn (University of North Texas), Jonathan Tarbox (University of Southern California), Robert Koegel (University of California, Santa Barbara), and George Sugai (University of Connecticut). Additionally, Tyra Sellers (Utah State University) will offer a workshop on supervision and Jordan Bonow (VA Sierra Nevada Health Care System) will provide a workshop on suicide prevention and awareness. NABA will continue to support students through presentation opportunities via the Student Research Presentation Award and poster session 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 you can visit our website (www.nevadaaba.org), connect with us on LinkedIn, like us on Facebook, and follow us on Twitter (@NABAOfficial).

New Hampshire ABA

BY KIM M. KELLY

The New Hampshire Association for Behavior Analysis (NHABA) was formed in 2013 to promote the ethical and competent practice of behavior analysis in the state of New Hampshire. During its brief existence, NHABA has

had many accomplishments under its original executive committee of Thea Davis (president), Cathy Booth (vice president), Jen Post (treasurer), and Rachel Alling (secretary), including the organization of two well-attended regional conferences and the establishment of the association as a 501(c)(3) in June 2016. In November 2016, NHABA membership elected a new executive committee: Dr. Kim Kelly (president), Dr. Le'Ann Milinder (vice president), Brianne Fredericks (treasurer), and Jocelyn Hampoian (secretary). A formal position of past president was established, and Thea Davis continues to be an NHABA executive team member. The association appreciates the extraordinary efforts of the founding members and looks forward to their continued involvement in the organization.

Highlights for 2016 included several free CE events for members, and NHABA hosted its second professional conference. This educational event was held in October 2016 and was an enormous success. The exceptional speaker line-up included Dr. Jim Carr, Dr. Iser Deleon, Dr. Adel Naldowski, Dr. Amanda Kelly, and Dr. Matthew Normand. A panel presentation by local practitioners Matt Cicora, Peg Chaffee, Gayle Perreault, and Dr. Le'Ann Milinder completed the day. The conference was well attended by practitioners and educators from across New England and was followed by a NHABA fund-raising concert held at a restaurant in downtown Manchester. The social after party featured the local band Duty Free and brought in \$600 of donations to the organization. Members agreed to use the funds for free educational events sponsored and presented by NHABA and its organizational members. Topics will include toilet training, helping children sleep better, eating difficulties, and using routines to support happy, healthy children. These educational seminars are an opportunity for the association to address its mission of promoting awareness of behavior analysis and the chapter's services, and to give back to the families and educators of New Hampshire.

NHABA has several priorities for the upcoming year in addition to sponsoring free educational events. These include building relationships among members, solidifying an independent infrastructure, expanding the membership base, sponsoring an annual conference, and laying the groundwork for licensure of behavior analysts in the state of New Hampshire. In order to meet the needs of the membership, NHABA distributed a survey prior to the January meeting asking members about their interests, concerns, and how the chapter could be useful to them. Members also gave feedback on preferred conference speakers and topics.

The chapter's annual meeting was held in January at a sports complex in southern New Hampshire. This provided members an opportunity to socialize and network with other practitioners following the event.

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At the business meeting, we developed plans for the upcoming year based on our priorities listed above, assigned tasks, and then were informed by a 1.5 hour CE event entitled, "Supervision Tools, Task Analysis, and Shaping," presented by the chapter's vice president, Dr. Le'Ann Milinder. Following the meeting, members retired to the restaurant to socialize and dine. It was an enjoyable and productive experience, and it is anticipated that we will do a similar community building event next year.

Following two successful conferences, the association accrued resources to invest in maturing the chapter, which included building an infrastructure that would carry over to future executive committees. To this end, we established a permanent NHABA mailing address at 1 Hardy Road #147, Bedford, NH, 03110 and can now be reached via our email address at nh.aba603@gmail.com. We revised the association's bylaws to better reflect the current practices of the chapter and to further define scope of responsibility; these revisions were passed unanimously. Additionally we developed a conflict of interest policy for executive and board members and filed our first 990 this year as a nonprofit organization. We also revised and expanded our website and have plans to make this a key resource for ABA in the state—please check us out at NHABA.net and leave your comments and feedback. Similarly, our Facebook page was changed from a closed group to an open account in October and can now serve as an information resource for members and nonmembers alike. Please like us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/NewHampshireABA>.

NHABA continues to offer organizational membership for a very nominal annual fee (\$15) to all those interested in or practicing behavior analysis. This year we are focusing on expanding our membership base, with an emphasis on recruiting students and engaging more New Hampshire ABA organizations. NHABA holds quarterly meetings (January, April, July, and October) and a free BCBA Type 2 CE event is offered at each gathering (1 or 1.5 CEs). Based on membership feedback in our survey, the CE events have an emphasis on ethics and supervision in order to meet our credentialing requirements. The membership application and meeting information are available on our website. Please consider becoming a member of NHABA and supporting the important work of the organization.

NHABA will hold its third conference this fall and anticipates that it will follow suit with previous conferences and be a well-attended event with top-notch speakers and sponsors. In addition to the stellar group of invited speakers, this year the chapter is considering local professional and student paper submissions. The 1-day event will be Saturday, September 30, 2017 at the Southeastern Regional Education Service Center in Bedford, New Hampshire. We are pleased to announce that our keynote speaker will be Gregory Hanley, Ph.D., BCBA-D. Our other two

conferences sold out quickly, so please register early!

Finally, in January, NHABA developed a small subcommittee to address licensure of behavior analysts in the state of New Hampshire. Committee members have spoken with other chapter representatives who have been involved in enacting licensure legislation and are closely following the progress of the Connecticut licensure bill.

NHABA presented a poster this year at the ABAI annual convention in Colorado. We hope you stopped by to check us out and learn more about our work in New Hampshire. For more information about chapter meetings, membership, sponsorship opportunities, or the work of NHABA, please contact us on Facebook, our webpage, or email us at nh.aba603@gmail.com.

New York State ABA

BY FRANK CICERO

Although I cannot believe an entire year has passed, I am excited to once again be writing the ABAI chapter update for the New York State Association for Behavior Analysis (NYSABA). We have been busy with association projects, communicating with our membership, and having fun furthering the field of behavior analysis throughout the state. In October, we held our 27th annual conference at the Desmond Hotel and Conference Center in Albany. Following the trend of the past several years, attendance was the highest yet. We were honored to hear keynote addresses by Drs. Iser Deleon and Wayne Fuqua. The conference was a great way for behavior analysts, teachers, speech therapists, educators, psychologists, other related service professionals, students of behavior analysis, and consumers of our services to gather together for 2 days in the discussion of our field. NYSABA has a tradition of recognizing people who have made significant contributions to the field of behavior analysis through awards presented at the annual conference. This year the John W. Jacobson Award for Consistent and Long Lasting Contributions to Behavior Analysis was presented to Dr. Wayne Fuqua. Dan Lesinski was presented with the Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Field of Behavior Analysis in New York. The Award for Excellence in Legislative Leadership was presented to Lorri Unumb. Heather Walker received the Excellence in Service to NYSABA Award. The Jeffrey P. Hamelin Student Research Award winners were Mirela Cengher (first place) and Charlene Agnew (second place).

Board members this year included Frank Cicero, president; Dana Reinecke, president-elect; Deborah Napolitano, past president and Legislative Committee co-chair; Linda Matey, treasurer; Nicole DeRosa, secretary; Emily Jones, representative-at-large and Education Committee chair; Dan Lesinski, Consumer Committee representative; Denise Lombardi, Finance Committee chair; Tricia Moss, representative-at-

large and Student Activities Committee chair; Nicole Pearson, Marketing Committee co-chair; Shari Schatzman, Conference Committee co-chair; Kim Shamoun, Legislative Committee co-chair; Niall Toner, Membership Committee chair; Heather Walker, Marketing Committee co-chair; and Nancy Dib and Cindy Alterson, representatives-at-large. In January, we welcomed Bobby Newman and Patricia D'Ateno to the board as representatives-at-large. In 2016, the Board of Directors spent considerable time reviewing and updating the association bylaws so that they are an accurate representation of the workings of NYSABA. The bylaws were approved by the general membership in October. Although NYSABA membership continues to grow, significantly more members are needed in order to push forward with important legislative issues happening in the state. Unfortunately, it is still the case that the number of licensed and certified behavior analysts in the state significantly outnumber the number of members in NYSABA. All behavior analysts in the state are urged to join so that our voices can be heard by the state legislature. If you are not a member of NYSABA, become one. If you are already a member of NYSABA, get a colleague to join. If you and your colleagues are already members we thank you and encourage you to become active in the association.

With state licensing laws governing behavior analysis fully going into effect in 2016, it was an interesting year to say the least. NYSABA worked alongside the state licensing board educating our membership on the processes and procedures for becoming licensed in the state and the parameters of the practice of behavior analysis. Talks on these topics were held at the annual conference, information was disseminated through eblasts and on our website, and a webinar was co-presented by NYSABA's Legislative Committee co-chairs and the BACB. Given the complexities of the licensing laws in New York, NYSABA continues to stay abreast of the latest information coming out of the state so that our members can be updated as soon as possible about any issues affecting the practice of behavior analysis. One of

the biggest issues affecting behavior analysts in New York continues to be the restriction of our scope of practice to the treatment of individuals with a diagnosis of autism or a related disorder and holding a prescription to receive behavior analytic services. Unless behavior analysts are in an exempt setting (exemptions possibly ending in 2020) or hold another license (e.g., licensed psychologist, licensed social worker), we are restricted from practicing outside of autism. Student fieldwork hours, completed for licensure, will also not count if done outside of autism. Despite decades of research supporting a broader scope of practice, New York State restricts our practice. NYSABA is currently in the process of an active campaign to address these restrictions. 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. In an effort to support grassroots legislative efforts while encouraging collaboration between behavior analysts in different regions of the state, NYSABA began co-hosting local "meet ups" with volunteer sponsor agencies. We so far have held meet ups in Buffalo, Rochester, Suffolk County, and New York City. Additional meet ups are being scheduled in other locations. Meet ups are a great way for behavior analysts to find out information, network with other behavior analysts, and have a fun evening with friends and colleagues. Anyone interested in suggesting or hosting a meet up in their local area should contact us at info@nysaba.org.

We are now planning for our 28th annual conference, being held in Albany October 26 and 27, 2017. Keynote speakers include Dr. Gregory Hanley and Mr. Rich Gold. We are also planning talks from more than 10 invited speakers, presentation submissions from members, a fun and informative research poster session, and the third annual NYSABA Thursday Night Social. We hope to see you there. Also, be on the lookout for our new and

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improved NYSABA website, which will include an interactive, members-only section. Lastly, NYSABA is proud to announce the start of NYSABA Parent and Family, a new initiative to support collaboration between professionals and families. NYSABA Parent and Family will be run by family members of consumers of behavior analytic services along with information and input from the NYSABA Board. Keep checking www.NYSABA.org for information on the launching of the NYSABA Parent and Family website as well as other information regarding the practice of behavior analysis in New York.

That's all from New York State. Wishing everyone a happy and healthy 2017–2018.

Oregon ABA

BY EMILY KEARNEY

Over the last year, ORABA has continued to provide quarterly continuing education opportunities and has seen an increase in attendance at those meetings. Training topics included pediatric feeding disorders and supervising and conducting functional behavioral assessment (led by Dr. Ennio Cipani) and an overview on upholding professional standards of ABA practitioners (led by Dr. Gina Green of APBA). Legislature continued to be a top priority for us in 2016 as the BARB further refined laws relating to supervision and grandfathered providers. ORABA continues to facilitate a monthly journal club to ensure that practitioners and students stay on top of current research in ABA. We now offer access to our quarterly meetings via streaming software to better reach practitioners who don't live in the Portland metro area. Our membership has more than doubled in the past few years as state legislation requiring insurance coverage of ABA for children with autism has increased the need for local practitioners. This year, ORABA board members have attended ABAI and CALABA and are planning a state convention for this fall.

South Carolina ABA

BY ADAM BREWER

The South Carolina Association for Behavior Analysis (SCABA) was proud to celebrate our eighth year with our October 24–25, 2016 conference in beautiful downtown Greenville, SC. The conference was our largest event to date thanks to our leadership: chapter president Cecilia Knight (Institute for Behavioral Training), vice president Adam Brewer (Florida Institute of Technology), secretary Scott Braud (Project Hope Foundation), treasurer Aaron Check (Aaron Check Consulting), past president Meghan Helman (Project Hope Foundation), and many wonderful SCABA volunteers.

Invited speakers at this year's conference included Dr. Aubrey Daniels (Aubrey Daniels International), Dr. Patrick McGreevy (Self Employed), Dr. Nathan Call

(Marcus Autism Center), and Dr. Byron Wine (Florida Institute of Technology). Our workshop and keynote address was delivered by Dr. Daniels, who challenged behavior analysts to take a close look at whether they practice what they preach. Dr. Patrick McGreevy spoke about functional skills and curriculum-based assessments. Dr. Nathan Call enlightened our group with his talk on advancing behavior analysis by extending the continuum of research questions/methods. Dr. Byron Wine ended our day with a fabulous presentation on improving employee performance through effective training.

Our eighth annual conference had 141 attendees with 106 people attending the workshop that opened our event. SCABA had 148 members in 2016; 79 of those members were professionals, 29 were general members and 33 were student members. We had eight posters presented and the winner of our poster contest was Casey Gregory (University of West Florida) with her poster, "A Comparison of No-No Prompting and Errorless Learning on Errored Responding of Previously Taught Skills Within Discrete Trial Training With Children With Autism." We were also pleased to have three major sponsors for our event, ABX Solutions, Early Autism Project, and The Shape of Behavior. We were happy to also elect Anna Craft (Project Hope Foundation) as our vice president for 2017.

For more information about our conferences, membership, or upcoming events, please visit our website www.sc-aba.org or like us on Facebook (South Carolina Association for Behavior Analysis). We would like to invite you to attend our 2017 conference at Myrtle Beach, SC, October 16–17; featuring Laura Turner, Dave Wilder, John Borrero, and David Richman as speakers.

Southeastern ABA

BY CHRISTY 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 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 at 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 and 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. By SEABA tradition, 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 34th annual SEABA conference will be October 19–21,

2017 in Savannah, GA. More information, registration, and CEU pre-purchase are available at www.SEABAonline.org.

Tennessee ABA

BY JAMES N. MEINDL

The Tennessee Association for Behavior Analysis (TABA) was established in 1997 and serves to advance awareness, development, and access to behavior analysis across the state. Our organization has steadily grown over the years and we now have close to 350 members and counting. This represents a 37% increase from 2015 and we expect this trend to continue, particularly with student members. Each year, TABA hosts an impressive four conferences—our annual conference plus three additional regional conferences held in the West, Middle, and East regions of Tennessee. The annual conference serves as a meeting ground and idea-sharing forum for all behavior analysts across Tennessee, whereas the regional conferences allow the diverse regional needs to be more closely met.

Our 19th annual conference was a tremendous success with nearly 400 attendees who joined TABA for three days, October 27–29, in the beautiful Music City Center in downtown Nashville, TN. This conference was well attended thanks in large part to the excellent line-up of speakers. Our invited speakers included Patrick C. Friman (Boys Town Center for Behavioral Health), who spoke about behavioral pediatrics in primary care; Gina Green (executive director of APBA), who provided an update on APBA activities as well as important information on CPT codes for adaptive behavior services; and Jeffrey Tiger (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee), who spoke about teaching tolerances to delayed reinforcement. Our final conference day was devoted to a workshop on experimental analysis skills in school-based practitioners and was presented by Brenda J. Bassingthwaite (University of Iowa Children's Hospital) and Sean D. Casey (Iowa Department of Education). In addition to our excellent invited speakers, the TABA conference showcased 25 symposia and paper presentations and 17 poster presentations on content that included clinical, community, and educational practice, as well as ethical, conceptual, and research issues.

Beyond the actual presentations, the TABA conference also hosted a variety of exciting activities and events each day. Each year, TABA presents three students with BACB exam reimbursement awards, which are designed to support and congratulate student members who have recently become BCBAs. The most recent recipients include Chelle Harbin, Mallory Garrett, and Krystal Kennedy. TABA also organized and hosted special roundtable discussions on a range of topics. These roundtable discussions allow conference attendees to have more direct interaction with presenters in a relaxed forum. We also hosted another lively and well-attended debate with the winner being

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decided by audience applause. The debate topic for this last conference was whether behavior analysts should use only evidence-based practices. Finally, we continued our new tradition of closing the conference with our exciting Student Behaviorallympics. This is an event wherein students engage in friendly competition across several events—a shaping race, terminology face-off, schedule charades, and drive-by visual analysis. Several awards are presented and it serves as a fun vehicle for promoting student interaction across universities. On the topic of students, TABA would like to sincerely thank the tremendous number of student volunteers who made the TABA annual conference possible!

Our TABA Executive Committee and committee chairs remain a strong presence in our chapter. Current Executive Committee members include James Meindl as president, Esther Bledsoe as West TN representative, Katie Zimmerman as Middle TN representative, Elizabeth Ginder as East TN representative, Erin Collins as West TN student officer, Emily Mork as Middle TN student officer, and Argue Chitiyo as East TN student officer. Our committee chairs include Nea Houchins-Juarez and Tiffany Denton (co-chairs; Continuing Education), Shiloh Beene (Publications), Mary Lees (Social Media), Jason Grosser (Professional Standards), and Allison Crawford (Membership). Finally, Beth Urbanczyk remains on as our TABA liaison to the Tennessee ABA Licensure Board, and Jason Otto continues on as our strong and steady director of operations. Together, this group looks to continue the TABA goals of hosting top-notch conferences, expanding benefits of TABA memberships, further defining and expanding our strategic plan for meeting the TABA mission statements, working closely with the legislature on issues of importance to behavior analysts, and serving as a driving force for behavior analysis across the state of Tennessee.

Washington ABA

BY CHARNA MINTZ

In May 2016, Chris Jones, BCBA-D, completed his term as our first president, moving into the position of past president while Charna Mintz, BCBA-D, took over the helm. Our current Executive Committee is also composed of our secretary, Stacey Shook, BCBA-D, and our treasurer, Ryan Hannig, BCBA. The Washington Association for Behavior Analysis (WABA) is supported by the ongoing efforts of our Education, Conference, Public Policy, and Public Relations committees. These are overseen by an amazing group of volunteer WABA members who work tirelessly to support our membership.

As in recent years, Washington State has been very busy preparing for licensure. We began the process over 3 years ago and are closing in on the effective date of July 1, 2017, after which all BCBAs, BCaBAs, and RBTs will need to be licensed in the state in order to practice applied behavior

analysis. Our Public Policy Committee has been hard at work participating in all of the rule-making meetings held by the Department of Health, and our Executive Council has been holding informational meetings for all of our current members. We are excited to see all of our hard work become a reality in Washington State.

Our Education Committee has also been very busy providing free CEUs to our members through evening webinars. We began the process by conducting surveys to solicit topics and have focused on securing presenters who have expertise in the interest areas of our members. Over the last year, we have held two successful webinars: A panel discussion on working with adults with developmental disabilities (May 2016) and a training on treating sleep challenges in children (January 2017). The committee currently aims to present three presentations a year.

We held our third annual conference on August 12, 2016, at Bellevue College, hosting three keynote speakers: Jonathan Tarbox, Julie Vargas, and Carl Binder. As our attendance has been increasing steadily over the last few years, we outgrew our preferred space. As such, we are excited to announce that our 2017 conference will be August 18 in a beautiful space on the Green River College campus in Auburn, Washington. We have secured exceptional speakers including Pat Friman, Patrick McGreevy, and Emily Sandoz. We are very excited about this lineup and hope we will have the best turnout yet!

This year, WABA implemented a new initiative focused on adult services. We have started a committee composed of experts in our community with the goal of educating and recruiting local behavior analysts to work in this target area. Members of this committee participated in both a statewide webinar as well as a presentation at one of our student informational meetings. We are very proud to partner with our community, helping to meet the needs of our residents. The community reached out and WABA responded!

It has been a great year and it is only getting better. We cannot wait to see what the next 12 months bring to Washington State.

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 2016, we held our ninth 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! William Murray 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.” Janet Twyman, Claudia Droessel, Tom Waltz, Jamie Salter, Katharine Croce, Ruth Anne Rehfeldt, and Bob Ross traveled from afar to bring their expertise to Wisconsin and our conference attendees. Matt Nonemacher expertly fundraised, once again, for the 2016 conference. Special thanks go to our sponsors: Achieving Collaborative Treatment (ACT), the Wisconsin Early Autism Project (WEAP), KGH Consulting and Treatment, ABA of Wisconsin, and Caravel Autism Providers.

We also held a “roadshow” data-blitz at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in the spring, where students shared some of their data and findings to members from around the state. Jeff Tiger and Tiffany Kodak from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and Andrew Jost, of ABA of WI, helped bring this great networking opportunity to fruition; many thanks for their continued support of WisABA. In prior years, we’ve traveled to 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 Analysis Certification Board (BACB) certification. Currently, we have over 120 licensed behavior analysts in Wisconsin. Behavior analysis training programs at 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, statewide, are hiring additional BCBA’s. We offer continuing education credits at our

annual conference; many thanks to Jennie Edes-Pierotti for her CE credit acumen!

In 2017, we are preparing to launch a newsletter (currently planned for 2–3 editions per year) for members to keep them 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, as 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 13th year, and building on the enormous success of our ninth conference, WisABA held its 10th annual conference at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, August 7–9, 2017. Alisa Morrison, conference organizer extraordinaire, once again put together a superb lineup. The event included 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. ❖



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Updates From ABAI's Non-U.S.A. Affiliated Chapters

ABA Australia

BY KAREN WONG

The past 18 months have been busy for the Association for Behaviour Analysis Australia (ABA Australia)! We have seen our membership grow significantly and are pleased to report what we have achieved.

Senate Enquiry: September 2015

In 2015, ABA Australia, along with 274 other individuals and organizations, submitted documents to a parliamentary enquiry held in Canberra, ACT entitled, "Current Levels of Access and Attainment of Students With a Disability in the School System and the Impact on Students and Families Associated With Inadequate Level of Support."

Only eight submissions were selected to be presented and our impactful statement was one of them! Dr. Alayna Haberlin and Ms. Alexandra Brown presented to the senators on the Standing Committee on Education and Employment. They introduced the field of ABA, the role of behavior analysts, and how both are helpful to students with disabilities. They then addressed areas of concern with the education system, highlighting the following points:

- Lack of understanding of the importance of ABA in the school system.
- Minimal or no access to ABA or behavior analysts in the classroom.
- Lack of recognition of who is qualified to provide training and expertise in ABA.
- Minimal use of functional behavior assessments and appropriate intervention plans for students presenting with challenging behaviors.
- Lack of accountability for a child's progress.
- Lack of training in special education.

Supervisor Workshop: December 2015

Following the success of our webinars, we hosted a 2-day workshop by Guy Bruce, Ed.D., BCBA-D. Dr. Bruce presented to managers in the field, focusing on supervisory skills and applying organizational behavior management strategies. We are sure attendees have since incorporated these strategies into their practices to improve both client and staff performance.

Association for Behavior Analysis International: June 2016

After much lobbying under the leadership of Alexandra Brown, we were accepted as one of two national Australian affiliated chapters of ABAI. Typically, only one organization per country is accepted, and so we feel extremely honored to be approved. In their acceptance letter, ABAI remarked that it "is a testament to the strength and potential of ABA (Australia), and we look forward to

working together to advance behavior analysis," a sentiment that we dedicate ourselves to working toward daily.

Inaugural Conference: September 2016

It was with great excitement that we closed the year with our first conference. This event was made possible through the collective efforts of our dedicated Conference Committee and board members. We were honored to be joined by distinguished keynote speakers Dr. Bill Heward and Dr. Neil Martin for this event at Melbourne's Monash University.

Our second conference will be in Sydney later this year (date to be announced) with Dr. Jonathan Tarbox, director of research at FirstSteps and program director of the Master of Science in Applied Behavior Analysis at the University of Southern California as our esteemed keynote speaker.

In closing, I would like to thank the board: vice president, Alayna Haberlin; head of committees, Alexandra Brown; secretary, Michelle Furminger; and treasurer, Karen Lyth, for their continued passion and dedication in building this association. Indebted thanks also goes to members of ABA Australia. They are the professionals who work and train others in the field, students who are motivated to learn more about this science and who will form the new generation of behavior analysts, and parents whose untiring quest for evidence-based practices fuels us to make behavior analysis accessible to all.

ABA Germany

BY ELIZABETH SPEER

ABA Deutschland (ABA-D) is a national organization that now includes 39 members, the majority of whom are board certified behavior analysts or board certified assistant behavior analysts. Members of the organization come from all over the world and hold a variety of professional positions. Membership in the organization requires a brief application and a nominal yearly fee that is reduced for members of ABAI as well as for students. Members of ABA-D enjoy benefits such as the opportunity to earn continuing education credits at sponsored events, access to the organization's newsletter, annual face-to-face meetings, and consistent collaboration and feedback from other professionals in a close-knit community.

One of ABA-D's key goals over the past year has been to disseminate current and accurate information regarding applied behavior analysis throughout Germany and other European countries. In 2016, ABA-D released the first volume of its newsletter, edited by Natalie Werner. It is distributed electronically and can be made available to professionals outside of the organization upon request.

The newsletter aims to keep members informed on topics of interest such as professional development and member experiences, articles and publications by other members, and upcoming events regarding applied behavior analysis.

Members of ABA-D were also directly involved with dissemination of information through presentations at conventions and conferences. Some highlights from the year include papers presented at the Eighth Conference of the European Association for Behaviour Analysis in Enna, Italy entitled, "An Examination of the Efficacy of Parent-Implemented Bedtime Fading and Positive Routines on Sleep Onset Latency, Total Sleep Duration and Night Awakenings for Children With Autistic Spectrum Disorder" (Delemere, E., & Dounavi, K., 2016) and "Using Parent-Mediated Intervention to Treat Autism Symptoms in Infants" (Tanner, A., & Dounavi, K., 2016). ABA-D member Dr. Katerina Dounavi, BCBA-D, also had a paper selected for presentation at the ABAAI 42nd Annual Convention in Chicago, Illinois, entitled, "Applied Behavior Analytic Strategies to Improve Procedural Learning of Job Skills in Adults With Developmental Disabilities" (Ramos, C., & Dounavi, K., 2016). ABA-D members will also be presenting at the ABAAI Ninth International Conference in Paris in November 2017, and ABA-D member Benno Böckh, MS, BCBA, will have an article published in the September issue of the German journal *Sprachförderung und Sprach Therapie in Schule und Praxis*.

In addition to presentations and publications, ABA-D members have also been active in continuing to promote ABA throughout Germany as an evidence-based treatment for autism. Robert Schramm, M.Ed., BCBA, of Knospe ABA met with officials in Frankfurt on March 20, 2017, to discuss continued funding for ABA through social services in the region. Robert also started a blog, *ABA Reality Check*, to address misconceptions about ABA as it pertains to the treatment of autism. The blog is available to the public in both English and German and has received positive feedback from professionals throughout Europe.

On February 9, 2017, ABA-D member Elizabeth Speer, M.Ed., BCBA, opened Spark Center for Autism GmbH along with colleagues from the US to bring center-based ABA services to children with autism in the Stuttgart region of Germany, an area that is currently underserved. Spark Center provides ABA services in both English and German and also offers supervision for staff members seeking board certification.

ABA-D intends to continue to promote applied behavior analysis in Germany through continued professional collaboration, CEU opportunities and workshops, and continued production of new volumes of the newsletter. ABA-D also intends to remain involved in shaping public policy in Germany as it relates to funding for applied behavior analysis as a treatment for autism. As

ABA is still relatively new to Germany in its modern form, it remains somewhat controversial. Thus, the organization will continue to act as an official source for translation of behavioral terminology from English to German as well as an official source of information for individuals seeking to address misconceptions about the field.

ABA India

BY SMITA AWASTHI AND RAZIA ALI

ABA India is a not-for-profit non-government organization registered in 2006. In the last 10 years, awareness of behavior analysis has grown in India with many certified behavior analysts practicing in the field of autism and many more seeking to study the science.

Last year was of special significance to India with a delegation visit from ABAAI. ABAAI CEO Maria Malott, Ph.D.; Martha Hübner, Ph.D.; Linda Hayes, Ph.D.; and Ingunn Sandaker, Ph.D. visited India September 18–24 to advance the development of behavior analysis in the most populous democracy in the world. The fact that the Indian government has yet to recognize behavior analysis as a subject of study made this visit even more significant. The delegation led by the ABAAI CEO had hectic interactions with government officials in New Delhi.

The visit started with a high-powered presentation and discussion at the Indian Council of Medical Research, the apex body in India for formulation of policy and promotion of biomedical research in the fields of child and maternal health, communicable diseases, drug addiction, and implementation of practices at the grass-roots level. Various heads of departments involved with national policy were present for this meeting. Future support from international experts with local support from ABA India was discussed, followed by a roundtable meeting with officials from the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. Ideas were exchanged on how ABA India will take a lead role in collaborations with the ministry. The delegation visit was extremely fruitful as we made inroads into government agencies.

A meeting with the press at the 100-year-old Press Club of India provided a highly interactive session between the delegates and journalists from print and electronic media. Further presentations to the university head of the department of psychology was very fruitful for drafting a road map for behavior analysis in India.

Behavior Momentum India, one of the largest organizations working in the field of autism, hosted a dinner to welcome the delegates with a taste of Indian thali at a famous Bollywood restaurant in New Delhi.

Three hectic and fruitful days of meetings with government officials in Delhi were followed by travel to Bangalore. The ABA India team led a meeting between the delegation and the National Institute of Mental Health and

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Neurosciences (NIMHANS), a premier medical institution and university of national importance. The meeting with the director of NIMHANS and head of the Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Services provided insights into the functioning of hospitals in India. Future collaborations with the ABA India team were discussed. Dr. Ingunn Sandaker chaired the meeting while Dr. Maria Malott made an inspiring case study presentation, “Why Some Businesses Succeed and Others Fail.” The evening ended with fusion music by a group of young professionals.

The visit concluded with all members of the delegation making an inspiring presentation as keynote speakers at the Sixth ABA India Conference attended by behavior analysts and students from across the country. The Indian community from across the globe presented papers during this conference in Bangalore. The delegates motivated chapter members to continue with their dissemination work.

Participating in the ABAI 43rd Annual Convention in Denver was an enriching experience for ABA India members. A team of five ABA India members traveled to be a part of this important event. They participated in the affiliated chapter leadership training and networked with other non-U.S. chapters and shared experiences and challenges faced in the development of behavior analysis. The highlights of the event for those who traveled long distances were attending the International Reception and presenting posters and symposia.

ABA of Brazil

BY FELIPE LUSTOSA LEITE

The Brazilian Association of Behavioral Psychology and Medicine (ABPMC, from the Portuguese name)—also known as ABA of Brazil—completed 25 years of existence in 2016. Last year, our national meeting also coincided with the II South American Behavior Analysis Meeting, which occurred in Foz de Iguaçu, Paraná, and had more than 1,500 participants, with speakers from Brazil, USA, Israel, Peru, Colombia, Argentina, and Uruguay.

One of the two main accomplishments of the last board director (whose term ended in 2016) was to put forward the ABPMC Behavior Analysis Certification (Acreditação do Analista do Comportamento) in order to help guarantee quality in behavior analytic services offered throughout the country. The process was established and began certifying behavior analysts in 2015, growing in 2016. We expect to continue to disseminate this process and strive to expand it to certify courses in behavior analysis, ever working toward improvement in the quality of the services offered by professionals of our field.

The other major accomplishment was the consolidation and expansion of ABPMC Community, a program in which talks are given for members of the public who are not behavior analysts, with the aim to disseminate information

about our field throughout the country and create bridges with professionals from other areas. With the help of partners from the whole country, the project now happens continuously in 28 Brazilian cities and Ciudad del Este (Paraguay), promoting behavior analysis in every corner of our vast continental country. For the new board director, we expect to continue expanding the project and hope to move forward in helping to establish guidelines for those interested in taking on community interventions.

The main publication of ABPMC, the *Brazilian Journal of Behavioral and Cognitive Therapy*, has continued its steady increase in quality (when evaluated by the Brazilian agency CAPES) and now strives to achieve international status as a journal, also accepting papers in English and Spanish (besides Portuguese).

A new board director took office in January 2017 and has the main goals (apart from some of those mentioned above) to support online dissemination of and training in behavior analysis through partnerships for online events and help the development of online programmed instruction, thus reaching parts of Brazil without a behavior analytic infrastructure and doing so at low cost for people distant from the field's traditional centers. Additionally, the director hopes to create widespread campaigns to disseminate applied behavior analysis for people seeking such services such as health professionals, members of the judiciary system, and the public at large. This effort began in March with our current president, Felipe Leite, taking part in a public audience in the Fortaleza House of Representatives and opening up space for behavior analysis to take part in policy-making toward people with developmental disorders, which we believe is only a first step in a larger goal to promote behavior analysis to policy-makers.

Finally, we would like to announce that our annual meeting will occur at Universidade Estadual Júlio de Mesquita at Bauru, São Paulo, September 7–10, 2017, where we will also promote, in partnership with the Brazilian Association for Behavior Analysis (ACBr), the I Symposium on the Experimental Analysis of Behavior (Sept. 6) and also conduct a debate forum on topics concerning certification of behavior analysts and problems faced by applied behavior analysts throughout the country.

ABA of Italy (IESCUM)

BY 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, in both research and application. Since its inception, IESCUM has been committed to promoting the full range of behavior analysis's scientific and humanistic potential. From this premise, IESCUM is committed to the training, development, and evaluation of behavior analysis in clinical settings.

Experiential trainings with scholars and professionals like Kelly Wilson, Linda Hayes, and Shahla Ala'i-Rosales in clinical behavior analysis, acceptance and commitment therapy, and functional assessment procedures have been offered in Italy in the last year through IESCU. 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. IESCU views its courses as an opportunity to spread behavior analysis beyond the boundaries of autism treatment.

IESCU has supported the foundation of SIACSA (www.siacsa.org), an Italian association whose aim is to represent behavior analysts operating in different fields and to promote behavior analysis in political and societal contexts. SIACSA was founded late in 2014 and now represents more than 300 Italian behavior analysts.

IESCU has also supported 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. 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 clinical comprehensive fashion.

In 2017, in partnership with ACT Italia, IESCU organized the first Italian conference of third-generation behavior therapies. The conference—named Mindfulness, Acceptance, and Compassion—was held in Milan, Italy, in March 2017 and included the participation of 500 professionals and researchers.

Also in March 2017, IESCU co-organized a week of study and research at the Villa Vigoni venue, on Lake Como in Italy. The conference included the participation of a multidisciplinary group of academics and researchers. The title of the conference, Behavioral Economics and the Politics of Simplification, reflected the intention to debate and share visions of the role of behavioral sciences in economics and politics.

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

Alberta ABA

BY DANA KUZMANOVSKI, NICOLE JEDRZEJEWSKI, VESSELA IVANOVA, AND FIONA PERKINS

We are pleased to announce that the Alberta Association for Behaviour Analysis (AltaABA) is now an affiliated chapter of ABAA!

After an initial meeting in 2013 and some hopeful discussions over the span of 4 years, the vision of a provincial organization devoted to developing, supporting, and enhancing behavior analysis finally became a reality in Alberta. With only 26 certified individuals province-wide as of March 2017, this was an incredible feat and a proud moment for BCBAs in the province!

AltaABA's first general meeting was in February 2017. An executive committee was elected during the general meeting and was followed by an executive board meeting in March 2017 in Calgary, Alberta.

Governance

AltaABA is governed by an executive committee consisting of a president, secretary, treasurer, public relations officer, student member, and members-at-large.

- President: Dana Kuzmanovski, MEd, BCBA
- Secretary: Nicole Jedrzejewski, MA, BCBA
- Treasurer: Fiona Perkins, MSc, BCBA
- Public Relations Officer: Julide Peace, MS, BCBA
- Membership Officer: Renai Sveinson, MPed, ABA, BCBA
- Members-at-Large: Constance Lien, MA, BCBA; Erin Palma, MSc, BCBA; Leny Velasquez, Ph.D., BCBA-D
- Student Member-at-Large: Vessela Ivanova, MEd

Mission and Objectives

The mission of AltaABA is to promote all aspects of the science of behavior analysis in Alberta, including theory, research, and practice, while fostering a culture of excellence, integrity, and expertise. AltaABA will focus on advocacy and the dissemination of information regarding evidence-based practice across the province of Alberta and will provide a forum for professionals to share and develop ideas pertaining to behavior analytic practice. 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.
- Organize an annual business meeting to provide a forum for discussion of the affairs of the chapter.

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Membership

AltaABA membership is open to all persons interested or actively engaged in behavior analysis and will consist of Full, Affiliate, and Student members.

Full Member: Any individual holding at least an undergraduate degree in a discipline directly related to or involving behavior analysis and whose professional commitment includes teaching, research, and/or practice in behavior analysis may apply for membership in this category. A full member shall have been employed in a professional capacity and applying behavior analysis principles for at least 1 year. Full members may vote on policy decisions and in the election of the executive committee of the chapter.

Student Member: Any individual pursuing formal undergraduate or post-graduate training in the discipline of behavior analysis may apply for membership in this category. Such application must be accompanied by documentation certifying the applicant's student status. Student members may vote on policy decisions but not in the election of the executive committee of the chapter.

Affiliate Member: Any individual holding at least a university or college diploma or degree in a discipline related to or involving behavior analysis. Affiliate members may not vote on policy decisions or in the election of the executive committee of the chapter.

Upcoming Activity

2017 will be an exciting year for AltaABA as we move forward with the process of organizing membership procedures, attracting greater professional membership, developing a chapter website, and engaging the province of Alberta through social media.

Our hope for the future is to develop workshops, conferences, and publications in order to further disseminate behavior analysis across the province, and collaborate with other provincial chapters to unite and align best practices across Canada.

Association for the Advancement of Radical Behavior Analysis

BY PAOLA SILVA AND 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 ABAI chapters because we think that by sharing our strategies and successes we are reinforced, learn lessons, instill hope, and are instilled with hope.

Before sharing past successes, we are happy and proud of the success of the 11th European Conference on Behavior-Based Safety and Organizational Behavior

Management, which was organized by our association and took place in Rome (Italy) on June 14, 2017, with three pre-conference workshops on the afternoon of June 13. Dr. Tim Ludwig, Dr. Lori Diener-Ludwig, and Dr. Julie Smith were this year's international invited speakers. The main themes of the conference were the importance of management's leadership inside a behavioral safety process and behavioral-based safety (BBS) applied to healthcare. Since the first research efforts with funding from the Italian Ministry of Health on the application of BBS in healthcare, our association is aggressively trying to spread the adoption of behavior analysis techniques for the management of safety and hygiene behaviors in hospitals.

We also began 2017 with big news for our association and especially for our members: AARBA is now one of the newest associate chapters of ABAI! As a result, our members will automatically become ABAI members, with many of the requisite benefits of the parent organization.

Conferences and dissemination activities

Last year's Annual European Conference (Milan, Italy, June 24–25, 2016) was the biggest conference on applied behavior analysis ever organized in our country! More than 600 attendees (psychologists, psychotherapists, doctors, HSE manager, HR manager, consultants, dentists) participated in the different sessions of the conference, which included presentations on behavior-based safety and performance management, behavioral therapy and behavioral medicine, and behavior analysis in dentistry for patients' compliance to therapies. The international speakers who contributed to this success were the president and the CEO of ABAI, Martha Hübner and Maria Malott, together with Donald Hantula. The main aim of the conference was encourage the adoption of behavior analysis practices in throughout civil society. The event was awarded a gold medal for its high social and moral value from the president of the Italian Republic.

Our chapter president, Dr. Fabio Tosolin, participated in the ABAI 42nd Annual Convention (Chicago, IL, May 27–31, 2016) as an invited speaker with the talk, "Science Needs Experiments, but Experiments Are Not Enough to Get People's and Institutions' Consensus About Science: How to Spread Behavior Analysis."

Every year AARBA participates with its own stand and a couple of sessions at a national exhibition called Ambiente Lavoro (Bologna, Italy, October 19–21, 2016), which is dedicated to occupational safety and health and aims to spread the adoption of behavior-based safety in order to save workers' lives.

AARBA representatives will be present at the ABAI Ninth International Conference (Paris, France, November 14–15, 2017); giving three speeches on our research on behavior-based safety and one symposium on how to disseminate ABA to professionals (non-psychologists)

and design an educational path for psychologists with a behavioral approach. Our president, Dr. Tosolin, will also participate in the panel discussion called, “Assessing the Quality of Behavior-Based Safety Applications: International Efforts to Promote Effective Management of Occupational Health and Safety.”

Research

We would like to highlight the following research activity:

Grant in memory of Ettore Caracciolo. Since the death of Prof. Ettore Caracciolo, pioneer of behavior analysis in Italy and one of the founders of AARBA, our association established a grant in his memory to finance research in behavior analysis. The 2016 grant was awarded to the project, “Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) for Teenagers With Mental Illness Risks.” The abstract is as follows:

“The main aim of early intervention in mental illness is to guarantee the individual the chance to realize himself/herself in work and emotional life (Marshall, 2011). School drop-out of young at-risk people is frequent, and completing their studies is of extreme importance (Galvan et al., 2012). For some years in Italy, early interventions in psychosis had provided an educational support service, in which experts directly helped the development of academic skills. This pilot study aims to systematize the teaching of academic skills to 14 young people, followed for one year in different conditions of intensiveness and in different contexts of intervention (private, social, etc). Using applied behavior analysis in contexts where practices based on common sense are still used would help to promote a culture based on criteria of effectiveness and the use of ABA in new areas.”

Training effectiveness should come before training formal requirements: AARBA's efforts to affect legislature and occupational safety laws. Italian state laws oblige employers to continuously train their staff on health and safety issues. This is not an error, per se. The errors are in how laws compel employers to do it: with plenty of formal bonds, absence of any learning assessment before or after the training sessions, lack of any performance based training principles, and “mystical” and unpredictable requirements for trainers. AARBA as usual follows students and university researchers in their master's theses and experiments: in collaboration with the University of Milan Bicocca, AARBA investigated through a questionnaire how companies and safety professionals try to comply with training obligations stated by the occupational safety laws. Predictably, they focused most of their attention and efforts on formal issues of training and not on effectiveness. In other words, companies and safety professionals looked first for the exemption of criminal responsibility before concentrating on effectively improving safety.

This attitude is understandable and highlights that safety training will not improve if occupational safety laws do not change. That's why AARBA has been collecting evidence to convince the legislature to make state laws consistent with scientific findings.

Training “digital natives”: The new challenge of AARBA's new research and development project.

“Digital natives” (DNs) grow up and enter the work world alongside and gradually replace “digital immigrants.” This phenomenon is presenting challenges never before faced. DN's learn mainly through operant conditioning, but almost exclusively through interaction with tablets and smartphones. AARBA, with a consortium of two software houses and an academic expert, will conduct several experiments to deepen DN's specific learning paths in order to develop a new e-learning platform to exploit tablets and smartphones through behavior analysis and, maybe, to free DN's from their “custodial sentence.” The new platform will be based on instructional design and precision teaching; We aim to build an easy-to-use trainer back end, because the second challenge of the project is pushing “old” professors to transfer their contents to new technologies. The project name is ANGE-L, will last 2 years, and is financed by the Lombardy Region Bank.

Alstom Grid Italia BBS Certification Renewal

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 safe behavior enhancement and low accident frequency and severity.

At the beginning of 2017, they renewed the first European BBS Certification after a 2-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 effectiveness—and not only on process activities—is an important element in the world of managing system certification, usually committed to examine only coherence with bureaucratic standards.

Preserving the Integrity of Behavior Analysis Interventions

The president of AARBA, Fabio Tosolin, is also president-elect of AIAMC, the oldest association of behavior analysts in Italy. His mandate as president will officially start in September 2017. His mission will be to bring back professionals to adopt a rigorous scientific approach in their practice. Since AIAMC has more than 2,000 members and 10 post-graduate schools in behavioral psychotherapy all over Italy (officially recognized by the Italian Ministry of University and Research), AARBA and AIAMC started to work with the educational committee to make the

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schools' programs accredited by ABAI. The process will be long and complicated, but it will be indispensable for disseminating the scientific approach in Italian psychology and psychotherapy.

AARBA is committed to teaching safety professionals how to train and motivate people's safe behaviors. In 2016–2017 we are offering the 32nd edition of the 80-hour Behavior-Based Safety Master Course.

Association Française— Les Professionnels de l'Analyse du Comportement

BY DIANE FRASER

Association Française—Les Professionnels de l'Analyse du Comportement (AFLPA) has just finished its third cohort: 10 new candidates readying themselves for their BACB credential. AFLPA recently affiliated with the University of North Texas online program. Through the amazing efforts of our co-founder, Cherice Caldwell, we now have our fourth cohort of 12 BCBA and 12 BCaBA candidates. This is very exciting for us as we have never had such an enormous response to our application process. We also now have candidates for the BCaBA coursework from speech-language pathology, occupational therapy, and special education. Our fourth cohort will receive language support in French, as only a few are truly fluent. This is our first experience with an online format, but we are eager to apply, as it will open the doors of information to many candidates who would not be able to travel to Paris, where our last three cohorts have been held. France now has close to 50 BACB certificants! It may not sound like a lot to the rest of the world, but to us it is enormous.

In November 2017, the ABAI Ninth International Conference will be held in Paris for the very first time. We are all very excited at this prospect. The Montparnasse quarter, where the conference will be held, is very historic. We know that participants will be interested in visiting the local cafés and museums in addition to enjoying the conference program.

We still experience issues with supervision, as the certificants we have cannot begin to manage the number of new candidates that arrive. And now with the addition of the RBT registry, there are even more people to supervise, which does present an ethical dilemma. We have done much dissemination about the science of behavior analysis and what has developed is a group of individuals who, after taking these trainings, have decided to market their own brand of behavior analysis without the BACB credential. This would never happen outside of Europe, but it is common here and breeds distrust of applied behavior analysis, as these individuals cannot present the science adequately to their audience.

We try to discover the most parsimonious manner in which to spread the word of ABA, train professionals and parents, and keep up with the latest research. The USA conferences are often out of the price range of our professionals here, but individual organizations have sometimes opted to send one of their employees. Still, individuals do not have the income to attend, which makes for a diminished French presence at these conferences.

Atlantic Provinces ABA

BY SHELLEY MCLEAN, MARLENE BREITENBACH,
ISABELLE COWAN, JULIANA MCLEAN, SHERI GALLANT,
EMILY FORESTELL, AND TRACY MILLER

The Atlantic Provinces Association for Behaviour Analysis (APABA) has recently marked our third anniversary as an affiliated chapter of ABAI. We are amazed by the growth in membership since our inception in 2014, from 44 members in our first year to nearly 70 members in 2016. Although the wide geographical region served by APABA poses some unique challenges, we also recognize the benefits and opportunities we are afforded by drawing together behavior analysts, educators, interventionists, partner professionals, and others interested in behavioral science and its application in the four Atlantic Canadian provinces of New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island.

We've also seen an exciting increase in the number of members and partner professionals completing the requirements to become certified by the BACB since the inception of APABA. While there were 16 board certified behavior analysts or board certified assistant behavior analysts in Atlantic Canada in 2014, the number of certificants in both categories grew to 36 in 2016.

A primary goal of APABA is to promote and encourage the development and awareness of the science of behavior analysis through research, education, and practice within our region. We also seek to facilitate networking and expand opportunities for professional connection and collaboration among and between our members and others in the field. To that end, APABA has participated in the ABAI annual convention each of the past 3 years, presenting posters in San Antonio (2015), Chicago (2016), and Denver (2017). In order to support the professional learning needs of our members, we dedicate a portion of our annual general meeting each fall to continuing education, focusing on areas of emerging need and interest among members. Past keynote presenters have included Dr. William Heward, Dr. Anthony Biglan, and Dr. Linda LeBlanc. In October 2017, Drs. Robyn Catagnus and Elizabeth Fong will share their work on increasing cultural competence in behavior analysts, encouraging APABA members to engage in more culturally proficient professional practice. This topic is of particular interest and importance to APABA members, as Atlantic

Canada benefits from an increasingly diverse population, particularly with the arrival of larger numbers of newcomer and refugee families in recent years.

Since APABA serves such a broad geographical region, it is essential that we make effective and efficient use of electronic media and web-based platforms as we seek to support current members and reach prospective new members. The APABA Executive Committee, along with the Communications and Public Education committees, releases one to two newsletters each year to share information about recent and upcoming events. The APABA website (<http://www.atlanticprovincesaba.com>), which continues to evolve, is also an integral tool for communicating with members. Not only does it provide a central location for sharing information and resources, but it has also been expanded this year to allow for online registration and payment for APABA events and voting for candidates to fill positions on the APABA Executive Committee. The website also provides a gateway to APABA's social media presence through our recently established Facebook page and Twitter account.

Online professional learning study groups have also become a valuable addition to APABA's professional development and continuing education efforts. We have just completed our second successful web-based study group through which members have had the opportunity to critically evaluate and discuss selections from the scholarly literature in the field of applied behavior analysis. Topics have included considerations for ethical professional practice and strategies for effective on-site and distance supervision.

A highlight for APABA in 2016 was the launch of *Behaviour Bits*, an online blog featuring submissions from members on topics highlighting the application of behavioral science to everyday situations (<https://behaviourbits.com>). Members have provided insight for readers into understanding and defining behavior, making effective use of reinforcement, dealing with bedtime challenges, and using technology to self-monitor and improve one's own behavior, among other topics. A special holiday release even provided parents with some behavior-based strategies to help their children wait for Santa's arrival.

APABA is also honored to have established a new award this year. The Verna O'Coin Memorial Bursary was established in memory of one of our members who was a skilled and dedicated educator and behavior analyst, a tireless advocate for learners with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and diverse needs, and a passionate life-long learner. This bursary will provide APABA members with financial support to assist with professional learning in the area of applied behavior analysis and empirically supported interventions for learners with ASD, diverse needs, and challenging behaviors.

Looking Ahead

APABA has been the beneficiary of a host of gracious gestures and an abundance of support from behavior analysts and partner professionals in the 3 years since we first set out on this journey. We extend our sincere appreciation to all who have helped us along the way. As our membership continues to grow and as we extend our reach across Atlantic Canada, our goal is to continue to build upon the initiatives that we have begun and to create new opportunities and pathways for sharing the value of behavioral science throughout our region. We also look forward to, and welcome, opportunities to connect with other ABAI-affiliated chapters across Canada and beyond to expand opportunities for professional learning, networking, and collaboration.

Australian Association for Cognitive Behaviour Therapy

BY PETER POHLMAN

Australian Association for Cognitive Behaviour Therapy (AACBT) is a multidisciplinary national professional body for health and other professionals interested in the practice, research, and training of established and emerging evidence-based behavioral and cognitive therapies, including traditional cognitive and cognitive-behavioral therapies, applied behavior analysis, and other behavioral therapies, and mindfulness-based behavioral and cognitive therapies. We have branches in Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, and Western Australia, and a sub-branch in Tasmania.

Membership in AACBT is open to anybody with recognized tertiary qualifications in psychology, medicine, education, social work, occupational therapy, speech therapy, dentistry, nursing, or other qualifications or areas of expertise where change of behavior and/or cognitions is relevant. Membership is national and entitles access to member events and benefits across Australia.

Throughout 2016, AACBT hosted two national speaking tours and a further 26 branch events; the format of these varied between master classes, workshops, and the more informal pub discussions. Examples of some of the topics covered include social anxiety disorder, problem gambling, perinatal depression, insomnia, and death anxiety.

AACBT also hosted the Eighth World Congress of Behavioural and Cognitive Therapies (WCBCT) in Melbourne in 2016 with great success. There were more than 2,000 registrations from over 50 countries, with very positive feedback. Our sincere thanks once again to those who assisted with this mammoth task, including all of those on the organizing committee.

The new president of AACBT for 2017 is the 2014 AACBT Distinguished Career Award winner, Professor

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Amanda Baker. Professor Baker (BArts, M.Psych, Ph.D.) is a National Health and Medical Research Council senior research fellow employed as a research academic in the School of Medicine and Public Health at the University of Newcastle, NSW. Amanda has more than 20 years of research experience and has also worked as a clinical psychologist in both mental health and substance abuse treatment settings. She leads a team trialing novel psychological interventions for co-existing mental health and tobacco, alcohol, and other drug problems. Amanda is also co-director of a Centre of Research Excellence (CRE) in Mental Health and Substance Use, which aims to build much-needed research capacity in this area. AACBT thanks Dr. Nicole Lee for her time and effort as president of AACBT and notes that she has set the groundwork for much of what will occur in 2017 and beyond.

This year includes plans for more than 30 events, including two international speakers on speaking tours, plus the 38th National AACBT Conference. Some of the topics to be covered include eating disorders, mindfulness-based treatments, prolonged grief reactions, gender diversity in children and adolescents, emetophobia, sports and mental health, children with ADHD, late-life depression, violence and resilience, and perfectionism. State branches perform many hours of voluntary work to prepare and host events held within their jurisdictions, and the National Board thanks them for their time and effort.

Now that the Eighth WCBCT has passed, AACBT will once again host a national conference, being held this year in Coogee, Sydney. A new initiative for 2017 is that AACBT Early–Mid Career Travel Grants will be available to AACBT members to support travel to the AACBT National Conference following acceptance of either an oral or poster presentation. AACBT will award complimentary scientific program registration, plus up to \$1,000 to help cover eligible travel expenses. This initiative is to invest back into the CBT community of Australia and encourage ongoing research into CBT.

In 2016, we upgraded our online presence to a new web portal; this new portal now allows all users to access and manage their own accounts and event bookings. Users can review their history, as well as access our journal (*Behaviour Change*) online. We have an ever-growing number of newsletter subscribers who access information through our web portal and event calendar.

Members of AACBT based in Australia and who meet the AACBT's national standards for CBT training and practice, can apply for National Accreditation as cognitive behavioural therapists. This service to members grew in 2016, and continues to grow in 2017.

AACBT offers two annual awards to recognize achievements in the field of cognitive and behavior therapy. These are awarded at the National Conference, and the

recipients are invited to address the conference being held during the year of their award. These awards are the Tracy Goodall Early Career Award and the Distinguished Career Award for Contribution to Cognitive or Behavioural Research and Therapy, with the 2016 winners being Dr. Jill Newby and Professor Louise Sharpe.

Behaviour Analysis in Ireland

BY HELENA LYDON, MAEVE BRACKEN,
AND MICHELLE KELLY

Conference Reviews 2016–2017

The 10th Annual Conference of the Division of Behavior Analysis (DBA), Psychological Society of Ireland (PSI), was a huge success. The event took place in Maynooth, June 10–11, 2016. The DBA is delighted that this meeting is growing in attendance each year. As in previous years, the meeting was well supported by the behavior analysis community, with leading experts from Ireland and the US.

10th Annual Conference in Maynooth

The conference was well attended by academics, clinicians, and students from Ireland and Europe. The conference opened with two workshops, the first by Professor Peter Sturmey (City University of New York), “Reducing the Use of Restraints and Restrictive Behaviour Management Practices,” and the second by Professor Jon Bailey (Florida State University), “Dealing With Real-World Ethical Dilemmas Regularly Met in Practice.” These were followed by refreshments and a poster session that showcased a wide array of research being undertaken by students across Irish universities currently completing courses in behavior analysis. A student prize for best poster was awarded to Orthflaith Breathneach from the National University of Ireland in Galway. The evening drew 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 quality and covered a diverse range of topics, including relational responding skills-based interventions for educational and intellectual aptitude, improving the lives of individuals with ASD using PBS, and assistive technology and behavior and health. Sessions were interspersed by two keynote speeches from Prof. Sturmey, “Training Caregivers in Evidence-Based Practices for Children and Adults With Developmental Disabilities and Autism: Behavioural Skills Approaches” and Prof. Gregory Madden (Utah State University), “A Game-Based Approach to Incentivizing Children’s Fruit and Vegetable Consumption.” The second day drew to a close with a panel discussion chaired by Ken Kerr, “Relationships Between Positive Behaviour Support and Behaviour Analysis.”

Professional Accreditation for Behavior Analysts Within the PSI

The DBA is happy to announce that our endeavors to pursue accreditation for behavior analysis in Ireland has achieved its first landmark. In March 2017, the division received notification from the PSI that accreditation guidelines, which will facilitate the accreditation of courses in behavior analysis, were ratified. This is the first step toward professional recognition of behavior analysts across Ireland. The DBA believes this is a crucial step, and that achieving this recognition will lead to better standing for behavior analysts within schools and services across the nation. The next step will be to achieve accreditation of postgraduate professional programs in behavior analysis from the PSI.

Upcoming Events

In the coming year, DBA intends to host its largest event ever to celebrate the 40th anniversary of behaviour analysis in Ireland and the 11th Annual Conference at the University of Dublin (Trinity College) and are delighted to have amongst their speakers Bill Ahearn (New England Centre for Children, USA) Dermot Barnes-Holmes (University of Ghent, Belgium), and former ABAI president Jack Marr (Georgia Tech, USA).

On June 24, the DBA will host a half-day workshop with Yvonne O'Connor at the PSI offices in Dublin. Ms. O'Connor obtained her master's degree in behavior analysis at Illinois University and at the May Institute at Cape Cod and is currently employed as a preschool teacher in Cape Cod and as a consultant with the Institute of Child Education and Psychology Europe. The workshop will focus on the effective use of visual schedules in clinical and educational settings.

The DBA will continue our endeavors to make significant progress toward having behavior analysis recognized as a professional specialty within 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 applications can be found on the PSI website:

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

Experimental Analysis of Behaviour Group UK and Europe

BY CARL HUGHES AND AMY HULSON-JONES

The London meeting of the Experimental Analysis of Behaviour Group UK and Europe (EABG) was held at University College London across 3 days in April 10–13, 2017. The meeting was a huge success with more than 200 delegates in attendance. 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.

It was a great privilege to have Dr. Anthony Biglan present the Annual Professor Fergus Lowe Memorial Keynote Address. Dr. Biglan is a senior scientist at Oregon Research Institute and co-director of the Promise Neighborhood Research Consortium (USA). A leading figure in the development of prevention science, Dr Biglan is the author of *The Nurture Effect: How the Science of Human Behavior Can Improve Our Lives and Our World*. Dr Biglan's talk was perhaps one of the most inspirational we've seen, communicating a bold vision for the role of behavioral science in solving some of our most difficult issues.

We had a number of very distinguished invited addresses at the conference from two of the leading applied practitioners in the UK, Dr. Corinna Grindle and Dr. Jenn Austin. Dr Corinna Grindle (Bangor University, Positive Behavioural Solutions) gave the first Sharland Foundation, SF-DDARIN Invited Talk on using behavior analysis to teach reading, math, and writing to children with autism. Dr Grindle provided an aspirational talk, building on over 20 years of practice and research; her main message was that behavior analysts can use their skills to provide exceptional learning environments to teach academics to children with ASD and ID to make significant impacts on the quality of their lives. Dr. Jennifer Austin (University of South Wales) gave our second invited address focused on the use of behavior analytic assessments and interventions with typically developing children within schools. Dr. Austin's talk was inspiring to us to think about how important our skills are and how behavior analysts can offer a great deal to mainstream education settings. As usual Dr. Austin spoke with enthusiasm and clarity of thought that saw many delegates furiously taking notes.

We were also very pleased to host the First UK SBA Operational Behaviour Management SIG invited talk titled, "OBM Applied! Lessons Learned From the Lab to

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the Board Room” and presented by Manuel Rodriguez, Daniel Sundberg, and Shannon Biagi (ABA Technologies, Inc.). They gave an entertaining talk that introduced the delegates to the power and importance of adopting an OBM approach in any organization.

Dr. Jennifer Austin also provided an update from the UK Society for Behaviour Analysis on behalf of the current board members.

For the first time at a European behavior analysis conference, the Royal Speech and Language Therapists’ clinical excellence network (CEN) for speech and language therapists (S/LTs) with an interest in ABA attended. Three S/LTs, headed by Bethan Mair Williams, BCBA, contributed to a symposium on disseminating behavior analysis. They also held their AGM at EABG and hosted a 1-day workshop on precision teaching and TAGteach, which was led by Bethan Mair Williams, BCBA; Dr. Mike Beverley; and Kaydee Owen of Bangor University. There are currently 26 S/LTs in the CEN, as well as six other behavioral professionals. Three S/LTs and one S/LT student in the UK currently have BCBA status. This is an exciting time for collaboration between the two professions that have so much to offer when their relative expertise are combined.

Continuing Education Units

The 2017 EABG meeting reflected the strong position that prevails in the UK and Europe in providing a large proportion of the CEUs for BCBAs for no additional charge. We offered 26 events, including symposia, invited addresses/tutorials, panel discussions, and workshops, accumulating a total of 48.5 CEUs. The number of free CEUs being awarded to BCBA and BCaBA delegates this year was 705 (see figure 1). Likewise, the number of delegates collecting CEUs increased this year to 72 (see figure 2).

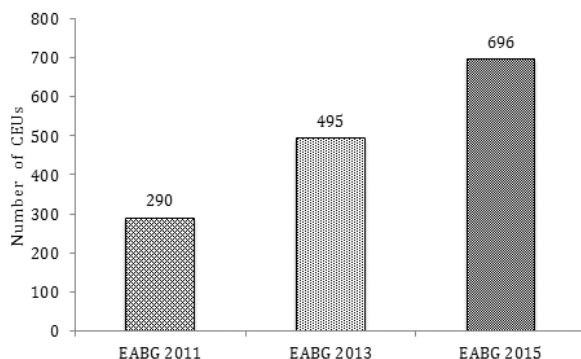


Figure 1. Comparison of total number of CEUs awarded at the 2011, 2013, 2015, and 2017 EABG conferences.

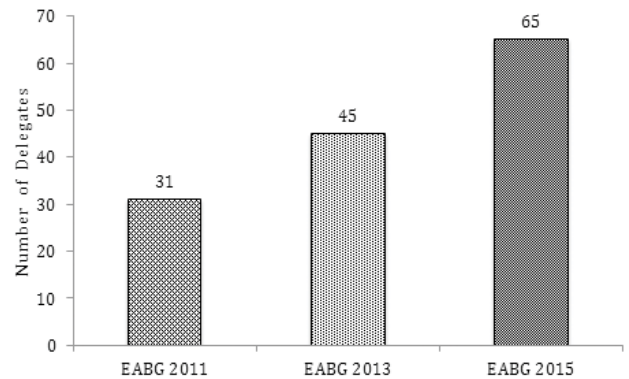


Figure 2. Comparison of total number of delegates collecting CEUs at the 2011, 2013, 2015, and 2017 EABG conferences.

The EABG team wishes to thank all the delegates and presenters who attended the 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: Jane, Anna, Joe, Jess, Song, and Fflur. 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.

The broad range of high-quality behavior analytic research and training disseminated during EABG 2017 was an encouraging reflection of the strength and continued evolution of behavior analysis in Europe.

French ABA

BY LAURENT MADELAIN

French ABA was founded in 2009 and has been dedicated to promoting behavior analysis as a basic and applied science in France, as well as introducing its applications to professionals, students, and the general public. In 2017, French ABA members continue to build on the momentum established in previous years. We are grateful to ABAI for providing support to our chapter, which is now an associate chapter. Of course we are also looking forward to seeing you at the Ninth International Conference in Paris November 14–15.

Because ABA is underdeveloped in France, providing training for young applied behavior analysts remains our most important mission. This is why we strongly support the international development of the University of Lille’s Master’s Program in Experimental and Applied Behavior Analysis. The University of Lille is the only French university hosting an academic research group studying experimental and applied behavior analysis. About 15 new students join the program every year, and although we are well aware that this figure is still much too small to fulfill the need for certified behavior analysts, we believe

that this program is the key to the future of behavior analysis in France. We continue to receive invaluable help from colleagues hosting behavior analysis programs such as our friends from West Virginia University and the Universidade de Brasília. 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.

We believe that the opportunity to collaborate and share ideas with prominent members of the behavior analysis scientific community worldwide is key to providing students, professionals, and academics with the most updated theoretical and applied developments. To this end, members of French ABA presented (and will present) their research at several international behavior analysis meetings. It is also 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 hosted Gerson Tomanari from Universidade de São Paulo with whom we have been collaborating on several research projects. We were also delighted 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. This was truly a revealing experience and we would like to take this opportunity to thank both Gerson and Ralph for their presence with us.

Hong Kong ABA

BY AMOY HUGH-PENNIE AND JEREMY GREENBERG

In the past year, the Hong Kong Association for Behavior Analysis (HKABA) hosted a CEU event on quality supervision. It maintains its CEU status to provide workshops for its members in Hong Kong. The board has recently voted to pursue becoming an associate chapter of ABAI. The decision to pursue this status was made to help create an organizational structure that will carry over year to year, increase our membership numbers, have current members join the larger community of ABAI, and offer more benefits to our members. Currently, we provide our members opportunities to attend bi-annual CEU events at no cost. In previous years, we printed a regular newsletter and have held a conference. Our intention is to engage in these activities again in the upcoming year as well as extend opportunities for greater contact to research through access to online publications.

One of our goals has been to attempt to more actively engage the local community. In our desire to reach the broader local community we have been putting together single-page flyers with helpful tips on a variety of topics

from toileting and pro-social behaviors to parenting and autism. The flyers will be translated to Chinese with the intention of engaging the local community in a more effective way. As a small chapter with a somewhat transient population of expats, our initial plan is to create a structure that will allow us to carry over from year to year with little complication. Our plan going into the new year is to engage ABAI in the next steps to becoming an associate chapter, expand our offerings of CEUs to quarterly, renew our newsletter, and plan a small conference.

HKABA is also in the process of updating its approved course sequence for BCaBAs and applying for the BCBA status. We have added two instructors, Dr. Amoy Hugh-Pennie, BCBA-D, and Dr. Rebecca Dogan, BCBA-D, joining Dr. Jeremy H. Greenberg.

Israel ABA

BY JUDY L. ROSENZWEIG

The annual meeting of Israel ABA (IABA), held in January 2017, resulted in the announcement of Dr. Michal Hirschmann as president. IABA would like to take this opportunity to thank Dr. Eldar, the outgoing president, for his support establishing this chapter and for years of dedicated service to develop and promote behavior analysis in Israel. Following the annual meeting, members were invited to listen to a variety of speakers holding short sessions addressing issues in the private and public (Ministry of Education) sectors. The annual meeting concluded with roundtable discussions focusing on issues such as inclusion, special education in the public system, and working with private centers. In February 2017, IABA held its 15th annual conference focusing on using ABA to educate for national, social, and personal values. Following fascinating lectures, a panel of experts allowed questions and discussions.

In 2016, IABA made an effort toward marketing to promote the field through Facebook and the chapter's website. This effort resulted in an increase of 33% in the number of registered members. At present, we have more than 270 members who support applied behavior analysis in various academic and clinical fields. This year, with the excitement of a newly elected president, various committees were established to address different needs in the field. The committees cover things like ethics, licensure, Facebook, and membership. These new committees will work with existing committees, such as those that oversee our website, events, and newsletter.

The Ethics Committee is committed to the promotion and implementation of the ethical code adapted by the BACB. In addition, the committee will initiate workshops and will be available to address ethical issues as needed. Also, on a quarterly basis, the Ethics Committee will issue a newsletter presenting ethical dilemmas and analysis. This newsletter is in addition to the chapter's annual

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newsletter, which will focus on behavior analysis and complex populations. This year, the chapter also plans to place emphasis on promoting an Israeli certification and licensure in the field.

Several enriching events are planned each year, including the annual conference and workshops. The annual conference is free of charge to members, and the topic for the next one is to be determined. We will offer numerous workshops designed to deal with core issues in the field, such as using reasonable force to educate within the education system, interaction between home and school behavior analysts (models for collaboration), ethical code Q & A, how to present behavior analysis to paraprofessionals, and others. All conferences and workshops grant board certified participants CE credits.

Every member will continue to enjoy free access to the journal *Behavior Analysis in Practice* and access to professional liability insurance specifically for the needs of the field.

We encourage various segments in Israel to join our professional community and our board, supporting the dissemination of applied behavior analysis among the Arab and the Jewish religious societies.

Japanese ABA

BY SATORU SHIMAMUNE

The 34th annual convention was held at Osaka City University, Friday, September 9, to Sunday, September 11, 2016. We had more than 400 attendees with 9 symposia and 90 poster presentations. The topics of the symposia alone showed a great deal of variation: associative learning theory, disaster prevention, behavioral medicine, management of zoo animals, artificial intelligence, dementia, and ACT. This reflects the diversity of interests both within and outside of the community of behavior analysis, and hopefully will lead to the further development of our research and practice.

We will hold 35th annual convention at Fukushima University, Friday, October 6, to Sunday, October 8, 2017.

Korean ABA

BY JANG WON MUN, SANG HUN LEE, AND KEONHEE KIM

Jang Won Mun is the president of Korean ABA. He has initiated several new directions for the Association of Emotional and Behavioral Disorders in South Korea. He has led people to pay attention to the lives of students with autism. He has suggested providing presentations on those issues by graduate students and professors.

The Korean chapter had two conferences and two training courses for therapists in 2016. This year the Korean chapter will again hold two conferences and two training courses. In addition, *The Journal of Emotional & Behavioral Disorders* will continue to be published four times a year.

Below is the list of subjects to be covered during the upcoming fall conference:

- A study on consideration of screening and diagnostic tests for ASD/ADHD through comparative factors
- Analysis of research on interventions for children with ADHD: Using journals in Korea from 2006–2015
- A study on understanding and satisfaction for preliminary behavior therapists using e-learning
- A school counselor's experience with students with emotional and behavioral disorders
- Research on autistic students from inclusive class teachers' perspective
- Recognition comparison of child care teachers on integrated education: Focus on teachers of special classes and general classes

Korean Association of Child and Adolescent Behavior Therapy

BY SANGMIN HAN

The number of current Korean Association of Child and Adolescent Behavior Therapy (KACBT) members is 676, among whom we had 217 active members who participated in the conferences and seminars in 2016.

The college coursework of Daegu Cyber University, accredited by KACBT, has been reviewed to meet the guidelines and requirements for the developmental disability rehabilitation service voucher by the Ministry of Health and Welfare.

In the past year, KACBT has completed many activities: First, in order to enhance the competencies of the members, case conferences were held in June and December. KACBT also held several research seminars and workshops and supported many local study groups. Second, the association grew to be a stronger organization since signing cooperation MOUs for the practicum and fieldwork program with seven more affiliated institutions and partners, each of which was followed by training and discussion courses for the supervisors from the institutions. The activities of KACBT in 2016 also included:

- Participation in the translation project of BACB Behavior Analysis Glossaries.
- Participation in setting up the coursework plan for behavioral rehabilitation in developmental disability rehabilitation services by the Ministry of Health and Welfare.
- Providing 30-hour license course supporting classroom behavior management for elementary special education teachers in Daegu City.
- Participation in the chapter leadership training at the ABAA 42nd Annual Convention in Chicago (Professor Jung-yeon Cho).
- Participation in the International Conference 2016 hosted by the National Institute of Special Education and the Korean Association for Behavior Analysis.

- Opening case conference in October on the topic of “Imaginary-Oriented Poetry Therapy: Theory and Practice” and clinical case reviews at the Seoul Campus of Daegu Cyber University.

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, Aotearoa (New Zealand). Our main event each year is the NZABA conference held in late August. In 2016, we convened at the University of Waikato in Hamilton. The conference was very successful, with about 150 attendees, 38 talks, and 17 posters. We would like to thank all of the organizers at Waikato, particularly Tim Edwards, for the excellent conference.

We particularly value the contribution that students make to our conference, and student presentations were invaluable to the conference in 2016. This year, three students who gave outstanding talks received prizes from NZABA in recognition of their achievements. Jessica Langley from the University of Auckland won a prize for the best experimental analysis of behavior paper for her presentation entitled, “The Midsession Reversal Task: An Accurate Indicator of Behavioural Flexibility in Pigeons?” Sarah Taylor, also from the University of Auckland, won for the best applied behavior analysis paper for her presentation entitled, “Tube Feeding to Oral Feeding: Development of an Antecedent Based Assessment Model.” Rana Asgarova from Victoria University of Wellington won a prize for the best translational presentation for her project entitled, “Probability Discounting of Medical Benefits and Harms.” The awarding of this translational prize reflects the increasing range and quality of translational research conducted by NZABA members.

We were also pleased to welcome a larger number of people who work in behavior analysis outside of 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 able to support the professional development of practicing behavior analysts in this way.

In 2017, our conference will be held at Victoria University of Wellington. We hope you will consider attending. Please visit nzaba.org for more information about our organization and activities. You can complete a form to join NZABA; we do not charge a membership fee. Our 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 on 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. Please also join us at facebook.com/newzealandaba for more informal discussions on issues of interest to the chapter and behavior analysis in general.

Ontario ABA

BY LOUIS BUSCH

The Ontario Association for Behaviour Analysis (ONTABA) made significant advancements in 2016. We achieved a 17% increase in our membership, reaching an all-time high of 908 members by our annual general meeting in November of 2016. Our efforts during the last year have focused on five strategic priorities: (1) build and maintain relationships with key policy-makers, (2) provide leadership on the regulation of behavior analysts in Ontario, (3) improve financial viability and sustainability, (4) increase board and organizational capacity, and (5) protect the science of behavior in Ontario.

As part of our governance improvement project, we completed a comprehensive board manual, including a board mandate document, board officer and director role descriptions, board decision-making guidelines, conflict of interest policy and agreement, new board member onboarding process, and board meeting protocol. In an effort to organize and preserve our organizational history, we obtained secure hard and electronic storage spaces and began to collect and compile memorabilia and documentation from our 24-year history. We also worked with our founders and advisors to compile a complete historical timeline of the organization, which included compiling, scanning, and reviewing 20 years of our quarterly periodical, *The ONTABA Analyst*. In order to ensure financial success and sustainability, we obtained a professional book-keeper and engaged in a full audit, while simultaneously developing spending and investment policies and approving organizational and administrative budgets. In an effort to manage risk, we obtained more comprehensive organizational insurance (errors and omissions, cyber insurance, and general liability). We restructured our committees to maximize organizational efficiencies, forming the Professional Development and Professional Practice Committees. We targeted bi-directional communication with our membership by conducting multiple membership surveys, strategic planning interviews, and focus groups, and by holding two interactive town hall meetings (both available remotely to ensure geographic representation from across our vast province). We also made our annual general meeting remotely accessible and held multiple professional development events across the province. We completed a preliminary review of our bylaws to develop

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recommendations for bylaws optimization. We started a comprehensive strategic planning process in July 2016 and completed it in January 2017. The process included a wide consultation with members, volunteers, directors, advisors, policy-makers, and other external stakeholders. Our three-year strategic plan can be found here: <http://www.ontaba.org/pdf/ONTABA%20Plan%202017-2019.pdf>.

In 2016, ONTABA initiated intense lobbying efforts to promote and protect the science of behavior. We've had regular meetings with government officials from multiple legislative bodies including Ontario's ombudsman, the Ministry of Children and Youth Services, the Ministry of Community and Social Services, the Ministry of Education, and the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. We have advocated for investments in evidence-based behavior analytic services for children and youth with autism, for adults with developmental disabilities, for dually diagnosed individuals experiencing homelessness, and for individuals experiencing challenges associated with aging and dementia. We have successfully obtained representation on a number of advisory committees and have been asked to contribute to provincial guidelines on behavioral services while moving the agenda of evidence-based behavior analytic services into the public domain through a number of media initiatives and government relation campaigns. In 2016, in response to concerning changes in Ontario's autism services, ONTABA formed the Ontario Scientific Expert Taskforce for the Treatment of Autism Spectrum Disorder (OSETT-ASD). In March 2017 the taskforce completed its report on evidence-based practices for individuals with autism spectrum disorder. The document has been widely disseminated, featured in local media, and discussed in the provincial legislature. The report of the Ontario Scientific Expert Taskforce can be found here: <http://www.ontaba.org/pdf/ONTABA%20OSETT-ASD%20REPORT%20WEB.pdf>.

To maximize our effectiveness across sectors, we also formed the Autism Task Force, the Adult Services Task Force, and the Education Task Force. Each has made substantial headway in advocating for investments in high-quality behavior analytic services in these areas.

Our 2016 annual conference in Toronto was a massive success, with stimulating presentations from invited speakers Dr. Dorothea Lerman, Dr. Tricia Vause, and Dr. Ruth Anne Rehfeldt in addition to many excellent local speakers. We also held a sold-out joint conference with the Quebec Association for Behaviour Analysis featuring Dr. Brian Iwata. In total, we held or sponsored 12 professional development events in which BACB CEUs were available. We produced four editions of *The ONTABA Analyst* and presented a student award and a lifetime achievement award (congratulations, Dr. Gary Bernfeld).

Our Professional Regulation Committee made significant gains towards ONTABA's efforts at licensure

by obtaining a commitment from the government (after more than 10 years of lobbying) to initiate the process of regulating behavior analysts in the province. ONTABA is currently prioritizing autonomous regulation through a public bill for behavior analysts by lobbying and educating policy-makers across multiple ministries.

ONTABA remains committed to its mission of demonstrating leadership, knowledge, and innovation in education, training, and research for the ethical and effective application of behavior analysis.

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 60 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 cooperates with a number of Polish centers and institutions 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 1,100 participants attended such trainings in 2016.

In 2014, the association formed non-public schools (called "I CAN"), which have taught 21 students with autism spectrum disorders. Also in 2016, the association established another school for people with autism and intellectual disabilities, which will start operating in September 2017.

Since 2010, the boards of Poland's two ABAI affiliated chapters (i.e., PABT and the Polish Society for Behavioral Psychology) have been working on a joint program—Polish License of Behavioral Therapist—to standardize the formal requirements for behavioral therapists in Poland. The purpose of these activities is to consolidate and formalize professional training for behavioral therapists currently in Poland, and thus define the requirements for practicing therapists to make behavioral therapy clearly

identifiable by the highest quality of therapeutic services. The Polish License of Behavioral Therapist runs an integrated system of theoretical and practical training to enable trainees to gain the title of behavioral therapist. At present, 177 people in Poland have been granted the title of licensed behavioral therapist, and 384 are in the process of acquiring qualifications.

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, Rzeszow, Lublin, and Raciborz provides 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 (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, BTC oversees home therapy for almost 3,500 families.
- The Emergency Intervention Team 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 2016, around 10 families from all over Poland used this form of therapy.
- The integration classes 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 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).

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Québec ABA

BY MYRA-JADE LUI

The Québec Association for Behaviour Analysis (QcABA) had a busy 2016. We continued the approved course sequence with the first Francophone cohort that was started in the summer of 2015. The last class from this course sequence wraps up this summer and will hopefully result in a group of highly qualified behavior analysts in the French sector here in Québec. Many of the cohort are from provincially funded rehabilitation centers responsible for offering intensive behavioral interventions to young children with autism. We are particularly pleased therefore that the importance of certification and education in the field is increasingly being recognized by provincial providers, demonstrated by their willingness to send and pay for their staff to become qualified.

The field of ABA also received much media attention in Québec in 2016; several stories from almost every major news outlet highlighted the struggle of users to obtain appropriate behavioral services, and conveyed to the public the importance of behavioral interventions for individuals with autism throughout childhood. It was perhaps the first time that this discussion has been held so widely in the mainstream media in Québec, and interest in this subject continues to grow into 2017. Our chapter worked with our members to inform them of updates to the compliance code, and responded to their concerns about their own professional practice and how to educate users of our services to mobilize politically. We held special meetings and journal clubs on the topics of ethics and supervision in order to respond to the concerns our members had voiced.

In addition to our annual conference, QcABA also collaborated with Ontario ABA and held the first-ever joint conference in Ottawa in October 2016. It was well-attended and by all accounts a success. Our annual conference was February 28, 2017, to which a member of the working group for autism services from the ministry (provincial) was in attendance. We had also invited a member of the recently formed parent coalition for autism in Québec, and therefore feel we accomplished one of our major missions: to inform and disseminate accurate information about ABA in Québec.

QcABA also initiated contact with the provincial government in 2016 in order to challenge what we felt was increasingly anti-behavioral rhetoric occurring at the ministry level. We received much support from medical professionals and academic researchers as we presented the facts about ABA to the ministry. As a result of this communication, the minister agreed to meet with our chapter and has thus far been very open to our input. Since then, we have met twice with the minister in charge of autism services and the working committee of this file.

These meetings have predominantly emphasized the work that is needed in Québec to ensure the ethical and correct application of behavioral interventions, and also to update the provincial policy-makers on the evidence on behavioral interventions for this population. They have expressed a desire to continue working with our group as they determine the shape of service plans in the province.

Overall, QcABA has had a very successful year, disseminating information about ABA beyond the scope of our professionals, and working toward policy change in the province to ensure ethical and responsible application of ABA practice here in Québec. We look forward to the challenges of 2017 and beyond.

Sociedad Mexicana de Análisis de la Conducta

BY F. DÍAZ, F. PEDROZA, AND M. GONZÁLEZ

From 22–25 November, 2016, the Mexican Society for Behavior Analysis (MSBA) celebrated its XXVI meeting in Puerto Vallarta, Jalisco, Mexico. The meeting included 26 symposia composed of 95 presentations. There were 84 oral presentations, 105 poster presentations, 6 workshops, and 13 invited talks. It is important to mention that one symposium on applied behavior analysis included the participation of psychologists from the University of Texas at San Antonio, the University of Florida, and Bloom Children's Center, who are certified by the BCBA at different levels. We hope this approach will be the first of many more to consolidate certifications in Mexico.

Since 1975, the annual meeting has been the only forum in Mexico to gather academics, students, and specialists in behavior analysis, basic and applied. Membership includes 240 undergraduate students, 84 graduate students, 80 professionals, and 31 full members. The next annual meeting will be in Aguascalientes, Mexico. Its name means "hot waters" in Spanish and originated from the abundance of hot springs in the area. Aguascalientes is one of the most important cities in the center of the Mexican Republic. Aguascalientes is famous around the world because of its annual Feria de México celebration. It is also a region that produces guava, one of the most delicious Mexican fruits. The XXVII annual meeting will be October 24–27, 2017, and will be characterized by work in the experimental analysis of human behavior, experimental analysis of animal behavior, applied behavior analysis, and theoretical and conceptual analysis. More information about the annual meeting is available at <http://www.smac.org.mx>. Deadline for submissions is July 3.

As a consolidated Mexican scientific society, MSBA hopes next year to expand its, and by extension ABAI's, membership. We know that the annual ABAI convention is a very good option for our Mexican researchers to be in contact with the newest methodological and theoretical

approaches to a broad array of problems in behavior analysis. To disseminate knowledge about these approaches MSBA publishes the *Mexican Journal of Behavior Analysis (MJBA)*. *MJBA* has been published in June, September, and December each year since 1975. The English-language editor is Andy Lattal, who has been collaborating with the journal for the past 5 years. The Spanish editor, Rogelio Escobar, is a member of ABAI who has been working in this role since 2015, given his experience in the experimental analysis of behavior. Undoubtedly, his editorial contributions are appreciated by the authors.

During our annual meeting, the MSBA staff for the next 3 years will be elected. The next president, secretary, and treasurer will continue with the same objectives that are in place now: to remain the most important Mexican scientific society in behavior analysis. We were very pleased with the invaluable contributions of the past president, Francisco Pedroza, who served tirelessly in many areas that needed improvement. His boldness and charming manner facilitated this process. We are very grateful to the past treasurer, Marina González. Her support to the president and ability to keep financial information updated helped during the annual meeting as well as in publishing *MJBA* on time. Marina, thank you so much for your precise work. For the next staff we wish the best and affirm our commitment to MSBA and of course to *MJBA*.

United Arab Emirates ABA

BY MICHELLE P. KELLY

The United Arab Emirates Association for Behavior Analysis (UAE-ABA) became an affiliated chapter of ABAI in 2013 and was recognized by the UAE Ministry of Social Affairs as a committee under the Emirates Autism Society (EAS) in April 2015. UAE-ABA was created with the mission to disseminate behavior analysis across the seven emirates of the UAE: Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Sharjah, Ras Al Khaimah, Fujairah, Ajman, and Umm al Quwain. 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.

Over the past year, UAE-ABA has provided quarterly English and Arabic workshops to parents, special educators, and behavior therapists and presented guest lectures on the only BACB Approved Course Sequence in the UAE. The president of the chapter applied for a Society for the Advancement of Behavior Analysis (SABA) International Grant for a project to translate parent-friendly material about ABA into Standard Arabic. This project will be pursued regardless of the outcome of the grant, given that there are an estimated 295 million Arabic speakers across the world in 57 countries (www.ethnologue.com/statistics/size).

On April 19, 2017, UAE-ABA collaborated with EAS and Emirates College for Advanced Education (ECAE) to host the Third Annual Autism Day at ECAE in Abu Dhabi, the capital of UAE. Ms. Sharifa Yateem, BCBA and past president of UAE-ABA, and Ms. Tasneem AbuRoza, BCBA, were two of the invited speakers presenting in Arabic. The audience for this free community event was parents of children with autism in the UAE. This was a very informative and lively event, and it was especially great to see ABA students in the BCaBA course sequence at ECAE presenting about ABA topics in Arabic via oral presentations and posters. The Third Annual Autism Day was covered in both national English and Arabic media.

UAE-ABA presented an Expo poster at the ABAI 43rd Annual Convention in Denver, Colorado in May 2017. The chapter was extremely fortunate to have four of its officers, Dr. Michelle Kelly, BCBA-D (president), Ms. Sharifa Yateem, BCBA (past president), Ms. Rasha Baruni (secretary), and Ms. Linda Bailey, BCBA (officer) present this poster and engage with the convention attendees to share information about the development of behavior analysis in the UAE.

UAE-ABA has organized three workshops across the Emirates for 2017. The first will be presented in English in Ras al-Khaimah in late summer. The second workshop will be presented in Arabic in Umm al-Quwain in the fall, and the third workshop will be presented in English in Sharjah in the winter. All workshops will be presented by BACB certificants and will be freely available to the public.

UAE-ABA is working closely with the ABAI-affiliated chapter in Saudi Arabia to continue translating seminal behavior analytic literature into Standard Arabic. In the past year, this collaborative effort has resulted in the publication of the Arabic versions of the *Registered Behavior Technician (RBT) Task List* and *RBT Competency Assessment* on the BACB website. We are currently in the process of translating the *Experience Standards and Forms* into Standard Arabic and hope to continue these translation efforts over the coming year. Other plans include the creation of a bilingual chapter website and the publication of a regular chapter newsletter online. For more information please email uaeaba@gmail.com. ❖

Updates From ABAl's Special Interest Groups

Applied Animal Behavior SIG

BY KATHRYN L. KALAFUT

The mission of the Applied Animal Behavior (AAB) SIG is to promote applied animal behavior analytic research, set high standards in methods and techniques of animal training, support those in the applied animal behavior field, and promote the well-being of animals in applied settings wherever they are found. We are moving full steam ahead!

In past years, we have spent a lot of time and effort building the group, reaching out to potential members, and working diligently to disseminate the principles of behavior analysis in the area of applied animal work. We are very proud to say that to date, we have more than 140 members. Our members are researchers, publishing in scholarly journals including *Zoo Biology*, *Animal Learning and Cognition*, *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, *International Journal of Comparative Psychology*, and many others. Our members are teachers at competitive institutions, training future behavior analysts. Our members are in the field, consulting all over the world helping to educate pet owners, animal trainers, veterinary staff, and caregivers at captive animal institutions (exotic and domestic). We are in animal shelters, classrooms, zoos, laboratories, and living rooms. Our members are actively engaged in the applied animal sciences, aiding veterans by training service dogs, increasing welfare in captive animals, and enhancing educational outcomes through animal interactions.

In addition to the impactful work our members engage in, we are also eager to support budding behavioral scientists. AAB continues to recognize excellent student scholarship in applied animal behavior with the Marian Breland Bailey Award for Student Research and Scholarship. This award would not be possible without the gracious and generous support of Bob Bailey. The annual meetings also serve as a platform for collaboration among our members, extend into new areas, and create new opportunities.

Our SIG is also very proud to contribute to ABAl's annual convention. At the 2016 42nd Annual Convention in Chicago, the B. F. Skinner Lecture Series included animal welfare researcher Lance Miller from the Chicago Zoological Society. His talk included a discussion of the behavioral status of zoo animal welfare. The AAB specialization included five posters, four symposia, one invited speaker, and two workshops.

If you are interested in joining or learning more about this SIG, or any of the specific applications/opportunities listed above, please contact current president Katie Kalafut at kkalafut@gmail.com, find us on Facebook, or on the web at www.animalbehavioranalysis.org.

Behavioral Development SIG

BY PATRICE MILLER

The main mission of the Behavioral Development SIG (DEV SIG) is to promote a behavioral-developmental thrust within behavior analysis. We do so by bringing professionals from outside traditional behavior analysis and from developmental psychology to the ABAl meetings and forming collaborations. We strive to bring behavior analysis to the wider world of child psychology and learning, comparative psychology, adult development and gerontology, sociobiology, education, behavioral economics, developmental disabilities and autism, and language development, among other fields. The DEV SIG's membership, according to ABAl records for 2016, was 158 members. This includes faculty, students, and practitioners, many of whom are also members of other SIGs and are interested in the DEV SIG's mission, conference program, and discussions.

The DEV SIG is primarily engaged in three major activities. The first activity is organizing events for the overall ABAl program, consistent with its mission. Up until December 31, 2016, the second activity had been editing the *Behavioral Development Bulletin (BDB)*. The third activity is that, since 2015, the DEV SIG has been one of the first to participate in ABAl's effort to support SIGs in terms of keeping track of their membership and other infrastructure issues. Each of these will be discussed in turn.

The DEV SIG's contributions to the ABAl program for 2016 consisted of sessions on a wide variety of topics related to behavioral development. The DEV SIG program committee, consisting of Dr. Per Holth and Dr. Doug Greer, with the able help of many members, helped to recruit and organize 12 symposia, a poster session, an invited presentation, an invited tutorial, and a B. F. Skinner lecture. Many of the symposia featured basic or applied research on interventions or functional analyses of the behavior of a variety of populations (from infants to college students to older adults). Methodological and theoretical issues were also examined. Dr. Gerson Tomanari, the invited presenter, gave a talk called, "Observing Behavior and Discriminative Processes in Children and Adults." Dr. Jesus Rosales-Ruiz gave a tutorial titled, "Behavioral Cusps: Twenty Years Later." The B. F. Skinner lecture, "Implementing an Evidence-Based Intervention Worldwide," featured Dr. Marion Forgatch from the Oregon Social Learning Center. Many positive comments were shared about the SIG's sessions. Attendees particularly appreciated hearing about a developmental perspective, and that the SIG's sessions often are interdisciplinary. The efforts of the program chairs and of SIG members in putting together these interesting sessions is much appreciated.

The second major activity of the DEV SIG has been its role in editing *BDB*, under co-editors Dr. Michael Commons and Dr. Martha Pelaez, both SIG members. *BDB* was originally published as a SIG newsletter founded and edited by Dr. Martha Pelaez. Since it began in 1991, *BDB* has published articles of an inter- and multi-disciplinary nature, including areas of socio-biology and child and adult behavioral development. It has been especially relevant to behavior analysts who study the developmental processes responsible for behavior changes and their progressive organization. Beginning with the 2015 issues, *BDB* has been published by the American Psychological Association. The most recent issues, 2015 and 2016, have featured many papers resulting from presentations at the ABAI convention or from other work of SIG members. This includes a volume on a new model that integrates notions of value with a behavioral model of stages of development (2015, volume 20.1), and an issue featuring standard celeration charting and speech-language pathology (2015, volume 20.2). The two most recent issues included an examination of fundamental issues in behavioral development (2016, volume 21.1), and papers on social and behavioral science approaches to adult development (2016, volume 21.2). All papers can be found on the APA website. Two additional issues edited by these co-editors will appear this year.

A new editor has now been appointed, and his first issues will appear in 2018. According to his description on the ABAI website, Dr. Henry Roane is professor of pediatrics at Upstate Medical Center in Syracuse, New York and also chief of the Division of Development, Behavior, and Genetics. Dr. Roane is a former associate editor for *The Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, is currently an associate editor for *Behavior Analysis in Practice*, and serves on the editorial boards of several journals in the field. The members of the DEV SIG look forward to collaborating with Dr. Roane as he assumes his editorship.

For many years, the DEV SIG has held a business meeting every year. All are welcome to attend, although only members are allowed to vote. The DEV SIG also holds a no-host SIG dinner. This enjoyable occasion is also open to all. In addition to being friendly, interdisciplinary by our very nature, and interested in many different approaches, we have been a relatively informal SIG. About 2 years ago, then-president of the SIG, Martha Pelaez, spoke with ABAI about providing administrative support, including keeping track of member names and dues. The DEV SIG became one of the first to join this new program. We now have access to a complete list of individuals who have joined the SIG, and will soon begin to receive dues payments. These new developments will require the SIG to develop some more formal structures, including bylaws. We are excited by the possibilities for new growth and SIG development that these changes will bring about. We will strive to keep our welcoming and integrative attitudes. We welcome you to join us and share your ideas and contributions.

Behavioral Medicine SIG

BY GRETCHEN A. DITTRICH

Within the science of behavior analysis we recognize that all behavior is susceptible to conditioning, regardless of the complexity. Therefore, the field of behavior analysis is perfectly suited to identify and change behaviors related to health and disease states. The field of behavioral medicine focuses on using behavior analytic principles and procedures to identify and manipulate variables influencing behaviors associated with health and disease states. By changing specific behaviors (i.e., increasing behaviors associated with improved health and decreasing behaviors associated with disease states or decreased health), we can improve overall health for individuals.

Behavioral medicine is an interdisciplinary field, which integrates behavioral science with biomedical science to

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improve overall health, increase adherence to medical regimens, and modify behaviors associated with the prevention of chronic illness. The role of behavior analysis is important in the field of behavioral medicine. It is the mission of the Behavioral Medicine SIG to encourage interdisciplinary research in the areas of behavioral health promotion and the prevention of chronic illness, 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. 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 at <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 supports student research in the area of behavioral medicine, and we are pleased to announce our newly established student research award, which was introduced this year at the ABAI annual convention.

At the convention in Denver the Behavioral Medicine SIG sponsored a special panel discussion, "Treatment Adherence in Behavioral Medicine Research: Challenges, and Suggestions for Improvement." Panelists were Dr. Gretchen A. Dittrich, Dr. C. Sandy Jin, and Jessica R. Mias.

The first annual Behavioral Medicine SIG Student Research Award was announced at the annual business meeting, held during the ABAI convention in Denver. The award will be given annually to a master's or doctoral student who has completed innovative research in behavioral medicine. Applications and nominations may be submitted to bxmedsig@gmail.com. We encourage all students to apply for this award.

During the business meeting in Denver, SIG members discussed strategies to enhance membership benefits. Goals for the upcoming year include working on methods to improve dissemination of behavioral medicine technologies and research among behavior analysts, consumers, and the medical community. Additionally, the Behavioral Medicine SIG will be providing webinars and opportunities for CEUs for SIG members.

Behavior Analysis in Military and Veterans' Issues SIG

BY ABIGAIL B. CALKIN

The Military/Veterans (MilVet) SIG is entering its sixth year of ABAI operation. The SIG focuses on how the field of applied behavior analysis (ABA) can contribute to those who currently serve or previously served in the military. There are many issues that concern the military and veteran communities (suicide, PTSD, TBI, and autism). Co-chairs, Abigail Calkin and Kent Corso, and members remain excited about working on the issues and needs of this specific population. During its first 6 years, the SIG devoted a significant amount of time to increasing membership, while also examining viable ways of accessing the military and veteran community. A few long-term projects are now well under way. These have increasingly involved SIG members and helped recruit additional members.

The ABAI 43rd Annual Convention in Denver included the Expo poster "The Military and ABA: Coming Full Circle," which explored how respondent and operant conditioning have influenced various military programs—dog training, Tri-Care and ECHO programs, and the Air National Guard Suicide Prevention Program Evaluation project, which commenced in August 2016 and will run through late 2017.

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 64 members. 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, called "Behavior Analysis in Military and Veterans' Issues SIG." The page is a closed group, which grew to 86 members in its first year. At the end of its second year, it had 190 members—an increase of 220%. Membership in the Facebook group is 252 as of March 31, 2017.

Events at ABAI's 43rd Annual Convention in Denver included the following:

- Abigail Calkin presented a symposium segment as part of John O'Neill's, "Law Enforcement, Policing, and Military Applications."
- Hannah Bernard had a poster titled, "Analyzing the Social Validity of Applied Behavior Analysis for Veterans With Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder."
- Katie DeKraker Ward presented a paper titled, "Behavior of International Importance: Prejudice and Torture."

- The SIG has been considering an expansion of its mission to include the military and veteran communities of countries outside the US who are our allies. More discussion about this occurred at the 2017 SIG meeting in Denver and will occur at the ABAI International Conference in Paris in November 2017.

Events at the Paris conference will include the following: A symposium titled "Behavior Analysis to Assist the Military," chaired by Laurie Dickstein-Fischer (US); "Suicide and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Prevention in the Military (US)" presented by Abigail Calkin, Kent Corso, Jim Meador, and Mike Kondis; and Darlene Crone-Todd (US) presenting, "A Behavior-Based Intervention for Military Veteran University Students," with discussant Karola Dillenburger (No. Ireland).

Lastly, there is a current, year-long project underway with the Air National Guard (ANG) led by Kent Corso. Other critical team members are Jim Meador, Abigail Calkin, and Mike Kondis. In addition, eight BCBA's or BCBA-Ds will help with various aspects of data analysis for this project. This one-of-a-kind project is using surveys and retrospective data retrieval to identify system-level variables that increase or decrease the likelihood of suicides in the ANG. The project uses computer modeling and standard celeration charts to create algorithms to prevent suicide in the ANG. This is the first time the military has officially hired behavior analysts to assist with the military suicide problem, and the first time a single-case design has been applied to suicide prevention in the military.

There is much that the field of ABA can contribute to evaluate functional communication deficits associated with TBI, improving the management of suicidal behavior and prevention programs, using the standard celeration chart to monitor individual and program changes, and occupational training for veterans and service members. The MilVet SIG continues to support the efforts of last year's new presenters, Jim Meador and Amy Weich, and

the ANG suicide prevention project. It also will continue to support Crone-Todd's research, as well as that of Ward and/or Bernard in addition to 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 MilVet SIG is free, and the SIG will continue its presence at future ABAI Expos. This is 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 kentcorso@gmail.com or Dr. Calkin at abc@abigailbcalkin.com.

Behavior Analysis and Selectionist Robotics SIG

BY RICHARD WEISSMAN

During ABAI's 35th Annual Convention in 2009 in Phoenix, Arizona, Behavior Analysis and Selectionist Robotics (BASR) had its first meeting and became an ABAI SIG. The primary venue for SIG interaction was a Yahoo Group started on May 28, 2009, called Behavior Analysis and Robotics. There are currently 83 members of that group, of which only 16 joined after 2011. On November 6, 2009, BASR created a Facebook Group, which currently has 225 likes. Some Facebook subscribers are not ABAI members, but also include engineers working with and interested in robotics from a selectionist perspective.

The following standard celeration chart compares the number of Yahoo and Facebook posts with the first and last years extrapolated to a full 12 months. While the Yahoo posts have decelerated at a precipitous rate over the past 5 years, Facebook posts have, with a comparable bounce, accelerated significantly. In that first year, however, listserv communication was at a height that has been unmatched since and included the uploading of 22 files.

A business meeting was held for BASR at ABAI's

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annual convention in Denver, CO. On the agenda was a proposal to (1) vote on modifying the name of the SIG to better identify the topics that have proven to be of interest to this group, (2) set up focus groups to specialize in research on various subinterests within the SIG, and (3) brainstorm other possible collaborative SIG projects that could sustain participation throughout the year.

It was suggested that the name Reinforcement Learning and Selectionist Robotics might better identify the focus around which the interests of group members revolved. Reinforcement learning is an area of artificial intelligence (AI) in which a behaving system (agent) learns from the consequences of its responses to impinging stimuli. As such, it preserves conceptual continuity with behavior analysis while targeting the machine learning milieu. The term “selectionist” broadens the scope to include selection by technological effectiveness of machine innovations such as mobile phone apps.

In the last year, the major topics of SIG postings on Facebook, from which the subinterest subcommittees and chairs were identified were (1) behavioral substrates such as artificial synapses that expedite acquisition in AI; (2) robots that serve as operanda with contingencies for teaching critical skills (patient simulators for doctors, volleyball opponents for players, conspecifics with levers and food dispensers for rats); (3) models of human behavior (gun shooters, cookbook writers, language generalizers, peer (robot) teachers and generators of language, artificial empaths, music composers, disease diagnosticians); (4) tools for humanity (crop pollinators, traffic cops, prostheses and physical therapists for paraplegics, pocket brains for iPhones, home robots that provide entertainment, personal assistance, home automation, and childcare services); (5) sources of training and materials for becoming proficient in building selectionist robot systems; and (6) negative cultural effects and failed promises of robotics technology—especially jobs made obsolete and unintended effects on child development.

Beyond that, the review of brainstormed topics for potential collaboration included not only the aforementioned projects to enhance the quality and quantity of postings, but also the creation of a searchable website with an HTML usable mindmap of all topics posted to enhance usability, developing grants, and selecting symposia topics for next year's ABAI convention.

Behavior Analysis and Technology SIG

BY ZACHARY MORFORD

The Behavior Analysis and Technology SIG was created with the mission to advance the science of behavior through the development, dissemination, and application

of technology in basic and applied settings. Technology can refer to developments in behavioral science, as well as developments in computer science, information technology, and related fields. Technology is defined as, “...the use and knowledge of tools, techniques, systems or methods in order to solve a problem or serve some purpose” (Twyman, 2011).

This SIG aims to (1) serve as a scientific and professional reference and networking group for its members, (2) disseminate information to inform its membership and promote its mission to a wider audience, and (3) organize an annual meeting to provide a forum for discussion of the affairs of the SIG. In pursuit of the first aim, over the past year we have updated our website to include a list of SIG members offering programming assistance to behavior analysts in need (<https://batechsig.com/findaprogrammer/>). Additionally, we have a collection of programs offered for free by members and for members, but which may not be found directly on our website. In service of aim two, we maintain a blog on our website, through which we post a variety of articles related to technology. Lastly, we held an annual meeting at the 2017 ABAI convention in Denver, CO (business meeting #135). This meeting was Saturday, May 27, at 7 pm in the Colorado Convention Center Mile High Ballroom 1E/F.

Membership in the organization is free. If you or someone you know is interested in joining, you need only to fill out a membership application, found here: <https://batechsig.com/membership/>.

Crime, Delinquency, and Forensic Behavior Analysis SIG

BY KELLY KATES MCEL RATH AND JOSEPH CAUTILLI

The SIG's mission is to ensure that those in the criminal justice fields 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 behavioral intervention to reduce crime. Behavioral interventions can reduce crime by approximately 13-20% (Redondo-Illescas, Sánchez-Meca, & Garrido-Genovés, 2001) as well as prison misconduct (French & Gendreau, 2006). The SIG plans to remain active in this area over the coming year.

Behavioral parent training is a well-established treatment for oppositional defiant disorder and conduct disorder, which are often forerunners to adolescent delinquency (see O'Donohue & Ferguson, 2006). Finally, behaviorally oriented residential treatment programs are listed by the Surgeon General as promising for children and adolescents with conduct disorders. Recent evaluations of the literature suggest that the program is even more effective on post-release recidivism than first thought (Kingsley, 2006) so the results are promising.

Elderly and Veterans Populations

The SIG has been active in sending letters to the state of Pennsylvania to support use of behavior analysis for addressing the needs of the elderly and veteran, especially those suffering from post traumatic stress disorder. The SIG is also currently exploring collaboration with the Practitioner Issues SIG and the Veterans' SIG about ways to allow licensed behavior analysts to work in the VA system.

This SIG has much to offer those behavior analysts who are interested in the 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, which currently has 183 members. Discussion topics pertain to such subjects as providing consultation for veterans in prison, child medications, the 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 SIG

BY ANN 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. 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 2017 ABAI annual convention in Denver, Colorado. The agenda for this meeting was as follows:

- introductions and DI SIG mission statement
- highlights of 2016 meeting reviewed
- review DI SIG Facebook page and wiki
- overview of direct instruction program materials related to the core deficits in autism
- new member list distributed
- future directions of DI SIG discussed including interest and nominations for SIG chairperson

Participants in the 2017 business meeting received a tour of both the DI SIG Facebook page and direct instruction wiki website, as well as a review of the following program materials: language for learning, reading mastery, and critical thinking. A discussion on the future of the DI SIG took place and a few goals were established:

- Continue updates to DI SIG Facebook page and wiki.
- Post a review of the RM and LFL online materials.
- Identify DI SIG officers and volunteers to take on leadership roles for 2017 and beyond.

The DI SIG is currently looking for volunteers to collaborate with others on research projects that may offer solutions to instructional obstacles commonly identified in learners with special needs including individuals on the autism spectrum. The significance of evidence-based instructional practices has been established and numerous studies support direct instruction as an effective practice within this domain.

Dissemination of Behavior Analysis SIG

BY MEGAN MILLER

The Dissemination of Behavior Analysis SIG has had a very exciting 2017. We elected a new officer for the position of social media coordinator and would like to welcome Ashley Fiorelli into this position! Ashley has done a phenomenal job of updating our website and disseminating information related to behavior analysis on our Facebook page.

The SIG also created a grant to award \$500 to two different projects. The purpose of the grant is to support behavior analysts who are working to disseminate the science of behavior analysis in underserved populations or areas. Winners of the grant were announced at the ABAI 43rd Annual Convention in Denver. The SIG would like to thank Christy Evanko, Ana Escalante, and Laura McKee for assisting with planning the grant application process.

The SIG is also continuing to offer CEUs to members and the public at large. In May, we had a webinar with

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Ryan O'Donnell, BCBA, who presented on unique ways to disseminate behavior analysis. He shared with us some projects he and his colleagues are working on in the areas of sports and gifted education. Amanda Kelly presented for the SIG in June on sustainability. We look forward to hosting future CE activities in 2017 and beyond.

If you are interested in participating in the SIG, please visit our website at <http://aboutbehavior.webs.com/>.

Ethics and Behavior Analysis SIG

BY SHAWN QUIGLEY, MATT BRODHEAD, DAVID COX, AND NICOLLE MATTHEWS

The Ethics and Behavior Analysis Special Interest Group (EBA SIG) continued its mission of enhancing the current state of and providing recommendations for ethical conduct. In the past couple of the years, the SIG has sponsored ethics-based symposia at the ABAI annual convention, facilitated publication of conference presentations, collaborated with other professionals to submit ethics-based publications, and provided other ethics-based continuing education opportunities. The SIG will continue to enhance the ethical practice of behavior analysis via these activities and others. A summary of previous SIG activities is provided below.

2016 Annual Convention

The SIG helped to organize two events during ABAI's 42nd Annual Convention in Chicago, IL: Event #189, "Planning for the New BACB Compliance Code: Exploring How Ethical Behavior Is Taught Across Different Behavior Analytic Training Programs," was presented by Laura Bassette, Jeffrey Chan, Jessica Frieder, Lorraine Otte, Mary Jane Weiss, and Susan Wilczynski. The discussant was Matthew Brodhead. Event #433, "Discussing the New Behavior Analyst Certification Board's Compliance Code," was presented by Andrew Gardner, Abraham Graber, Tyra Sellers, and Steven Woolf. The discussant was Gina Green.

Publications supported by the SIG

The following recently or soon-to-be published articles were supported by the SIG:

- Fong, L., Catagnus, R., Brodhead, M., Quigley, S. P., & Field, S. P. (2016). Developing the cultural awareness skills of behavior analysts. *Behavior Analysis in Practice*, 9, 84–94. (accepted)
- Brodhead, M. T., Quigley, S. P., & Wilczynski, S. Scope of competency and specialty care for ABA: Do we create guidelines or risk having them developed for us? *Behavior Analysis in Practice*. (under review)
- Quigley, S. P., Blevins, P. R., Cox, D. J., Brodhead, M.

T., & Kim, S. Y. An evaluation of the ethical implications of telehealth research with individuals with autism.

Behavior Analysis Research and Practice. (under review)

- Several telehealth manuscripts under review with *Behavior Analysis Research and Practice* for a special issue regarding ethics

Additionally, the EBA SIG wishes to thank Yaniz Padilla Dalmau, Stephanie Peterson, Joy Pollard, Patrick Romani, Richard Spates, Wayne Fisher, and their coauthors for accepting an invitation from the SIG to submit a telehealth manuscript for *Behavior Analysis Research and Practice's* special issue.

Continuing education opportunities supported by the SIG

The EBA SIG partnered with the University of New Mexico, the New Mexico Association of Applied Behavior Analysis, the ABAI Autism SIG, and the Behavior Change Institute to provide a series of webinars. The webinars were developed in response to the growing presence of autism practitioners in New Mexico, parent requests for information, and legislative funding developments. The webinars are listed in alphabetical order below.

- David J. Cox—"Philosophical Premises Underlying the BACB Professional and Ethical Compliance Code"
- Justin Leaf—"Applied Behavior Analysis as a Progressive Science"
- Gregory R. Mancil—"What to Expect From a Behavior Analytic Company"
- Robert K. Ross—"Behavior Analysts and Minimum Standards of Competence"
- Mary Jane Weiss—"Evidence-Based Practice in the World of Autism"

Workshop

Shawn Quigley and Matthew Brodhead conducted a workshop titled, "A Progressive Approach to Ethics Training and Supervision" during the annual conference of the APBA in New Orleans, LA. The SIG wishes to thank Gina Green for the invitation to provide an ethics-based workshop.

Any monetary gain from continuing education events is donated to the EBA SIG and/or partnering organizations.

Conclusion

The EBA SIG leadership is excited about another year of opportunities to develop and disseminate ethics-based information. We hope that with our other initiatives up and running strong we will add further opportunities for practitioners of ABA. Specifically, the SIG has been discussing and preparing to offer a small grant to support ethics-based research. We hope to have this grant finalized in the next year. Any individuals interested in learning more about the SIG and participating will find information at <http://ebasig.xyz/>.

Gambling SIG

BY GSIG OFFICERS

The Gambling Special Interest Group (GSIG) is a home base for behaviorists interested in gambling research and treatment. Our mission is to foster the growth of gambling research in behavior analysis through collaborative research efforts, the coordination of researchers and ideas, and the sharing of resources for the mutual benefit of the field, its adherents, and those who are impacted by such endeavors. Most of our business is online, through email chains and our message board. We invite interested parties to join the GSIG for free; whether your interest relates to research, treatment, policy, all of the above, or more broadly about risk and choice, we bet you will find the GSIG resources and literature on the behavioral analysis of gambling rewarding. Our website (gig.squarespace.com) is where prospective members can get information about the GSIG and join our group. The website also houses research software. Each program represents hours of work or finances staked by a behavioral researcher, and each program is completely free to our members. The programs simulate gambling with control over features of the games. As always, GSIG members are encouraged to download these programs, experiment with their features, and incorporate them into their own research. Also available through the website is our newsletter, *The Handle*, which is available to members with back issues archived online. *The Handle* offers members stories and news that are not readily available in journals and conferences, and thus serves as an additional source of useful information. GSIG members and officers presented at ABAI as well as other conferences in the past year. Officers and some members also collaborated in compiling a behavioral research bibliography. Join us at gsig.squarespace.com, on our discussion board, at upcoming conferences, or at the ABAI annual convention next year. Persons interested in gambling should also visit *Analysis of Gambling Behavior* at <http://repository.stcloudstate.edu/agb> for a journal devoted to behavioral research. The GSIG has had a long relationship with *Analysis of Gambling Behavior*, as many GSIG members have supported the journal in various roles over the years.

Health, Sport, and Fitness SIG

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. We aim to bring together behavior analysts and students of behavior analysis with interest in health, sports, and fitness. Our goal is to provide opportunities for networking and collaboration and to support research and application of behavior analysis in health, sport, and fitness.

At the ABAI 43rd Annual Convention in Denver, we

hosted a symposium titled, "Increasing Strategic Movement in the Workplace and How Personal Quantification Can Help." During this symposium, Julie Slowiak presented, "Effects of Physical Movement and Positioning on Work Performance and Wellbeing"; Nicholas Green presented, "Evaluating Feedback on Workplace Physical Inactivity"; and Stephen Flora presented, "The Psychological Benefits of Personal Quantification." We also hosted a second symposium titled, "Using Behavior Analytic Interventions to Increase Physical Activity and Decrease Maladaptive Behaviors in Children and Adults." At this symposium, Heather Waldron presented, "The Effects of Choice on Exercise Duration in Young Children"; Bhawandeep Bains presented, "Observational Learning and Physical Activity in Children With Autism Spectrum Disorders"; and Brandon May presented, "Increasing Physical Activity in Persons With Developmental Disabilities."

Additionally, we had a "Tai Chi for Health and Relaxation" session with Jill Basso from Desert Sage Tai Chi. We were also at the Expo and had our annual business meeting, where we discussed the future of the HSF SIG. For the upcoming year, Gabrielle Torres and Michael Sofis will continue to serve as the HSF SIG chair and events and resources coordinator, respectively. Elections were also held to fill the other leadership positions. In addition, plans were made to add additional benefits and features for members on the new HSF SIG website, which includes a members-only section. Currently, the members-only section provides dues-paying members access to resources, webinars, and a forum dedicated to research and practice-based collaborations.

As there continues to be growing interest in applying behavior analysis to the field of health, sport, and fitness, our focus for the upcoming year will be to increase collaboration opportunities for our members in both research and practice. Additionally, we plan to continue expanding the resources available to our members and the general public, as well as increase the continuing education opportunities available to our members.

The HSF SIG would like to thank Michael Sofis, Julie Slowiak, Nicholas Green, Stephen Flora, Heather Waldron, Bhawandeep Bains, Marianne Jackson, Amanda Nicolson, Brandon May, John Guercio, Jill Basso, and Laraine Winston for their contributions to events in Denver and their efforts to help improve and expand the SIG.

For more information check out our website (<http://www.hfsigabai.com>), Facebook page (facebook.com/ABAI.HSF.SIG/), or Twitter feed (<https://twitter.com/hfsig>). You will also find details about joining the HSF SIG on our website. To contribute to our blog or to take a more active role in the HSF SIG, please contact us at hsf.abai@gmail.com.

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Multicultural SIG: Multicultural Alliance of Behavior Analysts

BY LILA AYYAD-ALHARSHA SQUARE
AND SAKURAKO TANAKA

The purpose of the Multicultural Alliance of Behavior Analysts (MultiABA) is to connect behavior analysts who have interest and/or experience in serving multicultural/minority populations, whether they be ethnic, religious, geographic, or socio-economic. We are the first nonprofit multicultural association established to support research, growth, and networking around multicultural issues in behavior analysis.

In November 2016, MultiABA welcomed two student representatives to our board, Mattina Davenport and David Cox, BCBA. The MultiABA board now includes eight members. Additionally, in February 2017, Robyn Catagnus, Ed.D., BCBA-D, LBS, stepped down from her position as past president.

Each year, the members of the MultiABA board develop goals in alignment with our mission, and board members meet monthly to move their plans forward. We have made progress in many areas this past year and are excited to share the details with you.

In 2015, MultiABA gained approval to establish the first BACB approved course sequence in Japan. The board approved the establishment of both a 270-hour (BCBA) course sequence and a 180-hour (BCABA) course sequence. The courses are taught by Sakurako Tanaka, BCBA-D (ACS chair), Kozue Matsuda, BCBA, and Yukie Kurumiya, BCBA. Additionally, our guest faculty includes William L. Heward, BCBA-D; Naoko Sugiyama, Ph.D.; Yoshiaki Nakano, Ph.D.; and Koji Takeshima, BCBA-D. The course sequence began in April 2016 and at that time we had eight students enrolled with two of the students completing coursework to obtain their BCABAs in March 2017. The next course sequence began in April 2017, and we have an additional six students enrolled for the next cohort. MultiABA feels that our effort building this program truly represents the advancement of our mission to disseminate and support the research and applications of behavior analysis in order to advance the treatment and plight of people suffering from disabilities around the world.

MultiABA has organized professional development opportunities to raise cultural awareness amongst behavior analysts since 2013. In 2015 and 2016, MultiABA was well represented at ABAI's annual conventions in San Antonio and Chicago respectively, as well as at the international conference in Japan. Our members presented both panel discussions 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 2017.

Additionally, throughout the year the ACS team provided seminars on ABA, media releases, and publications to promote ACS in Japan. Also in conjunction with ACS, MultiABA participated in an ABA symposium in July 2016 with Dr. William Heward and Dr. Neil Martin (BACB). The symposium addressed diverse applications of ABA including autism treatment, environmental sustainability, and gerontology. The ACS faculty team was also invited to provide a symposium at the International Congress of Psychology in Yokohama to address the importance of evidence-based practice in ABA.

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 have a platform to share the scope of our work in social development with more than 24,000 CSOs registered with the United Nations. At this time, we are working on determining the role MultiABA intends to play within diverse organizations, communities, working groups, and other NPOs, as well as contributions behavior analysts can provide to make the world a better place through the United Nations. In particular, we believe that behavior analysts can and should reach out to minority populations globally, to provide evidence-based scientific treatment for a whole range of illnesses, including but not limited to autism, developmental disorders, and illnesses associated with aging.

Furthermore, we are addressing environmental sustainability research and advocacy. This is one of the critical issues that the United Nations has focused on due to its significance to the survival of our species and our planet. We wish to create a platform to introduce behavior analytic expertise in this area and connect behavior analysts to the United Nations.

MultiABA will continue to embrace the mission of ABAI to guide our work. While our main focus is on culture and diversity in behavior analysis, we will always continue to focus on contributing 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.

Positive Behavior Support SIG

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 goal is 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, as well as support practitioners in their 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 had three presidents since its inception.

The PBS SIG held its annual business meeting at the 2016 ABAI annual convention. Approximately 30 people attended the business meeting. Combined with the people expressing interest the previous year, the current stable membership of the PBS SIG is approximately 50 individuals, an increase of 8 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 the SIG and ABAI and to have a greater presence at each organizations' conferences. Some suggestions were to get more sessions that focused on uses of PBS approaches in the ABAI annual convention 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 2016–2017:

- Submitting a symposium application to APBS that would describe the ABA principles used in PBS.
- Submitting a symposium for the ABAI 43rd Annual Convention in Denver.
- Continuing to pursue using a listserv to communicate across members.

The SIG has met the first two goals. A symposium was presented at the APBS 14th Annual International Conference in Denver in March. The symposium consisted of a panel of four SIG members, and questions were selected by the participants for discussion. 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. Additionally, a PBS symposium was approved and presented during the ABAI 43rd Annual Convention in May 2017.

Goal 3 has been initiated and will be continued in 2017–2018. The listserv will continue to be used to provide information to the members. For example, a message will be sent to the listserv to inform members of the date and time of the SIG business meeting as well as ask them to share the information with colleagues who may be interested in joining.

To grow and maintain the PBS SIG within ABAI, it will be essential for the convention to be seen as a place members can feel valued, as well as 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 2018 ABAI convention and APBS conference.
- Establish goals to increase membership through subscribing more people on the listserv.
- Develop a media presence that can be used to inform the public of the SIG and provide accurate information.

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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Practitioner Issues in Behavior Analysis SIG

BY MICHAEL WEINBERG

The Practitioner Issues in Behavior Analysis (PIBA) SIG 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. We currently have a membership of 65 and also maintain a Yahoo listserv for communication among members.

This SIG works with members and other SIGs 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 communicating about current trends and concerns pertaining to practice 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 application of 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 SIG made an effort to coordinate with other relevant SIGs, and is working in coordination with the ABAI SIG Committee to promote our mission and collaborative efforts. 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 SIGs on this matter of great importance and concern in our evolution as a profession.

We extend our support to the ABAI Practice Board on such efforts. 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 that this linkage continues.

We are seeking nominations for officers for the coming year. Please join our PIBA SIG Yahoo Group to post your nominations for officers. We welcome new members

and hope to meet with those interested at the annual convention and other ABAI events. Please sign and request to join the list. We do not keep a separate list of our SIG members. Members in this SIG can be found on the list site: abapractice_group@yahoogroups.com.

Speech Pathology SIG

BY NIKIA DOWER

The mission of the Speech Pathology-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 studying issues in speech, language, and communication.

The SPABA SIG is grateful for the support and continued guidance from past chair, Barb Esch. We would also like to thank our current slate of officers and volunteers: Tracie Lindblad and Nikia Dower are the current co-chairs. Additional chairs and positions include Amber Valentino Girman (Grant Awards Committee), Heather Forbes (treasurer), Lina Slim-Topdjian (secretary) and Landa Mark (Membership Committee).

In our 2016–2017 membership cycle, our paid members increased to 55. As our previous updates have indicated, this continues to be due to increased free access to SIG information and interaction through our Facebook social media presence. However, when we combine our SPABA Facebook Group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/SPABA.SIG/>) membership with our formal membership, we can confidently confirm that our efforts to increase our speech-language pathologist (SLP) and BCBA membership through social media has been successful, with 2,375 Facebook group members at the end of 2016, as compared to only 594 members at the end of 2014. The SPABA Facebook group has enabled our members to connect with each other in order to share or request pertinent information in a more 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 had 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. This has helped increase membership and operating funds for both 2015 and 2016.

In addition to the SPABA Facebook group, an increased social media presence was established for the SPABA SIG in 2016. SPABA is on Twitter with the handle @SPABASIG, and now has a Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/SPABASIGofABAI/>) and a Pinterest account (<https://www.pinterest.com/SPABASIGofABAI/>).

Our redesigned website has also enabled us to continue connecting with our members and any other interested professionals. We are proud to announce that there now are more than 300 SLPs who are BCBAs or BCaBAs worldwide. We are present in more than 40 states and 8 countries. We continue to provide and maintain an online database of practitioners dually certified as SLPs and BCBAs/BCaBAs from around the world (<https://www.pinterest.com/dowerassociates/slp-bcbas-slp-bcabas/>) and have a document available for upload detailing the online/distance courses for the BACB 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.

The SPABA SIG is honored to have been granted the opportunity to house the research and literature work of Giri Hegde, retired professor of speech-language pathology in the Department of Communicative Disorders at California State University, Fresno on the SPABA website. His contributions to the field of speech pathology and his behavior analytic approach have been so helpful to the field as SLPs work to understand behavior analysis and to apply its principles to their work.

The SIG and our members 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 the 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 in so doing have furthered the SIG mission. Our members presented at the ABAI 2016 annual convention, ASHA 2016 conference, 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 2016. One SLP-BCBA was the editor of the book *Technology and the Treatment of Children With Autism Spectrum Disorder*, which was published in December 2016.

As previously reported, the SIG decided to change the annual 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 Denver. 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 submissions for the 2018 grants will be at the beginning of April 2018 with the application advertised and available in January 2018.

The SPABA SIG executive is looking forward to expanding our membership through various initiatives and social media and also increasing member participation on the executive and within our committees. We are also planning to complete a number of projects over the year to support our members:

- Developing 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.
- Working with the Verbal Behavior and Behavioral Gerontology SIGs on joint programs and initiatives.
- Continuing dissemination of behavior analytic information on speech/language to ASHA members through the ASHA Community Forum listserv 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, financial contributions, or committee support so that we may meet the needs of our membership and complete our activities.

If you are interested in learning more about the SPABA SIG, wish to volunteer to sit on 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 TIMOTHY C. FULLER, VICTORIA HOCH, AOIFE MCTIERNAN, AND STAHILI MEYER

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 for the founding principles and applications of our science (i.e., standing on the shoulders of giants), generosity in our interactions with others, driving and

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embracing change, social beneficence, commitment to evidence-based practice, and having fun. Since 2015, SCS has employed an organization structure comprising a board of directors and volunteer leadership teams that actively work toward implementing new and maintaining current initiatives designed to further the organization's mission.

We have an active board of directors (five members, 3-year terms): president(s), president-elect, vice presidents (five), and associate vice presidents (five) who make up the organizational framework. The board provides guidance and decision making for the SCS president, who is tasked with carrying out board initiatives with vice presidents, associate vice presidents, and volunteers. Current leadership teams are finance, programs, membership, scientific and academic relations, communications, operations management, and the recently added marketing. Since the beginning of 2015, our leadership teams have actively developed the underlying systems to support the SIG's structure and facilitate institutional memory as there is transition in our leadership roles, an important component for voluntary leadership teams to maintain productivity.

Current priority initiatives include 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 the International Precision Teaching Conference (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). Along with our redesigned website, there is an initiative to highlight our organization's entrepreneurial members such that their skills, insights, and strategies over decades of business development in the area of precision teaching can be made available to others looking to start their own business. This is an exciting opportunity to become involved with the SCS as this organization has had a long history of entrepreneurs creating successful operations that provide clinical/educational services outside the mainstream of applied behavior analysis.

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 2016. The society was honored to have Dr. Pat Friman and Dr. Amanda VanDerHeyden as keynote speakers along with an array of invited addresses, panels, paper symposia, and a poster session. The conference took place in Reno, Nevada. This year, we celebrate our 30th Annual IPTC November 2–4 in

St. Pete Beach, Florida at the Tradewinds Beach Resort. 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 community. This nurturing group is full of brilliant and seasoned professionals who are always willing to offer advice or mentorship. Simply become a member and see the opportunities multiply.

Theoretical, Philosophical, and Conceptual Issues SIG

BY BENJAMIN N. WITTS

The 2017 ABAI annual convention in Chicago marked the Theoretical, Philosophical, and Conceptual Issues Special Interest Group's (TPC-SIG) third year. We would like to update the members and soon-to-be-members on the progress we have been making.

The TPC-SIG was created in response to ABAI having a TPC track, but no SIG to help support it. A group of behavior analysis' best philosophical and theoretical thinkers, up-and-comers, and students joined together to help establish the SIG. As we continue to spread the word and take on new initiatives, we hope to see our membership continue to grow.

We held our third meeting for the TPC-SIG on May 27 from 7–7:50pm and this year's meeting easily ranked as one of the top three highest attended meetings we've had.

The TPC-SIG is an accepting and encompassing group. 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. We invite challenges to current conceptualizations in behavior analysis. Philosophical concerns are readily open to debate, as diversity in opinion amongst members is necessary for the health of the field. We have a TPC sub-Reddit that serves as our primary outlet for discussion and debate, though we still maintain a listserv.

Members can join the TPC-SIG by joining our sub-Reddit at <https://www.reddit.com/r/TheoreticalIssuesSIG>. Alternatively, interested persons can join the listserv community at <http://lists.stcloudstate.edu/mailman/listinfo/tpc-l>. The sub-Reddit was created primarily by the pioneering initiatives of Joseph Hacker and Tyler Glassford. Reddit was selected as a site to host TPC discussions as it permitted us a few advantages:

- All discussions are permanently archived. Consider that with a listserv, digging through archives can be difficult, assuming they are even there! With Reddit, the archived

discussions are all separated by topic and show the discussions taking place.

- Reddit allows content within a discussion to be voted on, so the most important or meaningful contributions surface to the top. This is especially useful when conversations get lengthy and the response effort to digest each point becomes monumental.
- Users are allowed to post anonymously, which eliminates issues of feeling embarrassed for asking questions one perceives to be foolish or to test out responses one thinks might be met with some pushback from other members. While we at TPC encourage friendly communication (indeed our moderators can remove hostile comments and users), the fear of rejection or disagreement should not prevent anyone

from participating. This format helps eliminate this concern for our members.

- Reddit allows members to track discussions and receive updates when their favorite posts get a new comment. This means that inboxes are not filled with topics they are not interested in, permitting members greater control over the content they receive.

The sub-Reddit has proven successful, generating more content and discussion than our listserv. Topics on the site have been varied and regularly updated. As our membership grows and more users matriculate to the site, we expect to see these posts and discussions continue to expand and lead to greater diversity. ❖

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TOWARD THE DEVELOPMENT OF BEHAVIOR SCIENCE IN INDIA

BY MARIA E. MALOTT, SMITA AWASTHI, MARTHA HÜBNER, LINDA J. PARROTT HAYES, AND INGUNN SANDAKER



1 Delegates speak to journalists during a press conference. From left to right: Ingunn Sandaker, Maria E. Malott, Smita Awasthi, Martha Hübner, and Linda J. Parrott Hayes. **2** Panel in systems analysis. From left to right, Maria Malott, Krishnaswami Srihari, and Ingunn Sandaker. **3** Members of ABA India who participated in the discussion about chapter goals and the establishment of the science of behavior in the country.

**Maria E. Malott**

From September 18–25, 2016, an ABAI delegation traveled to India to promote the long-term development of behavior science in that large, diverse, and rapidly changing country. With more than 1.2 billion people (India, 2016), India has tremendous potential for growth and fertile ground to build a strong foundation in the science of behavior and its applications. Today, India is the seventh-largest economy in the world, and the fastest growing. The size of the population and recent accelerated economic advances accentuate the huge disparities between a few wealthy citizens and the disproportionately large number who live in poverty and who face significant challenges in education, living conditions, and health care.

As young people move to cities looking for education and employment, India is receiving international support to improve standards of living and pave the way for a much brighter future. For instance, the World Bank established a 5-year partnership (2013–2017) to achieve faster, more sustainable growth via support in the areas of financing, advisory services, and programs to overcome critical challenges such as improvements in quality education and socioeconomic empowerment of girls and young women (Mehra, 2014; World Bank, 2016). As another example, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation donated to the Public Health Foundation of India for treatment and prevention of infectious disease (Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, 2016).

Initiated at a request from ABA India, an ABAI-affiliated chapter, the delegation was approved by the Executive Council to disseminate information regarding ABAI and the development of the science of behavior. Smita Awasthi and Maria Malott prepared for the trip with invaluable support from the ABAI President Martha Hübner, Past President Linda J. Parrott Hayes, and International Representative to the Council, Ingunn Sandaker—all delegates.

Figure 1 shows a meeting at the century-old

**Smita Awasthi**

Press Club of India. There, delegates met with about 20 journalists from media companies and newspapers in India.

Delegates

All delegates brought unique perspectives and expertise to contribute to the dialogue.

Maria E. Malott, ABAI CEO, has been managing ABAI's growth and diversification under the direction of the ABAI Executive Council for 23 years. She has also served as a behavior systems science consultant to companies across a variety of industries: health, manufacturing, retail, and services. Her focus was to explore how ABAI's network, products, and services could assist in furthering the development of the science in India. In addition, along with Ingunn Sandaker, Malott helped to educate relevant constituencies on the application of behavior science to human systems and organizations.

Smita Awasthi was the host of the delegation and representative of ABA India. Along with ABA India and leaders in applied behavior analysis in the country, she coordinated exchanges with education, government, and research institutions that expressed interest in behavioral science. A doctoral student at Queen's University Belfast, UK, her interest in behavior science began 27 years ago while she was working on a UNICEF project involving children with developmental disabilities. She has spent more than 20 years in the field of autism and developmental disabilities and has long appreciated the need to solidify the science of behavior in higher education and expand applications to other areas.

Martha Hübner, who has been instrumental in the development of behavior analysis in Brazil, participated in her role as ABAI's president. Dr. Hübner is a full professor of experimental psychology at the Institute of Psychology, University of São Paulo. She conducts research at

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**Martha Hübner****Linda J. Parrott Hayes****Ingunn Sandaker**

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the Laboratory for the Study of Verbal Operants, managing processes in the acquisition of symbolic behaviors such as reading, writing, and verbal episodes. She works in three research areas: the investigation of the empirical relations between verbal and nonverbal behavior, the analysis of the processes of control by minimal units in reading, and the study of behavior programs for children with autism.

Linda J. Parrott Hayes, past president of ABAI, is a distinguished professor at the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR). She led ABAI's Education Board for several years and has been influential in its recent development, as well as in the definition of standards for accrediting programs in behavior analysis. She co-founded the behavior analysis program at UNR on a self-capitalization model and served as its director for more than a decade. Dr. Hayes is the founder and director UNR's satellite programs in behavior analysis, which are aimed at meeting the ever-growing demand for qualified practitioners in regions where appropriate training has been unavailable or inaccessible. She has participated in other international delegations and, through efforts at UNR, established master's programs in behavior analysis in Jordan and Saudi Arabia.

Ingunn Sandaker contributed as international representative to the ABAI Executive Council. She is a professor at Akershus University College and initiated the development of the first Ph.D. program in behavior analysis in Norway and established the first international BA and MA programs accredited by the Behavior Analysis Accreditation Board of ABAI in 2014. She has been a management consultant to a variety of companies, including Norwegian energy companies, the Norwegian Olympic Committee, and Phillips Petroleum. Her focus for the delegation was to bring performance management within a systems framework and integrate complementary scientific positions with a behavior analytic conceptual perspective.

The delegates traveled to Delhi and Bangalore and met with several institutions, the press, the local chapter, and leaders in behavior analysis in the country. The initiative focused on educating relevant constituencies on a comprehensive and global perspective of the science of behavior, and the role of ABAI and ABA India.

ABA India

ABA India was affiliated with ABAI in 2006, and since its inception has focused on the development of behavior analysis applications to the treatment of children with autism, as well as training parents and professionals. Applied behavior analysis began in India with the creation and spread of autism centers, which now total approximately 80 across 15 cities. There are more than 30 BACB-credentialed practitioners in the country, and they are expanding efforts to train a critical mass of behavior

analysts to meet a dire need for services to children with autism and other disabilities—though there is not yet an academic program to generate doctoral and master's-level graduates. The chapter has 45 members and is interested in expanding its contributions in all domains and applications, including addressing environmental issues and climate change and helping organizations and institutions succeed. At the chapter's annual conference, in pursuit of diversification of applications, a special session addressed why some organizations survive and others fail (see figure 2).

Delegates also met for a discussion session with the members of ABA India. The discussion focused on particular needs of the chapter, how to diversify applications, and how to encourage the development of higher education programs. Figure 3 shows chapter members who participated in the discussion.

In addition, delegates met with leaders of influential organizations in Delhi and Bangalore, including two critical institutions for the establishment of higher education in India:

- **The University Grants Commission (UGC).** Since 1956, this government institution has approved the standards of higher education in the country regarding teaching, examination, and research.
- **The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.** A government institution that establishes rules and regulations for practice, training, and skills at doctoral, master's, bachelor's, and technical levels.

The delegates also met with leaders from two of the top-ranking universities in the country:

- **The University of Delhi.** A unitary teaching and residential university established in 1922.
- **The National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences.** A research and academic training institute for patient care in mental health and neurosciences that provides input to the central and state governments on national programs for mental health.

Finally, the delegates met with researchers and the top administrator of the Indian Council of Medical Research. Founded in 1911. This is one of the largest medical research bodies in the world and focuses on research from biomedical disciplines to control and manage communicable and non-communicable diseases.

Delegation Points of Emphasis

A worldwide behavioral revolution is taking place. As a science, we need to respond to growing global recognition of and demand for our work. There are inspiring global initiatives, such as Barack Obama's *Executive Order Using Behavioral Science Insights to Better Serve the American People* (White House, 2015), which was issued for immediate

release from the Office of the Press Secretary during his presidency. This executive order aimed to put into effect a Behavioral Science Insights Policy Directive (Grunwald, 2009). Other international initiatives are bringing global recognition to the need for behavioral solutions to improve societies. We hope that India assumes a role in such developments.

A solid foundation in behavior science must include basic and applied research and theory. The delegates all agreed with Hübner's statements that, "practice without theory and basic research is blind," and, "theory and basic research without practice are lame" (Hübner, 2015). Blindness coming from the rupture between practice and science domains affects the whole field. Without science, over time behavioral practice becomes adulterated. We need our epistemology and our philosophy to make new analyses when we face new problems; techniques alone do not give us the tools to develop and improve the field (2015).

Behavior science must work with other sciences to improve society. We need to integrate other evidence-based fields so that we might be recognized across disciplines. Accreditation and codification of behavior analysis as a scientific system are key to recognition by other basic and applied sciences. Behavior science is a basic science like biology, physics, and chemistry, and like other basic sciences it also has an applied aspect, similar to medicine, engineering, and pharmacology. If the science is fractured it cannot be taken seriously by other sciences.

Quality programs in higher education are essential.

Quality accredited bachelor's, master's, and doctoral university programs are critical for the long-term establishment of a discipline. The aim of program accreditation is to specify and standardize the elements of high-quality educational programs in behavior analysis at different levels. To increase the number of highly qualified practitioners, behavior science must be installed in universities, and eventually graduate courses will need to be delivered by doctoral-level instructors.

Behavior science applications to human systems are needed for improving communities. In efforts to help communities, a systems perspective is invaluable. Not only can behavior systems science assist leaders to focus on the development of their organizations, but it can also aid in determining how to best influence government, nonprofit, and for-profit organizations through understanding of the interaction of subsystems, identification of core behavioral processes, and management for continuous growth.

Conclusion

Delegations such as this one are consistent with ABAI'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 (Malott, 2003). This most recent international delegation followed trips to Russia (Malott, Morrow, Glenn, & Hayes, 2001); China (Malott et al., 2002); Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, and Qatar (Malott et al., 2003); and Jordan (Fisher, Hayes, Logue,

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Marr, & Malott, 2005).

The 2016 delegation to India has been fruitful in the aspect of disseminating information about the wide scope of behavior science and its multiple applications, the global emphasis on behavior to find solutions to society's major problems, the critical importance of solid higher education foundations, and the role of ABAI. Since our return, ABAI accreditation specialists have been requested as advisors to help define standards of higher education in India. There is also interest in pursuing exchanges with research scientists from various disciplines to learn about behavioral research methodology. These efforts are now being explored. We realize that the needs in India are significant, but so is the potential, and we look forward to celebrating what is certain to be major growth in behavioral science in that nation. ABAI, ABA India, and many other organizations anticipate productive cooperation and collaboration in the years ahead. ❖

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Behavior Analysis in the City of Light: ABAI's Ninth International Conference

BY MARIA E. MALOTT

Photo: SHURPERMARIO on Wikimedia Commons

WE ARE DELIGHTED TO HOST our Ninth International Conference in Paris, France. Please reserve November 14–15, 2017—a lovely time of year to be in Paris.

Conference registrants will benefit from a significant sleeping room discount at the newly renovated Paris Marriott Rive Gauche Hotel & Conference Center, a 4-star hotel near the Luxembourg Gardens and Gare Montparnasse. Registrants will also receive complimentary coffee breaks, a lunch, reception, and entertainment.

Invited Presenters

A Brief History of Basic Behavior-Analytic Research on Human Language and Cognition: From Skinner to Derived Relations and Beyond



Dermot Barnes-Holmes

Dr. Dermot Barnes-Holmes received his D.Phil. in behavioral 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,

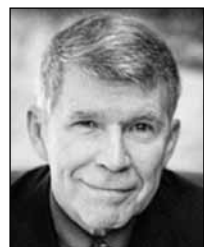
having previously served on the faculties of the National University of Ireland, Maynooth, and University College Cork. Dr. Barnes-Holmes is an extraordinarily prolific researcher who has made extensive contributions to the

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.

ABSTRACT: The history of basic research in behavior analysis on human language and cognition could be traced back to the publication of Skinner's (1957) *Verbal Behavior* and to the distinction that he made subsequently between contingency-shaped versus rule-governed behavior in *An Operant Analysis of Problem Solving* (Skinner, 1966). Although basic research studies were slow to emerge from

the former work, the latter publication was critical in generating a whole plethora of studies that were directly relevant to the behavior analytic study of human language and cognition. The seminal research on equivalence relations by Sidman (1994) and colleagues, which commenced in the early 1970s and led to the development of relational frame theory (Hayes, Barnes-Holmes, & Roche, 2001), provided another critically important source of inspiration for basic research in this area. The current paper will present an overview of this 60-year-old unfolding research story and will consider some empirical and conceptual issues that appear to require focused attention as the story continues to unfold across the coming decades.

The Growing Impact of Behavioral Science on Cultural Evolution



Anthony Biglan

Anthony Biglan, Ph.D., is a senior scientist at Oregon Research Institute. He is the author of *The Nurture Effect: How the Science of Human Behavior Can Improve our Lives and Our World*.

Dr. Biglan has been conducting research on the development and prevention of child and adolescent problem behavior for the past 30 years. His work has included studies of the risk and protective factors associated with tobacco, alcohol, and other drug use; high-risk sexual behavior; and antisocial behavior. He has conducted numerous experimental evaluations of interventions to prevent tobacco use both through school-based programs and community-wide interventions. And, he has evaluated interventions to prevent high-risk sexual behavior, antisocial behavior, and reading failure.

In recent years, his work has shifted to more comprehensive interventions that have the potential to prevent the entire range of child and adolescent problems. He and colleagues at the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences published a book summarizing the epidemiology, cost, etiology, prevention, and treatment of youth with multiple problems (Biglan et al., 2004). He is a former president of the Society for Prevention Research. He was a member of the Institute of Medicine Committee on Prevention, which released its report in 2009 documenting numerous evidence-based preventive interventions that can prevent multiple problems. As a member of Oregon's Alcohol and Drug Policy Commission, he is helping to develop a strategic plan for implementing comprehensive evidence-based interventions throughout Oregon.

Information about Dr. Biglan's publications can be found at www.ori.org/scientists/anthony_biglan.

ABSTRACT: In the past 70 years, the behavioral sciences achieved knowledge of human behavior and cultural

evolution that is beginning to reap significant benefits in terms of improving human well-being. This presentation will provide a brief overview of the knowledge we have gained with special emphasis on the behavior analytic roots of much of that progress. I will then provide specific and diverse examples of how effective interventions are being implemented around the world at a scale that is beginning to affect the well-being of entire populations.

Fifty Years of Research in Complex Human Reinforcers



R. Douglas Greer

Dr. R. Douglas Greer is professor of psychology and education at the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences and Teachers College of Columbia University where he heads the MA and Ph.D. programs in behavior analysis and the education of students

with disabilities. He has served on the editorial boards of 10 journals, published over 200 research and theoretical articles in more than 20 journals, and is the author of 13 books in behavior analysis. Two of his most recent books are translated into Korean, Spanish, and Italian. Greer has sponsored 216 doctoral dissertations taught over 2,000 teachers and psychologists, originated the CABAS model of schooling used in the USA, Ireland, Italy, England and founded the Fred S. Keller School (www.cabasschools.org). He has done basic and applied experimental research in schools with students, teachers, parents, and supervisors as well as pediatric patients in medical settings. He and his colleagues have identified verbal behavior and social developmental cusps and protocols to establish them when they are missing in children. He is a recipient of the Fred S. Keller Award for Distinguished Contributions to Education from the American Psychology Association, a Fellow of the Association for Behavior Analysis International, and May 5 has been dedicated as R. Douglas Day by Westchester County Legislators. He has served as guest professor at universities in China, Spain, Wales, England, Japan, Korea, India, Ireland, Italy, USA, and Nigeria.

ABSTRACT: After over five decades of research in behavior analysis devoted to behaviors of making and choosing music, learning of behaviors, teaching behavior and a cybernetic teaching system, as well as verbal behavior and its development, I think I have really been studying reinforcers rather than behavior. I shall describe why I think that identifying and establishing reinforcers that humans can learn (or not learn) to contact suggests the sources of multiple responses to single stimuli and single responses to multiple stimuli. Build reinforcers and the reinforcers will continue to add new responses, new motivational conditions,

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and numerous discriminative stimuli. Learned reinforcers and motivational conditions make complex human behaviors and contextual control possible.

From the Clinic to the Lab and Back

Per Holth



Professor Per Holth received his license to practice psychology in 1983, and his Ph.D. in 2000, with a dissertation on the generality of stimulus equivalence. His clinical work has been in services for people with autism and developmental disabilities, in psychiatric units, and in the military services. His research activities span basic research, on stimulus equivalence and joint attention, as well as applied work and management of large research projects. Per Holth has taught classes in behavior analysis and learning principles at the University of Oslo and Oslo and Akershus University College (OAUC) since 1982, and joined the faculty of OAUC and the program for learning in complex systems, as an associate professor in 2004 and as full professor in 2006. He teaches classes in all behavior-analytic education programs at OAUC. He has written for peer-reviewed publications on basic research, applied work, and philosophy of science; served on several editorial boards; and he has a member of the editorial troika of the *European Journal of Behavior Analysis* for 15 years. He has been a program co-coordinator of the TPC area of ABAI, is currently a program co-coordinator for the development area, and he is on the board of directors of the B. F. Skinner Foundation. His current research interests have drifted in the direction of basic experimental work with animals and humans.

ABSTRACT: An important modern challenge concerns how to make sure that we use the behavioral science that we already have. However, it is also a challenge to make sure we have the basic science that we need. For example when working with children with autism, both of these challenges are continuously relevant. Although basic behavioral science may in some areas be far more advanced than what we have thus far been able to implement in the general services for children with autism, there are also some striking holes in our basic knowledge. The present paper will address some of these shortcomings. For example, when children with autism deviate from other children in what reinforces their behavior, a highly relevant question concerns how most effectively to establish new stimuli as conditioned reinforcers. We do not really know. Further, if we simply establish standard reinforcing stimuli as such, can the children learn standard things from the natural environment, like other children, without much contrived “teaching?” Shaping requires behavioral variability. How is

such variability most effectively established?

Heart and Soul

Peter Killeen

Dr. Peter Killeen is professor of psychology at Arizona State University, and has also been visiting scholar at the University of Texas, Cambridge University, and the Centre for Advanced Study, Oslo. He is a Fellow of the Society of Experimental Psychologists, has

held a Senior Scientist Award from the National Institute of Mental Health, has been president of the Society for the Quantitative Analyses of Behavior (from which organization he appropriately received the Poetry in Science Award in 2002), held the American Psychological Association F. J. McGuigan Lectureship on Understanding the Human Mind, and received the Ernest and Josephine Hilgard Award for the Best Theoretical Paper (Killeen & Nash, 2003). Dr. Killeen has made many highly innovative and fundamental contributions to the experimental and quantitative analysis of behavior. His major work includes the development of incentive theory, culminating in the mathematical principles of reinforcement (*Behavioural and Brain Sciences*, 1994), and the behavioral theory of timing (*Psychological Review*, 1988). He is the author of 80 peer-reviewed papers, many of which have been heavily cited. He has served on the boards of editors of the *Journal of the Experimental Analysis of Behavior*, *Behavioural Processes*, *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Animal Behavior Processes*, *Psychonomic Bulletin & Review*, *Psychological Review*, *Brain & Behavioral Functions*, and *Comparative Cognition & Behavior Reviews*. Dr. Killeen's quantitative and conceptual developments have enriched behavior analysis and the world beyond.

ABSTRACT: Words that mean so much to all of us—either as the center of our meaningful existence—or as four-letter words writ large. Blaise Pascal understood that, “The heart has reasons that Reason cannot know.” “And needn't know!” is quickly echoed by radical behaviorists. Here, in the City of Love, I ask if they could possibly be right; whether to be a good science, ours must be a heartless science. Physics and chemistry cannot be other. Must behaviorism? Bemused with Carneaux in experimental chambers, is there room for behaviorists in the labyrinthine chambers of the heart? In this talk I begin to unweave the rainbow of heart and soul; hoping—and you shall judge if I succeed in showing the possibility—that once experimentally analyzed, some reasons can be found that reason can know; and that some life, indeed, some mystery, still lives in the analysands.

Temporal Control: A Spencean Model, Its Strengths and Limitations



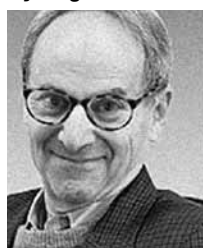
Armando Machado

Dr. Armando Machado obtained his Ph.D. in 1993 from Duke University. His doctoral research examined the conditions in which pigeons generate highly variable, random-like behavior, and received a Behavior Analysis Dissertation Award from Division 25.

Dr. Machado currently teaches and conducts research at the University of Minho in the north of Portugal, where he continues to study a variety of issues related to behavior and learning (e.g., time and number discrimination, choice). His studies contrast the results of laboratory experiments with the predictions of simple mathematical models of behavior and learning. In addition to the psychology of learning, Dr. Machado's interests include mathematics, evolutionary biology, philosophy, and the history of psychology. His work has been funded by the National Institutes of Mental Health (USA) and the Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology and published in *Animal Cognition*, *Behavioural Processes*, *Journal of the Experimental Analysis of Behavior*, and others. He has served as the program chair and president for the Society for the Quantitative Analysis of Behavior, and as president of the Portuguese Association of Experimental Psychology.

ABSTRACT: I present a Spencean, synthetic approach to interval timing in animals, an approach grounded on the hypothesis that temporal generalization gradients may combine to produce complex forms of behavior. The hypothesis is instantiated by the Learning-to-Time (LeT) model. First, I will review how LeT accounts for the generalization gradients obtained in prototypical timing procedures. Then, I will show how, by combining these gradients, LeT accounts for more complex data and some surprising findings. Finally, I will discuss some current obstacles to our understanding of timing, including the boundary conditions of generalization gradients, the possibility of inhibitory temporal gradients, and how temporal memories are created, accessed, and retrieved.

Aesthetic Responses as Synergetic Phenomena: A Behavioral Analysis



Francis Mechner

Francis Mechner received his doctorate in 1957 from Columbia University under Professors F. S. Keller and W. N. Schoenfeld, and continued on the teaching faculty until 1960. He did much of his work on the behavioral analysis of aesthetics during his years at Columbia.

In 1961, he developed an instructional technology based on behavioral analysis, which he then used to create instructional programs for high schools, medical schools, teaching hospitals, and industry. Under a federal contract, he led the establishment of a prototype Job Corps Training Center for a nationwide network of such centers. In 1968, Mechner founded and operated the first Paideia School. In 1970, he participated in the original design of *Sesame Street* with the Children's Television Workshop. With support from the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare he created educational daycare systems for four states, and testified before the U.S. Senate Finance Committee in support of the Comprehensive Child Development Act of 1971. With endorsement from the Organisation for Economic Co-Operation and Development, several countries, including Brazil, implemented Mechner's manpower development technology.

Besides his analysis of aesthetic phenomena, Mechner's work has included laboratory research on operant behavior and resurgence, development of a formal symbolic language for codifying behavioral contingencies, founding and operating innovative schools, and a continuing R&D program in educational technology.

ABSTRACT: Aesthetic responses are ubiquitous in human behavior and therefore deserving of scientific study. The responses we call aesthetic are instances of synergetic phenomena. Pervasive in biology, synergetic phenomena have transformative effects when certain elements interact. Depending on the art form or discipline, the interacting elements may be sounds, visual stimuli, words, actions, sensations, or abstract concepts. Artists, composers, poets, writers, performers, architects, mathematicians, or chefs create aesthetic effects by assembling such elements as ingredients of synergetic brews. Synergetic interactions take place in the behavioral repertoires of individuals who have a relevant priming history—familiarity with the elements of the brew and with the memes of the relevant culture. Aesthetic responses normally include surprise-tinged emotions.

Every art form or discipline generates its own particular types of aesthetic responses, with its particular profile of component attributes. That is why the concept of aesthetics is described as “fuzzy.” Component attributes of its many variants may be termed “beautiful,” “moving,” “elegant,” “awesome,” “parsimonious,” “funny,” “delicious,” or “powerful,” according to art form or discipline. Aesthetic phenomena nonetheless lend themselves to laboratory modeling and scientific analysis. I will provide examples of such models and how each art form or discipline achieves its aesthetic effects by the use of devices that rely on synergetic interactions.

See PARIS on page 78

PARIS continued from page 77**Psychopathology as Adaptation to Aversive Control: Experimental Analyses****Robert Mellon**

Robert C. Mellon, Ph.D, BCBA, is professor of the Department of Psychology at the Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences in Athens, Greece, where he established a seven-semester undergraduate course of studies in behavioral philosophy and science, and directs the Laboratory of Experimental and Applied Behavior Analysis. He received his doctorate from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro in 1987, where he trained in both the clinical psychology and experimental analysis of behavior programs. He completed the Clinical Psychology Internship Program at New York University-Bellevue Hospital Center. Mellon was a postdoctoral research fellow at the Center for Developmental Psychobiology at the State University of New York at Binghamton, and an National Institute of Mental Health National Research Service Award fellow at the New York State Psychiatric Institute and Columbia University. For four years, he travelled Asia, the Middle East, and Europe teaching in the Overseas Programs of the University of Maryland. Since 1995 he has lived and worked in Greece, initially at the Hellenic Republic University of Crete. Mellon's empirical and theoretical work, principally in behavioral variability, resistance to change and aversive control, and the implications of these processes in understanding the provenance and treatment of problematic patterns of behavior, has been published in both behavior-analytic and mainstream psychology journals. He is also author of numerous behavior-analytic texts in the Hellenic language, and has collaborated on translations of canonical works of B. F. Skinner, including *Walden Two* and *About Behaviorism*. Mellon currently serves as past president on the Board of Directors of the European Association for Behaviour Analysis, and is founding president of the Hellenic Community for Behavior Analysis. He is an associate editor of the *European Journal of Behavior Analysis*.

ABSTRACT: Pernicious patterns of behavior termed thought, anxiety, mood, and personality “disorders” have long been recognized to be related to social punishment, but the relationship remains poorly specified, limiting the effectiveness of preventative and therapeutic interventions. This presentation reviews findings of a series of experiments supporting a view that seemingly maladaptive patterns of behavior such as stereotypic repetition, self-denigration, and idiosyncratic perception serve to terminate stimuli produced in the inchoate emission of socially punished response forms, a process in which aspects of effective avoidance are reinforced adventitiously.

Behavior Analysis in a Complex World**Paolo Moderato**

Paolo Moderato is professor of psychology at the University Institute for Modern Languages of Milan (Italy), where he chairs the Department of Behaviour, Consumers and Communication. He is president of European Institute for the Study of Human Behavior (Istituto Europeo per lo Studio del Comportamento Umano, IESCU)—the Italian Chapter of ABAI and the European Association for Behavior Analysis—where he directs the postgraduate program BACB approved in applied behavior analysis. He is past-president of the European Association for Behaviour and Cognitive Therapies. He has been the Italian editor of *Acta Comportamentalia* since the time of its foundation, has been associate editor for the *Mexican Journal of Behavior Analysis*, and editor of the *Psychology Series* by McGraw-Hill Italia. At present, he is the editor of the *Series Behavior and Cognitive Practice* by Francoangeli Publishing. His books include *Pensieri, Parole e Comportamento*, which is the first Italian systematic presentation and discussion of Skinnerian and post-Skinnerian analysis of verbal behavior (co-edited with Philip N. Chase and G. Presti); *Human Interactions*, a contextualistic behavior analytic handbook of general psychology; and *Roots & Leaves*, an anthology of papers on behavior analysis and therapy. Paolo has served the field of behavior analysis through his editorial work and as a member of the Board of Trustees for the Cambridge Center for Behavioral Studies. In 2002, he received the SABA Award for the International Development of Behavior Analysis.

ABSTRACT: This presentation will address the theme of complexity and the need and possible contribution of the science of behavior to cope with complex problems in a rapidly changing world.

Real Determinants of Human Operant Behavior**Koichi Ono**

Dr. Koichi Ono is professor of psychology at Komazawa University in Tokyo, where he has conducted research and taught behavior analysis for 33 years. His scholarly publications, authored in Japanese and English, have appeared in journals from four different continents. Professor Ono was among the first to demonstrate the effects of a “superstitious behavior” in humans (*Journal of the Experimental Analysis of Behavior*, 1987). He subsequently developed a conceptual analysis of superstitions as false rules. Three other major themes in Dr. Ono's research have

been (1) the effects of the history of contingency-controlled behavior on subsequent performance, (2) an analysis of conditions under which “free choice” is preferred over “forced choice,” and (3) complex stimulus control. His work has also involved careful cross-species comparisons. For example, in an important paper in *Behavioural Processes*, Dr. Ono and colleagues used an ingeniously simple matching-to-sample task to reveal different controlling relations in humans and pigeons. Dr. Ono has provided significant leadership and service to the large and active Japanese Association for Behavior Analysis (J-ABA). He was editor of the *Japanese Journal of Behavior Analysis* (1994–1997), and served as president of J-ABA for six years (1997–2003). As a visiting research fellow in Wales and the United States, Dr. Ono has also brought knowledge from Japanese behavior analysis to the international community.

ABSTRACT: Principles of behavior ought to be common between humans and non-human animals. However,

many studies have demonstrated that behavior of humans in particular circumstances often differs from that of animals in the same circumstance. This discourse explores more realistic controlling variables of human behavior.

The most critical feature of human operant behavior is that verbal and nonverbal behaviors are intermingled with each other on a temporal sequence. Each verbal and nonverbal behavior may be a part of three-term contingencies of reinforcement and punishment. For example, prior presentation of verbal stimuli evokes emotional bodily changes and works effectively as an establishing operation. Consequently, bad verbal message spoken or written by others is likely to make people engage in various avoidance behavior. Verbal events can also function as discriminative stimuli or reinforcing stimuli, as shown in our daily life. Thus, integrated perspective of human behavior that includes both verbal and nonverbal behaviors is needed to clarify controlling variables of human operant behavior. ❖

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For more details, please visit the websites indicated and the Chapters section of the ABAI website.

September

Hawai'i ABA 13th Annual Convention

September 7–8
Honolulu, HI
Pacific Beach Hotel
www.hawaiiaba.org

ABA of Brazil 26th Annual Meeting

September 7–10
Bauru, SP, Brazil
Universidade Estadual Paulista no
Campus de Bauru
<http://abpmc.org.br>

Manitoba ABA 12th Annual Conference

September 21
Winnipeg, MB
University of Manitoba,
Marshall McLuhan Hall
<http://www.maba.ca>

Minnesota Northland ABA Annual Conference

September 21–22
Bloomington, MN
Crowne Plaza AIRE
www.mnaba.org

New Hampshire ABA Fall Conference

September 30
Bedford, NH
Southeastern Regional Education
Service Center
<http://nhaba.net>

October

Florida ABA 37th Annual Conference

October 4–7
Daytona Beach, FL
Hilton Daytona Beach Resort
www.fabaworld.org

Gulf Coast ABA Conference

October 6–7
New Orleans, LA
Le Méridien New Orleans
www.labaa.net

Japanese ABA 35th Annual Conference

October 6–8
Fukushima, Japan
Collasse Fukushima
www.j-aba.jp

October (cont.)

South Carolina ABA Sixth Annual Conference

October 16–17
Myrtle Beach, SC
Kingston Plantation
www.sc-aba.org

Alabama ABA 26th Annual Convention

October 18–20
Birmingham, AL
Doubletree Hotel
www.alabamaaba.com

Southeastern ABA Annual Conference

October 19–21
Savannah, GA
Hilton Garden Inn
Savannah Midtown
www.seabaonline.org

Nevada ABA Annual Conference

October 19–22
Reno, NV
Whitney Peak Hotel
<http://nevadaaba.org>

New York State ABA 28th Annual Conference and Workshops

October 24–27
Albany, NY
Desmond Hotel and
Conference Center
<http://nysaba.org>

Sociedad Mexicana de Análisis de la Conducta 27th Annual Conference

October 25–27
Aguascalientes, Mexico
Universidad Autónoma de
Aguascalientes
<http://smac.org.mx>

Australian Association for Cognitive and Behaviour Therapy 38th National Conference

October 26–28
Sydney, Australia
Crowne Plaza Coogee Beach Hotel
www.aacbt.org.au

Tennessee ABA 20th Annual Conference and Workshop

October 26–28
Nashville, TN
Music City Center
www.tennesseeaba.org

November

Iowa ABA Fifth Annual Conference

November 3
West Des Moines, IA
Hilton Garden Inn
<http://iowaaba.com>

Nebraska ABA Fall Convention

November 3
Omaha, NE
<http://nebraskaaba.wixsite.com>

Mid-American ABA Annual Conference

November 3–4
Milwaukee, WI
Hyatt Regency Milwaukee
www.mid-aba.com

ABA Australia Conference

November 4–5
Sydney, Australia
University of Technology, Sydney
<https://auaba.com.au>

Colorado ABA Second Annual Convention

November 4–5
Denver, CO
Hilton Garden Inn Denver
Tech Center
www.coaba.org

Ontario ABA Annual Conference

November 9–10
Toronto, ON
Metro Toronto Convention Centre
www.ontaba.org



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