



Association for Behavior Analysis International

# INSIDE BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS

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2018



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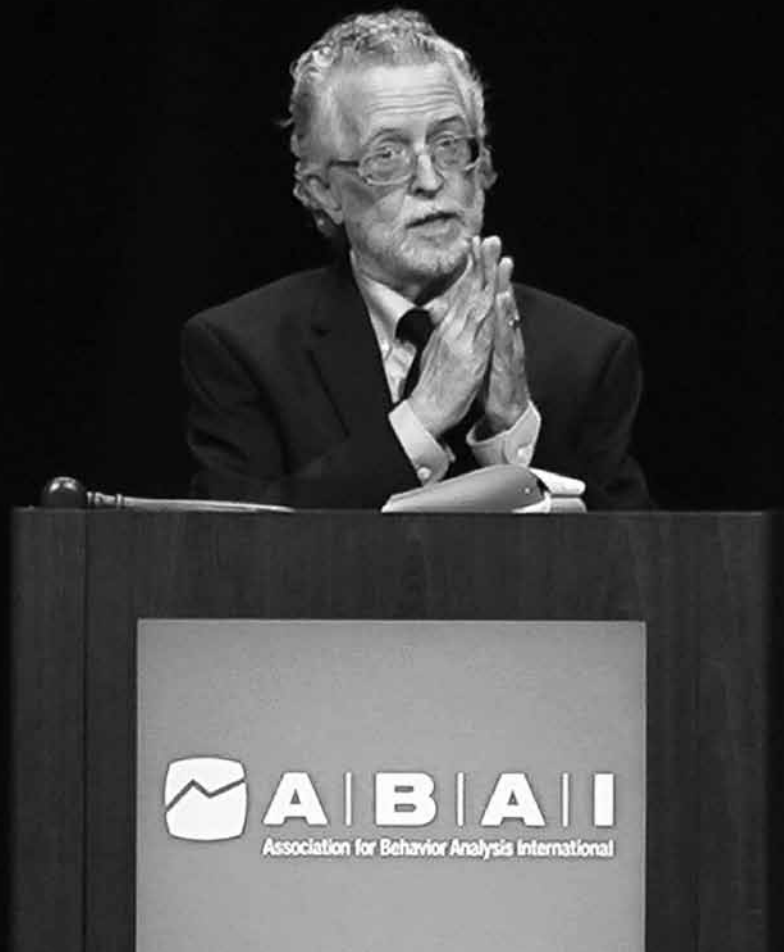
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Association for Behavior Analysis International®  
 550 West Centre Avenue, Suite 1  
 Portage, MI 49024  
 269.492.9310  
[www.abainternational.org](http://www.abainternational.org)

# President's Column

BY MARK MATTAINI



The ABAI Convention is, for many behavior scientists (and the ABAI staff!), the culmination of many months of preparation, an opportunity to celebrate our many successes, and our most varied opportunity to learn about current work in practice and research, with unmatched opportunities for continuing education.

The 2018 convention was no exception, with 5,528 attending (a new record) and 1,592 presentations, including posters, panels, symposia, papers, workshops, business meetings expo posters, and reunions. Perhaps most importantly, the convention is the primary venue for basic scientists, applied scientists, scholars of the field and the tremendously expanding number of practitioners to meet and mingle, and to learn from each other—and from the best in the field. It is not surprising, therefore, that well over 90% of respondents rate overall quality, the program, and opportunities for continuing education as very good to excellent. The (all volunteer) program committee deserves our thanks for the extensive work involved in offering what by any measure was the best yet—but that we hope and expect will be exceeded in Chicago in May, 2019! Other excellent upcoming opportunities include the autism conference (another of our programs that continues to grow every year) in San Francisco

in January, and the Substance Abuse and Addiction special conference being held in Washington, D.C. in November.

These events are consistent with the commitment of ABAI to support the science and practice of behavior analysis, and behavior analysts. The extensive continuing education resources available online through the ABAI Learning Center offer additional avenues for learning and continuing education. These gatherings and resources in large part contribute to ABAI's growth, with membership at a new high of 7,557 (1,639 Full, 2,965 Affiliate, 2,162 Student, 195 First Time, 606 Chapter Adjunct, and 1,744 Associate Chapter members), chapters now numbering 93, and 35 active SIGS now organized to support a wide range of interests and contributions to the field and the larger community.

This year, ABAI is paying special attention to diversity, respect, and inclusion in behavior analysts' working and

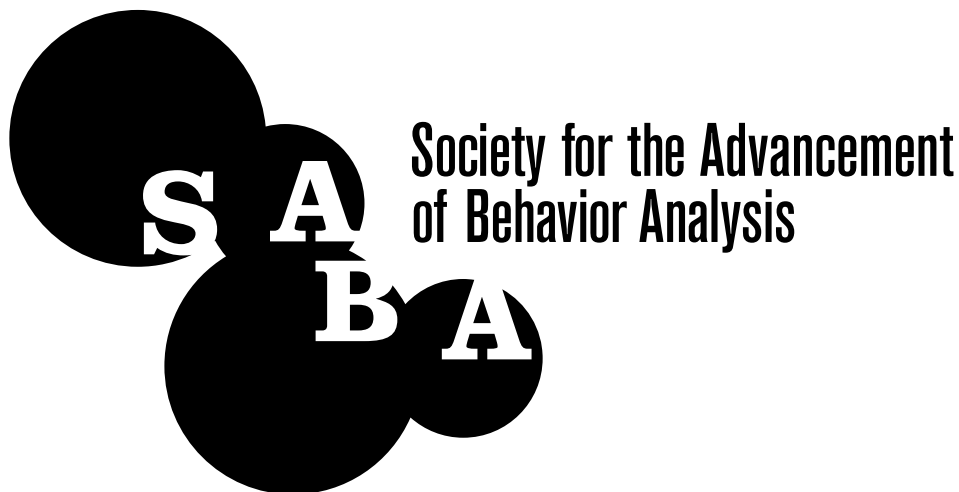
learning environments proactively and seriously. As many of you know, Executive Council arranged a special forum on current issues and challenges in these areas in a non-compete time slot at the 2018 convention, which was attended by several hundred people. Just prior to the convention, ABAI also initiated a survey to determine how common violations of respect and inclusion had been experienced in members' learning and working experiences, and the nature of those violations. A preliminary review indicates that while many members did not report such issues, a good number did, and some of the reports were concerning. As a result of these preliminary steps, the association established a Presidential Task Force to study the data, and propose meaningful responses. The charge to the Task Force includes (a) developing clear inclusion, respect, and anti-harassment policies and procedures for ABAI, (b) identifying measurable outcomes and strategies that ABAI could undertake to support diversity, respect, inclusion throughout the field, and (c) developing procedures to assist members experiencing harassment, exclusion, or other violations within employment, educational, and other settings to identify appropriate options for assistance. The Task Force will report their recommendations to Executive Council in October and in May, to assist us to move forward both as an organization and as a field.

A concern for many has been the limited number of areas in which behavior analysis is currently active in a meaningful way. We have tremendous areas of strength in autism and education research and services, and our members involved in organizational behavior management have made extremely impressive contributions working with business and service organizations. Still, behavior science has much broader—but largely unmet—potential to work at community, social policy, and cultural levels, with particular focus on work supporting vulnerable and excluded groups, addressing climate change, and constructing more democratic and nurturing societies—all challenging areas in which serious struggle is increasingly present. ABAI is stepping up to expand our involvement in these areas, without in any way diminishing the importance of the work being done in our current areas of strength. Several new directions have been set as first steps to expand our impact. First, ABAI has initiated and supported the development of the Coalition of Behavioral Science Organizations, a group of six organizations (currently, with plans to expand over time) that have made a joint commitment to act together to expand the use of scientific knowledge in public policy and community development efforts. Their statement of priorities and values can be found at [www.abainternational.org/about-](http://www.abainternational.org/about-us/policies-and-positions/coalition)

[us/policies-and-positions/coalition](http://www.abainternational.org/about-us/policies-and-positions/coalition). In addition, ABAI has initiated a working group from seven Norwegian, US, and Brazilian universities with strong behavior analysis programs to explore the possibility of developing an international program of community and cultural studies. If this project proceeds, it will open new opportunities for behavior analysts to become active in larger system projects, in most cases in transdisciplinary partnerships with other disciplines. Among the possibilities may be shaping sustainable lifestyles, public health, organizing and youth development efforts, and human rights projects. Potential advances in the science of collective relational responding within communities also have, I believe, enormous potential to shift public policy and governance in ways that are consistent with scientific findings. More information on these projects will be available as exploration and planning proceed.

ABAI's publication program also is advancing in important ways. Subscription rates for all four current ABAI journals increased by approximately six times between 2013 and 2016, with between 4,000 and 5,250 subscribers for each. *The Behavior Analyst* (now *Perspectives on Behavior Science*) and *The Psychological Record* both now have impact factors of over 1, and *The Analysis of Verbal Behavior* and *Behavior Analysis in Practice* will be applying for impact factors soon. Consistent with the attention now being turned toward larger systems work, *Behavior and Social Issues* will, over the next year, be transferred from Behaviorists for Social Responsibility (BFSR) to become the fifth ABAI journal. (Members of BFSR will receive free electronic subscriptions to the journal after the transfer.) ABAI will also be initiating a textbook series, beginning with four: (1) *Scientific Methods in Behavior Analysis* (Mark Galizio, Michael Perone, & Clair St. Peter, editors); (2) *Applied Behavior Science in Organizations: Consilience of Historical and Emerging Trends in Organizational Behavior Management* (Ramona A. Houmanfar, Mitch Fryling, & Mark P. Alavosius, editors); (3) *Acceptance and Commitment for Behavior Analysts* (Steve Hayes, Mark R. Dixon, Jordan Belisle, & Ruth Anne Rehfeldt, editors); and *Behavior Science Perspectives on Culture and Community* (Mark A. Mattaini & Traci Cihon, editors). These contemporary volumes will support the efforts described above to expand attention to new areas.

Finally, I must thank the members of Executive Council, CEO Maria Malott, the small but tremendously productive ABAI staff, and the 349 volunteers that do most of the work of the organization. Only with the assistance of all of these could the organization be making the advances we are seeing. ♦



## Donate to the SABA Senior Student Presenter Fund

Your donation of \$160 can make a big difference in the career path of a behavior analysis student.

*"Thanks to the generosity of the SABA grant donors, I was able to travel to San Diego to present my master's thesis at ABAI 2018. I received invaluable feedback that I can incorporate into future research projects. All in all, it was a wonderful opportunity to share the work we have been doing at Brock University."*

— Talia Ennett

*"The SABA Senior Student Presenter Grant was instrumental in providing me the opportunity to attend the 2018 ABAI Annual Convention in San Diego, CA. In attending the convention, I was able to present my research and attend many excellent presentations. I am extremely grateful for the generous donations that made these experiences possible. Thank you!"*

— Sarah Davis

*"I was the recipient of a SABA student presenter grant this year, which not only helped me monetarily to attend ABAI, but made me feel encouraged to present my interdisciplinary work to the ABAI community."*

— Christina Nord

*"The SABA award allowed me to get to know some cutting-edge research and talk face to face to researchers from all over the world that I could not contact otherwise. It was also an opportunity for networking and getting to know other fields. The participation and presentation of research in international events adds several points when we apply for a job (at least in Brazil). In this regard, your donation has increased my chances of getting a job after I finish my doctorate. So, thank you! You literally have the power to change some lives for the better."*

— Tábata Mizael

SABA is accepting donations to send students to ABAI's 2019 Annual Convention through October 31, 2018.

[saba.abainternational.org/funds/senior-student-presenter-fund/](https://saba.abainternational.org/funds/senior-student-presenter-fund/)

# BEHAVIOR SCIENCE BLOGS

## **A new way of communicating science**

This past year the Association for Behavior Analysis International launched a new exciting dissemination project, the Behavior Science blog series. For several months, we have been featuring blogs by a number of renowned scholars in the field on such timely topics as addiction, education, health, and autism. New blogs are posted every week, and make contact with a number of relevant social issues. Hundreds of new people from around the globe visit the blogs each week.

The world is changing and so are the ways in which we communicate science to one another and the general public. We are pleased to present six blogs authored by leading scholars in our field, all of whom will be regularly sharing research and commentary to provide you with the need-to-know content of how behavior science is changing, or could be changing, our world.

The purpose of the blogs is to connect behavior analyst practitioners, researchers, academicians, and other supporters of the field to newsworthy items relevant to the science of behavior. Included will be news stories, scholarly articles, commentaries, and occasional guest bloggers. All of the bloggers will be sharing their perspectives on various aspects of our science and its links to both practice and the world at large. We hope you will enjoy!

**<https://science.abainternational.org/>**



## ***44th Annual Convention: ABAI Breaks Attendance Records in San Diego***

BY MARIA E. MALOTT



**ABAI brought its annual convention to Southern California for the first time in over a decade, and the result was record-breaking: More than 5,500 people joined us in San Diego for one of our strongest conventions to date.**

Besides setting record attendance numbers, the event scored highly in attendee feedback surveys, especially the overall convention, invited presenters, and host city (94% of respondents gave each an excellent–very good rating). Our convention was a rich source for valuable information, including opportunities to learn about work being done in complimentary fields, new research from students, exhibits by behavioral organizations, and much more.

Among the wide variety of topics covered during the convention were behavioral economics and public policy, translation of behavioral research into large scale applications, and how behavioral science is used to support educators. Diverse subject matter and enthusiastic attendance reflect the vibrancy of the field. This energy was further reflected in the popularity of the convention's social events, such as the ABAI Trivia Night (organized by the Student Committee), the International Welcome Reception, ABAI Expo, and the ABAI Social. It was heartening to see so many behaviorists so enthusiastically engaged.

### **Recognizing Leaders**

The convention opened with our annual event honoring leaders in behavior analysis: the SABA Awards Ceremony. This year the accomplishments of Liliana Mayo (Humanitarian Award); Martha Hübner (Award for International Dissemination of Behavioral Analysis); Michael Perone (Award for Scientific Translation); and the Graduate Program in Behavioral Sciences of the University of Brasilia (Award for Enduring Programmatic Contributions in Behavior Analysis) were all celebrated. Liliana Mayo delivered a stirring acceptance speech about the work of Centro Ann Sullivan del Peru and the role behavior analysis can play in improving the lives of individuals with disabilities with lasting results. Mayo described how children who enter the center become part of a “family” who follow and support each child, along with their biological families, for life. Michael Perone outlined the development of behavior analysis as a translational science and provided some contemporary examples of how the field has evolved in this way. Martha Hübner discussed her time as a president and representative on the ABAI Executive Council and her commitment to disseminating behavior

analysis globally. Finally, accepting the SABA Award for Enduring Programmatic Contributions in Behavior Analysis on behalf of the Graduate Program in Behavioral Sciences of the University of Brasilia, Josele Abreu Rodrigues and Carlos Cançado spoke about the pivotal role the program played in the establishment and development of behavior analysis as a science and profession in Brazil.

Behavior analysis leaders and innovators—including some honored during the awards ceremony—presented throughout the convention as part of the invited events and tutorials track. These talks, featuring presenters invited by the Program Board, covered new and/or important information in the convention's major specialty areas. Topics this year included contextual behaviorism, using behavioral pharmacology to improve opioid use disorder treatment, and much more.

Providing young behavioral scientists and practitioners with feedback from colleagues and mentors, poster sessions remained an essential feature of the convention. Additionally, these sessions gave attendees a chance to take in the latest developments in behavior analysis research and practices. Assigned discussants engaged presenters and helped spark lively and informative conversations, ensuring that all participating in poster sessions received the maximum educational value.

In his presidential address, “Out of the Lab: Shaping an Ecological Cultural Science,” Mark Mattaini described the multitude of challenges facing contemporary societies and the history behavioral sciences have in examining and offering solutions to these problems. However, cultural phenomena present high-level complexity and to tackle them, Mattaini argued, increased transdisciplinary work is required. He suggested a framework of integrating elements of the natural science of ecology and contemporary developments in systems science and complexity theories as a way of expanding the social impact of behavioral sciences.

In that spirit of transdisciplinary collaboration, ABAI offered a strong lineup of presentations from non-behaviorists that was once again a convention highlight. The B. F. Skinner Lecture Series covered perspectives on a range of research and initiatives that our field can both learn from and contribute to. Series highlights included discussions on providing support to children with aggressive and disruptive behaviors, zoo animal welfare, language development, and more.

For this year's Presidential Scholar Address, we were honored to welcome distinguished author, professor, and evolutionary biologist David Sloan Wilson. During his presentation, “Evolution and Contextual Behavioral Science: An Integrated Framework for Understanding, Predicting, and Influencing Human Behavior,” he provided a broad overview of the current efforts to integrate basic

**See SAN DIEGO on page 11**

# 44th Annual Convention Highlights

## Invited Presentations and Tutorials

### **AUTISM**

Javier Virues-Ortega

"Research Synthesis of Behavioral Interventions for People With Autism: Strategies to Maximize Social Impact"

Dorothea Lerman

"Efficient, Cost-Effective Approaches for Disseminating ABA Methodologies Into Public School Classrooms Serving Students With Developmental Disabilities"

### **BEHAVIORAL DEVELOPMENT**

Julian C. Leslie

"Developing Reading Skills in Mainstream Education"

Joanne K. Robbins

"Why Children Need to Talk to Themselves: The Foundation of Reasoning and Questioning"

### **BEHAVIORAL PHARMACOLOGY AND NEUROSCIENCE**

Kelly Dunn

"Using Behavioral Pharmacology to Improve Opioid Use Disorder Treatment"

### **CLINICAL/FAMILY/ BEHAVIORAL MEDICINE**

Thomas G. Szabo

"Skinner's Operationalism, Selectionism, Loving Infinitely, and Building the Deepest Connection With Others in ABA Practice and ACT"

Steven C. Hayes

"Behavior Analysis and Evolution Science: Implications for Human Yearning"

Robert Stromers

"Become a Better Practitioner by Being Your Own Best Behavior Therapist"

### **COMMUNITY, SOCIAL, AND SUSTAINABILITY ISSUES**

Julie M. Slowiak

"OBM and ACT: A Synergistic Powerhouse for Health and Wellbeing"

### **DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**

Maria Valdovinos

"The Elephant in the Room: Addressing Psychotropic Medications When Assessing Behavior"

### **EDUCATION**

Florence D. DiGennaro Reed

"Using Behavioral Science to Support Educators During Consultation"

### **EXPERIMENTAL ANALYSIS OF BEHAVIOR**

Amy Odum

"What is Delay Discounting, and Why Should I Care?"

Marcia Spetch

"Playing it Safe or Taking a Risk: The Role of Extreme Outcomes in Risky Choice and Memory"

### **ORGANIZATIONAL BEHAVIOR MANAGEMENT**

Magnus Johansson

"Using Evidence-Based Kernels to Create Nurturing Environments in Groups and Organizations"

Marilyn Gilbert, Carl V. Binder, Kent

Johnson, and Mark P. Alavosius  
Symposium: "Human Competence Revisited: 40 Years of Impact"

### **PRACTICE**

Carl V. Binder

"Don Baer Lecture: Simple Is Better: Helping Ordinary People Apply Behavior Science"

### **SCIENCE**

Caio F. Miguel, Ruth Anne Rehfeldt,

and Jonathan J. Tarbox

Panel: "Contextual Behaviorism: A Panel With Discussion"

Mikhail Koffarnus, Suzanne H.

Mitchell, and Bethany R. Raiff

Panel: "Behavioral Economics and Public Policy: A Panel With Discussion"

Yvonne Barnes-Holmes, Anthony

Biglan, Steven C. Hayes, and David Sloan Wilson

Panel: "Is Evolution Science the Umbrella? Creating an Integrated Framework for Understanding, Predicting, and Influencing Human Behavior"

T. V. Joe Layng

"Reasoning From Basic Principles: Translating Behavioral Research Into Large Scale Applications"

Mark Galizio

"Behavioral Pharmacology of Prescription Drugs: Their Effects on Learning and Remembering"

Stuart A. Vyse

"Plotting a New Course: A Presidential Address Fantasy"

Iser Guillermo Deleon, Michael

Perone, and Anna I. Petrusdottir

Panel: "Has 'Translational Research' Been Lost in Translation?"

### **TEACHING BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS**

R. Douglas Greer

"A Synthesis Model of Graduate Training in Behavior Analysis"

### **PHILOSOPHICAL, CONCEPTUAL, AND HISTORICAL ISSUES**

Kennon Andy Lattal

"A Tale of Two Rats: The Backstory of a Clever Cartoon"

Julio C. De Rose

"Transfer and Transformation of Stimulus Functions in Cultural Phenomena: Attitudes, Values, and Aesthetic Responses"

### **VERBAL BEHAVIOR**

Erik Arntzen

"On the Search for Verbal Mediation in Delayed-Matching-To-Sample Arrangements and Emergent Relations"

### **OTHER**

Liliana Mayo

"How is it Possible That in Peru People With Autism and Other Developmental Disorders Not Only Work, but Help to Reduce Poverty"

## B. F. Skinner Lecture Series Presentations

### **APPLIED ANIMAL BEHAVIOR**

Greg Vicino

"Zoo Animal Welfare: Implications for the World's Most Iconic Species"

### **AUTISM**

David Mandell

"When Training and Coaching Aren't Enough: Changing Practice and Outcomes in Low-Resource Public Schools"

### **BEHAVIORAL DEVELOPMENT**

Peter Pohl

"The Bidirectional Operant as Behavioral Metamorphosis"

### **BEHAVIORAL PHARMACOLOGY AND NEUROSCIENCE**

Robin Carhart-Harris

"Psychedelics: Mechanisms and Therapeutic Potential"

### **CLINICAL/FAMILY/ BEHAVIORAL MEDICINE**

V. Robin Weersing

"Brief Behavioral Therapy for Anxiety and Depression: Developing Efficient Interventions for Pediatric Care"

### **DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**

Kristin Sohl

"ECHO Autism: Bringing Best Practice Autism Care to Community Providers"

### **EDUCATION**

William P. Erchul

"Behavioral Consultation: Past, Present, and Future"

### **EXPERIMENTAL ANALYSIS OF BEHAVIOR**

Mike Le Pelley

"Capture and Control: Promoting and Preventing Distraction by Reward-Related Stimuli"

### **ORGANIZATIONAL BEHAVIOR MANAGEMENT**

Dick Grote

"Discipline Without Punishment"

### **PHILOSOPHICAL, CONCEPTUAL, AND HISTORICAL ISSUES**

Gregory F. Grether

"Behavioral Interference Between Species"

J. A. Scott Kelso

"Matter, Movement, and Mind: The Order Is Important"

### **PRACTICE**

Stephen P. Zvolak

"Angry Love and Ruthless Compassion: Repairing Attachments in Early Childhood"

### **SCIENCE**

Lisa Stowers

"Leveraging Olfaction to Study Innate Behavior in the Mouse"

James W. Bodfish

"Towards Prevention of Chronic Challenging Behaviors in Neurodevelopmental Conditions"

Robert Gifford

"The Dragons of Inaction: Psychological Barriers that Limit Pro-Environmental Behavior"

### **TEACHING BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS**

Mian Wang

"ABA Training in China: Issues and Challenges Through the Lens of Special Education"

### **VERBAL BEHAVIOR**

Diane Larsen-Freeman

"A Complex Adaptive Systems View of Language and Second Language Development"



**1** David Sloan Wilson delivers the Presidential Scholar Address. **2** M. Jackson Marr with the SABA Humanitarian Award winner, Liliana Mayo. **3** ABAI Past President Michael Dougher. **4** Linda Parrott Hayes at the Friends of SABA Reunion. **5** Conversation at the Friends of SABA Reunion. **6** Sigrid Glenn socializes during the International Reception. **7** A presenter speaks during a convention session. **8** An attendee listens to the Presidential Scholar Address. **9** ABAI President-Elect Peter Killeen at the International Reception. **10** Attendees have fun during the Student Trivia Night.

## **SAN DIEGO continued from page 7**

and applied human-related disciplines with evolutionary theory. He discussed how these efforts can lead to positive intentional change on every scale. We were also fortunate enough to have Wilson's participation on a special panel, "Is Evolution Science the Umbrella? Creating an Integrated Framework for Understanding, Predicting, and Influencing Human Behavior." This session included Yvonne Barnes-Holmes, Anthony Biglan, and Steven Hayes, and expanded upon Wilson's talk with open discussion on how to fully integrate evolution-based and behavioral sciences.

The presidential scholar address is now available on the ABAI website free of cost to people who attended the convention. Please visit [www.abainternational.org](http://www.abainternational.org) and log in to your ABAI portal account if you missed the opportunity to attend this talk or simply want to review it again. If you are looking for some extra continuing education (CE) credit, this video includes the option to purchase it at an affordable price.

While our attendance for the 44th Annual Convention set a record, we know there are many who were not able to join us. For this reason, we are happy to offer 22 presentations—including B. F. Skinner lectures, invited speakers, and the presidential and presidential scholar addresses—through our online Learning Center. If you

couldn't attend the convention or make one of the highlight presentations, we encourage you to take advantage of this resource, which includes the option to purchase and earn CE. Making access to excellent scientific presentations convenient and accessible remains a goal of ABAI, which is why we continue to offer videos and CE through this service. Visit the Learning Center today at [www.abainternational.org/learning-center.aspx](http://www.abainternational.org/learning-center.aspx).

We are looking forward to bringing the 45th Annual Convention to one of our members' favorite cities: Chicago. ABAI has a rich history in the Windy City and conventions there have always been memorable. This is a convention—which will take place May 23–27, 2019—you'll want to attend and there is plenty of time to prepare a presentation, as Call for Papers will be launching soon. Be sure to check [www.abainternational.org/events/annual-2019.aspx](http://www.abainternational.org/events/annual-2019.aspx) for announcements and updates.

The ABAI 44th Annual Convention would not have been possible without the hard work of the program committee and area coordinators, who worked tirelessly to craft a high-quality program. Special thanks to ABAI's staff and interns, whose work leading up to and during the event kept the convention running smoothly. Finally, we're grateful to everyone who joined us on the West Coast and we hope you all join us again in Chicago. ❖

### **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**

Federico Sanabria

#### **PROGRAM COMMITTEE CHAIR**

Jonathan Tarbox

#### **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)

Autism (AUT): Nicole Heal (Margaret Murphy Center for Children), Thomas Higbee (Utah State University), and Tiffany Kodak (University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee)

Behavioral Development (DEV): R. Douglas Greer (Columbia University Teachers College and Graduate School of Arts and Sciences) and Jessica Singer-Dudek (Teachers College, Columbia University)

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

Clinical, Family, Behavioral Medicine (CBM): Jeannie Golden (East Carolina University) and Amy Murrell (University of North Texas)

Community, Social, and Sustainability Issues (CSS): Todd Ward (bSci21 Media, LLC) and Tom Szabo (Florida Institute of Technology)

Developmental Disabilities (DDA): Eric Boelter (Seattle Children's Autism Center) and Kelly Schieltz (The University of Missouri)

Education (EDC): Scott Ardoyn (University of Georgia) and Robin Coddington (University of Massachusetts Boston)

Experimental Analysis of Behavior (EAB): Eric Murphy (University of Alaska Anchorage) and Elizabeth Kyonka (West Virginia University)

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

Philosophical, Conceptual, and Historical Issues (PCH): Darlene Crone-Todd (Salem State University) and David Palmer (Smith College)

Practice (PRA): John Guercio (Benchmark Human Services) and Robert Ross (Beacon ABA Services)

Science (SCI): Derek Reed (The University of Kansas)

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)

# learning center

[www.abainternational.org](http://www.abainternational.org)

## **Modules from the 44th Annual Convention now available!**

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

### **AVAILABLE VIDEOS INCLUDE:**



**Mark Mattaini**  
*Presidential Address: Out of the Lab:  
Shaping an Ecological Cultural Science*



**David Sloan Wilson**  
*Presidential Scholar's Address:  
Evolution and Contextual Behavioral Science:  
An Integrated Framework for Understanding,  
Predicting, and Influencing Human Behavior*



**Liliana Mayo**  
*How Is It Possible That in Peru People With  
Autism and Other Developmental Disorders  
Not Only Work, but Help to Reduce Poverty*

**... and more!**

2018

ABAI is proud to announce the 2018 Fellows of the Association for Behavior Analysis International.

## FELLOWS OF ABAI



Jesse Dallery

Dr. Jesse Dallery received his Ph.D. in clinical psychology from Emory University in 1999. After a postdoctoral appointment in the Behavioral Pharmacology Research Unit at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, he joined the Department of Psychology at the University of Florida in 2000. He attained the rank of professor in 2012. Dr. Dallery's research is translational in nature and has addressed a wide range of topics, including human laboratory studies of choice and decision making; addiction; nicotine and smoking; contingency management for smoking cessation, physical inactivity, and medication adherence; mathematical models of operant behavior and intertemporal choice; and matching theory. A unifying theme for much of his work is the development of technology-based interventions to promote health-related behavior. He has studied smoking from several perspectives, including analyses based on the Matching Law, development of home-based measurement of smoking biomarkers, and development of Internet- and technology-based contingency management systems. Dr. Dallery regularly publishes in both basic and applied journals, and his work has been funded by a series of major grants from the National Institute on Drug Abuse. Dr. Dallery has made significant contributions to a wide variety of journals, including service as associate editor of *The Behavior Analyst*, the *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, and *Behavioural Processes*. At the University of Florida, he teaches a range of courses at the graduate and undergraduate levels, and he has mentored numerous doctoral students.



Deisy das Graças de Souza

Dr. Deisy das Graças de Souza received her Ph.D. in experimental psychology from the Universidade de São Paulo in 1981. She was a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, where she worked with A. Charles Catania, and the Eunice Kennedy Shriver Center, where she worked with

William J. McIlvane. Throughout her career, she has been a member of the Department of Psychology at the Universidade Federal de São Carlos, where she attained the rank of professor in 2005. Dr. de Souza's contributions are impressive in quality, quantity, and range. Her early career was characterized by important publications on basic laboratory analyses of signaled and unsignaled avoidance and of choice behavior. When serious allergies forced her out of the animal lab, Dr. de Souza turned her attention to stimulus control, an area in which she has made seminal experimental, applied, and conceptual analyses of phenomena involving exclusion and stimulus equivalence. Findings from her human laboratory studies were taken quickly into the field to facilitate reading and writing skills among young Brazilian children who were falling behind in school primarily due to reading deficits. The collective impact of this work is evidenced not only by the many publications it has generated in major outlets in Brazil and internationally, but also by its history of funding from Brazil's most highly competitive federal research agency (FAPESP, CNPq). Dr. de Souza is widely respected as an inspirational teacher who has made essential contributions to the growth and development of her department, particularly as a mentor of graduate and postdoctoral students. Among her many leadership positions are service as president of the Associação Brasileira de Psicologia and as editor of *Revista Brasileira de Análise do Comportamento*.

Dr. William V. Dube received his Ph.D. in experimental psychology at Northeastern University in 1987. Until 2000 he was a scientist at the Eunice Kennedy Shriver Center, rising to the rank of senior scientist in the Psychological Sciences Division in 1996. He joined the faculty of the University of Massachusetts Medical School in 2000, and in 2013 he attained the rank of professor in the

Departments of Psychiatry and Pediatrics. Dr. Dube is recognized internationally as a leader in the study of learning and stimulus control, in particular the study of attentional processes in individuals with intellectual disabilities or autism. His interests extend to choice, behavioral momentum, language, and animal models; he was in the early wave of researchers who began to use stimulus equivalence methodologies to look for the rudiments of symbolic behavior in animals. Dr. Dube is a fellow of three divisions of the American Psychological Association and a recipient of the Don Hake Award, which recognizes outstanding translational research in behavior analysis. His development of a software system for conducting stimulus control research is a lesser known but highly significant contribution. By making this software widely available without cost, Dr. Dube made it possible for researchers all over the world to study stimulus equivalence with great sophistication. His work has been funded continuously since 1989 by a total of 23 federal grants for which he was either principal investigator or co-principal investigator, from sources including NIH, NSF, and NIAAA. His editorial service includes multiple terms on the editorial boards of the *Journal of the Experimental Analysis of Behavior* (five terms) and the *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis* (four terms).

**Dr. Louis P. Hagopian** received his Ph.D. in clinical psychology at Virginia Tech, and completed his predoctoral internship at the Kennedy Krieger Institute. Since then he has held a progression of positions at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, where holds the rank of Professor, and at the Kennedy Krieger Institute, where he is a behavior analyst and director of Neurobehavioral Programs. He is a board certified behavior analyst and a licensed psychologist. Dr. Hagopian's work involves the integration of clinical service, research, training, and advocacy for individuals

with intellectual and developmental disabilities. He has consulted with numerous state agencies, disability service organizations, professional organizations, state attorneys general, and the U.S. Department of Justice for guidance on matters related to persons with autism and intellectual disabilities. This work includes the development of legislation supporting applied behavior analysis, standards for treatment, position statements, best practice guidelines, and expert consultation. Dr. Hagopian's scholarly research and his teaching, administrative, and service activities all center on the assessment and treatment of the most recalcitrant forms and functions of severe destructive behavior. His research program is unique both in its design and in the positive clinical outcomes it produces. It serves as the model program for all others in the field who work with treatment-resistant destructive behavior. Dr. Hagopian's innovations include advances in functional analysis and treatment of severe behavior disorders, improvements in the practicality of function-based treatments in natural environments through schedule thinning, classification of automatically reinforced self-injurious behavior, and methods for conducting large scale analyses. Perhaps the most impressive aspect of Dr. Hagopian's large body of programmatic clinical research is that each study he has published on severe destructive behavior has had immediate and important clinical relevance and applicability.

**Dr. Julian C. Leslie** received his D.Phil. in psychology from Oxford University in 1974. He has spent most of his career at the University of Ulster, where he is a professor of psychology. For more than four decades, Dr. Leslie has been investigating topics in the experimental analysis of behavior, applied behavior analysis, psychopharmacology, behavioral neuroscience, experimental psychology, and applied psychology.



**William V. Dube**



**Louis P. Hagopian**



**Julian C. Leslie**

More recently his work has included strategies to address environmental and ethical issues. Dr. Leslie's scores of publications are known for their characteristic thoughtfulness, thoroughness, and eye toward how his behavior analytic work relates to broader issues in the discipline and to both general psychology and the larger world. It is noteworthy that some of Dr. Leslie's research (e.g., his recent work on electricity use reduction) is specifically designed to measure the impact of behavioral procedures in natural settings. Dr. Leslie is a distinguished teacher, and he has contributed significantly to the dissemination of both experimental and applied behavior analysis in Ireland and around the world. He has had a major impact through a series of textbooks, including one of the first on the experimental analysis of behavior, *Principles of Behavioral Analysis* (with J. R. Millenson in 1979), *Essential Behaviour Analysis* (2002), and *Principles of Behavioral Analysis* (2008). His work related to the organization of behavior analysis in Europe also attests to the impact of his scholarship. Dr. Leslie was a founder of the Irish Association for Behaviour Analysis (now the Division of Behaviour Analysis, Psychological Society of Ireland) as well an early member of the UK Experimental Analysis of Behaviour Group, an organization that was instrumental in setting up the European Association for Behaviour Analysis.



**Brian K. Martens**

**Dr. Brian K. Martens** received his Ph.D. in school psychology at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln in 1985. After a stint as a school psychologist in New Orleans, he joined the faculty of Syracuse University in 1986. He currently holds the rank of professor and in 2009 served as chair of the Department of Psychology. Dr. Martens' work spans applied behavior analysis, translational research, school psychology, and the quantitative analysis of behavior. He has more than 90 articles, 25 chapters, and 6 texts. Dr. Martens has published

extensively in the area of school psychology, focusing on issues such as assessment practices and behavioral consultation. He has also published studies on behavioral economics, matching, descriptive assessments, severe problem behavior, and stimulus control. Dr. Martens is a well-respected teacher, and the accomplishments of his students underscore his versatility as a researcher and mentor. Many of his students hold faculty appointments in various school psychology and education programs and have made major contributions to these fields. Dr. Martens' accomplishments have been recognized by the American Psychological Association (he is a Fellow and a recipient of the Lightner Witmer Award for Research) and Syracuse University (which has given him multiple awards including the Outstanding Teacher of the Year Award, the Excellence in Graduate Education Faculty Recognition Award, and the Faculty Advisor of the Year Award). His extensive professional service includes work on a U.S. Department of Education panel on single-case research, as editor of the *Journal of Behavioral Education*, and as associate editor of both the *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis* and *School Psychology Quarterly*.

**Dr. Kenneth Silverman** received his Ph.D. in developmental and child psychology from the University of Kansas in 1984. As a postdoctoral fellow at Kansas he conducted research in the area of child language, and at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine he conducted research in behavioral pharmacology. He joined the Hopkins faculty in 1991 as an instructor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences; he attained the rank of professor in 2004. He is also a board certified behavior analyst. Since 1996, he has directed the department's Center for Learning and Health, which he founded. Dr. Silverman applies principles of operant conditioning



Kenneth Silverman

to understanding and treating substance use disorders. His research topics include the behavioral pharmacology and abuse liability of caffeine; the efficacy of contingency-management interventions with severely dependent, inner-city intravenous cocaine abusers; and the development of a therapeutic workplace model that integrates contingency-management procedures with vocational training and paid employment to provide long-term rehabilitation to chronically unemployed, severely dependent individuals. His research extends behavior analysis to publication venues that reach researchers, scholars, and practitioners in other disciplines, and his humility and humanity makes them listen. He has been highly successful in securing many millions of dollars of extramural support for his research and practice as well as for his mentorship of junior faculty members, post-doctoral trainees and interns, pre-doctoral students, and undergraduates in practica and internships. Dr. Silverman has provided significant professional service on behalf of scientific journals, conferences, advisory committees for the National Institute on Drug Abuse, and university programs.

**Dr. Bridget A. Taylor** received her Psy.D. in 1996 from the Graduate School of Applied and Professional Psychology at Rutgers University. She is a board certified behavior analyst and a licensed psychologist. In 1988 she co-founded the Alpine Learning Group, and currently serves as CEO. Alpine is a state-of-the art program for individuals with autism that includes a school, home-based services, and adult learning programs. Recognized as one of the best programs of its kind, Alpine is known for its systematic approach to staff training and mentorship, its ongoing research program, and its thorough use of the scientist-practitioner model in clinical practice. Dr. Taylor's commitment to the scientist-practitioner

model is seen by her publication record of more than 40 peer-reviewed articles and chapters. Her research has shown how to use stimulus control procedures to increase independence and decrease problem behavior, how to arrange observational learning opportunities within a curriculum to maximize learning, and how to more effectively teach social skills. This work has addressed both procedural and curricular needs in applied behavior analysis and has been highly influential in the applied community. Dr. Taylor has brought her perspective as a senior practitioner to several important and high-visibility leadership roles, including lengthy terms of service to the Association for Science in Autism Treatment, the Cambridge Center for Behavioral Studies, and the Behavior Analyst Certification Board. Dr. Taylor recently completed a term as associate editor of the *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, and she has served on the editorial board of *Behavior Analysis in Practice* and *Behavioral Interventions*.



Bridget A. Taylor

### Designation as Fellow of ABAI

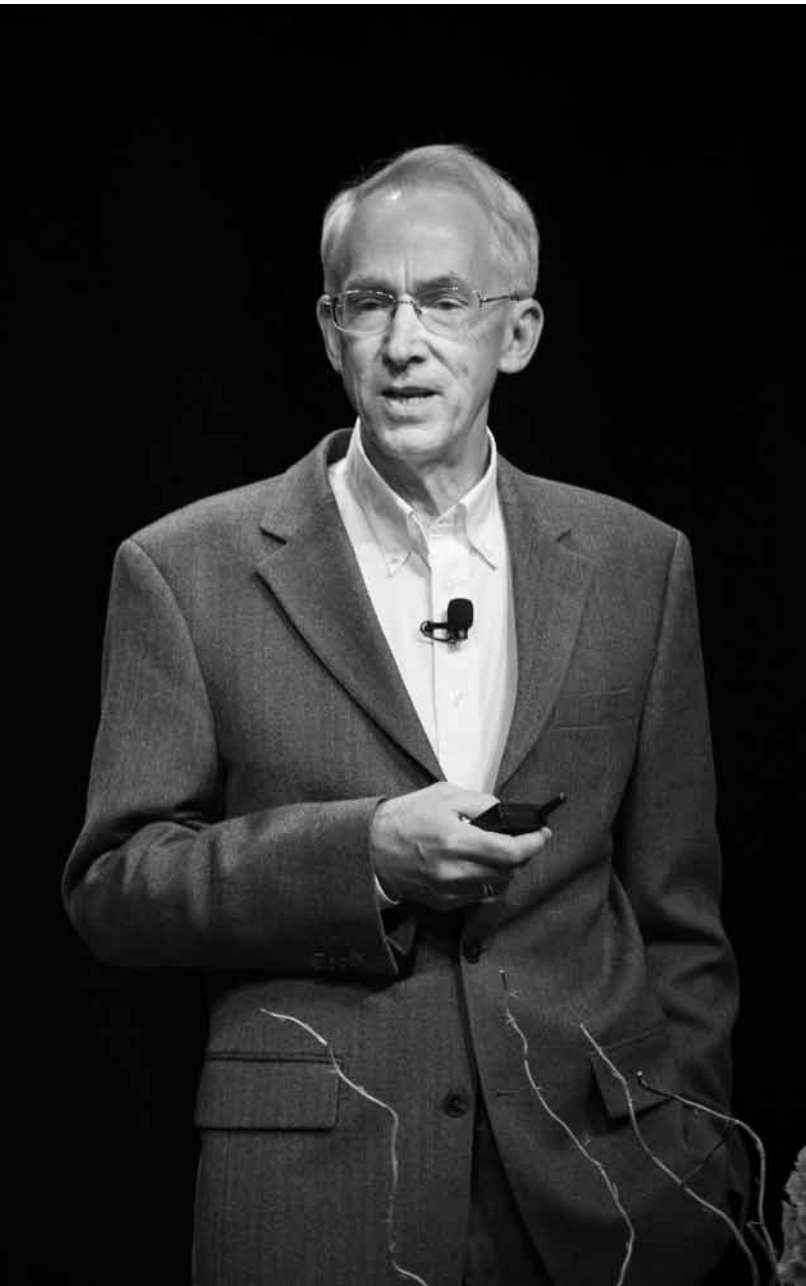
The purpose of the ABAI Fellow designation is to recognize outstanding contributors to behavior analysis in one of the primary areas of (a) scholarly research, (b) professional practice, or (c) teaching/administration/service or any combination of (a), (b), and (c).

- 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 the nominator will solicit a second letter of support from another Fellow.

# The Contributions of David Sloan Wilson to Applied Behavior Analysis

Association for Behavior Analysis International  
2018 Presidential Scholar

BY THERESA REYNOLDS



David Sloan Wilson is a SUNY distinguished professor of biology and anthropology at Binghamton University and president and co-founder of the Evolution Institute. Having authored nearly 200 journal articles, and several academic books, Dr. Wilson has made numerous theoretical contributions to the fields of biology, psychology, anthropology, and philosophy.

Dr. Wilson is widely recognized for his work in revitalizing and promoting the theory of multi-level selection. He has openly advocated the unification of various scientific and psychological disciplines and created a campus-based community called EvoS to facilitate the sharing of ideas across disciplines, using evolutionary theory as a common ground. A prominent feature of his work is the importance placed upon making evolutionary science accessible and useful to the public. He has written two books in easily accessible language and given several interviews in mainstream media in order to disseminate information about evolutionary processes and describe how people can apply this knowledge to improve their communities.

The most significant impact of Wilson's work in relation to behavior analysis is his focus on reuniting evolutionary science with behavioral psychology. In his work, *Evolution is for Everyone: How Darwin's Theory Can Change the Way We Think About Our Lives*, Wilson (2007) criticizes mainstream academia, referring to the "Ivory Archipelagos", which he defines as the current trend of individual disciplines to continually refine their foci and separate themselves off from other schools of thought.

Such an arrangement interferes with the dissemination of knowledge, obscures a larger understanding of complex social problems, and prevents academics from identifying socially meaningful solutions to real world problems.

Wilson's treatment of the theory of multi-level selection provides functional explanations for the evolution of complex human phenomena, including group dynamics, aggression, violence, altruism, and spirituality (Wilson, 2007; 2011; Wilson & Sober, 1994). Multi-level selection accounts for the simultaneous and interactive evolutionary processes related an individual's phylogenetic, ontogenic, and cultural history that allow one to predict and explain the actions of an individual person in a specific moment in time. For example, it alludes to the interactional relationship between genes and the environment, in which biological inheritance controls which genes will be replicated, but the individual, the group, and the environment can restrict and alter trait expression and, in some instances, alter the biological structure of both the individual and their DNA. Due to the argument that the individual, the group, and the environment can and do impact phenotypic selection and expression, it easily follows that phylogenetic selection cannot be completely separated from either ontogenic or cultural selection. This mirrors a conceptual discussion in applied behavior analysis (ABA) concerning the degree to which respondent and operant learning are mediated by the biological structure of the organism, how much overlap there may be in the unobservable physical processes of both types of conditioning, and the degree to which both genetic makeup and the environment contribute to or restrict the range of expressed behaviors.

Wilson's treatment of multilevel selection also describes the evolution of groups and the dynamics involved in group selection, a process which was discussed in Skinner's (1981) theoretical work, but that seems to have largely disappeared from many discussions in mainstream applied behavioral treatment. According to Wilson (2007), when between-group selection dominates within-group selection in regard to evolutionary value, a major evolutionary transition occurs, with the group itself becoming a type of higher level organism. When membership in and affiliation with the group itself holds a unique evolutionary advantage, the individual may act in ways that stand in stark contrast to how they would act if within-group selection were dominant (Wilson & Sober, 1994). A noteworthy feature of group selection is that, in many instances, the behavior of the individual changes according to the rules and dynamics of the group without the individual ever having to contact the relevant behavioral contingencies. Wilson's theory resonates with Skinner's description of cultural selection as a group-level, causal agent that influences human behavior at both the group and individual levels.

In addition to the elements involved in group selection that occur in conjunction with biological and individual selection processes, additional complexities can occur within groups as subgroups form, especially if the group members have a strong affiliation to the subgroup (Wilson & Sober, 1994). Many of Wilson's ideas related to group selection and related processes have a high level of value when examining the functioning of groups within schools, workplaces, and neighborhoods. Wilson's theoretical work on group selection has large implications for researchers in organizational behavior management (OBM), as research done on large organizations frequently lacks the focus on the adaptive dynamics of organizational subgroups.

One singular theoretical interest that is reflected numerous times in Wilson's (2010; 2015) work is his discussions of both altruism and religious affiliation in relation to group selection. Concepts related to religion and altruism have been fiercely debated through theological, philosophical, and psychological history. While it is apparent to behavior analysts that behaviors related to morality, religion, and altruism often fall prey to explanatory fictions, it is uncommon for other schools of philosophical or scientific thought to take an objective stance concerning these constructs. Wilson's refreshingly objective treatment of religion and selfless behavior fills a much-needed explanatory gap, allowing for a middle ground that encompasses both objectivity and warmth (Wilson, 2015). His explanation does not refute the existence of altruism or the evolutionary necessity of religion; it merely asserts that our assumptions as to why these constructs exist are incorrectly understood.

In his book, *The Neighborhood Project: Using Evolution to Improve My City, One Block at a Time*, Wilson (2011) operationally defines altruism in terms of observable and measurable prosocial actions, and then uses this definition to measure differences in altruism within and across various community groupings. In doing so, a definition of altruism as a contextually-dependent group level adaptation emerges, and environmental conditions, or antecedents, that are associated with the display of altruistic behaviors begins to emerge (Wilson). Likewise, when religion is examined in conjunction with the evolutionary benefits that group membership has historically provided, functional explanations can be identified for the otherwise extreme acts of violence and self-sacrifice that have appeared within various religious groupings across time. Throughout his work, Wilson demonstrates that it is possible to objectively define, measure, and predict exceedingly complex human interactions using objective measures.

The work of David Sloan Wilson resurrects some basic evolutionary arguments and Skinnerian ideas. His work is

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relevant to any student or practitioner of behavior analysis who has ever contemplated the gray and overlapping areas between phylogenic, ontogenic, and cultural selection, as well as to any experienced practitioner who has ever begun to doubt whether respondent and operant behavior are truly two completely independent constructs. Dr. Wilson's work resonates with several of the characteristics of ABA and is reflective of the elements inherent in any science. His writings reflect a value on a science that is applied, analytical, and conceptually systematic in nature. Finally, his focus on disseminating scientific knowledge in understandable language via accessible mediums is consistent with behavior analysts' commitment to disseminate accurate information for the purpose of improving society. ❖

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## Announcing the 2019 Presidential Scholar Essay Contest

The ABAI Student Committee is excited to announce the annual Presidential Scholar Essay Contest. All current ABAI student members are encouraged to submit a 1,000-word essay about the important contributions of this year's Presidential Scholar, Jamila Raqib, and how those contributions relate to behavior analysis. You may read about her work at the following link: **[www.abainternational.org/events/annual/chicago2019/presidential-scholar.aspx](http://www.abainternational.org/events/annual/chicago2019/presidential-scholar.aspx)**.

Students may work individually, or in groups of two or three. The winner(s) of the essay contest will be awarded the following prizes: dinner with Ms. Raqib and the current president of ABAI, Mark Mattaini, publication of the winning essay in *Inside Behavior Analysis*, and a free one-year subscription to an ABAI journal. Student members may ask questions or submit their 1,000 word essay to Lorraine Becerra at **[lorraine.becerra@aggiemail.usu.edu](mailto:lorraine.becerra@aggiemail.usu.edu)**.

## 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. Their 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 analysts.

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 and region. Furthermore, they offer members opportunities to gather with former schoolmates, colleagues, and friends while networking with new professionals who often become important colleagues and collaborators. Their annual convention is particularly important because it offers the state's board certified behavior analysts a local opportunity to earn continuing education credits—they provided 1,074 CEUs to 102 members last year (up from 816 CEUs to 87 members in 2016). Last year's convention was October 18–20, 2017, at the DoubleTree Hotel in Birmingham. Attendees filled 95 seats at their workshops, which included “Teaching Listener Behavior to Children With Developmental Disabilities” (conducted by Dr. Laura Grow) and “Navigating the 10th Circle of Hell: A Road Map to Writing Medically Necessary Treatment Plans” (conducted by Tim Courtney and Vince LeMarca, Little Star Center). Attendance at the two-day, one-track presentation portion of their convention was somewhat higher than the previous year with 190 attendees. The keynote addresses offered instruction in video-based preference assessments and gaps in services between SLP and ABA, as well as an overview of the new autism insurance law: Dr. Laura Grow's “Using Video-Based Preference Assessments to Identify Preferred Social Interactions for Individuals With Developmental Disabilities,” Dr. Joanne Gerenser's “ABA and SLP: Bridging the Gap to Enhance Services for Children With ASD,” and Mike Wasmer's “Autism Insurance Reform in Alabama: Details of HB 284, Implementation and Enforcement.” Invited presentations included a broad range of topics from both basic and applied domains: Dr. Gerenser's “Planning for Adulthood Through Effective Education,” Dr. Joseph Lambert's “Doing Something About Resurgence: An Iterative Story,” and Dr. Mirari Elcoro's “Interactions Between Basic and Applied Behavior

Analysis.” And member-submitted presentations addressed training, billing, and legislative issues in addition to basic human operants. Their president-elect, Sabrina Franks, closed the convention with her Presidential Address, “Supervision: Dos and Don'ts.”

Congratulations to the new president-elect, Jennifer Bruzek, and student at large, Hillary Owens. The 2018 Executive Committee, which also includes April Rapp, Sabrina Franks, Ryan Zayac, John Rapp, Paul Agostini, Jules Starr, and Anna Kate Edgemon, is actively preparing for this fall's 27th annual convention October 3–5 at the DoubleTree in Birmingham. This year's keynote addresses will be given by Dr. Jennifer Fritz, Dr. Jin Yoon, and Dr. Matthew Brodhead. Please visit them online at [www.alabamaaba.com](http://www.alabamaaba.com) for more information and to register for the convention.

In legislative news, the Alabama state legislature passed HB 284, the autism insurance law, in May 2017. This legislation will bring funding for applied behavior analysis and other related autism treatment services to hundreds of thousands of Alabamians. ALABA sincerely thanks everyone who contributed to this extraordinary achievement! In memory of Rep. Jim Patterson, who passed away suddenly in October after championing the autism insurance bill, the ALABA Executive Committee created an annual convention presentation, the Rep. Jim Patterson Service to Autism Presentation, to honor his work. Each year, the committee will assign this title to a presentation that addresses improving the lives of individuals with autism. Additionally, the Alabama Behavior Analyst Licensing Board began offering licenses on August 11, 2017, and as of February 2018 has licensed 166 behavior analysts and assistant behavior analysts. The ALABA Public Policy Committee will continue to monitor legislative activity and support the interests of behavior analysts in Alabama and nationwide.

### Alaska ABA

BY VERONICA HOWARD

The Alaska Association for Behavior Analysis (AKABA) was formed in January 2014 and became affiliated with ABAI in March 2016. AKABA is a nonprofit organization with a goal to promote the science and theory of behavior analysis through the support of research, education, and practice. AKABA membership is open to everyone interested in behavior analysis in Alaska.

It was an exciting year for AKABA. Our members continued advocacy for Medicaid coverage for the delivery of autism services, increasing access to much-needed behavioral services to clients throughout our great state. In the face of changing laws and funding structures around ABA services, chapter members and advocates will remain

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## ALASKA continued from page 19

vigilant to speak out for greater understanding and support for the delivery of ABA in Alaska.

From an educational and professional development lens, we hosted our first annual chapter conference in November 2017, welcoming amazing Alaskan behavior analysts to speak on issues ranging from conceptual behaviorism to practitioner challenges and strategies. Attendance at the event was fantastic, and feedback from attendees indicated great satisfaction with the event and with the pre-event social. AKABA leadership plans to offer the annual conference again in late 2018!

The chapter focus in 2018 is building a stronger, more inclusive behavior analytic community. While being a behavior analyst is challenging everywhere, it is exceptionally challenging in a state like Alaska where the closest “city” can be a full day’s travel away or only accessible by plane. Often technology cannot bridge this gap. Alaska ranks 43rd among states for Internet connectivity, and only 78% of our citizens have access to broadband coverage. What these figures do not highlight are the challenges that the other 22% of our population experiences in accessing the Internet. In some remote towns and villages in the state, speeds are as low as 19.2 kbps; for these users, it would take over 2 hours to download a 5-minute video!

AKABA recognizes that many of our members may not be able to access information digitally or do not have regular access to high-speed Internet, and we will be aiming to find ways to keep our members abreast of changes in the field and planning regular full-day events that can involve all our members.

## Berkshire Association for Behavior Analysis and Therapy

BY ALAN HARCHIK

The Berkshire Association for Behavior Analysis and Therapy (BABAT) is Massachusetts’s largest and longest-standing professional organization for behavior analysts. We will soon be celebrating our 40th anniversary. Our website is [babat.org](http://babat.org). BABAT’s mission is to advance behavior analysis in Massachusetts and beyond through professional advocacy, organization of continuing education and networking opportunities, professional recognition, and providing needed supports to our membership. The BABAT conference, held annually in October, continues to be a central focus of the board.

### Annual Conference

The chapter’s 38th annual conference was held October 11–13, 2017. The conference was again sold out with over 1,100 professionals in attendance. The conference included

more than three dozen invited speakers and distinguished presenters. This was our third year of an expanded conference with an additional day of Masters Series of Workshops. We also have started a Professional Practice Series consisting of experts on a variety of legislative, insurance, and regulatory issues.

Planning is well underway for the 39th Annual BABAT conference, to be held October 10–12, 2018, at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst. We plan to continue to offer opportunities to earn continuing education credits from the BACB and APA. Our three-day event starts with a day of workshops, followed by two days of symposia, invited addresses, and several more workshops. For 2018, we have 13 invited workshop presenters and over 30 other invited speakers.

### Legislative and Professional Practice

BABAT strives to support and inform members regarding relevant legislative activities, legislative advocacy, and support to small ABA businesses. BABAT’s Professional Practice Committee develops and disseminates quality and operational standards in applied behavior analysis services, and also develops tools to assist practitioners, programs, organizations, and consumers in Massachusetts. Additionally, the Committee supports key legislation, policies, and practices that uphold and enforce those standards. The committee works with credentialed professionals and local, national, public, and private entities to ensure adoption of these standards.

### BABAT Social

The seventh annual BABAT Social was held April 12. 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. Our invited speakers were Richard Graff, Amy Henley, and Sharon Reeve. The event was extended to an 8-hour single-track event this year.

### Social Media

BABAT has a presence on Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, and Twitter. These outlets share highlights and information regarding awards, upcoming events, and more.

### Honors and Awards

BABAT proudly presented the following honors and awards this year:

- The Jerry Shook Practitioner Award: Christina Barosky, MA, BCBA, LABA
- BABAT Student Paper Award: Bryan J. Blair, Ph.D., BCBA-D, LABA
- Skinner Foundation/BABAT Student Research Award: Caitlin Irwin, MS, BCBA, LABA

- BF Skinner Foundation/BABAT Student Poster Award: Helena Whitlow, MS
- Behavior Change for Sustainable World Research Award: Jessica Day-Watkins, Ph.D., MSED, BCBA

### The New England Behavior Analyst

BABAT recently posted its 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 Leadership

Stacie Bancroft continues her three-year term as president of BABAT. The Board of Directors has expanded, as have the number of committees focusing on specific initiatives. Through the development of our committees and committee member positions, we have been able to benefit from the hard work of over 25 new committee members.

## Colorado ABA

BY MELISSA NOSIK

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

COABA held its fourth election of officers in October 2017 and its resulting executive board is as follows: president, Travis Blevins (2017–2019); president-elect, Linda LeBlanc (2018–2020); secretary, Jessica Juanico (2018–2019); treasurer, Shasta Brenske (2017–2018); director, Melissa Nosik (2017–2019); director, Molli Luke (2016–2018); and director, Jonathan Miller (2018–2020).

COABA accepts members in three categories: full, affiliate, and student. By the end of 2017, there were 194 members.

Recent activities include conducting our second annual convention, which offered members nine sessions with invited speakers from diverse practice areas. In 2017, COABA submitted a sunrise application to the Department of Regulatory Affairs in Colorado to study licensure for behavior analysts. In 2015, COABA received Approved Continuing Education (ACE) provider status by the BACB and 501(c)(6) tax-exempt status from the U.S. Internal Revenue Service. More information about COABA can be found at [www.coaba.org](http://www.coaba.org) and [www.facebook.com/groups/COABA](https://www.facebook.com/groups/COABA).

## Delaware ABA

BY KAORI NEPO

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

### Governance

Current executive officers of Delaware ABA consist of a president, Kaori Nepo; a vice-president, Gary Allison; a treasurer, Corey Bowen; a secretary, Victoria Hetrick; and members at large, Susan Pfadt and Regan Root. The membership director is currently vacant.

### Membership

There are four categories for Delaware ABA membership:

- Professional member, defined as an individual holding a terminal degree in a discipline directly related to or involving behavior analysis, and whose full or part time professional commitment includes teaching, research, and/or practice in behavior analysis.
- Full member, defined as an individual engaged in a full or part time basis in any profession or vocation that uses the principles or procedures of behavior analysis.
- Affiliate member, defined as any individual evidencing interest in the discipline of behavior analysis, but lacking formal training therein.
- Student member, an individual, who currently attends undergraduate or graduate school.

The membership fee is \$5 for student members and \$10 for the rest of members annually.

### Conferences

In May 2017, representatives attended the chapter convention training at the ABAI annual convention. Delaware ABA also presented a poster at the convention in order to promote the chapter.

In September 2017, Delaware ABA sponsored the Chimes Conference to provide attendees BACB Type II CEUs as an ACE provider.

In March 2018, representatives attended the chapter meeting at the APBA annual convention to learn the process of securing licensure in Delaware.

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## DELAWARE continued from page 21

In May 2018, Delaware ABA sponsored another conference hosted by Chimes International to issue BACB Type II CEUs.

In September 2018, Delaware ABA will host the first conference to promote behavior analysis in Delaware and educate practitioners, educators, and parents.

### Activities for 2017-2018

As an ACE provider, Delaware ABA sponsored a conference hosted by Chimes International and provided BACB Type II CEUs to attendees in September 2017. Delaware ABA will continue the partnership with Chimes International to sponsor the upcoming conference in May 2018.

In order to promote behavior analysis in the state of Delaware, Delaware ABA secured the location and speakers to host the first conference in September 2018. In addition, Delaware ABA formed a sub-committee to host a support group for practitioners and parents to disseminate the science of behavior analysis. Furthermore, the sub-committee will reach out to stakeholders in the state to educate them on how to incorporate the science of behavior analysis to improve the quality of services they provide. The executive committee continued to discuss the necessary steps in creating behavior analyst licensure in the state of Delaware. At the all-members meeting, the committee gathered further information from members on how to more fully, and effectively, promote behavior analysis in Delaware through workshops, conferences, and social media.

### Plan for 2018-2019

Delaware ABA will continue to hold a few events to offer CEUs for members and to educate the general public regarding the science of behavior analysis. We will prepare for the first conference scheduled in September 2018. Additionally, we will continue to gain knowledge and work on tasks to develop behavior analyst licensure in the state of Delaware through attending the meetings and workshops at the ABAI and APBA conventions.

## Florida ABA

BY AMY S. POLICK

The 37th Meeting of the Florida Association for Behavior Analysis (FABA) took place October 4–7, 2017, at the Hilton Daytona Beach Oceanfront Resort in Daytona Beach, FL. Due to high demand and space capacity, FABA capped registration for the 2017 conference and all attendees registered online in advance to secure a spot (there was not an on-site registration option). This was a first for FABA, and we anticipate having capped registration with advance online registration only for our 2018 conference as well.

Despite the change in registration options this past year, the FABA 2017 conference was attended by over

1,300 members and featured 32 paper sessions, 30 symposia, 13 panel discussions, 13 IGNITE presentations (as part of a new annual IGNITEs at Night event), 19 pre- and post-conference workshops, 24 posters, 7 invited speakers, 1 keynote, 1 presidential address, and 9 other meetings, socials, and special events, including the second annual *Inside Behavior Analysis* (an interview similar to *Inside the Actor's Studio*) with Julie Vargas. *Inside Behavior Analysis* has quickly become one of the most popular, must-see FABA events due to the interviewing style of the presentation, the content of questions, and the incredibly interesting answers of the interviewees, which to date have included Richard Foxx and Julie Vargas.

The 2017 meeting of FABA was extremely well received by members, and FABA's programming committee worked tirelessly during the months prior to the big event to ensure a stellar lineup of presentations for the conference. From Wednesday's workshops, to Thursday's impactful keynote address from Julie Vargas, Friday night's IGNITEs at Night and karaoke 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 even 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, organizational behavior management, strategies for reducing destructive/problem behavior, ethics/professional/conceptual issues, and important considerations for ABA service delivery, to name a few. A special thanks also to the FABA invited presenters who provided important presentations on food selectivity (Cathleen Piazza), preventing relapse after treatment of problem behavior (Wayne Fisher), terminology use in our field (Ebb Blakely), a passion for ethics (Jon Bailey), ABA practice guidelines (Linda LeBlanc), teaching language to children with autism (Mark Dixon), and making a difference with OBM (Manuel Rodriguez).

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

Every year in Florida, the first week of September is Florida Behavior Analysis Week, and we will continue that tradition in September 2018. Also happening this September is FABA's 39th Annual Meeting, which will take place at the beautiful and luxurious Hyatt Regency Coconut Point Hotel in Bonita Springs, FL, September

12–15. Exciting things are in store for FABA's 39th Annual Meeting, including an incredible lineup of invited speakers. Attendees can expect that registration will be required in advance (online only), and that Saturday events will take place again. 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, but they also include important social events to enhance networking opportunities and make the conference more enjoyable for attendees. Some of the favorite events are speed networking, speed recruiting, a poster poker run, roundtable lunch special interest group discussions, and book signings. Other popular social events include the well-known hospitality suite and the FABA social, which is a traditional big social gathering occurring during one of the evenings of the conference. FABA also has the benefit of holding their 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 behavior-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](http://www.FABAWorld.org) or contact executive director Amy Polick at [polick@psy.fsu.edu](mailto:polick@psy.fsu.edu), or president Nikki Dickens at [ndickens@pc.fsu.edu](mailto:ndickens@pc.fsu.edu).

## Georgia ABA

BY VALERIE VOLKERT AND SHERRY SERDIKOFF

We are proud to continue to support the behavior analytic community in the state of Georgia through an annual conference, social media, and networking as an affiliated chapter of ABAI.

We held the 10th annual GABA conference for the second year in Savannah, Georgia, from November 10–11, 2017. We had over 120 individuals attend the conference. The conference featured presentations by Dorothea Lerman, Ph.D., BCBA-D; Thomas Critchfield, Ph.D.; Joel Ringdahl, Ph.D., BCBA-D; John Rapp, Ph.D., BCBA-D; Karen Toussaint, Ph.D., BCBA-D; and Amanda Karsten, Ph.D., BCBA-D. In addition, this year we held two workshops: one on the topic of applied behavior analytic principles in supervision by Mindy Sheithauer, Ph.D., BCBA-D, and another on the topic of teaching tolerance to delayed reinforcement by Jeff

Tiger, Ph.D., BCBA-D. Finally, we held a poster session with 20 posters and had a student poster competition. The winning posters were “Evaluating Mand Modalities Using Concurrent Schedules” by Cary Trump (University of Georgia), Kara Wunderlich (University of Georgia), and Mirari Elcoro (Framingham State University) at the graduate level; and “Does Immediate Feedback Improve Retention of Material Compared to Traditional and Familiar Testing Formats?” by Samnick Pondy, Sequoyah Thurmond, Kimberly Frame, and Sherry Serdikoff (Savannah State University) at the undergraduate level. The conference continued to cover topics relevant to a wide audience within the behavioral community.

In 2018, we plan to hold our 11th annual GABA conference in another city in Georgia, Athens, to reach as many practitioners and researchers as possible across the state. We are looking again to have a well-rounded line-up of speakers who will address a diverse range of topics relevant to BCBAs and practitioners in Georgia and to provide a workshop on the topic of ethics. Information about this year's conference can be found on our website: [www.georgia-aba.org](http://www.georgia-aba.org).

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all board members and student representatives for their hard work and dedication to the organization. This year we welcome back Sherry Serdikoff, Ph.D., BCBA-D; Mira Stallings, BCBA; Adrian Caciur, BCBA; Ginger Sunbom, BCBA; Amanda Mahoney, Ph.D., BCBA-D; Kimberly Frame, Ed.D., BCBA; Ruby Jade Lewis, BCBA; Kara Wunderlich, Ph.D., BCBA-D; Ray Joslyn, Ph.D., BCBA-D; and Dana Zavatkay, Ph.D., BCBA-D, who are returning board members. We also welcome Colin Muething, Ph.D., BCBA-D and Christopher Tullis, Ph.D., BCBA-D, who are new board members this year. We are excited to welcome back Cary Trump (University of Georgia) as a student representative and to extend a welcome to Mikayla Camacho (Berry College), Ashlyn Sharpe (Berry College), Clarissa Martin (Georgia State University), Terika Brewer (Georgia State University), Chandler Wentz (Georgia State University), and Kavya Kandarpa (University of Georgia) as new student representatives.

We would also like to thank two individuals rotating off the board: Joanna Lomas Mevers, Ph.D., BCBA-D, for her tremendous efforts to support GABA as last year's president, and Bethany Hansen, Ph.D., BCBA-D, as the vice president of continuing education.

Our goals for 2018 include continuing to expand membership in the state and updating the functionality of our website and membership software. We are also working to improve the sign-in and sign-out process for continuing education credit and dissemination of certificates.

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## Hawai'i ABA

BY KATHLEEN PENLAND

Hawai'i Association for Behavior Analysis (HABA) hosted several successful continuing education events in 2017, including webinar journal clubs, our annual networking event across the islands, and our annual convention in Waikiki! We were honored to host keynotes, Drs. Mark Sundberg and E. Scott Geller, along with a host of other great speakers at the sold-out convention.

HABA has remained very active in local legislation by focusing on bills relating to the practice of behavior analysis and behavior change for environmental sustainability. HABA continues to advocate for quality ABA and support local families by participating in a variety of community organizations and events with parent groups.

Come join HABA on the beautiful island of Oahu, Hawai'i, as we celebrate our annual convening of members on September 27–28, 2018. Enjoy two days full of aloha and behavior analysis, and meet behavior analysts from across the globe! We are very pleased to announce that our keynote speakers this year will be Dr. Pat Friman and Dr. Caio Miguel!

## Hoosier ABA

BY DANYL M. H. EPPERHEIMER

The Hoosier Association for Behavior Analysis (HABA) will host our 10th anniversary conference in 2018. We are so proud of everything we have accomplished in our first decade; however, we still need more growth to occur to become an integral part of all applied behavior analysis (ABA) services in the state of Indiana.

In 2017, at the ABAA chapter meeting, our HABA executive board representative listened to the ONTABA president, Louis Busch, present “Strengthening Your Chapter’s Organizational Capability Through Good Governance and Collaborative Strategic Planning.” ONTABA had maintained a membership of approximately 400 for nine years. After the governance assessment and strategic plan were put in place, their membership grew to over 900 in 2016–17. ONTABA shared every document that they had revised, their entire board toolkit, each policy, and their strategic plan. Louis used the analogy of taking a “shoebox” organization and making it a thriving, sought-out entity for all things applied behavior analysis. He discussed how the executive board needed to be the people to oversee the work that their organization was completing, and not doing all the work themselves. This chapter meeting resonated with the 2017 HABA executive board.

HABA is a shoebox organization. The executive board organizes the work for the organization during the year that they are elected. The board members are

over-worked, and not paid. The chapter does not have a relationship with any of the policy-makers within the state of Indiana and is not sought out for any feedback, including ABA-related issues. Unfortunately, it is unclear if policy-makers in the state have even heard of ABA. In the state of Indiana, we have Medicaid waiver services. The Medicaid waiver provides behavior management services. These services can be provided by anyone who has a master’s degree. The master’s degree can be in any subject matter; music, art, or history are a few examples. Behavior consultants can provide behavior management services to people with disabilities. The policy-makers in Indiana know of behavior management because professionals in that field have a lobbyist and have worked very hard to be known, whereas HABA has not. We have always been of the mindset that our work with ABA will speak for itself. This has been erroneous on our part.

After returning from the chapter meeting we immediately began to seek out a company to complete a comprehensive governance evaluation and collaborative strategic plan for HABA. Since November 2017, HABA has been collaborating with Jessica White and Associates. Our comprehensive governance evaluation was completed and reviewed by the executive board on April 13. The next steps will be for HABA to create a strategic plan and the HABA board has identified the following goals:

- governance assessment
- live streaming of quarterly meetings
- BCBA licensure
- a new, updated website
- 10th Annual Conference in October

The HABA board has already accomplished the comprehensive governance assessment. We sought out an event company to help us put on our very first live stream of a quarterly CEU event on April 13, 2018. The site Mentimeter was used to have members vote on the preferred topics that would be discussed during CEU events in 2018. We think this will increase the value and motivation to attend our quarterly meetings. The live streamed CEU event was made available only to current HABA members.

Moving forward, we will give our members who attend the quarterly meetings any important information (conference registration link) first, wait 24–48 hours, and then post it to our website. We will then wait another 24–48 hours to post it on all our social media platforms. This will ensure that our website can become a viable site and ensure our members get important information first. In accordance with the above-mentioned plan, we rolled out all the details of our 10th anniversary HABA conference on April 13 to the attendees of our live streaming CEU event. This was the first year that we have incorporated an application to facilitate communication and information

regarding increased communication about the conference. Our website has never been a place where people could find important information about our organization or ABA, but we our newly redesigned website changes this.

Unfortunately, the BCBA licensure bill (SB 355) was dropped from the 2018 legislative session. There was contention between two organizations on whether the BCBA licensure should be overseen by the Psychological Board or the Board of Behavioral Health. The author of the bill and the representative who reads the bills would only read bills that did not have any opposition. The 2018 HABA president and the IN-PEAT board met on March 7, 2018, to begin to identify what group will take the leadership with the 2019 legislation to seek out licensure for BCBAs and BCaBAs. A member of HABA will attend the Association of Professional Behavior Analysts (APBA) meeting with Gina Green to identify if there are any other pre-requisite tasks that need to be completed to ensure a higher probability of BCBA/BCaBA licensure during the 2019 legislative session.

The 2018 HABA Executive Board has started creating a board toolkit to assist in the transition process from one board member to a new board member. The board voted to revise how nominations were sent out and the timeline for when a new board member starts. The new nominations will be sought out during our annual conference in October, and voting will occur in November. The new board members will then observe the board meeting in December and begin filling board duties in January 2019. The Executive Board is also hoping to have an onboarding process by November 2018 to assist in this transition from one board member to another during the December 2018 board meeting.

Lastly, to our current 2018 members, we hear you! We are listening to every recommendation that comes to us. Please continue to help us grow and be an association you are proud to be part of. The 2018 HABA Executive Committee is:

- Past president: Melany Shampo, MA, BCBA
- President: Danyl MH Epperheimer, MS, BCBA
- Vice President: Amber Badgett, MA, BCBA
- Treasurer: Shenley Seabrook, LMHC, BCBA
- Secretary: Shawwna Sungberg, MA, BCBA
- Member at Large: Ann Dorlet MS, BCBA
- Student Representative: Jennifer Atherton
- RBT Representative: Kacie Langham

## Iowa ABA

BY JESSE LOGUE

The Iowa Association for Behavior Analysis annual members' meeting was held November 3, 2017, in West Des Moines, Iowa, in conjunction with the fifth annual conference. Sarah Berghold was elected president-elect and Angela Birdsall as a member of the Board of Directors.

Conference presenters provided training and presentations on varied topics to the 110 attendees. Dr. Maria Valdovinos, Drake University, presented "A Call to Behavior Analysts: Why We Need to Reassess Challenging Behavior When Psychotropic Medications Are Manipulated." Dr. Heather McGee, Western Michigan University, presented "Why Don't They Get It? Taking a Closer Look at Your Training Practices." Dr. Derek Reed, University of Kansas, presented "The Promise of Applied Behavioral Economics: Examples from Under the Dome." Dr. Keith Allen, Munroe-Meyer Institute, University of Nebraska Medical Center, presented "5 Secrets of Effective Parent Training." Sean Casey, Heartland Pediatric Feeding Disorder Services, presented "Using Descriptive Analyses Results to Manipulate Schedules of Reinforcement in the Treatment of Bite Acceptance and Food Refusal." The conference also hosted its second student poster session, with 10 posters representing research from around the state.

Monetary support for the conference was provided by local, state, and regional organizations with an interest in behavior analysis. As a result of these efforts, attendance numbers increased to our largest conference to date, allowing the organization to continue to plan for future opportunities for its members.

Iowa ABA continues to be actively involved in ABAAI through member and board participation in the annual convention, including two board members attending the 2017 ABAAI 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. The licensure bill is currently working its way through the legislative process and will be voted on in the coming weeks. Licensure remains a top priority of the Iowa ABA board and our members. Iowa ABA members were also involved in autism insurance reform, which passed, mandating private insurance coverage for ABA services for individuals on the autism spectrum.

The expansion of ABA services and BCBAs is of paramount importance to Iowa ABA. Iowa currently has just over 100 BCBAs, and Iowa ABA has supported several initiatives to recruit and retain BCBAs. Specifically, Iowa ABA has assisted with the development of a state grant for individuals pursuing their BCBA. Additionally, Iowa ABA has also been supportive of Drake University's new ABA master's program, with members providing practicum opportunities for students, supervising clinical experiences, and promoting the program.

Iowa ABA also provided an additional CEU opportunity in the summer of 2017, with a 3-hour

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## IOWA continued from page 25

supervision workshop for Iowa ABA members. The sixth annual conference is currently being planned and will be held in West Des Moines in early fall of 2018.

## Lone Star ABA

BY GERALD HARRIS

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

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

We are continuing to accommodate professionals around Houston by alternating a North and a South meeting each month throughout the year. Houston covers a large geographical area, and traffic can be difficult. By having meetings that are in convenient locations, we have more people attending, even from the outlying communities.

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

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

Working with third-party payers is ongoing. Many local ABA practitioners are particularly interested in third-party insurance issues related to ABA treatment for children with autism. LSABA continues to work with insurance companies as they develop and refine their

systems to accommodate ABA services, informing and shaping the evolution of reasonable payments for quality services. LSABA has also provided information to ABA providers to assist them in complying with and benefiting from the third-party payment systems.

A topic of interest this past year is awareness and compliance with evolving ethical and professional standards in the practice of ABA. With the increase in ABA providers in the Houston area, LSABA has developed resources for increasing awareness of the current best standards for practice. LSABA believes it is in everyone's best interest to maintain the highest professional standards in our field of expertise and is working to make it easier to achieve that goal. The LSABA ABA Support Committee (ABASC), whose members are some of the more experienced ABA providers in the Houston area, has accomplished several important goals. ABASC has developed and implemented an on-site support service for ABA providers. Providers can request review and helpful feedback in areas such as policies and procedures, treatment integrity, HIPPA compliance, and treatment or business models. Initial response has been very positive. Several area providers have completed our review process and are recognized as having best practices by the Houston Families for Early Autism Treatment (FEAT). Additionally, a repository of sample documents, forms, and other provider materials has been developed and is available online to area providers.

One of the most exciting activities of LSABA this past year was the conference in May focusing on ethics and compliance with professional rules, regulations, and statutory law. With the support of Houston FEAT, LSABA hosted a full-day conference for ABA professionals. Gina Green was the keynote speaker. Attendance was good and feedback from area ABA providers was very positive. In February 2018, LSABA also conducted a two-day conference for area ABA providers. Dr. Vince Carbone presented his work on verbal behavior intervention. Almost 100 people attended this conference, and feedback from attendees was very good. LSABA, never to rest on its laurels, hosted another conference in May with a focus on ethics and supervision issues.

Another important goal of LSABA is to inform and support the use of applied behavior analysis in the Houston area. To that end we work closely with the Houston FEAT. An LSABA representative attends and participates in FEAT board meetings in order to facilitate communication between the two groups and help coordinate local ABA support activities. Such activities include LSABA BCBAs providing regular full-day ABA workshops for the community. The ABCs of ABA workshops provide a basic foundation in ABA for parents, teachers, and others, while the 123s of ABA provide more detailed information about specific ABA applications. This

past year, LSABA conducted six full-day workshops for the community. These were well attended, and feedback collected was also very positive.

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

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

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

Overall, for a still young (but maturing) organization—about nine years old now—LSABA appears to have a strong foundation and a good track record of accomplishments. The chapter is certainly blessed with having dedicated and caring members, and excellent support from the ABA professional establishment.

## 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 the ABAI affiliate state chapter in the fall of 2012. LaBAA is also an Affiliate of APBA and a BACB ACE provider.

### Officers

LaBAA is governed by an Executive Committee composed of a president, past president, president-elect, treasurer, and secretary. 2016–2018 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 is composed of regional representatives from across the state, a parent representative, and a student representative. 2016–2018 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, Ph.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 the following:

- 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 provided for all levels of membership.

LaBAA has grown from 236 members in the spring of 2017 to 280 members at the time of writing. A member meeting was held in May 2017 in Denver at ABAI.

### Committees

Grant Gautreaux is the 2017–18 Legislative Committee chair. The committee monitors Louisiana legislative activity relevant to the field and practice of behavior analysis. Since June of 2013, Louisiana has had a title and practice act for behavior analysis regulated by an independent board of behavior analysts. Dr. Gautreaux has continued working with the Louisiana Coalition for Access to Autism Services (LCAAS) to address any legislation that has the potential to impact the practice of behavior analysis in the state.

The 2017–2018 Social Media Committee maintained a website, [www.labaa.net](http://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 2016–2017 chair was Kakie Fontenot. The LaBAA website is host to employment ads, service providers, the ongoing t-shirt fundraiser, and news and updates regarding behavior analytic events.

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## LOUISIANA continued from page 27

LaBAA hosted the Fifth Annual Gulf Coast ABA Conference in October of 2017 in New Orleans, LA. The 2017 Conference Committee was chaired by Derek Shanman and co-chaired by Tricia Clement. Approximately 250 people attended the sold-out two-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 Janet Twyman (ABA Technologies). The 2018 Conference Committee is chaired by Katie Jenkins and co-chaired by Kakie Fontenot.

The second annual LaBAA Award for Distinguished ABA Advocacy was presented to Joanne Robbins, principal of Morningside Academy in Seattle, WA, for her advocacy of ABA in school systems across the country. LaBAA also held its second annual Student Poster Competition during the conference. Nicholls State University students Celia Charles and Kourtney Gautreaux were the winners.

The Sixth Annual Gulf Coast ABA Conference is scheduled for October 12–13, 2018, in New Orleans at the Westin hotel, as we have outgrown Le Meridian, our conference home the past two years. 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](http://www.labaa.net), LaBAA membership is included as an option in conference registration.

The 2017–2018 Fundraising Committee co-chairs are Kakie Fontenot and Janice Huber. The committee conducted raffles and sold items at the 2017 conference.

### Other Activities and Initiatives

Last year, LaBAA collaborated with the Louisiana Behavior Analyst Board (LBAB) to conduct an election for two open board positions. LaBAA submitted four nominees to the governor's office, three of whom were LaBAA members. Two of these members, Renee Cole, BCBA, LBA, and Lloyd Boudloche, BCBA, LBA, were appointed and are currently serving on the LBAB board.

In March 2017, LaBAA member Dr. Grant Gautreaux was an invited presenter at TxABA. Also this year, LaBAA completed a recent revamp of our logo to meet the growing needs of our organization.

The chapter has 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 the 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 held its 20th Annual Meeting in Baltimore, Maryland,

December 14–15, 2017. 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, with over 300 members. Presenters included Jason Bourret (New England Center for Children), Patrick Friman (Boys Town), SungWoo Kahng (University of Missouri), Tiffany Kodak (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee), and Cynthia Pietras (Western Michigan University). For the first year, we were able to provide two pre-conference workshops, with Tiffany Kodak presenting on treatment integrity, and Jane Barbin and Stacey McIntyre presenting on ethics. Poster presenters included staff and students 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 continuing to support the efforts of MABA.

At the conclusion of the conference, Louis Hagopian (Kennedy Krieger Institute) stepped down as president, Jolene Sy (University of Maryland, Baltimore County) assumed the office of president, and Lynn Bowman (Kennedy Krieger Institute) was elected president-elect. Erin Schaller was elected member at large, and Lisa Beard was elected student representative. We would like to thank our executive committee for their time and dedication.

Plans are currently under way for the 21st Annual Meeting to be held December 6–7, 2018, in Baltimore. We expect to include distinguished behavior analysts to our line-up of speakers. For more information about our upcoming conference, please go to [www.mdaba.org](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 over 2,000 BCBAs and 17 BACB Verified 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 be composed of behavior analysts, and would focus solely on the licensure of behavior analysts rather than multiple disciplines under the mental health board. We are happy to share that bills S.135 and H.1998 were reported favorably out of the Joint Committee on Consumer Protection & Professional Licensure and reported to their respective chambers (House and Senate). These bills will now continue to move through the legislative process, and we will seek their passage by the full House and Senate before the end of the formal legislative session on July 31, 2018. This is even more of an achievement given that very few bills this session were reported out to both chambers in this way; this gives us additional opportunity to move this legislation forward, and underscores the commitment of the committee and the legislature to these bills.

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

- **The School Based BCBA Committee:** This committee is focusing on a broad range of issues of concern to BCBAs who work for or in public school settings. The committee has focused itself into two main sub-committees addressing clinical issues and administrative concerns. The clinical committee is holding a series of ongoing meetings to develop resources and standards for school-based behavior analysts. The administrative group is addressing issues such as state Department of Education recognition of the BCBA license and credential as well as clarifying clinical and administrative roles within the school system hierarchy. The committee is also working on developing a survey to better understand the roles and responsibilities of behavior analysts working in public schools. Lastly, the committee has been hosting regular CEU events for behavior analysts working in public school settings. Rachel Freedman and Bob Ross co-chair the committee; active committee participants include Ann Donovan, Dan Almeida, Christina Stuart, Brain Ziman, Lisa Gurdin, and Jason Zeigler.
- **The Annual Conference Committee:** MassABA has hosted a conference for each of the past seven years. The conference has grown steadily in attendance and quality. Last year, over 25 presenters and 700 attendees made it a tremendous success. The 2017 conference featured keynotes by Dr. Robert Horner (“Implementing Applied Behavior Analysis at Scales of Social Importance: PBIS”), Tom Freeman (“Effective Interaction with Other Professionals: Challenges and Issues”), and Lori Frost (“Be a PECSpert: Evidence and Fidelity”). 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, and Tom Byrne. We also hosted a debate between Robert Ross and Judah Axe related to the conceptual consistency of the MO, which was very well received by our members. The conference was sold out for the fourth year in a row. The 2018 conference has sold out already and features several keynote speakers Dr. Linda LeBlanc, Dr. Janet Twyman, and Dr. Michael Perone.

- **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 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.
- **Strategic Planning Committee:** MassABA has contracted with a consultant to help develop a strategic plan. Some of the goals of the strategic plan include ensuring sustainability of the association and ensuring we continue to meet the needs of our members.
- **Website Development:** During the past year, we worked with web developers to upgrade our website, both in appearance and functionality.

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 behavior analysis.

Mass ABA 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 their support of the center and families who need help accessing ABA treatment.

Finally, one of MassABA’s board members, Steve Woolf, resigned from the board in January 2018, as he relocated to Florida. Steve was a founder, past president, and treasurer who spent countless hours working on behalf of MassABA. Steve’s leadership and creativity will be greatly missed!

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## 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 17th annual MABA convention was November 3–4 in Milwaukee, WI, at the Hyatt Regency Milwaukee. More than 200 people attended the convention this year, our highest attendance yet! The 2017 MABA president, Jeffrey Tiger (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee), began the conference welcoming attendees and introducing our keynote speaker. Our 2017 keynote speaker was Dr. Wayne W. Fisher (University of Nebraska Medical Center's Munroe Meyer Institute), and he presented "Preventing Treatment Relapse Following Treatment of Destructive Behavior Using Functional Communication Training." Our first symposium of invited speakers included Dr. Cathleen Piazza (University of Nebraska Medical Center's Munroe Meyer Institute) speaking on "A Comparison of a Modified Sequential Oral Sensory Approach to an Applied Behavior-Analytic Approach in the Treatment of Food Selectivity in Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders," and Dr. Mark Dixon (Southern Illinois University) presenting "Resurrection of the Animal Lab in Behavior Analysis Training Programs Through the Use of Invertebrates" to end the morning sessions.

Following our lunch break, our second symposium of invited speakers began with Dr. Bethany Raiff (Rowan University), who presented "Up from the Ashes: Videogame-based Contingency Management for Smoking Cessation," which was followed by Dr. Todd McKechar (Jacksonville State University), whose talk was titled, "How Humans Make Choices Between Variable and Fixed Delays and One and Two Rewards." Our final symposium on Friday included Dr. Michelle Ennis Soreth (Rowan University), who presented "Determinants of Optimal Treatment Response to Early Behavioral Interventions for ASD." This was followed by a special tribute event entitled "Alan Baron: A Pioneer in Translational Science" with Dr. Michael Perone (West Virginia University), Dr. Dean Williams (University of Kansas), and Dr. Mark Galizio (University of North Carolina Wilmington) memorializing their mentor, Dr. Alan Baron.

MABA then held an open business meeting, followed by the poster session, silent auction, and social. This year's convention featured 30 posters representing work conducted at eight different institutions.

Our fourth invited speaker symposium began with Dr. Timothy Shahan (Utah State University) speaking on "Understanding Resurgence as Choice." His presentation was followed 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): Michael J. Sofis (University of Kansas) presenting his study titled "Maintained Physical Activity Induced Changes in Delay Discounting." Dr. Doug Wood (Marquette University) finished that symposium with his talk on "Behavior Therapy for Tic Disorders." Our fifth and final invited speaker symposium began with Dr. Einar Ingvarsson (Virginia Institute of Autism) speaking on "Applications of Behavioral Skills Training to Life Skills and Water Safety Instruction." Next, the second winner of our Forrest J. Files Student Travel Award, Dr. Jessica Juanico (Trumpet Behavioral Health), presented on her dissertation, "Evaluation of Sequential Presentation Without Extinction for the Treatment of Food Selectivity." Our final invited speaker was Dr. Amanda Karsten (Western Michigan University) presenting on "Improving the Conversation Skills of College Students with ASD." Dr. Thomas Critchfield (Illinois State University), the 2017 president-elect and 2018 president of MABA, ended the conference with his closing remarks and the announcement of the location for the 2018 conference.

We are looking forward to the upcoming 2018 convention, to be held September 21–22 in Normal, IL, at the Normal Theater. The conference will again include addresses on both basic and applied behavior analytic research and theory. Early registration fees for the conference include MABA membership and are \$35 for students and \$100 for faculty and professionals. These fees will be available online only until August 31, 2018. After this time, registration must be paid on site and will increase to \$50 for students and \$125 for faculty and professionals. CEUs are also available for pre-purchase at \$10 each online until August 31, 2018. If purchased on site, each CEU will be \$15. We will offer approximately 10 during the conference.

Students and faculty are encouraged to present posters on their research or theoretical efforts. In addition, one or two students are annually awarded the Forrest J. Files Award to help offset travel costs. We are also excited to announce a new presentation competition for nominated students. More information will be available on our website ([www.mid-aba.com](http://www.mid-aba.com)) soon!

The current president of MABA is Dr. Thomas Critchfield (Illinois State University), and the president-elect is Dr. Tiffany Kodak (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee). More information about MABA, the annual convention, lodging, student presentations and awards, registration, and joining our email list can be found at the

organization's website, [www.mid-aba.com](http://www.mid-aba.com), or by contacting the operations coordinator, Dr. Julie A. Ackerlund Brandt (the Chicago School of Professional Psychology) at [jbrandt@thechicagoschool.edu](mailto:jbrandt@thechicagoschool.edu).

## Minnesota Northland ABA

BY ASHLEY WARLING-SPIEGEL

Greetings from the Minnesota Northland Association for Behavior Analysis (MNABA)! We welcomed three new faces to the full board this year: Elizabeth Harri-Dennis as communications chair, Joel Bakken as Northern MN liaison, and Amber Maki as Central MN liaison, and welcomed back Sara Snow as our Student member liaison for a second term.

2017 was a year of new ideas and approaches to how we serve our members and support behavior analysis in Minnesota. Thanks to our conference chair and conference committee, we tried new ways of planning, promoting, and implementing the conference. This led to our largest attendance to date and positive feedback from our members. Following our conference in September, I convened a strategic planning day with all members of the board. We identified four strategic goals for the organization, with short-term and long-term objectives through 2021. Our vision is to continue growing MNABA's ability to dynamically and responsibly support Minnesota's behavior analysts and behavior analysis consumers. Some additional highlights for 2017 are below:

- The annual Data Blitz resumed. While attendance was small, we were able to lay the groundwork for 2018 and beyond by developing a process for planning this event and asking our Student Member liaison to return for a second year. Her knowledge will allow us to better plan and promote this free event for students going forward.
- We started a Public Policy SIG at our 2017 conference, with the goal of increasing member engagement in the legislative process for licensure. The membership rose to the occasion and has shown great interest in this SIG. We hope 2018 brings us closer to licensure. We will continue to work to expand the opportunity for behavior analysts to practice in the Minnesota Northland.
- Our 2017 conference was a success. This year we moved to the Crowne Plaza-AIRE in Bloomington, MN, with easy access to the airport and the Mall of America. Both were great draws for our speakers and members who came from outside the Twin Cities metropolitan area. We hope the multi-year partnership we've formed with this venue will allow our members to better plan for and look forward to our annual conference. Additional conference highlights include the following:
  - Three pre-conference workshops, two of which met the new supervisor requirements
  - Keynote speaker Jeffrey Tiger
  - An exciting morning panel, "Providing Ethical and

Culturally Sensitive Behavioral Services: Diversity in the Northland"

- Diverse presentations covering ABA in schools, innovative supports for adults with ASD, OBM, and applications of ABA in law enforcement

Some exciting things coming up for MNABA in 2018 and beyond thanks to our strategic plan:

- January 2018, we revised our bylaws to better reflect how our organization functions day to day.
- February 2018, we launched a new website! With better functionalities and user-friendly design, the website allows our communications chair to make updates and connect with members rapidly. Our new website also allows us to be more transparent with our members, reflected in access to our revised bylaws and strategic plan.
- Throughout 2018, we'll be developing and refining data and measurement practices as an organization. Our goal is to use our behavior analytic tools to evaluate the effectiveness of our work. Future reports to ABAI will include data on our members, our events, and our organization.
- Find us on Twitter (<https://twitter.com/MNorthlandABA>) and Facebook ([www.facebook.com/MNorthlandABA](http://www.facebook.com/MNorthlandABA)). We're expanding our social media presence in order to better serve our members, keep members informed of everything the board does, and better promote all ABA events in the area.

We are looking forward all that 2018 has to offer MNABA and its members, including our 2018 conference scheduled for September 27–28. Please check [www.mnaba.org](http://www.mnaba.org) often for details on this event and everything else we have going on—we would love to see you in Minnesota!

## Missouri ABA

BY JAMIE M. SEVERTSON AND SUNGWOO KAHNG

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 was quite an active year for our Board of Directors. In 2017, Dr. Jamie Severtson served as President alongside Jenny Frisbee (vice president), Todd Streff (treasurer), Jennifer Nowak (secretary), SungWoo Kahng (member at large), Anna Nieces (member at large), and Madison Jameson. In December, we held a special election to fill vacant board position, and in 2018 we welcome Leanne Hopper (president elect), Casey Clay (secretary), John Guercio (member at large), and Nicole Schroeder (student representative). We thank past board members for their service and dedication to our organization over the years.

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The MOABA board spent the year carefully reviewing and revising our organization's bylaws, and these changes were approved by a unanimous vote of our Professional members during the MOABA annual conference in November 2017. Included in the changes were the elimination of the vice president position, creation of the positions of president-elect (1-year term) and past president (1-year term), change of term for president (from 3 years to 1 year), and a change of term for the other board position (from 5 years to 3 years). These changes will allow for a smoother transition for board members and create more opportunities for interested members to run for board positions. Additional changes to the bylaws included creating a clear membership cycle that runs from September 1–August 31, revising nominating and voting practices to allow for electronic voting on various measures throughout the year, and clarification of the organization's committees.

The annual MOABA conference held in November 2017 was a major success, breaking the attendance records from previous years. We offered five conference presentations and four workshops, and our invited presenters included Gregory Hanley, Raymond Miltenberger, Florence DiGennaro Reed, Derek Reed, Anna Inegborg Pétursdóttir, Nic Weatherly, and Casey Clay. We will be announcing speakers for our 2018 and 2019 conferences and workshop presenters soon. In addition to our speakers, we held a business meeting, a student poster session, and a social hour, which were buzzing with energy, socializing, and networking.

MOABA has been working with MO Disability Empowerment to increase access to services for all children with developmental disabilities, even if they do not have an autism spectrum disorder diagnosis. MOABA has worked to support the passage of HB 1658 by providing guidance on the benefits of ABA-based intervention, consulting with an expert on insurance legislation, and testifying in support of this bill. HB 1658 would ensure that children with developmental disabilities throughout the state of Missouri have private insurance coverage for habilitative care, which would include ABA-based intervention.

Last year, we made a big step in improving our committee infrastructure, and we will continue with that in 2018. This year, MOABA is excited to announce that we will sponsor an affordable mini-conference with Vincent Carbone in Columbia, MO, July 28. The turn-out at this event will help us determine whether we can hold our annual conference at locations besides St. Louis.

## Nevada ABA

BY ASHLEY GREENWALD

The Nevada Association for Behavior Analysis (NABA) seeks to increase membership and active involvement. Membership is currently at 210 and growing. NABA offers

four levels of membership (Full, Affiliate, Sustaining, and Student). Membership applications can be completed on our website, [www.nevadaaba.org](http://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, to include philosophical, theoretical, experimental, applied, and practice. While most of our members reside in Nevada, we have members from various parts of the country who have found our organization and annual conference to be an important part of their professional lives.

NABA held its 2017 conference at the Whitney Peak Hotel in Reno, NV, October 19–22, offering a non-concurrent event featuring an outstanding line-up of sessions, with over 190 individuals in attendance. The conference showcased the diversity of behavior analysis with presentations across experimental, applied, and theoretical areas. Notable speakers included Frances McSweeney, Leonard Green, Sigrid Glenn, Robert Koegel, George Sugai, Jonathan Tarbox, Joseph Dagen, and Steven Hayes. Presentations included talks on habituation, delay discounting, metacontingencies, pivotal response treatment, positive behavioral interventions and supports, behavioral flexibility, acceptance and commitment training, and behavioral safety. The conference offered up to 20 continuing education credits for BACB credentialed individuals, which included workshops on ethics, suicide prevention, and supervision. NABA supported a range of student work through the Student Research Presentation Award (recipient: Carolyn Brayko) and the poster session with 26 posters, largely presented by student researchers.

In our ongoing efforts to increase membership and disseminate information, NABA hosted an Expo booth and held a business meeting at the 2017 ABAI annual convention in Denver, CO. NABA has also started a webinar series and town hall meetings using a webinar platform to keep members up to date on relevant happenings in Nevada, and we plan to offer CEUs for future webinars. In addition to webinars, the NABA board has formed three subcommittee (dissemination, legislative, and student) to give members another avenue to participate in the organization.

This year, NABA will host the annual conference October 12–14 at the Westin Resort and Spa in Las Vegas, NV. This non-gaming, non-smoking hotel is about 20 miles off the Las Vegas strip and will afford members and speakers an opportunity to relax and unwind in the warm desert weather while enjoying an excellent conference. Our speaker line-up is still to be determined, but NABA will continue have a single-track conference covering applied, basic, and theoretical discussions. In addition, we will provide support to student members through presentation

opportunities via the Student Research Presentation Award and poster session, and provide supplemental conference funding through volunteer positions and scholarships.

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

- Visit our website: [www.nevadaaba.org](http://www.nevadaaba.org)
- Connect with us on LinkedIn: Nevada Association for Behavior Analysis
- Like us on Facebook: Nevada Association for Behavior Analysis
- Follow us on Twitter: @NABAOOfficial

## New Hampshire ABA

BY KIM M. KELLY, LE'ANN MILINDER, JOCELYN HAMPOIAN, AND BRIANNE FREDERICKS

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. In June 2016, NHABA was designated a 501(c)(3) nonprofit membership organization. The current NHABA Executive Committee is in its second of a 2-year term and includes Dr. Kim M. Kelly (president), Dr. Le'Ann Milinder (vice president), Brianne Frederickson (treasurer), Jocelyn Hampoian (secretary), and Thea Davis (past president).

NHABA held its third annual conference in September of 2017. It sold out quickly and, due to the high demand, we added 100 seats in an overflow room to accommodate as many guests as possible. The day opened with Gregory P. Hanley, Ph.D., BCBA-D, delivering his keynote address, "Acknowledging Essentials, Inferences, and All That Need Not Be Known When Functionally Analyzing and Treating Problem Behavior." He was followed by three other outstanding speakers: Derek D. Reed, Ph.D., BCBA-D, LBA, "The Promise of Applied Behavioral Economics: Examples From Under the Dome"; Caitlin A. Kirkwood, MA, BCBA, "A Comparison of a Modified Sequential Oral Sensory Approach to an Applied Behavior-Analytic Approach in the Treatment of Food Selectivity in Children With Autism Spectrum Disorders"; and Mike Miklos, MS, BCBA, "Systematic School-Based Instruction of Verbal Behavior to Increase Social Communicative Competencies of Students With Autism." To round out the exceptional day, we were pleased to have our Distinguished Speaker, Mark Sundberg, Ph.D., BCBA-D, present "Teaching Conversational Skills to Children With Autism: Analysis, Assessment, and Intervention." Feedback regarding

the conference was very positive, and we thank the speakers, sponsors, and all who helped in putting on this informative and successful event.

At the conference, NHABA was once again able to generate revenue from raffle ticket sales to sponsor free community educational events during the upcoming year. These educational seminars are an opportunity for the chapter to address its mission of promoting awareness of behavioral services and highlighting the presence of NHABA. As importantly, it gives the members a way to give back to the families and educators of New Hampshire. May events included Dr. Le'Ann Milinder's talk, "Helping Your Child Sleep Better" and Peg Chaffee's presentation, "Managing Challenging Behaviors." Additional talks are planned for older youth, including Thea Davis on "Life After High School" and Danielle Tibert on "Helping to Build Lasting Relationships With ASD."

NHABA's annual meeting was held in January at Stark's Brewery in Manchester, New Hampshire. At the meeting, we developed plans for the upcoming year, assigned tasks, and then were informed by a 1.0 hour CE event by Dr. Rachel Enoch, assistant professor, Antioch New England, "Uncomfortable Conversations in Supervision." Following the meeting, participants had the option of staying for dinner to relax and socialize with colleagues.

NHABA has several goals for the upcoming year in addition to sponsoring free educational events. These include the following three activities:

- **Establishing a Peer Review Committee (PRC).** As many behavior analysts deliver their services in rural areas and may have limited access to other behavioral colleagues, the chapter decided to evaluate the possibility of establishing a PRC to assist practitioners in obtaining clinical feedback on cases. This support would need to be provided remotely and with great care taken to protect client confidentiality.
- **Expand the association's ability to provide CEs to members as a benefit of membership.** To this end, NHABA has developed two new events: First, a full meeting in June dedicated to issues related to insurance billing for services to people on the autism spectrum and pending changes to the billing codes. Two presentations with corresponding CEs were offered. Second, we have expanded our quarterly meeting CE event to include virtual town hall meetings. These are Skype events that allow members to ask questions and get feedback from well-known experts in the field of behavior analysis. The first event was an ethics town hall meeting April 19 with Dr. Jon Bailey and the second is a supervision town hall meeting scheduled for November 29 with Dr. Denise Reed.
- A joint workshop sponsored by NH systemic, therapeutic, assessment, resources, and treatment (START) services

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## NEW HAMPSHIRE continued from page 33

and behavior analysts serving dually diagnosed adults with ID/DD in New Hampshire. This collaborative workshop will be a forum for these two groups to come together for mutual training and collaboration on best practices and to cultivate collective expertise in serving this population. Our long-term goal is to increase capacity to serve individuals with dual diagnoses and to increase the efficacy of services across the state.

NHABA continues to offer organizational membership for a very nominal annual fee (\$15) to all those interested in or practicing behavior analysis. Although we doubled our membership last year, we will continue to work on recruiting students and engaging more New Hampshire ABA organizations. NHABA holds quarterly meetings (January, April, June, and October), and a free BACB Type 2 CE event is offered at each (1 or 1.5 CEs). The CE events focus on ethics and supervision. This year, we added an online membership form and payment system through Stipe to make it easier for interested people to join. Please consider becoming a member of NHABA and support the important work of the organization.

NHABA will sponsor its fourth annual conference this fall, and we anticipate that, like previous conferences, it will be a well-attended event with top-notch speakers and sponsors. The one-day event will be Saturday, September 22, 2018, at the Manchester Downtown Hotel in Manchester, New Hampshire. We are pleased to announce that our keynote speaker will be Dr. Vincent J. Carbone, Ed.D., BCBA-D. Our other conferences sold out quickly, so please register early!

NHABA presented a poster this year at the annual ABAI convention in San Diego, California. We hope you stopped by to check us out and to learn more about our work in New Hampshire. For more information about the chapter meetings, membership, sponsorship opportunities, or other work of NHABA, please contact us via Facebook ([www.facebook.com/NewHampshireABA](http://www.facebook.com/NewHampshireABA)), our website ([www.NHABA.net](http://www.NHABA.net)), or email ([nh.aba603@gmail.com](mailto:nh.aba603@gmail.com)).

## New York State ABA

BY DANA REINECKE

The New York State Association for Behavior Analysis (NYSABA) has had another busy, productive year. In keeping with our commitment to expanding our activities, continuing to refine and formalize policies and procedures, and supporting our lobbying efforts, we hired Dr. Mari Watanabe-Rose as our executive director. Mari started with NYSABA in June and has already made a great impact on the organization, and we look forward to another productive year with her support.

In October, we held our 28th annual conference at the Desmond Hotel and Conference Center in Albany.

Attendees included behavior analysts, educators, speech therapists, psychologists, other professionals, students of behavior analysis, and consumers of behavior analysis services. Once again, we were pleased to note our largest registration numbers yet, prompting us to explore other venues that can accommodate our growing numbers for upcoming annual conferences.

At the 2017 conference, we were honored to hear keynote addresses by Dr. Gregory Hanley of Western New England University, and Mr. Richard Gold of M&T Bank. Dr. Hanley's address on functional assessment and treatment of problem behavior was very well received, and he generously presented another workshop for our membership in April 2018 to follow up with more hands-on practical application information. Mr. Gold talked about using behavioral principles to support organizational performance, which was an exciting application of ABA that helped to round out the conference by lending variety to the topics. Additionally, we welcomed eight invited speakers: Emily Jones, Linda Meyer, Barbara Wells, Melissa Nosik, Bertram Ploog, J. Helen Yoo, Mary Jane Weiss, and David McAdam. Topics included behavioral interventions for individuals with Down syndrome, in the treatment of obsessive-compulsive disorder, and to support healthy lifestyle, inclusion, and recreational skills for individuals with autism and developmental disabilities; BACB updates; translational research; and parent training. We also had excellent presentations from members including workshops, symposia, paper sessions, and posters.

Board members this year included Dana Reinecke (president and parent & family co-chair), Nicole DeRosa (president-elect and compliance chair), Frank Cicero (past president and conference co-chair), Linda Matey (treasurer), Tricia Moss (secretary), Cindy Alterson (representative at large), Patricia D'Ateno (representative at large and student activities chair), Nancy Dib (education chair), Dan Lesinski (consumer representative), Deborah Napolitano and Kim Shamoun (legislative co-chairs), Bobby Newman (representative at large and fundraising chair), Sam Blanco (marketing chair), Shari Schatzman (conference co-chair), and Niall Toner (membership chair). In 2018, we welcomed new board members Joshua Jessel and Vanessa Patrone (representatives at large), Amanda Narra and Jenn Engheben (membership co-chairs), Sally Izquierdo (legislative chair), and Bobbi Rogers (consumer representative).

This year will bring a new election, and we will be seeking nominations for important roles, including a new president-elect, secretary, and representatives at large. Although NYSABA membership continues to grow, significantly more members are needed in order to push forward with important legislative issues happening in the state. It remains true that licensed and certified behavior analysts in the state significantly outnumber members of 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.

NYSABA continues to do important work with regard to New York State regulations of behavior analysts. State licensing laws governing behavior analysis were fully implemented in 2016, and there is much education to be done for new and prospective behavior analysts about how to become licensed and how to practice correctly and legally in New York. We provide regular updates on our website and Facebook page, hold events at our annual conference, and disseminate information at other conferences around the state. NYSABA continues to stay informed on the latest information coming from the New York State Office of Professions 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 is that our scope of practice has been restricted to the treatment of individuals with a diagnosis of autism or related disorders who also hold a prescription to receive behavior analytic services. Unless behavior analysts are employed by 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. There are further implications for training new behavior analysts, who may only accrue experience hours working with individuals with autism. NYSABA is actively campaigning to address this restriction of scope, including direct lobbying to pass bills to lift the restriction on the scope of practice, and media campaigns to draw attention to this problem. Our voices are only as loud as our numbers, however, so it's important for everyone in New York who is affected or concerned by the restriction on scope of practice to speak up. Please email [NYSABAlegislative@gmail.com](mailto:NYSABAlegislative@gmail.com) for information about how to help.

In an effort to support these grassroots legislative efforts while encouraging collaboration among behavior analysts in different regions of the state, NYSABA co-hosts local "meet-ups" with sponsor agencies. 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. We have held meet-ups across the state and received great feedback on these opportunities for networking and learning. Additional meet-ups are always being scheduled and are advertised by eblast and on Facebook. A fundraising initiative was also launched in 2017, in which NYSABA partners with agencies, schools, and other entities around the state to present CEU events, with NYSABA providing a speaker, CEUs, and advertising, and the partner organization

providing space and attendees, and profits directly benefiting NYSABA initiatives. Anyone interested in suggesting or hosting a meet-up or fundraising event in their area should contact us at [info@nysaba.org](mailto:info@nysaba.org).

We are now planning our 29th annual conference, to be held in Albany September 27–28, 2018, which will include more great keynote and invited speakers. We will be accepting presentation submissions from members, and look forward to the fourth annual NYSABA Thursday Night Social. Also, check out our new and improved NYSABA website, which includes a members-only portal. Finally, take a look at the website launched by NYSABA Parent & Family this year at [www.nysabaparent.org](http://www.nysabaparent.org), which includes free resources for parents and family members of consumers of behavior analysis services.

## Oregon ABA

BY EMILY KEARNEY

Over the last year, ORABA has expanded its efforts to reach a greater number of participants in our state, continue to participate in legislative and access issues, and provide continuing education and networking opportunities to our members.

We are particularly focused on reaching students, and practitioners and consumers outside the Portland metro area. To better support students, we have added a new position to our board, student representative. The student representative will assist with administrative duties, such as taking minutes at board meetings, conducting research on ORABA's behalf, and corresponding with local student groups to provide support, collaborate, and share information. This position may be shared by up to three student members, with one holding official title and voting rights, and is a one-year position to allow for frequently changing student status, such as graduation. Education opportunities in ABA have increased in Oregon, such as Portland State University (VCS in ABA available as a certificate or embedded within a master's program), Oregon Institute of Technology (VCS as a certificate at both the undergraduate and graduate levels, and a master's degree in applied behavior analysis), and University of Oregon (VCS available to currently enrolled graduate psychology students). ORABA is working with those universities to provide more student-specific education and support. To reach participants in more rural areas, we now provide webinar opportunities to attend our education events whenever possible, and to coordinate multiple sites for regularly occurring events such as journal club.

ORABA members have continued to participate in Oregon's state Behavior Analysis Regulatory Board and its Rules Advisory Committees, and also on the Oregon Commission on Autism Spectrum Disorder. We are currently working to expand the collaboration between ABA providers and public schools.

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We continue to provide continuing education opportunities at our quarterly meetings with topics including pediatric feeding disorders, teaching complex verbal behavior to children with autism, current research on teaching joint attention to children with autism, and using antecedent interventions to reduce problematic behavior related to anxiety. We are excited to plan our next state conference, to be held October 20, 2018, and welcome anyone interested in participating on our conference committee. ORABA members have presented research via posters and panel sessions at the annual conventions held by CalABA, APBA, and ABAI in 2017 and 2018.

## South Carolina ABA

BY ANNA CRAFT

South Carolina ABA (SC ABA) had a busy 2017! Board members included past president Cecilia Knight, president Adam Brewer, vice president Anna Craft, secretary Jessica Scibilia, and treasurer Aaron Check. Over the past year, SC ABA has expanded into several new areas. In addition to our annual conference, two mid-year workshops were held. Our first workshop was presented by Jennifer Yakos in Woodruff, SC, and was titled “Ethics for Professionals in Behavioral and Allied Sciences.” Dr. Josh Pritchard conducted our second workshop via webinar. This workshop was “Functional Ethics: A Behavior Analytic Approach to Ethics.” Both workshops were highly informative! We look forward to hosting these incredible speakers again in the future.

Another new area for our organization was the formation of a task force. This task force was composed of devoted organization members representing different geographic regions across the state. Members of this task force included Courtney Thames, David Green, Kelly Long, Kerri Krauss, LeAnn Weathers, Matt Wood, Melissa Farah, Melody Nichols, Nicole Orsini, Zahra Hajiaghamohseni, Scott Braud (former board member), Meghan Helman (former board member), Billy Edwards (former board member), Cecilia Knight (board member), Anna Craft (board member), and Adam Brewer (board member). A major accomplishment of this task force was the development of two surveys. These included pertinent questions regarding the impact of South Carolina’s Medicaid plan for autism services. The task force disseminated these surveys to past and present members, and results were presented to relevant governing bodies and to the public at large. The task force will be continuing its work in 2018, shifting focus to new areas of need in our state.

In addition to these efforts, SC ABA hosted the following presenters at our annual conference in Myrtle Beach, SC: Dr. Laura Turner, Dr. John Borrero, Dr. David Wilder, and Dr. David Richman. Dr. Laura Turner presented two workshops and a keynote address, providing

information on supervision of BCBA candidates as well as evidence-based practices for the treatment of fear and anxiety. Dr. John Borrero presented on the basic-applied continuum, using his research on differential reinforcement of low rates of behavior. Dr. David Wilder presented on the application of the *Performance Diagnostic Checklist*, and Dr. David Richman presented on the emergence and treatment of self-injurious behavior. We were thankful to have such talented speakers and received great feedback on their presentations from our members!

In addition to our incredible speakers, SC ABA also hosted a poster session. A winning poster was chosen by our presenters, and the award went to Johnell Brooks and her application of iCar technology for individuals with developmental disabilities. We wish her luck in her future endeavors and are excited to see the posters of 2018.

The 2017 conference also included the election of Zahra Hajiaghamohseni as SC ABA’s new vice president. With her strong commitment to the field of behavior analysis and to its expansion in the state of South Carolina, she is bound to be a great asset to our organization. We would also like to thank the past president, Cecilia Knight, for her contributions to the SC ABA board over the past three years. Her knowledge and expertise were crucial in the success of our endeavors.

Our 2018 conference will be held in beautiful Greenville, SC, November 5–6. November 5 will include a full day of workshops, and November 6 will include a keynote address and three additional speakers. For more information about our conferences, membership, or upcoming events, please visit our website, [www.sc-aba.org](http://www.sc-aba.org), or like us on Facebook (South Carolina Association for Behavior Analysis). As a perk of SC ABA membership, updates are regularly provided to members on relevant legislature, area events related to behavior analysis, and changes affecting providers.

## Southeastern ABA

BY CHRISTY ALLIGOOD, KIMBERLY EPTING, AND KAREN ANDERSON

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 U.S.

### History

In 1984, Aaron Brownstein (University of North Carolina, Greensboro) rallied a group of prominent behavior analysts in the Southeastern US around

the idea of a regional conference on the science and philosophy of behavior analysis. The Southeastern US contained a large number of strong but geographically scattered academic and research groups (e.g., Florida, North Carolina, West Virginia, Alabama, and others) and without a venue for scholarly interaction. For many, the Southeastern Psychological Association had served this purpose, but the content of that conference had become overwhelmingly professional rather than scientific (i.e., following the direction of APA). SEABA was founded to be that venue for behavior analysts. SEABA was structured specifically to foster high-level discourse on research and theory in behavior analysis. The organization's sole activity would be to conduct an annual conference. The conference format was developed specifically to replicate the environment of early behavioral conferences and scientific specialty organizations (e.g., the Behavioral Pharmacological Society). To this end, the conference was to be a day and a half, single-track program so that all participants could conveniently attend all presentations, establishing a common basis for discussion and interaction. Speakers were to be selected based on content and quality of their empirical and theoretical work, and to comprise a well-balanced program of basic, applied, conceptual and philosophical presentations. The fall was selected to complement the main ABAI convention 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 35th annual SEABA conference will be October 25–27, 2018, in Chattanooga, TN. More information, registration, and CEU pre-purchase are available at [www.SEABAonline.org](http://www.SEABAonline.org).

## Utah ABA

BY AARON J. FISCHER

The Utah Association for Behavior Analysis (UtABA) has been an active chapter during 2017. The organization has seen a substantive increase in membership, particularly in student members. UtABA has also prioritized statewide access to CEU professional development opportunities and committee/board meetings by providing access to high-quality videoconferencing. As such, UtABA members have multiple opportunities per year to engage in webinars and collaborative discussions regarding public policy issues, insurance reimbursement, school collaboration, and other topics.

UtABA's annual conference was held on August 2–3, 2018, in Salt Lake City. For more information about the conference, including speakers who presented, please visit [www.ut-aba.org/events](http://www.ut-aba.org/events).

## Washington ABA

BY CHARNA MINTZ

This past year has been busy! State licensure for behavior analysts, assistant behavior analysts, and technicians officially rolled out in July 2017. Currently there are 453 Licensed Behavior Analysts, 40 Licensed Assistant Behavior Analysts, and 1,301 Certified Behavior Technicians in the state of Washington. The chapter has been central in the dissemination of information specific to licensure while serving as the singular and central voice to the Department of Health as they continue to refine the rules and processes. We held our fourth annual conference August 18, 2017, at Green River College in Auburn, WA. We were beyond excited that Dr. Patrick McGreevy, Dr. Emily Sandoz, and Dr. Pat Friman all served as our keynote speakers. We continued to refine and enhance our conference experience by adding a catered lunch and cocktail hour. Both events received rave reviews. We also took the time to give thanks to our past president, Dr. Chris Jones, and past secretary, Dr. Stacey Shook, for their years of service to the organization. In 2018, Washington ABA is taking on the challenge of upgrading our membership management system, moving to an online platform that will allow for more efficient member management. ❖

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

### ABA Colombia

BY CAMILO HURTADO-PARRADO, WILSON LÓPEZ-LÓPEZ, AND CONSTANZA AGUILAR

ABA Colombia has been going through a process of renovation during the past year. Its legal status was adjusted to comply with changes in the Colombian legislation for nonprofit organizations, and its board was restructured. Also, some initiatives aimed to attract more students and recently graduated behavior analysts to work in the association in ongoing and future projects are now active.

ABA Colombia's website has been an important source of information for the behavior analytic community in Colombia and other Latin American countries over the past 10 years. Its relevance is mostly related to the fact that it offers valuable open-access behavior analytic resources in Spanish; also, it has been a key element of the affiliated chapter's functioning and growth. Though its relaunch has been delayed due to budget issues, we are expecting it to be up and running by summer 2018.

The next stage is the development and integration of an online course and webinar system that we expect to increase the chapter's visibility and scope, and ultimately, behavior analysis dissemination in Latin America (e.g., online courses, webinars, conferences, and related materials will serve as an open-access platform to promote behavior analysis as teachers, students, and people interested in the topic will be able to use it as a learning tool). To this aim we have applied for a 2018 SABA International Development Grant. If obtained, the funds will provide the head start for the project, and ABA Colombia will provide the funds and resources necessary to create the first courses and webinars, and start administrating the platform subsequently (i.e., securing sustainability).

ABA Colombia supported a research project aimed at testing the positive effects of an instructional intervention (reappraisal training) on emotional and verbal responses toward Colombian conflict-related multimedia stimuli (e.g., texts, pictures, and audio depicting violent actions of the armed groups involved). The results of this study by Hurtado-Parrado et al. (currently under review for publication) indicate that this brief instructional training (less than 10 minutes) importantly reduced the intensity of negative emotions and increased responses of approval of conciliatory policies related to the peace process currently ongoing in Colombia. The fact that these effects replicate those reported in other countries (e.g., Halperin et al., 2013) shows promise for future large-scale efforts aimed at improving positive peace cultures in countries affected by armed conflict. This is not the first time that ABA Colombia has supported research efforts of this type, and we expect that in the future such involvement will increase.

Finally, a noteworthy sign of continuing growth of the behavior analytic community in Colombia is the fact that the event described in the previous report (2017), i.e., the Encuentro de Investigadores en Ciencias del Comportamiento (Meeting of Researchers in Behavioral Sciences, <http://encuentroinvestigadores.com.co>), was held again in April at Universidad de Los Andes (Bogotá). Once more, behavior analytic research produced by students and senior investigators was presented during a two-day event. This was an interesting space in which behavior analysts had the opportunity to share the findings of their studies and, in doing so, disseminate their ideas among a broader community of experimental psychologists that very often do not share the same approach, but are open to a meaningful and healthy conceptual and empirical debates. Important collaborations among Colombian behavior analysts have resulted from the interactions that took place during this event.

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### ABA Germany

BY BENNO CHRISTOF BOECKH

The Association for Behavior Analysis Deutschland (ABAD) currently consists of 34 members and five board members. Annual membership meetings take place in June; the 2017 meeting took place in Stuttgart (Southern Germany), the 2018 meeting will take place in Düsseldorf (Western Germany). Within the course of the past year, one ABAD newsletter was published. Also, the ABAD website underwent a complete overhaul in an attempt to represent applied behavior analysis (ABA) more professionally and consistently to the German public. Within Germany, there is and has over the past years been a heated debate among special education professionals, autism advocacy groups, charity fundraisers, and public financing bodies about the goals and ethics that govern past and current ABA practice in autism intervention. Media coverage of ABA has been critical to mixed, with slight improvements in terms of bias so far in 2018. ABAD is devoted to representing and communicating ABA to the German public as a socially and ethically viable and scientifically based method for autism intervention in varied settings. One member of ABAD is also concerned with applying ABA in general workplace settings.

One member of ABAD started a new consulting and intervention business in Düsseldorf in 2017. Another member is currently serving as secretary of the committee of the European Association for Behavior Analysis (EABA); also, the ninth EABA conference will be in Würzburg (Southern Germany) in September 2018. Members of ABAD undertook efforts in the past year to communicate the potential of ABA to the public and fellow professionals and in order to create networking opportunities.

Publications, presentations, and conference proceedings of ABAD members (in alphabetical order) over the past year:

- Boeckh, B. (2017). Unterstützte Kommunikation bei Menschen mit Autismus-Spektrum-Störung, Sprachförderung und Sprachtherapie in Schule und Praxis-Themenheft: Sprachförderung bei Autismus-Spektrum-Störungen, 2, pp. 84–90.
- Pellet, R (2018, April). Herausfordernde Verhaltensweisen. Autismo y ABA-Conferencia Internacional of the Asociación Autismo IDEA, Barcelona, Spain.
- Werner, N. (2017, June). Selbstverletzendes Verhalten bei Menschen mit Autismus-Ein Blick auf Lerntheorien und deren Implikationen. 15. Bundestagung Autismus Deutschland, Dortmund (Western Germany).
- Werner, N. & Bienstein P. (2017, September). Self-injurious behavior in adults with autism—a survey of residential care facilities. 11th European Congress Mental Health in Intellectual Disability, Luxembourg.
- Werner, N. & Bienstein P. (2017, October). Selbst- und fremdverletzendes Verhalten bei Menschen mit ASS-Schwerpunkt: Lerntheoretische Erklärungsansätze und Konsequenzen für die Praxis. Interdisziplinäres Symposium Autismus-Spektrum-Störungen, Bonn (Western Germany).
- Werner, N. & Bienstein P. (2018, March). Funktionen von selbstverletzendem Verhalten bei Erwachsenen mit Autismus und Intellektueller Beeinträchtigung—Ergebnisse einer Wohnheimbefragung. 11. Wissenschaftliche Tagung Autismus Spektrum der Wissenschaftlichen Gesellschaft Autismus Spektrum (WGAS), Frankfurt (Central Germany).
- Werner, N. & Bienstein P. (2018, March). Häufigkeit und Schwere von selbstverletzendem Verhalten bei Erwachsenen mit Autismus und Intellektueller Beeinträchtigung—Ergebnisse einer Wohnheimbefragung. 11. Wissenschaftliche Tagung Autismus Spektrum der Wissenschaftlichen Gesellschaft Autismus Spektrum (WGAS), Frankfurt (Central Germany).

ABAD members attended several workshops and networking events (in chronological order):

- One member participated in the 2017 EABA Summer School in Cadiz, Spain.
- One member presented at the

Landesarbeitsgemeinschaft Autismus Niedersachsen (state network of autism professionals in Lower Saxony) about the scope and potential of ABA in autism intervention in Hannover (Northern Germany) in November 2017.

- One member organized a meeting with the state Disability Officer of Baden Wuerttemberg in Korntal (near Stuttgart (Southern Germany) in April 2018 in order to inform about the potential of ABA.
- Several ABAD members are planning on attending the ninth EABA conference in Würzburg (Southern Germany) in September 2018.

## ABA Switzerland

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

In 2017, our committee members remained in the same roles. However, our student representative departed after finishing post-graduate work, and entered the professional realm of ABA.

Several members of ABA Switzerland attended ABAT's Ninth International Conference in Paris. At first we attended several pre-conference workshops and received training on various subjects including motivational interviewing techniques, functional analysis using the IISCA method, preference and reinforcer assessments, and treatment of feeding disorders. The conference itself featured topics spanning all areas of ABA, and we got a glimpse at areas outside of autism research as well. These included research on punishment using animal studies, staff training, and conceptual talks on how art or emotions can be related to behavior analysis. The conference provided many opportunities to talk to professionals from other countries and other fields, including a little dinner time chat with Pat McGreevy. It was an exhausting two days full of information to dive into, but we headed home full of new ideas to incorporate into our daily work.

In an effort to help disseminate our wonderful science amongst the autism community, ABA Switzerland participated in the World Autism Awareness Day event on April 2 in Lausanne this year. Events included publication of a book on adults with autism experiences and testimonies, bookmarks with literary references, as well as a showcase of adult artists at the University Hospital of Lausanne. The artwork and books were displayed for two weeks during the month of April to raise awareness among all visitors to the hospital. Also on World Autism Awareness Day, several behavior analysts from the Autism Department of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry in Zurich distributed flyers describing the characteristics of people with autism spectrum disorder, along with blue sweets, at a well-populated train station in Zurich. Several people were ready to talk about this topic, and we were able to

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share information about the importance of ABA and EIBI. Furthermore, we lit the windows of our therapy centers in blue, which drew positive attention from the street.

Another activity of our organization is to provide behavior analytic professionals with opportunities to improve their practices. In summer 2017, ABA Switzerland hosted a webinar titled “Ethical, Effective & Empowering Supervisions in ABA Context” with Katerina Dounavi, Ph.D., BCBA-D. She provided an engaging discussion with 12 of our members practicing in Switzerland, France, and Germany. Her resources were well received by all attendees.

In 2017, the ABA Switzerland Committee decided to change its newsletter to have a more dynamic interface in order to give updates to ABA Switzerland members. Indeed, the committee now sends interactive newsletters to its members rather than a pdf file. In the newsletters, people find information on past events and on future ones. Our goal is also to disseminate information on available conferences in Switzerland and Europe, potential job opportunities, and any other relevant facts in European behavior analysis. The newsletter is available in German, French, and English.

In 2017 we attempted to establish “Coffee Time” (i.e., regular group meetings) to lead discussions regarding areas of concern in our profession across Switzerland. We came together to discuss what services are covered, the ins and outs of health care and support systems, as well as the most up-to-date news across the different cantons. To establish a regular meeting time proved difficult, but is an objective for 2018.

Our goals for 2018 are to continue to research and contact professionals abroad in order to offer free webinars and offering CEUs to our members for continued professional growth. We would also like to continue working on establishing focus groups in order to allow for collaboration across the various regions of Switzerland. As the various cantons and regions approve and advance at different stages, this will allow our members to become a closer knit group as well as to spread our news and advances in the field of behavior analysis. We would also like to streamline processes and systems for the committee members for future professionals wishing to become a part of the committee. We will continue to support neighboring countries in translation projects.

## ABA of Brazil

BY FELIPE LUSTOSA LEITE

In 2017, we achieved our main goals of putting critical commissions to work on important problems we are facing in Brazil. The Atypical Development Committee assessed the professional development difficulties we face in having more qualified professionals working with people with developmental disabilities. Moreover, we took part

in public discussions with the judiciary and legislative branches of state governments facing issues of health care coverage for applied behavior analysis. Being invited for such discussions, something that has never happened before in Brazil, showed that ABPMC is being seen as an important organization to representing the interests of behavior analysts in the country. We continue working toward achieving legal stability for both practitioners and customers who seek services from behavior analysts, and continue to make progress with the public sector and with health insurance plans.

Our publications (scientific journal, book collection, and newsletter) have all been done on schedule and, more importantly, all are online and maintain open-access status, ensuring that students, professors, and professionals have easy access to our publications, which is important in a country with a low average income. Moreover, we launched a publishing label that, in April 2018, will release its first self-produced book, this one on software programming for behavior analysts.

Our behavior analyst certification process (Acreditação do Analista do Comportamento) continues to grow and every year gets adjusted in our general assembly. We would like to emphasize that our certification process is completely democratic—developments and changes require participation from our members. Every member of ABPMC can propose improvements that are discussed and assessed in the general assembly. The commission that manages this process is composed of six elected members serving two-year terms, with three members leaving and three new ones being elected each year. The certification is for general behavior analysts, and we are working on specific issues regarding practitioners.

Our national meeting occurred September 7–10 in Bauru, São Paulo, with over 1,300 participants. We initiated a small campaign to raise funds so that students with low income could attend the event. We intend to build upon last year’s pilot campaign. The central topic of the event was social justice, which is a general concern in the context of current Brazilian politics. We had a special symposium on the subject. Also, a special symposium on behavior analyst training and certification was held focused on issues specific to Brazil.

The 2018 annual meeting will be in São Luis, Maranhão, September 6–9. This is a city that has never held the event, and in a state with very low average income. We hope this conference provides quality scientific knowledge and discussion that encourages professionals to seek out additional information and to appreciate the chapter’s role of disseminating behavior analysis throughout the country.

Finally, our ABPMC Community project continues to spread throughout the country, with lectures on behavior analysis for the public being held in 30 cities.

We hope that in 2018 we can continue our main mission of disseminating behavior analysis in Brazil and helping students and professionals access quality information to improve themselves as behavior analysts. We have several surprises planned for this year!

## ABA of Italy

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, both experimental and applied. Since its constitution, IESCUM has been committed to promoting the full range of behavior analytic scientific and humanistic potential. From this premise IESCUM has committed to the training, development, and evaluation of behavior analysis in clinical settings in various modern forms.

Experiential trainings in clinical behavior analysis, in acceptance and commitment therapy, and in functional assessment procedures with scholars and professionals like K. Wilson, L. Hayes, and S. Alai Rosales have been offered in Italy in the last year through IESCUM.

The dissemination of a sound culture in applied behavior analysis (ABA) has been carried out institutionally through a 2-year postgraduate BACB accredited course sequence, which is now in its XI edition, along with several 180-hour BACB accredited courses and 40-hour behavioral technician courses, targeting operators whose aim is to become assistant behavior analysts or behavioral technicians. IESCUM looks at its coursework as an opportunity to spread behavior analysis beyond autism treatment.

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

IESCUM has favored the development of an integrated model of intervention called the Italian Model of Early and Intensive Intervention for Autism (MIPIA). MIPIA is characterized by individual (tailor-made), early, intensive, integrated, inclusive, and sustainable programs. Although interventions are deployed in family homes, baseline assessment and program efficacy and effectiveness procedures of evaluation are centralized. This allows for the creation of a homogeneous environment both for clinical and research goals. Though we may speak of a “virtual” structure, in the absence of a specific building in a specific location, the model of the project and the association behind it may represent a feasible way to spread ABA intervention procedures and models in a wide territory, while maintaining high-quality service in 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 families, in an integrated and clinical comprehensive fashion.

In 2017, IESCUM organized the first Italian conference of third-generation behavior therapies. The conference, called Mindfulness, Acceptance, and Compassion, was held in Milan in March 2017 and included 500 professionals and researchers. A second edition of the conference will take place in Milan in November 2018.

In March 2017, IESCUM co-organized a week of study and research at Villa Vigoni on Lake Como. The conference included a multidisciplinary group of academics and researchers. The title of the conference, Behavioral Economics and the Politics of Simplification, reflects the intention to debate and share visions of the role of behavioral science in economics and politics.

All of these actions have been developed under and with the supervision of IESCUM, working as an umbrella organization, and are detailed and visible at [www.iescum.org](http://www.iescum.org).

## Alberta ABA

BY DANA KUZMANOVSKI AND NICOLE JEDRZEJEWSKI

The Alberta Association for Behaviour Analysis (AltaABA) enjoyed a successful first year as an affiliated chapter. AltaABA is proud to announce that the profession continues to grow in Alberta, with a new total of 30 certified BCBAs province-wide as of March 2018!

AltaABA held a meeting in June 2017 in Calgary, during which chapter updates were discussed and news was shared about the exciting development of a BCaBA certification program out of MacEwan University in Edmonton.

This past year, AltaABA board members met in November 2017 and February 2018 to begin the process of organizing membership procedures, attracting greater professional membership, developing a chapter website, and engaging the province of Alberta through social media. Several committee working groups were developed to address the initial action items identified as pertinent to our new chapter, and this work will continue to be prioritized as the chapter moves into its official second year. Committee groups included the following: Board Governance, Membership, Social Media/Web Presence, and Finance. In addition, two of the chapter's executive board members attended the ABAI leadership training at the annual convention in May 2017 and shared knowledge with the executive board to support the continued growth of the chapter.

Additionally, we were honored to have Dr. John McEachin, BCBA-D, join us to share his current research at our first AltaABA-hosted learning event in February 2018 in Calgary. The event attracted many individuals new to the field of applied behavior analysis (ABA) and created an opportunity for individuals interested

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in ABA to connect with one another. We look forward to providing more social and learning opportunities for individuals interested in ABA across the province in the near future.

### Upcoming Activity

We will be hosting our annual general meeting for the year in May 2018, this time in Edmonton, where we will discuss the successes and workings of the chapter over the last year, as well as hold an election for the role of president-elect. The remainder of the Board of Directors will remain consistent for the upcoming year.

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

### 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.

### Membership

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

A Full member is 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 one year. Full members may vote in policy decisions and the election of the executive committee for the chapter.

A Student member is 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 in policy decisions, but not in the election of the executive committee for the chapter.

An Affiliate member is 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 in policy decisions and the election of the executive committee for the chapter.

## Atlantic Provinces ABA

BY ISABELLE COWAN, SHELLEY MCLEAN, KIMBERLY MAICH, JULIANA MCLEAN, MELISSA MACDONALD, EMILY FORESTELL, AND TRACY MILLER

The Atlantic Provinces Association for Behaviour Analysis (APABA) recently marked our fourth 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 61 members in 2018. Although the wide geographical region served by APABA poses some unique challenges, we recognize the benefits and opportunities 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: 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, that number has now grown to 47 ([www.bacb.com](http://www.bacb.com)).

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 three 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. Tony Biglan and Dr. Linda LeBlanc. In October 2017, Dr. Robyn Catagnus and Elizabeth Fong shared their work on increasing cultural competence in behavior analysts, supporting APABA members to engage in more culturally proficient professional practice.

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 new ones. The ABAPA website ([www.atlanticprovincesaba.com](http://www.atlanticprovincesaba.com)), which continues to evolve, is also an integral tool for communicating with members. We are currently working on revising our Facebook page to facilitate communication between members and sharing of resources. We are also drafting social media guidelines for all committee members who will be posting on our Facebook page.

Online professional learning study groups continue to be a popular activity. These groups present an opportunity for members to critically evaluate and discuss selections from the scholarly literature in applied behavior analysis.

### Strategic Plan

A highlight for APABA in 2017 and into 2018 has been the development of a strategic plan. We have revised our mission and vision to the following:

- **Our Mission:** To provide leadership and support in the sharing and practice of the science of applied behavior analysis across the Atlantic Provinces.
- **Our Vision:** To be a central resource for a growing community of interdisciplinary professionals who actively support one another in the use and sharing of effective behavioral practices.

The strategic plan centers on the following themes:

- **Advocacy/Promotion:** Communicating with members to share the chapter's activities and successes
- **Education:** Providing learning opportunities and continuing education credits for members
- **Cross-Collaboration:** Facilitating opportunities for members to network and exchange information and resources
- **Sustainability:** Welcoming and sustaining a diverse membership (various certification levels, professions, and provinces)

### Looking Ahead

APABA has been the beneficiary of a host of gracious gestures and an abundance of support from behavior

analysts and partner professionals. 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 and build upon the initiatives that we have begun and to create new opportunities and pathways to share 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

Throughout 2017, AACBT hosted two national speaking tours and a further 29 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 eating disorders, gender diversity, grief, client resistance and engagement, social anxiety, self-compassion, gambling, parent and family therapy, family violence, and perfectionism.

The president of AACBT is the 2014 AACBT Distinguished Career Award winner, professor Amanda Baker. Professor Baker (BArts, MPsych, Ph.D.) is a National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) Senior Research Fellow employed as a research academic in the School of Medicine and Public Health at the University of Newcastle, NSW. Amanda has over 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.

2018 includes plans for more than 30 events, including two national speaking tours (Professor Kim Halford and Dr. Chris Basten), two visiting international speakers (Allison Harvey and Stefan Hofmann), plus the 39th National AACBT Conference. Some of the topics to be covered in 2018 include mindfulness, arts in health, grief, childhood concussion, DBT, emotional disorders, PTSD, couples therapy, insomnia, and emotion regulation. State-based branches perform many hours of voluntary work to prepare and host events in their jurisdictions, and the National Board thanks them for their time and effort.

AACBT will once again host a National Conference, this year in Brisbane, Queensland. We are continuing our Early-Mid Career Travel Grants for AACBT members, 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

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expenses. This initiative is to invest back into the CBT community of Australia and encourage ongoing research.

In 2016, we launched a web portal, and improvements to this portal continued throughout 2017. The portal now allows for all users to access and manage their own accounts and event bookings (including reviewing their event 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 who are based in Australia and meet AACBT's national standards for CBT training and practice can apply for National Accreditation as a Cognitive Behavioural Therapist. This service to members continued 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; the 2017 winners were Dr. Aliza Werner-Seidler and Professor Matthew Sanders.

In 2017, AACBT continued to induct new Fellows, with Professor Nicole Lee and Dr. Sarah Egan joining the previous nine recipients. AACBT recognizes their distinguished contributions to the advancement of CBT knowledge or practice, and their extraordinary contributions to the advancement of AACBT.

## British Columbia ABA

BY HEIDI ST. PIERRE

The British Columbia Association for Behaviour Analysis (BC-ABA) has had quite a productive year! We are excited to share our accomplishments and future directions with other affiliated chapters.

BC-ABA is made up of 13 elected board members who meet 11 times per year to advance behavior analysis in the province of BC. We have a strong and active board with wonderful diversity in our abilities.

Licensure of BCBAs and BCBA-Ds has been an ongoing area of interest for BC-ABA. BC-ABA is working closely with the College of Psychologists of British Columbia and in conjunction with the provincial government's Ministry of Health in regulating the field of behavior analysis in BC. We hope to continue moving this forward, but progress has been slow due to a new government being elected in May 2017.

The BC-ABA conference committee provided CEUs at two co-sponsored events over the course of 2017/2018. In August 2017 BC-ABA provided CEUs at "Integrating ABA Methods In Schools: Supporting School Aged

Children," by Dr. Richard Stock, presented by Autism Community Training. In May 2017, CEUs were provided for "Shakin' It Up! Behavior Analysis—Outside the Box," by Dr. Merrill Winston, presented by the Provincial Outreach Program for Autism and Related Disorders.

In October 2017, BC-ABA was happy to bring Dr. Janet Twyman to Vancouver for her one-day workshop titled "Making the Most of Technology to Improve Instruction." This was well-attended and our first live-streamed event.

BC-ABA's annual conference was March 2–3, 2018, at the University of British Columbia, with fantastic turnout. It was our 10-year anniversary, and we celebrated with cake and free mugs for all attendees. This year, we hosted three presenters: Dr. Tiffany Kodak, Dr. Marc Lanovaz, and our keynote presenter, Dr. Lisa Britton. Dr. Kodak presented our March 2 workshop, titled "Treatment Integrity in Skill Acquisition," which was an impressive presentation. Dr. Britton presented our keynote address, titled "Utilizing Behavioural Skills Training in a Remote Supervision Model," and Dr. Lanovaz presented a mini-seminar titled "Identifying Empirically Supported Interventions for Practice: What Works With Stereotypy?" The conference continues to be a great success with attendance numbers near our 280-person capacity.

BC-ABA continues to try to improve our conference every year, with this year being no exception. We offered two scholarships this year at the undergraduate and graduate levels for students to present their research at next year's conference. Tyla Frewing received our graduate-level scholarship and received a \$1,000 prize to assist with her research. There were no submissions for our undergraduate scholarship. Please visit our website for more information about the scholarships and how you can apply in the near future: [www.bc-aba.org](http://www.bc-aba.org). The call for papers for the 2019 conference will go out in October 2018. We welcome anyone to submit and look forward to expanding the variety of presentations we can offer.

Next year's events will be posted once details are final; please visit our website to see what is coming.

For the ninth year in a row, BC-ABA presented a poster during the Expo at the ABAI annual convention. This is a wonderful event and a great way to meet BC-ABA board members and find out first-hand about the chapter and current happenings.

BC-ABA's membership continues to maintain at approximately 300 members across full, associate, and student memberships. There are multiple benefits to being a BC-ABA member. Our membership fee has not increased since the inception of BC-ABA, but the benefits improve each year. As a BC-ABA member, you are able to access six different behavior analytic journals; gain access to conference presentation slides; review BC-ABA meeting minutes for up-to-date information;

receive current information and news through our monthly emails; and network with other BC-ABA members. All this for only \$30 CND per year for a full membership!

BC-ABA is unique in that we have a Student Alliance run by our elected student representatives. It is a seven-person committee made up of students enrolled in behavior analytic programs in the province. They work at advancing behavior analysis among the student population and host various events throughout the year to facilitate this goal.

BC-ABA continues to be an active affiliated chapter of ABAI and is honored to be able to act in this role in the province of British Columbia.

## Chinese ABA

BY KARINA CHEUNG

In the previous year, the China Association for Behavior Analysis (CABA) has focused on promoting the science of behavior analysis in Mainland China by (a) providing applied behavior analysis professional training course sequences for local therapists; (b) taking part in writing both professional and parental training books about ABA, autism, verbal behavior, and life-long intervention; and (c) organizing its annual conference. 2017 was a busy and fruitful year for CABA.

On June 8, 2017, we held our third annual conference in Zhejiang, China. Scholars, practitioners, and interested individuals from all around the country attended. We invited Ms. Xiao Ming Xu from the China Association of Rehabilitation of Disabled Persons and Mr. YuGuo Chen from the Zhejiang Province Association of Rehabilitation of Disabled Persons to attend our opening ceremony.

We also had Dr. YanQing Guo share his theory of ALSO (academic, language, social skills, and occupational skills) on helping ASD families by an integration of the four key elements in their everyday lives. Professor YongGu Wang from ZheJiang Technology University presented his research on the use of robots in ABA intervention. Dr. Xue Li presented her research on in-home social skills training for ASD children. Dr. MeiLing Yao presented on the early signs of children with ASD. Ms. ShuHui Ke from Taiwan shared with the audience her research about ABA consultation systems. We also had Ms. FengYi Guo present on home-centered early intervention.

It has become one of CABA's conference traditions to hold pre-conference workshops. This year, we had Dr. Dorothy Xuan Zhang, Ms. Jing Fang, Ms. ChunHua Zhang, and Ms. Karina Miao Miao Cheung provide three pre-conference workshops on social skills training, inclusion, and verbal behavior.

Besides our annual conference, CABA has been working closely with Ai You Foundation on writing a training manual for local therapists and providing four training workshops in different part of China, including Hebei Province, Tian Jing, Beijing, and Henan Province. The four

workshops focused on social skills training, applied behavior analysis, and evidence support of ASD intervention methods. There were 250 local therapists who attended these workshops, and it was estimated that a total number of 8,044 ASD children benefited from our trainings.

CABA was invited by the Beijing Ivy Medical Expert League (BIMEL) to provide ABA training for Chinese parents. BIMEL is a nonprofit organization. In 2017, they organized four nonprofit ABA trainings for Chinese parents; one was in ChangChun, the other three in Beijing. CABA provided training on life-long coaching, verbal behavior, and social skills. Each workshop had more than 100 parents attend.

Our bustling year ended with a committee discussion on the future development of ABA in China. Dr. Guo's concept of Professional-Elite Training Series (PETs), Professional-General Training Series (PGTs), and Public Awareness Training Series (PATs) were accepted by the CABA/ABA-CARDP committee members, and some of the training series have already started. Further implemented details were discussed during the meeting.

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

In 2018, we will continue working actively toward the goal to provide high-quality and professional services to the Chinese public in the above-mentioned ways.

## Experimental Analysis of Behaviour Group UK and Europe

BY J. CARL HUGHES

It is hard to believe that it is almost a year since the last EABG biannual meeting at University College London (10–13 April, 2017). In attendance were an encouraging mix of over 200 delegates, including academics, applied researchers, parents, and non-academics who work in the field of ABA, many of whom had traveled internationally. EABG welcomed presenters from all backgrounds in behaviour analysis covering conceptual papers, basic research, applied research, and service provision.

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It was a great privilege to have Dr. Anthony Biglan present the Annual Professor Fergus Lowe Memorial Keynote Address. Dr. Biglan, a leading figure in the development of prevention science, set the precedent for the year ahead. I can personally say that Dr. Biglan's talk inspired me to consider how we can use behavior analysis to encourage nurturing environments across all areas of our society, a wonderfully powerful idea.

It was a great honor to host so many distinguished invited addresses at the 2017 conference. Two of the leading applied practitioners in the UK, Dr. Corinna Grindle (Bangor University, Positive Behavioural Solutions) and Dr. Jenn Austin (University of South Wales), participated. Dr. Grindle gave the first Sharland Foundation, SF-DDARIN Invited Talk on using behavior analysis to teach reading, math, and writing to children with autism. Dr. Austin 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. Dr. Austin also provided an update from the UK Society for Behaviour Analysis on behalf of the current board members.

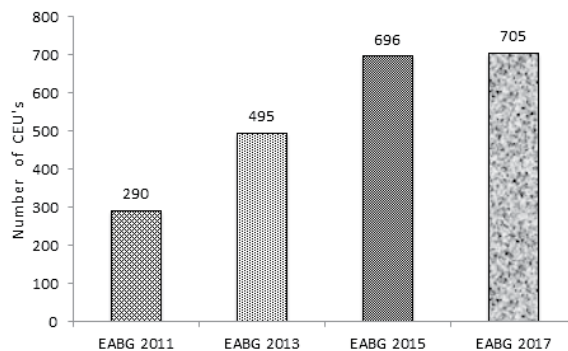
We were also very pleased to host the First UK SBA Operational Behaviour Management SIG invited talk at EABG, titled "OBM Applied! Lessons Learned From the Lab to the Board Room," presented by Manuel Rodriguez, Daniel Sundberg, and Shannon Biagi (ABA Technologies, Inc.). They gave an entertaining talk that introduced the delegates to the power and importance of adopting an OBM approach in any organisation.

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 one-day workshop on precision teaching and TAGteach, also led by Bethan Mair Williams, Dr. Mike Beverley, and Kaydee Owen of Bangor University. There are currently 26 s/lts in the CEN as well as 6 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, which have so much to offer when their relative expertise are combined.

### Continuing Education Units

EABG's 2017 meeting reflected the strong position that prevails in the UK and Europe in providing a large proportion of the CEUs for board certified behavior analysts for no additional charge. 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.



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

The EABG team wishes to thank all the delegates and presenters who attended the 2017 conference and to our invited speakers who delivered truly inspiring and thought-provoking talks. Special thanks are due to students from Bangor University, Wales, who volunteered and worked hard to facilitate the smooth running of the conference. A huge thank you also must be given to John Draper and the support team at University College London for assisting with and hosting the event yet again.

As we look toward EABG 2019, it is our hope to equal the high quality and wide range of presentations and presenters we have seen in previous years. The upward trend in delegate numbers and paper submissions across the years is an encouraging reflection of the strength and continued evolution of behaviour analysis in Europe. We look forward to seeing you at the EABG 2019 London conference!

## French ABA

BY ARTHUR PREVEL

The French Association for Behavior Analysis (French ABA) promotes the development of behavior analysis in France and in the Maghreb (Tunisia, Morocco, and Algeria). French ABA strongly supports the national and international development of the research program in experimental and applied behavior analysis at the University of Lille, notably in the topics of human development, motor learning, Pavlovian conditioning, discrimination learning, and the development of interventions for individuals with autism, with current international research collaborations (United States, Brazil, United Kingdom, etc.). The chapter also supports the University of Lille's master's program in experimental and applied behavior analysis, the only such program in

France training new professionals in applied behavior analysis and young researchers. In addition to involvement in the academic development of behavior analysis through research and a master's program, French ABA supports a network of French associations of professionals and parents devoted to the development of applied behavior analysis to help individuals with autism.

In November 2017, French ABA helped organize ABAI's Ninth International Conference in Paris. This conference was a highly important opportunity for French researchers from the University of Lille and other universities (e.g., Paris, Amiens, Strasbourg) to present to an international community the current state of research in behavior analysis in France, notably in the subjects mentioned above or connected areas. The international conference was also an opportunity for those researchers and for professionals to present the progress made in France in the introduction of applied behavior analysis, notably for the treatment of children and adults with autism, and to present the objectives for the upcoming years. Finally, it was a unique opportunity for French professionals to assist with high-level quality conferences on behavior analysis and to improve the connections between those professionals. The conference was a great success for French ABA's members, with the organization and participation in a large number of symposia and talks. The presence of important speakers and a large audience reinforced that success.

Following the international conference, in 2018 French ABA members continued to invest in ABAI events, with participation in the 12th Annual Autism Conference in Florida (US) and the 44th Annual Convention in San Diego, presenting our recent advances in research on development and experimental analysis with human subjects. In the upcoming years, plans for French ABA researchers are to strengthen the international collaborations initiated in the last years by continuing common research programs on experimental behavior analysis, or young French ABA researchers moving to other universities. Concerning the applied side, the situation in France is still difficult for applied behavior analysts, so the main objective for French ABA members is to participate and collaborate in the promotion and development of applied programs for individuals with autism, but in other areas as well, and to continue the training of students and professionals in behavior analysis.

## Hong Kong ABA

BY AMOY HUGH-PENNIE AND REBECCA DOGAN

In 2017 the Hong Kong Association for Behavior Analysis (HKABA) applied to the BACB to expand our Graduate Certificate Program for board certified assistant behavior analysts (BCaBAs) to further include a verified course sequence (VCS) for board certified behavior analysts (BCBAs). This year we made a successful application

to the BACB and are now a VCS accredited program for BCaBAs and BCBAs. This long-awaited expansion was due in part to our collaboration with Hong Kong Polytechnic University and further course development by Drs. Jeremy Greenberg and Amoy Hugh-Pennie, past and current presidents of HKABA.

In our continued efforts to engage the local community, HKABA has worked toward providing educational information on behavior analysis and evidence-based intervention strategies by creating online tutorials for specific skill development. These simple online documents, titled "Skills for Success," provide parents and caregivers with three- to five-step instructions for teaching specific skills to children. One, titled "Improving Eye Contact," has been translated and uploaded to the HKABA website. Two more have been created and are awaiting translations. The goal is to post three to five over the next year.

The board members are in the process of trying to boost membership and awareness of HKABA in the local community by providing free (or low cost) CEU workshops and presentations to HKABA associates and community members. The goal is to offer at least five this upcoming year.

This year we further attempted to engage a local society for behavior analysis in discussion about accurate public representation of professional services based on the BACB requirements necessary to engage the public using the term "behavior analyst." In the course of doing so we attempted to open a dialogue about the professional and ethical use of the terms and professional titles and educate the group about the requirements by the BACB regarding certification at the level of RBT, BCaBA, BCBA, and BCBA-D. A letter was drafted by the HKABA Board to educate and invite for further discussion our local counterparts in the field about the issues related to accurate representation to the public, use of professional titles, and the credentialing body of the profession. The board will continue to address these issues to determine a further course of action into the new year. We look forward to continually engaging the public and local professionals regarding the importance of appropriate representation in the field.

Many of our board and chapter members presented research on topics of inclusion, behavior analysis as a technology of teaching, and verbal behavior, and submitted posters on these and other topics at the 44th Annual Convention in San Diego. We are very proud to have continued representation each year at ABAI.

Into 2018, the HKABA board will further investigate the possibility of another conference in Hong Kong. As part of our mission to raise local awareness and provide accurate representation of services in Hong Kong, we would like to bring distinguished speakers and offer workshops for CE credits, disseminate information about the science

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of behavior, and offer greater professional engagement opportunities to local professionals and interested parties. If you live in or are planning to move to Hong Kong please contact us regarding membership through our website, [www.hkaba.org](http://www.hkaba.org). If you are interested in being part of a local conference you may also contact us via our website. We invite any well-established and interested professionals. Being located in Asia and/or speaking Cantonese or Mandarin are a plus but not a requirement. Looking forward to a most prosperous Year of the Dog!

## Icelandic ABA

BY ASA RUN INGIMARSDOTTIR, HOLMFRIDUR OSK ARNALDS, AND KRISTIN MARGRET ARNALDSDOTTIR  
The Icelandic Association for Behavior Analysis (ICEABA) continues to promote the development of behavior analysis as a basic and applied science in Iceland and introduce the applications of behavior analysis to professionals and students alike.

We are a small and growing association of 70 members. Part of the association's purpose is to introduce the different behavior analysis master's and doctoral programs available to Icelandic students. Applied behavior analysis has a longstanding and well-established footing at the University of Iceland and more recently at the University of Reykjavik. Some students opt to do postgraduate research in behavior analysis in Iceland. Traditionally, Icelandic students have completed their graduate studies in applied behavior analysis abroad, such as in the US, UK, and Norway. Right now two students are studying abroad. The options for Icelandic students have recently expanded, as Reykjavik University now offers an MSc program for 20 students each year in clinical psychology with a BACB certified course sequence in applied behavior analysis, with the third group graduating this year.

The association places emphasis on informal meetings where members can share information on research and work in the field. We find this very important for the vitality of our group. Our coffee house meetings and our Facebook page have served as great venues for lively discussions.

ICEABA's largest event this past year was a workshop on early intensive behavioral intervention presented by Dr. Karen Toussaint. The workshop was attended by 70 participants. Other ICEABA events included coffee house meetings open to all of our members and student nights for students of psychology and social pedagogy where we introduced the field of behavior analysis and graduate programs open to them.

The official language of Iceland is Icelandic, a North Germanic language. It is spoken only by the 320,000 people of Iceland. Icelandic behavior analysts and students often run into problems when trying to talk about behavior analysis in Icelandic. Because of this, ICEABA

nominated four of its members, G. Adda Ragnarsdóttir, Ingi Jón Hauksson, Kristján Guðmundsson, and Þorlákur Karlsson, to translate and coordinate professional behavior analytic terms, from English to Icelandic. We expect to publish this work this year.

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

## Korean ABA

BY KEONHEE KIM

Korean ABA and the Korean Association of Child and Adolescent Behavior Therapy plans to collaborate on an international conference and future innovation. We have developed a website, which includes information on the chapter and its initiatives. We are planning to communicate with both members and prospective members online and off-line. Korean ABA also published four issues of the *Journal of Emotional & Behavioral Disorders* this year. We will continue to put effort into publishing journals and encouraging members to participate in the conference.

## Manitoba ABA

BY KARLI PEDREIRA

The Manitoba Association for Behaviour Analysis (MABA) is proud to be in its 13th year as an affiliated chapter of ABAI. During our 12th year several objectives were met, including offering CEU events for BCBAs and BCBA-Ds, successfully publishing two newsletters, organizing our Fifth Annual Student Poster Competition, hosting our Sixth Volunteer Appreciation Night and our 12th Annual Conference, hosting our second workshop, hosting a journal webinar in collaboration with the Ontario Association for Behaviour Analysis, and holding our annual general meeting. To promote MABA as an affiliated chapter of ABAI, we presented an Expo poster at the ABAI 43rd Annual Convention in Denver, CO.

This past year, MABA's Advisory Committee has been working to review licensing and certification options for behavior analysts in our province. Discussions are underway, and our long-term goal is for licensing to be an option for behavior analysts who have received their degrees from a distance education ABA program or who have received a degree in an applicable field other than psychology.

In October 2016, MABA was successful in partnering with the Department of Psychology at the University of Manitoba to host Dr. William Heward (Ohio State University) for a psychology department colloquium. Dr. Heward was also the keynote speaker at our 12th Annual Conference and delivered a presentation titled "Why Be a Behaviour Analyst?" The conference also featured presentations by our invited speakers, Dr. Sara

Spevack (clinical psychologist at Youth Corrections, Manitoba Justice), who presented on the challenges of using behavioral strategies in an applied forensic setting; and Brandon Franklin (Clinical Behaviour Analysis, Kentucky) who presented on parent training. Our conference also included a research review from graduate students in ABA at the University of Manitoba and a panel discussion with Brandon Franklin and Drs. William Heward and Leslie Thorne on the topic of providing effective training across multiple settings.

We are already looking forward to our 13th Annual Conference, to be held Thursday, October 25, at the University of Manitoba. The conference will feature presentations by our keynote speaker, Dr. Timothy Vollmer (University of Florida). Stay tuned for information about our invited speakers in the coming months!

MABA became a continuing education (CE) provider in 2013, and in 2017 we organized several events that offered affordable or free CEUs to our members who are BCBAs and BCBA-Ds. These included our student poster competition, a web-based journal seminar in collaboration with the Ontario Association for Behaviour Analysis, and our annual conference.

MABA also hosted its Fifth Annual Student Poster Competition at St. Amant. All psychology students with behaviorally oriented research were invited to submit their research posters, and eight students were accepted into the competition. Our judges, Drs. May Lee, Jennifer Sloan, and Duong Ramon, evaluated the posters and presentations to select our graduate and undergraduate winners.

In pursuit of our mission to disseminate information on behavior analysis, MABA participated in the Manitoba Psychological Society's annual psychology month event in February 2017, where we sponsored an information booth at St. Amant to promote behavior analysis. Additionally, MABA sponsored the Parents for Autistic Children Everywhere (PACE) walk for World Autism Awareness Day in April 2017. Our Executive Council had a booth at the event and took part in the walk. In May 2017, MABA attended the annual convention in Denver, CO, and presented a poster at the Expo. We greatly enjoyed participating in the event and also had the opportunity to network with fellow Canadian chapter board members.

Our key objectives for 2018 include advocating for additional ABA faculty at the University of Manitoba, exploring licensing and registration options for behavior analysts in Manitoba, increasing our membership through various recruitment initiatives, providing a variety of presentations for the general public on matters relating to behavior analysis, organizing events that will provide CEUs and promote our membership, partnering with local organizations, colleges, and universities to promote awareness of ABA in Manitoba, and hosting our 13th Annual Conference.

## 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 2017, we convened at Victoria University of Wellington. The conference was very successful, with about 120 attendees, 32 talks, and 7 posters. We particularly value the contribution that students make to our conference, and student presentations were invaluable to the conference in 2017. This year, several students who gave outstanding talks received prizes from NZABA in recognition of their achievement. Jared Pickett from Victoria University of Wellington won a prize for the best experimental analysis of behavior paper for his presentation titled "The Description-Experience Gap: How Descriptions of Probability Affect Our Decision Making." Margaret Gertzog from the University of Auckland won for the best applied behavior analysis paper for her presentation titled "From Near-Zero to Hero: Synthesised Analysis and Treatment of Problem Behaviour." The judges also awarded prizes to Mike Kendig from the University of Sydney for his paper titled "Cue-Potentiated Feeding and Exposure to Variety" and Stephanie Gomes-Ng from the University of Auckland for her paper titled "Relative Reinforcer Rates Determine Divided Control by Conflicting Stimuli." Together, the talks awarded prizes illustrate the breadth of applied and experimental behavior analytic topics covered by presenters at NZABA each year.

We also awarded NZABA lifetime membership awards to Professor Neville Blampied of Canterbury University and Professor T. Mary Foster of Waikato University to acknowledge their sustained contributions to behavior analysis in New Zealand and to our organization over many years. Both Neville and Mary were founding members of NZABA, and they have contributed immeasurably to our organization since its founding.

We were also pleased to welcome a larger number of people who work in behavior analysis outside universities. NZABA has been an approved continuing education provider for the Behavior Analyst Certification Board (BACB) 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 2018, our conference will be held at the University of Auckland. Auckland is a convenient location for

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international visitors as it has an international airport. We hope you will consider attending. Please visit our website, [nzaga.org](http://nzaga.org), for more information about our organization and activities. You can complete a form to join NZABA; we do not charge a membership fee. The website also provides contact information for people working in behavior analysis at each New Zealand university and allows you to sign up for our email list to receive updates about events and issues of interest to those working in behavior analysis in New Zealand. This will include the call for papers and other information about upcoming NZABA conferences. Please also join us at [Facebook.com/newzealandaba](https://www.facebook.com/newzealandaba) for more informal discussion of issues of interest to the group and posts related to topics of interest.

## Polish Society for Behavioral Psychology

BY BARTŁOMIEJ SWEBODZIŃSKI

The most important event for the Polish Society for Behavioral Psychology (PTPB) last year was the general meeting of members. The meeting took place in June 2017, and the main task was to elect new authorities of the society. To the executive board were elected the following members: Przemysław Bąbel (Jagiellonian University Kraków, Pain Research Group) for the post of chairman, Paweł Ostaszewski (SWPS University of Social Science and Humanities Warsaw, dean of the Psychology Department and chief of the behavioral analysis faculty) for the post of vice chairman, Anna Ziółkowska (SWPS University of Social Science and Humanities Poznań, vice dean for didactics), Krystyna Pomorska (SWPS University of Social Science and Humanities Warsaw, associate lecturer) for the post of secretary, Bartłomiej Swebodziński (SWPS University of Social Science and Humanities Warsaw, associate lecturer) for the post of treasurer (continuous since 2011). The 2017 executive board consists of people from at least three university centers (Kraków, Poznań, Warsaw).

In 2017, the society worked continuously on the development of the Polish certification system (license) for behavior analysts. The Polish certification system was created and introduced in 2010 together with partner organization Polish Association of Behavioral Therapy ([www.terapeutabehawioralny.pl](http://www.terapeutabehawioralny.pl)). Its aim was to improve the quality of work of behavior analysts in Poland by establishing professional standards of good work and proper conduct. Two members of PTPB participate on a regular basis in meetings of the executive committee of the system. The main responsibilities are the following:

- Evaluating applications of candidates to the title of behavior analyst according to the standards of the Polish certification system.

- Developing standards for training programs and evaluating new training courses proposed by supervisors within the system.
- Answering ongoing questions concerning the certification system and providing consistent interpretation of its rules.
- Propagating knowledge about the certification system and behavioral therapy in Poland.

One of the major issues for 2017 was to develop a formula for establishing closer collaboration with universities (mainly SWPS University).

PTPB also signed, together with several of the biggest Polish psychological associations, an official petition to the Polish government to reintroduce the official consulting process for formal regulation of therapist status in the Polish law system. Right now the situation is not clear enough, and for years scientific as well as professional psychological organizations have tried to reopen discussion on that topic with the intention of calling public attention to this problem.

Among PTPB's important assets are its annual international symposium (so-called "Skinnerian" symposium), which usually takes place in April. In 2017 there was a break; however, we are preparing a symposium for March 2018 in Poznań right now. The second asset not in use in 2017 was the award for the best graduate thesis related to behavioral topics. In previous years, few applications were made (due to lower popularity of behavioral topics among Polish psychology students). However, the quality of applications was very high; awarded students continued their scientific careers in postgraduate programs and published their results in top-ranked scientific journals. For example, Karolina Świder published an article in the journal of the International Association for the Study of Pain: "The effect of the sex of a model on nociceptive hyperalgesia induced by social observational learning." Now we are reintroducing this award in July 2018 and broadening the criteria for application (for students, postgraduate students, and participants in other behavioral training programs that require written theses supervised by professional academic researchers).

## Sociedad Mexicana de Análisis de la Conducta

BY MARIO SERRANO, ROSALINDA ARROYO, AND VARSOVIA HERNÁNDEZ

The Mexican Society of Behavior Analysis is a nonprofit organization founded in 1975 with the aim of encouraging and spreading behavior analysis research in Mexico and other Hispanic countries. Among its most significant activities are the publication of the *Mexican Journal of Behavior Analysis* and the organization of an annual conference, the Mexican Conference of Behavior Analysis.

In Mexico, becoming a legally recognized behavior analyst requires a bachelor's degree in psychology. The bachelor's degree in psychology is obtained after completing a four- or five-year program, in which the courses on behavior analysis can be scarce or even completely absent. After the golden age of behavior analysis in Mexico during the 70s, Mexican experimental behavior analysts and applied behavior analysts have been trained and recognized not by their work in the classes of their universities, but by their volunteer work in the research developed by professors of such universities. The Mexican Society of Behavior Analysis is mainly composed of these professors and their undergraduate students, who usually receive their corresponding academic degrees by defending a thesis based on the experimental work conducted in the context of their teachers' research. The results of such experiments are usually published in the *Mexican Journal of Behavior Analysis*, but in some cases, they have been published in the *Journal of Experimental Analysis of Behavior* and in the *European Journal of Behavior Analysis*.

As of 2018, the Mexican Society of Behavior Analysis is trying to encourage the incorporation of undergraduate students in research projects developed by behavior analysts working at Mexican universities throughout the country. We plan to do this through the creation of a grant that will reward the best bachelor's thesis in behavior analysis based on three categories: (a) experimental analysis of behavior, (b) applied behavior analysis, and (c) conceptual analysis on the topics addressed in both aspects of the science created by B. F. Skinner.

The prizes will be awarded at the XXVIII Mexican Conference of Behavior Analysis, October 22–26, in Veracruz. The conference will include at least two keynotes by internationally recognized behavior analysts as well as approximately 10 talks by Mexican behavior analysts. Additionally, various workshops will take place during the same days of the conference. The state of Veracruz has historical value in the development of behavior analysis in Mexico since this was the state in which the Mexican behavior analysis movement began in the 1960s at the University of Veracruz, in the city of Xalapa, where several behavior analysts from the United States of America and other countries gave courses and seminars.

Regarding the *Mexican Journal of Behavior Analysis*, it is a peer-reviewed journal that publishes papers in English and Spanish on both experimental and applied behavior analysis. Correspondently, the journal has an editorial board composed of researchers in both areas and from Spanish- and English-speaking countries. Currently, the journal has 43 volumes published. Most volumes have had two regular issues in June and December and a special issue in September. *The Mexican Journal of Behavior Analysis* is currently edited by Rogelio Escobar, at the National Autonomous University of Mexico.

## Swedish ABA

BY DAG STRÖMBERG

The Swedish Association for Behavior Analysis (SWABA) had 170 members in 2017. One objective during the year was to maintain the increase of SWABA's activity on social media, in the form of disseminating research and news concerning behavior analysis, as well as providing opportunities for discussion between members. At the end of the year, 852 people were following SWABA on Facebook, a 27% increase from 2016. In addition to the accounts on Twitter, LinkedIn, and YouTube, the association is now also on Instagram with the username *swedishaba*.

In April 2017, the ABAI Executive Council approved to hold the 2019 International Conference in Stockholm, September 29–30. This event will be a great opportunity for the development and dissemination of behavior analysis in Sweden.

SWABA's much-appreciated fall meeting in October 2017 contained six talks on newly published literature in Swedish related to behavior analysis.

In March 2018, the annual meeting was held in Stockholm. Topics covered included one talk about the implementation of the PAX Good Behavior Game in Swedish schools, and two presentations described different applications of TAGteach. Also, Dr. Svein Eikeseth from Norway gave a talk about the nonsocial reinforcement hypothesis of ASD.

Swedish ABA was represented at the 2018 ABAI Annual Convention in San Diego. As usual, a poster was presented at the Expo. Numerous visitors became virtual members (members who support the association, and do not live or work in Sweden), for free, or renewed their virtual membership from last year. Also, bids were accepted for a unique SWABA t-shirt, the proceeds of which were donated to the SABA unrestricted fund.

SWABA supports the formation of special interest groups, providing information about each group on the website. During the last year the Animals SIG, the Certified Behavior Analysts SIG, and the PBS SIG had meetings, while some of the other groups had contacts through social media. The Animals SIG also co-hosted a conference on animal behavior in January in Skara.

SWABA would like to encourage anyone who plans to visit Sweden or Scandinavia to contact the board ([info@swaba.se](mailto:info@swaba.se)), to explore the possibility of meeting and/or lecturing. SWABA holds its annual meeting during the first quarter of each year and a fall meeting/conference in October. The fall meeting of 2018 will take place October 6 in Stockholm. Please visit the SWABA website for updates concerning the program.

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## Taiwan ABA

BY LI-TSUN WANG

The Taiwan Association for Behavior Analysis (TABA) was established in 2001, and is a nonprofit corporation affiliated in 2005 as a national chapter of ABAI. One of our missions is to spread knowledge of behavior analysis to professionals and parents. In order to disseminate the practical use of ABA principles in the education and treatment of people with special needs in schools, private institutions, and homes, Taiwan's government supports training workshops every year, to promote ABA to therapists, teachers, and parents. Until 2017, the number of BCaBAs and BCBA's in Taiwan had increased, so future plans for the profession will include more advanced training in behavior science, such as inviting BCBA's to provide workshops to let participants earn continuing education credit, and by using networks to encourage more participants for a joint conference. In 2017, the following goals were met:

- An introductory series of ABA workshops for parents, teachers, and professionals was held. Intermediate workshops by the Child Welfare Bureau, Ministry of the Interior in Taiwan continuously provides funding for the intermediate training. The goal is to provide parents and practitioners with basic knowledge of ABA principles and VB, and prepare them to work more effectively for the long-term well-being of their children.

In 2017, nearly 300 people attended workshops focused on parents' teaching skills, play skills training for special kids, behavior interventions, etc.

- In 2017, the first training for foster families about basic ABA techniques for teaching children included six families, who worked hard to learn about ABA in order to benefit the kids. This training will continue in 2018.
- TABA's annual conference was January 6, 2018, and focused on practice and research issues related to inclusion. We invited a BCBA-D to present on how to solve behavior problems in schools. To promote professional growth, we were glad to see 64 members at this conference.
- From September to November 2017, there was a BCaBA course on the principles of applied behavior analysis. A total of 14 students have completed the 45-hour requirement for this course. What's more, TABA will continue to hold the course on the fourth task list in 2018 to promote the BCaBA course, and prepare for the fifth task list course.

In 2018, TABA will continue to follow our mission to spread knowledge of behavior analysis to professionals and parents, and promote the science through workshops, an annual conference, BCaBA courses, and more. We also hope to provide advanced training programs on subjects for BCBA's or BCaBA's, and try to expand from basic training to more advanced training courses, to let more people know about ABA professional improvement. ❖



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## Updates From ABAI's Special Interest Groups

### Autism SIG

BY JUSTIN B. LEAF

This has been an exciting year for the Autism Special Interest Group (SIG). The past year began with the creation of the Autism SIG Executive Council and Board. The Autism SIG Executive Council consists of Justin B. Leaf (president), Robert Ross (past president), Joe Cihon (secretary-treasurer), and Mary Jane Weiss (board member elect). In September 2017, the Executive Council and Board created and ratified the first edition of the Autism SIG Bylaws. The bylaws established different membership levels of the Autism SIG, formalized the voting procedures, and formalized how the Executive Council and Board members are elected. In December 2017, the Executive Council and Board voted to partner with ABAI to manage our membership list and dues collection. This will greatly help the Autism SIG meet its mission and improve on increasing its membership and disseminating important information. The most exciting activity that has occurred in the last year was the creation and dissemination of the *Parent Guidelines for Identifying, Selecting, and Evaluating Behavior Analysts Providing Treatment for Individuals Diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder*. Since 1998, the Autism SIG had a published consumer document for helping parents and other consumers identify qualified individuals to provide and supervise behavioral intervention for individuals diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder. However, a recent survey suggested that many professionals in the field were unaware of this document, and, through the use of focus groups, that parents found guidelines confusing. After two years of revamping the guidelines, in January 2018, we approved the most recent version of the parent guidelines. We were pleased to announce this at the ABAI Autism Conference in Miami and were able to publish these guidelines on our Facebook page. Within one week the *Parent Guidelines* reached over 10,000 people! Our final accomplishment of the year is that the Autism SIG Executive Council and Board composed a response to an article that evaluated claims that individuals who received behavioral intervention display post-traumatic stress symptoms. We remain hopeful that this paper will be accepted and can help with confusion and incorrect claims made in the article.

We hope to continue to be productive and have several goals in the upcoming year. One of our main goals is the development of a web page to disseminate valuable information to our members. A second goal of the upcoming year is to broadcast monthly interviews about important issues with top professionals and/or consumers on our Facebook page. Third, we will hold a vote for new board members to help join in our endeavors. Fourth, we look forward to announcing awards that students and professionals can apply to win at our annual Autism SIG

meeting. Finally, we look forward to continually working closely with ABAI and the ABAI Autism Conference. We are optimistic that engaging in all of these activities will result in the improvement of behavioral intervention for individuals diagnosed with autism spectrum disorders. We hope that professionals will consider becoming members of the Autism SIG and help promote quality behavioral intervention for individuals diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder.

### Behavioral Gerontology SIG

BY CLAUDIA DROSSEL

Behavioral gerontology, the application of the science and philosophy of behavior analysis to problems of adults age 65 and older, has a long tradition, from Ogden Lindsley's (1964) chapter on the design of "geriatric behavioral prosthetics," to Skinner and Vaughan's (1983) practical advice on how to compensate for physical decline and "enjoy old age," to recent *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis* publications on improving activity engagement of individuals with neurocognitive disorders (e.g., Engstrom, Mudford, & Brand, 2015). Indeed, behavior analysts across specialties work with older adults.

The Behavioral Gerontology SIG (BGSIG) provides a forum for students, practitioners, and researchers who have an interest in applying the science, practice, and philosophy of behavior analysis to problems encountered by adults in later life. Our goal is to promote the development, implementation, and evaluation of behavior analytic approaches to a wide variety of topics of high public health significance in the older adult population. Among these are self-management for health promotion and disease prevention, functional assessments of and interventions for behavioral changes commonly associated with neurocognitive disorders (e.g., Alzheimer's disease), effective participation in inter- or multidisciplinary teams, or aging with a disability.

Because knowledge of the behavioral, medical, cultural, and social contexts of aging is necessary when working clinically with older adults, the BGSIG's long-term aim is to foster a strong collaborative mentorship model and serve as a hub for aging-related questions within ABAI.

A survey of the membership, conducted in 2017, indicated that members value and would like to further build the BGSIG's emphasis on education, clinical training, and research in behavioral gerontology. At the beginning of the year, four behavioral gerontologists participated in an online planning session, facilitated by the Behavior Analyst Certification Board, with the goal to identify barriers to workforce development in the behavioral gerontology area and to draft strategies to address those barriers. The resulting report was shared

with members of the SIG at the BGSIG business meeting during the ABAAI annual convention, with a request for further comment and input.

BGSIG membership benefits include a subscription to the biannual newsletter, which was revised to include more education and research-related information for our members, particularly about member publications and grants; a vote for the best student presenter in the area of behavioral gerontology during ABAAI's annual convention; and access to a network of behavior analysts with shared interests in aging and age-related issues. Please see <http://bgsig.wordpress.com> for detailed information.

## Behavior Analysis and the Arts SIG

By Abigail B. Calkin

Behavior Analysis and the Arts (BAARTs) is the SIG for the promotion of the relationship between behavior analysis and the arts—literature, visual arts, music, and other performing arts.

A recent change in leadership occurred when Abigail Calkin became the new chair after Travis Thompson's resignation. However, Thompson continues to maintain the Facebook page with almost daily posts and commentary about artists, musicians, and writers as well as posts integrating the arts, artists, creativity, and behavior analysis. Readership is about 10 per post. The Facebook page for BAARTs is [www.facebook.com/groups/303711403126912/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/303711403126912/).

Two recent articles by group members examined creativity in various products and styles through empirical and research exploration. These examinations of the creative processes led both of them to a greater understanding of the relation between behavior analysis and the arts. One is Francis Mechner's 2017 article, "A Behavioral and Biological Analysis of Aesthetics: Implications for Research and Applications," published in *The Psychological Record*, Mechner, F. Psychol Rec (2017), <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40732-017-0228-1>. The other is Abigail Calkin's article, "Writing on Writing" in the *International Journal of Educational Research*, 87, 127-137, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijer.2017.05.002>, available online in 2017 and in the print journal of 2018. Mechner's was a research project from 1948-1960. Calkin's was a research project from 2003-2007.

The SIG, which began in 2014, holds meetings at the annual ABAAI convention. Discussions included topics like examining creativity within the behavioral framework; the two articles mentioned above; and plans for future events of publications, performances, or both.

Plans for the upcoming year include discussions of (1) additional presentations at the annual ABAAI convention, (2) the connections between the arts and behavior analysis,

(3) how to view any of the arts or a particular work of art from a behavior analytic perspective, (4) how many members are artists and in which fields, and (5) how many members have a strong interest in the various arts, but are not artists per se. Additional ideas for the future also include learning who in our ABAAI organization are recognized artists—published creative writing authors (poetry, fiction, narrative or creative nonfiction, essay, etc.), artists who have been in juried art shows or sold a number of works (painting, drawing, architecture, sculpture, etc.), musicians (public performances, composers, conductors, etc.), and any other categories not mentioned here. The criterion for this list is those who receive or have received pay for their work in the arts.

Since June 2017, the SIG membership has grown from 67 to 93, an increase of 28%, almost a third.

At the annual ABAAI convention, there were two presentations related to creativity and the arts. Marie Fletcher chaired a panel discussion called "Teaching Curiosity: Discussion of Behavioral Approaches to Fostering Creativity and Philosophical Skills." Francis Mechner gave a paper titled "Aesthetics, Animations, and Action!"

Whether you are an artist or an aficionado of the arts, to become a SIG member or learn more about the BAARTs SIG, please contact Dr. Calkin at [abc@abigailcalkin.com](mailto:abc@abigailcalkin.com). To join the Facebook group contact Travis Thompson or Abigail Calkin. The benefits of membership include receiving the excellent Facebook posts and viewing the expansion of behavior analysis into an area thought of as unrelated to or hard to relate to the analysis of human behavior.

## Behavior Analysis and Selectionist Robotics SIG

BY RICHARD WEISSMAN AND JOSEPH CAUTILLI

"Robotics is an interdisciplinary branch of engineering and science that includes mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, computer science, and others that deals with the design, construction, operation, and use of robots, as well as computer systems for their control, sensory feedback, and information processing" ("Robotics," n.d.). In the culture's evolution of a "mature science and technology of behavior" (Johnson & Pennypacker, 1980, p. 5), the hybridization of behavioral and robotics technology is increasingly serving as a powerful cusp for behavioralizing cultural technology. An intersecting theme of the cultures underlying both of these classes of technology is selectionism: "Selection by consequences is a causal mode found only in living things, or in machines made by living things.... it replaces explanations based on the causal modes of classical mechanics" (Skinner, 1981, p. 501).

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## ROBOTICS continued from page 55

The largest contribution to cultural change by behavior analysts was the creation of selectionist robots using machine-language programmed reinforcement models. Starting with ABAI workshops in the late 1980s (by William Hutchinson and Bill Potter) on adaptive networks and progressing to Project Skinnerbot [www.cs.cmu.edu/~dst/Skinnerbots/](http://www.cs.cmu.edu/~dst/Skinnerbots/), reinforcement-process programming within adaptive systems was enabling a far more effective learning machine by the late 1990s than their preceding pre-programmed progenitors (Saksida, Raymond, and Touretzky, 1998; Touretzky and Saksida, 1996; Touretzky and Saksida, 1997). Reinforcement modeling turned out to be easily programmed (see Williams, 1992 or Daylan & Hinton, 1996). Big data emerged and was extended to self-driving cars, expedited medication discoveries (Knight, 2018), more accurate stock market trend analyses (Maruti Techlabs, 2017), and more (cost) effective call centers (RankMiner, n.d.). A brief survey finds that reinforcement learning enormously impacted the field of pattern recognition (Arulkumaran, Deisenroth, Brundage, & Bharath, 2017). The authors currently consider promoting further advances and extensions of reinforcement modeling (in current and future selectionist robotics) testing the generality of behavioral process extensions to selectionist robotic functions and applications (e.g., matching, stimulus-control summation, rule-governed behavior, behavioral momentum, and recombinative generalization for autoclitic frame development).

We currently meet during the ABAI annual convention and share information through a Yahoo Group (<https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/behavioranalysisandrobotics/info>) and the Facebook page Behavior Analysis and Selectionist Robotics: [www.facebook.com/Behavior-Analysis-and-Selectionist-Robotics-203462914195/](https://www.facebook.com/Behavior-Analysis-and-Selectionist-Robotics-203462914195/). Social media is the setting for most of the evolving contingencies associated with Behavior Analysis and Selectionist Robotics (BASR). Specifically, since 2009, the primary activity of BASR has been information sharing in two loci: the Yahoo Group called Behavior Analysis and Robotics and the Facebook Page called Behavior Analysis and Selectionist Robotics. From 2009–2010, there were 351 emails in 20 months sent to the Yahoo Group and 24 posts in 13 months shared to the Facebook page. Over the next 5 years (2011–2015), there was a mean frequency of 17 articles per year when combined across platforms. The low point was only one email and one Facebook share in 2014. In 2015, Yahoo sends underwent a frequency no jump (X1) while Facebook shares jumped up X28. In 2016, Yahoo sends jumped up X3 while Facebook shares jumped up X2.3 (from 28 to 64). In 2017, Yahoo sends jumped up X1.33 (from 3 to 4) while Facebook shares jumped up X1.4 to 90. In the first 2.5 months of 2018, multiplied by

X5 to extrapolate for the year, Yahoo sends jumped up X21 to 85 and shares jumped up X2.2 to 200.

These recent increases in the frequency of SIG information exchanges seem to reflect our collectively growing knowledge about, and interest in, the future. “We know the future almost wholly from what science tells us. We may suffer overcrowding, shortages, and pollution, but they are the present; they are bits of the future that we have already reached (Skinner, 1990, p. 105).” Largely, our knowledge of this future begins not with science, but with those elements of the media ecosystem with which we are in contact that are updating us on the rapid growth and implications of robotics technology. Yet, “[o]nly through science do we know how serious they will eventually become.... [b]ut science is almost wholly known by description” (Skinner, 1990, p. 105). Such description is more than a document archive. “Descriptive knowledge consists of a collection of facts about the observed events that can be quantified, classified, and examined for possible relations with other known facts” (Cooper, Heron, & Heward, 2007, p. 23).

The corpus of shared documents at the two social media loci for BASR have occasioned a project to mind map and tag with selectionist robotic classifiers. One source of tags are borrowed from the Wikipedia robotics portal <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robotics> and the Behavior and Technology SIG: type/applied (e.g., military, service, industrial, etc.), components/behavioral functions (e.g., power source, actuation, sensing, manipulation, locomotion, environmental interaction and navigation, and human-robot interaction), control (e.g., autonomy levels, interactivity with human behavior, generalization of robotic functions), research/analysis and synthesis of robot behavior (e.g., dynamics and kinematics, bionics and biomimetics), education and training effectiveness of robotics, employment/societal effects, and macrorends. A second source is the re-use of tags found on the website of a similar ABAI SIG (Behavior Analysis and Technology). A third source is participant induction of tags derived from robotics articles that have relevance to the selectionist perspective (e.g., reinforcement learning, genetic algorithms, big data).

The exchange of information is critical to both behavior analysis and selectionist robotics as computer scientists begin to explore methods that make machines “conscious.” Functional analytic psychotherapy offers a reinforcement model for the developing sense of self consistent with Skinner’s (1957) model of verbal behavior (Kohlenberg & Tsai, 1990). Selection of verbal behavior by reinforcing consequences may prove pivotal to the eventual development and quality of machine self-awareness.

Over the next year, we hope to occasion activity acceleration by organizing an open email network in which selection occurs through common interests, skills, resources,

and settings and setting the occasion for research and learning, publishing digests integrating similarly themed post combinations into a recurring *Inside Behavior Analysis* column, an ABAI Expo poster, better networking with the Behavior Analysis and Technology SIG, and efficient online videoconferencing for both business meetings and content discussions. It is hoped that such increases in SIG-appropriate behavior will occur and lead to a greater cultural impact from the combining of behavior analytic and selectionist robotic activities. The compounding of both activity classes is symbiotic and potentially synergistic—resulting in a much larger impact on the culture at large than either of the two would alone. So, please, join us.

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## Behavior Analysis and Technology SIG

BY CODY MORRIS

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 (<https://batechsig.com>) and created a Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/groups/TheBATEchSIG](https://www.facebook.com/groups/TheBATEchSIG)) with over 700 members. In service of aim two, we maintain a blog on our website and encourage Facebook members to post ABA and technology related content and comment on posts. Lastly, we held our annual meeting at the 2018 ABAI convention in San Diego, CA (business meeting #150). The meeting took place on Saturday, May 26, at 7 pm in the Manchester Grand Hyatt, Seaport Ballroom G.

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/>.

## Clinical SIG

BY EMILY THOMAS JOHNSON

ABAI's Clinical SIG was organized in 1979. In 2019, we will be celebrating 40 years! Active membership has been consistently maintained since.

The Clinical SIG serves as home to those who have an interest in the clinical application of behavior analysis. Clinical behavior analysis (CBA) was once defined as the application of radical behaviorism (Skinner 1953, 1974) to answer the most basic questions about outpatient adult behavior therapy (or any other type of psychotherapy) (Kohlenberg, Tsai, & Dougher, 1993). This application of behavioral theory has continued to expand to other areas of clinical services through the years. Clinical behavior analysts now contribute to research and treatment of mainstream clinical populations and problems, working in a variety of research and applied settings. A sample of clinical domains in which clinical behavior analysts work includes the following:

- Anxiety disorders
- Autism spectrum disorder
- Behavioral gerontology
- Behavioral health
- Childhood disorders
- Cognitive rehabilitation
- Couples therapy
- Developmental disabilities
- Family therapy
- Forensic psychology (assessment and treatment)
- Habit disorders

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- Intellectual and developmental disabilities
- Health psychology
- Mood disorders (e.g., depression),
- Serious mental illness (e.g., borderline personality disorder, schizophrenia)
- Substance abuse
- Trauma

The Clinical SIG does not require dues. We do accept donations for student-focused support initiatives. For 2017–2018, we have 335 members. While we are excited to have this number in our membership, we continue to be interested in growing in clinician, researcher, and student membership.

The Clinical SIG produces an annual newsletter highlighting members' contributions to the ABAI convention and other areas of behavior analysis.

At the 2018 convention, the Clinical SIG presented information related to the SIG during the Expo and held a meeting to discuss work on several ongoing projects.

We are collecting information from CBA academic training programs and research labs so that we can promote workshops, conference events, and ongoing activities of interest to our membership. The Clinical SIG is also working to develop opportunities to recognize and support students and researchers focused on clinical interventions. Finally, we maintain a listing of university-affiliated training opportunities in CBA that is openly available upon request or membership.

To be kept up to date on Clinical SIG activities and to access copies of the newsletter please check our listserv at [http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/Clinical\\_SIG/](http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/Clinical_SIG/). The SIG also maintains a Facebook group that may be joined via individual request: [www.facebook.com/groups/abaclinicalsigsig/?ref=br\\_rs](http://www.facebook.com/groups/abaclinicalsigsig/?ref=br_rs).

If you would like to join the Clinical SIG, please contact us using the link at [www.abainternational.org/Special\\_Interests/clinical.asp](http://www.abainternational.org/Special_Interests/clinical.asp).

## Crime, Delinquency, and Forensic Behavior Analysis SIG

BY ESTHER BUBB-MCKINNIE AND KELLY KATES MCEL RATH

The mission of this SIG 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) and 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 is expanding its focus to clinical issues for the elderly and post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) for veterans. The SIG has been active in sending letters to the state of PA to support use of behavior analysis for addressing the needs of these populations. The SIG is also exploring collaborations 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 behavior analysts 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. We currently have 221 members. Discussion topics pertain to subjects such as providing consultation for veterans in prison, child medications, and 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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## Dissemination of Behavior Analysis SIG

BY MELISSA ENGASSER

The Dissemination of Behavior Analysis Special Interest Group has made several strides within the past year. We

have increased membership, received 501(c)(3) nonprofit status, and have created a monthly webinar series, “Coffee & CEUs,” which provides opportunities on various topics in behavior analysis for our members. Additionally, we have a quarterly newsletter initiative where members can submit pieces on various topics in behavior analysis to share. We also sponsor a grant that members may apply for to support project proposals that aim at the dissemination of the science of behavior analysis.

Our goal for the upcoming year is to sustain the current initiatives, while adding the following goals: (1) fundraising, (2) increasing membership, (3) hosting a conference, and (4) collaborating further with other SIGs. Individuals interested in pursuing membership may apply at [www.broadcastbehavior.com](http://www.broadcastbehavior.com). The yearly dues for students are \$15 and for professionals \$20. We look forward to another successful year of disseminating the science of behavior analysis.

## Experimental Analysis of Human Behavior SIG

BY J. ADAM BENNETT

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

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

- **Sponsoring an annual meeting for interested parties at the annual ABAI convention.** The goal of these meetings is to discuss the business of the EAHB SIG, the *EAHB Bulletin*, and the general state of affairs in EAHB, EAB, behavior analysis, and the world generally. The meeting is also used to recognize our Student Paper Competition winners and to deliberate and decide upon the next recipient of the EAHB Distinguished Contributions Award.

### Report of 2016–2017 activities

The SIG held its annual meeting at the ABAI convention in Denver, CO. At the meeting, Dr. Kathryn Kestner agreed to continue coordinating the annual student paper competition. The SIG is also grateful for the efforts of Dr. J. Adam Bennett, who continues to serve as chair, and Dr. Yusuke Hayashi, who continues to serve as treasurer.

In October 2016, the SIG selected Dr. Philip N. Himeline to receive the EAHB SIG Distinguished Contributions Award for 2017. Dr. Claudia Drossel introduced Dr. Himeline, summarizing his contributions to the experimental analysis of human behavior. Dr. Himeline then gave an award address reflecting on his career with an eye toward the future. The session was chaired by Dr. J. Adam Bennett and was held Monday, May 29.

In 2017, the SIG recognized the work of one young scholar in the SIG's annual Experimental Analysis of Human Behavior Student Paper Competition. Dr. Kathryn Kestner coordinated the competition. The award was presented to Tracy Argueta for her manuscript titled “Exchange Schedules in Token Economies: Second-Order Schedule Effects.” Tracy gave a brief presentation, was presented with a certificate, and received reimbursement for her ABAI registration.

### Upcoming plans for 2017–2018

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

The 2018 EAHB SIG Distinguished Contributions Award will be presented to Dr. Michael Perone, professor at West Virginia University. Drs. Mark Galizio and Dean Williams will introduce Dr. Perone and provide a summary of his many contributions to understanding human behavior. Subsequently, Dr. Perone will give an award address reflecting on his research career. The session will be held Saturday, May 26, from 10–10:50 pm in Marriott Marquis, San Diego Ballroom A. Please join us in celebrating the outstanding contributions of Dr. Perone.

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## DISSEMINATION continued from page 59

The EAHB SIG continues to increase the size of its membership (currently 118 members) by (1) presenting a poster at the ABAI Expo, (2) promoting the annual Distinguished Contributions Award address, and (3) increasing the visibility of the *EAHB Bulletin*.

During this year's meeting, we will also discuss business related to the *EAHB Bulletin*, including election and term limits of its editorial board and strategies for increasing its impact. We will also discuss possible nominees for next year's Distinguished Contributions Award.

Additional information on the EAHB SIG, the *EAHB Bulletin*, and membership can be found at [www.eahb.org](http://www.eahb.org) or by visiting our poster at the ABAI Expo. Those interested in the student paper competition should consult the website for contest rules and instructions. We are accepting nominations for next year's Distinguished Contributions Award. Submissions to the *EAHB Bulletin* are always welcome.

## Health, Sport, and Fitness SIG

BY GABRIELLE TORRES

The mission of the ABAI Health, Sport, & Fitness SIG is to support research and application of behavior analytic methods, practices, and principles to human challenges in health, sports, and fitness. Through the Health, Sport, & Fitness SIG we aim to bring together behavior analysts, and students of behavior analysis, with interests in health, sports, and fitness. Our goal is to provide students and professionals opportunities for networking and collaboration and to support research and application of behavior analysis in the fields of health, sport, and fitness.

In 2017, the Health, Sport, & Fitness SIG celebrated its 20th year. It was also the year we saw renewed interest in the application of behavior analysis in the fields of health, sport, and fitness. We are excited to see this increased interest and encourage all those interested in these fields to join our SIG and engage with us at ABAI and other conferences, as well as via email and on social media. We continue to expand our members-only offerings, including adding some new continuing education webinars and encouraging presentations related to health, sports, and fitness at ABAI and other conferences.

At the 44th Annual ABAI Convention in San Diego, we were proud to see various symposia and presentations related to health, sport, and fitness, and were happy to support students presenting in these fields. Our chair, Gabrielle Torres, also participated in the panel "Are You Ready to Work in Healthy Behavior Change? (Hint: Success Relies on Becoming an Expert and Building a Business)" with Diah Askari, Julie Slowiak, and Merritt Schenk. The focus of the panel was to talk about some of the barriers we must overcome to have success when expanding our science into health, sports, and fitness. The SIG also hosted a run and two yoga events.

During our annual business meeting, we elected new officers who are excited to get to work and continue expanding SIG offerings. Some new webinars are being acquired for our members, and we continue to explore a mentorship program. Our discussions helped us identify that it appears easier for people to engage in research related to health, sports, and fitness than it is to practice in the real world. As there continues to be growing interest in applying behavior analysis to the fields of health, sport, and fitness, our focus for the upcoming year will be to support those who are interested in practicing behavior analysis in these areas.

For more information check out our website ([www.hsf.sigabai.com](http://www.hsf.sigabai.com)) or Facebook page ([facebook.com/ABAI.HSF.SIG/](https://facebook.com/ABAI.HSF.SIG/)), or find us on Twitter (<https://twitter.com/hsfsig>). We also recently joined Instagram! You can find us at [www.instagram.com/hsf.abai](https://www.instagram.com/hsf.abai). If you're interested in joining the SIG, you will find details on our website. Membership is \$10 per year for students and \$20 per year for professionals (we also offer a 2-year option). If you have any questions or want to contribute to our blog or to take a more active role in the SIG, please contact us at [hsf.abai@gmail.com](mailto:hsf.abai@gmail.com).

## Multicultural SIG: Multicultural Alliance of Behavior Analysts

BY ELIZABETH HUGHES FONG

This year was full of ups and downs for Multicultural SIG: Multicultural Alliance of Behavior Analysts (MultiABA). Sadly, we lost some of our board members who went on to pursue other interests. We would like to thank them for their service and dedication to our organization.

The majority of the focus during 2017 was our course sequence. Our efforts were spent on monitoring compliance course content and student needs. MultiABA graduated our first cohorts of students in 2017 and continue to have students diligently working through our classes. We have two wonderful instructors on board: Ms. Kozue Matsuda, BCBA, and Ms. Yuki Kurumiya, BCBA, who have been not only teaching, but helping to build bridges between ABA and Japan.

We would like to formally welcome Kaori Nepo, Ph.D., BCBA-D, as our new VCS coordinator. Dr. Nepo specializes in incorporating commonly available technology into interventions for individuals with autism. Her recent study, "iPod Touch to Increase Functional Communication of Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder and Significant Intellectual Disability" (Nepo, Tincani, Axelrod, & Meszaros, 2015), was published in *Focus on Autism and Other Developmental Disabilities* and completed her Ph.D. in special education from Temple University. In addition to being our VCS coordinator, Dr. Nepo is the director of Research and International Development at Chimes International. With the help of

Dr. Nepo, we have been exploring universities to take over the course sequence once our tenure is up.

Our membership has been increasing, and members have been busy traveling and presenting all over the world on diversity topics in behavior analysis. One such presentation was “Building Cultural Awareness in Clinical Practice” for the Atlantic Provinces Special Education Authority and at the ABAI annual convention.

Thanks to the support of Dr. Duane Lundervold, we were able to have a section on diversity in *Behavior Analysis: Research and Practice*. This section aims to describe and study the intersection of human behavior, culture, and the evaluation of behavioral assessment and interventions in such contexts. Within this framework, culturally diverse refers to different ethnic, religious, geographic, and socioeconomic groups. The purpose of this portion of the journal is to provide a focal point for applied and clinical research related to behavioral assessment and intervention in diverse settings and populations.

We are interested in studies describing implicit to explicit bias related to diversity and how such bias affects professional conduct and patient care.

Research focusing on when and how to modify assessment and interventions to fit the needs of diverse clients is also critically important. Each of these issues can be addressed through the types of manuscripts accepted by *Behavior Consultation and Therapy*. ([www.apa.org/pubs/journals/bar/article-types.aspx](http://www.apa.org/pubs/journals/bar/article-types.aspx))

Our memberships continue to grow as do our continued efforts to connect and collaborate with other interest groups and organizations across cultures. We look forward to a successful 2018 and thank everyone for their support and interest in our organization.

## Organizational Behavior Management Network SIG

BY MANUEL RODRIGUEZ

The Organizational Behavior Management Network (OBMN) has been a special interest group of ABAI since 1982. Today, OBMN is the third largest SIG in terms of membership. The SIG has 470 members across 21 countries, an increase of over 100 members from the previous year. Our three pillars—research, education, and practice—provide our members and the world over a breadth and depth of knowledge, skills, and experience, and a drive across our membership for continuous growth and dissemination of OBM. 2017–2018 was an amazing adventure. Here are some of the highlights and what we look to accomplish in the year ahead.

### The Board Of Directors Restructured

The Board of Directions and OBMN at large welcomed Adam Ventura as our president-elect for 2017–2018. This

means Dr. Barbara Bucklin stepped into the president seat, and Manuel Rodriguez became past president. This was a transition year, as Dr. Heather McGee retired from her role as executive director after eight years. “Thank you” is too simple a phrase to describe the amount of appreciation the SIG has for Dr. McGee’s work for the network.

With the transition, the board members evaluated the SIG’s leadership structure and needs to carry forth the network’s mission. Over the years, we have enjoyed the work of several student volunteers we used to call officers or chairs. The board decided to create a full Board of Directors as well as define new roles for volunteers to support each member of the board. The following illustrates our new structure, and next year we will be excited to share our full list of volunteers and president-elect for 2018–2019. We are always looking for volunteers to help lead various activities for the network, so if you are interested, contact [membership@obmnetwork.com](mailto:membership@obmnetwork.com).

- **Executive Director**—responsible for the overarching direction and strategy of OBMN; presents a webinar once per year; mentors a protégé; supports communications.
- **Past President**—integrates their strategic focus area (i.e., presidential project) into day-to-day operations (sustainability); communicates information regarding the new president-elect nominations, voting, and president-elect winner; mentors a protégé; presents a webinar once per year.
- **President**—implements at least one new strategic focus area; provides strategic input; supports communications (website content, newsletters, member communications); mentors a protégé; presents a webinar once per year.
- **President-Elect**—supports communications; mentors a protégé; develops at least one new strategic focus area; presents a webinar once per year.
- **Director of Operations**—manages the membership process; interfaces with the *Journal of Organizational Behavior Management (JOBM)*; serves as presidential project oversight; manages communications to members and manages volunteers for support of other board of directors members.
- **Director of Finance**—records and controls finances (including but not limited to membership dues); reports OBMN finances once per month; plans budgets; communicates financials with ABAI.
- **Director of Outreach**—manages website content, social media, newsletter, and webinars; manages conference scheduling and volunteers; manages awards.

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## NETWORK continued from page 61



Figure 1. The OBM Network 2017–2018 Board of Directors

### ABAI 2017 and the OBMN Miami Conference

OBMN had an exciting 2017, as we were part of three major events.

First, early in 2017, OBMN held its biannual conference in Miami, Florida. Over 200 people attended, with keynote speakers Dr. Julie Smith, Dr. Carl Binder, and our own executive director, Manuel “Manny” Rodriguez. In addition, the conference provided three workshops and 30 presentations across three tracks: Health and Human Services, Occupational Health and Safety, and Human Resources.

Second, OBMN supported a full-day health and human services conference just prior to the ABAI annual convention. The full day brought a great panel of presenters to disseminate OBM to the crowd of over 200 people. Aubrey Daniels, Mark Dixon, Don Hantula, Nicholas Weatherly, Florence DiGenarro Reed, Heather McGee, Brett DiNovi, Robin Catagnus, Jane Howard, Rita Gardner, and Linda LeBlanc were our main presenters, providing a great deal of insight and information for the audience to take back and apply OBM. The presenters were followed by a unique experience we called the “Organizational Showcase and Roundtable,” where focus groups were led by entrepreneurs and owners of ABA agencies leading OBM efforts.

Finally, ABAI 2017 was filled with exciting OBM workshops and presentations. At the OBMN/*Journal of OBM* business meeting, three things happened: the update of the journal provided data showing the impact and increasing interest of OBM, the celebration of growth of our membership, and celebration of recipients of our annual awards program, listed below:

- OBM Network Lifetime Achievement Award: Dr. Dale Brethower
- OBM Network Outstanding Contribution Award: Leif Andersson

There were two new awards introduced in 2017:

- OBM Network Innovative Research Award: Niti Pandey, James W. Diller, & Laura S. Miller (2016). E-mailed prompts and feedback messages to reduce energy consumption: Testing mechanisms for behavior change by employees at a Green University. *Journal of Organizational Behavior Management*, 36:4, 332-345.
- OBM Network Scholarly Impact Award Top Cited:
  - Houmanfar, Ramona A., Alavosius, Mark P., Morford, Zachary H., et al. Functions of Organizational leaders in Cultural Change: Financial and Social Well-Being
  - Johnson, Douglas A. A Component Analysis of the Impact of Evaluative and Objective Feedback on Performance
- OBM Network Scholarly Impact Award Top Downloaded:
  - Timothy D. Ludwig, Christopher B. Frazier. Employee Engagement and Organizational Behavior Management

### Strategic Projects

Our Board of Directors and volunteers were busy implementing various strategic activities to further support the OBMN mission and further provide benefits to our members. Members currently enjoy *JOBM*, electronic access to all the journal volumes, a newsletter communicating the latest and greatest activities, and conferences and virtual networking opportunities. The following provides an at-a-glance summary of the amazing efforts in 2017–2018 of the OBMN board and our volunteers to support the SIG and the world at large:

- **Webinars.** Throughout 2017, we got to enjoy our online webinars. We saw many members logging in, as well as nonmembers; it is great to see the growing interest in OBM. A special thanks to all those who were part of our webinars in 2017, and as we move forward there is an exciting lineup of webinars for 2018, which began in January with Dr. Rick Kubina of Pennsylvania State University and Chartlytics and continued in February with Dr. Julie Slowiak of University of Minnesota Duluth and InJewel LLC.
- **Mentor Program.** OBMN launched a mentoring program where mentors and protégés are paired together, tackling various professional development needs such as process improvement, systems thinking, and reinforcement systems. We received positive feedback from mentors and protégés as well as some constructive feedback, which support improvements for our current cohort. Our current cohort of mentors has been working to further support the professional

development of their protégés. A few of our protégés will be presenting on their work at the 2018 ABAAI annual convention in San Diego.

- **OBMN Focus Group.** Barbara Bucklin and Dr. Carl Binder ran a focus group with a cross section of past, potential, and current members, including students, professionals, and academics. The purpose was to assess satisfaction and dissatisfaction with the SIG and to ascertain what they wanted the network to provide in the future. We also explored what would bring them back if they were a past member, or to join if they had never been one. The focus group was held in late February 2018 with results and recommendations to be shared and implemented in the near future.
- **Series of Explainer Videos.** A series of videos are being developed to disseminate OBM research and results in a fun, accessible way. They'll live on the OBMN website and will be easy to share on social media. Video topics will focus on research and primarily interesting and controversial topics that show OBM in the spotlight, such as intrinsic versus extrinsic motivation. The first topic will be pay for performance and will launch this spring, with new videos released twice a year.
- **Expand the Current Awards Program.** We have added another new award category for Outstanding Applied OBM Interventions, seeking applicants who applied OBM to solve real-world problems. The award in this category will be announced at the OBMN business meeting during the ABAAI annual convention each year.
- **Network Outside of OBM.** To increase our visibility, we want to network, collaborate, and market outside of our OBM circle and get the word out. We are actively looking for members to share how they have disseminated outside of ABA and OBM.
- **Member Spotlight.** Member Spotlight was created to highlight some of the great work that OBM professionals are doing around the world. The project will focus on interviewing a wide range of academics and practitioners within OBM about a diverse set of topics, including the work they are doing and how others can get involved with OBM. All interviews will be made available on the OBMN website. Member Spotlight was originally designed with hopes of inspiring others to do similar work and disseminate OBM to the world.

## 2018 Outlook

With our webinars, mentor program, and continuous growth as a SIG, we were excited for two main events in 2018: The ABAAI 44th Annual Convention and the first OBM conference.

The ABAAI 44th Annual Convention was held in San Diego and there were many OBM events and presentations happening. Simply put: it was amazing!

The Swedish Association for Behavior Analysis and OBMN have teamed up to pull together an OBM conference in Stockholm, August 17–18, 2018. This was the first OBM conference to be held in Sweden, and the theme was “Applied OBM.” The format of the conference includes contributions from all participants actively sharing methods, experiences, and giving feedback. There was a mix of short presentations and interactive exchange in workshops dealing with various applications of OBM such as culture change, leadership development, behavior-based safety, and systems.

## Join OBMN

Please consider joining OBMN. Visit us at [www.obmnetwork.com](http://www.obmnetwork.com). You can also contact the OBMN executive director, Manny Rodriguez: [info@obmnetwork.com](mailto:info@obmnetwork.com).

## Pediatric Feeding Disorders SIG

BY TESSA TAYLOR, CATHLEEN C. PIAZZA, KEITH E. WILLIAMS, MICHAEL F. CATALDO, AND PETER A. GIROLAMI  
The Pediatric Feeding Disorders SIG now has 150 members, and continues to draw interest. Individuals who are considering joining the SIG may direct their questions to Dr. Cathleen Piazza at [cpiazza@unmc.edu](mailto:cpiazza@unmc.edu). The mission of the Pediatric Feeding Disorders SIG is to generate interest; foster collaborative research; share clinical information; as well as impact training, practice, and reimbursement for evaluation and treatment of pediatric feeding disorders. As such, the SIG will attempt to tackle some tough issues that face clinicians who treat children with feeding disorders.

At the 2016 business meeting, the SIG discussed insurance reimbursement codes (new diagnostic codes, with an autism diagnosis, via early intervention), standards and training requirements for best practice (training criteria, case severity, interdisciplinary team coordination needs, referrals to intensive behavior analytic hospital programs), international exchange options for training, social media and non-evidence-based practices, and disseminating and promoting empirically supported treatment.

In previous years, steps were taken to form the Pediatric Feeding Disorders Consortium, a multi-site collaborative effort of programs providing feeding treatment services. The initial purpose of this effort is to better understand existing resources associated with the treatment of feeding disorders of young children, including the techniques employed, as well as costs and outcomes. With this information and the existence of a working consortium, the second objective would be for these programs to work together on improving treatment techniques and outcomes, as well as to help both parents and payers navigate the sometimes

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confusing process of identifying the best combination of treatment modalities for each individual child. Over 100 sites have been identified. Initial pilot Phase 1 survey data (e.g., program affiliation, setting, disciplines, population, services available, and payment sources) and Phase 2 survey data (assessment/treatment approach/orientation for disciplines including medicine, nutrition, behavior analysis, oral motor/sensory, psychiatry, and child counseling; formal assessments; assessment procedures; and treatment components) were collected. In addition, input was solicited concerning interest in the consortium, feedback on the surveys, and scope of data to collect in future phases. Also, programs were encouraged to send supplemental materials such as program brochures and materials (e.g., intake forms, goal and outcome forms, data collection materials). Based on input from the group, we compiled information to share as resources regarding obtaining reimbursement (e.g., reference list, specific insurance policies on feeding programs, video of legal presentation on the right to treatment and managed care, and documents and practice guidelines pulled together by the ABAI Practice Board that could be used as resources to secure funding or assist in dealing with insurance companies).

We have discussed how the consortium members could collaborate to everyone's benefit. One area identified by many feeding clinics was approval and payment from insurance companies for services. Collaboration across sites would establish a mechanism on a scale that could not otherwise be conducted by a single clinic, as well as data that would be of particular interest to the payers for such services (e.g., insurance companies) as well as consumers. To do so would require knowledge about the range of outcomes of treatments and the variables that correlate with these outcomes, as well as which treatments work for which patients. Important to the further development of this idea would be commonly accepted and economically implemented measures across sites, particularly outcome measures. In light of this, we wish to begin this year the collection of data across sites on the effectiveness of assessment and treatment of pediatric feeding disorders. We have requested input from the group regarding how they are currently collecting information and measuring outcomes.

The SIG has focused in the past on developing a draft of practice guidelines for behavior analysts working in the area of pediatric feeding disorders. A committee of SIG members has begun collaborating on an outline for these guidelines. The guidelines will cover the target population (e.g., age, comorbid conditions, specific feeding targets), severity level and corresponding intensity of treatment warranted, pre-treatment issues, assessment/intervention/implementation guidelines, and treatment follow-up guidelines. The SIG will coordinate with the ABAI Practice Board on these guidelines.

Anyone interested in these issues is encouraged to contact the SIG Consortium Coordinator, Tessa Taylor, at [DrTaylor@PaediatricFeedingIntl.com](mailto:DrTaylor@PaediatricFeedingIntl.com) and Dr. Cathleen Piazza at [cpiazza@unmc.edu](mailto:cpiazza@unmc.edu). Members were encouraged to exchange ideas throughout the year via email, telephone, and our Yahoo Group. We also generated a list of the members with contact information and program affiliation. We will resume discussion of these issues next year. Input is welcome and appreciated from all interested parties.

## Practitioner Issues in Behavior Analysis SIG

BY MICHAEL WEINBERG

The Practitioner Issues in Behavior Analysis (PIBA) SIG is a special interest group that focuses on all areas of specialization for behavior analyst practitioners. This SIG developed a model licensing act for behavior analysts in 2007. The BACB's model licensing act also drew heavily from the PIBA SIG's model act to meet the needs and concerns of BCBA and BCaBA practitioners. We currently have a membership of 75 and also maintain a Yahoo listserv for communication among members.

This SIG provides a means of discussion, support, and potential for action if warranted among ABAI members. The SIG collaborates with other SIGs and boards of ABAI or external organizations as individual members 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 as independent practitioners. The SIG provides a means of communicating about current trends and concerns pertaining to the practice of behavior analysis, licensing matters, legislation issues, insurance regulations and billing practices and updates, 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.

Despite efforts by various state APA chapters, there are currently nearly 30 states that have licensure laws in place or about to be in place for the practice of behavior analysis.

In the past year, the SIG has supported other SIGs that are working on the practice of behavior analysis in areas such as military/veterans' issues; crime and delinquency, including juvenile justice and prisons; and substance abuse.

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 as well as expansion of insurance coverage to areas outside of autism.

We will also extend our support to efforts of the ABAI Practice Board. This may include providing training,

linking practice to the research literature, and making resources available to practitioners.

The PIBA SIG is involved in other support efforts to promote the practice of behavior analysis with various client populations and types of behavior. We promote the science of behavior and evidence-based practice, and see the need to ensure this linkage continues.

We are seeking nominations for officers for the coming year. Please join our PIBA SIG list in Yahoo Groups to post your nominations for officers. We welcome new members and hope to meet with those interested at the annual convention and other ABAI events.

Please sign and request to join the list at [abapractice\\_group@yahoogroups.com](mailto:abapractice_group@yahoogroups.com).

## Sexual Behavior: Research and Practice SIG

BY WORNER LELAND AND BRIGID MCCORMICK

The Sexual Behavior: Research and Practice SIG of ABAI disseminates empirically verified information regarding sex education and therapy and supports basic and applied research on the emergence and maintenance of sexual behaviors. Members are professionals, teachers, direct service providers, parents, and consumers who are concerned with issues of sex therapy, sex education, and research. Check out our website: [www.sbrpsig.org](http://www.sbrpsig.org).

The Sexual Behavior: Research and Practice SIG was founded in 2007 and has been providing a symposium at ABAI's annual convention since its inception. Past topics have included sex education for students with developmental disabilities, the ethical treatment of inappropriate sexual behavior, and scientific descriptions of basic processes involved in the formation of sexual behavior. At the 2017 ABAI Annual Convention, SIG interests were demonstrated during two symposia and a panel discussion on ethics in the area of gender identity and sexual behavior. Symposia topics included studying the enhancement of sexual and relationship health, and ethics and the treatment of problematic sexual behavior. The SIG also continued to provide access to information and support via our website, and introduced dissemination of sexual behavior research as a core component of our online presence. Check our website for upcoming events!

In the upcoming year, the Sexual Behavior: Research and Practice SIG plans to update the website with posts relevant to the community, and to build community knowledge on sexual behavior research methodology and ethics. We will also continue to release the annual newsletter to spread information about sexual education and research. We're looking forward to the year ahead!

## Standard Celeration Society

BY SCS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Standard Celeration Society (SCS) became 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 embracing change, social beneficence, commitment to evidence-based practice, and having fun. Since 2015, the SCS has employed an organizational structure composed of 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): a president, president-elect, vice presidents, and associate vice presidents. The board of directors 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, marketing, and the recently added international relations, as well as website services. 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](http://www.celeration.org)). While some components of the new website are already in place, we are completing the development of several other features, including a redesigned member gateway, free continuing education opportunities for members, publication resources, and training program locations for students interested in academic training, internships, and externships, among others. SCS membership fees are very reasonable and include discounted rates to IPTC each year, access to the historical publication database of the *Journal of Precision Teaching and Celeration*, and soon to be announced web-based continuing education events (annual fees: sustaining, \$100; full, \$50; student, \$25). Along with our redesigned website, there is an initiative to highlight our organization's entrepreneurial members such that their

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skills, insights, and strategies developed over decades of business development in the area of precision teaching can be made available to others looking to start their own businesses. This is an exciting opportunity to become involved with the SCS, as this organization has 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 2017. The society was honored to have Dr. Martin Levy and Dr. Jose Martinez-Diaz as keynote speakers along with an array of invited addresses, panels, paper symposia, and a symposium and poster session. The conference took place in St. Pete Beach, FL. This year, we celebrate our 31st Annual IPTC November 8–11 in Seattle in the Westin Downtown. This year we will have Dr. Aubrey Daniels and Dr. Cathy Watkins as keynote speakers. Please visit [www.celeration.org](http://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 accelerate!

## Teaching Behavior Analysis SIG

BY KIRA M. AUSTIN

Every behavior analyst teaches behavior analysis, whether that is through staff training, parent education, client education, or preparing future clinicians. Therefore, the Teaching Behavior Analysis (TBA) SIG's mission is to improve the teaching and learning of the principles and applications of behavior analysis in any setting. The TBA SIG continues to be the prominent place for discussions regarding all things behavior analytic, both basic and applied. As one of the largest ABAI SIGs, we have among our members some of the top behavior analysts in the world. We are also one of the most diverse groups of individuals, representing all facets of behavior analysis including clinicians, researchers, students, and consumers.

This is one SIG that every ABAI member should consider joining. There are no dues to participate in the TBA SIG. As has been the case for several years, the majority of activity in our SIG has been on the listserv (the TBA-L). With over 10% growth from last year, more than 1,000 people subscribe to the TBA-L. Lively and diverse discussions occur daily and encompass a wide variety of behavior analytic topics. The listserv is a place to interact and collaborate with other behavior analysts from around the world.

Members often share resources, link to open source tools, or post open positions in higher education through

the TBA-L. To keep the TBA-L as open and diverse as possible, advertisements for commercial products and books are not permitted. We don't limit our discussion on the TBA-L to university teaching; members discuss basic behavioral principles, behavior analysis research, staff training, and more. Some recent topics covered on the TBA-L include the following:

- Schedules of reinforcement
- Using behavior analysis to support individuals with ADHD
- Using behavior analysis to support individuals with dementia
- Behavior analysis in the media
- Verbal behavior
- Validity of assessment tools
- Collaborating with special education teachers
- *Walden Two*

If you are interested in joining the TBA SIG and TBA-L please send an email to Kira Austin at [kaustin@whitworth.edu](mailto:kaustin@whitworth.edu) and copy our list manager, Pat Williams, at [deadmantest@gmail.com](mailto:deadmantest@gmail.com).

We also have a Facebook page (@Teaching Behavior Analysis) boasting more than 4,270 members. This is 11% growth in members from last year. Discussion on the Facebook page includes issues surrounding collaborating with other fields, study resources for current students, and programs in behavior analysis. Professional development opportunities and clinical positions are often posted on Facebook as well. This is a great forum to learn about behavior analysis from top researchers, teachers, and clinicians. Discussions are lively, but always professional and respectful. Requests for resources are often followed up by prompt responses both on- and off-list.

In 2016, the TBA SIG took steps to formalize as a SIG through the creation of bylaws that were voted on by membership and reviewed by ABAI. The SIG is currently led by its president, Kira Austin, and a board of eight other members. Elections were held in May 2018 to elect new members to the board. If you are interested in helping to participate in a leadership role of the TBA SIG, please contact Kira Austin at [kaustin@whitworth.edu](mailto:kaustin@whitworth.edu). Students are also encouraged to get involved.

Thank you for your continued interest in the TBA SIG. It continues to be a fantastic resource for behavior analysts and consumers only because of our members. We look forward to seeing you on the TBA-L and Facebook!

## Verbal Behavior SIG

BY APRIL KISAMORE

The Verbal Behavior Special Interest Group (VB SIG) had a great year. We fulfilled the mission of advancing the theory, research, and practice of Skinner's (1957) analysis of verbal behavior by presenting awards to

support the exemplary work of students and professionals, advancing the work of our student group, publishing two newsletters, disseminating information online, and more.

We applaud the students who received plaques and cash awards at our business meeting at the 2017 ABAI annual convention. There were four winners of the 2017 VB SIG Student Grant: Lucia Medina, Fundación Universitaria Konrad Lorenz; Amanda Chastain, California State University, Sacramento; Anderson Jonas das Neves, Universidad Federal de São Carlos; and Jordan Belisle, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale. We would like to thank the reviewers of this competition: Anna Pétursdóttir, Phil Hinline, and Javier Virués-Ortega. In addition, there were three winners of the 2016 VB SIG Student Research Competition: Andresa DeSouza, University of Nebraska Medical Center's Munroe Meyer Institute; Jordan Belisle, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale; and Careen Meyer, California State University, Sacramento. We thank the judges: Tom Cariveau, Catia Cividini-Motta, Amanda Laprime, and Angela Aguirre.

The VB SIG presented the 2017 Jack Michael Award for the enduring contributions of an advanced scholar in the analysis of verbal behavior to Dr. Vince Carbone. We thank the judges: James Carr, Anna Pétursdóttir, and Hank Schlinger. We also presented the inaugural Clinical Supervisor Award in Verbal Behavior to Danielle LaFrance, HOPE Consulting. We thank the judges: Caitlin Delfs, Linda LeBlanc, Ellie Kazemi, Tyra Sellers, and Leigh Ann Wine. This past year, we also created a new award: the Junior Researcher in Verbal Behavior Award. This award was established to recognize outstanding contributions to research made by early career researchers (within 10 years of doctoral degree). One individual whose scientific research has been published in peer-reviewed journals and whose dedication to research and scholarship is judged by peers to be outstanding will be recognized.

The VB SIG continued to support our student group this past year. The group was composed of eight graduate students from around the country. The group held video conference meetings to discuss articles and their own research, they included expert researchers in verbal behavior in those video conferences, and they continued collaborating with the Cambridge Center for Behavioral Studies to update their Verbal Behavior Help Center page. The group contributed to article reviews in our newsletter and on our website, and they volunteered to help with the VB SIG Expo poster and the VB SIG business meeting at ABAI. Kristin Albert, Florida Institute of Technology, was selected as the new leader for the student group this year. Kristin had been part of the student group for 2.5 years and had contributed to numerous group activities, including writing an article summary for the newsletter. Since her appointment, Kristen has functioned as the Student Liaison to the VB SIG Council and attended

monthly VB SIG Council meetings. The other new members of the VB SIG Student Group are Sandhya Rajagopal, Florida Institute of Technology; Landon Cowam, University of Houston-Clear Lake; Leslie Quiroz, Caldwell University; Nicole Pantano, Caldwell University; Caleb Stanley, Southern Illinois University; Mary Halbur, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee; and Ian McElfish, Western Michigan University.

The VB SIG published two fantastic issues of *VB News*, our newsletter. Highlights from our previous two issues include a lab highlight with Regina Carroll, West Virginia University; member highlights by Mike Miklos and Amir DiPuglia, PATTAN Autism Initiative ABA Supports, and Shaji Haq, Trumpet Behavioral Health; an article by Matthew Normand, University of the Pacific, in which Skinner's definition of verbal behavior was defended; and a student article summary by Kristin Albert. We are excited by the quality of our newsletter and the positive feedback received from our readers.

The VB SIG maintained a strong presence on the web and social media this year in an effort to continue dissemination of verbal behavior. The VB SIG Facebook page has 2,033 likes, and the VB SIG group has 2,025 members. We continued to post important opportunities such as the student and professional awards and events such as ABAI presentations on the Facebook page and the website. In the coming year, we plan to revamp our website in an effort to decrease the amount of SIG funds spent on website maintenance.

The VB SIG membership remained strong this year. We plan to continue offering research and practice awards, publishing high-quality newsletters, offering a forum for graduate students to discuss verbal behavior, and showcasing verbal behavior opportunities and events on the web in an effort to maintain and increase our membership. From ABAI 2017 through March 14, 2018, we gained 42 new members for a total of 77, which shows the tremendous dedication to the study of verbal behavior and the support of the VB SIG. Our members enjoy eight benefits: (1) receiving the *VB News* newsletter twice per year and having access (members only) to past issues on the website; (2) receiving emails about SIG-related events and opportunities; (3) joining the VB listserv to engage in discussions about verbal behavior; (4) becoming eligible to submit to the three VB SIG awards; (5) becoming eligible to be elected to positions on the VB SIG Council; (6) becoming involved in the VB SIG student group; (7) gaining professional development; and (8) joining an active community of people passionate about verbal behavior. We are grateful to the 77 members who joined and supported the VB SIG this year.

The work of disseminating and promoting verbal behavior through the VB SIG would not be possible

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without the diligent efforts of the VB SIG Council, including a newly elected position (membership coordinator) and a re-elected position (research competition coordinator) this past year: April Kisamore, Ph.D., BCBA-D, Hunter College, chair; Judah Axe, Ph.D., BCBA-D, Simmons College, past chair; Tina Sidener, Ph.D., BCBA-D, Caldwell University, secretary; Jason Vladescu, Ph.D., BCBA-D, Caldwell University, treasurer; Rocio Rosales, Ph.D., BCBA-D, University of Massachusetts Lowell, Student Grant Competition coordinator; Alice Shillingsburg, Ph.D., BCBA-D, Marcus Autism Center and Emory University, Student

Research Competition coordinator; Amber Valentino, Psy.D., BCBA-D, Trumpet Behavioral Health, newsletter editor; Amanda Laprime, Ph.D., BCBA-D, Center for Children with Special Needs, website coordinator; Catia Cividini-Motta, Ph.D., BCBA-D, University of South Florida; Kristin Albert, M.Ed., BCBA, Florida Institute of Technology, Student Group liaison; and Mark Dixon, Ph.D., BCBA-D, Southern Illinois University, editor, *The Analysis of Verbal Behavior*. To further support the work of the VB SIG Council, we created another position: professional awards coordinator. ❖



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# substance use and addiction preview

**A**DDICTIVE BEHAVIORS CREATE many significant health problems, from smoking-related diseases to the current opioid overdose epidemic. Behavior analysts have made important contributions to the understanding and treatment of addictive behaviors, and these will be showcased in this single-track, two-day conference for researchers, practitioners, and students interested in substance use issues. The invited speakers and discussants are all widely recognized leaders in their fields and will present integrative reviews of cutting-edge developments in basic, translational, and applied behavioral approaches to substance use and addiction. Topics will include delay discounting, impulsivity, reinforcement pathology, and more. A major focus will be contingency management approaches, which are highly effective in reducing problem drug-taking; new techniques and technologies that can enhance dissemination of these treatments will be featured. In addition, presentations on behaviorally grounded and effective verbal interventions (such as Acceptance and Commitment Therapy) will be offered. An evening poster session will allow for additional participation and interaction.

## Invited Presenters

### **Experimental Manipulations of Delay Discounting**



#### **Gregory J. Madden**

Gregory J. Madden received his Ph.D. from West Virginia University and currently holds the position of professor at Utah State University, having previously held faculty positions at the University of Kansas and the University of Wisconsin–Eau Claire.

Dr. Madden's program of research has been aimed at understanding the basic mechanisms of reinforcement in humans and other animals, a topic of broad conceptual and applied significance in the field of psychology. He is an internationally known researcher in the field of behavioral economics, with special emphases on impulsive choice in gambling and drug addiction. Collectively, his work has merited more than \$3 million of federal funding, and his peer-reviewed papers have been cited more than 3,500 times. Since 2010, he has been active in translational efforts, particularly in applications of behavioral economics to influencing childhood dietary decision-making. Dr. Madden has held several key editorial positions, and has served in leadership roles in professional societies and organizations, including the Executive Council of ABAI, Division 25 (Behavior Analysis) of the American

Psychological Association (APA), and the Society for the Experimental Analysis of Behavior. Especially noteworthy was his appointment as editor in chief of the *Journal of the Experimental Analysis of Behavior*. Dr. Madden has also co-edited two important and influential books, *Impulsivity: The Behavioral and Neurological Science of Discounting* and the *APA Handbook of Behavior Analysis, Volumes I and II*, both published by APA.

**ABSTRACT:** Many behaviors posing significant risks to public health are characterized by repeated decisions to forego better long-term outcomes for immediate temptations. This steep discounting of delayed outcomes is correlated with addictions (e.g., substance abuse, obesity) and impactful behaviors such as seatbelt use and early sexual activity. As evidence accumulates that steep delay discounting plays a causal role in these maladaptive behaviors, researchers have begun identifying experimental methods for reducing discounting. This presentation will provide a systematic review of this literature, highlighting successes and areas in which further research is needed.

#### Delay Discounting and Genetics of Impulsivity



##### Suzanne H. Mitchell

Suzanne H. Mitchell, Ph.D., is a Professor at Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU) in the Department of Behavioral Neuroscience, with secondary appointments in Psychiatry and in the Oregon Institute for Occupational Health Science. She obtained her BSc and MSc degrees at the University of Hull, England and her Ph.D. at SUNY-Stony Brook, USA. Her dissertation focused on the economics of foraging behavior of rats, examining the role of the energetic costs and benefits in feeding. Her committee was chaired by Howard Rachlin, whose influence made her sensitive to the role of temporal costs as well as energetic costs in determining the value of food rewards. During a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Chicago, Dr. Mitchell worked with Harriet de Wit, Ph.D. using behavioral economics as an explanation for use of alcohol, nicotine/cigarettes, and amphetamine in humans. During that time she also began collaborating with Jerry Richards, Ph.D. on delay discounting studies with rats. Following her postdoctoral work, Dr. Mitchell was an assistant professor at the University of New Hampshire, where she continued to explore recreational drug use using behavioral economic models. She moved her lab to OHSU in 2001 from the University of New Hampshire to devote more time to research, particularly looking into why drug users tend to be more impulsive than non-drug users using human and animal models. Most recently she has returned to her earlier interests in energetic costs and her

research has increased its scope to include effort-related decision-making in clinical populations. She has received funding from various NIH institutes (NHLBI, NIAAA, NIDA and NIH), has served on several study sections as a member and as an ad hoc participant, and has received awards for education and mentoring.

**ABSTRACT:** High levels of impulsivity (delay discounting; DD; relative preference for smaller but immediate rewards over larger but delayed rewards) are associated with various psychopathologies including alcohol use disorder. Data indicate that there are genetic influences on DD and on the development of alcohol use disorder, but the genetic relationships amongst DD and alcohol consumption and other heritable features of alcohol response are unclear. This presentation will describe several techniques used to examine the role of genetics in behavior in animal models and a series of studies using them to examine the genetically-based co-relationships between excessive alcohol use and steep delay discounting. In these studies, male mice were exposed to the adjusting amount procedure (Richards et al. 1997, *Journal of the Experimental Analysis of Behavior*, 67, 353-366). This procedure requires mice to choose between a small, immediate sucrose-solution reward and a larger sucrose-solution reward that is delayed 0, 2, 4, 8 or 12 s on different sessions. In one study, behavior for 11 inbred strains was assessed, and genetic correlations with ethanol-associated endophenotypes derived. Other studies assessed DD in lines selected for differing levels of ethanol withdrawal symptomatology or ethanol consumption, and correlations between DD and responses to passively administered ethanol in a heterogeneous mouse stock to identify novel phenotypic targets. Data suggest that DD has a heritable component in mice, and is genetically associated with chronic withdrawal and consumption, but that effect sizes are small. Implications for human alcohol use and delay discounting will be discussed and knowledge gaps identified.

#### Reinforcer Pathology: A Conceptual Model of Addiction



##### Warren K. Bickel

Dr. Bickel joined the Virginia Tech Carilion Research Institute in 2011 and serves as director for the Addiction Recovery Research Center and co-director of the Center for Transformative Research on Health Behaviors. He has appointments as professor in the Department of Psychology at Virginia Tech; professor in the Department of Psychiatry, Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine; and Virginia Tech Faculty of Health Sciences. In recognition of his extraordinary contributions to research and scholarship

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achievements, Dr. Bickel recently was awarded the Virginia Tech Carilion Behavioral Health Research Endowed Professorship. He received his Ph.D. in developmental and child psychology from the University of Kansas and completed post doctoral training at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. Dr. Bickel then joined the faculty at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine where he taught and led a research program. He next relocated to the University of Vermont where he became a Professor in the Departments of Psychiatry and Psychology and Interim-Chair of the Department of Psychiatry. While in Vermont, he contributed to the public debate about treating opioid-dependent individuals and was the founding director of the first methadone treatment program in the State of Vermont. Dr. Bickel's next appointment was at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS). While at UAMS, he held the Wilbur D. Mills Chair of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Prevention and was the director of the Center for Addiction Research. He also served as director of the College of Public Health's Center for the Study of Tobacco Addiction and was the associate director of the Psychiatric Research Institute. Dr. Bickel is an accomplished scholar and researcher whose accolades include being named a 2014 Fellow in the Academy of Behavioral Medicine Research; the 2012 Brady-Schuster Award for Outstanding Behavioral Science Research in Psychopharmacology and Substance Abuse, Division 28 of the American Psychological Association (APA); and the 2011 APA International Don Hake Translational Research Distinguished Contributions to Basic Research Award. In 2012, he was selected by the APA Science Directorate and Board of Scientific Affairs as a Distinguished Scientist Lecturer. Dr. Bickel was honored to be the recipient of the 2016 Nathan B. Eddy Award from the College on Problems of Drug Dependence. Additionally, he has received an NIH MERIT Award from NIDA and NIH has funded Dr. Bickel's work continuously since 1987. He has served as President of CPDD, President of APA Division 28 - Psychopharmacology and Substance Abuse, and President of APA Division 50 - Society of Addiction Psychology. Dr. Bickel was editor of the journal, *Experimental and Clinical Psychopharmacology*, has co-edited five books, and has published over 340 papers and chapters. Dr. Bickel's work frequently is cited and receives national and international recognition.

**ABSTRACT:** Reinforcer pathology, a recent development in the field of behavioral economics, specifies that (1) reinforcers are integrated over time, (2) that length of the window of integration can vary, and, in turn, (3) alter the valuation of different reinforcers. Short temporal windows of integration will tend to increase the value of intense, reliable and brief reinforcers such as drugs while leading

to a decline in the value of reinforcers that are less intense, variable and accrue value over longer time frames such as prosocial reinforcers. Conversely, long temporal windows of integration should result in a reversal in the valuation of drug and prosocial reinforcers. Importantly, reinforcer pathology provides an understanding of the "anhedonia" that often occurs in the development of addiction and suggests a novel approach to treatment; namely, to increase the length of the temporal integration window. In this presentation, this model and data supporting it will be reviewed.

**Self-Sustaining Treatments for Drug Addiction and Incubation of Craving Leading to Relapse**


**Marilyn Carroll**

Dr. Marilyn Carroll received her BS in Psychology and BA in Pre-Law from Penn State University in 1968. After working in Washington D.C. for three years on government research projects with the Office of Economic Opportunity, she completed her

Ph.D. in Psychobiology and Neuroscience from Florida State University from 1971–75 with Dr. James C. Smith as her mentor on a T32 Psychobiology training fellowship. From 1975–76 she taught Psychology and Statistics courses at Macalester College in St. Paul, and from 1976–1980 she conducted postdoctoral research at the University of Minnesota with Dr. Richard A. Meisch under a T31 training fellowship from NIDA on animal models of addiction using rats and rhesus monkeys. She continued on in the Psychiatry Department in Minnesota in 1980 as an assistant professor, associate professor, and since 1993 has been professor in psychiatry and neuroscience, and adjunct Professor in Psychology. Dr. Carroll's research interests have been focused on biological factors in drug addiction (sex and hormonal, impulsivity, sweet preference, and stress) and behavioral economic factors. Currently she focuses on treatments for addiction that are sex-specific, sensitive to hormonal influences, novel, environmentally enriching, self-sustaining over long periods that cover craving during abstinence (e.g., exercise, vaccines), target underlying behaviors (anxiety, impulsivity), and combination therapies.

**ABSTRACT:** The goal of my research is to model various forms of human drug addiction in animals, taking into account factors that increase or decrease addiction potential and severity such as sex, hormonal factors, impulsivity, sweet preference, and other genetic factors. My students, colleagues, and I have also developed self-sustaining treatments to reduce or eliminate incubation of craving and subsequent drug-seeking over long periods of time. My research has been involved in the development of novel methods of modeling drug addiction in rats and nonhuman primates, with self-administration of opioids, stimulants,

alcohol, and with several routes of self-administration used by humans, such as intravenous, drinking (oral), and smoking. Behavioral economic methods and analyses of demand for drug self-administration and behavioral patterns have been compared in humans and nonhuman animals to better understand factors that increase and treatments that reduce demand for drugs. Recent work has focused on self-motivated novel treatments for drug addiction such offering concurrent, nondrug rewards like physical exercise that reduce initiation, acceleration of drug use, and prevent relapse. Self-motivated alternative behaviors, such as physical exercise, also reduce long-term drug craving. That is important because animal models indicate that craving continues for months after standard treatments end. Current studies are also extending these findings to prevention models and to models of binge eating and food addiction in animals.

### Contingency Management in the 21st Century: Technology and the Future



**Jesse Dallery**

Jesse is a professor in the Department of Psychology at the University of Florida, a licensed psychologist in the state of Florida, and deputy director of the Treatment Development and Implementation Core at the Center for Technology and Behavioral Health at Dartmouth. Jesse received his Ph.D. in clinical psychology at Emory University, and completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in behavioral pharmacology. Jesse's research focuses on integrating information technologies with behavioral interventions for cigarette smoking and other health-related behavior (e.g., physical activity, medication adherence). Jesse also conducts translational research on choice and decision making in the human laboratory, with a special emphasis on quantitative models of operant behavior. He has published over eighty articles in a diverse range of peer-reviewed journals, and he has received grant support from the National Institutes of Health and from the National Science Foundation. He is co-editor of the book *Behavioral Health Care and Technology: Using Science-Based Innovations to Transform Practice*. Jesse is a former associate editor for *The Behavior Analyst* and *Behavioural Processes*, and Special Topics associate editor (substance abuse) for the *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*. In 2014, Dr. Dallery was named a Teacher of the Year in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

**ABSTRACT:** Contingency management is one of the most efficacious interventions to promote drug abstinence. Traditionally, contingency management has been delivered in person so that clinicians can confirm drug abstinence

and provide access to additional therapeutic services. Now, new technologies not only permit remote confirmation of abstinence, but also remote delivery of incentives. I will discuss several technology-based tools to assess substance use, and new ways to deliver contingency management to promote tobacco and alcohol abstinence. These new tools have the potential to dramatically increase access while maintaining high levels of treatment fidelity. They also allow new ways of arranging contingencies that harness natural, online communities and consequences. Overall, there are unprecedented opportunities to link technology with contingency management to promote drug abstinence.

### An Overview of Contingency Management Interventions in Substance Abuse Treatment: With Whom is it Effective and Where is it Applied?



**Carla J. Rash**

Carla Rash earned a Ph.D. in clinical psychology from Louisiana State University in 2007. She is currently an assistant professor in the Department of Medicine at UConn Health. Her research interests focus on extending and evaluating addictions treatments,

including contingency management interventions, in underserved and health disparity populations. Her work is funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse, the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, and by a career development award from the Connecticut Institute for Clinical and Translational Science.

**ABSTRACT:** Contingency management (CM) interventions are efficacious options for substance abuse treatments, but they are rarely implemented in clinical, non-research settings. In this presentation, we briefly review the evidence support for CM and introduce prize-based CM. We will highlight work that supports CM's generalizability across diverse patient characteristics and settings. We will conclude with a discussion of potential implementation barriers and examples of real-world implementation efforts.

### Acceptance and Commitment Therapy: Understanding and Treating Addiction



**Kelly G. Wilson**

Kelly G. Wilson, Ph.D., is a professor of psychology at the University at Mississippi. He is past president of the Association for Contextual Behavioral Science, representative-at-large of the Society for a Science of Clinical Psychology, and is one of the co-founders of Acceptance and Commitment Therapy. Dr. Wilson received his BA Summa Cum Laude from Gonzaga

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University and his Ph.D. at the University of Nevada, Reno. After running a National Institutes on Drug Abuse clinical trial in Reno, he joined the faculty at the University of Mississippi in 2000 where he established the Mississippi Contextual Psychology Lab. Dr. Wilson is a devoted mentor a university-wide Elsie M. Hood Award for undergraduate teaching and also the University of Mississippi Award for Excellence in Graduate Teaching and Mentoring. Dr. Wilson has devoted himself to the development and dissemination of Acceptance and Commitment Therapy, Relational Frame Theory, and their underlying theory and philosophy for the past 28 years, publishing 53 articles, 37 chapters, and 10 books. He has central interests in the application of behavioral principles to understanding topics such as purpose, meaning, values, therapeutic relationship, and present moment focused work. Dr. Wilson has presented his research in 32 countries, and has participated as co-investigator in a wide range of research projects in the U.S. and internationally.

**ABSTRACT:** Substance use disorders remain among the most difficult to treat psychological problems. Psychologists often avoid this area. They frequently have minimal training in the treatment of substance use disorders and relapse rates remain high even using our best-developed treatments. In this presentation, we will examine recovery from addiction and barriers to recovery through the lens of the psychological flexibility model. A broadly contextual model will be contrasted with narrow disease-oriented perspective. The application of behavioral principles to a verbally established sense of self and life-purpose will be examined.

**Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Substance Use Disorders: Development and Evaluation of a Computerized CBT Program**



**Brian Kiluk**

I received my Ph.D. in clinical psychology in 2009 from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, completed postdoctoral training at Yale through a National Institute on Drug Abuse T32 Fellowship, and ultimately joined the faculty ranks in the Department of Psychiatry in 2012. My area of research includes an emphasis on three major topics: (1) the evaluation and enhancement of a web-based version of cognitive behavioral therapy for alcohol and drug use disorders (CBT4CBT); (2) exploration of the mechanisms of cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT) for substance use disorders, and (3) the identification of clinically meaningful outcome indicators of clinical trials for illicit drug use disorders. I have received research grants from the National Institute on Drug Abuse and the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, and my work has been

featured at national scientific meetings. As an expert in CBT for substance use disorders, I have consulted with treatment facilities across the USA to provide workshop training in manual-guided CBT, as well as ongoing fidelity monitoring and coaching.

**ABSTRACT:** Cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT) has strong empirical support for the treatment of various substance use disorders, yet it has been difficult to successfully implement in community treatment centers despite considerable effort toward dissemination. Technology-based interventions offer the potential to close the gap between research and clinical practice by providing a broadly accessible, standardized, cost-effective, and engaging method of delivering evidence-based treatments directly to clients, while also freeing up clinician time to address clients' various psychosocial and case management needs. Moreover, from a research standpoint, the standardized delivery of treatment ingredients offers the potential for more precise evaluation of the interventions' mechanisms of behavior change, compared to prior investigations that have been hindered by therapist variability with respect to fidelity, dose, and quality of delivery. This session will focus on the development, evaluation, and implementation of one such technology-based intervention for substance use disorders, "Computer Based Training for Cognitive Behavioral Therapy" (CBT4CBT). Data will be presented from two completed randomized controlled trials supporting the efficacy of CBT4CBT as an adjunct to standard substance abuse treatment (Carroll et al., 2008; Carroll et al., 2014), as well as two recently completed trials supporting the safety and efficacy of CBT4CBT as a stand-alone treatment (Kiluk et al., 2016; Kiluk et al., under review). Factors considered during the design/development phase of the intervention, as well as the characteristics of ongoing trials that are intended to advance the understanding of mechanisms will be discussed. Finally, the session will conclude with a discussion of the future directions of CBT4CBT, which include attempts to improve treatment outcomes and dissemination strategies.

**Changing Drug Use and Other Health-Related Behavior in Vulnerable Populations**



**Stephen T. Higgins**

Stephen T. Higgins, Ph.D., is Director of the University of Vermont's Center on Behavior and Health, and Principle Investigator on five NIH grants on the general topic of behavior and health, including two center grants, two research grants, and an institutional training award. He is the Virginia H. Donaldson Endowed Professor of Translational Science

in the Departments of Psychiatry and Psychology and serves as vice chair of psychiatry. He has held many national scientific leadership positions, including terms as president of the College on Problems of Drug Dependence and the American Psychological Association's Division on Psychopharmacology and Substance Abuse. He is the author of more than 300 journal articles and invited book chapters and editor of a dozen volumes and therapist manuals in the area of behavior and health.

**ABSTRACT:** The US lags far behind other industrial countries on major markers of population health. When population health experts assess this situation, they identify unhealthy behavior patterns (e.g., cigarette smoking, other substance use disorders, physical inactivity and poor food choices, non-adherence with recommended medical regimens) as the largest contributor to the status quo. These behavior patterns increase risk for chronic disease (e.g., cardiovascular disease, site-specific cancers, type-2 diabetes) and associated premature death. Hence, identifying strategies to promote and sustain behavior change is critical to resolving this national problem. Because these risk behaviors are overrepresented in socioeconomically disadvantaged and other vulnerable populations, they also drive health disparities. In this report, we review research that focuses on identifying effective behavior change strategies for reducing drug use and other risk behaviors in vulnerable populations. An extensive body of experimental preclinical and clinical research demonstrates that the reinforcement process plays a fundamental role in the acquisition and maintenance of drug use and other unhealthy behavior patterns. The research discussed here illustrates how that same reinforcement process can be leveraged in the form of incentives and other strategies to promote and sustain behavior change. The overarching focus is on drug use, but we also review research with other types of health problems, illustrating the trans-disease influence of reinforcement and the broad generality of behavior-change strategies that leverage that process.

#### **Application of Operant Conditioning to Address the Interrelated Problems of Poverty, Drug Addiction, and HIV**



**Kenneth Silverman**

Kenneth Silverman has been in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences in the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine since 1989 and is currently a professor in the department. His research has focused on developing

operant treatments to address the interrelated problems of poverty, drug addiction, and HIV. His primary research has focused on the development and evaluation of abstinence reinforcement interventions for the treatment

of heroin and cocaine addiction in low-income, inner city adults; financial incentives to promote adherence to antiretroviral medications and viral suppression in people living with HIV; the development of the therapeutic workplace intervention and the use of employment-based reinforcement in the long-term maintenance of drug abstinence, adherence to addiction treatment medications, and employment; and the development of computer-based training to establish critical academic and job skills that unemployed adults need to gain and maintain employment and escape poverty.

**ABSTRACT:** Poverty is a pervasive risk factor underlying poor health, including drug addiction and HIV. This presentation will review research on the utility of operant conditioning to address the interrelated problems of poverty, drug addiction, and HIV. Our research has shown that operant reinforcement using financial incentives can promote abstinence from cocaine and heroin in low-income adults with long histories of drug addiction and adherence to antiretroviral medications in low-income adults living with HIV. Our research has also shown that financial incentives are most effective when high-magnitude incentives are used, and that long-duration abstinence reinforcement can serve as an effective maintenance intervention. The utility of operant conditioning to promote behaviors needed to escape poverty is less clear, but research on an operant employment-based intervention called the therapeutic workplace shows some promise. In the therapeutic workplace, low-income or unemployed adults are hired and paid to work. To promote drug abstinence and/or medication adherence, employment-based reinforcement is arranged in which participants are required to provide drug-free urine samples and/or take prescribed medication to maintain access to the workplace and maximum pay. Because many low-income adults lack skills needed for gainful employment, the therapeutic workplace offers job-skills training and employment phases through which participants progress sequentially. Our research has shown that employment-based reinforcement within the therapeutic workplace can promote and maintain drug abstinence, medication adherence, work, and other adaptive behaviors that people need to move out of poverty. The therapeutic workplace could serve as a model anti-poverty program, particularly for people with histories of drug addiction or other health problems, although more research on the therapeutic workplace is needed that targets poverty directly. ❖

## 2018 Calendar of Upcoming Conferences

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

### September

#### **New Zealand ABA Annual Conference**

September 1–2

Auckland, New Zealand

University of Auckland

<https://nzaba.org/conference/>

#### **27th Brazilian Meeting of Psychology and Behavioral Medicine**

September 6–9

São Luís, Maranhão, Brazil

<http://abpmc.org.br/>

#### **Florida ABA 38th Annual Conference**

September 12–15

Bonita Springs, FL

Hyatt Regency Coconut Point

[www.fabaworld.org/2018-annual-conference-information](http://www.fabaworld.org/2018-annual-conference-information)

#### **Montana ABA Third Annual Conference**

September 13–14

Helena, MT

Great Northern Best Western

<https://mtaba.starchapter.com/meetinginfo.php?id=10&ts=1532287204>

#### **Mid-American ABA 18th Annual Conference**

September 21–22

Normal, IL

The Normal Theater

[www.mid-aba.com](http://www.mid-aba.com)

#### **New Hampshire ABA Annual Conference**

September 22

Manchester, NH

<http://nhaba.net/fall-2018-conference/>

#### **New York State ABA 29th Annual Workshops and Conference**

September 26–28

Albany, NY

The Desmond Hotel in Albany

[www.nysaba.org/events](http://www.nysaba.org/events)

### September (cont.)

#### **Hawai'i ABA 14th Annual Convention**

September 27–28

Honolulu, HI

Manoa Grand Ballroom

[www.hawaiiaba.org/14th-annual-2018](http://www.hawaiiaba.org/14th-annual-2018)

#### **Minnesota Northland ABA Annual Conference**

September 27–28

Bloomington, MN

Crowne Plaza AIRE

[www.mnaba.org/2018-conference](http://www.mnaba.org/2018-conference)

### October

#### **Alabama ABA 27th Annual Convention**

October 3–5

Birmingham, AL

Doubletree Hotel

[www.alabamaaba.com/convention/](http://www.alabamaaba.com/convention/)

#### **Iowa ABA Sixth Annual Conference**

October 5

West Des Moines, IA

Hilton Garden Inn

<http://iowaaba.com/events.html>

#### **Swedish ABA Autumn Meeting**

October 6

Stockholm, Sweden

[www.swaba.se](http://www.swaba.se)

#### **Berkshire Association for Behavior Analysis and Therapy Annual Conference**

October 10–12

Amherst, MA

University of Massachusetts Amherst

<https://babat.org/event/2018-annual-conference/>

#### **Louisiana BAA Gulf Coast ABA Conference**

October 12–13

New Orleans, LA

The Westin at Canal Place

[www.labaa.net/2017-gulf-coast-aba-conference](http://www.labaa.net/2017-gulf-coast-aba-conference)

### October (cont.)

#### **Nevada ABA Annual Conference**

October 12–14

Henderson, NV

Westin Lake Las Vegas Resort & Spa

<https://nevadaaba.org/annual-naba-conference/>

#### **Hoosier ABA 10th Annual Conference**

October 17–19

Indianapolis, IN

Sheraton Indianapolis City Centre

<http://hoosieraba.com/annual-conference-2018/>

#### **Oregon ABA Second Conference**

October 19–20

Wilsonville, OR

Oregon Institute of Technology

<http://oraba.org/index.php/2018-conference/>

#### **Sociedad Mexicana de Análisis de la Conducta Annual Conference**

October 22–26

Boca del Río, Veracruz, Mexico

USBI UV Veracruz-Boca del Río

[www.smac.org.mx/congresos/xxviii-congreso-mexicano-de-análisis-de-la-conducta](http://www.smac.org.mx/congresos/xxviii-congreso-mexicano-de-análisis-de-la-conducta)

#### **Manitoba ABA 12th Annual Conference**

October 25

Winnipeg, MB

#### **Australian Association for Cognitive and Behaviour Therapy 39th National Conference**

October 25–27

Brisbane, Queensland, Australia

Royal on the Park

[www.aacbt.org.au/national-conference-2018/](http://www.aacbt.org.au/national-conference-2018/)

#### **Southeastern ABA Annual Conference**

October 25–27

Chattanooga, TN

The Read House Historic Inn and Suites

[www.seabaonline.org/conference](http://www.seabaonline.org/conference)



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