

INSIDE BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS
NEWSLETTER OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS INTERNATIONAL

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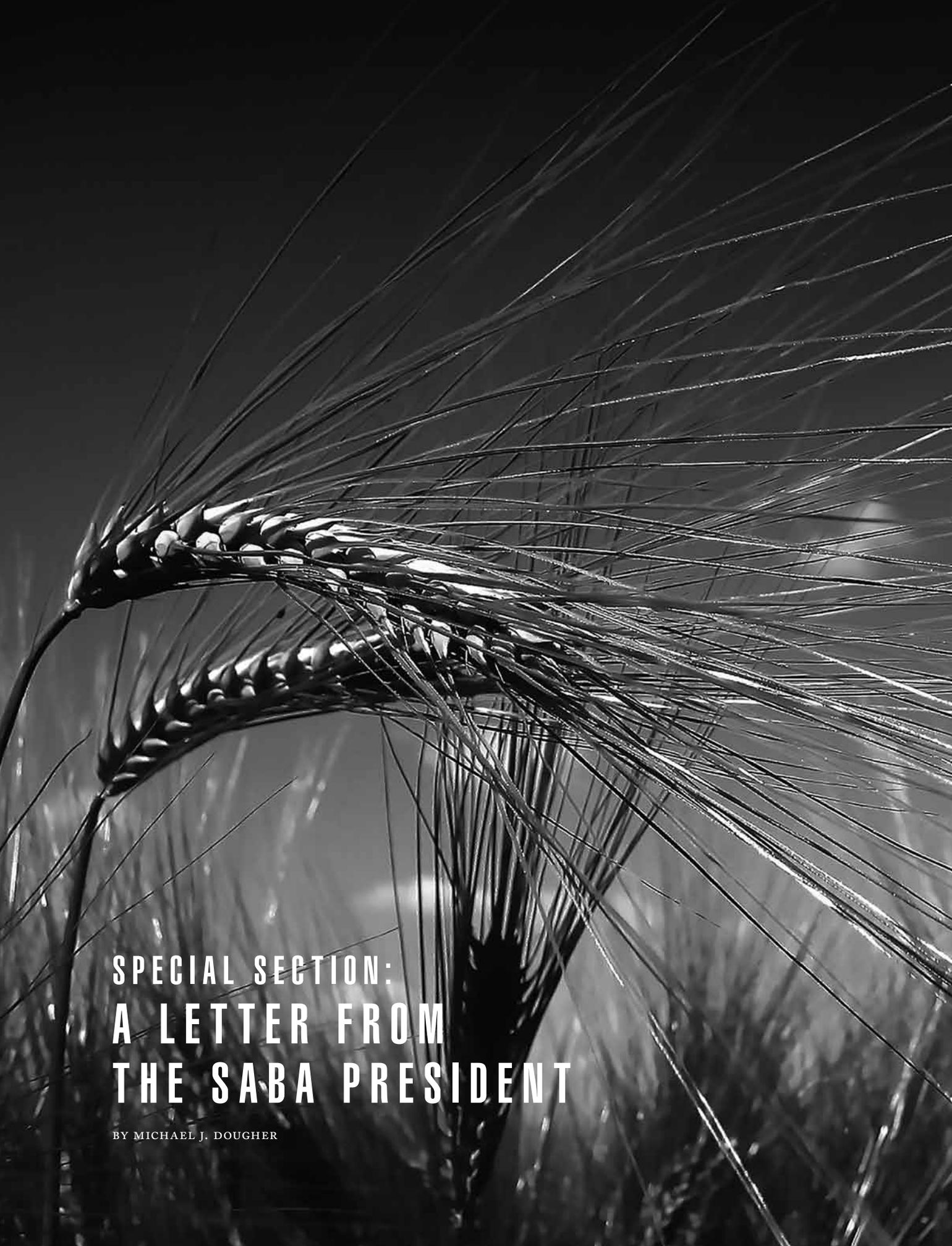
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**SPECIAL SECTION:
A LETTER FROM
THE SABA PRESIDENT**

BY MICHAEL J. DOUGHER

Since its inception in 1980, the singular mission of the Society for the Advancement of Behavior Analysis (SABA) has been to provide financial support to advance and promote the science and practice of behavior analysis.

SABA's ability to serve that mission has always been entirely dependent on the generous and enthusiastic support of the ABAI community through private financial gifts and donations. These funds have allowed SABA to support student research, globally disseminate the science and practice of behavior analysis, and recognize individuals and organizations that have made important and enduring contributions in the areas of research, practice, dissemination, and education. SABA's most recent fundraising effort—a capital campaign launched in 2016—has strengthened the society's ability to pursue its mission and expanded its scope.

How the Funds Are Used

Contributions to SABA and the money raised from the capital campaign have been and will continue to be used to fulfill three major goals: strengthening student support, expanding global outreach, and increasing public awareness.

Student Support

SABA has for many years provided funds to offset travel expenses for students wishing to present their research at the annual convention. Attending the convention provides students with the opportunity, not otherwise available, to present their research at a national conference and to discuss research ideas with their peers and more senior researchers. Last year alone, 21 Student Presenter Grants were awarded totaling \$3,360. In addition to the Student Presenter Fund, SABA has strengthened its support for

students through research grants that span the full range of behavior analysis inquiry. These grants are an investment in the brightest and most promising individuals in our field and in the growth and vitality of behavioral science and its applications. However, each year the society has to decline several excellent proposals from deserving students simply because the demand for research support has far exceeded available resources. Capital campaign contributions have moved SABA closer to expanding efforts to support even more emerging applied and basic researchers at both the master's and the doctoral level, but more funds are needed to fulfill this goal.

Global Outreach

SABA's international outreach is truly global. We have supported projects in Bahrain, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Colombia, Finland, Georgia, Greece, Guyana, Hong Kong, Iceland, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Mexico, New Zealand, Northern Ireland, Poland, Romania, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Tanzania, the UK, and Zimbabwe. These successful projects notwithstanding, our funds have allowed for grants of only a few thousand dollars per project, and even with distributing our resources among several projects, the SABA Board is forced to turn down many excellent proposals simply for lack of funding. Thanks to the increased support from the capital campaign, the Society is exploring options to fund more initiatives that effectively promote behavior analysis globally, especially in areas where its development has great potential impact.

Public Awareness

Increasing the public's awareness of the extraordinary success and promise of behavior analysis is critical for the future health of our field. Increased support for the two goals already discussed also contributes to our success in increasing public awareness of behavior analysis.

Supporting student research helps expand the range,

See PRESIDENT on page 4

PRESIDENT continued from page 3

relevance, and awareness of our science among the general public and helps to cultivate the next generation of leaders and advocates. International outreach brings behavior analysis to populations that would otherwise have little or no exposure to the field and creates opportunities for practical demonstrations of what the science can accomplish in a variety of contexts. Additionally, SABA regularly presents an award for Effective Presentation of Behavior Analysis in the Mass Media, which is presented to an individual who writes or produces a piece of media that informs the public about a scientific discovery or important application in behavior analysis. In addition, the success of the capital campaign has allowed SABA to expand its outreach efforts through the creation of the Public Awareness of Behavior Science Fund. This fund will support creative and promising efforts to disseminate broadly the many ways that behavior analysis pursues its core mission of contributing to the wellbeing of society through research, practice, and education.

Major Donations

The legacy of major capital campaign donors is honored at the ABAI headquarters, where SABA operations are handled. Gold, Silver, and Bronze level donors are recognized on a donor recognition installation titled, "Understanding Behavior, Transforming Lives, Shaping Our Future (2014–2016)." This beautiful monument was crafted from custom architectural glass suspended on a wire cable system. Each major donor has a glass tile etched with his or her name, photo, and year of donation. The piece is currently on display in ABAI's lobby and is open to the public. This "wall" can be disassembled and moved, should the headquarters ever change locations. The members listed on pages 6–7 are recognized on this special installation and on the SABA website (<http://saba.abainternational.org/capital-campaign/>). I would like to thank personally each of these contributors and all the others who have generously donated to the goals of SABA and to the future of behavior analysis. ❖

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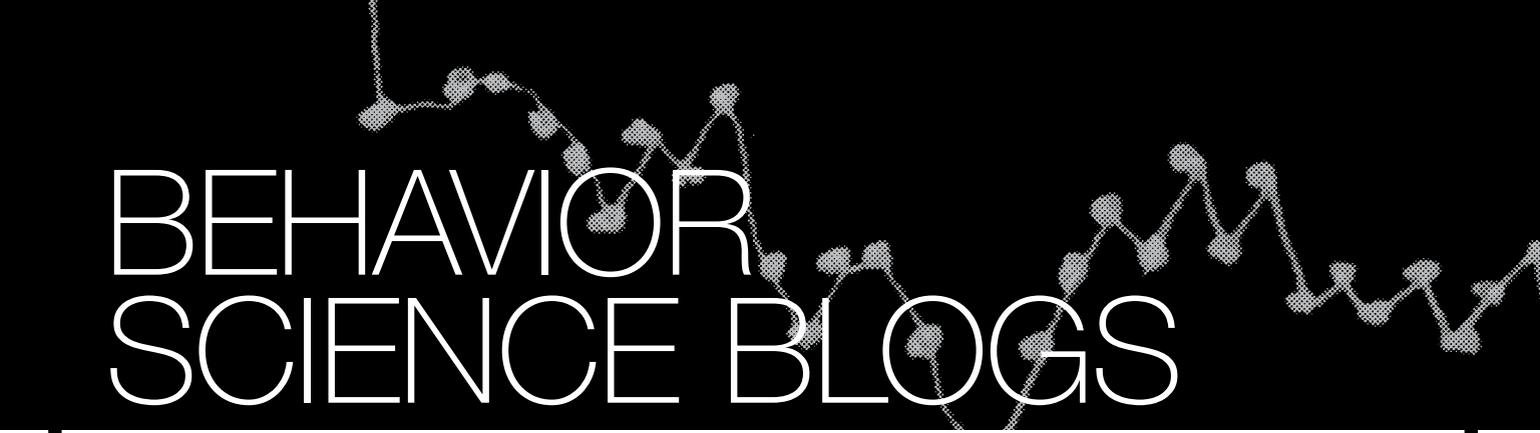
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BEHAVIOR SCIENCE BLOGS

A new way of communicating science.

This year ABAI launched an exciting new dissemination project: the *Behavior Science Blogs*, featuring posts by renowned scholars in the field on such timely topics as addiction, education, health, and autism. The six blogs provide readers with updates on newsworthy items relevant to the science of behavior.

Included are news stories, scholarly articles, commentaries, and the occasional post from a guest blogger with perspectives on our field's links to both practice and current events and the need-to-know content on how behavior science is changing, or could be changing, local and global communities.

There are new posts every week.

We hope you will join the hundreds of readers from around the world who regularly enjoy these blogs.

<https://science.abainternational.org>

2017-2018

SABA Donors

On behalf of the SABA Board, we are grateful for all the ABAI members who contributed to SABA in the past year to help build our funds. These donations enable SABA to provide annual grants that support research in and the development of behavior analysis. This list reflects donations from September 1, 2017 through December 1, 2018.

\$1,000 and above**Innovative Student Research Fund**

Harold and JeNeal Miller

International Development Fund

Judith Mathews

Unrestricted Fund

Anonymous
Sharon Chien
Bradley Frieswyk
Sigrid Glenn
Philip Hinline
Darnell Lattal
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Greg Stikeleather

\$500-\$999**Innovative Student Research Fund**

Sigrid Glenn
Judi Komaki

Public Awareness of Behavior Science

Kent Johnson

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Kent Johnson

\$250-\$499**SABA Student Presenters' Fund**

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John Esch
Peter Killeen
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Public Awareness of Behavior Science

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SABA Student Presenters' Fund

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Judah Axe
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Erick Dubuque
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Holli Frazell
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R. Douglas Greer
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William Helsel
Timothy Heron
Christine Hughes
Ann Kanter
Peter Killeen
Tiffany Kodak
Neal Miller

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Lloyd Peterson
Ellen Schleifer
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Joseph Vedora
Hannah Wagner
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Unrestricted Fund

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Tiffany Kodak
Peter Lamal
T. V. Joe Layng
William Matthew
Jennifer McComas
Michael Miklos
Neal Miller
Kenji Okuda
Rita Olla
Ellen Schleifer
Mariel Shaw

\$100–\$249 (cont.)**Unrestricted Fund (cont.)**

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\$50–\$99**Innovative Student Research Fund**

Julie Ackerslund Brandt
Tiffany Kodak
Raymond Pitts

International Development Fund

Julie Ackerslund Brandt
John Esch
Jeremy Greenberg
Kennon Andy Lattal

Public Awareness of Behavior Science

Erica Jowett Hirst

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Daniel Fienup
Jeremy Greenberg
Amy Kenzer
Jennifer Klapatch Totsch
Julie Koudys
Steven Payne
Emily Sandoz
Karen Wagner
Alyssa Wilson

Unrestricted Fund

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Terri Bright
Amiris Dipuglia
Robert Dlouhy
John Donahoe
John Esch
Adam Fox

\$50–\$99 (cont.)**Unrestricted Fund (cont.)**

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Bobby Newman
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Henry Pennypacker
Cynthia Pietras
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Kathryn Roose
Emily Sandoz
Dag Stromberg
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Karen Wagner
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Barry Parsonson
Evan Schleifer-Katz
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Genevieve Marshall
Felipe Parrado
Kate Schoneberger
Janani Vaidya
Matthew Welch

**Other Amounts
(cont.)****Public Awareness of Behavior Science**

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Julia Fiebig
Amanda Fisher
Tara Karen
Carolynn Kohn
Teresa Kolu
Jana Sarno
Kate Schoneberger
J. Forrest Toegel
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Laura Belz
Holly Bihler
Rocco Catrone
Kerry Conde
Cheryl Davis
Genevieve DeBernardis
Claudia Drossel
Jovonnie Esquierdo-Leal
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Mary Hunter
Abdulrazaq Imam
Kelsia King
Carolynn Kohn
Edward Korber
Lauren Kryzak
Elizabeth Kyonka
Anita Li

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 Barry Parsonson
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 Erin Rasmussen
 Kate Schoneberger
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 Stephen Foreman
 Thomas Freeman
 Deborah Grossett
 Nathaniel Hall
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 Nitzyah Helman
 Ansley Hodges

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Unrestricted Fund

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 Patricia Oliver
 Brady Phelps
 Cynthia Pietras
 Kathryn Rose
 Mary Rosswurm
 Kate Schoneberger
 Catherine Simms
 Kristin Skousgard
 Sandra Smith
 Clinton Smith
 Mark Stafford
 Hiroaki Wemura
 Cory Whirtley
 Rachel White



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Connecticut
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 West Hartford, CT

Iowa
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 745 10th St., Suite C
 Rock Valley, IA

Minnesota
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 735 3rd Street SW
 Perham, MN

St. Cloud
 3721 23rd Street
 South
 St. Cloud, MN

South Dakota
 Aberdeen
 405 S. Washington St.
 Aberdeen, SD

Locations

South Dakota (cont.)
 Brookings
 151 Airport Dr.
 Brookings, SD

Mitchell
 620 N. Lawler
 Mitchell, SD

Pierre
 200 West Pleasant Ave.
 Pierre, SD

South Dakota (cont.)
 Rapid City
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 Rapid City, SD

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 Sioux Falls, SD

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2018 SABA Grant Reports

The Society for the Advancement of Behavior Analysis (SABA) awarded 17 grants in 2018:

- **Thesis grant winner (applied/translational), \$1,000:**
Joshua Harsin (University of Kansas)
- **Thesis grant winner (basic), \$1,000:**
Sara Peck (Utah State University)
- **Thesis grant winner (applied/translational), \$1,000:**
Catherine Stephens (West Virginia University)
- **Thesis grant winner (basic), \$1,000:**
Cory Whirtley (West Virginia University)
- **Dissertation grant winner (basic), \$2,000:**
Jeremy Haynes (Utah State University)
- **Dissertation grant winner (applied/translational research), \$2,000:**
Madeleine Keevy (University of Nebraska Medical Center's Munroe-Meyer Institute)
- **Dissertation grant winner (basic), \$2,000:**
Andrew Nuzzolilli (Western New England University)
- **International development grant winner, \$1,000:**
Camilo Hurtado-Parrado (Fundación Universitaria Konrad Lorenz)
- **International development grant winner, \$1,000:**
Gabrielle Lee (Western University)
- **International development grant winner, \$1,000:**
Kenneth Madrigal (Universidad de Guadalajara)
- **International development grant winner, \$1,000:**
Mila Marinova (Institute for Social Policy and Social Work)
- **International development grant winner, \$1,000:**
Kathryn Mendoza (ABA Training Solutions)
- **International development grant winner, \$1,000:**
Bruno Strapasson (Federal University of Paraná)
- **International development grant winner, \$1,000:**
Thomas Zwicker (ZABA Therapy, LLC)
- **Sidney W. & Janet R. Bijou grant winner, \$10,000:**
Dalisa Kendricks (Auburn University)
- **Sidney W. & Janet R. Bijou grant winner, \$10,000:**
Erica Lozy (Louisiana State University)
- **Sidney W. & Janet R. Bijou grant winner, \$10,000:**
Ciobha McKeown (University of Nebraska Medical Center's Munroe-Meyer Institute)

The following articles are summaries of the reports submitted by the 2018 awardees.

Master's Thesis Grants (Applied/Translational): Efficacy of Behavioral Skills Training on Hiding and Barricading in the Event of an Active Shooter



BY JOSH HARSIN

Josh Harsin is a doctoral student in Dr. Derek Reed's applied behavioral economics lab at the University of Kansas. His research interests lie in social justice issues, including racism, xenophobia, and equitable access to public and social goods, particularly as

they relate to vulnerable and marginalized populations. Other areas of interest include global climate change, public health, and alcohol/drug use as it relates to risky decision-making.

Josh's master's thesis will examine the efficacy of behavioral skills training (BST) in training preschool teachers' hiding and barricading responses in the event of an active shooter. Mass shootings have become an ever more prominent and common occurrence in the United States, and although the FBI, Department of Homeland Security, and Federal Emergency Management Agency all recommend the same three-point plan to respond—run, hide, fight—there is scant experimental evidence that this training effectively improves overt active shooter responding. Furthermore, the state of Kansas allows any individual age 21 or older to carry a concealed firearm without a permit/license, including on college campuses and in the preschool on the University of Kansas campus. Teachers at this preschool will be recruited to participate, rendering this experiment both ecologically and socially valid.

A secondary aim of this project is to investigate the comparative efficacy of first-person video, third-person video, and in-person modeling in training skills using BST. The project will contribute to the existing literature on BST as no published studies to date have examined the comparative effectiveness of these three modeling approaches. A multiple-baseline across-participants research design across three groups (i.e., first-person video model, third-person video model, and in-person model) will be used. The effectiveness of each approach will be assessed in terms of speed at which participants reach mastery and the time required by the experimenter to create the videos and model the skills in person. In addition, the project will represent the first effort to apply behavioral technology to train individuals to respond to an active shooter.

Resurgence of Problem Solving



BY CATHERINE STEPHENS

Catherine Stephens is a doctoral student in behavior analysis at West Virginia University (WVU) under the supervision of Dr. Claire St. Peter. Her primary research focus is applying behavior analytic principles to improve post-secondary education. She pursues this interest by conducting basic and applied research on behavioral processes involved in education and procedures to improve student outcomes in a variety of undergraduate classes. Ultimately, she hopes to use this research to promote policy changes that will increase the use of research-based practices in all educational settings.

Catherine's thesis investigates the connection between resurgence and problem solving. The study examines the extent to which college students use previously taught methods to solve math problems. First, the students are taught one method of solving quadratic equations. Then, students are presented problems that can be solved using this method, and their responses are reinforced when the method is used correctly. Next, the students are taught a second method of solving quadratic equations. Following this instruction, the students are presented with problems that can be solved only using the second method, essentially placing the first method on extinction. During this time, correct responses using the second method are reinforced. Following this procedure, students are given problems they cannot solve using either of these methods. In effect, both methods are placed on extinction. Attempts to use the first method to solve these problems are resurgence. Catherine's study may inform methods of teaching that increase a student's ability to solve future problems, both in class and in novel situations following the class. Catherine thanks SABA for supporting this research, as well as the faculty and her peers at WVU for inspiring the study.

Master's Thesis Grants (Basic):

Effects of High Effort Training on Effort-Based Impulsive Choice



BY SARA PECK

Sara Peck earned her BA in psychology from Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts, working in the laboratory of Dr. Thomas Byrne. She is currently a Ph.D. student at Utah State University, working with Dr. Gregory Madden. Sara studies interventions designed to reduce

impulsive choice in rats, and the behavioral mediators of this change. Her other research interests include effort discounting, effects of delay framing on consumer decision making, and translating laboratory successes to address impulsive choice in vulnerable populations.

The SABA grant will support an experiment examining the effects of high-effort training on effort-based impulsive choice in rats. High-effort rats will be given a history of working hard to obtain a reinforcer, while low-effort rats will complete a single response to obtain the same reward (time to food will be yoked across groups). In the impulsive-choice test, rats will choose between a smaller, less-effortful reward and a larger, more-effortful one. Sara's hypothesis is that rats completing high-effort training will make fewer impulsive choices compared to low-effort rats or a no-training control group. Because low persistence and low effort tendencies are related to maladaptive proclivities in humans, this research has translational potential. Sara would like to thank her current and past mentors, her lab mates, and those generous individuals who contribute financially to SABA.

Effects of Reinforcement Rate on the Aversive Function of Timeout From Positive Reinforcement



BY CORY WHIRTLEY

Cory Whirtley is a doctoral student at West Virginia University (WVU). Her interest in the experimental analysis of behavior began when she was an undergraduate researcher in Michael Perone's animal laboratory. She is currently completing her master's thesis.

During her time at WVU, Cory has received training in both basic and applied behavior analysis and has worked extensively with animal subjects in the laboratory and with children with severe behavior in school settings.

One of Cory's primary interests involves the study of factors that underlie the effectiveness of punishing stimuli. Although punishment is a basic process, ubiquitous in our natural environment, we still lack a clear understanding of the conditions under which punishment will be effective. Cory has been studying timeout from positive reinforcement, a common component of interventions to reduce undesirable behavior. Several lines of research have demonstrated that timeout will reduce behavior; however, the isolation of the variables responsible for this effect has not been sufficiently explored.

Cory's recent experiments, including her master's thesis, have been designed to evaluate timeout's effects using an animal model with rats. Specifically, Cory is examining parametrically the contribution that the ongoing rate of reinforcement has on the punitive effects of timeout. In

addition, she will be conducting a parallel experiment with shock to assess whether the relation between rate of reinforcement and timeout will hold with another punishing stimulus. This research aims to address theoretical questions surrounding the process of punishment and possible implications for the use of timeout in clinical application. The SABA grant will assist Cory in this endeavor.

Following this research, Cory plans to finish her doctoral degree in behavior analysis at WVU and obtain a postdoctoral position at a research university. Ultimately, Cory plans to work in an academic setting and continue addressing problems of clinical significance using basic and applied approaches.

Doctoral Dissertation Grants (Applied/Translational):

Mitigating Relapse of Destructive Behavior in Children Diagnosed With ASD



BY MADELEINE KEEVY
Madeleine Keevy, MS, BCBA, is principal investigator of the dissertation study “Mitigating Relapse of Destructive Behavior in Children Diagnosed With ASD.” She received her master’s degree from Florida Institute of Technology and is a student

in the doctoral program in applied behavior analysis at the University of Nebraska Medical Center’s Munroe-Meyer Institute, under Dr. Wayne Fisher’s advisement. Her work is in translational research, relapse, and the assessment and treatment of severe behavior disorders.

Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) affects 1 in 59 children, and these children are at very high risk for developing destructive behaviors such as aggression, property destruction, and self-injurious behavior. These behaviors are detrimental to social integration, health, and safety, and may lead to institutionalization. Function-based treatments such as functional communication training can reduce or eliminate destructive behavior, but this behavior often returns due to a process known as resurgence. There is a pressing need to reduce resurgence so that children with ASD maintain treatment gains over time. Resurgence as choice (RaC) predicts how manipulating certain parameters of reinforcement will impact resurgence. RaC is a novel quantitative theory that explains why destructive behavior recurs, but there is little research demonstrating its applicability to resurgence of destructive behavior in children with ASD.

This translational study with children diagnosed with ASD investigates the effects of manipulating preference for the alternative reinforcer (by providing either high- or low-preference items contingent on appropriate behavior) on resurgence of target behavior under conditions of extinction. The study will use arbitrary responses and highly controlled conditions to isolate the effects of preference on resurgence, using a two-component multielement design. The findings of the study have the potential to improve reinforcement practices in clinical settings, and to lay the foundation for further applied investigations on the effects of reinforcer preference on resurgence. This investigation will also help to validate RaC and thereby equip applied behavior analysts with new tools to combat treatment relapse.

Doctoral Dissertation Grants (Basic):

Can Rats Maintain Their Preference for the Larger-Later?



BY JEREMY HAYNES
Jeremy Haynes earned a BS in psychology at Armstrong State University in Savannah, Georgia, where he was a research assistant in Dr. Williams’s and Dr. McCarley’s laboratory, involved in several studies regarding learning in college students.

Currently, he is completing his Ph.D. at Utah State University under the guidance of Dr. Amy Odum. At Utah State he has been involved in several research projects with non-human animals examining the behavioral effects of drugs on relapse and timing. His interests are focused on nicotine self-administration in rats as a model of nicotine abuse in humans as well as within-session manipulations that affect impulsive decision-making in humans and non-human animals.

Jeremy received the SABA grant for a project aimed to develop a procedure for studying the ability to delay gratification in rats. Rats will complete two assessments: a delay discounting assessment and a delayed gratification assessment. In the delayed gratification assessment, rats will choose between a smaller, more immediate reward and a larger, more delayed reward, as in typical delay discounting assessments. However, after choosing the larger, more delayed reward, rats will have the option to defect during the delay to receive the smaller reward immediately. This procedure is designed to more closely capture the decisions humans face in which the initial decision for a larger, more delayed outcome (e.g., quit smoking cigarettes to avoid the negative health consequences in the future) cannot be maintained during the delay and they defect to receive the immediate outcome at the cost of the larger, delayed outcome

(e.g., relapse back into smoking to avoid withdrawal). This study will further dissociate the relation between the degree of delay discounting and the ability to delay gratification, both of which are related to maladaptive behaviors in humans (e.g., cigarette smoking, risky sexual behavior, or substance abuse). Furthermore, by developing a procedure to examine the ability to delay gratification within session, researchers can determine what variables affect delay discounting and delayed gratification similarly and what variables affect them differently (e.g., acute drug administration).

The Effects of Response Force and Ratio Requirement Disparities on Fixed-Ratio Pausing in Humans



BY ANDREW NUZZOLILLI

Researchers have evaluated the effects of schedule transitions involving differing amounts of reinforcement on fixed-ratio pausing in both human and non-human subjects. Empirical findings suggest longer pausing during signaled transitions between rich and lean schedules of reinforcement, and that these transitions function as aversive events. Andrew Nuzzolilli's research will make use of a computer-based task to examine these schedule transition effects with college students. Under the advisement of Dr. Jonathan Pinkston, this research will satisfy Andrew's dissertation requirement for a Ph.D. in behavior analysis. The SABA grant will be used to compensate participants for their time and effort, as this work requires multiple sessions at steady state to draw conclusions.

Up to 40 participants will press a force transducer for brief access to television shows. Andrew will systematically evaluate the effects of disparities in ratio and force requirements on fixed-ratio pausing across multiple experiments. A multiple schedule will be used to juxtapose differing schedules of reinforcement. The use of a force transducer allows for detailed measurement of both temporal and physical aspects of responding that would otherwise go unobserved when using traditional equipment, such as a lever or mouse and keyboard. No study to date has made use of a force transducer to measure these aspects of responding in schedule transition research.

The broader implication of this research is that pausing, delaying, postponing, or otherwise avoiding does not occur just in the context of biologically obvious aversive stimuli, but that schedules of positive reinforcement can engender these effects. An understanding of these factors can help address problems of social significance, such as procrastination and decreased productivity in the workplace.

International Development Grants: A Free-Access Online Course and Webinar System on Behavior Analysis in Spanish



BY CAMILO HURTADO-PARRADO

The website of ABA Colombia, an ABAI affiliated chapter, has been a major forum for behavior analysis in Colombia and across Latin America, with more than 1,000 registered users and thousands of monthly visits. This success is the result of providing free access to information relevant to the field (e.g., newsletters, articles, information on events) in Spanish—as most behavior analytic literature, tutorials, and recorded conferences are available only in English.

Considering the need for more free-access and high-quality behavior analytic resources in Spanish, funds from the SABA grant will be used to create and develop an online course system that will be integrated with the website. Courses will be free and self-paced. For each course, students will have access to explanatory videos on behavior analysis topics, lectures, live-streamed or video-recorded conferences, tutorials, quizzes, and a forum. Courses will be offered via Moodle, an open-source learning platform. Indicators such as course creation, course assistance and completion, and number of hits will be used to assess accomplishment of the project's objectives. We expect that these efforts will not only contribute to the continuing growth of ABA Colombia, but to the dissemination of behavior analysis across Latin America.

Training Special Education Teachers to Implement a Computer-Assisted Naming Instruction in China



BY GABRIELLE LEE

According to a recent report from China's Ministry of Education, there are approximately 36.5 million school-aged children with intellectual disabilities (ID), autism spectrum disorders (ASD), and other developmental disabilities (DD), accounting for approximately 70% of students receiving special education services. However, these services may not be adequate to meet students' learning needs. Two major

obstacles are the lack of evidence-based instruction adapted to Chinese culture and the lack of trained professionals to deliver this instruction. Currently, there are only 14 board certified behavior analysts in mainland China.

The integration of listener and speaker behaviors lays the foundation for naming, a behavioral cusp that expands a child's learning without direct reinforcement. Most children with ID or ASD/DD do not acquire the naming capacity unless it is systematically and specifically targeted. Therefore, it is necessary to design such targeted instruction, as preparation for advanced learning.

For the project funded by the SABA grant, the researchers will develop computer-assisted naming instruction and provide training to special education teachers to implement it in their classrooms. The goals of the project are to (1) build technical capacity by training teachers to implement the computer-assisted naming instruction in their classrooms as a localized, long-lasting instructional approach for improving education for students with special needs and (2) empirically evaluate the effects of the training on the accuracy of implementation, student performance of the target behaviors, and student acquisition of the naming capacity. A manual will be developed, and a single-subject study will be conducted to examine the functional relationships between the program and accuracy of implementation, as well as student performance.

Gabrielle T. Lee, Ph.D., LP, BCBA-D, assistant professor in the Faculty of Education at Western University, London, Ontario, will implement this project with her collaborator, Xiaoyi Hu, Ph.D., BCBA-D, associate professor of special education at Beijing Normal University, Beijing, China.

Approximations to Behavior Analysis Through the Use of Technological Tools and Social Media



BY KENNETH MADRIGAL

The Mexican Society for Behavior Analysis (MSBA) and the Centro de Estudios e Investigaciones en Comportamiento (CEIC) at the Universidad de Guadalajara are two of only a few institutions in Mexico that promote behavior analysis. Over the past 43 years, MSBA has contributed to the dissemination of behavior analysis through the open-access *Mexican Journal of Behavior Analysis* and annual conferences. During its first years, MSBA established links with public universities in order to integrate behavior analysis principles into their curricula. As a result, 27 years ago the CEIC was established, contributing to education and research development through its master's and Ph.D. programs.

Even when suitable conditions for behavior analysis can be found in Mexico, its scarce impact, along with increased interest in non-scientific descriptions of behavior and a lack of interest in understanding BA principles, has contributed to the establishment of undergraduate programs lacking a scientific basis.

MSBA recently decided to address this issue. Its Technology and Dissemination Commission will generate user-specific content for undergraduate students via social media, focused on behavior analysis principles and how they can be identified in real-life situations. Students will also learn about scientific approaches to dealing with problem behavior. The SABA grant will help fund this project, and matching funds from MSBA will be used to produce introductory videos, available on YouTube. We expect increased interest in behavior analysis courses and demand for their inclusion in university curricula.

Kenneth Madrigal, a doctoral student at CEIC, addressed members of the MSBA Technology and Dissemination Commission. He will be involved in the development and oversight of social media content for this project.

Creation of ABA Bulgaria



BY MILA MARINOVA

The SABA grant will support a project to create the Association for Behavior Analysis Bulgaria (ABA Bulgaria). This association will help disseminate our science in a country with no behavior analysis tradition. Bylaws will be created by founding members, lawyers, and the elected board and assembly; and legal registration in court and with two national agencies will follow. National and international networking to support professional development will be the first activities of this new organization.

Mila Marinova, Ph.D., initiated the creation of ABA Bulgaria and will be responsible for implementing all steps toward its establishment, as well as for recruiting its first members and partners.

ABA Library and Resource Center in the Philippines



BY KATHRYN MENDOZA

Applied behavior analysis (ABA) is increasing in popularity, but in the Philippines it is still largely unknown and misconceptions are many. For example, there are only a few board certified behavior analysts (BCBAs) in the whole country. Kathryn Millano-Mendoza, the first native Filipina BCBA, runs a center for individuals with special needs. For 8 years, she has

worked hard to bring out the best in her clients using ABA principles, and to disseminate ABA to more Filipinos, she has also given free seminars about ABA, facilitated parent trainings, and developed a 40-hour RBT training. Despite these efforts, there is still limited awareness and understanding of ABA. Universities do not offer ABA courses, and there are few professionals or institutions dedicated to behavior analysis.

Grant funds, therefore, will be used to establish a collection of behavior analytic textbooks, journals, and training resources. ABA Training Solutions, a behavior analytic training company in the Philippines that Kathryn is working with, will provide space for these resources, and students, parents, and others will be able to freely access them. Teachers will have more opportunities to read relevant scientific literature to encourage evidence-based practices in their work with children with and without disabilities. Kathryn hopes that through this project the Philippines will have the potential to become a significant contributor to the field of ABA.

In Honor of Our Pioneers: Rescuing and Preserving the History of Behavior Analysis in Brazil Through the Autobiographies of Its Leading Figures



BY BRUNO STRAPASSON

Fred Keller sowed the seeds of behavior analysis in Brazil in the early 1960s while working at the University of São Paulo and later at the University of Brasília. From this beginning, a team of distinguished Brazilian pioneers took upon themselves the task of deepening the roots and expanding the branches of behavior analysis in theoretical, experimental, and applied areas. The project supported by the SABA grant, “In Honor of Our Pioneers: Rescuing and Preserving the History of Behavior Analysis in Brazil Through the Autobiographies of Its Leading Figures,” will allow these pioneers to tell their stories, revealing important and perhaps unknown historical details about the inception and development of behavior analysis in Brazil.

The project was conceptualized and proposed by Bruno Angelo Strapasson, who invited Robson Nascimento da Cruz (Pontifical Catholic University of Minas Gerais) and Alexandre Dittrich (Federal University of Paraná) to participate as editors. All three authors are researchers in the history of behavior analysis and psychology.

The invitees were selected with the help of the two

major Brazilian behavior analytic associations, the Brazilian Association of Behavioral Psychology and Medicine and the Brazilian Association of Behavior Analysis, beginning with those who earned undergraduate degrees in psychology in the mid-1950s. The invitees are asked to describe as accurately as possible (1) the contingencies they consider relevant to understanding their paths in behavior analysis, (2) how they contributed to the establishment of contingencies relevant to the development of behavior analysis in Brazil, and (3) the events they consider historically relevant for this development. The autobiographies will be published as chapters in a book series.

Behavior analysis has been established as a major force in Brazilian psychology; therefore, the time is ripe to preserve its history for future generations.

ABA Access Nationwide in the Dominican Republic



BY THOMAS ZWICKER

Dr. Thomas Zwicker and his company, ZABA Therapy, have an agreement with the Office of the First Lady of the Dominican Republic, Cándida Montilla de Medina, to develop ABA programs for children with autism spectrum disorders in conjunction with el Centro de Atención Integral para la Discapacidad (CAID). The project will include a range of activities designed to teach professionals throughout the country to set up and manage ABA services as well as training for parents in implementing behavioral treatment at home. Dr. Zwicker provides ongoing training and direction for both professionals and parents, including lectures and workshops on specific topics.

For professionals, Dr. Zwicker offers in-person and online training in (1) the principles and practices of behavior analysis as applied to children with autism and (2) support for their work with families of these children.

For parents, he offers training in early intensive behavioral intervention as well as focused behavioral intervention for severe problem behaviors (including training in functional assessment) and applied behavioral treatment for older children. He also provides access to electronic data collection programs with ongoing consultation, plus monitoring by professionals at CAID. As part of that effort, Dr. Zwicker and ZABA Therapy have donated more than a dozen iPad minis and waterproof cases for families to use in running programs and collecting data.

In addition, Dr. Zwicker is working with the largest university in the Dominican Republic to set up a course sequence with the goal of verification, to enable those who earn a master's in psychology to be eligible to sit for the BCBA exam.

Sidney W. & Janet R. Bijou Grants:

Perturbing the Development of Sustained Attention by Adolescent Contaminant Exposure



BY DALISA KENDRICKS

In 2016 Dalisa Kendricks decided to pursue her doctoral degree under the supervision of Dr. M. Christopher Newland in Auburn University's cognitive and behavioral sciences program. Dalisa is in her second year and recently received an NSF Graduate Research Fellowship. She is interested in understanding the long-term impacts exposure to drugs or neurotoxicants early in development have on behaviors associated with neurodevelopmental disorders (e.g., attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder; ADHD). Her study seeks to determine how chronic exposure to methylmercury (MeHg)—a known neurotoxicant—during the sensitive adolescent period alters sustained attention in adulthood. A potential link between MeHg exposure during gestation and early childhood and inattentive-type ADHD has been shown in human populations but has not been explored in experimental models that allow us to isolate the roles of methylmercury exposure and age of exposure. She is using an operant signal detection task modified from Bushnell, Oshiro, and Padnos (1997) for use in a mouse model. She will compare performance in this sustained attention task between exposed male and female mice and healthy, un-exposed, sex-matched controls. To model the role of therapeutic stimulant exposure during adolescence, some subjects will also be exposed to known drug treatments for ADHD, desipramine or d-Amphetamine, in order to determine potential modulating effects of these treatments on MeHg deficits. She believes the outcomes of this study will provide greater understanding of the normal development of behaviors requiring sustained attention and how these behaviors are altered due to disruptions in normal development, as well as address potential causes, and treatments, of such disruptions.

An Evaluation of Flashcard Interventions to Teach Letter Sounds



BY ERICA D. LOZY

Erica D. Lozy received her MA in applied behavior analysis at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. Currently she's studying under the supervision of Dr. Jeanne M. Donaldson in the school psychology doctoral program at Louisiana State University. Erica's research focuses on increasing early learner skills in young children, particularly those at risk of falling behind in literacy. Because the current approach to teaching pre-reading skills is class-wide instruction that combines multiple skills (e.g., letter names and sounds) and arbitrary mnemonic devices (e.g., hand gestures and pictures), the extent to which mnemonic devices speed up letter-sound acquisition is unknown. Erica plans to evaluate the differential effects of instructional variations and hand gestures on letter-sound acquisition with preschool children. In the first study, she will compare the outcomes of an empirically supported traditional drill (TD) flashcard method and a modified strategic incremental rehearsal (SIR) flashcard method to the traditional class-wide teaching. Erica expects the results to demonstrate the modified SIR method as the most effective procedure. In the second study, Erica will compare the outcomes of an effective flashcard method as determined via study one (SIR or TD) with and without Jolly Phonics hand gestures to the traditional class-wide teaching. The results will determine whether inclusion of one mnemonic device, hand gestures, paired with letter sounds increases or impedes skill acquisition compared to the intervention without hand gestures. In addition, Erica will evaluate the maintenance of letter sounds across each intervention during both studies to attest to the durability of procedures. She expects the results to aid in closing the remaining gaps in skill acquisition procedures for early learner skills.

Evaluating the Generality and Social Acceptability of Early Pivotal Friendship Skills



BY CIOBHA MCKEOWN

Ciobha McKeown is a doctoral student at the University of Nebraska Medical Center's Munroe-Meyer

Institute under the supervision of Dr. Kevin Luczynski. The Bijou grant will support her dissertation on systematically replicating the friendship unit of the preschool life skills program (Hanley, Heal, Tiger, & Ingvarsson, 2007) with children diagnosed with autism or related disabilities. The friendship unit is the foundation on which complex prosocial behaviors are established, and it serves as a starting point for facilitating socially desirable interactions between people at a young age. Given the inconsistent results in previous research with neurotypical children, the first objective is to extend features of the prosocial skills and evaluate the procedures necessary to teach all the skills in a one-on-one format. Beyond acquisition, promoting maintenance in natural contexts (e.g., school) represents a formidable challenge because these types of skills may rarely produce an immediate benefit (e.g., saying, "Thank you" to a peer after receiving a toy) or an immediate worsening

(e.g., giving away a toy to a peer or stopping play to comfort a peer in distress). For this reason, the secondary objective is to promote the generality of the skills via persistence teaching, which entails the systematic introduction of unpredictable reactions following the skills that emulate how peers may respond. That is, the teaching is geared toward preparing children to perform effectively in the face of consequences that likely do not serve as reinforcers (e.g., refusing an invitation to play). Finally, the project will assess caregivers' satisfaction with their children's prosocial improvements and, most notably, whether the children's likability increases as indicated by their same-age peers. Regarding the latter, same-age peers will choose a more preferred play partner after watching videos of children with and without the targeted friendship skills. The outcomes will have direct implications for teaching prosocial behaviors to children with and without disabilities. ❖



With over 200 locations nationwide, CARD is among the world's largest and oldest autism treatment providers. CARD provides services across all clinically appropriate settings, including in the center and the patient's home, school, and community. CARD's mission includes a social justice initiative to provide top-quality, evidence-based autism treatment across all populations, regardless of funding, geographic, cultural, or linguistic variables. As such, BCBA's will gain experience in the supervision and delivery of ABA-based autism treatment across a wide variety of funding sources and treatment locations. Newly hired BCBA's benefit from senior CARD BCBA's who act as mentors to familiarize new clinicians with CARD policies and procedures.

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

Arizona ABA

BY ADAM D. HAHS

The Arizona Association for Behavior Analysis (AzABA) 2017 efforts were guided by a number of organizational values including core membership value, professional development, facilitating collaboration, industry representation, field advancement, member support, administrative continuity and sustainability, statewide participation, and member engagement.

We sought to accrue data in support of those values, and the data below support the board's and community efforts. For ease of review, bulleted focus areas and progress updates are provided below.

Our values are many, but we truly believe that we can be an exemplary state-level behavior analysis organization. Because we've targeted our values in an OBM fashion and created strategic plans as to how to engage in behavior in line with those values, the following data represent our targeted efforts and related successes over the past year.

Core Membership Value

- **Goal:** Offer 16+ CEs per year (enough to re-certify), including ethics and supervision.
- **Year-End Data:** We exceeded this goal in that we finished with 43.5 CEs made available to AzABA members (almost tripling the original goal).

Professional Development

- **Goal:** CE workshop with out-of-state speaker
- **Year-End Data:** We exceeded this goal as well in that we had four events featuring out-of-state speakers.

Facilitating Collaboration

- **Goal:** Offer monthly networking events.
- **Year-End Data:** Networking events have not had much turnout, as members seem much more motivated to attend the CE presentations. After the recent OBM workshop, less than 20% of participants attended. The sponsor VIP reception on the night before the event, however, was well attended and successful. This goal has been revised for 2018.

Industry Representation

- **Goal:** Encourage as many BCBA's and ABA companies in the state to join our organization as possible.
- **Year-End Data:** The BACB currently lists 283 BCBA's and BCBA-Ds in Arizona. AzABA currently has 229 full members, equaling 81%. This means we have achieved our goal of representing 80% of Arizona BCBA's! According to Jim Carr, the average for state associations is 30%. Additionally, we now have 40 sponsor agencies.

Field Advancement

- **Goal:** Support self-governance efforts for licensure.
- **Year-End Data:** After extensive discussions on what AzABA's role should be with the newly created licensing board and committee, we agreed that applicants could request a letter of recommendation from AzABA. Two individuals requested and received such a letter.

Member Support

- **Goal:** Provide guidance for ethical dilemmas.
- **Year-End Data:** Our website now has an ethics portal to submit questions, and a separate Facebook group has been developed for discussion around ethical questions. The committee is currently planning ways to facilitate these discussions and disseminate the content.

Administrative Continuity and Sustainability

- **Goal:** The integration of KCA (our event management company).
- **Year-End Data:** We have a new contract now with KCA that provides double the monthly hours and a wide range of additional supports. Nearly all administrative and member communication functions should be handled by KCA going forward.

Statewide Participation

- **Goal:** Provide webcasts for CEs and board member additions.
- **Year-End Data:** Two new members (one from Flagstaff and another from Tucson) will join the board in 2018. All 2018 events are to be webcasted such that members in other areas of the state are able to access the CE events.

Member Engagement

- **Goal:** Create special interest groups and an annual meeting with SIG presentations.
- **Year-End Data:** While the SIG project seems to have stalled, it's our intention to revive this such that members are able to hone their interests via our state organization. We will maintain this goal for 2018.

We view these values in a holistic fashion, in that all of them play a role in the betterment of behavior analysis in our state. To that end, our 2018 goals will be to maintain the successes of 2017, while shoring up the areas in which we showed less growth. Per our previous report, the aim of 2017 was to evolve into a mature organization. It is our hope that the sustained efforts of the aforementioned values and development in other under-developed value areas will serve to aid in our efforts to reach maturity.

Arkansas ABA

BY SHEILA K. BARNES

In 2017, the Arkansas Association for Behavior Analysis (ArkABA) members increased our presence in the state of Arkansas and beyond in several ways. Officers attended numerous meetings around the state related to behavior analysis but particularly at the Governor's Task Force on Autism in Little Rock. ArkABA joined in on important ongoing conversations as a group and outside of our group ensuring the growth and protection of our field as board certified behavior analysts. ArkABA leadership chose to leverage technology and increase our online accessibility and presence by approving the use of Wild Apricot, a membership software package that will improve the ease with which we can communicate with members about events, membership status, and more. We also increased our social media presence through Facebook and Instagram. Our president-elect, Beth McKee, and social media coordinator, Karlin McKee, ensured weekly posts on social media. As a result of this, we have maintained our membership numbers from 2016.

Leading up to the 2017 conference, a core group of dedicated members worked feverishly to get the word out about our conference. In order to add to our offerings, a pre-conference workshop the day before the conference was available. Thirty people attended this event, which was a perfect size for absorbing new information while allowing for stimulating conversation.

In keeping with the theme of leveraging technology to increase awareness and training related to the field of behavior analysis, our group chose to offer the conference online as well as in person. Online attendees were gracious to be patient with us as we worked through a few technical difficulties. In the end, we were able to deliver the content in full, allowing participants from across Arkansas, surrounding states, and as far away as Canada, the UK, and China to participate! Dr. Gordon Ramsay, Dr. Vince Carbone, Mark Maladay, and Ryan O'Donnell were all extremely generous with their time, and we are grateful for their participation as speakers. In following up with all four speakers, they without fail commented on our vibrant community and engaging conference attendees.

All of our ArkABA members have worked diligently to advance our profession and disseminate information in our local communities and across our state. These leaders offered their expertise, their time, and their energy to ensure that ArkABA continues to grow. Sheila Barnes, ArkABA past president, never hesitated to drive the group forward with new ideas while sharing her expertise born out of many years of service in similar collaborative efforts. Beth McKee, president-elect, brought fresh perspectives and ideas in all areas, but particularly related to communication with membership. One of Beth's strengths

is that she immediately follows up ideas with action. This year, she was busy leading the charge for streaming the conference and all things social media. Tiffany Mrla, vice president, worked to spread the word about our conference and recruited lots of volunteer manpower to ensure that the conference ran smoothly! Katrina Lawson, secretary, has stellar organizational skills and generated meeting minutes that were timely, informative, and extremely accurate. Brandon Thurman, treasurer, managed our finances beautifully and ensured that we are in compliance with tax filing (a heroic effort). Lindsey Lovelady, faculty advisor, not only spread the word about our conference, but ensured that students had the opportunity to share their work through poster presentations. Last, but not least, ia our social media coordinator, Karlin McKee. There isn't enough that can be said about the time and talent she offered this last year with social media posts, website updates, Wild Apricot setup, and correspondence with members.

Behavior Analysis Association of Michigan

BY JAMES T. TODD

As it did last year, the Behavior Analysis Association of Michigan (BAAM) can once again report on the growth and vigor of behavior analysis in the state. Our members continue to make many positive contributions to the effective, ethical, and science-based treatment of problems associated with autism, traumatic brain injury, addiction, and other conditions. We can add to that the important work of those in organizational behavior management, behavioral medicine, education, behavioral research, university and college instruction, animal training, and other areas. We are in an interim period in terms of legislative activity. The passage of behavior analysis licensure means the formulation and promulgation of licensing rules, which we anticipate seeing in the coming year. Changes to psychology licensure are also being considered at the legislative level, which, if they come to be, may affect some members of the behavior analysis community.

The 2018 annual convention was an incredible success. It was held February 15–16 at the Student Center on the campus of Eastern Michigan University (EMU). We again had over 700 attendees, up by about 50 over 2017. Those attendees came from more than two dozen universities and colleges, over a dozen states, and Ontario. The rising attendance figure is even more impressive when we consider that the Michigan Autism Conference, offered in September by our friends at Western Michigan University, is also growing and attracts about the same number of attendees. This year, we once again had a record number of poster presentations, mostly by student contributors.

Many local and regional agencies sent staff and administrators, reflecting the expansion of behavior

analysis opportunities in the state. The growing participation of faculty and students from Central Michigan University, Michigan State University, Oakland University, and Wayne State did not go unnoticed. BAAM scheduled all regular sessions in meeting rooms overlooking EMU's Lake House area. BAAM extends special thanks to the staff of the EMU Event Planning Office, especially to Linda Moore and Meg Castro, the Catering Department, and to all the workers in the Student Center for their contributions to making the conference run smoothly. The support of the EMU Psychology Department, BAAM's sponsor, was again essential to our success. Special thanks go to the Psychology Department Head, Carol (Keti) R. Freedman-Doan. As always, the BAAM staff and volunteers, lead by EMU students Elise Pearl, Morgan Wright, and Caitlyn Sorensen-Kowalski did an excellent work planning and managing the convention.

BAAM once again had two keynote addresses. The Thursday keynote, "Behavioral Cusps: 20 Years Later," was delivered by Jesús Rosales-Ruiz of the University of North Texas. Rosales-Ruiz's presentation discussed the history and utility of the behavioral cusp concept, providing an advanced analysis of its similarities and differences from other concepts such as pivotal behavior. The Friday keynote was a special symposium on global warming chaired by R. Wayne Fuqua of Western Michigan University. Dr. Fuqua and his group described the problem of global warming as one resulting from a combination of technology, ordinary human behaviors, and behavior problems, meaning that we as behavior analysts have much to offer in terms of a solution. The many other convention sessions and presenters are too numerous to fully list. Their important and interesting contributions can be seen in the 2018 convention schedule on the BAAM website.

BAAM will hold its annual convention February 21–22, 2019 in the award-winning Student Center at EMU. BAAM intends to continue to offer a mix of basic, applied, and theoretical presentations and workshops. Online program submission and registration will again be available, and we look forward to even greater attendance and will add some new convention features to accommodate the growth. For more information, visit the BAAM website at www.baam.emich.edu.

Behavior Analysis Association of Mississippi

BY DANNELL S. ROBERTS

The Behavior Analysis Association of Mississippi (BAAMS) celebrated its third anniversary in February 2018. BAAMS continues to grow as an organization and has accomplished much in the course of 3 years. BAAMS currently has 62 Full members, 63 Student members, and 9 Affiliate members. Our current Executive Council includes

Dannell Roberts (president), Breanna Newborne (president-elect), Dorothy Scattone (secretary), Janelle Upthegrove (treasurer), Kyle Rowsey (ABAI representative), Kimberly Bellipanni (APBA representative), Bailey King (Region 1 Representative), Brittany Bell (Region 2 representative), Katie Boozer (Region 3 representative), Kelly Walker (Region 4 representative), Meleah Ackley (student representative), and Neelima Duncan (past president).

The Mississippi Autism Board (MAB), the licensing agency for behavior analysts in the state, has thus far licensed 48 behavior analysts and 2 associate behavior analysts. A member of the BAAMS Executive Council and a master's-level licensed behavior analyst (LBA), Bailey King is an appointed representative, serving as a non-voting special advisor and liaison to the MAB. We are pleased to have such a great working relationship with the MAB!

During the First Extraordinary Session of 2017, the Mississippi Legislature approved Senate Bill No. 2001. Within this bill, the legislative body amended Sections 73-31-7, 73-75-11, and 97 73-75-27 of MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972. These amendments stated that effective July 1, 2018, the MAB is to be assigned to the State Board of Psychology for administrative and ministerial support and that it will no longer be assigned to the Secretary of State's office. These amendments did not change the composition of the board itself or its responsibilities. As presented during the BAAMS conference to the membership, the MAB is working with the Board of Psychology and the Secretary of State to stay this transition through a memorandum of understanding for a year to assist with an organized transition.

We successfully held our inaugural conference March 31, 2017, and just recently concluded the second annual conference on March 1–2, 2018. We had 134 attendees at the 2018 conference, which was at the Hollywood Casino in Bay St. Louis, MS. The 2018 conference was a two-day event with two workshops on Thursday, and a full day of breakout sessions on Friday. Dr. Mark Sundberg presented a 4-hour workshop on the VB-MAPP and its applications to working with children with autism. Dr. Elizabeth Sellinger presented a 4-hour workshop on organizational behavior management and its use in the training of staff. On Friday, Dr. Mark Sundberg presented our keynote address with Dr. Valerie Volkert speaking on feeding disorders, Julie Riley, BCBA, speaking on school consultation, Dr. Amanda Kelly presenting on local advocacy efforts, and Dr. Sheila Williamson speaking on parent training. BAAMS is an Approved Continuing Education (ACE) provider through the Behavior Analyst Certification Board (BACB) and was able to offer 14 continuing education hours at the conference. BAAMS was also able to offer psychology continuing education units through the USM Department of Psychology and CE's for educators in the state of Mississippi through

Mississippi College's continuing education program.

BAAMS hosted a "Day at the Capitol" at the Mississippi Capitol during the legislative session on January 16, 2018. This day was about promoting ABA in the state and was met with huge success among state officials. At this event, the Secretary of State's office announced in conjunction with the Mississippi Insurance Department and three commercial insurance companies to lift the age cap for ABA services in the state. BlueCross BlueShield of Mississippi, UnitedHealthcare of Mississippi, and Magnolia Health voluntarily agreed on Tuesday to lift the age cap from 8 as stated in our current laws through age 21.

California ABA

BY JENNIFER HARRIS

The California Association for Behavior Analysis (CalABA) has had yet another busy year driven by our founding mission to advance, promote, and protect the science and practice of behavior analysis. To that end, our active board has collectively worked to engage our members via professional events and dynamic communication efforts, while continuing to streamline our internal processes in order to create optimal efficiency and impact for the association. Our organizational infrastructure has been enhanced with the addition of our executive director, administrative coordinator, informational technology consultant, and a new, dedicated office space.

Membership

CalABA membership continues to grow exponentially each year with an overall 118% increase over the last 10 years. At the end of the first quarter of 2018, we confirmed a total membership of 2,400 (and increasing), making our chapter one of the largest in the country. Significant increases in our Student memberships were observed and were attributed to CalABA's new outreach efforts to university ABA programs across the state. Additionally, our overall membership was further increased by offering a new category of membership for our behavior technicians.

With membership in the thousands, CalABA seeks to provide many benefits to our members. Members enjoy discounted access to our annual conference and associated events, professional development events, continuing education opportunities, access to advertising and job placement, public policy sessions, and much more. As always, our ultimate goal is to create an active, well-informed, and supported professional membership.

Following is a summary of 2017-18 membership outreach initiatives.

CalABA Workgroups

Our ABA workgroups proved to be quite a success in the first year. The Mentor Workgroup has received much support with benefits reported for both the mentees and

the mentors. This group will continue to expand with the goal of offering new opportunities for growth and professional development to all involved. Similarly, our Practice Briefs Workgroup was launched in the past year. The group has enjoyed collaborating and producing useful resources for our membership. In their first paper, the group reviewed telehealth practices and included a discussion on the practicalities, funding considerations, and ethical implications of its use in behavior analytic services. The group's next paper focuses on the setting in which treatment occurs and the related considerations of service provision in each environment. It will be available later this year.

Member Mixers

CalABA hosted five networking events across the state, which were very well attended. Members were encouraged to attend the evening events, meet their Board of Directors, and network with other behavior analysts while enjoying food and drink.

Membership Communication

Our PR and Marketing Committee has continued their efforts to reach all of our members in a manner that is easily accessible. As such, we have continued to use Twitter and Facebook, and have recently added Instagram to our information-sharing platforms. Via these sites, our members may access conference updates, legislative news, special membership offerings, our Board of Director meeting reports, *Notes from the Board*, and much more.

Public Policy

CalABA's public policy efforts are guided by our mission to protect and advance the practice of behavior analysis. In California, our members and those they serve are increasingly faced with new obstacles and roadblocks that threaten both the practice of and access to behavior analysis. As such, our public policy efforts are ongoing and have necessitated the expertise of our contracted lobbyist. Licensure continues to be a priority for our association with our new licensure bill expected in 2019. In addition to licensure, we continue to work closely with our membership to advocate for legislation that encourages best practices and appropriate regulation for behavior analytic practices across settings.

Disseminating Behavior Analysis

Perhaps our most exciting news of the year came from our collective decision to spread the truth about our science. Discouraged by a series of inaccurate descriptions of behavior analysis circulating in the media, the board sought ways to get the real story out to a public audience. We recruited the assistance of the Hearst Group, *San Francisco Gate*, and wrote a piece for mass publication about the incredible impact behavior analysis may have

for young children diagnosed with autism. The online publication had tremendous readership. In fact, with over 1.5M impressions, CalABA's custom story earned a total of 11,175 brand engagements throughout the campaign. With the success of this effort, we plan to continue these campaigns and will publish informative articles for public distribution that will further promote the many applications and efficacy of behavior analysis.

In addition to membership outreach, CALABA also focus on supporting and collaborating with academia.

Annual Science Retreat

As an organization, we are committed to supporting the needs and concerns of our members working in academia. Our dedicated Academic Liaisons have continued to support California's ABA faculty by providing an annual forum, coined the "Science Retreat," for conversation related to the needs of graduate university programs. The liaisons brought feedback from the Fourth Annual Science Retreat to the CalABA board, and associated action items have been developed for the coming year.

Student Focused Initiatives

CalABA is committed to encouraging our student members and facilitating their success in the field. To this end, we have designed numerous opportunities for our students to network with each other and with professionals working in clinical practice and academic settings. Our academic liaisons have recently established and host a private Facebook group for our student members. In addition, not only are our students exclusively able to participate in the poster presentation awards at our annual conference, but they also benefit from attending the CalABA Conference Meet and Greet where they are introduced to and mingle with our invited speakers. In addition to these unique offerings, CalABA also selects Student Representatives to serve on our board as non-voting members. One student is selected from Northern California and the other from the South.

Annual Conference

The 36th Annual Western Regional Conference was March 8–11, 2018, at the Santa Clara Hyatt Regency and Conference Center. Once again, there were record numbers of attendees, with 2,653 registered for the conference, and another 444 registered for the workshops that followed.

The conference featured 31 invited speakers from across the country who presented on diverse topics including behavior analytic treatment for various clinical populations; the treatment of problem behavior; ethical standards for behavior analysts working with funders, with supervisees, and across varying settings; and ACT for behavior analysts, mindfulness training, and the pursuit of happiness for our clients. The conference benefitted greatly from generous contributions in the form of 5 Platinum, 5 Gold, 20 Silver,

2 monitor, 4 charging station, 64 exhibitors, and 26 job fair sponsors. We also hosted 18 programs at the Graduate Expo.

New this year, CalABA was thrilled to showcase our Red Carpet and Reinforcement Event, which followed the phenomenal symposia, panel discussions, and poster presentations on the first evening of the conference. Not only did the 1,000+ attendees have an exciting opportunity to celebrate the successes of colleagues and dance the night away, they were also able to feast their way through the an impressive array of dinner and dessert options. The event provided the perfect setting to announce both the Student Poster Session Awards, as well as raise funds via our annual B. F. Skinner Live Auction. Without a doubt, this event will become a new CalABA tradition!

We have already started planning for our 2019 Annual Conference, scheduled for February 1–3 at the Long Beach Hyatt and Convention Center. We are thrilled to include the addition of an invited address on the topic of diversity and inclusion in our field. Mark your calendars and register early!

As we continue to respond to the growing population of behavior analysts and those they serve in California, we look forward to increasing our membership and benefits offered, disseminating the wonderful contributions of our science to the public, providing state-wide representation of behavior analysts in California, ensuring sustainability of our practice through legislative efforts aligned with best practice, and collaborating and partnering with those working in academia and related fields. As members of the larger behavior analytic community, we remain committed to our core values and driving mission to advance, promote, and protect the science and practice of behavior analysis in California and beyond. We remain steadfast in our commitment to ensure an environment that supports our diverse membership in achieving their academic, scientific, and professional goals.

To learn more about Cal ABA or join our association, please visit calaba.org.

Connecticut ABA

BY MICHAEL WEINBERG

Connecticut ABA (CT ABA) had a very busy year! We adopted new bylaws approved by the members in late 2016 providing for up to 15 board of director (BoD) members. The BoD identified additional members throughout the year to join in this capacity. A new piece of these bylaws included a CEO to manage the affairs of the organization. This person attends as a member of the BoD, but has no voting power. We are pleased to have brought on Melissa Saunders, MS, BCBA, in this new role. Melissa has experience as a board member of CT ABA and MA ABA, as well as clinical leadership experience in a private organization providing community-based behavior analysis services. Her experience and leadership have helped move our organization forward in many positive ways.

There has been dramatic growth in the numbers of BACB credentialed practitioners, including 682 BCBA, BCBA-Ds, and BCaBAs combined, and 317 RBTs, totaling 999 behavior analyst practitioners. CT ABA currently has 343 members and 20 organizational members as of February 28, 2018.

Among other activities and actions, we are most pleased and excited to announce that after many hours of work by members of CT ABA and the behavior analysis community of the state, the licensure bill for behavior analysts has passed and was signed into law by the governor. The law goes into effect July 1, 2018. Licensure will be overseen by the Department of Public Health, which opened the online application link during our state chapter conference on March 2, 2018.

In light of this development, the BoD approved a new Practitioner Issues Committee, which will provide support to behavior analysts in Connecticut regarding matters of licensure, insurance billing and processes, and ethical and legal matters. It will also conduct online and live events to disseminate information and provide training. CT ABA has a number of committees and all are quite active, including the Legislative Committee, chaired by Dr. Melissa Olive. This committee has worked to keep up with the many legislative activities going on at the state capital including licensure, changes in insurance codes and insurance billing procedures, and legislation regarding behavior intervention practices in public schools and early intervention.

Our 14th annual state conference was a great success. For the second year in a row, the conference was sold out at 400 and held again the Marriott Convention Center Hotel in Hartford, CT, with over 70 on the wait list. We were also at capacity for vendor booths—23 organizations, which also had a wait list for space. We are greatly appreciative of our Conference Committee co-chairs, Melissa Saunders, MS, BCBA, LABA, and Melissa Hunsinger-Harris, MEd, BCBA, LABA, and the committee members, who have managed and put on an excellent conference with invited presentations by nationally recognized behavior analysts including Dr. James Carr, Dr. Gina Green, Dr. Justin Leaf, Dr. Tim Shahan, Dr. Michael Dorsey, and Dr. Mary Jane Weiss. We will be changing our venue to a larger capacity hotel in Cromwell, CT, for our 2019 conference due to increased interest and demand for conference events here in the Northeast region.

CT ABA held several CE events that sold out through the year, including our summer networking event at the University of St. Joseph and led by Maris Pelkey, MA., BCBA, Carrie Hartman, MS, BCBA, and Dr. Laura Turner. This gathering offered an opportunity for attendees to learn about ethics across settings. We also held an interactive fall workshop on measurement and a winter social that featured a discussion on current evidence and

practices regarding functional analysis, led by Drs. Greg Hanley and Michael Dorsey. A large sold-out audience attended this event with great anticipation, and it is still being spoken of as the highlight event of the past year. Our fourth annual summer networking meeting took place on June 2018 at the University of St. Joseph with invited presenters Dr. Susan Ainsleigh and Dr. Bob Ross.

Our Membership, Organizational & Sponsorship, Family and Consumer Outreach, Student Support, Continuing Education, and Public Schools Special Interest Committees have all been very active. We also thank Dr. Joe Dracoby for managing all the technical needs for CT ABA this past year.

Since 2013, CT ABA recognizes an outstanding student in behavior analysis each year in memory of Rachel D'Avino, a Connecticut student of behavior analysis who was killed in the Newtown school shooting. This year, Katerina Jacobs received the award. Congratulations, Katerina!

We are pleased with our continued growth and efforts to support and promote behavior analysis, and we look forward to our role as the voice of behavior analysis in Connecticut. Please go to www.ctaba.org for a list of our current BoD members and other information regarding CT ABA.

Four Corners ABA

BY AMY KENZER

The mission of Four Corners ABA (4CABA) is to promote the science of behavior and evidence-based technologies derived from the basic science in Utah, Arizona, Colorado, and New Mexico. The chapter had another strong year of providing behavior analysts in the Four Corners region with an intellectual home. Michele Bishop, Ph.D., BCBA-D (Devereux Arizona Director of Autism Services), is the current president.

In Memoriam

It is with a sad heart that we report we lost our dear friend Dixie Eastridge this fall. Dixie was an acting board member of 4CABA when she passed away on November 7, 2017. She was the clinical director at Learning Services Neurobehavioral Institute-West; a director of the Colorado Association for Behavior Analysis; a former president of 4CABA; and a certified brain injury specialist. She received her master's degree in psychology with an emphasis in behavior analysis from the University of Nevada, Reno. She loved her work with individuals with autism, developmental disabilities, at-risk youth, typically developing youth, and traumatic/acquired brain injury. In her honor, Learning Services established a memorial fund, to be administered by 4CABA. Dixie valued the role of our annual outside speaker and, more generally, finding ways to bridge relationships with related disciplines. Thus, the fund will be used to support this speaker annually, henceforth to be named the Dixie Eastridge Memorial Speaker.

Annual Convention

The location of the convention rotates annually through each of the Four Corners states. The 11th annual convention was held in Park City, Utah, April 6–7, 2018. The convention was hosted at the Yarrow, located moments away from skiing and a few short miles from the Utah Olympic Park. Consistent with 4CABA’s focus on balancing basic and applied research, we had a strong lineup of speakers from both areas. The convention was attended by approximately 90 members, several exhibitors, and nine amazing presenters. The annual convention schedule also included a poster session on the first night. The poster session traditionally includes a competition for best student poster. Award recipients receive a free membership and registration for next year’s conference.

Annual Activities

In our ongoing efforts to increase membership and let other behavior analysts know what we’ve been up to, 4CABA had an Expo poster at the 44th Annual ABAI Convention in San Diego, California. 4CABA also published our annual newsletter with updates from around the Four Corners region.

4CABA Membership

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

Heartland ABA

BY KEVIN C. LUCZYNSKI

HLABA will hold its 12th annual conference April 26–27 in Omaha, Nebraska. We are excited that Drs. Tony Biglan and Anna Petursdottir accepted our invitation to serve as the keynote speakers, with presentations called “Expanding the Scope and Depth of Behavior Analysis” and “Skinner’s Analysis of Verbal Behavior: Still Relevant?” Drs. Biglan and Petursdottir will also conduct workshops called “Evolving More Nurturing Communities Through Behavioral Science” and “Antecedent and Consequence Control in Verbal Behavior.” We expect that both

workshops will be attended by individuals from a variety of fields, areas of expertise, and surrounding states.

We also invited Dr. Keith Allen, which will allow our members to learn about conducting behavior analysis in the context of the special education system. He will present, “What Applied Behavior Analysts Need to Know About Negotiating the Special Education System.” Dr. Andrew Craig will present basic research in his talk called “Why Eliminated Behavior Resurges and What We Can Do About It.” We accepted one paper submission from a doctoral student in the University of Nebraska Medical Center’s Ph.D. program in behavior analysis; Andrew Blowers will present “Assessment and Treatment of Elopement Maintained by Chase.” The other paper submission is from Dr. Jerry Rea, “Assessment of Sexual Thoughts and Arousal in the Natural Environment via a Portable-Penile Plethysmograph in Men With Intellectual Disabilities Who Had Committed Sexual Offenses.”

We offer a monthly speaker series that is free of charge to HLABA members. The speaker series allows members to obtain continuing education units for BCBA certification, and members can join the speaker series remotely via video conference. In the past year, we were fortunate to have Dr. Mahshid Ghaemmaghami, Dr. Greg Jensen, Dr. Kathryn Glodowski, Ms. Lauren Phillips, Dr. Sarah Lechago, Dr. Adam Briggs, and Dr. Pat Johnson contribute to our series.

Illinois ABA

BY JESSICA GAMBA

The Illinois Association for Behavior Analysis (ILABA) is a state organization whose purpose is to promote behavior analysis. The goals of the organization include encouraging collaboration among behavior analysts in Illinois, fostering relations between practices and universities in Illinois, and keeping behavior analysts informed about licensure and certification, changes to insurance provision, continuing education opportunities, and public policy.

ILABA’s seventh annual convention was held in Oak Lawn, Illinois, April 12–13, 2018. Presentations covered broad swaths of issues related to both practice and theory, including ethical and sustainable entrepreneurship, training curriculum for supervisors, and how to keep the science of ABA progressive. The two conference symposia were preceded by a poster session, social, and a workshop on the vitally important topic of making ABA services accessible to marginalized populations. During the conference, ILABA’s annual business meeting included announcement of the board’s new operations coordinator-elect and treasurer. Every year, conference attendees obtain continuing education credit at no additional cost.

The chapter’s Membership Committee has continued to develop opportunities for tangible benefits to members as well as agency sponsors of ILABA. In addition to the annual conference, ILABA provides other continuing

education opportunities and hosts town hall meetings for discussion of current events. Members may access a membership and agency directory along with other member-exclusive resources on the website. Illinois agencies may choose to support ILABA with sustaining contributions, or become agency sponsors with benefits including spotlights in quarterly newsletters and on social media, the ability to make posts to the ILABA job board, and vendor tables at the annual conference.

Throughout the 2017–18 membership year, ILABA's licensing committee has continued to work closely with state legislators to make progress on the Behavior Analyst Licensing Act in Illinois (HB 5580). ILABA's Academic Committee drafted a sample letter of support for licensure, which was made available for university representatives to provide their backing. All board members continue to advocate for the bill and gain support from other behavior analysts, legislators, and professionals in the state; ongoing updates on this topic can be found via ILABA's website and social media outlets.

Another topic of great concern to ILABA's board and membership this year has been the proposed rate cut by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Illinois (BCBSIL). ILABA board members, as part of an Insurance Task Force, have met with BCBSIL and are working to continue with negotiations; Autism Speaks and the Illinois Autism Task Force have also both formally communicated their support of prevention or adjustment of these rate cuts. As reported in the spring 2018 issue of our newsletter, "of the 57 agencies that responded to our survey on the impact of these rate cuts, 88% responded that the proposed rates would be insufficient to cover the cost of treatment while maintaining current quality."

ILABA members are contacted by the board via email and can also access regular updates through the ILABA Facebook page and www.ilaba.org. Annual meetings will continue to be held both at the ILABA conference and the ABAI annual convention.

Kansas ABA

BY EDWARD K. MORRIS

Mission

Kansas ABA's (KansABA) mission is to disseminate information about the science and practice of behavior analysis and its education and training; address issues relevant to the science and practice of behavior analysis; maintain disciplinary, professional, and ethical standards; and recruit interest in behavior analysis throughout Kansas and the Kansas City metropolitan area (i.e., Clay, Jackson, and Platte Counties in Missouri).

Governance

KansABA revised its governance this year. It no longer includes an affiliate representative position. No one evinced interest in it. We also held our first elections and have

new Executive Council representatives (or representatives-to-be) and new committee members. KansABA is now governed by an Executive Council that consists of a president, Ed Morris; president-elect, Allison Tetreault; a full member representative, Linda Heitzman-Powell; an adjunct member representative, Katie Gower; and a student representative, Alec Bernstein and Brett Gelino. The Council is assisted by a secretary, Kelley Harrison, and a treasurer, Sarah Mead. In addition, KansABA has a Legislative Affairs Committee chaired by Nan Perrin; a legislative liaison, Kelley Harrison; a Conference Committee chaired by Alec Bernstein; a Web Site Committee chaired by Matthew Novak; and a Professional Development Committee chaired by Tyler Re.

Membership

KansABA has four membership categories, now that the affiliate representative position is no longer included. Full members meet the requirements for Full membership in ABAI and are residents of Kansas or the Kansas City metropolitan area. Only full members have voting rights on KansABA bylaws, policies, and procedures. Adjunct members are residents of Kansas or the Kansas City metropolitan area, but do not meet the requirements for full membership in ABAI. Supporting members are individuals who reside outside of Kansas or the Kansas City metropolitan area. Student members reside in Kansas or the Kansas City metropolitan area and meet the requirements for student membership in ABAI. Membership in all categories includes conference registration.

Conference

KansABA's annual conference is our primary professional activity. It is built around themes in research, training, and practice in Kansas and often features presenters from the state. Our out-of-state presenters are often alumni of the Department of Applied Behavior Science at the University of Kansas. The theme of our 2018 conference was "The Science of Everyday Decision-Making: From Research to Practice." Our presenters were Iser DeLeon (University of Florida), "Social Motivation Theories of Autism: Is Insensitivity to Social Reward Really the Problem?"; Kimberly Kirkpatrick (Kansas State University), "Improving Choice and Timing Processes Through Time-Based Interventions"; Gregory J. Madden (Utah State University), "It's All Lunch and Games: Using Game Design Principles to Increase Healthy Eating in Schools"; Richard Yi (University of Florida), "Group Context in Intertemporal Choice"; and Darnell Lattal (ABA-Technologies, Inc.), "Making Ethical Decisions at Work: Every Day Is Groundhog Day." Michael L. Wasmer (Autism Speaks) also presented "Legislative Updates for the Behavior Analyst." Attendance was 140, about 50% higher than any previous conference.

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We also held a business meeting, had a student poster session, hosted a career and education fair, and closed the conference with an awards ceremony. The awards were for the best student posters, distinguished service to KansABA, and distinguished service to the State of Kansas. The awardees for the latter two were Kelley Harrison (University of Kansas) and Linda Heitzman-Powell (Integrated Behavioral Technologies). KansABA hosted an evening reception for the speakers, registrants, and staff.

Mini-Conferences

KansABA’s Professional Development Committee, Tyler Re, chair, holds mini-conferences that provide regular BACB and ethics BACB CEs. This year, the conferences were on January 21 and August 26. The first included two sessions, one by Ali Markowitz (BCBA), titled “Ethics and Supervision in Behavior Analysis,” and one by Stephanie Glaze (BCBA), titled “Effective Supervision: Is That the Story Your Data Tell?” The second was by Pam Neidert (BACB-D) titled, “Functional Analysis of Problem Behavior.” About 30 registrants attended both conferences.

Legislation and Licensure

Kansas and Missouri parents of children with autism, providers of autism services, Autism Speaks, and KansABA have worked to develop licensure for board certified behavior analysts (BCBAs) in Kansas. BCBAs are now licensed in Kansas through the Kansas Behavioral Science Regulatory Board (BSRB). KansABA’s Legislative Affairs Committee and its legislative liaison stay current with activities in the Kansas state legislature and the BSRB that might affect our members and the practice of behavior analysis more broadly.

Kentucky ABA

BY ROBERT PENNINGTON

Mission

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

achievements, clinical practice, as well as for discussion of the affairs of the organization; and (6) publishing and distributing information on behavior analysis.

Executive Committee

KYABA is governed by an Executive Committee composed of a president, past president, president-elect, three representatives, and one student representative. The 2018 Executive Committee is composed of Robert Pennington (president), Erick Dubuque (past president), Molly Dubuque (president-elect), Amanda Ralston (representative), Becky Nastally (representative), Tammy Hammond Natof (representative), and Morgan Hunt (student representative). The Executive Committee is assisted by a director of operations. The 2017 director of operations is Maqenzi Hovious. Robert Pennington (president) will be leaving Kentucky for another position in May, and as a result and in compliance with the KYABA bylaws, the committee has appointed a replacement. Becky Nastally will complete his term and be replaced as representative by Lindse Murphy.

Committees and Task Forces

In effort to improve the services offered by the organization, KYABA has reintroduced a committee structure for 2017. Each committee and task force is headed by a representative from the Executive Committee. Other committee members are drawn from the membership. Tammy Hammond-Natof is this year’s chair of the Membership Committee. The mission of the Membership Committee is to increase membership in the association, disseminate information about association activities and opportunities, and develop new initiatives that increase the value of membership in the association. Maqenzi Hovious and Morgan Hunt are this year’s co-chairs of the Events Committee. The mission of the Events Committee is to assist in the planning and implementation of events sponsored by the association. Many Ralston is this year’s chair of the Newsletter Committee. The mission of the Newsletter Committee is to disseminate information relevant to the association’s mission in a biannual newsletter. Erick Dubuque is this year’s chair of the Awards Committee. The mission of the Awards Committee is to develop, plan, and implement the nomination, selection, and presentation process for awards given by the association. Molly Dubuque is this year’s chair of the Outreach Committee. The mission of the Outreach Committee is to represent the association’s interests to external organizations that operate relevant activities. Finally, Becky Nastally is this year’s chair of the Billing Task Force. The mission of the Billing Task Force is to develop a resource designed to help the association’s membership bill for behavior analytic services.

Membership

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

Events

KYABA has actively hosted events in the state since 2012. For the last few years, the organization has held an annual spring conference and a fall workshop series. These events have consistently sold out and drawn registrants from every corner of Kentucky and surrounding states. In April 2017, KYABA held its annual conference in Louisville, KY. The theme for the conference was Education Across the Lifespan, and our organization was fortunate to play host to Molly Dubuque, Erin Barton, Janet Twyman, Robert Pennington, Sally Shepley, Jenny Root, Peter Gerhardt, Leilani Feliciano, and Jon Baker. In November 2017, KYABA held its annual workshop series in Louisville, KY. During this event KYABA was fortunate to host Lorri and Dan Unumb, Melissa Nosik, Becky Nastally, Tammy Hammond-Natof, Bart Baldwin, and Amy Cooper-Puckett. In 2018, we will hold our annual conference and host Andy Bondy, Pat Friman, Ellie Kazemi, and Amanda Kelly.

Contact Us

More information about KYABA can be found on the organization's website: www.kentuckyaba.org.

Montana ABA

BY KARLYN GIBBS

As the field of ABA continues to grow throughout the state, Montana ABA (MTABA) proudly promotes its mission to support students and professionals in the field of applied behavior analysis through education, research, and practice. The MTABA executive members as of September 2017 include president, Jackie Mohler, MEd, BCBA; president-elect, Lorri Coulter, MS, SP, BCBA; past-president, Kimberly Piper, MA, BCBA; secretary, Crystal Fisher, student; and treasurer, Karlyn Gibbs, MEd, BCBA. The MTABA Executive Board is committed to making the organization a resource to members across the fourth largest state (in area) in the country. Plans are underway to further define executive roles and establish committees to support the mission of MTABA.

There are currently 31 board certified behavior analysts, 5 assistant behavior analysts, and 35 registered behavior technicians in the state of Montana, most of whom live and practice in the western half of the state. With the help of chapter president, Jackie Mohler, and assistance from both the BACB and APBA, Montana passed legislation to license behavior analysts in 2017. Board certified behavior analysts are currently in the process of applying for licensure while concurrently providing input to the licensing board to further refine the administrative rules governing the licensing process.

To serve an area of 147,000 square miles inhabited by slightly more than 1 million residents, MTABA had to establish efficient methods for disseminating information to chapter members and the public. To further this goal, MTABA recently launched a website, www.mtaba.org, providing the chapter with a central location that includes a member directory, online membership application and payment, and events calendar. Additionally, MTABA hosts a Facebook page at www.facebook.com/MontanaABA.

In September 2017, MTABA hosted its second annual conference in Anaconda, MT, providing members from across the state the opportunity to network and share information related to the pending licensing process. Montana native Dr. Patrick Friman informed, educated, and entertained participants throughout his full-day presentation titled "Behavioral Pediatrics: A Solution for a Major Gap in Child Health Care." In addition to sharing stories related to his Montana roots, Dr. Friman articulated the significant need for applied behavior analysis in fields such as childhood sleep disorders, enuresis, anxiety, and intervention for dangerous toddler behaviors.

MTABA continues to grow, albeit slowly, not only in membership, but in its ability to disseminate information. Our chapter anticipates another year of increased need for ABA as well as continued workforce shortages specific to our field. The Center for Medicaid Services approved

Montana’s plan for autism treatment, which, when made available to children on Medicaid, will further stress the already stretched professional resources available. Montana State University Billings continues to offer a BACB-approved course sequence whose graduates contribute to our numbers, and slowly BCBA’s from other parts of the country are discovering the beauty of our state. However, the ratio of 1 BCBA to every 33,000 residents speaks to our significant need for more credentialed professionals. Despite these needs, MTABA continues its mission to support professionals and students in the field of applied behavior analysis. Though there are relatively few of us, members remain united in their efforts to educate their respective communities about applied behavior analysis and how it can change the world.

Nebraska ABA

BY THERESA NEWTON

The Nebraska Association for Behavior Analysis (NEABA) held its third convention on November 10, 2017. The convention opened with a morning workshop (3 hours) led by Dr. Jon Bailey, “Using Interactive Teams to Problem Solve Ethics Scenarios.” Dr. Bailey also started off the afternoon with a presentation, “12 Reasons Not to Report an Ethics Violation.” The convention closed with a symposium called “Current Practices and Guidelines for Conducting Effective Supervision.” Amber Paden presented “Continued Training and Supervision: How and What to Document.” Terri Newton and Torri Smith-Tejral presented “Registered Behavior Technician Certification, Success and Challenges.” Victoria Cohrs and Claire Goodin presented “How to Build Confidence in Your Staff: An Errorless Teaching Approach.” Adam Briggs presented “Evaluating the Effects of Supervision: Strategies for Objectively Measuring Supervisee Performance.”

During the convention, elections for the following officers occurred: president, vice-president, and representative-at-large. The 2018 officers are Terri Newton, president; Nancy Lamb, vice-president; and Johanna Taylor, representative-at-large.

In 2017, the board contracted with Colby Coash, former Nebraska State Senator. The current board voted to continue its relationship with Mr. Coash for 2018. Mr. Coash will continue to monitor bills filed in the NE legislature, some of which could impact behavior analysis in the state or the people we serve. He will also continue to suggest key individuals the board should get to know who are working in the legislature, Department of Health and Human Services, as well as other agencies, and continue to keep us informed of relevant committee hearings and other developments.

In February 2018, Mr. Coash arranged an informational meeting between NEABA board members Terri Newton and Johanna Taylor and the director of Developmental Disabilities at the Department of Health

and Human Services, Courtney Miller. The focus of this initial meeting was to provide Director Miller with information regarding behavior analysis and the role of a behavior analyst in Nebraska.

Also in February 2018, a complaint was filed by a psychologist to the Nebraska Board of Mental Health Practice alleging that non-licensed board certified behavior analysts (BCBA’s) practicing applied behavior analysis in the state (which includes the performance of functional behavior assessments, or FBAs) violate the Nebraska Mental Health Practice Act and risk public safety.

NEABA, along with other stakeholders, including representatives from Autism Speaks, the Autism Legal Resource Center, Behavior Analyst Certification Board, the Association of Professional Behavior Analysts, and leading autism advocacy organizations in Nebraska, submitted signatures in response to this complaint, and the following issues were addressed:

- What is an FBA?
- Does the practice of applied behavior analysis (ABA; which includes the performance of FBAs) by non-licensed BCBA’s in Nebraska violate the Nebraska Mental Health Practice Act?
- Does the practice of ABA (which includes the performance of FBAs) by non-licensed BCBA’s in Nebraska harm or endanger the health, safety, or welfare of the public?

Mike Wasmer, Director of State Government Affairs at Autism Speaks, spoke to these issues at the Nebraska Board of Mental Health Practice Meeting (March 23, 2018). Johanna Taylor, BCBA-D, was also available to answer questions pertaining to behavior analysis and the role of a BCBA in the state of Nebraska.

Membership Update

Chapter membership continues to grow and there are 170 members to date. At this time, there is no data indicating how many of our members are also members of ABAI.

2018 Goals

NEABA is committed to promoting the science and practice of applied behavior analysis in the state of Nebraska. We will continue to focus on providing educational resources identified by our membership, expanding ABA services across the state, and educating stakeholders about the fundamental principles of ABA and its application in areas beyond autism (e.g., intellectual disabilities, education, rehabilitation, business, and government).

New Jersey ABA

BY KATE BRITTON

The New Jersey Association for Behavior Analysis (NJABA) enjoyed another successful year in 2017. Dr. Eric Rozenblat’s

presidential term ended in June 2017. Dr. Sandra Gomes, last year's president-elect, assumed the role of president on July 1, 2017, and Kate Britton was elected president-elect. The remainder of the Board of Directors remained consistent, thereby maintaining stability. This year, one new representative at large position was up for election. We are pleased to announce that Alexis Higgins Battaglia, MEd, BCBA, won the election and assumed her new role beginning July 1, 2017. We are lucky to have such dedicated professionals on the Board of Directors of NJABA.

Since its inception, NJABA has consistently held an annual conference. Our annual conference is now routinely attended by over 350 people. In 2017, the 12th annual conference, which was held March 31, was attended by nearly 400 people! We were honored to have Dr. Hank Roane, Gregory S. Liptak MD Professor of Child Development in the Department of Pediatrics at Upstate Medical University, deliver the keynote address, titled "Application of Behavioral Economics to the Treatment of Problematic Behavior Among Individuals With Development Disabilities." In addition to Dr. Roane's presentation, there were several workshops and symposia on topics including, but not limited to, a comparison of approach frequent and a compound preference index in predicting reinforcer effectiveness among individuals with MR and ASD; insurance assurance for ABA providers: tips from a managed care organization for a successful partnership; preparing for a successful transition to an adult day program; addressing social skill deficits with effective and creative strategies: ideas for conceptualizing, teaching, and evaluating mastery; effective consultation; empirically based procedures for training staff and caregivers; addressing common treatment challenges during skill acquisition for learners with autism; ethical considerations for behavior analysts providing services through health insurance; a review of procedures designed to establish and maintain stimulus control; and evaluation and remediation of treatment integrity errors in instruction for learners with ASD. Additionally, we also conducted a poster session that included posters on a wide array of topics. All presentations were required to be data-based with demonstrations of experimental control. We have continued to improve our conference based on the annual conference evaluations.

The 13th annual conference will be March 23, and our keynote speaker will be Wayne W. Fisher. He is the H. B. Munroe Professor of Behavioral Research at the Munroe-Meyer Institute and the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. He is also the director of the Center for Autism Spectrum Disorders at the Munroe-Meyer Institute, a board-certified behavior analyst at the doctoral level (BCBA-D), and a licensed psychologist. His keynote is "Using Behavioral Momentum Theory to Behaviorally Inoculate Children with Severe Behavior Disorders Against Relapse

Following Treatment with Functional Communication Training." Among other workshops and symposia, we will be featuring a supervision presentation, "Incorporating Best Practice Methods for Training Into the Supervision of Aspiring BCBAs" and also an ethics presentation, "Collaboration With Other Disciplines: How to Promote Applied Behavior Analysis." Again this year, we will conduct a poster session on a variety of topics. We are expecting another great turnout at this year's conference.

A large initiative of the organization over the past year was to increase membership through a comprehensive communications plan, which includes an updated website, up-to-date social media postings, and more interactions with students of New Jersey colleges and universities with approved applied behavior analysis course sequences. Through this plan, NJABA can be an even more influential resource for current and future New Jersey behavior analysts. We are also continuing to explore state-regulated professional credentialing processes, as we have learned a great deal from other states' experiences. We are lucky to have Dr. Gina Green helping to guide us through this exploratory endeavor.

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

Executive Committee

- Sandra Gomes, Ph.D., BCBA-D, president
- Eric Rozenblat, Ph.D., BCBA-D, past president
- Kevin Brothers, Ph.D., BCBA-D, treasurer
- Lauren Besante, MA, LDT-C, BCBA, secretary

Board of Directors:

- Alexis Higgins-Battaglia, M.Ed., BCBA, representative at large
- Robert LaRue, Ph.D., BCBA-D, Events chair
- Dennis Machado, MA, Communications chair
- Elena Garcia-Albea, Ph.D., BCBA-D, representative at large
- Suzanne Buchanan, Psy.D., BCBA-D, Government Affairs chair
- Catherine Taylor-Santa, Ph.D., BCBA, representative at large
- Emily Gallant, Ph.D., student representative/ Membership chair
- Marylouise E. Kerwin, Ph.D., BCBA-D, University Program Liaison chair
- Erin Richard White, Ph.D., BCBA-D, Continuing Education chair

We greatly appreciate the support of ABAI.

North Carolina ABA

BY R. M. “DUKE” SCHELL

The North Carolina Association for Behavior Analysis (NCABA) held its 29th anniversary conference in Winston-Salem, NC, February 21–23, 2018. The conference was a great success thanks to the leadership of Whitney Luffman, president (Autism Society-NC), as well the rest of our Executive Council, including Melanie Bachmeyer, past president (University of North Carolina-Wilmington); Selene Johnson, president-elect (ABC of NC); Kristi Toward, vice president (Carolina Center for ABA); Leigh Ann Strain, secretary (Effective Interventions NC); Nancy Poteet, treasurer (private consultant); Monique Baker, member at large (Effective Interventions NC); Erica Brown, member at large (Carolina Center for ABA); Karla Durig, student representative (University of Cincinnati); Jamie Clary, publications editor (Riddle Developmental Center); Fred Spooner, senior NCABA advisor (University of North Carolina-Charlotte); Duke Schell, liaison to ABAI (Riddle Developmental Center); and a host of other volunteers.

The 29th anniversary NCABA conference opened with the presentation of awards to honor North Carolinians who have promoted behavior analysis in research and everyday practice. Melanie Bachmeyer (University of North Carolina-Wilmington) received the Fred S. Keller Excellence in Behavior Analysis Award, Christy Adams (Effective Interventions NC) received the Technical Utilization Award, Callie Plattner (Access Family Services) received the “Do Things” Award, and Bruce Pate (East Carolina University) received the J. Iverson Riddle Student Scholarship Award. You can see descriptions of the NCABA awards and photos of our award recipients at our website: www.nc-aba.com.

Invited speakers at this year’s conference included Tom Cariveau (University of North Carolina-Wilmington), Mark Dixon (Southern Illinois University), Charles Wood (University of North Carolina-Charlotte), Carol Pilgrim (University of North Carolina-Wilmington), Dennis Reid (Carolina Behavior Analysis and Support Center), Jeffrey Tiger (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee), David Wilder (Florida Institute of Technology), Wendy Donlin Washington (University of North Carolina-Wilmington), and Linda LeBlanc (LeBlanc Behavioral Consulting). Additional speakers participated in workshops, concurrent sessions, and the highlighted student symposium hosted by Karla Durig (University of Cincinnati).

There were 19 research posters and 8 vendor posters in the poster session the first evening of the conference, which was coordinated by Kristi Toward. Several people were recognized for outstanding posters, including Reem Muharib, Kerry Kisinger, Ashley Voggt, and Charles Wood (University of North Carolina-Charlotte) in the professional category; Courtney Simpson, Elizabeth Reyes, Ashley Voggt, and Charles Wood (University of North

Carolina-Charlotte) in the graduate student category; and Melissa Chappell, Casey Irwin, Taylor Harrison, Lindsay Gordon, and Carol Van Camp (University of North Carolina-Wilmington) in the undergraduate student category. Special thanks to our volunteer poster judges: Carol Van Camp, Denny Reid, Tom Cariveau, Charles Wood, Mark Dixon, and Fred Spooner (University of North Carolina-Charlotte), Jim Phillips (Autism Society-NC), Jeannie Golden (East Carolina University), Brad Stevenson (Melmark New England; University of North Carolina-Charlotte), and Mark Stafford (Butterfly Effects).

The 29th annual conference had over 375 participants, including attendees and presenters. NCABA offered free registration for several student members, many of whom volunteered in varied activities at the conference. The evening social on the second night of the conference was a wonderful gathering filled with behavior analytic conversations among presenters and attendees, assorted free food and beverages, and a DJ hosting music and dancing.

Results of the 2018 officer elections announced at the NCABA business meeting at the conference included Callie Plattner (Access Family Services) as vice president; Leigh Ann Strain (Effective Interventions NC) re-elected as secretary; Aleck Myers (Autism Society-NC) as member at large; and Sydney Ramsey Batchelder (University of North Carolina-Wilmington) as student representative. In addition, a majority of members at the NCABA business meeting voted to approve the use of limited NCABA funds to pursue possible resolution to contradictory wording in separate NC state laws regarding the appropriate scope of practice of certified behavior analysts and their supervision by NC licensed professionals.

NCABA provided both BACB and NC Psychologist continuing education credits. During the conference, certified behavior analysts from NC and other states earned over 1,500 continuing education credits, and NC psychologists earned over 400 continuing education credits in workshops and invited addresses co-sponsored by NCABA and the NC Psychological Association. The NCABA conference continues to receive excellent feedback for attendees seeking professional continuing education at an affordable price.

At the ABAI 44th annual convention in San Diego in May, NCABA’s president, Selene Johnson, hosted the NCABA Expo poster. For the third year, the NCABA Executive Council approved partial financial assistance in order to send the president or another designated board member to the convention and annual chapter leadership training. This opportunity for financial assistance for an NCABA officer to attend the ABAI convention is reviewed annually by the Executive Council.

Please visit our website at www.nc-aba.com and see additional highlights from the 29th anniversary NCABA conference, including photos of award and poster winners

this year and in years past, and find information on becoming an NCABA member. The NCABA website also provides information about our history since 1989, including the “25 Year History” slide show, links to newsletters, and information about the conference and upcoming events, including our NCABA summer autism conference and planning for our 30th annual conference to be held in February 2019 in Winston-Salem, NC.

Ohio ABA

BY JENNIFER SWEENEY AND BRYAN DROESCH

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

OHABA is primarily an interest group and works to further behavior analysis by (1) promoting it in educational settings, (2) promoting university programs that specialize in applied behavior analysis, (3) providing a forum for the discussion of research and conceptual issues, (4) maintaining a website containing information about the organization and about behavior analysis in Ohio and elsewhere, and (5) functioning as the Ohio contact for and affiliate of ABAI.

The OHABA Executive Board members as of March 2017 included the president, Bryan Droesch, MSED, BCBA, PC, COBA; past president, Tracy Guiou, Ph.D., BCBA-D, COBA; president-elect, Nicole Powell, Psy.D., BCBA-D, COBA; secretary, Jennifer Sweeney, Ph.D., BCBA-D, COBA; and treasurer, Elizabeth Henry, MS, BCBA, COBA. The OHABA Board is committed to making the organization a resource for members across the state. In 2017, the board voted to add a co-chair position for Marketing and Technology and a new chair position for Public Policy. The OHABA Board includes Marketing and Technology co-chairs, Ron DeMuesy, MEd, BCBA, COBA, and Eric Anderson, MA, BCBA, COBA; Membership chair, Janet Hansen, Ph.D., BCBA-D, COBA; Professional Standards chair, Nichole Williams, MA, BCBA, COBA; Education chair, Hal Houseworth, MEd, BCBA, COBA; Program co-chairs, Daniel Payne, MA, BCBA, COBA, and Tracy Guiou, Ph.D., BCBA-D, COBA; Public Policy chair, Dimitri Makridis, BCBA, COBA; and student representative, Kayley Sanger, MA, BCBA.

In 2017, the full board and committees worked hard to coordinate opportunities for members. In April of

2017, OHABA was proud to offer a two-day conference at the Greater Columbus Convention Center. Speakers included Mark Dixon, Nancy Neef, Merrill Winston, Anthony Biglan, Tracy Guiou, Rachel Torrence, Sarah Kunkel, Maria Helton, Shelia Morgan, Elizabeth Henry, Jen Gonda, Leah Gongola, Dacia McCoy, and James Hawkins. The board continued the town hall meeting series, which included ethics CE opportunities for members across the state. Town hall meetings were held in Twinsburg (22 participants) and Cincinnati (9 participants). In March 2017, the board also held an ethics presentation and supervision presentation in Cincinnati, with 17 participants. Lastly, in September of 2017 in Cincinnati, the board held a two-day workshop by Dr. Greg Hanley titled “Practical Functional Assessment and Treatment of Problem Behavior.” The event was attended by 26 individuals.

Membership Information

Increasing membership across the state has been a primary focus for OHABA. The following table shows the growth in membership since December 2014.

Year	Number of Members
December 2014	127
December 2015	148
December 2016	185
December 2017	225

OHABA is intent on continuing to increase its membership by offering CE opportunities to members across the state. Individuals interested in joining OHABA can find a membership form on our website, www.ohaba.org. Fees are \$20 for full members, \$15 for affiliate members, and \$10 for student members. Benefits of membership include a reduced registration fee for OHABA conferences with CEs included; free ethics CE opportunities at town hall meetings held in different regions of the state four times per year; the opportunity to exchange ideas, discuss job leads, and share the results of research and practice efforts; upcoming access to various workshops and webinar opportunities; and updates on changes affecting the practice of applied behavior analysis. Individuals interested in becoming members, or any members interested in serving on the board or a committee, should contact OHABA at ohaba@ohaba.org.

Annual Conference 2017

The 2017 Conference was April 7–8 at the Greater Columbus Convention Center, in partnership with the

Hyatt Regency Columbus. We had approximately 150 attendees. Fees for our annual conference were \$150 (full members), \$200 (nonmembers), and \$65 (student members).

From April 2017 through the beginning of 2018, planning was underway for our eighth annual conference, held April 6–7, 2018, at the Greater Columbus Convention Center, in partnership with the Hyatt Regency Columbus. Our invited speakers in 2018 included Patrick Friman, Sheila Morgan, Janet Twyman, Nicolas Weatherley, and Matthew Normand. Fees for our annual conference remained the same as last year.

Certification in the State of Ohio

Over the past three years, the OHABA board has worked closely with the Ohio State Board of Psychology to educate BCBA's on the process and importance of becoming Certified Ohio Behavior Analysts (COBAs). Only individuals who have the COBA designation can practice behavior analysis in the state, except in exempt settings. The last step in obtaining the certification requires candidates to attend a half-day workshop and pass an exam covering the rules and regulations regarding behavior analytic practice in Ohio. The board has committed to having representation at each of these workshops to assist in answering questions and to ensure newly certified members are aware of OHABA as a resource.

Future Direction

The OHABA Board is committed to making the organization a resource for members. The board continues to add additional positions and develop committees to assist chairs in completion of their duties. The board continues to promote the town hall series with the goal of reaching ABA professionals across the state by regions: Cleveland/Akron/Youngstown, Columbus, Toledo, and Dayton/Cincinnati. The board would like to see membership and participation from members in each area.

Pennsylvania ABA

BY JONATHAN IVY AND LACEY BAILEY

The Pennsylvania Association for Behavior Analysis (PennABA) is pleased to share our annual update.

Mission and Vision

PennABA seeks to promote high-quality behavior analysis in the region, maintain the scientific integrity of the discipline, and advocate on behalf of behavior analysts and consumers of behavior analysis.

History

PennABA was incorporated in 1998. Richard Foxx and William Helsel saw a need to support behavior analysis in the state of Pennsylvania. In 2000, Richard Kubina chaired a meeting at the ABAI annual convention to help

elect PennABA's first set of officers. With the creation of PennABA, service providers, teachers, students, and families in Pennsylvania gained a resource that fosters the application and growth of behavior analysis.

PennABA Updates

The PennABA Executive Council issued a call for nominations and held an election for the positions of president, secretary, member at large, and student representative. Seeing the need to better represent the unique geographical needs of Pennsylvania, the council unanimously agreed to increase the number of member-at-large positions to three, with one each representing Eastern, Central, and Western regions of PA. We are pleased to share the results of this election and welcome the incoming Executive Council:

- **President:** Jim Chock, Ph.D., BCBA-D
- **Member-at-Large, East:** Nina Carraghan, MA, BCBA
- **Member-at-Large, Central:** Tim Caldwell
- **Member-at-Large, West:** Jeff Everly, Ph.D., BCBA
- **Secretary:** Melinda Desmarais, MA, BCBA
- **Student Member:** Alli Aquila

The newly elected Executive Council will officially begin their service following the 2018 annual convention. A big thanks to the outgoing Executive Council for their hard work and dedication. The outgoing president (Jonathan Ivy, Ph.D., BCBA-D) and secretary (Lacey Bailey, MA, BCBA) will continue to serve the organization in a different capacity.

From April 3–5, PennABA held its annual conference in Hershey, PA. The conference featured two days of workshops and a speaker series with six presentations. We were honored to have Dr. Thomas Critchfield, Dr. Mark Dixon, Dr. Richard Foxx, Dr. Mary Louise Kerwin, Dr. Daniel Mruzek, and Dr. Kathryn Glodowski present at this year's speaker series. Membership and event registration continues to increase. We hosted around 200 attendees over the three-day conference. This year the conference included a record number of exhibitors and poster presentations. For many behavior analysts in the region, PennABA has become an annual tradition. We are already busy planning the next conference.

Members of the Executive Council have also been closely involved in multiple meetings with state officials and local advocacy groups to improve access to quality ABA in Pennsylvania. As many behavior analysts in Pennsylvania are aware, the passage of ACT 62, the Behavior Specialist License, created significant problems for families trying to access ABA and behavior analysts attempting to meet this need. The education and training requirements for the Behavior Specialist License are below the national standard, as codified by the Behavior Analyst Certification Board. As a result, a board certified behavior analyst and a licensed behavior specialist are

viewed as equivalent, despite significant differences in training, competency assessment, and continuing education requirements. More than ever before, PennABA has been advocating for vast improvements to these systems of service delivery. We believe that behavior analysis should be delivered and overseen by qualified professionals. In the coming months we will continue to advocate for increased proficiency standards and improved access.

Closing

PennABA will continue to serve behavior analysts and consumers of behavior analysis in the region through continuing education and advocacy. We thank the members of PennABA, whose continued support is integral to all that PennABA has accomplished.

Philadelphia Metropolitan ABA

BY AMANDA FISHER

The Philadelphia Metropolitan Association for Behavior Analysis (PMABA) is the regional chapter of Philadelphia and surrounding areas, formerly known as the Delaware Valley Association for Behavior Analysis (DVABA). The objective of PMABA is to provide continuing education and networking for behavior analysts in an informal setting that has the atmosphere of a social gathering. Another primary goal is to increase cohesiveness among local behavior analysts who might otherwise be isolated as a result of working in diverse settings with service providers and researchers who are not behavior analytic, as many of our members are the only behavior analysts at their places of employment. Our email listserv provides announcements on local workshops, conferences, and events, as well as employment opportunities and recent legislative or advocacy issues relevant to local behavior analysts.

PMABA seeks to better serve as a scientific and professional reference and networking group for its members by making a number of changes this year. We have held business meetings, continued membership efforts, and are renewing our commitment to dissemination of information relevant to local behavior analysts as well as providing continuing education events. The chapter is led by the following executive council members: Amanda Guld Fisher, president; Beth Rosenwasser, information officer; Jessica Kendorski, secretary; and Arthur Dowdy, website and membership coordinator. We are always looking for members interested in getting involved in the organization and taking leadership positions. Please contact us if interested!

We have reinvigorated Black Scorpion Society meetings, originally facilitated by Drs. Phil Hiline and Charles Catania. We've held three Black Scorpion meetings over the last year, in which behavior analysts get together and discuss journal articles at a local watering hole. Dr. Phil Hiline often leads an article discussion in these events,

which is always a great way to satisfy our cravings for fun and intellectual conceptual debates and discussions.

The chapter has continued work to revise its bylaws and administrative procedures, and updated the website (<http://pmabainfo.wixsite.com/pmaba>), which is a resource for local behavior analysts providing information on membership, events, and other topics. We are continuing membership efforts and planning future CE events as well.

Anyone interested in becoming a member of PMABA should visit our website for membership information and contact Beth Rosenwasser at beth.rosenwasser@gmail.com to be added to our email listserv to receive updates about upcoming events, job opportunities, and other local behavior analytic information.

Tennessee ABA

BY JAMES N. MEINDL AND PABLO JUAREZ

The Tennessee Association for Behavior Analysis (TABA) was established in 1997 and serves to advance awareness, development, and access to behavior analysis across the state. Our organization has steadily grown over the years, and we now have close to 350 members and counting. This represents tremendous growth in recent years and we expect this trend to continue, particularly with student members. Each year, TABA hosts an impressive four conferences—our annual conference plus three additional regional conferences in the West, Middle, and East regions of Tennessee. The annual conference serves as a meeting ground and idea-sharing forum for all behavior analysts across Tennessee, whereas the regional conferences allow the diverse regional needs to be more closely met. In addition to the conferences, TABA also sponsored a Vanderbilt Kennedy Center-TRIAD workshop led by Greg Hanley on the topic of practical functional assessment and skill-based treatment of problem behavior.

Our 20th annual conference was a tremendous success, with over 400 attendees who joined TABA, October 26–28, in the beautiful Music City Center in downtown Nashville. This conference was well attended thanks in large part to the excellent line-up of speakers. Our invited speakers included Richard Foxx (Pennsylvania State University Harrisburg), who provided two talks covering his 45 years of research and practice and science-based treatments and fads in autism; Cathleen Piazza (University of Nebraska Medical Center), who discussed feeding disorders and treatment for children with autism; and Jim Carr (BACB), who provided a timely update on upcoming changes in the BACB. Our final conference day was devoted to a workshop on addressing service gaps in Tennessee and was presented by Pablo Juarez, Alacia Stainbrook, and John Staubit (Vanderbilt Kennedy Center-TRIAD). In addition to our excellent invited speakers, the TABA conference showcased 27 symposium and paper presentations and 11 poster presentations on

content that included clinical, community, and educational practice, and research issues.

Beyond the presentations, the TABA conference also hosted a variety of exciting activities and events each day. Each year, TABA presents three students with BACB Exam Reimbursement Awards, which are designed to support and congratulate student members who have recently become BCBA's. The most recent recipients are Katie Gregory, Amanda Speiss, and Meghan Ruddy. TABA also organized and hosted special roundtable discussions on a range of topics. These discussions allow conference attendees to have more direct interaction with presenters in a relaxed forum. Finally, we continued our new tradition of closing the conference with our exciting Student Behaviorallympics. This is an event wherein students engage in friendly competition across several events: a shaping race, terminology face-off, schedule charades, and drive-by visual analysis. Several awards are presented, and it serves as a fun vehicle for promoting student interaction across universities. On the topic of students, TABA would like to sincerely thank the tremendous number of student volunteers who made the TABA annual conference possible!

In 2017, TABA made important changes to the bylaws that will help promote longevity and further strengthen our influence in Tennessee. We have formally created a Legislative Committee (chair, Beth Urbanczyk) to promote our involvement in legislative issues. Additionally, we have created two new Executive Committee positions, president-elect and past president. Both positions are 1-year terms and are voting members. Our incoming president-elect is Pablo Juarez. Our other TABA Executive Committee members and Committee chairs remain a strong presence. Current Executive Committee members include James Meindl as president, Annie Cornelius as West TN representative, Lori Muchukot as Middle TN representative, Larua Forkum as East TN representative, Lerkenda Little as West TN student officer, Marina Velez as Middle TN student officer, and Cindy Conley as East TN student officer. Our committee chairs include Tiffany Denton and Cady Conley (co-chairs; Continuing Education), Erin Szarka (Publications), Erin Collins (Social Media), Jason Grosser (Professional Standards), and Joey Staubit (Membership). Finally, Jason Otto continues on as our strong and steady director of operations. Together, this group looks to continue the TABA goals of hosting top-notch conferences, expanding benefits of TABA membership, further defining and expanding our strategic plan for meeting the TABA mission statements, working closely with the legislature on issues of importance to behavior analysts, and serving as a driving force for behavior analysis across the state of Tennessee.

Texas ABA

BY SARAH A. LECHAGO

Executive Council

The 2017–2018 Executive Council consisted of a president Einar Ingvarsson, past-president Dorothea Lerman, secretary Rachel Kramer, and treasurer Regina Crone. In June 2017, Dr. Ingvarsson had accepted the position of director of clinical services at the Virginia Institute of Autism. He recommended that Sarah Lechago be appointed, and with the approval of the Executive Council, she officially became president on June 10, 2017. The Council members included Sarah Lechago (until June 9, 2017), Kate Patagoc-Johnson, and Kathleen Strickland-Cohen. Dr. Strickland-Cohen stepped down from her role, and Richard Smith was appointed. Tashenna Gillmore was appointed to a Council position in early 2018. Regina Crone was also appointed until the elections in 2019. The treasurer and secretary positions were combined in 2018, and Rachel Kramer agreed to take this position. Heather Barahona continued to serve as Texas ABA's (TxABA's) executive director. She announced her retirement from this position in February 2018. The council voted Zachary Morford to take her place. Heather will train him in the next year, and she will officially step down in March 2019. The student representative to the Council was Madeline Uptegrove from the University of North Texas. At the TxABA conference in March 10, 2018, student members elected Kenya Miles from the University of Houston-Clear Lake as the student representative for 2018–2019.

Committees

TxABA's Public Policy Committee (PPG), chaired by Gordon Bourland, played a very important role in TxABA's activities, as it monitored legislative activity and other public policy issues that may impact behavior analysts and their consumers in the state of Texas. The PPG is an independent group, which made it easier for them to coordinate legislative activities and raise funds to support initiatives like licensure. They organized the two-day "TxABA Days at the Capitol" right before the TxABA conference in 2017, which brought nearly 100 behavior analysts in contact with legislators to discuss important issues. All these efforts resulted in great success, as on Thursday, June 15, 2017, Governor Greg Abbott signed SB 589, enacting licensure for behavior analysts and assistant behavior analysts, making Texas the 28th state in the nation to establish licensure for the practice of applied behavior analysis (ABA). Legislators sponsoring the bill were Senators Lucio, Campbell, Menéndez, and Watson, and Representatives Simmons, Gonzales, Stucky, and Coleman. Practitioners will be required to obtain licensure in order to practice ABA in Texas by September 1, 2018. Dr. Bourland is part of the ABAI Licensing Committee and will be working

with other members of this committee to roll out licensure in Texas. In addition, Dr. Bourland was appointed to the state's newly established Behavior Analysis Advisory Board and designated its presiding officer. The PPG will continue to focus on implementation of licensure in Texas, and it is also turning its efforts to expansion of insurance coverage for ABA services in the state of Texas. As you can see, the PPG is very active with our state government and with ABAI in representing and protecting ABA practitioners and consumers of ABA services in the state of Texas.

The Professional Issues Committee, which focuses on professional development strategies for TxABA membership, was chaired by Jennifer Kaut. They will use the results of a survey disseminated to TxABA members requesting they rank-order a number of professional issues based on importance, to guide committee activities.

Special Interest Groups

In 2017–2018, TxABA had five active special interest groups (SIGs) arranged around members' common interests and geographical locations. This represents an addition of one SIG from last year. Traci Cihon served as president of Behaviorists for Social Responsibility (BFSR). Kimberlee Flatt served as president of the DFW Area Autism SIG. Domonique Randall served as president of the OBM SIG. Erika Hamer served as president of the Behavior Analysis in Public Education (BAiPE) SIG. Alison Baucom served as president of the Austin, Texas (ATX) SIG.

Annual Conference and TxABA Awards

The 32nd Regional Conference was March 9–11, 2018, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in downtown Houston, TX. This year marks the seventh in a row with record-breaking attendance—1,379, which is 229 more than last year. Attendees included professional behavior analysts, faculty, students, teachers, caregivers of individuals with development disabilities, and service providers from related disciplines. Sponsors included Butterfly Effects, Behavioral Innovations, Central Texas Autism Center, Children's Autism Center, DataFinch Technologies, First Leap Pediatric Therapy, Pathfinder Health Innovations, Therapy & Beyond, and The Shape of Behavior.

The conference hosted eight tracks this year, three more than last year. The General Track included speakers Dr. Amy Odom (Utah State University), Dr. Jesus Rosales-Ruiz (University of North Texas), Dr. Andy Lattal (West Virginia University), Dr. Linda Hayes (University of Nevada, Reno), and Dr. Timothy Hackenberg (Reed College). Topics included delayed discounting, history of a rat cartoon, shaping, cues for teaching and education, romantic love, and social economics.

Invited speakers in the Autism Track 1 included Drs. Francesca degli Espinosa (UK), Rebecca MacDonald (New England Center for Children), Jeffrey Tiger (University

of Wisconsin Milwaukee), Stephanie Hood (California State University Northridge), and Lee Mason (University of Texas San Antonio). Presentations covered a variety of topics such as complex verbal behavior, theory of mind, early autism diagnosis, social repertoires in toddlers, conversation skills in adults, delay fading procedures following FCT, and the verbal behavior stimulus control ratio equation.

Invited speakers in the Autism Track 2 included Dr. James Partington (Partington Behavior Analysts), Loukia Tsami (University of Houston-Clear Lake), Dr. John Guercio (Benchmark Human Services), Amy Wood (Families for Effective Autism Treatment), Ellen Catoe (Texana), and Dr. Dorothea Lerman (University of Houston-Clear Lake). Presentations covered a variety of topics such as elements for effective intervention, telehealth training, community integration and aggressive behavior, ethics, conducting the ABLLS-R and AFLS, and working with adults with ASD.

Invited speakers in the Professional Track were Dr. Raymond Miltenberger (University of South Florida), Dr. Regina Crone (Therapy and Beyond), Dr. Gordon Bourland (Trinity Behavioral Associates), Dr. Michael Perone (West Virginia University), Brian Francis (Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation), and Dr. William Ahearn (New England Center for Children). Presenters provided information on teaching safety skills to children, supervision and field experience, enhancing sports performance, higher education, impact of licensure for behavior analysts in Texas, evaluating and treating repetitive behavior, and ethics in the age of licensure and certification.

Invited speakers in the Education Track were Drs. Janet Twyman (University of Massachusetts Medical School; Shriver Center; Florida Institute of Technology; Blast), Joanne Robbins (PEER International; Morningside Academy), Donny Newsome (Fit Learning), and Grant Gautreaux (Nicholls State University). Presenters provided information on the teaching machine in the new age, partnerships between the US and South Africa, functional mastery, relational frame theory and curriculum design, and observational learning.

Invited speakers in the OBM Track were Dr. Terry McSween (Quality Safety Edge), Dr. Aubrey Daniels (Aubrey Daniels International), Dr. Florence DiGennaro Reed (University of Kansas), Dr. Domonique Randall (Shape of Behavior), Dr. Gordon Bourland (Trinity Behavioral Associates), Dr. Regina Crone (Therapy and Beyond), and Dino Eliopoulos (Behavioral Innovations). Presenters provided information on ABC analysis, the importance of OBM, evidence-based performance management to support practitioners, and the application of OBM in ABA clinics.

The Research Track consisted of speakers Drs. Mark Galizio (University of North Carolina Wilmington), Suzanne Mitchell (Oregon Health & Science University),

John Nevin (retired from University of New Hampshire; collaboration with NIMH & NICHD), Kimberly Kirkpatrick (Kansas State University), and Mary Sweeney (Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine). The presenters delivered talks on derived stimulus relations in rats, behavioral momentum, delay discounting, and human substance abuse.

The Social Issues Track consisted of speakers Drs. Mark Mattaini (University of Illinois at Chicago), Angela Sanguinette (University of California, Davis), Julie Smith (CLG), Jomella Watson-Thompson (University of Kansas), and Bernard Guerin (University of South Australia). The presenters delivered talks on behavioral systems to create social change, eco-feedback technology, improving patient experience at scale, behavioral community approaches to address societal issues through multisector collaboration, and community-based research methods for functional analyses.

The Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR) proposed new rules for the licensed behavior analyst and licensed assistant behavior analyst program. The proposed new rules implement Senate Bill 589, 85th Legislature, Regular Session (2017) and were published in the February 2, 2018, issue of the Texas Register (43 TexReg 501). The TDLR requested comments on the proposal through March 5, 2018. TxABA emailed its members encouraging them to read the rules carefully and to provide feedback. The TxABA PPG crafted a letter that represented the collective feedback of the PPG and the TxABA EC. One of the primary concerns was the proposed cost for licensure and yearly renewal, which was set at \$390 for BCBA's, and \$330 for BCaBA's. The bill originally proposed under the Texas Medical Board estimated a \$250 fee for a two-year license. These proposed fees were exorbitantly high and could have had detrimental fiscal effects, and detrimental effects related to attracting practitioners in Texas. Brian Francis of the TDLR presented on licensure in Texas at the TxABA conference. He said that our feedback was taken into consideration and the licensing fee has been reduced to \$160 for a two-year license.

TxABA also presented the Career Contributions to Behavior Analysis Award to Dr. Dorothea Lerman and the Pioneer of Behavior Analysis in Texas Award to Dr. Sander "Sandy" Martin. Each year, if revenue permits, TxABA awards James L. Kopp Memorial Scholarships to students of behavior analysis who plan to present their research at the upcoming ABAI annual convention. These competitive scholarships of \$500 each are intended to help defray the cost of attending the annual convention. A student must be listed as the presenting author of an accepted poster or symposium presentation to be eligible to apply for the scholarship. This year there were two recipients of the 2017 James L. Kopp Memorial Scholarship: Elizabeth Sansing (University of North Texas) for her research titled, "Improving Observational Learning in Children with Autism and Social

Delays: Recent Advances in Research and Practice," and Christie Stiehl (University of Houston-Clear Lake) for her research titled, "College Students with Autism Spectrum Disorder: Assessing and Teaching Conversation Skills."

The poster session featured TxABA's annual student poster competition. This year's winners were Brittany A. Zey (University of Houston-Clear Lake) for her research titled "Teaching Peer Engagement with Reciprocal Activities," Elizabeth Sansing (University of North Texas) for her research titled "Teaching Observational Learning to Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder: An In-Vivo and Video-Model Assessment," and Margaret R. Gifford (University of Wisconsin Milwaukee) for her research titled "Conditioning Preferences for Choice-Making Opportunities through Histories of Differential Reinforcer Quality and Magnitude."

The outstanding 2018 conference committee consisted of conference coordinator Heather Barahona, staffing director Rachel Kramer, CE check-in coordinator Mariah Hope, BACB ACE provider Richard Smith, TSHA ACE provider Christina Martin, and tech/media coordinator Evan Stone, and program chairs Jennifer Fritz, Kate Johnson-Patagoc, Domonique Randall, Jeanne Donaldson, Karen Toussaint, Zachary Morford, and Anna Petursdottir. PowerPoint slides from many of the presentations can be accessed at www.txaba.org/conference/conference.php.

Upcoming Activity

The upcoming year is an extremely busy one for TxABA. We will continue to work with a lobbyist to implement licensure for behavior analysts in Texas. In addition, TxABA will remain very active in supporting legislation relevant to behavior analysis and practitioners, including Medicaid coverage of our services.

The 2019 conference will be March 14–17 at the Worthington Renaissance Hotel in Forth Worth, Texas.

Vermont ABA

BY TERRA L. REED

As ABA continues to grow and spread in the state of Vermont, Vermont Association for Behavior Analysis (VtABA) is proud to continue its mission of expanding knowledge and expertise in behavior analysis throughout the state. On May 5, 2017, VtABA hosted its seventh annual conference in Burlington, VT. A total of 110 behavior analysts, allied professionals, and community members attended the event. We had the pleasure of hosting Dr. Patrick McGreevy as the presenter. Dr. McGreevy presented on *Essential for Living*, prompts and prompt fading, and how to provide a method of speaking for nonverbal learners using *Essential for Living*. This presentation provided attendees with the opportunity to become familiar with *Essential for Living*, the ability to describe prompt fading procedures that assist learners in acquiring a mand repertoire, factors to

consider when selecting alternative methods of speaking for nonverbal learners, as well as the ability to describe functional communication training compared to B. F. Skinner's analysis of verbal behavior from the point of view of the learner.

2018

On January 26, 2018, VtABA hosted a supervision and ethics training with 84 participants. This training provided three supervision and one ethics continuing education credits, and was free to members of VtABA. This year VtABA invited Dr. Allen Karsina to conduct our annual supervision and ethics training, titled "BCBA Supervision: Common Problems and Recommendations." Feedback from this training rated Dr. Karsina's presentation highly and described it as informative, well prepared and organized, and understandable.

Following the supervision and ethics training, VtABA held our annual meeting. Discussions at this year's meeting focused on successes over the past year, including increasing our membership to 200, adding additional family resources to our website, and increasing use of technology to promote inclusion for all members to join the VtABA board.

On April 16, 2018, we will be welcoming two presenters to Burlington, Vermont for our eighth annual conference. This will be the first time VtABA has hosted two presenters for the annual conference. Dr. Rebecca MacDonald, BCBA-D, will present "Establishing Social Repertoires in Young Children with Autism," and Tamara Kasper, CCC-SLP, BCBA, will present "Social Skills to Replace Problem Behavior." VtABA will say good-bye to three members this year, but we are excited to officially welcome our five new members at the annual conference in April!

VtABA is excited to educate the community about applied behavior analysis and its diverse utility, as well as to facilitate meaningful collaboration between service disciplines and providers for the betterment of all Vermonters. VtABA is always considering ways to recruit new members to the organization and to develop additional benefits for our members. During this next year VtABA will continue to research, educate, and advocate on the behalf of board certified behavior analysts, board certified assistant behavior analysts, and consumers of behavior analytic services across the state. VtABA will continue to offer free educational events to VtABA members and community partners, and further build VtABA as a resource for professionals and community members in the state of Vermont.

Virginia ABA

BY CHRISTY EVANKO

The Virginia Association for Behavior Analysis (VABA) is the affiliated chapter of ABAI in Virginia. We represent behavior analysts in Virginia and boast over 400 members! Last year, we increased membership by 12.5%. The

Commonwealth of Virginia has the eighth largest number of BCBA-Ds, BCBAs, and BCaBAs (combined) in the United States. The association has been in existence since 2003 and is a 501(c)(6) organization. VABA contracts with a lobbyist and this year hired an administrative director.

Recently, with the help of our lobbyist, we introduced a bill to classify behavior analysts as licensed mental health professionals to increase the number of opportunities to practice in the state. The bill passed both the House and Senate, and as of March was awaiting signature by the governor. We have been working closely with the Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services and the Virginia Department of Medical Services (Medicaid) to make sure behavior analysts are included in service areas where they can add value and be productive members of multi-disciplinary teams. We have an active Policy Committee and are continually looking for areas to facilitate and disseminate behavior analysis in Virginia.

Last fiscal year, VABA distributed four newsletters that were each opened by more than half of our members. We published seven blog posts with information that affects practitioners in Virginia, including public comment recommendations. We communicated to over 800 people via Facebook, and almost all our posts were shared by at least one person. We publicized 25 jobs on our website. We held an annual conference in Midlothian that had over 300 attendees and 24 sponsors. We held two continuing education events (apart from the conference) and two happy hours—one in Richmond and one in Harrisonburg. For the first time, we published an annual report that can be found on our website: www.virginiaaba.org/about.

To make sure we are meeting our members' needs, we produce an annual survey. This year, we are developing a separate survey for Student members. Survey data are used to help create our strategic plan. Using data from the last survey, we recently updated our goals: (1) improve viability and sustainability of the organization, (2) provide quality service to our members, and (3) advocate for the science of behavior analysis in the commonwealth. In January, the Board of Directors held a retreat where we fine-tuned these goals and identified activities to support them, as well as ways to measure our success.

This year, we are set to hold a conference in Roanoke in April and are on track to exceed last year's numbers. We just recently hit 1,000 likes on Facebook and continue to communicate to our followers on a regular basis. We are frequently monitoring our strategic plan to find better ways of serving our members. We hope to hold more networking events and offer more continuing education opportunities beyond our conference.

VABA membership offers a lot of benefits, including an annual conference, networking opportunities, quarterly newsletter, CE offerings (at the conference and beyond), members-only resources, lobbying and policy

efforts, and discounts on a variety of outside products. The VABA Board of Directors works diligently to make sure we are relevant to behavior analysts in Virginia. We meet quarterly and stay in continual contact to provide benefits that our members need and ask for. We are proud to represent behavior analysis in Virginia.

West Virginia BAA

BY CLAIRE ST. PETER

Our chapter had a relatively quiet year. We continued to recruit new members, and designed and implemented electronic recruiting and registration systems in the latter part of 2017 that increased our 2018 membership. In addition, we collaborated with the behavior analysis program at West Virginia University and the Mountaineer Autism Project to provide continuing education opportunities for our members at the Mountaineer Autism Project meeting. We look forward to expanded membership and increased activity in 2018.

Wisconsin ABA

BY MATTHEW ANDRZEJEWSKI

The Wisconsin Association for Behavior Analysis (WisABA) was founded in 2004 and continues to serve the needs of behavior analysts in Wisconsin. In August 2017,

we held our 10th annual conference at the University of Wisconsin-Madison (UW-Madison), hosting a number of internationally recognized speakers, offering several practical workshops, and providing continuing education credits for board certified behavior analysts (BCBAs).

The state of Wisconsin continues to offer behavior analyst licenses contingent upon Behavior Analyst Certification Board certification. Currently, we have over 120 licensed behavior analysts in Wisconsin. Behavior analysis training programs at UW-Madison, UW-Milwaukee, UW-Eau Claire, and UW-Whitewater continue to produce a substantial number of expertly trained behavior analysts, but many agencies and providers statewide are hiring additional BCBAs.

WisABA continues to advocate for and represent behavior analysts throughout Wisconsin. Now in our 14th year, and building on the enormous success of our 10th conference, WisABA held its 11th annual conference at the UW-Madison in August 2018. The event featured workshops, talks, forays onto State Street, the Suzuki strings of Madison, poster sessions, social hour, our famous member-speaker dinner, and plenty of opportunities to network. Membership and conference information can be found on our website, WisconsinABA.com. ❖



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2018 Supporting and Sustaining Members

ABAI would like to recognize and thank those members who provide additional support to encourage the involvement of undergraduate and graduate students in the science and practice of behavior analysis through increased membership dues. To learn how you can enhance your support of the field through our supporting membership option, or push your support even further with a sustaining membership, please visit www.abainternational.org/membership.

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Lara Delmolino Gatley
Kate Fiske
Suzanne Fitch
Mark Galizio
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William Helsel
Dagmar Hemmerich
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Michael Weinberg
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Updates From ABAI's Non-U.S.A. Affiliated Chapters

ABA Australia

BY ALAYNA HABERLIN

ABA Australia turned four years old in 2018. Each year, our association has grown both in membership and community involvement. Our organization continually develops new methods to disseminate behavior analysis and lay the groundwork to make more systemic changes within funding agencies.

Our National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) committee has taken on the monumental task of ensuring that ABA services receive equal consideration in government funding allocation. They are addressing this by focusing on seven tasks to help make funding for behavior analytic services easily available for those who desire it. One of their big accomplishments last year was the submission of a paper to the Joint Standing Committee of NDIS about the provision of services under the NDIS Early Childhood Early Intervention Approach. Currently, they are close to publishing a position paper on early intervention services for children with autism spectrum disorder. We are excited to see what this amazing group will accomplish in 2018.

Less than a decade ago, finding a behavior analyst was like finding a needle in a haystack. Now we have 161 members of ABA Australia and 71 certified behavior analysts in this country. We are growing and so is our voice.

As our community of behavior analysts grows, we are seeing the demand for high-quality behavior analytic services continue to grow. However, meeting this demand is a challenge so we must continue to increase the number of behavior analysts and quality training institutions.

Our board of directors has changed this year as well. We welcomed two new directors, Dr. Tessa Taylor as president elect, and Dr. Max Jones as head of committees. We are delighted to have their expertise and passion on the board.

Last year, we were excited to become an affiliated chapter of ABAI and were fortunate enough to have two board members present at the ABAI annual convention. Dr. Alayna Haberlin and Mrs. Michelle Furminger traveled to Denver, Colorado, last May to attend an affiliated chapter training and promote ABA Australia at the Expo. At the Expo, they had a constant stream of behavior analysts interested in learning about ABA in Australia while tasting Tim Tams and Vegemite. It was great to see so many people excited about what we are doing and a growing interest about behavior analysis Down Under.

Finally, we held our Second Annual ABA Australia Conference last November in Sydney. It was a great success, and we are looking forward to seeing everyone again in Brisbane this July!



ABA España

BY JAVIER VIRUES-ORTEGA

The past year has been an eventful period for ABA España. After a three-year process, we launched the Spanish version of *Applied Behavior Analysis* by Cooper, Heron, and Heward. A group of over 20 professional behavior analysts and collaborators have brought about this exciting

development (some are pictured in Figure 1). The e-book version of the Spanish edition of “The White Book” is now available at abapublicaciones.com for all to enjoy. We expect that this new resource will make a difference in education and training of future Spanish-speaking behavior analysts.



Figure 1. Representatives from ABA España pose with a translated copy of *Applied Behavior Analysis*.

ABA España hosted the II Summer School of the European Association for Behavior Analysis in Cadiz (Spain). The conference was a big success, with all seats sold out. Professionals and students from over 10 countries attended, some of them via streaming. We enjoyed workshops and keynote addresses from many distinguished Spanish and international behavior analysts, including Dr. Greg Hanley, Dr. Neil Martin, Dr. Per Holth, Dr. Eric Larsson, Dr. Ricardo Pellon, Dr. Jose Navarro, and Dr. Chris Podlesnik, to mention just a few.

We have continued our path toward developing user-friendly tools for practitioners and researchers. This year we created an app for iOS devices, Big Eye Observer. The app is one of the most versatile tools for conducting behavioral observation in applied and research settings. The app is capable of recording time-stamped events and computing most relevant behavioral dimensions for a range of target behaviors. We expect to more widely advertise Big Eye Observer on social media over the upcoming months.

We continue our pioneering work in training and education for Spanish-speaking students interested in applied behavior analysis. More than half of the students we have served over the years by way of our approved course sequence are monolingual students coming from low-income countries, a population that would be unlikely to access quality education in applied behavior analysis by mainstream channels. Partially due to this line of work, Spanish is now the second most popular language after English among BACB exam takers. In order to expand our reach even further, we expect to present our new RBT course in 2018. As part of the preparatory work toward this aim, this year we facilitated the translation of the RBT task list into Spanish.

If you are interested in learning more about ABA España and its activities, visit our website or check us out on Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter.

- Web: aba-elearning.com
- Facebook: [@abaspanainfo](https://www.facebook.com/abaspanainfo)
- Instagram: [@abaespana](https://www.instagram.com/abaespana)
- Twitter: [@ABA_Spain](https://twitter.com/ABA_Spain)

ABA India

BY SRIDHAR ARAVAMUDHAN AND SMITA AWASTHI
The Association for Behavior Analysis India enjoyed a year of reflection in 2018. Dissemination efforts by the chapter in previous years have helped immensely in spreading the awareness of ABA across the length and breadth of the country. Many more students are motivated to study behavior analysis and appear for certification exams, with most continuing to choose the field of autism for their careers.

We are delighted to share that for the first time a question presented by our chapter was raised in the question-hour session in Parliament. The question was on the need for recognizing behavior analysis in the country, and was sent to the relevant government ministry for a response. ABA India is now drafting a response to the ministry's reply. This was a big achievement, as it has generated discussion on behavior analysis at the government level.

The Indian Academy of Paediatrics (IAP), in its guidelines for autism, has recommended that interventions for autism should be specific and evidence based, with ABA mentioned. We are also delighted to share that *Developmental Pediatrics Today*, a monthly e-newsletter of the IAP Chapter of Neurodevelopmental Pediatrics, has invited Dr. Smita Awasthi, founder of ABA India, to write an article each month to bring awareness of applied behavior analysis to the pediatric community. This is also a significant development for the field in India.

The challenges for ABA India as a chapter and ABA as a field of practice remain high. First, ABA continues to be under resourced in terms of both funds and volunteers. A handful of committed professionals have very high

demands on their time from their clinical practice, leaving little for networking with peer groups, arranging chapter meetings, and taking up public dissemination tasks. Second, the rising knowledge about ABA and a shortage of professionals (India has only around 37 behavior analysts for a population of 1 billion!) has led to special educators and para-professional starting clinics claiming to do ABA. There are challenges associated with going after such unethical practices legally, and so community education options need to be explored. Third, the contingencies for a community of behavioral experts to thrive is just emerging in India and need to be given impetus and all possible support from well-meaning behavior analysts.

To address these challenges, ABA India is planning some important initiatives. The first was a "meeting of minds" retreat in June 2018. Behavior analysts from across the country were encouraged to come together, share their experiences with the application of science through research paper presentations, and also contribute ideas to build a thriving, positive, strong, and growing behavior analytic community in India. Additionally, it has been proposed that a core, working group be formed to address the problem of non-credentialed para professionals claiming to provide ABA services. Every such instance brought to the attention of the core group will be addressed through direct parent education in the specific locations. Behavior analysts across India will also be encouraged to increase the pool of credentialed frontline behavior therapists, as this could help check the spread of a non-behavioral frontline forces. The problem of funding and shortage of people elude easy fixes. These, we believe, could be managed better by leveraging the extended circle of contacts of behavior analysts to contribute funds and volunteer time. In summary, there are exciting times ahead for ABA India as the ground is getting prepared for the field to grow, flourish, and serve the society in India.

ABA Saudi Arabia

BY MONA ALHADDAD
ABA Saudi Arabia was accepted as an affiliated chapter of ABAI on May 31, 2013. Four years since the establishment of the chapter, ABA Saudi Arabia is taking responsibility to commit to its mission statement.

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

The founding and current officers are Mona Al-Haddad, MEd, BCBA, president; Faisal Alnemary, Ph.D., BCBA,

SAUDI ARABIA continued from page 41

president-elect; Shumaila Jaffry, MS, BCBA, secretary; Katelyn Craig, MS, BCBA, treasurer; and Amal Abulayah, BS, BCaBA, publication and marketing officer.

ABA Saudi Arabia currently has a membership of around 65 individuals, consisting of practicing behavior analysts, professionals in behavior analysis, students (graduate and undergraduate), speech pathologists, and community-based individuals interested in the science and service of behavior analysis in Saudi Arabia. As one aim of our mission is to disseminate the science of ABA to different communities in Saudi Arabia, the chapter continues to commit to accomplish its mission through providing workshops to people in the community including parents, practitioners at intervention centers (e.g., Jeddah Autism Center, Saudi Association for Autism, Jeddah institute for Speech and Hearing-JISH), and school teachers. Many of those who attend these workshops are looking for higher accreditation in ABA through accredited short courses or intense seminars (e.g., RBTs). Due to this fact, the chapter’s mission is to keep spreading awareness of ABA and credentialed people who are entitled to provide ABA services.

In addition, this year the chapter is committed to regulating the practice of ABA and its profession through the Saudi Health Counsel (SHC) and the Saudi Commission for Health Specialties (SCHS). First, on behalf of all practicing behavior analysts in Saudi Arabia, Dr. Faisal Alnemary, chapter president-elect and Al Anoud Al Saud, BCBA, presented a proposal to SHC to establish the Saudi Board for Behavior Analysis. This entity will be responsible for monitoring the practice of ABA in Saudi Arabia and reporting to the BACB all approved practices of certified practitioners and supervising closely those who practice but are not yet supervised.

Also, a slight variation was submitted by Dr. Faisal Alnemary, chapter President-Elect, along with Al Anoud Al Saud, BCBA, and Dr. Nouf Alzrayer, BCBA-D, to SCHS asking first to form a committee to establish the Saudi Board in ABA. In the proposal, we also asked the SCHS to regulate the practice of ABA for already certified practitioners and supervise closely those who practice but are not yet supervised. The chapter addressed its members’ needs to have the science and its practices recognized and legalized in Saudi Arabia and took the initiative through communicating to authorized sectors. Also, we have a great commitment to inform the members about the chapter’s activities, and in most meetings that involves taking the chapter forward. For example, in February 2018, the chapter held a virtual meeting and invited most available members to participate in making decisions regarding the proposal sent to the SHC and the current status of the Saudi Board in ABA. This meeting was headed by the chapter’s president-elect, Dr. Faisal

Alnemary, and with the presence of the chapter president, Mona Al-Haddad, Secretary, Shumaila Jaffry, chapter members, and others who are interested in ABA. One of the major decisions made at this meeting was following up with the SHC about licensure for certified behavior analysts to legalize the practice of ABA in Saudi Arabia.

Therefore, the chapter plans collaborative work with educational, governmental, and regulatory channels (Saudi Commission for Health Specialties and Saudi Health Counsel) in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The chapter is also carrying on with its mission and participating in major related conferences in Saudi Arabia (e.g., the 1st National Developmental & Behavioral Pediatrics Conference in Riyadh, 15–16 April, and The BLUE DAY: Autism Awareness Campaign in Jeddah, April 25–28).

Carrying out its mission to disseminate ABA to the Arabic-speaking community, ABA Saudi Arabia is heavily involved in translating ABA-related documents. This year, we added the BACB Experience Standards and Forms, in addition to previously translated documents:

- Compliance code
- Glossary Version 1
- Glossary Version 2
- 4th edition task list
- RBT task list
- RBT competency assessment

ABA Saudi Arabia is going to provide continuing education for its members this year as well. Dr. Lamis Baowidan, BCBA-D, is invited as a CE presenter for this year, with Ms. Mona Al Haddad, chapter president as a co-presenter April 18, 2018.

Finally, the chapter is focusing on collaborating with designated sectors in health and education to provide short courses and training for their employees in addition to designing an accredited degree in ABA.

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

ABA Turkey

BY ELIF TEKIN-IFTAR

Behavior analysis is an emerging field in Turkey. The introduction and dissemination of The BCBA Task List and The Professional and Ethical Compliance Code for Behavior Analysis in Turkish across the nation has been in progress since 2017. These documents are included in the course syllabus of the behavior analysis in autism graduate program.

In addition to including these documents in the course syllabus, it was planned to introduce these documents nationwide, in various meetings such as conferences in special education. Conducting a nationwide seminar about how to manage problem behaviors in individuals with developmental disabilities is planned for 2018.

We have an agenda to create a web page in Turkish; however, it is still in progress. We are hoping that it will be published by the time this publication goes to print.

Association for the Advancement of Radical Behavior Analysis

BY PAOLA SILVA AND FABIO TOSOLIN

The Association for the Advancement of Radical Behavior Analysis (AARBA) is happy to share our experiences with other chapters because we think that by sharing our strategies and successes, we are reinforced, we learn lessons, we instill hope, and we are instilled with hope. Before presenting our activities of 2017, we are happy and proud to highlight two major achievements for our association:

First, AARBA became an associate chapter of ABAI—the Italy Associate Chapter! This chapter is in collaboration with AIAMC, the oldest and largest association of behavior analysts in Italy, in order to gather together all Italian behavior analysts—clinical, educational, and occupational. In this way, our members become ABAI members, which includes many benefits: access to the ABAI web portal, electronic subscriptions to ABAI e-newsletters, and subscriptions to *Inside Behavior Analysis* and *Perspectives on Behavior Science*. We would like to thank all our international supporters (Dick Malott, Tim Ludwig, Mark Alavosius, Ramona Houmanfar, Maria Malott, Martha Hübner, and others) who have helped us and made it possible!

Second, in last year's report, we summarized the activities that our association was carrying out, together with AIAMC, in order to bring back professionals to adopt a rigorous scientific approach in their practice, in every field. Since AIAMC has more than 2,000 members and 10 post-graduate schools in behavioral psychotherapy all over Italy (officially recognized by the Italian Ministry of University and Research), AARBA and AIAMC started to work with the educational committee to seek ABAI accreditation.

The process was long and complicated, but we are happy to announce finally that these schools are starting a 2-year course in ABA therapy! The program of the course follows those of the universities accredited by ABAI, and the teachers will be both Italian ABA pioneers and prominent international friends who have helped and supported AARBA and AIAMC.

2017–2018 Conferences and Dissemination Activities

Judith Komaki led a workshop in Milan on May 8, 2017. Taking advantage of Prof. Komaki's trip to Italy, AARBA organized a workshop on behavioral leadership for entrepreneurs, HR managers, and HSE managers of local companies.

ABAI asked our association to present at the chapter leadership training during the ABAI 43rd Annual Convention in Denver, CO, on May 25–29, 2017. Our president, Dr. Fabio Tosolin, presented on the development of behavior analysis in Italy and the formation of the Italy Associate Chapter.

Our annual European conference took place in Rome on June 13–14, 2017. As in the previous year, AARBA and AIAMC worked together on a big applied behavior analysis conference, covering many of the applications of behavior analysis. More than 400 attendees (psychologists, psychotherapists, doctors, HSE managers, HR managers, consultants, and more) participated in different sessions of the conference. There were two sessions dedicated to behavior-based safety and performance management and two dedicated to behavioral therapy and behavioral medicine. International speakers were Timothy Ludwig (Appalachian State University), Lori Diener-Ludwig (Performance Blueprints Inc.), and Julie Smith (ChangePartner Healthcare). For the opening of the event we also welcomed a former Italian Minister of Labour, Maurizio Sacconi. The focus of the conference was on how to bring behavior analysis closer to Italian political institutions in order to influence laws and legislature with scientific principles. For this reason, the conference was in the Italian capital city of Rome.

Since the first research on the application of BBS in healthcare, conducted by our researchers with funding from the Italian Ministry of Health, our association has been trying to spread the adoption of behavior analysis techniques for the management of safety and hygiene behaviors in hospitals; for this reason, we invited the president of the Senate committee dedicate to hygiene and healthcare, Emilia Grazia De Biase. The event also received a gold medal for its high social and moral value from the president of the Italian Republic.

We hosted 12th European Conference on Behavior-Based Safety and Organizational Behavior Management in Como, June 14–15, 2018. The main theme of the conference was the dark side of safety. The conference was enriched by the presence of three international invited speakers, and by the CEOs and HSE managers of companies that have implemented behavioral management systems.

The Ambiente Lavoro Convention took place in Bologna, September 13–14, 2017. Every year AARBA participates in this event, which is dedicated to occupational safety and health, with the aim of spreading behavior-based safety for saving workers' lives.

An AARBA delegation attended the ABAI Ninth International Conference in Paris, France, on November 14–15, 2017. The delegation presented some behavior-based safety research and case studies, including “Teaching Applied Behavior Analysis to Professionals, and Not Psychologists: The Training and Coaching Path for Spreading OBM and BBS Practices in a Country,” by Fabio Tosolin (AARBA president); “Application of Scientific Methods for the Reduction of Risk Behaviors in Health Care: Follow-Up at One Year From the Implementation of B-BS,” by Maria Gatti (AARBA secretary); “Emergency Contingencies: Building Safety Behaviors in Time-Pressure Conditions,” by Paola Silva (AARBA researcher); and “The Change of Opinions Toward Colleagues, Leaders, and Plant Managers a Few Months After the Beginning of a Behavior-Based Safety Process: Strategy to Address a Distrustful Climate in a Work Environment,” by Luca Giani (AARBA researcher). The AARBA president was also invited to participate in a panel discussion, “Assessing the Quality of Behavior-Based Safety Applications: International Efforts to Promote Effective Management of Occupational Health and Safety,” coordinated by Marc Alavosius.

One of the activities we are carrying out for preserving the integrity of behavior analysis interventions is teaching behavior analysis principles to safety professionals, explaining how to train and motivate people’s safe behaviors. In 2017–18, we reached the 33rd edition of the 80-hour Behavior-Based Safety Master Course.

Research

After the death of Prof. Ettore Caracciolo, a pioneer of behavior analysis in Italy and one of the founders of AARBA, our association established a grant in his memory to finance research. The 2017 grant was awarded to the project “OBM: Applications in companies and in the private social field.” The aim of the project is to extend behavior analysis principles to all behaviors that allow a well-organized working environment, and therefore more efficient performance and increased productivity. Two organizations will participate in the research: a nonprofit organization that deals with psychoeducational interventions, and a small knitwear production company.

AARBA president, Dr. Tosolin, is also professor of human factors on the safety engineering faculty at Milan Polytechnic University. For this reason, some students have asked for support for their experiments and dissertation research and we have supported a student’s research in a multinational company based in Turin. The aim of the research is to confirm or refute two experimental hypotheses:

- There is a statistically significant difference between safe behaviors in all working groups, in the presence or in absence of the leaders (team leader, floor manager, etc.).

- Workers who are also observers of the B-BS process improve their safety behaviors faster than workers who are not observers.

These hypotheses satisfy the criteria of innovation required by the Polytechnic University of Milan. The results were made available in July 2018.

Finally, Alstom Grid Italia has a plant of about 50 workers in eastern Italy, close to Venice, and they have been running a B-BS process since 2012, with remarkable results in terms of safe behavior enhancement and very low index of accident frequency and severity. At the beginning of 2017 and at the beginning of 2018, they renewed the first European B-BS Certification after a two-day audit by RINA (one of the main certification bodies in Italy and Europe) and AARBA specialists. This certification states publicly the consistency of a B-BS process with principles of behavior and the results achieved; this focus on results and on effectiveness, not only on process activities, is an important element in the world of managing system certification, which is usually committed to examining only adherence to bureaucratic standards.

Association Française—
Les Professionnels de
l’Analyse du Comportement

BY DIANE FRASER

The Association Française—Les Professionnels de l’Analyse du Comportement (AFLPA) is pleased to announce its new affiliation with the University of North Texas (UNT) online program in behavior analysis. This program will be consistent with UNT’s existing program—the only difference is the French translation. The program promises a license and a maitresse in the very near future. Meanwhile, AFLPA continues to focus on recruitment and growth.

Behaviour Analysis in Ireland

BY JENNIFER HOLLOWAY AND HELENA LYDON

Conference Reviews 2017–2018

The 11th Annual Conference of the Division of Behavior Analysis (DBA), Psychological Society of Ireland (PSI), held in May 2017, marked the 40th anniversary of behavior analysis in Ireland. The three-day event took place at Trinity College Dublin May 11–13. The DBA are delighted that this meeting is growing in attendance year on year. As in previous years, the meeting was well supported by the behavior analysis community, with leading experts from Ireland and the US.

Eleventh Annual Conference at Trinity College Dublin

The conference commenced Thursday, May 11, with a pre-conference workshop by Dr. Rita Honan (Trinity College Dublin) called “Let’s Talk: ABA Ethics in Ireland.” This

was followed by three workshops on May 12, by Dr. William H. Ahearn (New England Center for Children) called “Best Practices for Treating Characteristics of Autism: From Repetitive to Social Behavior,” and Prof. Dermot Barnes-Holmes and Dr. Ciara McEnteggart (Ghent University, Belgium) called “Tactics of Relational Frame Theory Research.” The day was brought to a close with a workshop by Prof. Julian C. Leslie (Chair, DBA, PSI) called “Becoming a Chartered Behavioural Psychologist,” which provided members with an update on progress made by the committee toward professional accreditation by PSI for behavioral psychologists in Ireland. This is an exciting time for behavior analysts in Ireland. The evening concluded with the 40th Anniversary Conference Dinner, with presentations made to Prof. Leslie and Dr. Barnes-Holmes for contributions to the science of behavior analysis in Ireland.

The third day of the conference consisted of three parallel sessions, with a wide variety of both experimental and applied research. Presentations were of extremely high quality and covered a diverse range of areas, including behavioral interventions and ASD, managing challenging behavior, ethics and practice, training relational responding, examining complex human behavior using relational frame theory, and the diverse applications of the IRAP as a measure of implicit relational. Sessions were interspersed by three keynote speeches from Dermot Barnes-Holmes (Ghent University, Belgium) called “Behaviour Analysis and Contextual Behavioural Science: What’s the Difference?”; M. Jackson Marr (Georgia Tech and president of ABAI) called “On E Pluribus Unum, or, a Tangled Tale of the Behavioral Unit”; and William H. Ahearn (New England Center for Children) called “Automatic Reinforcement: What Is It and Why Should I Care?” The keynote addresses were very well received and stimulated some interesting discussions by delegates.

Professional Accreditation for Behavior Analysts Within PSI

DBA announced progression toward professional accreditation for behavioral psychologists in Ireland. This is a significant step forward for the science of behavior analysis. In March 2017, the division received notification from PSI that accreditation guidelines will now outline the competency framework for certification as well as the requirements for postgraduate training in behavior analysis. DBA believes this is a crucial step, and that achieving this recognition will lead to better standing for behavior analysts within schools and services across Ireland. The next step will be to achieve accreditation of postgraduate professional programs in behavior analysis from PSI.

In February 2018, the DBA committee established a sub-committee to develop recommendations for a title to be protected for exclusive use of registrants.

Upcoming Events

DBA will host its 12th Annual Conference in the Galway Bay Hotel, 27–28 April. The committee is delighted to have amongst their speakers Keith Williams (Penn State Hershey Medical Center), Ian Stewart (National University of Ireland Galway), Aoife McTiernan (University of South Wales), and Claire McDowell (University of Ulster). DBA will continue to work toward recognition of behavior analysis as a professional specialty in Ireland.

DBA Membership

PSI is the body representing professional psychologists in Ireland. The DBA represents recognized qualified professionals in the science of behavior analysis. Those wishing to apply for membership must be members of PSI and hold a postgraduate qualification in behavior analysis recognized by the Division Committee. Relevant experience will also be considered. Membership application forms can be found on the PSI website, www.psychologicalsociety.ie/join-us. For queries regarding affiliated membership, contact the committee directly at behaviouranalysis@psychologicalsociety.ie. Membership benefits include:

- access to our network of members working in behavioral psychology
- information about training events at our annual scientific meetings
- access to our continuous notification of relevant job opportunities
- reduced admission costs to DBA events

Bermuda ABA

BY ERICA SMITH AND THEA FURBERT

It was a milestone year for BABA and the behavior analyst profession in Bermuda! Through the continued partnership with Tomorrow’s Voices—Bermuda Autism Early Intervention Centre, Bermuda’s first and only autism early intervention center, BABA continues to expand its members’ skills, experiences, and numbers.

BABA’s membership in 2017 grew to 15! The growth in the awareness and use of ABA in Bermuda continues to be directly linked to the development and continued sustainability of Tomorrow’s Voices.

In 2017, Tomorrow’s Voices celebrated its 10th year in Bermuda. Since its inception, the clinical center has hired and trained 40 staff in the use of ABA/VB, not to mention the hundreds of parents, volunteers, students, educators, and allied health professionals trained through workshops, seminars, and work shadows. The formation of Bermuda ABA in fall 2011 was due in part to the ongoing work by Tomorrow’s Voices and continues to be sustained through this synergistic partnership, as most who practice ABA in Bermuda are employed by Tomorrow’s Voices.

In 2017, the partnership between Tomorrow’s Voices and BABA resulted in the following training workshops

being presented by BABA members, Tomorrow's Voices senior verbal behaviour therapists, and BCBA's Emma Martin, Natasha Pedro-Petty, and Jahnae Harvey, on subjects related to ABA and special needs:

- February 23, 2017: "More Than Just the Two of Us: ABA in Group Settings"
- April 19: "Behind the Scenes: Parents' Perspective of Autism" (with keynote speaker Mrs. Lorri Shealy Unumb, vice president, State Government Affairs, Autism Speaks)
- June 21: "What's on the Menu? Managing Picky Eaters"
- September 20: "Let's Put That on Paper: Data Collection Methods"
- November 15: "Let's Talk About It: A Workshop on Communication"

A total of 113 persons attended the trainings, which included parents, teachers, health professionals, government officials, and others in the community. Workshops planned for 2018 will focus on the following topics:

- February 21: "Show Me What You Know: Assessment and Programming for Individuals With Autism"
- June 19: "Challenging Behaviour—It's a Two-Way Street"
- September 18 (part 1) and November 20 (part 2): "There Is More to Language Than What You Say—Language Is a Behavior"

In April 2017, BABA members and Autism Speaks representatives met with the Bermuda Health Council, HIP, and other government partners to discuss opportunities for ABA insurance coverage. We also met with private health insurers. Those meetings were positive, and today two of the island's private insurers offer coverage for ABA services, which is a huge accomplishment! We believe more insurers will come on board in the future.

Tomorrow's Voices and BABA led the way with regards to growing the ABA profession in Bermuda. BABA members continue to serve on the government's ASD taskforce. In 2017, two BABA members, Frances Parkes and Naomi Taylor, presented posters at ABAI; these were "The Effectiveness of Picture Exchange Communication System (PECS) on Increasing Vocalisations for a Child With Autism" and "The Effects of Differential Reinforcement of Low Rates of Behaviour (DRL) With a Response Cost Procedure on Socially Mediated Vocal Stereotypy in an Adolescent Male With ASD." The posters featured research on client data from Tomorrow's Voices.

As a direct result of the leadership of BABA members Thea Furbert, Emma Martin, BCBA, Natasha Pedro-Petty, BCBA, and Jahnae Harvey, BCBA, who have been at the forefront of growing the ABA profession in Bermuda, Tomorrow's Voices won the Global Health & Pharma Social Care Award for "Best Autism Treatment & Prevention Centre—Caribbean" and the 2017 AI Global Excellence Award for "Best Autism Treatment & Prevention Centre."

In September 2017, three BABA members passed their exams to become board certified behavior analysts. One of those was the senior verbal behavior therapist at Tomorrow's Voices, Jahnae Harvey. This achievement has made Jahnae one of five BCBA's in Bermuda and to our knowledge the second Bermudian to achieve this goal to date! BABA is extremely proud of Jahnae.

Looking ahead, we will continue to grow the profession in 2018. In doing so, we will increase the number of BCBA's practicing on the island. BABA member Jahnae Harvey, BCBA, presented her poster at the 2018 ABAI annual convention, "Selected Liquid Refusal," featuring research on a Tomorrow's Voices client. This is a major accomplishment for a Bermudian!

Given the very small size and relative isolation of Bermuda, we see this continual growth as validation of our commitment to advancing ABA in Bermuda. Anyone interested in becoming a member of BABA or finding out more information should contact Erica Smith at (441) 297-4342 or info@tomorrowvoices.bm.

Central China ABA

BY HONG WEN, DEHUA GUO, AND FRANK YU

The following is a list of some of Central China ABA (CCABA) accomplishments of 2017.

ABA Professional Training

The Education Commission of the Haidian District in Beijing commissioned Beijing KangNaZhou Autism Family Support Center to train resource teachers for K-12 schools in the district. As part of the project, 30 public school teachers began to take BCaBA course sequences under SEEK's professional support. This project is a milestone in mainland China because it means that ABA-based services have won governmental approval and support.

Some universities have realized that ABA training is becoming more and more important and have started to offer ABA talent training and research. For example, Beijing Normal University and Qingdao University now offer BCaBA and BCBA certification programs.

CCABA Associate Chapter Membership Program

There are over 60 CCABA members, and we are working on the membership paperwork.

Promotion of ABA Services Among ASD Service Centers

The chapter gave specific focus to building the Beijing KangNaZhou Autism Family Support Center as a professional ABA service and talent training center, in areas of theory and practice to technology output.

Over 90% of ASD service organizations in China offer ABA-related services. ABA is being accepted by more and more parents of ASD individuals.

CCABA plans to establish a national alliance

for promoting ABA services in order to strengthen cooperation among ABA service organizations and jointly promote ABA technologies in China.

ABA CE Among ASD Service Organizations

Seventy-six individuals successfully finished CNABA training and certification programs and 11 individuals earned BCaBA certification. CCABA offered a ABA Parent Training program 11 times to 1,500 total participants.

Free Public Services

The Beijing KangNaZhou Autism Family Support Center offered free public trainings to more than 1,500 parents throughout the year and provided ABA professional services to families with ASD individuals as a government purchase program.

WeKair Institute of Autism Rehabilitation teamed with CAPPDR and CCABA to offer six full days of ABA promotion classes in five major cities (Nanjing, Nanchang, Wuhan, Nanning and Chengdu). The free training classes were highly welcomed by over 1,300 professionals and ASD parents.

ABA textbooks

Guangxi College for Preschool Education plans to compile three ABA textbooks for the launching of ABA degree programs in China.

On behalf of the CCABA executive team, a delegation led by Dr. Dehua Guo and Frank Yu attended the 2017 ABAI Annual Convention in Denver. The delegation team had a friendly meeting with Dr. Maria Malott, Ms. Majda Seuss, and other ABAI executives.

Israel ABA

BY MICHAL HIRSCHMANN AND EINAV COHEN

In January 2018, Israel ABA (IABA) held its annual meeting, which resulted in reelection of Dr. Hirschmann as president and nomination of a few new members to the managing board. We thank the outgoing managing board members Mrs. Tami Sharabi, Mrs. Hilit Borovsky, and Ms. Zehavit Hershko for years of dedicated service to promote behavior analysis in Israel. Following the annual meeting, members were invited to listen to a variety of leading speakers in Israel presenting different perspectives on corporation between home and school behavior analysts. The fascinating lectures and models of collaboration presented led to interesting questions from the audience. We are proud to announce an increase of 15% in the number of members who joined IABA this year.

It was an exciting 2017 for IABA, filled with high involvement of volunteers on different committees. This involvement yielded remarkable achievements in different areas that contributed to the dissemination of behavior analysis in Israel. First, our licensure committee met

several times with senior representatives of the Department of Health to promote the licensure and certification of behavior analysts in Israel. We anticipate further discussions in the near future. Our events committee held several workshops throughout the year focusing on behavior analysis and games, using reasonable force, applying to behavior analysis programs, and related lawful ethical ramifications. IABA recorded high participation rates in these events.

Proudly, we announce that the ethics committee issued its first annual newsletter, discussing different ethical issues as they relate to the Israeli work environment. The ethics committee functioned throughout 2017 as an educational branch that provided support regarding ethical dilemmas presented via Facebook or direct contact with committee members. In addition to the publication of the ethics newsletter, in July 2017 IABA released its annual newsletter, which focused on behavior analysis and complex populations. Our 2018 issue expands on behavior analysis through games.

Also in 2017, IABA placed emphasis on bringing behavior analysis to the front line by publishing two supportive articles in a major Israeli newspaper. In addition, the Facebook committee worked efficiently to bring a variety of useful resources to its community. The resources include sample behavioral plans, introduction of behavior plan accessories, announcements of interesting events in the field, and more.

There are several enriching events and workshops planned for 2018. Some of these will be collaborations with other organizations to bring leading guest speakers from various segments of the field. Events sponsored solely by IABA are free of charge to IABA members. Among the intriguing events planned for 2018 are “Training the Trainers—Guidance and Training for Parents and Others Engaged With Behavior Plans,” “Discussions of Ethical Dilemmas—Existing Versus Desired,” “Using Reasonable Force—Ethical Issues,” and “I Speak to You Behaviorally—Bridging Professional Language Barriers When Communicating With Others.” All events offer board certified participants CE credits.

Additionally, in April 2018, the IABA online resource committee launched an online resource center for its members. The center provides members, free of charge, access to various samples of behavior plans geared to different populations, abstracts of behavior analysis literature, explanations and tutorials of graphs, a dictionary of translated professional terms, samples of behavior plans accessories, and more. This resource center is expected to continuously grow over the next years.

Finally, IABA always welcomes volunteers of various segments in Israel to join our professional community and our board, supporting the dissemination of applied behavior analysis among Arab and Jewish religious societies.

Japanese ABA

BY SATORU SHIMAMUNE

The 35th annual convention was held at Corasse Fukushima, hosted by Fukushima University, from October 6–8, 2017. We had over 380 attendees, with 11 symposia and 102 poster presentations and Dr. Harry A. Mackay's keynote speech. We will hold the 36th annual convention at Doshisha University, Friday, August 24, to Sunday, August 26, 2018.

Over the last few years, we have been working on two major projects. One is reorganizing and standardizing behavior analysis terms in Japanese. The other is editing the *Behavior Analysis Encyclopedia*. These two projects are closely related, and are among our attempts to provide quality educational materials both within and outside the behavior analysis community. The encyclopedia is due to be published this year.

Jordanian ABA

BY MAHMOUD SHEYAB

Jordanian ABA (Jor-ABA) announced its collaboration with the American Institute of Autism Science (AIAS) to support Jor-ABA to:

- Allow for communication among behavior analysts and others interested in behavior analysis in Jordan and other Middle Eastern and North African (MENA) countries.
- Advance the science of behavior analysis and disseminate and encourage its application for changing socially relevant behaviors, advocating ethical practices, and providing leadership in the practice of the science in diverse fields such as education, developmental disabilities, autism, mental health, organizational behavior management, and research.
- Contribute to the well-being of society by developing, enhancing, and supporting the growth and vitality of the science of behavior analysis in the region through education, training, development, and technology.

Jor-ABA held several events, including but not limited to the following:

- Training workshops: VB-MAPP, ABA basic concepts and beyond, stimulus equivalence, DTT, VB-approach to language.
- A conference called “Bridging the Gap Between Science and Practice.”

Kenya ABA

BY POOJA PANESAR

The Kenya Association for Behaviour Analysis (KABA) was involved in the autism awareness event organized by Kaizora Institute in April 2017. We provided a talk on the importance of evidence-based interventions for individuals on the spectrum and how applied behaviour analysis has a

large body of scientific literature supporting its efficacy. We are planning on having the same for the upcoming autism awareness event, also by Kaizora Institute, in April 2018.

We also held a workshop with Autism Lights in April 2018 to recruit members while also disseminating information on the principles of applied behaviour analysis.

Over the past year, officers of KABA working with organizations providing services in the field of ABA have held trainings and workshops for the public on topics such as functional communication training, reinforcement, ABCs of behaviour, errorless learning, and the Premack Principle, among other topics. We are pleased that the information has been received very positively and the audience has been eager to learn more about ABA.

Two officers of KABA also attended the 2018 ABAI annual convention, which was a great accomplishment for us. Travel expenses were provided by Kaizora Institute, for which we are grateful.

KABA has not been as active as we would like in the past year, and more efforts need to go into recruiting members. As additional members join, we will be in a position to expand our budget to add the various activities on our agenda.

Korean Association of Child and Adolescent Behavior Therapy

BY JUNG YEON CHO

Founded in 2008, the Korean Association of Child and Adolescent Behavior Therapy (KACBT) is an affiliated chapter of ABAI covering the Republic of Korea. The mission of KACBT is to support practitioners of applied behavior analysis in the region and to promote evidence-based behavioral practices in Korea.

With more than 600 current members, KACBT consists of not only college members, including professors and undergraduate students, but practitioners, special education teachers, and behavior analysts. Supporting members with practicum placements, KACBT has many officially affiliated institutions and partners.

KACBT holds many events, including periodic regional meetings, monthly group studies, annual conferences, biannual workshops, and seminars. In 2017, KACBT completed many activities, as follows:

- March 2017: Held research seminars and supported many local study groups.
- April 2017: Held a workshop for new members.
- June 2017: Opened a special lecture course to support behavior analyst certification exam candidates.
- July 2017: Opened a case conference.
- September 2017: Participated in Oeullim Festival hosted by Daegu Cyber University.
- October 2017: Opened a case conference.

- December 2017: Signed cooperation MOUs for the practicum and fieldwork program with four affiliated institutions and partners.

Lebanese ABA

BY MONA SAAB

The Association for Behavior Analysis Lebanon (ABAL) is a national nonprofit organization spanning the Lebanese Republic. Founded in March 2017 by a group of 10 determined individuals, ABAL (formerly LABA) became affiliated with ABAI in May of that same year. At the time of its founding, there were only two BCBA's in the country. At present, there are seven BCBA's in Lebanon, five of whom make up the current board of ABAL.

Applied behavior analysis is still in its infancy in Lebanon, and still a subject of controversy. This is not helped by the fact that anyone with access to YouTube videos can claim to be an "ABA therapist"—offering mediocre services at best, harmful at worst—while consumers are none the wiser. This drove the founding members, who come from varying backgrounds (behavior analysis, psychology, special education, and pediatric neurology), to band together and establish an official body whose mission is to spread knowledge of the science of behavior analysis to professionals and parents in Lebanon and adhere to the practical and ethical use of ABA principles in the fields of education, business, research, and therapeutic and environmental services in Lebanon.

Throughout the past year, the members have faced many trials—including our former secretary-treasurer, Sara Kassem, moving to the USA and the board having to vote in a new secretary-treasurer—as we trudged through a bureaucratic nightmare, effectively laying the groundwork for what we are confident will be a very productive endeavor. Once we had voted in our officers, drafted our bylaws, and officially became a chapter of ABAI, the dedicated board met every two weeks, divided into subcommittees (Legal, Policies & Procedures, and Marketing & Advertising) and delegated tasks amongst the members. We have been working on raising funds (each board member personally investing in ABAL) to retain a lawyer, create a website, draft policies and procedures, and plan awareness campaigns and training opportunities throughout the country. We will be submitting our official application to the Lebanese Ministry of Interior Affairs to become a registered non-governmental organization (NGO), at which point we will begin to put our many plans (currently being developed) into effect. We are in the process of registering our association in Lebanon, launching our website, and planning our first annual conference.

Moreover, individual members have actively been pursuing professional development, attending workshops, conferences, and webinars, both in Lebanon and abroad.

Once registered as an NGO, we plan to become Approved Continuing Education providers, thereby offering continuing education units during our annual conference and (approximately) semi-annual seminars/workshops. Also upon official registration as a Lebanese NGO, we will open our doors to membership. Members will enjoy such benefits as discounts on all ABAL conferences/seminars/workshops, a free subscription to the chapter's newsletter, annual meetings, and the opportunity to network with other professionals in a cohesive community.

The board will be holding elections in April, with the new officers assuming office at the annual business meeting in May, presided over by the current president. We are incredibly excited about the prospects for the upcoming year, and to striding forward full steam ahead!

Norwegian ABA

BY ERIK ARNTZEN

In 2017, Norwegian ABA had about 820 members, and this number has been relatively stable for the past 20 years. Most of the members hold a bachelor's degree in social welfare; however, there is an increasing number who hold a master's degree and Ph.D. in behavior analysis.

Norwegian ABA arranges an annual conference. The number of attendees at the annual conference was 700. The conference was four days with five to six parallel tracks. At the 2017 conference, we had presentations within all domains of behavior analysis, and there is growing interest in both experimental and conceptual issues. Also, translational research was presented. Dr. Mitch Fryling (California State University) gave two presentations: "The Role of 'Private Events' in a Natural Science of Behavior" and "Observing as a Fundamental Psychological Activity." Four years ago we included a poster session as part of the program at the annual conference. This session is a welcomed opportunity for students to participate.

Norwegian ABA publishes two journals: *The Norwegian Journal of Behavior Analysis* and *The European Journal of Behavior Analysis (EJOBA)*. *The Norwegian Journal of Behavior Analysis* is published twice a year. It is a peer-reviewed journal that publishes papers on research, practice, and conceptual issues in behavior analysis, mainly in Norwegian. From 2011 abstracts in English are included. *EJOBA* (www.ejoba.org) is a peer-reviewed journal published twice a year. *EJOBA* is primarily for the original publication of experimental reports and theoretical or conceptual papers relevant to the analysis of the behavior of individual organisms. *EJOBA* has published several special issues since the first volume in 2000. *EJOBA* has a collaboration with Taylor & Francis.

Ontario ABA

BY JENNIFER CUNNINGHAM

The Ontario Association for Behaviour Analysis (ONTABA) continues to make noteworthy advancements as an affiliated chapter. In 2017 our membership increased significantly, reaching an all-time high of approximately 1,100 members by our annual general meeting in November. Our efforts continue to focus on our five strategic priorities: (1) build and maintain relationships with key policy makers, (2) provide leadership on the regulation of behavior analysts in Ontario, (3) improve financial viability and sustainability, (4) increase board and organizational capacity, and (5) protect the science of behavior in Ontario.

The Ontario Scientific Expert Taskforce for the Treatment of Autism Spectrum Disorders (OSETT-ASD) completed a comprehensive research synthesis, *Evidence-Based Practices for Individuals With Autism Spectrum Disorder*, published in March 2017. This report continues to be referred to by practitioners, policy makers, and consumers internationally. The full report is available to the public on our website, www.ontaba.org, under the resources tab.

In order to continue to support practice and policy development, the ONTABA Accreditation Committee produced *Recommendations for Clinical Supervisor Qualifications in Applied Behaviour Analysis Programming for Children and Youth With Autism Spectrum Disorder*. The full report, including the history behind the need for these recommendations, can be found here: www.ontaba.org/pdf/ONTABA%20Recommendations%20for%20Clinical%20Supervisor%20Qualifications%20ASD%2017-Aug-2017.pdf.

Additionally, members of the Education Task Force met with the Minister of Education to advocate for investments and improvements in behavior analytic services in Ontario's education system. ONTABA participated in a pre-budget consultation held by the Ministry of Finance to advocate for investment in behavior analytic services across the province. After considerable advocacy over a period of more than a decade, the Ministry of Children and Youth Services made a public commitment to regulating practitioners of applied behavior analysis. The Minister of Health and Long-Term Care activated the Health Professions Regulatory Advisory Council (HPRAC) process. The outcomes of the report from HPRAC are pending. ONTABA continues to prioritize autonomous regulation through a private bill, which the Professional Regulation Committee submitted to legislative council and for legal review.

In the fall of 2017, the Jurisprudence Committee was formed, and collaboration began with the BACB on a jurisprudence training model for Ontario practitioners. The Adult Services Taskforce met with representatives from the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care and

partnered with Behaviour Supports Ontario (BSO) and other stakeholders to advance the field of behavioral gerontology in the province. ONTABA was pleased to offer a free webinar on behavioral gerontology in partnership with BSO and Dr. Claudia Drossell.

The Society for the Advancement of Behavior Analysis awarded a grant to Alison Cox of ONTABA, and thus the Ontario Scientific Expert Taskforce for the Treatment of Challenging Behaviour (OSETT-CB) was formed, with the goal of completing a research synthesis on evidence-based practices for treating challenging behavior displayed by individuals diagnosed with an intellectual disability.

ONTABA brought 2017 to an end with our largest annual conference yet. Over 625 attendees were treated to presentations by Dr. Friman, Dr. Winston, Dr. Williams, and Dr. Sturmey, as well as many wonderful local behavior analysts across two days.

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

Philippines ABA

BY MARIA TERESA COJUANGCO

In 2017, Philippines ABA (PABA) continued its autism awareness program through cable, television, radio, print, and social media in collaboration with several dedicated advertising agency members who initially created an awareness campaign in 2016. A study was conducted for 2017 to extend the campaign to different major provinces in the country with the assistance of local radio and cable stations and local health agencies. PABA and the ad agencies came up with a vernacular version of the printed English materials, and these were distributed to the different regions with high population density, but low awareness of autism. Local community health centers were given seminars on how to include the awareness campaign in their programs.

PABA continued collaborating with local government health agencies in giving awareness and assistance to their special education programs by including lectures and training to families with special needs children who have financial difficulties in sustaining interventions and care. More local government health centers collaborated with several PABA affiliate centers in facilitating assessment with health care providers, behavior plans, and intervention programs in different levels of support.

An increase in university student volunteers who participated in the awareness programs was seen in local health care communities offering intervention assistance to families with less financial capability. They served as work aids in most programs extended by affiliated PABA centers and were stationed in health centers and given training in

helping families with children with special needs.

PABA continued to assist local practitioners in giving guidance to those interested in achieving certification as RBTs, BCaBAs, and BCBAAs. Several practitioners have completed their BACB course requirements and are preparing for their board certification by the second quarter of the year. More practitioners are inclined to work on their credentials as more developmental health practitioners prefer to have intervention programs for children with autism implemented by BACB-certified practitioners.

PABA affiliate centers continue to avail themselves of supervision and training by BCBA supervisors from the US and Singapore in giving updated training for their therapists in implementing their intervention programs. An increased number of therapists working in centers obtained their RBT certifications, and more are preparing for their BACB credentials. An increased number of developmental practitioners encourage parents to use services of those with BACB certification.

PABA has an ongoing collaboration with local university medical professionals and government health agencies in providing updated information on ABA by BCBA professionals from the US and Singapore. It is committed to giving assistance to other agencies in participating through their lectures and research studies involving ABA.

Polish Association of Behavioral Therapy

BY EWA KULIGA

Polskie Stowarzyszenie Terapii Behawioralnej (the Polish Association of Behavioral Therapy; PABT) is a countrywide nonprofit organization, associating active practitioners of behavioral therapy. PABT's mission is to provide multidirectional, comprehensive, and professional help to the disabled—in particular to persons suffering from emotional and intellectual disabilities—and to their families. Another vital purpose of PABT is promoting behavioral therapy among therapists and academics.

Currently, PABT has more than 45 registered members from every significant behavioral therapy center in Poland, as well as the parents of persons undergoing behavioral therapy and other concerned experts (physicians, academics, and students). It cooperates with a number of Polish centers and institutions focused on providing effective help to persons with autism and publishes the informational periodical *Krok za Krokiem (Step by Step)*, which contains articles by world-renowned experts on teaching persons with autism.

PABT has promoted behavioral therapy by organizing specialist trainings for a wide range of attendees (mainly the teachers and parents of children with emotional and developmental disabilities). Over 1,260 participants attended such trainings in 2017.

In 2014, the association formed a serie of non-public schools, named “I CAN.” Two of these are in Crakow, and one opened in September 2017 in Raciborz. In total, “I CAN” schools now teach 27 students with autism spectrum disorders.

Since 2010, the boards of the two Polish chapters (PABT and the Polish Society of Behavioral Psychology) have been working on a joint program, the Polish License of Behavioral Therapist, to standardize requirements for behavioral therapists in Poland. The purpose of these activities is to consolidate and formalize professional training for behavioral therapists currently in Poland, and thus define the requirements for practicing therapists to make behavioral therapy clearly identifiable by the highest quality of therapeutic services. The Polish License of Behavioral Therapist runs an integrated system of theoretical and practical training to enable trainees to gain the title of behavioral therapist. At present 164 people in Poland have been granted the title of licensed behavioral therapist, and 646 are in the process of acquiring qualifications.

A set of theoretical and practical trainings framed as six preparatory routes, as well as the appropriate examination criteria, have been prepared for persons applying for the occupational title of behavioral therapist:

- Route I (for practicing therapists) includes completion of a three-level course in behavioral therapy and at least five specialization courses, no less than 2 years of professional practice under supervision, completion of no less than 50 hours of internships at any of the collaborating centers, and a positive reference from the head of the relevant therapy center.
- Route II includes completion of a three-level course in behavioral therapy and at least five specialization courses, completion of no less than 120 hours of internships at any of the collaborating centers, professional practice under supervision (a minimum of 50 hours of supervision), and a positive reference from the supervisor.
- Route III includes completion of the following courses from the Institute of Psychology at Jagiellonian University: Wprowadzenie do psychologii behawioralnej (Introduction to Behavioral Psychology) and Terapija behawioralna: teoria i praktyka (Behavioral Therapy: Theory and Practice), completion of at least five specialization courses, no less than 100 hours of internships at any of the collaborating centers, professional practice under supervision, and a positive reference from the supervisor.
- Route IV includes completion of postgraduate studies in applied behavior analysis at the School of Social Sciences and Humanities, completion of no less than 80 hours of internships at any of the collaborating centers, professional practice under supervision (a minimum

of 50 hours of supervision per year), and a positive reference from the supervisor.

- Route V includes completing second degree studies with the Faculty of Psychology of the University of Social Sciences and Humanities (also as a unified master's degree): the Psychology of Shaping and Modifying Behavior master's degree studies in psychology at the University of Social Sciences and Humanities in Poznan, module called Application of Behavior Therapy in Education for Children of Normal and Disordered Development: An Introduction; other relevant studies including a module covering applied behavior analysis lasting at least 60 didactic units. This coursework has to be presented to the Board of Polish License of Behavior Therapy system for official acceptance. In addition, requirements include at least five specialty courses, at least 100 hours of training in one of the collaborating facilities, including at least two training periods of minimum five consecutive days each (at least 20 hours each), and work under supervision of a current holder of a supervisor's license (at least 50 hours of supervision).
- Route VI includes obtaining BCBA certification.

PABT has conducted practical trainings (training and observational internships) for pedagogy (the Pedagogical University of Cracow, Jagiellonian University) and psychology (Jagiellonian University) for students and tutors from other educational institutions. PABT continues to fulfill statutory activities focused on helping the disabled:

- The Behavioral Therapy Clinic (BTC) in Cracow and local branches of the BTC in Wroclaw, Rzeszow, Lublin, and Raciborz provide therapeutic support for the families of developmentally and emotionally challenged persons from all over Poland. The BTC's operations include diagnostic consultations for children with suspected developmental disorders (performed usually by a committee consisting of a psychiatrist, a psychologist, a speech therapist, a special education teacher, and a rehabilitator) and conducting home therapy programs. The consultations are an opportunity to establish a program for therapy, and the parents are instructed on its implementation; during subsequent visits, such a program undergoes the necessary modifications and the parents' skills are further improved. Currently PABT's BTC oversees home therapy for almost 3,500 families throughout Poland.
- The Emergency Intervention Team is short-term (up to 2 weeks), intensive therapy for persons with developmental and behavioral disorders and their families facing material and other hardships. In 2016, around 10 families from all over Poland used this form of therapy.
- The integration classes are aimed at younger children with disabilities identified as belonging to the spectrum of autism, but possessing basic group-work skills.

The classes are conducted on the basis of preschool teaching methodology and the principles of applied behavior analysis. The objectives of the classes are to integrate the children within a group and develop their social competence. There are currently eight children participating in the classes.

- The social skills trainings are classes conducted in small groups and intended to develop positive social behaviors. The classes are aimed at older children with emotional disorders, Asperger's syndrome, and high-functioning children with autism. Eight students currently attend these classes.
- PABT works to obtain resources that allow further development of the organization and introduce new statutory activities (including research programs).
- One of the more important events of 2017 was a behavioral rehabilitation camp. Twenty families from across Poland participated in the event. The camp involved intensive therapy work aimed foremost at instructing and supervising parents and guardians of persons with developmental and emotional disorders under the care of the BTC. The camp also included theoretical trainings, the purpose of which was to broaden and deepen the scope of the parents' and guardians' knowledge of applied behavior analysis.

Québec ABA

BY MYRA-JADE LUI

ABA services continued to receive some coverage in the media this year with the announcement by the Quebec provincial government to increase funding for children with autism. As such, Québec ABA (QcABA) made sure we were at the forefront of this activity. Our president took a seat at a two-day roundtable event hosted by the research group in charge of developing provincial standards for intensive behavioral intervention. Our vice president used media interviews to transmit the importance of continued ABA services beyond early intervention. We also made ourselves available to parent advocates who wished to inform themselves about the current evidence for ABA throughout the lifespan, and who were at the head of a group publicly putting pressure on the government to offer better and more evidence-based services for their children. Through these efforts and many behind the scenes activities, QcABA worked hard this year to disseminate accurate and important information about behavior analysis within the province.

July 2017 marked the end of the first Francophone cohort to take the ACS through QcABA. The final 11 individuals who completed the coursework were professionals in the public and private French sector, as well as some from Anglophone communities. Those from the public French sector were individuals already tasked with overseeing behavioral interventions executed by frontline

staff, and their completion of the ACS was a significant milestone in the Francophone public sector's commitment to offer better standards of service delivery. Although this ACS has not been adopted by a local university, QcABA continues to pursue partnerships with other institutions that are interested in offering this approved ACS in French.

Throughout the course of the year the major work done was on the development of a new website. The new site offers both improved functionality (such as a members-only portal), as well as resources and information on ABA specifically tailored to parents/users of behavioral services. This work was being done quietly in the background, but will help exponentially in future years to manage membership and conferences as QcABA looks to expand. Current functionalities for members include access to special pricing for conferences and job postings, and to once again grant *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis* access to our members.

After a brief hiatus, journal club resumed some regular activity. The group attending these meetings has grown and includes both certified behavior analysts as well as professionals, paraprofessionals, and users of behavior analytic services who have become interested in the science. We welcomed the new faces and used these meetings to explain to newcomers the process of certification and the importance of education in the field of practice.

As always, the annual conference took center stage on March 23, 2018. This year we were extremely fortunate to host Dr. Peter Gerhardt, who presented two talks: "Sexuality Education and Individuals with ASD," and "Evidence-Based Practice for Adolescents and Adults with ASD." We also benefited from a presentation showcasing local and provincial initiatives offering behavioral services to different populations, and hosted a discussion panel on the collaboration of behavioral service providers with parents/users of these services. It was the first year our association was able to finance a simultaneous translation throughout the conference, making the content more easily accessible to unilingual participants (either French-speaking or English speaking), and we hope to continue to offer this service at future events.

As we embark upon another year, QcABA is looking to expand the board of directors to include at least one other student member, and two other regular members (members at large). This is in order to respond to the growing needs of our association to reach out to the community, to work with local governments, and to help educate and inform what appears to be a growing group of behavior analysts and practitioners residing in Quebec. ❖

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Updates From ABAI's Special Interest Groups

Applied Animal Behavior SIG

BY KATHRYN KALAFUT

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

In past years, we have spent a lot of time and effort building the group, reaching out to potential members, and working diligently to disseminate the principles of behavior analysis in the area of applied animal work. We are very proud to say that to date we have over 140 members (and over 380 followers on our Facebook page). Our members are researchers, publishing in scholarly journals including *Zoo Biology*, *Animal Learning and Cognition*, *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, *International Journal of Comparative Psychology* and many others. Our members are teachers at competitive institutions, training future behavior analysts. Our members are in the field, consulting all over the world helping to educate pet owners, animal trainers, veterinary staff, and caregivers at captive animal institutions (exotic and domestic). We are in animal shelters, classrooms, zoos, laboratories and living rooms. Our members are actively engaged in the applied animal sciences, aiding veterans by training service dogs, increasing welfare of captive animals, and enhancing educational outcomes through animal interactions.

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

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

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

Behavioral Development SIG

BY PATRICE M. MILLER

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

In 2017–2018, the DEV SIG was primarily engaged in three major activities. The first activity is that the DEV SIG organizes events for the overall ABAI program, consistent with its mission. The second activity is that for the past 2 years, members of the DEV SIG were involved in planning issues of the *Behavioral Development Bulletin (BDB)*. Third, since 2015, the DEV SIG has been participating in ABAI's effort to better support SIGs.

The DEV SIG's contributions to the ABAI convention program for 2017 consisted of sessions on a wide variety of topics related to behavioral development. The DEV SIG program committee, consisting of Dr. Per Holth and Dr. Doug Greer, with the able help of many members, helped to recruit and organize several symposia and paper sessions, two poster sessions, an invited tutorial and a B. F. Skinner lecture. Many of the symposia featured basic or applied research on interventions or functional analyses of the behavior of a variety of populations (from infants to college students to older adults). Some highlights include (1) a session on addressing bold claims and commons recommendations for infant and child care, chaired by Dr. Kathryn Glodowski; (2) a symposium on procedures to accelerate the rates of learning for preschoolers and adults, chaired by Dr. Yu Cao; (3) a B. F. Skinner lecture on the implementation and evaluation of parent training in Norway; and (4) an invited tutorial by Dr. Charles Catania, "I Forgot the Name of This Talk: A Tutorial on Remembering." These sessions well represented the breadth of work presented by members of the DEV SIG, particularly in terms of the age range of participants studied, and the many interesting issues being addressed. The contribution of all the session chairs, presenters, and discussants was very much appreciated.

The second major activity of the DEV SIG has been its role in editing the *BDB*, under co-editors, Dr. Michael

Commons and Dr. Martha Pelaez, both SIG members. Beginning with the 2015 issues, *BDB* has been published by the American Psychological Association; nevertheless, the SIG maintained a presence, at least through the end of 2017. At that point in time, the editorship was assumed by Dr. Henry Roane of Syracuse University. The SIG will continue to work with Dr. Roane so as to maintain some presence in that journal. In the meantime, during the SIG's business meeting last year, members discussed and approved the founding of a new online journal. This will be a completely online journal, similar to the original *BDB Online*.

For many years, the DEV SIG has held a business meeting every year. All are welcome to attend, although only members are allowed to vote. The DEV SIG also holds a no-host SIG dinner. This enjoyable occasion is also open to all. In addition to being friendly, interdisciplinary by our very nature, and interested in many different approaches, we have been a relatively informal SIG. Despite our historic information, for three years ago now, the SIG has been actively collaborating with ABAAI in their efforts to better support SIGs. Recent SIG presidents have all attended the meeting for SIG officers that is organized by ABAAI each year at the beginning of the convention. At these meetings, we have learned about the many ways in which ABAAI is actively supporting the SIGs. We not only have access to a complete and accurate list of individuals who are members of the SIG, but we can send messages to them through the ABAAI team. Inspired by these new support structures, the SIG is working on adopting formal bylaws, as well as coming up with plans and procedures for supporting SIG activities with some of the membership dues that are being collected. While we will strive to keep our welcoming and integrative attitudes, we also hope these new supports will help to grow the SIG over the coming years. We welcome you to join us and share your ideas and contributions.

Behavioral Medicine SIG

BY GRETCHEN A. DITTRICH

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

Behavioral medicine is an interdisciplinary field, which integrates behavioral science with biomedical science to improve overall health, increase adherence to medical regimens, and modify behaviors associated with the prevention of chronic illness. The role of behavior analysis

is important in the field of behavioral medicine. It is the mission of the Behavioral Medicine SIG to encourage interdisciplinary research in the areas of behavioral health promotion and the prevention of chronic illness, emphasizing the need for function-based and empirically validated treatments for chronic health disorders.

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

To learn more about the Behavioral Medicine SIG, visit our website at <https://sites.google.com/site/bmedsig> or like our Facebook page (Behavioral Medicine SIG of ABAAI). You may also contact us at bxmedsig@gmail.com to receive additional information about the SIG, or to become a member. The Behavioral Medicine SIG offers opportunities for members to engage in research collaboration and discussions about behavior analysis and health promotion. The Behavioral Medicine SIG supports student research in the area of behavioral medicine, and we are pleased to announce our newly established student research award, which was introduced this year at the ABAAI annual convention.

The Behavioral Medicine SIG sponsored a special panel discussion at the ABAAI convention in San Diego, titled "Beginning a Line of Research in Behavioral Medicine." The panel comprised Dr. Gretchen A. Dittrich, Dr. C. Sandy Jin, and Dr. Kylan S. Turner, and Jessica R. Mias served as chair. The panel discussion provided recommendations on beginning research in behavioral medicine, including how to enter the field of behavioral medicine, guidelines for supervision and mentorship, and how to maintain a line of research in behavioral medicine long term.

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

During the annual business meeting, SIG members discussed strategies to enhance membership benefits. Goals for the upcoming year include working on methods to improve dissemination of behavioral medicine technologies and research among behavior analysts, consumers, and the medical community, and securing funding to support SIG

efforts (e.g., Student Research Award). Additionally, the Behavioral Medicine SIG will be providing webinars and opportunities for CEs for SIG members.

Behavior Analysis in Military and Veterans' Issues SIG

BY KENT A. CORSO AND ABIGAIL B. CALKIN

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

The MilVet SIG currently has 69 members. When the co-chairs first applied to be a SIG there were 14 members. While the co-chairs are pleased with the SIG's membership growth, over the past year we have seen a decreased rate of new members joining the SIG. As a result, the co-chairs commit to spending more time and effort this year increasing membership and stimulating more involvement by current members. With the current projects in motion, members will begin playing more active roles in the actual delivery of ABA to military and veteran community.

One of the MilVet SIG members, Megan Miller, created a Facebook page on May 28, 2014: Behavior Analysis in Military and Veterans' Issues SIG. The site is a closed group, which grew to 86 members in its first year. At the end of its second year, it had 190 members, an increase of 220%. In its third year, membership was 252, and as of March 15, 2018, the Behavior Analysis in Military and Veterans' Issues SIG has 367 members. See Figure 1 for a snapshot of the trend of members joining the MilVet SIG's Facebook page.

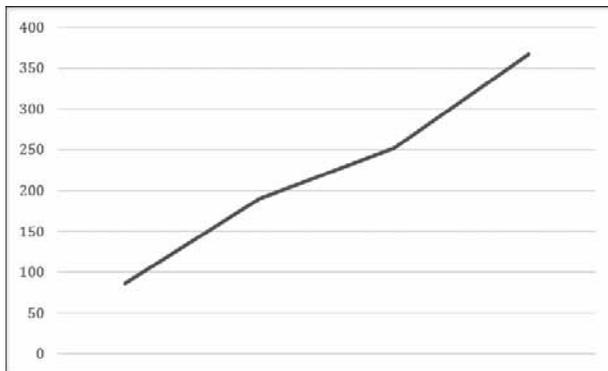


Figure 1. MilVet SIG Facebook page members.

Perhaps the most exciting outcome of the SIG's activities this year is the conclusion of the year-long project working with suicide prevention in the Air National Guard (ANG). SIG co-chair, Kent Corso, led the team including SIG members Jim Meador, Abigail Calkin, and Mike Kondis. In addition, five BCBA or BCBA-D licensed professionals assisted with various aspects of data analysis for this project. This one-of-a-kind project employed surveys and retrospective data retrieval and analysis to identify system-level variables that increase or decrease the likelihood of suicides in the ANG. The project used computer modeling and standard celeration charts to create algorithms that can help prevent future suicide in the ANG. This is the first time the military has officially hired behavior analysts to assist them with the military suicide problem, and the first time a single-case design has been applied to suicide prevention in the military.

Two additional projects emerged from this work. The first is a three-year grant proposal submitted with the University of Utah's Center for Veteran Studies to the Defense Suicide Prevention Program Office, which is the hub of all suicide prevention research and implementation activities and funding for the active duty force. The proposal seeks to provide similar analysis to the ANG project, but at a U.S. Air Force Base for a three-year period as part of a peer-to-peer suicide prevention initiative. Second, the director of the Air National Guard, Lieutenant General L. Scott Rice, invited Dr. Corso to speak at the Air National Guard Senior Leadership Conference (ASLC), scheduled May 1–3, 2018. This is the annual training for all senior leaders across the Air National Guard and will be an opportunity to offer these military leaders actionable information based on our project, so they can make data-driven decisions about how to prevent suicide.

There is much that the field of ABA can contribute to evaluate functional communication deficits associated with TBI, improving the management of suicidal behavior and prevention programs, using the standard celeration chart to monitor individual and program changes, and occupational training for veterans and service members. The MilVet SIG continues to support the efforts of last year's new presenters, Jim Meador and Amy Weich, and the ANG suicide prevention project. It also will continue to support Darlene Crone-Todd's research, as well as that of Ted Hoch, who continues to develop an instrument for assessing verbal behavior among veterans with traumatic brain injury, in addition to any other clinical, research, and development initiatives aimed at increasing the use and recognition of ABA as an important modality for the military and veteran communities. Membership in the MilVet SIG is free, and the SIG will continue its presence at future ABAI Expos. This remains a great opportunity to meet prospective members of the MilVet SIG, current members, and the co-

chairs. Any parties interested in SIG, contact Dr. Corso at kentcorso@gmail.com or Dr. Calkin at abc@abigailcalkin.com.

Behavior Analysis for Sustainable Societies SIG

BY JULIA H. FIEBIG

Since the last Behavior Analysis for Sustainable Societies Special Interest Group (BASS SIG) meeting during the 2017 ABAI convention in Denver, Colorado, there have been exciting developments and events that BASS members have led and contributed to. Criss Wilhite and colleagues sponsored and planned the Sustainability and Behavior Analysis Summit at Fresno State University, April 20–21, 2018. Keynotes and presentations were given by BASS SIG and BFSR SIG members on topics related to leadership and climate change, communication, community interventions, and global behavior change. Additionally, the summit offered opportunities for collaboration with other behavior analysts, and cross disciplinary collaboration with professionals and researchers in other sciences and areas of practice. Other conference presenters and collaborators included local experts who discussed climate change science and resulting community needs and response. At the 2018 ABAI annual convention, numerous presentations, panels, and workshops were presented on a variety of topics related to climate change and behavioral science; however, it is unclear to what extent members interested in the SIG have also found opportunities as students to learn, research, and engage in supervised practice of applications of behavioral science to climate change issues and to what extent internship and employment opportunities are available to allow specific opportunities for behavior analysts. This was also a point of discussion at the Sustainability and Behavior Analysis Summit at Fresno. Continued efforts for conferences, workshops, and events addressing behavior science and climate change and showcasing work done by behavior analysts in this area is desirable and necessary to create a community that supports continued work in this area by an increased number of behavior analysts. BASS offers a membership that can support such efforts. Officer elections following the 2017 ABAI SIG meeting were not successful as a result of limited responses from members expressing interest in taking on BASS SIG leadership roles. Agenda items for the 2018 ABAI SIG meeting included discussion of elected positions (and absence of those roles being filled) acting as a potential barrier to other SIG goals being addressed and accomplished. Discussion and invitation for proposals for different formats and shared responsibility in SIG leadership were addressed during the SIG meeting, a revisiting of member values in context of the SIG and how it functions, and identification of goals to accomplish for the coming year. Plans for the

upcoming year are to increase activity and engagement among members, provide an improved forum for collaboration and sharing of research and application and provide opportunities for CEs for members by members. Membership in the SIG is open to all, and participation in the SIG offers professional connections to others interested in and working on behavior change related to sustainability and climate change issues. BASS continues to need a website/communications director to support a revamping of the BASS website and collaboration on higher occurrence of engagement on the listserv, BASS Facebook page, and blog postings for the website. Individuals who might lead efforts to offer CE events/webinars for the SIG are also welcome. A report back on other SIG leadership roles and/or trying a new structure for SIG leadership and participation will be included in a subsequent annual update.

Behaviorists for Social Responsibility SIG

BY MOLLI LUKE

The Behaviorist for Social Responsibility (BFSR) SIG is composed of dedicated volunteers and a Board of Planners (drawing on Skinner's *Walden Two*). The Planners, who meet on a monthly basis, currently consist of Kendra Combs, Traci Cihon, Molli Luke, Mark Mattaini, Felipe Leite, Richard Rakos, and Holly Seniuk. The Planner structure, active volunteers, the easy availability of digital communications, and the resulting increased level of mutual accountability continues to produce a high level of activity by the SIG. The following material summarizes some of those activities for 2017–2018.

The Matrix Project

One of the major, ongoing initiatives for BFSR is the Matrix Project (see bfsr.org). This project was initially introduced in a 2014 Behavior and Social Issues editorial (Mattaini & Luke, 2014) and is focused on exploring practical approaches for expanding attention within behavior analysis to societal and global issues (e.g., environmental sustainability, public health, poverty). Since the editorial, BFSR members have used behavioral systems analysis to identify interrelations and practical steps that might be taken across more than a dozen sectors/players (e.g., behavior analytic education programs, behavior analytic journals, students) who might have an impact on this goal. In the last year, the project has shifted to focus on disseminating the matrix and developing resources, as identified in the matrix, to reduce barriers that might hinder behavior analysts being involved in these issues. Toward this goal, BFSR focused on three primary sectors in 2017–2018. Below is an overview of the current activities:

- **Government:** A group of volunteers has been focusing on identifying ways to incorporate behavior analytic insight

into governmental policies. One way that they are doing this is by developing a rubric to evaluate the behavior analytic soundness of environmental sustainability legislation in California using the California League of Conservative Voters rubric as a model.

- **Education:** Education is a primary mechanism for getting students involved in applying behavior analytic principles to diverse social issues, so creating resources in this area has been a big focus of the SIG. One of our current projects is the development of model course syllabi and units on various social issues. These syllabi should make it easier for faculty to provide students with an introduction to lesser-known social issues, such as behavior analytic approaches to environmental sustainability. We are also working on a directory for students and behavior analysts interested in social issues to find training sites, experience sites, and mentors. This was made available on the BFSR website (bfsr.org) in March 2018. Another project involves the identification of seminal articles in social issues of interest to BFSR (e.g., sustainability, community development and organizing, public health, conflict and violence). We plan to have this list available in late 2018. Finally, the members of the SIG participated in and supported of the Sustainability and Behavior Analysis Summit in April 2018 in Fresno, California, hosted by Fresno State.
- **Regional groups:** Social action is most likely to be effective by working collaboratively with those in the community where the issue is occurring, so another goal of BFSR is to support regional BFSR groups. Currently, there are BFSR groups developing in Texas, Kansas, and Brazil.

BFSR will continue to work on the Matrix Project over the coming year and encourage those who want to get involved to contact BFSR at bfsr@bfsr.org.

Behavior and Social Issues

The *Behavior and Social Issues* (BSI) journal has long been the flagship project of the SIG. *BSI* (as *Behaviorists for Social Action Journal*) began in 1978, essentially concurrent with the origins of BFSR, and was retitled *Behavior Analysis and Social Action* in 1986. Under the present name, *Behavior and Social Issues*, the journal has had 26 volumes as of 2017. Currently, Mark Mattaini serves as the editor with Richard Rakos as consulting editor and Jomella Watson-Thompson and Traci Cihon as associate editors. Recently, an “Activism and Advocacy Notes” section was added to *BSI* to highlight discussions and examples of activism and advocacy. We encourage authors to submit manuscripts of 300–2,000 words for consideration in this section.

Social Media

Under the leadership of BFSR’s social media committee, our presence on Facebook and Twitter has continued to expand to over 4,500 followers (as of March 2018) with increased quality and consistency of postings. As an exciting note, 58.7% of the SIG’s Facebook followers are outside of the United States. As such, we have taken steps to translate several Facebook posts to Portuguese (i.e., 34% of our Facebook followers speak Portuguese) to ensure that we are providing information to behavior analysts around the world who are interested in social issues.

Infrastructure

After resounding interest at the 2017 BFSR business meeting, we have been researching options for a volunteer registry and a way for members to donate to BFSR. We hope to have something available on the BFSR website in 2018.

ABAI Annual Convention

BFSR held our annual business meeting jointly with the editorial board of *BSI* at the ABAI annual convention. BFSR was also represented at the convention Expo with a poster presenting further developments of the Matrix Project.

Ethics & Behavior Analysis SIG

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

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

- Fong, L., Catagnus, R. Brodhead, M. Quigley, S.P., & Field, S.P. (2016). Developing the cultural awareness skills of behavior analysts. *Behavior Analysis in Practice*, 9, 84–94. DOI: 10.1007/s40617-016-0111-6
- Quigley, S.P., Blevins, P.R., Cox, D.J., Brodhead, M.T., & Kim, S.Y. (2017). An evaluation of the ethical implications of telehealth research with individuals with autism. *Behavior Analysis in Research and Practice*. DOI: 10.1037/bar0000094. (Note: This manuscript is one of many telehealth manuscripts published with *Behavior Analysis Research and Practice* for a special issue regarding ethics. The EBA SIG wishes to thank Yaniz Padilla

Dalmau, Stephanie Peterson, Joy Pollard, Patrick Romani, Richard Spates, Wayne Fisher, and their coauthors for accepting an invitation from the SIG to submit a telehealth manuscript for this special issue.)

- Brodhead, M.T., Quigley, S.P., & Cox, D.J. (2018). How to identify ethical practices in organizations prior to employment. *Behavior Analysis in Practice*. DOI: 10.1007/s40617-018-0235-y
- Brodhead, M., Cox, D., & Quigley, S. (2018). *Practical Ethics for Effective Treatment of Autism Spectrum Disorder*. Academic Press. ISBN: 9780128140987

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

Gambling SIG

BY GSIG OFFICERS

The Gambling Special Interest Group (GSIG) is a home base for behaviorists interested in gambling research and treatment. Our mission is to foster the growth of gambling research in behavior analysis through collaborative research efforts, the coordination of researchers and ideas, and the sharing of resources for the mutual benefit of the field, its adherents, and those who are impacted by such endeavors. Most of our business is online, through email chains and our message board. We invite interested parties to join the GSIG for free; whether your interest relates to research, treatment, policy, all of the above, or more broadly about risk and choice, we bet you will find the GSIG resources and literature on the behavioral analysis of gambling rewarding. Our website (gig.squarespace.com) is where prospective members can get information about the GSIG and join our group. The website also houses research software. Each program represents hours of work or finances staked by a behavioral researcher, and each program is completely free to our members. The programs simulate gambling with control over features of the games. As always, GSIG members are encouraged to download these programs, experiment with their features, and incorporate them into their own research. Also available through the website is our newsletter, *The Handle*, which is available to members with back issues archived online. *The Handle* offers members stories and news that are not readily available in journals and conferences, and thus serves as an additional source of useful information. GSIG members and officers presented at ABAI as well as other conferences

in the past year. Join us at gsig.squarespace.com and on our discussion board, or at upcoming conferences, or ABAI. Persons interested in gambling should also visit *Analysis of Gambling Behavior* at <http://repository.stcloudstate.edu/agb> for a journal devoted to behavioral research. The GSIG has had a long relationship with *Analysis of Gambling Behavior*, as many GSIG members have supported the journal in various roles over the years.

History of Behavior Analysis SIG

BY EDWARD K. MORRIS

The History of Behavior Analysis Special Interest Group (HoBA SIG) was founded in 2011. Our listserv was established in 2012. Our first business meeting was held during the 2013 ABAI convention and has been held annually since then. As of April 2017, we had approximately 229 members, an increase of 21% from 2016.

Aim, Mission, Objectives, Purview, and Audience

Our aim is to advance behavior analysis nationally and internationally through its history and historiography. Our mission is to cultivate and nurture, enrich and improve, and disseminate the field's history and historiography. Our objectives are to enhance teaching (course content and pedagogy); research (presentations, publications, and workshops); and service (leadership, governance, and communications). Our purview is the field's long past, short history, and recent origins. Our audience includes behavior analysts, other scientists, humanists, and the public at large.

Reasons and Rationales

In addition to our aim, mission, and objectives, Jack Michael (2004) offers the following reasons and rationales for teaching, researching, and serving the field's history and historiography:

“Students of behavior analysis who know little of its history will be less than optimally effective in acquiring new knowledge. They will also be unaware of relations among various parts of their professional and scientific repertoires. In short, it is important to know where we came from.” (p. 93)

More specifically, the history and historiography of behavior analysis place the discipline, its sub-disciplines, and its practices in relation to each other. The field has breadth and depth beyond any one of them. History and historiography reveal the interdependence of the field's system, its sciences, and its practices. The field is more than the sum of its parts. History and historiography address the field's relations with other sciences and the humanities. The field is defined, in part, by its comparisons and contrasts with them.

History and historiography also have more general rationales. The Roman philosopher Marcus Tullius Cicero (106–43 BCE) offered among the first: “Those who know only their own generation remain children forever.” Perhaps the most common is attributed to the Spanish-American philosopher, George Santayana (1863–1952): “Those who do not learn from history are doomed to repeat it.” Another is based on an observation by American writer and humorist Mark Twain (1835–1910) about travel in *The Innocents Abroad*: “[History] is fatal to prejudice, bigotry, and narrow-mindedness....” (1869, p. 243). Farmington (1949) summarizes these and other rationales:

“History is the most fundamental science for there is no human knowledge which cannot lose its scientific character when men forget the conditioning under which it originated, the questions which it answered, and the function it was created to serve. A great part of the mysticism and superstition of educated men consist of knowledge which has broken base from its historical moorings.” (p. 173)

Membership

Our membership is open to anyone interested in the history of behavior analysis. This includes members of (a) ABAI; (b) other behavior analytic organizations, including Division 25 for Behavior Analysis of the American Psychological Association (APA), the Cambridge Center for Behavioral Studies, and the B. F. Skinner Foundation; (c) organizations outside of behavior analysis, including APA Division 26 for the Society for the History of Psychology, the International Society for the History of the Behavioral Sciences (aka Cheiron), and the History of Science Society; and (d) independent scholars. The SIG’s members need not be members of ABAI. Joining the HoBA listserv is the same as joining the SIG and vice versa. We have no membership fees.

Governance

At present, our governance consists of a president, Edward K. Morris (University of Kansas); a vice-president, Karen Wagner (Behavior Service of Brevard, FL); a secretary-treasurer, Todd McKerchar (Jacksonville State University, AL); and our listserv owner and moderator, Pat Williams (University of Houston-Downtown).

Business Meeting

Our main activities have been establishing and hosting a website (www.historyofbehavioranalysis.org) and holding annual business meetings. The minutes of the 2017 meeting included the following topics:

- **Bylaws.** The SIG has no bylaws. They can be helpful when organizations need to deal with leadership changes and are an agenda item for the next business meeting.

- **Website.** Todd McKerchar switched the HoBA website over from a less secure protocol, HyperText Transfer Protocol (HTTP), to a more secure one, HyperText Transfer Protocol Secure (HTTPS). HTTPS encrypts any information sent through websites (e.g., email addresses) over a Secure Sockets Layer (SSL). This makes the site much less “hackable.”
- **HoBA Expo Poster at ABAI.** In 2016, Karen Wagner had a competition at the HoBA Expo poster for attendees to identify as many people as possible from pictures she posted from among 19,000 she had scanned. Charlie Catania correctly identified the most people. In 2017, the SIG had a traditional poster (i.e., informational), but Karen will take over responsibilities of our Expo poster and add new features.
- **Name change.** The SIG discussed renaming itself the Society for the History of Behavior Analysis. Several divisions of the APA have renamed themselves “Societies.” The name change would not only denote a broader purview, but may also attract members outside of ABAI.
- **Committees.** A committee structure would allow more SIG members to participate in its governance and advance initiatives. This could include a committee to serve as a liaison to ABAI (e.g., for collecting archival materials); an awards committee for the best HoBA presentation or poster and publication in the preceding year; a committee to create a symposium of HoBA content at ABAI each year; a syllabus bank committee; and a membership committee, although the SIG is growing without one. To volunteer for emerging committees and other activities described above, contact Ed Morris at ekm@ku.edu.
- **Newsletter.** In discussing ways of providing benefits to HoBA members, Darlene Crone-Todd mentioned creating a newsletter—*Behavioral Artifacts*—especially one that would be broad enough to appeal to ABAI member outside the SIG. Todd McKerchar suggested an email newsletter, instead of a traditional or PDF newsletter, as a format. Email newsletters can be created easily in programs such as MailChimp.
- **HoBA donations and tax exemption.** The SIG discussed ways to collect donations to cover the costs of running the HoBA website, which is \$96 a year and \$16 for the domain name (i.e., \$112 total a year). Currently, Todd McKerchar and Ed Morris cover the costs privately. Transferring the SIG’s status to a 501(c)(3) charitable organization would provide tax exemptions for donations, but it would cost approximately \$2,000 (and require about 20 hours of paperwork). This is prohibitive. Besides, the 2018 IRS standard deduction will keep most donors from taking an exemption. ABAI recently began offering a service for its SIGs in which they collect their dues at \$12 per member. This could cover our webserver, domain, and annual

Expo poster. However, this SIG fee would significantly decrease our membership.

- **Archiving.** Archives are, in some cases, just a set of boxes of dated material in a closet; in other cases, the materials are arranged (e.g., chronologically, thematically) and cataloged with indexes (e.g., the B. F. Skinner archives at Harvard University). The SIG is concerned that many ABAI members are throwing away potentially valuable archival information and discussed means of identifying people who may have archival material (e.g., contacting HoBA members through the listserv, querying ABAI members through ABAI). Darlene Crone-Todd and Ed Morris will consider writing an article on archiving.
- **Center for the History of Behavior Analysis.** In 2016, Ed Morris received a grant from the Society for the Experimental Analysis of Behavior to start a Center for the History of Behavior Analysis at the University of Kansas and has begun to digitize Skinner's publications. Once this is done, he plans to digitize Watson and Kantor's works. Digitizing their works to make them searchable will allow people to quickly and easily search their works by keywords and phrases, which could greatly aid research in the history of behavior analysis.

To join the SIG and the listserv, go to the HoBA website (www.historyofbehavioranalysis.org) or contact Pat Williams at WilliamsP@uhd.edu.

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Neuroscience SIG

BY SUZANNE MITCHELL

The Neuroscience SIG brings together researchers, academics, clinicians, and students interested in the intersections of behavior analysis and neuroscience and has four primary missions: (1) to introduce behavior analytic research to the neurosciences and introduce neuroscience research to behavior analysis; (2) to serve as both a meeting place and training environment for students and professionals alike interested in basic and applied neuroscience research; (3) to serve as a forum for collaborative relationships, funding applications, and the sharing of best practice; and (4) to advocate for and promote high standards in the application of behavior analytic treatments for individuals with neurological dysfunction.

A business meeting and presence at the Expo were included in the 2018 ABAI Annual Convention in San Diego. Increasing the profile and relevance of the SIG to ABAI members is a major focus, and anyone who is interested in contributing to this effort or has ideas for additional initiatives is encouraged to join and become involved by contacting Suzanne Mitchell at mitchesu@ohsu.edu. Membership is open to all ABAI members, as well as academics, researchers, administrators, clinicians from other organizations, and consumers. We welcome anyone with an interest in the intersection of behavior analysis and neuroscience and look forward to an exciting year further enhancing the SIG and its place in ABAI.

Positive Behavior Support SIG

BY ROSE IOVANNONE

The Positive Behavior Support Special Interest Group (PBS SIG) is dedicated to promoting research-based strategies that combine applied behavior analysis and biomedical science with person-centered values and systems change to increase quality of life and decrease problem behaviors.



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The PBS SIG’s goal is to create awareness of how behavior analytic principles are applied in PBS activities and promote the use of PBS interventions in schools, communities, agencies, and homes, and support practitioners in its use. The PBS SIG members are those engaged in experimental and applied analyses of behavior who are interested in positive behavior support. The SIG was established in 2005 and has experienced three presidents since its inception.

The PBS SIG held its annual business meeting at the 2017 ABAI annual convention. Approximately 25 people attended the business meeting. Combined with the people expressing interest the previous year, the current stable membership of the PBS SIG is approximately 50 individuals, an increase of about 8 people from the previous year. During the annual business meeting, the group received an overview of the PBS SIG. The majority of the hour was open to the members to provide input on what the SIG should emphasize and set as goals for the next year. The primary goals for which consensus was reached were to try to build a greater partnership between PBS and ABAI and to have a greater presence at both organizations’ conferences. Some suggestions were to get more sessions that focused on uses of PBS approaches in the ABAI program while also having more presentations focusing on ABAI during the APBS conference. The group also discussed ways to increase the presence of the SIG. Behavior analysts who are vested in applying PBS approaches have been decreasing their attendance at ABAI events. As a result of the business meeting, the SIG developed an action plan identifying goals for 2017–2018:

- Submit symposium applications to APBS and ABAI events that would describe the ABA principles used in PBS.
- Revisit the workgroup working on defining ABA terminology appropriate for implementation of PBS approaches.
- Explore the possibilities of having a SIG meeting at APBS that may identify behavior analysts who no longer attend ABAI events.
- Explore methods to increase social media presence to connect resources.
- Explore having an ABA network within APBS.

The SIG has met Goal 1. Proposals were submitted to APBS and ABAI events. The APBS proposal did not get accepted; however, we will plan to resubmit for the 2019 conference. The ABAI proposal was accepted and presented in San Diego in May 2018. Goal 2 has been initiated and will be continued into the next year (2018–2019). Goal 3 is in discussion with the APBS organizers. Goal 4 continues to be an ongoing discussion, while Goal 5 may not be appropriate as the network framework within APBS does not include special interest groups at this time.

To grow and maintain the PBS SIG within ABAI, it

will be essential for the convention to be seen as a place members can feel valued as well as gain information that is relevant to their settings and practices. Thus, at this year’s SIG business meeting, the PBS SIG resolved to increase membership by problem solving how to reach behavior analysts who do not attend the ABAI convention or conferences.

Anyone who is interested in behavior analysis or positive behavior support is welcome to join the SIG. To become involved, email Rose Iovannone at iovannone@usf.edu.

Rehabilitation and Independent Living SIG

BY CHRIS PERSEL

The Rehabilitation and Independent Living Special Interest Group (RAIL SIG), established in 1981, completed a very productive year, continuing to promote opportunities for behavior analysts working in neurorehabilitation to collaborate with and support each other on a variety of topics. Patients with acquired brain injuries or other neurological disabilities present unique challenges for behavior analysts, including integration of services with multidisciplinary teams and understanding related medical conditions. The annual meeting at ABAI in Denver was the springboard for discussions ranging from research to training and student internships. As a result, members agreed to meet during the upcoming year prior to the 2018 convention to plan for presentations and review group activities. All members were invited to join two tele-video meetings, the first held in July. In that meeting, a representative from the Brain Injury Association of America and Mount Sinai Hospital outlined the organizations’ project to develop rehabilitation guidelines for this population, including effective behavior treatment. Several members are participating in research reviews to assist in the guidelines’ development. Several follow-up discussions described the critical need for more research projects in behavior analysis used in brain injury. Also discussed were the opportunities for growth of the SIG and the related support from ABAI. Items reviewed included offering continuing education for topics such as stroke and brain injury, utilization of the ABAI mass email, contributing to *Inside Behavior Analysis*, and SIG organization support through ABAI. Upcoming conferences were described as great platforms for providing BCBA information on this dynamic population and to generate interest and ideas for future growth. The members outlined several symposia and professional development presentation topics and set expectations to share related data and abstracts.

A follow-up tele-video meeting was held in October. During this meeting, submissions for CalABA and ABAI were discussed. A professional development panel submission covering working in brain injury was confirmed

while symposia abstracts ranging from the theoretical to application of behavior programming were identified. Further discussion was held regarding the use of RBT staff in rehabilitation. Currently, most RBT online training focuses on the autistic population, so several members agreed to outline the curricula targeting patients with brain injuries. Both tele-video meetings were successful in maintaining the collaboration and support between members to continue working to provide opportunities outside of autism.

Also, key members of the SIG were invited to participate in a strategic planning panel project sponsored by the Behavior Analyst Certification Board. The panel helped summarize the need for BCBA's in acquired brain injury rehabilitation, an underrepresented ABA practice area. Strategic planning in areas such as faculty mentoring, training for ABA students and practitioners, visibility, jobs, and research was developed. The group was very productive and thoughtful in managing this exciting process, and the project promises to guide ABA and brain injury professionals going forward. Finally, the current membership reviewed and agreed to work closer with ABAAI to become an associate group, enlisting their support for managing our membership list and dues collection. The association will assist in the further growth and development of the RAIL SIG while strengthening ABAAI's connection to its diverse membership.

This SIG continues to be an excellent opportunity for BCBA's and rehabilitation treatment professionals involved in brain injury and related neurological rehabilitation to gather and compare thoughts and develop and grow this specialized field with experienced support. The RAIL SIG has had members/guests from across the US and from Germany, Ireland, Poland, and Canada. The past year saw tremendous strides in the SIG collaborating, meeting, and producing meaningful direction for this area of ABA. With panels and symposia accepted at important conferences and projects guiding efforts for growth, renewed energy has carried the RAIL SIG into 2019 and beyond. The work ahead will require current and new members to take an active role in developing better integration of behavior and rehabilitation services. Successful behavior analysts can expect daily challenges from this population while experiencing a great sense of pride as they help them regain life skills and quality of life. Thank you to all members who continue to support the SIG and this population.

SIG Español

BY MAPY CHAVEZ

Spanish

Hace 15 años se formó el SIG (Spanish International Group) con la intención de difundir el análisis del comportamiento entre los miembros de la Association for Behavior Analysis International (ABAAI) quienes hablan español, así como a la comunidad de habla hispana en

general. Nuestro planes para el futuro incluyen:

- Traer el TRACK en Español nuevamente a ABAAI el cual incluiría presentaciones de renombrados analistas del comportamiento en importantes temas y diversas áreas de interés.
- En un esfuerzo por compartir las importantes actividades que ocurren cada día en nuestros países de habla hispana, que cada vez más miembros de ABA y del SIG Español traigan sus presentaciones a la citada convención. Es nuestro deseo lograr que dichas presentaciones sean conducidas directamente en español y que en muchos casos sean simposium completos sobre temáticas de actualidad, así como presentaciones extensas de las líneas globales de investigación de algunos grupos (con un resumen de los estudios más relevantes de cada línea). En este sentido, animamos a los miembros hispano hablantes de ABAAI a que presenten comunicaciones específicas o líneas globales de investigación, así como que nos comuniquemos entre nosotros para organizar diferentes simposios.
- Finalmente, continuar la reunión anual del SIG Español durante la Convención Anual de ABAAI, como un espacio para miembros y no miembros, donde tengamos la oportunidad de reunirnos con antiguos colegas, conocer nuevos, y podamos intercambiar ideas y experiencias.

Si aún no son parte del SIG Español, los invitamos a unirse. Si tienen alguna pregunta, o necesitan información adicional, pueden contactarnos escribiéndonos a mamy.chavez@alcanzando.org.pe.

English translation

Fifteen years ago, the Spanish SIG was formed with the intention of disseminating the analysis of behavior among members of ABAAI who speak Spanish, as well as the Spanish-speaking community in general. Our plans for the future include the following:

- Bring the Spanish track back to ABAAI, which would include presentations by renowned behavior analysts on important topics and various areas of interest.
- In an effort to share the important activities that occur every day in our Spanish-speaking countries, more and more members of ABAAI and the SIG bring their presentations to the aforementioned convention. It is our desire to ensure that these presentations are conducted directly in Spanish and that in many cases they are complete symposia on topical issues, as well as extensive presentations of the global research lines of some groups (with a summary of the most relevant studies of each line). In this sense, we encourage the Spanish-speaking members of ABAAI to present specific communications or global lines of research, as well as to communicate with each other to organize different symposia.
- Finally, continue the annual meeting of the SIG during the ABAAI convention, as a space for members and

nonmembers to meet with former colleagues, meet new ones, and exchange ideas and experiences.

If you are not yet part of the SIG, we invite you to join. If you have any questions, or need additional information, contact us at mapy.chavez@alcanzando.org.pe.

Speech Pathology SIG

BY NIKIA DOWER

The Speech Pathology–Applied Behavior Analysis (SPABA) SIG mission is to promote dissemination of behaviorally oriented speech and language research and the application of evidence-based practices to speech and language professionals, as well as to foster active dialogue between behavior analysts and speech-language pathologists (SLPs) studying issues in speech, language, feeding, and communication, including augmentative–alternative communication.

SPABA SIG is grateful for the support and guidance of former chair, Barb Esch. We would also like to thank our current officers and volunteers. Tracie Lindblad and Nikia Dower are the current co-chairs. Additional committee chairs include Amber Valentino Girman (Grant Awards), Heather Forbes (treasurer), Lina Slim-Topdjian (secretary), Deirdre Muldoon (communications coordinator), and Landa Mark (membership).

Our redesigned website has enabled us to continue connecting with our members and any interested professionals. We are proud to announce that there now are over 350 SLPs who are BCBAs or BcaBAs worldwide. We are present in over 43 states, Puerto Rico, and Washington, DC, in addition to 10 other countries. We continue to provide and maintain an online database of practitioners dually certified as SLPs and BCBAs/BCaBAs from around the world and have a document available for upload detailing the online/distance courses for the BACB approved course sequences and full master’s programs in ABA. These features continue to provide families and individuals with pertinent information in one place. Additional and ongoing social media presence was a focus for the SPABA SIG in 2017. Currently, the SPABA SIG is very active via a Facebook group, Facebook page, Twitter, Instagram, and Pinterest.

In our 2017–2018 membership cycle, our membership decreased to 17 members who provided a donation and 5 student members who provided a donation. SPABA provides a significant amount of free access to SIG information and significant interaction through social media; therefore when the combination of formal members and SPABA Facebook group members is calculated, we are pleased to report a total of 4,069 formal and informal members. The SPABA Facebook group has enabled our members to connect with each other in order to share or request pertinent information in a more timely fashion. Since our decision to make our Facebook group an open group for anyone requesting to join

without requiring SIG paid membership, the interest in this group has increased exponentially; however, the impact of this free membership on our operating funds had also been significant. Discussion regarding membership fees took place at the annual SIG meeting in 2015, when it was decided that instead of a set membership fee, a donation would be requested of members and potential members to primarily, fund our annual SIG grants. This has had mixed results in terms of membership and operating funds since that time.

The SIG, and our members, were active during the past year conducting research, disseminating information regarding evidence-based practice, applying the principles of applied behavior analysis to the research and treatment of speech, language, and communication disorders in children and adults, and teaching and/or mentoring students in both the fields of ABA and speech pathology. These activities have taken place in North America and internationally and have thereby furthered the SIG mission. Our members presented at the ABAI 2017 annual convention, ABAI 2017 international conference, ASHA 2017 conference, and at several other annual state speech/language association conferences and applied behavior analysis association conferences. Many members were speakers at non-speech/non-behavior analytic conferences as well.

SPABA offers two \$250 grants annually, one in application and the other in dissemination. These grants are available to ABAI members who, as students or practicing clinicians, conduct empirical research or raise awareness about behavior analysis among SLPs. Research projects should advance the evidence base for behavior analytic conceptualization or treatment of speech, language, communication, and feeding disorders. Application or dissemination projects should involve effective application of the science-based principles of behavior by SLPs or distribution of accurate information about the science-based field of behavior analysis among SLPs.

The SPABA SIG’s ABAI 2018 grant recipients presented their research at the SIG’s business meeting during ABAI’s annual convention in San Diego. Each year student members and practitioners may obtain updated information about submitting grant proposals for the current year on our website, www.behavioralspeech.com.

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

- Develop web-based tutorials and in-person courses to disseminate information regarding a behavioral approach to the study and treatment of speech, language, and communication disorders in children and adults.
- Work with the Verbal Behavior SIG and Behavioral

Gerontology SIG on joint programs and initiatives.

- Continue disseminating behavior analytic information on speech/language to ASHA members through the ASHA community forum listserv and to speech pathologists in various speech/language Facebook groups

The identified initiatives are feasible only with increased financial support from our members. Please consider donating your expertise/services in-kind, financial contributions, or committee support so that we may meet the needs of our membership and complete our targeted activities.

If you are interested in learning more about the SPABA SIG, wish to volunteer to sit on a committee, or assist with a specific project, please visit us at www.behavioralspeech.com, email us at SPABASIG@yahoo.com, or join or follow us on social media.

Theoretical, Philosophical, and Conceptual Issues SIG

BY TYLER S. GLASSFORD

The Theoretical, Philosophical, and Conceptual Issues Special Interest Group (TPC SIG) has spent the past year encouraging behaviorists to engage with theory. The TPC SIG is an accepting and encompassing group. We continue to welcome anyone interested in theoretical, philosophical, and conceptual issues in behavior analysis. To encourage cross-field collaborations, our membership is open to anyone, even those outside of ABAI or behavior analysis in general. We continue to have no membership dues. We invite challenges to current conceptualizations in behavior analysis. Philosophical concerns are readily open to debate, as diversity in opinion amongst members is necessary for the health of the field. We have a TPC sub-Reddit that serves as our primary outlet for discussion and debate, though we still maintain a listserv.

One of the most exciting aspects of the past years has been encouraging student discussions through a social media website. The SIG has sought to increase engagement with the SIG through a sub-Reddit on social media website reddit.com (www.reddit.com/r/TheoreticalIssuesSIG). The website has kept fresh by posting new discussion topics regularly that cover a variety of aspects of the theory of human behavior. Such aspects included game theory, pragmatism, self-management, resurgence, verbal behavior, and much more. We believe that the sub-Reddit allows for a special opportunity for students to engage with other students, practitioners, and theorists from around the world. The sub-Reddit also serves as a space for anyone to have their theoretical, philosophical, or conceptual questions answered by those who have devoted their work to the very topic. The SIG views the sub-Reddit as a wonderful opportunity to develop and produce more individuals interested in disseminating and contributing to behavioral theory. Moreover, the past year has been a time when the SIG has attempted to increase awareness of the website to encourage posting from a wider range of individuals. Finally, the sub-Reddit allows users to search past discussions to read about already addressed topics. However, those discussions will not be the final word, and more discussions have been encouraged.

The SIG also held an annual meeting at the ABAI convention in Denver, Colorado. At the meeting the SIG discussed the topics of the listserv, the sub-Reddit, and positions for the upcoming year.

The TPC SIG's listserv has also been maintained throughout the past year. The listserv allows for communication throughout the SIG. The listserv is slowly being faded as the sub-Reddit will be targeted as the primary outlet for communication and discussion.

The SIG met again at the ABAI convention in San Diego, California. During the meeting, leadership discussed the future projects of the SIG. ❖



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13th Annual Autism Conference Preview

Pre-Conference Workshops

Funding ABA: The Intersection of Law and Applied Behavior Analysis in Evidence-Based Autism Treatment

JULIE KORNACK

Julie Kornack is the director of public policy for the Center for Autism and Related Disorders (CARD). Her work includes identifying, developing, and supporting state and federal initiatives that increase access to services and supports for people with disabilities, as well as analyzing the impact of federal and state legislative and regulatory developments on access to mental health services. She is co-author of “A Response to Papatola and Lustig’s Paper on Navigating a Managed Care Peer Review: Guidance for Clinicians Using Applied Behavior Analysis in the Treatment of Individuals on the Autism Spectrum”, published in *Behavior Analysis in Practice*, and is the author of “The History, Pitfalls, and Promise of Licensure in the Field of Behavior Analysis”, published in *Handbook of Treatments for Autism Spectrum Disorder*. Her analysis of the economics of autism treatment was published in the *Handbook of Early Intervention for Autism Spectrum Disorders: Research, Policy, and Practice*, and she was an editor of *Evidence-Based Treatment for Children with Autism: The CARD Model*. She co-founded and serves on the board of directors of the National Coalition for Access to Autism Services, as well as several state and national advisory committees and task forces.



Description: With applied behavior analysis (ABA) joining the mainstream of medically necessary treatments, insurers and managed care organizations have moved to introduce policies intended to influence treatment decisions – critical decisions about how many hours of ABA are medically necessary, which locations are allowable, and who must participate in treatment. Arbitrary policies that constrain behavior analysts from designing and implementing the most effective treatment plan are often indicative of an overreach by the funding source. Behavior analysts are in a position to shape funding practices by understanding the laws and regulations that underpin patient rights in the determination and funding of medically necessary treatment. This workshop will teach participants how to challenge improper payer policies, stand by their clinical recommendations, and ensure that behavior analysts—

not funding sources—set the standard of care for ABA. Participants will learn the variables that should and should not contribute to their determination of medically necessary ABA and how to appeal an insurance carrier’s decision to ABA. During the workshop, participants will have the opportunity to complete an actual appeal of an insurance carrier’s denial.

Mindfulness-Based Interventions for Persons With Autism Spectrum Disorders and Other Developmental Disabilities

NIRBHAY N. SINGH

Nirbhay N. Singh, Ph.D., BCBA-D, is a clinical professor of psychiatry and health behavior at the Medical College of Georgia, Augusta University. He was previously professor of psychiatry, pediatrics and psychology at the Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine, and director of the Commonwealth Institute for Child and Family Studies, Richmond, VA. His research interests include mindfulness, behavioral and cognitive behavioral treatments of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and assistive technology for supporting individuals with diverse abilities. He is the editor-in-chief of three journals: *Journal of Child and Family Studies*, *Mindfulness*, and *Advances in Neurodevelopmental Disorders*. His most recent books include *Psychology of Meditation*, *Handbook of Evidence-Based Practices in Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities*, *Handbook of Positive Psychology in Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities* (with Shogren and Wehmeyer), *Handbook of Recovery in Inpatient Psychiatry* (with Barber and Van Sant), and *Handbook of Ethical Foundations of Mindfulness* (with Stanley and Purser). Dr. Singh is a Fellow of the American Psychological Association and American Psychological Science.



Description: The workshop will cover (1) mindfulness-based interventions, (2) the braiding of two evidence-based interventions—mindfulness-based practices with positive behavior support, and (3) the basics of mindfulness meditation, overview of different meditation practices, in vivo practice of several meditations, and simple yoga postures based on mindful movements. Instructions will be provided on informal mindfulness practices that can augment formal mindfulness practices. The application of mindfulness in the rhythm of daily

life as well as in clinical practice with clients and social interactions with colleagues will be covered. In between meditation instructions and practices, there will be discussions of the evidence base and current research on the use of mindfulness-based programs interventions for persons with ASD and other developmental disabilities.

Invited Presentations

Marketing Behavior Analysis:

A Few Words About the Importance of Words

THOMAS CRITCHFIELD

Tom Critchfield is professor of psychology at Illinois State University where he contributes to the masters specialization in cognitive and behavioral sciences. Graduate training in experimental behavior analysis at West Virginia University and a postdoctoral fellowship at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine led to research interests in how fundamental learning processes operate in a variety of everyday phenomena. He has published more than 100 peer reviewed articles and book chapters. Dr. Critchfield is a Fellow, and has served as president of, the Association for Behavior Analysis International and Division 25 of the American Psychological Association. He has held a variety of editorial positions, including his current position as associate editor of *Perspectives on Behavior Science*.



Abstract: Evidence-based practices help no one unless they are disseminated. Dissemination is, at its core, a process of communicating to recruit buy-in (from consumers, third-party payers, extramural funding agencies, policy makers, and so forth). Curiously, behavior analysts have shown relatively little interest in understanding dissemination as a scholarly topic. Not so curiously, behavior analysts have often complained about their relative lack of acceptance among non-behavior analysts. How we talk about our science and, especially, our practice, is a major facet of dissemination, but it's a complex facet. To illustrate some of the underlying fundamentals, I'll discuss a growing body of research showing that the technical terms that behavior analysts use for semantic precision can have visceral (i.e., emotional, nonsemantic) effects that probably interfere with dissemination. Time permitting I'll mention a few other aspects of how we communicate that probably also are important. Those seeking best practices from my remarks are bound to be disappointed, because at present we know too little to define best practices. But it pays to at least be aware of some of the issues, and my hope is that some listeners will take up the challenge of making the language of dissemination a topic of formal study.

When Practice Informs Research: The Road to Teaching Complex Verbal Discriminations

NICOLE RODRIGUEZ

Dr. Nicole Rodriguez is the coordinator of the Early Intervention program in the Center for Autism Spectrum Disorders at the Munroe-Meyer Institute as well as an associate professor in, and director of, the Ph.D. program in applied behavior analysis at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. She has received training at arguably some of the top institutions in which behavior analysis is taught and applied, including post-baccalaureate training in applied behavior analysis at the University of Florida, clinical and research training at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine's Kennedy Krieger Institute, graduate training under the supervision of Dr. Rachel Thompson at the University of Kansas and Western New England University, and post-doctoral training under the mentorship of Dr. Wayne Fisher where she currently resides at the Munroe-Meyer Institute. She has authored several book chapters and published peer-reviewed research studies in top journals in our field, including the *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis (JABA)*, *Journal of the Experimental Analysis of Behavior*, and *The Analysis of Verbal Behavior*. She has also served on the editorial board as guest associate editor of *JABA* and as a co-investigator on an NIH-funded grant. Dr. Rodriguez's research interests are largely guided by her clinical work in early intervention and autism spectrum disorders. Much of her research is applied in that it has a direct clinical impact on the children and families who serve as participants. However, she is also interested in translational research that allows for a better understanding of the processes that underlie the efficacy of procedures. Her research interests are versatile. Topics of current research projects include: understanding and treating invariant responding in autism, addressing faulty stimulus control, establishing divergent and convergent control in verbal behavior, and developing a model of cost-effective training for caregivers whose primary language is Spanish.



Abstract: To acquire functional language, children with autism need to be able to respond to complex verbal discriminations. However, there is relatively little research to guide the process of teaching such skills. The purpose of this talk is to explore various considerations that should be taken into account when teaching verbal conditional discriminations such as intraverbal tacts and convergent intraverbals. We will do so in the context of a practice-driven research question, challenges that arose when teaching these skills, and the inevitable research questions that followed.

Variables That Influence the Effectiveness of Functional Communication Training

TERRY FALCOMATA

Terry S. Falcomata is an associate professor of special education at the University of Texas at Austin. He received his master's degree in Behavior Analysis and Therapy from Southern Illinois University and his Ph.D. in school psychology from the University of Iowa. Dr. Falcomata conducts translational and applied research that focuses primarily on the assessment and treatment of problem behavior. This research includes particular emphases on functional communication training as well as the translation and application of basic learning principles pertaining to persistence and relapse. In addition to pursuing these lines of research in his human operant lab, he conducts his research in home, school, and clinical environments with individuals with autism and other developmental disabilities. He is the editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Behavioral Education*, associate editor of the *Journal of Developmental and Physical Disabilities*, former associate editor of *Behavior Analysis in Practice*, and he serves on several editorial boards including the *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, *Behavior Modification*, *Behavioral Development Bulletin*, *Review Journal of Autism and Developmental Disabilities*, and *Learning Disabilities Quarterly*.



Abstract: Functional communication training (FCT) is among the most commonly cited reinforcerbased treatments for problem behavior in the applied behavior analysis literature. Following the publication of the seminal article by Carr and Durand (1985) numerous second-generation studies have evaluated FCT and the components that impact its effectiveness in the treatment of severe problem behavior. Elements that have been studied in terms of their effects on FCT outcomes include antecedent-based variables, aspects relating to target alternative communicative responses

consequence-based variables, and factors that impact generalization of treatment effects. Recent studies have also begun to evaluate treatment relapse (e.g., resurgence) pertaining to FCT both in terms of conditions under which it occurs and ways to modify FCT to prevent or mitigate relapse. The current presenter will review the conceptual basis for FCT as well as research pertaining to variables shown to influence FCT outcomes including treatment relapse. He will also present relevant applied and translational findings (including studies in progress and published works) from his applied-based and human operant laboratories.

A Call for Discussion About Scope of Competence in Behavior Analysis

MATTHEW BRODHEAD

Matthew T. Brodhead, Ph.D., BCBA-D is an assistant professor at Michigan State University and the research director at the Early Learning Institute. He received both his BS in psychology in 2008 and his MA in behavior analysis in 2010 from Western Michigan University. He received his Ph.D. in disability disciplines in 2014 from Utah State University. His current research has primarily focused on the evaluation of manualized social skills interventions for children with autism, and he also writes about conceptual issues relating to the ethical and professional behavior of practicing behavior analysts. He is on the editorial board of multiple journals, including *Behavior Analysis in Practice*, *The Analysis of Verbal Behavior*, and *Behavior and Philosophy*. Through workshops and consultation, he has established multiple school-based programs for children with autism, and he has provided training to teachers, related service providers, and behavior analysts both nationally and internationally. Finally, he specializes in program evaluation for both applied behavior analysis and public school placements for individuals with autism.





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Abstract: The field of behavior analysis has defined its scope of practice through credentialing and licensure efforts. However, scope of competence in behavior analysis has received little discussion. Scope of competence refers to activities that the individual practitioner can perform at a certain criterion level (e.g., the functional analysis is conducted accurately and safely, a skill acquisition program includes critical program components and establishes accurate stimulus control). Given the successful efforts of behavior analysts in growth and recognition of the field, it is time for a robust conversation about scope of competence for the field of behavior analysis. This discussion can clarify how behavior analysts self-evaluate their own scope of competence and how they might expand their scope of competence if the needs of consumers requires practitioners to expand into new areas.

Talking Back to the Ivory Tower: Diversity, Cultural Humility, and Real-Life Practice Priorities

PATRICIA WRIGHT

Dr. Patricia Wright's commitment to ensuring all individuals with autism have access to effective services and supports has guided her work over the past 30 years, from her earliest responsibilities as a special educator, to state and national-level program management. Specific examples of her advocacy include Dr. Wright's management in the design of a statewide system of support for children with autism for the state of Hawaii, several years as the National Director of Autism Services for Easter Seals, and her industry positions leveraging technology and her current role at NEXT for AUTISM developing innovative service options to increase the quality of life of those living with ASD. Dr. Wright has held advisory roles for a number of professional associations and advocacy groups, including the Organization for Autism Research's Scientific Council, the Executive Committee for the Friends of the Center for Disease Control and



Prevention, Board of Directors for the Association of Professional Behavior Analysts and the Autism Society Panel of Professional Advisors. She has been asked to provide expert testimony at Congressional Hearings and is a frequent contributor in the media, raising awareness of effective intervention for those living with disabilities. Dr. Wright completed her Ph.D. and master's in public health from the University of Hawaii. Her research focuses on the delivery of evidence-based practices in schools and healthcare access for people with disabilities.

Abstract: Modern social movements are acknowledging inequity and encouraging discourse and action to bring about change for disenfranchised communities. The ivory towers of academia, and intellectualism specifically, have contributed to an alarming separation of research from the real-world experiences of people living with Autism spectrum disorder. Biases that lead to inequity exist within the discipline and application of applied behavior analysis (ABA). Practitioners of ABA can harness society's drive to address such inequities by critically analyzing our field and establishing new repertoires of professional behaviors. Systemic change in the field can promote social justice and improve access to effective ABA services. Promoting professional learning and application of cultural humility, directly addressing diversity, and focusing on socially significant behaviors, can increase the effective, equitable application of the science of ABA.

Stimulus Control of Verbal Behavior: Practical Lessons From Applied and Basic Research

EINAR INGVARSSON

Einar T. Ingvarsson is the director of clinical services at the Virginia Institute of Autism in Charlottesville and part-time lecturer at Reykjavik University in Iceland. He received a master's degree in behavior analysis from the University of North Texas in 2002 and a Ph.D.



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in behavioral psychology from the University of Kansas in 2005. Subsequently, he completed a post-doctoral internship at the Kennedy Krieger Institute and then spent two years as assistant professor at Youngstown State University in Ohio. From 2008 to 2017, he worked as a research scientist at the University of North Texas and Program Director at the Child Study Center in Fort Worth, Texas. Einar previously served as associate editor for the *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis (JABA)* and *The Analysis of Verbal Behavior (TAVB)*. He currently serves on the editorial boards of *JABA*, *TAVB*, *European Journal of Behavior Analysis*, *Behavioral Interventions*, and *The Psychological Record*. Einar previously served as the president of the Texas Association for Behavior Analysis. His primary research interests are in the areas of verbal behavior and social skills instruction for individuals with autism spectrum disorder and other developmental disabilities, as well as the functional assessment and treatment of problem behavior. He has published over 30 articles in peer-reviewed journals.

Abstract: B. F. Skinner’s *Verbal Behavior* has had significant influence on behavioral interventions for individuals with ASD. Yet, questions are still raised about the extent to which Skinnerian behavior analysis can account for a flexible and generative verbal repertoire. However, careful attention to basic behavioral principles, including stimulus control, can lead to outcomes that go beyond what was directly taught. The stimulus control preparations that are arranged during acquisition have great implications for generalization, as well as the emergence of novel (untrained) verbal behavior. Assessment of stimuli that influence behavior in the everyday environment is equally important. In the current talk, I will discuss research on establishing appropriate stimulus control over verbal behavior (particularly tacts and intraverbals). I will also discuss the implications of stimulus control for establishing a generative verbal repertoire (e.g., emergent intraverbals) and programming for generalization and maintenance across a variety of environmental contexts.

Treatment for Improving Socialization and Academics in Autism Spectrum Disorder: Recent Research on Pivotal Response Treatment

LYNN KOEGEL

Dr. Lynn Kern Koegel is a clinical professor at the Stanford University School of Medicine. She has been active in the development of programs to improve communication in children with autism, including the development of first words, grammatical structures, pragmatics, and social conversation. In addition to her published books and articles in the area of communication and language development, she has developed and published procedures and field manuals in the area of self-management and functional analysis that are used in school districts and by parents throughout the United States, as well as translated in other major languages. Dr. Lynn Koegel is the author of *Overcoming Autism and Growing Up on the Spectrum* with parent Claire LaZebnik, published by Viking/Penguin and available in most bookstores. Lynn Koegel and her husband, Robert, are the developers of Pivotal Response Treatment, which focuses on motivation. The Koegels have been the recipients of many awards, including the first annual Children’s Television Workshop *Sesame Street* Award for “Brightening the Lives of Children”, the first annual Autism Speaks award for “Science and Research” and the International ABA award for “enduring programmatic contributions in behavior analysis.” In addition, Dr. Lynn Koegel appeared on ABC’s hit show “Supernanny” working with a child with autism. Their work has also been showcased on ABC, CBS, NBC, PBS, and the Discovery Channel. The Koegels are the recipients of many state, federal, and private foundation gifts and grants for developing interventions and helping families with autism spectrum disorder.



Abstract: This presentation will describe intervention procedures for improving socialization and academic



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engagement in individuals with autism spectrum disorders. Video clips will be presented to demonstrate the procedures. Advances regarding Pivotal Response Treatment, including implementing the motivational components with a variety of behaviors and across the lifespan will be discussed.

Learning to Thrive: Enhancing Outcomes in Applied Behavior Analysis Settings With Acceptance Commitment Training

EVELYN GOULD

Evelyn Gould, Ph.D., BCBA-D, LABA, is a clinical behavior analyst and research associate at the Child and Adolescent OCD Institute (OCIDI-Jr) at McLean Hospital, Harvard Medical School. The OCIDI-Jr program provides residential level of care for children and adolescents struggling with treatment refractory OCD and related disorders. The program emphasizes evidence-based behavioral interventions, including Exposure and Response Prevention (ERP) and Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT). Dr. Gould currently works under the supervision of Dr. Lisa Coyne, licensed clinical psychologist, researcher, and world-expert in ACT and the treatment of childhood anxiety disorders. Dr. Gould also continues to collaborate with FirstSteps for Kids, providing clinical consultation, mentorship, and training to staff. Dr. Gould has extensive experience working with children and adolescents with ASD (and their families) across settings, and has fulfilled a variety of clinical, training, and research roles in the USA, UK, and N. Ireland over the years. Dr. Gould remains passionate about the provision of high-quality clinical services for children, adolescents, and their families, and the dissemination of Behavior Analysis. Dr. Gould is an associate editor for the *Journal of Contextual Behavioral Science*, and an Editorial Board member for *Behavior Analysis in Practice*. Dr. Gould is actively involved



in a number of special interest groups (SIGs), including the ABAAI ACT SIG, the ACBS Children and Families SIG, and the Women in ACBS SIG.

Abstract: ACT is part of a growing body of literature on “third-wave” behavioral therapies. Derived from behavior analysis, ACT seeks to increase adaptive, flexible responding by reducing the influence of problematic private events (including rule-deriving and rule-following). Empirical support for ACT-based interventions across a broad range of settings and populations continues to grow, however, research examining the application of ACT within ABA settings is still in its infancy. This talk presents ACT as a treatment model that holds promise for practitioners working with families of children with autism in ABA settings. Relevant theoretical and empirical literature supporting this promise will be reviewed and key components of ACT outlined. Adaptations for parents, children and adolescents, and staff will be presented. Finally, the potential benefits of combining traditional ABA strategies with ACT will be discussed, in addition to implications for the development and dissemination of ACT-based treatments within the field of ABA.

The Parents' Perspective: How to Get Parents to Buy In

SHANNON PENROD

Shannon Penrod was an award winning comedienne and writer when her son was diagnosed with autism at the age of 2 ½. Terrified, overwhelmed, and unsure what to do next, Shannon set out on a mission to help her son. With luck, fortitude, and a lot of help, Shannon found a quality ABA program and was able to access funding to give her son intensive treatment. The result was nothing short of amazing. Her son, now 15, attends a college prep high school and is an active member of his school's competitive robotics team. In her quest to help other parents access





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what she was fortunate enough to have, Shannon Penrod hosts the popular web show *Autism Live*, which features free information and inspiration for the global autism community. Shannon holds an MFA from The National Theatre Conservatory. Her award-winning one-woman show *The Autism Mamalogues* debuted at the Hollywood Fringe Festival in 2018 and has upcoming performance dates throughout the US.

Abstract: What are the biggest stumbling blocks to getting parents to participate in and embrace an intensive behavioral intervention? Oddly enough, it can be as simple as understanding the parent perspective. Shannon Penrod is a mom of a child diagnosed with autism at 2 ½ years old; fortunately, he started an intensive, quality ABA program at the age of 3. His success has made Shannon a true believer in the power of ABA in treating autism. Now Shannon shares the often hilarious, sometimes tragic mindset of the autism parent. Can you get these overwhelmed, under-slept parents to understand and participate in their child's intervention? Yes! And when you do they will often become your biggest cheerleaders. Shannon will give you the parent 411 so you can decode their behavior, arrive at the function, and begin to implement effective behavior intervention plans that parents can buy into.

The Impact of Changing Social Systems on Behavioral Practice: Overcoming Barriers to Providing Socially Valid Behavioral Interventions

TRACI CIHON

Traci M. Cihon, Ph.D., BCBA-D is an associate professor in the Department of Behavior Analysis at The University of North Texas. She teaches graduate level courses in behavior principles; verbal behavior; and legal, ethical and professional issues. She oversees the Teaching Science Lab, which is a system that designs,



delivers, and evaluates the undergraduate introduction to behavior analysis courses and she co-supervises the Cultural Selection Lab. Dr. Cihon has worked in several clinical and academic systems including public and private sectors in both school and home settings in and outside of the US with a variety of individuals with disabilities, children who are at-risk for school failure, and university students. Her scholarship focuses on verbal behavior, international and interdisciplinary dissemination of behavior analysis, behavior analysis as applied to social issues—namely education, and cultural selection and has published in a number of peer-reviewed journals both within and outside of the field of behavior analysis. Dr. Cihon serves on the editorial boards for several major disciplinary and non-disciplinary peer-reviewed journals such as *The Analysis of Verbal Behavior*, *American Annals of the Deaf*, *Perspectives on Behavior Science*, and she is an associate editor for *Behavior and Social Issues*.

Abstract: The rise in popularity (for good reason of course) of interventions based on behavior analytic principles for individuals with autism has changed the contingencies for those who provide the behavioral interventions for individuals with autism. Specifically, a number of systems-level practices and/or regulations have been established or have evolved by a variety of governing organizations (e.g., the licensing boards and certifying organizations, university-based training programs in behavior analysis and related disciplines) and social systems (e.g., economic, education, health care). Many of these practices and/or regulations have been established or have evolved due to the need to process increasing numbers of clients who are being served or increasing numbers of those providing/ coordinating the service provision. These practices and/or regulations might serve several functions – from strengthening to evocative to selective. For example, they set the occasion for individual behaviors to be reinforced (or not) or punished, they restrict the repertoire of potential responses that are likely to be emitted, and they

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condition or perhaps make different classes of reinforcers more available. Each of us—practitioner, scientist-practitioner, student, researcher, professor—should be engaging in the complex contingency analyses that elucidate how these practices and/or regulations affect our behaviors with respect to our contributions to our science, our discipline, our research, our practice, and most importantly to the education and training of behavior analysts in order to ensure that we are engaging in a scientific approach to socially valid behavior change.

Other Sessions

Author Signing: Friday, January 18

6:00 PM–7:00 PM, Grand Foyer

Join us in the bookstore to meet with authors and have your book signed!

Poster Session: Friday, January 18

6:00 PM–8:00 PM; Pacific Concourse

Over 100 research and practice posters will be on display and discussed. Join colleagues and friends for informative presentations and intelligent discussion.

Opening Remarks: Saturday, January 19

8:00 AM–8:10 AM; Grand Ballroom A-C

Ruth Anne Rehfeldt

The program committee co-chair will present opening remarks and welcome attendees to the conference.

Career Fair: Friday and Saturday, January 19

12:30 PM–2:00 PM (FRIDAY) & 11:20 AM–12:50 PM; Pacific Concourse

Jobseekers and employers, register early! Take part in the Hybrid Career Fair for the 13th Annual Autism Conference. This event is tailor-made to increase ROI for employers and add value for behavior analysts at all stages of career development. Find out how to participate at www.abainternational.org/career-central/career-fair.aspx.

An Update From the Autism SIG: Saturday, January 19

3:50 PM–4:20 PM; Grand Ballroom A-C

Justin Leaf

The purposes of the Autism Special Interest Group (Autism SIG) are to (1) promote evidence based practices in regard to treatment for individuals diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder (ASD); (2) promote best practices as it relates to procedures/interventions based upon the principles of applied behavior analysis (ABA) as it relates to individuals diagnosed with ASD; (3) help individuals diagnosed with ASD, families of individuals diagnosed with ASD, and consumers to identify components of evidence based practices, quality behavioral intervention, and effective treatments; (4) help protect individuals diagnosed with ASD and their families from ineffective, non-evidence based, and/or potential harmful treatment(s); (5) serve as a scientific and professional reference and networking group for its members; and (6) organize an annual meeting to provide a forum for discussion of the affairs of the SIG. In this talk we will briefly describe recent developments that have occurred within the Autism SIG as well as future plans in the upcoming year.

Opening Remarks: Sunday, January 20

8:00 AM–8:10 AM; Grand Ballroom A-C

Jonathan J. Tarbox

The program committee co-chair will present opening remarks and introduce the day's speakers.

Passport Prize Drawing: Sunday, January 20

10:15 AM–10:30 AM; Pacific Concourse

Visit all the exhibitors on the passport provided to you at registration, have each square initialed, and return it to the bookstore to be entered in the drawing. Over \$1,000 in prizes!

Closing Remarks: Sunday, January 20

12:20 PM–12:30 PM; Grand Ballroom A-C

Jonathan J. Tarbox

The program committee co-chair will present closing remarks and summarize the topics presented during the conference.

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2019 Calendar of Upcoming Conferences

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

2019

January

ABAI 13th Annual Autism Conference

January 18–20
San Francisco, CA
Hyatt Regency San Francisco

February

California ABA 37th Annual Western Regional Conference

February 1–3
Long Beach, CA
Long Beach Convention Center and
Hyatt Regency Long Beach
<https://calaba.org/conference/>

Ohio ABA Annual Conference

February 8–9
Columbus, OH
The Marriott Columbus University Area
<https://ohaba.org/event-3121212>

North Carolina ABA 30th Annual Conference

February 20–22
Winston-Salem, NC
Twin City Quarters
www.nc-aba.com/ncaba-conference

Behavior Analysis Association of Michigan Annual Conference

February 21–22
Ypsilanti, MI
Eastern Michigan University
Student Center
www.baam.emich.edu/conference.

March

Connecticut ABA 15th Annual Conference

March 1
Cromwell, CT
Red Lion Cromwell
www.ctaba.org/ctaba_events/2019_conference

British Columbia ABA 11th Annual Conference

March 8–9
Vancouver, BC
University of British Columbia
<https://bc-aba.org/events/11th-annual-conference/>

Texas ABA Regional Conference on Behavior Analysis

March 14–17
Fort Worth, TX
The Worthington Renaissance Fort
Worth Hotel
www.txaba.org/conference/conference

Behavior Analysis Association of Mississippi Second Annual Conference

March 20–21
Flowood, MS
Table 100
www.baams.org/event-3131226

Heartland ABA Annual Conference

March 21–22
Omaha, NE
Scott Conference Center
www.hlaba.org/annual-conference

Illinois ABA Annual Workshop and Conference

March 21–22
Springfield, IL
Wyndham Springfield City Centre
www.ilaba.org/conference

March (cont.)

Massachusetts ABA Ninth Annual Conference

March 21–22
Marlborough, MA
www.massaba.net

Pennsylvania ABA 21st Annual Conference

March 21–23
Hershey, PA
Hershey Lodge & Convention Center
www.pennaba.org

Virginia ABA 15th Annual Conference

March 22–23
Reston, VA
Hyatt Regency Reston
<https://virginiaaba.org/vabaevents/conference>

Virginia ABA 15th Annual Conference

March 22–23
Reston, VA
Hyatt Regency Reston
<https://virginiaaba.org/vabaevents/conference>

Four Corners ABA 12th Annual Conference

March 29–30
Santa Fe, NM
La Fonda on the Plaza
www.4caba.org/conference

Kansas ABA Annual Conference

March 30
Overland Park, KS
University of Kansas Edwards
Campus
www.kansaba.org/conference

April

New Jersey ABA 14th Annual Conference

April 5
Somerset, NJ
The Palace at Somerset
www.njaba.org/conferences

Norwegian ABA Annual Seminar

April 24–28
Gol, Hallingdal, Norway
Storefjell høyfjellshotell
www.atferd.no

May

ABAI 45th Annual Convention

May 23–27
Downtown Chicago, IL
Hyatt Regency Chicago, Swissôtel Chicago, and Fairmont Chicago Millennium Park
www.abainternational.org/events/annual-2019

July

ABA Australia Fourth Annual Conference

July 26–28
Melbourne, Victoria
Rydges Hotel
<https://auaba.com.au/conference-2019>

August

Wisconsin ABA 12th Annual Conference

August 8–10
Madison, WI
University of Wisconsin-Madison
www.wisaba.org/copy-of-conference

Japanese ABA 37th Annual Conference

August 30–September 1
Otaru, Hokkaido
Otaru City Hall
www.j-aba.jp/meeting

September

Florida ABA 39th Annual Conference

September 19–21
Ponte Vedra Beach, FL
Sawgrass Marriott Golf Resort & Spa
www.fabaworld.org

ABAI 10th International Conference

September 29–30
Stockholm, Sweden
Stockholm Waterfront Congress Centre

October

Berkshire Association for Behavior Analysis and Therapy 40th Annual Conference

October 2–4
Worcester, MA
DCU Center
<https://babat.org>

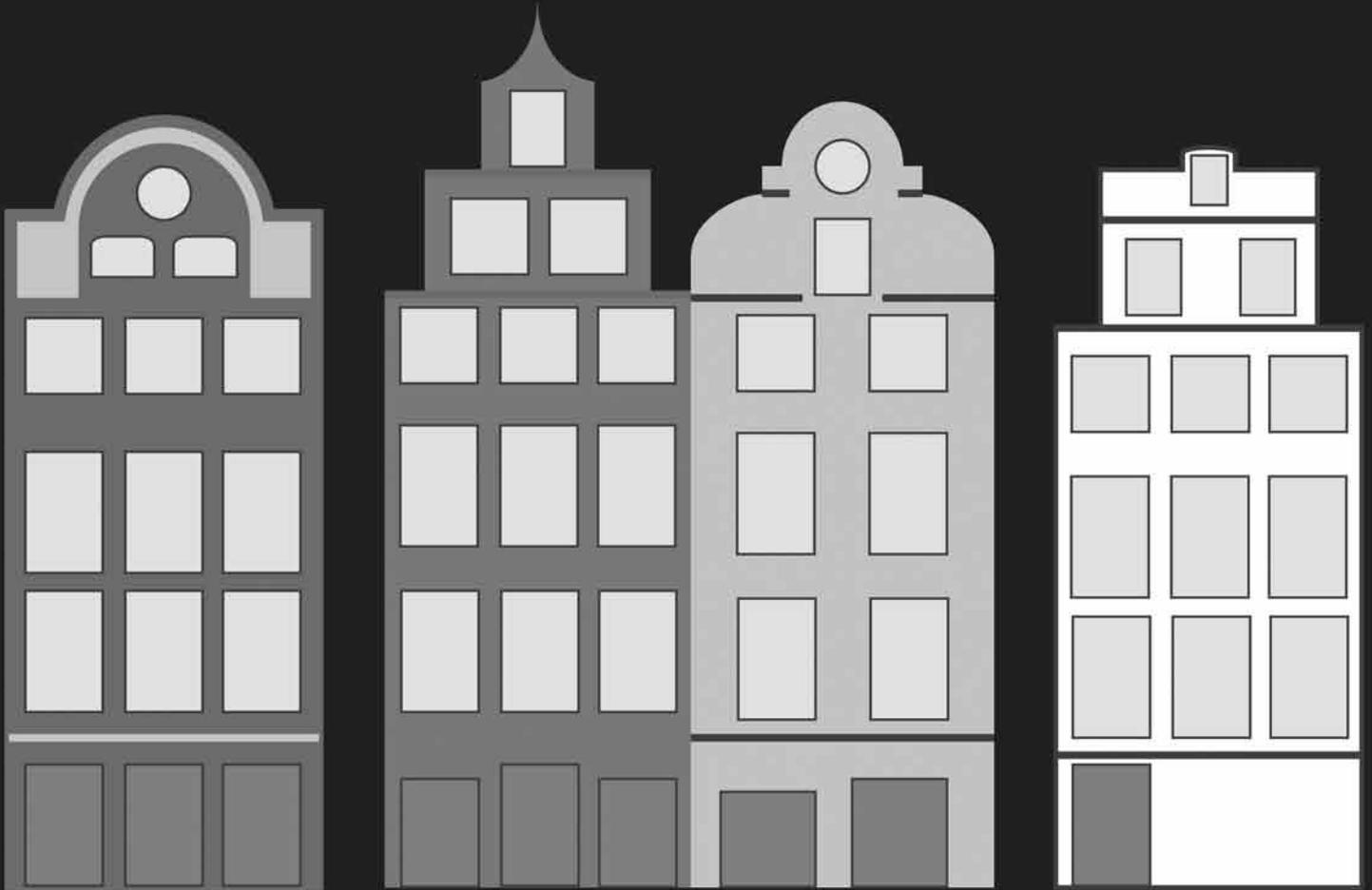


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