

INSIDE BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS
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AUGUST
2019





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 550 West Centre Avenue, Suite 1
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 269 492 9310
www.abainternational.org

ON THE COVER: The Chicago River, near Wabash Avenue and East Wacker Drive. Photo: MARTIN C. BURCH

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IT TAKES A VILLAGE to raise a science and apply it in practice. Successful practice stimulates scientific development in turn. The inhabitants of our village are the thousands of behavior analysts who, inspired by the work of our founders, advance and apply empirically grounded analyses and syntheses to improve the lives of individuals, families, children, and, where possible, the larger society. Like a large, extended family at a holiday dinner, we gather in the spring for a feast of ideas: We learn new techniques, share new findings, renew old friendships, and make new ones. Spring of 2019 was another in a line of great reunions.

As for all such gatherings, there is much preparatory work; this is accomplished by the hundreds of members who form our boards and committees and give unstintingly of their time. I am always in awe when I sit in on some of these committee meetings and read the products of others at how selfless so many of our members are. In addition, the skeleton that gives structure and articulation to this body is the staff, so ably marshaled by our CEO. Presidents such as I come and go; it is the staff who constitute the enduring functionality—and institutional memory—of ABAI.

Our association has wisely decided to do more for its

members than rub them together in the spring; we also load their computers and bookshelves with good reads, including five journals no behaviorist should be without. New to these shelves is *Behavior and Social Issues*, a journal founded by the Behaviorists for Social Responsibility Special Interest Group (and free to its members—another good reason to join them to learn more about how to do good). Subscriptions and submissions have increased almost exponentially for all our journals, thanks in large part to the very talented and dedicated editors who care for and feed them. *Perspectives on Behavior Science* had an especially good year, with an impact factor almost doubling to 2.5 (the average number of citations per article over the last two years). As my mentors taught me, reinforcement works, so ABAI has recently initiated a textbook series, with an all-star cast of editors—stay tuned! And in case you get hungry for behavioral company between major feasts, ABAI continues to host specialty and international conferences. Join us in Stockholm, Sweden this September 29–30 for our upcoming international conference; in Miami, Florida February 23–25, 2020 for our 14th annual autism conference; and in New Orleans, Louisiana October 7–9, 2020 for a conference addressing issues in Culturo-Behavioral Science. (Just think of the field trips possible there!)

We do all we can to help our members who are practitioners. We initiated a process to generate applied behavior analysis CPT codes and invited other behavioral organizations to join us; last year we released a list of descriptions of those that had been confirmed. We support 51 US and 42 non-US chapters with over 29,000 members and 34 special interest groups with almost 9,000 members. We accredit programs—32 programs at 23 colleges and universities, currently—and verify course sequences to help maintain high-quality educational programs. To date, we oversee 589 verified course sequences. We provide a clearinghouse for hiring opportunities. As a classic experimental-analysis behaviorist who can boast having had Skinner, Herrnstein, and Rachlin on my dissertation committee, I want you to know how proud I am to see this extension of behavioral science to practice.

Recognizing that our skills are underutilized in the larger society, ABAI has initiated a coalition of six organizations to expand the use of behavioral science in public policy. But charity, they say, should start at home—we began to realize that our skills were also underutilized in our own society! The first step in addressing this problem is, of course, a functional analysis. The association therefore commissioned a special task force, chaired by Carol Pilgrim, on diversity, equity, and inclusion. We have received its recommendations and begun to implement them, including constituting a standing board to provide new recommendations and review the success of enacted ones.

At the fall 2018 strategic planning session, the Executive Council unanimously approved ABAI's long-term vision “to

preserve and develop the science of behavior” and identified five goals that would help advance this vision: (1) expand behavior science to areas where it has too light a footprint; (2) build bridges with other disciplines; (3) be the home of science and practice; (4) contribute to the well-being of society; and (5) promote diversity and inclusion in ABAI and the field. I am most enthusiastic about these goals, as is our membership, per a subsequent survey. These goals were made concrete via a set of 22 directives to boards and other bodies.

Presidents of ABAI, such as I, get several big perks (in addition to a nice dinner at the end of the convention). We get the stage, a marvelous soapbox/bully pulpit, in front of which many of you attempt to stay awake at the end of a hectic convention; the opportunity to suggest new directions to the Council; and the honor of naming a Presidential Scholar to speak at the end of our year of service, in coordination with our vision. This year Mark Mattaini introduced us to the remarkable Jamila Raqib, an expert on nonviolent resistance, who spoke eloquently of the needs and ways to apply behavioral strategies to tyrannical regimes. These are lessons we all may profit from learning these days.

My initiative for course adjustment was inspired by those of past presidents; all, in one way or another, have emphasized the importance of bridge building—between science and practice, and to the larger community of psychologists. One potential Presidential Scholar sprang quickly to (err...) mind: Alan Kazdin, whose work on behavior modification, token economies, and appropriate statistics for n-of-1 research would alone recommend him as a B. F. Skinner lecturer. What makes him my choice as Presidential Scholar, however, is his ability to build such a bridge and walk across it. Alan is past president of the American Psychological Association, a highly cited author, and a scientist esteemed by psychologists of varied disciplines and theoretical orientations to whom we hope to build bridges. He observed, in the abstract to his address, “Changing child, adolescent, and parent behavior seemed to be the major challenge as my work began. That turned out not to be anywhere near as daunting as addressing the challenges in society that directly support, foster, and in some cases cause aggression and antisocial behavior.” Not only does he thus embody our hope to find a seat at the larger table of behavioral psychology, but his recent work complements our embracing *Behavior and Social Issues*, and our instigation of the Coalition of Behavioral Science Organizations, furthering many of the goals listed above.

ABAI does more than run a convention with continuing education credits; we try to tend to the needs, present and future, of our members, and of the society we all inhabit. We have always fostered the development of the science of behavior analysis and will continue to do so; else the field will stagnate. We are pleased to serve multiple and diverse audiences and hope that you, when the time is right, will step forward to help us reach our mutual goals. ❖



45th Annual Convention: Success in Chicago

BY MARIA E. MALOTT

Summer is a time for ABAI Executive Council members and staff to reflect on feedback and lessons learned from the annual convention. Summer is also the season for growing, and we have a lot of exciting growth planned for the association, much of it extending from the energy of a successful convention.

Chicago continues to be a great city for ABAI, with more than 5,000 attendees this year (just shy of last year's record-shattering number). Perhaps more important is that this year's program met attendees' high expectations; feedback on the quality of the sessions was extremely positive.

We are busy making plans to bring the 46th Annual

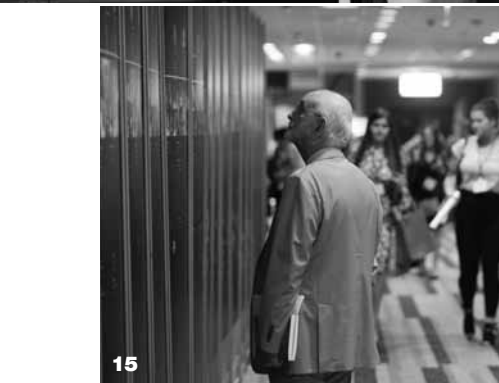


1 Jonathan Freidel addresses the audience during a presentation. **2** SABA Awards rest on a table just before the the Opening Event. **3** Many fun, great products were available at the convention bookstore. **4** Kurt Salzinger's daughter, Alison Salzinger, and his wife, Deanna Chitayat, accept his posthumous SABA award from Past President Michael Dougher. **5** Convention guests cheer during a prize giveaway. **6** In a lighter moment, an attendee poses for a photo with Nicodemus the PsychCore Rat. **7** Attendees have some fun at the photo station. **8** Brianda Jazmin Martin del Campo speaks. **9** Wayne Fisher speaks. **10** Elif Tekin Iftar delivers her invited address. **11** Warren Bickel speaks during the SABA Awards Ceremony. **12** Discussion during one of the convention's poster sessions.

Convention to Washington, DC, May 21–25, 2020. ABAI has held smaller conferences in the U.S. capital, but this will be the first convention there. The Walter E. Washington Convention Center, an extraordinary 2.3 million-square-foot facility, has more than enough space for our registration, bookstore, exhibits, meetings, sessions,

and more. The call for submissions launched September 3; check www.abainternational.org/events/annual-2020.aspx for announcements and updates.

We're grateful to everyone who joined us in the Windy City, and we hope to see you in the Nation's Capital!



Thank you, invited presentation and tutorial speakers!

APPLIED ANIMAL BEHAVIOR

Nathaniel Hall

"Canine Sense and Scent Ability: Applications of Behavior Analysis to Working and Pet Dogs"

AUTISM

Elif Tekin Iftar

"Teaching Safety Skills to Children With Autism Spectrum Disorder"

Tyra Sellers

"Providing Effective Supervision to Clinical Practitioners Pre- and Post-Certification"

BEHAVIORAL DEVELOPMENT

Nirvana Pistoljevic

"Applied Behavior Analysis for All: Building Systems to Help Children Through Transdisciplinary Behavioral Approaches"

Jennifer Longano

"An Analysis of the Components of Bidirectional Naming, the Naming Experiences to Occasion the Incidental Acquisition of Language, and Protocols to Induce Bidirectional and Complex Naming Repertoires"

BEHAVIORAL PHARMACOLOGY AND NEUROSCIENCE

William Walton Stoops

"Novel Behavioral Targets and Outcomes in Treating Cocaine Use Disorder"

CLINICAL/FAMILY/ BEHAVIORAL MEDICINE

Willy-Tore Morch

"Consequences of Violence and Neglect in Children: The Risks of Neurobiological and Psychological Impairments"

Stuart Libman

"Evolving Organizationally: Acceptance and Commitment Therapy as Organizational Behavior Management in a School-Based Partial Hospital Program"

COMMUNITY, SOCIAL, AND SUSTAINABILITY ISSUES

Jennifer Fritz

"Effort Manipulations to Increase Recycling and Reduce Waste"

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Frank Symons

"Pain: An Update From the Applied Front—Conditioning and Measuring Behavior Still Matter"

EDUCATION

Edward J. Daly III

"Preparing for a New Role: The School-Based Consultant"

EXPERIMENTAL ANALYSIS OF BEHAVIOR

Christine Hughes

"Positive Reinforcement: Not Always 'Positive'"

ORGANIZATIONAL BEHAVIOR MANAGEMENT

Gordon R. Foxall

"Behavioral Economics of the Marketing Firm: Bilateral Contingency, Metacontingency, and Agency"

Judy Johnson

"Robots, Artificial Intelligence, and Behavior Analysts: Shaping the Future of Work"

PHILOSOPHICAL, CONCEPTUAL, AND HISTORICAL ISSUES

William Baum

"What Evolutionary Theory Tells Us About Behavior"

Francesca Degli Espinosa

"A Behavior Analysis of Theory of Mind: Conceptual and Applied Implications"

PRACTICE

Jennifer Austin

"Common Mistakes Behavior Analysts Make When Working in Schools (and What to Do Instead)"

Ronnie Detrich

"Don Baer Lecture: 'A Better Mousetrap Is Not Enough: Rethinking the Dissemination of Behavior Analysis'"

Dana Reinecke and Cheryl Davis

"Best Practices in BCBA Supervision"

Richard B. Graff

"Toward a Complete Technology of Reinforcer Identification"

Carol Pilgrim

"Discrimination Training in Action: Lessons Learned From the Lab"

Tamara S. Kasper

"Speech Production and Applied Behavior Analysis: Using a Conceptual Analysis of Phonetic Hand Cues to Shape Speech Production"

William H. Ahearn

"Best Practices in Treating Repetitive Behavior: From Stereotypy to Social Skills"

Wayne Fisher

"A Practitioner's Guide to Mitigating Treatment Relapse"

SCIENCE

Sarah Cowie

"Using the Past to Predict the Future"

William DeHart and

Jonathan E. Friedel

"Multilevel Modeling for Single-Subject Designs and Model Fitting"

Christopher Franck, Shawn Gilroy, and Amy Odum

"The Potential of Statistical Inference in Behavior Analysis: A Panel With Discussion"

Paul Soto

"Using Genetically Modified Organisms to Probe Neurobiological Bases of Behavior"

Caio Miguel

"Stimulus Equivalence 101"

Erik Arntzen, Karen Lionello-DeNolf, and Daniel M. Fienup

"Derived Stimulus Relations: A Panel With Discussion"

Jomella Watson-Thompson, Traci M. Cihon, and Diana Walker

"Promoting Diversity and Inclusion in Behavioral Science"

Ruth Anne Rehfeldt

"Why Are the Behavioral Sciences Not More Effective: Reprise"

Matthew Normand, Ryan O'Donnell, and Matthew Cicoria

"Science Communication and Behavior Analysis: Correcting Missed Opportunities"

Kenneth Silverman

"Utility of Operant Conditioning to Address Poverty-Related Health Disparities"

TEACHING BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS

Jeremy H. Greenberg

"Applied Behavior Analysis as a Teaching Technology for Inclusion"

Jinhyeok Choi

"Breaking New Ground: ABA in South Korea"

VERBAL BEHAVIOR

Anna Petursdottir

"Explaining Emergent Tact Control"

Julio De Rose

"Correspondence of Verbal Reports: An Experimental Analysis"

OTHER

Jamila Raqib, Richard Rakos, and Kathryn Roose

"Nonviolent Action for Social and Environmental Justice: Contemporary Options"

Carmen Luciano Soriano

"Behavior Analysis and Relational Frame Theory: Implications"



13 An attendee participates in a Student Committee trivia event. **14** Arthur Glenberg delivers his B. F. Skinner Address. **15** Jack Marr takes in the ABAL History Wall display. **16** Kenneth Silverman speaks during his invited presentation. **17** SABA awardee Fabio Tosilin (left) with Michael Dougher (right). **18** Colleagues laugh during a poster session.

Thank you, B. F. Skinner Lecture Series presenters!

APPLIED ANIMAL BEHAVIOR

Marguerite O'Haire

"The Effects of Human-Animal Interaction on Children With Autism Spectrum Disorder"

AUTISM

Patricia Prelock

"Theory of Mind in Autism: Parent Training in Narrative Book Reading to Improve Social Understanding"

BEHAVIORAL DEVELOPMENT

Kathleen A. O'Connell

"The Urge to Smoke and the Urge to Urinate: Pavlovian Processes in Health-Related Behaviors"

BEHAVIORAL PHARMACOLOGY AND NEUROSCIENCE

Paul Glimcher

"The Neuroeconomics of Reinforcement and Choice: From Dopamine to Decision-Making"

CLINICAL/FAMILY/ BEHAVIORAL MEDICINE

Kevin Vowles

"Pain Willingness and Commitment to Valued Living in Chronic Pain"

COMMUNITY, SOCIAL, AND SUSTAINABILITY ISSUES

Gleb Tshipursky

"Fighting Fake News and Post-Truth Politics With Behavioral Science: The Pro-Truth Pledge"

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Wolfgang Wiedermann

"Direction Dependence Analysis: Testing the Direction of Causation in Non-Experimental Person-Oriented Research"

EDUCATION

Amanda Nickerson

"Understanding, Measuring, and Changing Bystander Behavior in Bullying"

EXPERIMENTAL ANALYSIS OF BEHAVIOR

Arthur Glenberg

"Embodied Cognition in Theory and Practice: How Behavior Becomes Thought"

ORGANIZATIONAL BEHAVIOR MANAGEMENT

Nelson P. Miller

"When the Stars Align: Managing Behavior-Based Interventions in a Workplace Academic Unit"

PHILOSOPHICAL, CONCEPTUAL, AND HISTORICAL ISSUES

Michael Pettit

"The Public Lives of Animal Behavior"

SCIENCE

Sharon Walsh

"How to Leverage Behavioral and Pharmacological Sciences to Impact the Opioid Crisis"

Ty Tashiro

"The Science of Why We're Socially Awkward and Why That's Awesome"

TEACHING

BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS

Annmarie Cano

"Translating Behavioral Observation Research to Intervention for Couples With Pain"

VERBAL BEHAVIOR

Dana Suskind

"A Public Health Approach to Early Learning"

Thank you, Program Committee!

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

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Verbal Behavior (VRB): Sarah Lechango (University of Houston-Clear Lake) and Einar T. Ingvarsson (Child Study Center; University of North Texas)



22 Participants in one of the convention author signing sessions. **23** ABAI President Peter Killeen introduces a presenter. **24** Attendees set up their poster presentation. **25** Friends catch up during a poster session. **26** Janet Vasquez gestures during a presentation.



27



28



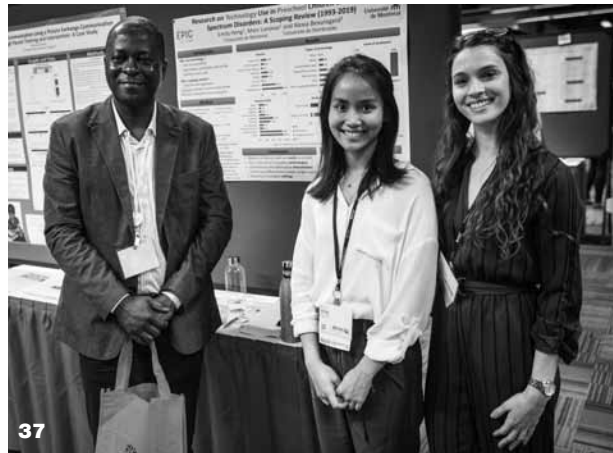
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27 Outgoing student representative Lorraine Becerra accepts an award recognizing her service from Mark Mattaini. **28** Michael Dougher (left) holds his recognition of service award next to Mark Mattaini. **29** Tyra Sellars accepts an Outstanding Mentor Award from Mark Mattaini. **30** Tara Fahmie accepts an Outstanding Mentor Award from Mark Mattaini. **31** T. V. Joe Layng accepts an Outstanding Mentor Award from Mark Mattaini. **32** Don Hantula accepts an award from Mark Mattaini recognizing his service as editor of *Perspectives on Behavior Science*. **33** Outgoing ABAI at-large representative Mark Galizio accepts a recognition of service award from Mark Mattaini. **34** Presidential Scholar Jamilla Raqib welcomes her audience. **35** Kate Saunders delivers her presentation.

36 Carol Pilgrim delivers her invited address. **37** Convention attendees pose in front their poster. **38** Convention attendees test out VR headsets in the exhibit hall. **39** Awards for outgoing council and committee members and editors of ABAI journals. **40** Guests dance during the ABAI Social. **41** Carol Metzler gives her acceptance speech for Oregon Research Institute's SABA award.



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Thank you, ABAI staff!

ABAI staff worked tirelessly behind the scenes leading up to and during the convention. Thanks to Zoe Barnes, Aaron Barsy, Lin Davis, William Dolak, Sarah Granlund, Shannon Keene, Mindy Ketels, Holly Lee, Mandy McNaughton, Hadley Moore, Jenna Mrljak, Dale Power, Stephen Rafferty, Raiza Robles, Joseph Romeo, Paul Shafer, Majda Seuss, Eddie Soh, Laura Stephenson, Viviana Vidal, and Andrew York. ❖



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2019

ABAI is proud to announce the 2019 Fellows of
the Association for Behavior Analysis International.

FELLOWS OF ABAI

**Iser G. DeLeon**

Iser (Willie) G. DeLeon earned his Ph.D. at the University of Florida in 1997, and then became a faculty member at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, where he served as the Director of Research Development at the Kennedy Krieger Institute. He returned to his alma mater in 2014, where he is now professor of psychology. Dr. DeLeon has earned a national reputation as a scholar, researcher, and leader in the field of applied behavior analysis. His work serves as a model for the bidirectional transfer between basic and applied research.

One significant line of inquiry focuses on the development of strategies to identify effective reinforcers and to understand the range of contextual variables that moderate their efficacy over time in persons with intellectual disabilities and in typically developing adults. His work is notable for its use of concepts derived from behavioral economics, behavioral momentum, and other conceptual models as they apply to behavior analytic interventions. In addition to his impressive research and scholarly contributions, Dr. DeLeon has served on the editorial boards of a number of behavior analysis journals, including as associate editor of the *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis* and editor of translational research for the *Journal of the Experimental Analysis of Behavior*. He has also served as a member of the Board of Directors of the Society for the Experimental Analysis of Behavior and president of the Board of Directors for the Behavior Analyst Certification Board.

**Kent Johnson**

Kent Johnson, founder and executive director of Morningside Academy and co-founder of Headsprout, received his Ph.D. from the University of Massachusetts Amherst in 1977. Morningside Academy operates a scientifically driven “catch-up” program for children and youth with learning and attention problems and a “get-ahead” program for average and above-average middle school youth, as well as provides

a laboratory for developing instructional methods and materials. Morningside’s exemplary science-based approach has had global impact and serves as a beacon of hope for many, transforming lives and demonstrating what high-quality behavior analytic education can offer. Dr. Johnson’s commitment to and success in developing and disseminating innovative and highly effective behaviorally based educational practices have been recognized by his receiving the Award for Public Service in Behavior Analysis from the Society for the Advancement of Behavior Analysis, the Edward L. Anderson Award in Recognition for Exemplary Contributions to Behavioral Education from the Cambridge Center for Behavioral Studies, the Ogden R. Lindsley Lifetime Achievement Award in Precision Teaching from the Standard Celeration Society, and the Fred S. Keller Behavioral Education Award from Division 25 of the American Psychological Association.

Jack J. McDowell received his Ph.D. in clinical psychology from the State University of New York at Stony Brook in 1979, after which he joined the faculty at Emory University, where he is now a professor of clinical psychology and psychobiology. Dr. McDowell’s scholarly contributions are notable both for their quantitative, fundamental importance and for their applied significance. He has developed mathematical models of behavior that have been as remarkably successful as they are ingenious. His linear systems model describes response rate as a function of reinforcement rate in the manner of Herrnstein’s hyperbola—though arguably more comprehensively. Most recently, he has developed and extended his evolutionary theory of behavior dynamics model, which has successfully generated detailed quantitative descriptions of a large range of phenomena, from VI-schedule performance, to choice outcomes under a variety of reinforcement conditions, to

**Jack J. McDowell**

Designation as Fellow of ABAI

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

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

punishment effects. Dr. McDowell has brought quantitative models of behavior from the laboratory to the fields of applied and clinical psychology, a significant accomplishment that has enriched our discipline.

Ruth Anne Rehfeldt received her Ph.D. from the University of Nevada, Reno in 1998, and is a professor in the Behavior Analysis and Therapy Program at the Rehabilitation Institute of Southern Illinois University, Carbondale and Director of the Center for Autism Spectrum Disorders. Dr. Rehfeldt has contributed both basic and applied research that is impressive for its bench-to-bedside translation in the area of derived stimulus relations. Particularly noteworthy is her applied work demonstrating the effectiveness of interventions based on derived stimulus relations for learners ranging from young children to persons with disabilities to graduate students. Her work has contributed to the understanding of complex forms of human behavior, focusing on verbal behavior, rule governance, observational learning, stimulus equivalence, and perspective-taking. Dr. Rehfeldt has also served on a number of editorial boards and was editor of *The Psychological Record* for more than a decade.

Rachel H. Thompson, professor of psychology and director of the Master's Program in Applied Behavior Analysis at Western New England University, received her Ph.D. from the University of Florida in 2001. Dr. Thompson is a productive and creative applied researcher. She has played important roles in the development of innovative applications with diverse populations, opening new and important lines of programmatic research. Her work is notable in linking behavioral processes to problems of social importance. She has been a recipient of the B. F. Skinner Foundation New Researcher Award and the Nathan H. Azrin Distinguished Contribution to Applied Behavior Analysis Award from the American Psychological Association's Division 25. Dr. Thompson has also served as an associate editor of both the *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis* and *The Behavior Analyst* and was vice president of the Board of Directors of the Society for the Experimental Analysis of Behavior.



Ruth Anne Rehfeldt



Rachel H. Thompson



"Butterfly Effects a proud sponsor of ABAI"



Jamila

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The background features a series of wavy, horizontal bands in shades of gray and black. Scattered across these bands are several solid black five-pointed stars of varying sizes. The main title is written in a large, bold, white sans-serif font, following the curve of one of the black bands.

Raqib: Scholar and Activist

ation for Behavior Analysis International 2019 Presidential Scholar

Y JOSÉ G. ARDILA SÁNCHEZ

Presidential Scholar Essay

Behavior analysis, being the science of behavior, can contribute to solving the most pervading issues of humankind such as violence, poverty, contamination, and segregation.

Within our scientific field, we have experimentally investigated regularities in the behavior of organisms that has allowed the construction of principles (e.g., reinforcement), which have been systematically applied in the elaboration of interventions and tools for behavior modification. The products of our science have always been aimed at the improvement of the well-being of the people. However, the role of the behavior scientist does not end in the elaboration of tools to change behavior. Jamila Raqib is a scholar serving as an example of the multiple roles that a scientist must take in order to find pragmatic solutions to global human issues. In this commentary, I will explore alternative behavioral repertoires that a student of behavior may find useful when promoting social change. For this purpose, I will highlight Jamila Raqib's work as an example of a scholar going beyond academia in order to achieve significant societal changes.

Pragmatic and Strategic

It is a consensus within the scientific community at large that humanity has made notable progress in many global social issues (Ripple, Wolf, Newsome, Galetti, Alamgir, Crist, Mahmoud, & Laurence, 2017). For example, we have seen a rapid global decline in ozone depleting substances; significant reduction in extreme poverty and hunger; rapid decline in fertility rates in many regions attributable to investments in girls' and women's education; and we are witnessing a rapid growth in the renewable-energy sector. However, science still needs to make progress in environmental policy, global inequities, and human behavior (Ripple et al., 2017). Raqib's research studies the impact of organized practices to overcome, replace, and defeat violent regimes or oppressing governments. While solutions to oppression and violence might fall along a continuum from armed conflict through nonviolent struggle, Raqib emphasizes nonviolent strategies as the most effective way to find solutions for oppressed communities and nations. The importance of this kind of work cannot be overstressed since "without help or guidance people submit to aversive conditions in the most surprising way" (Skinner, 1971, p. 36).

Consistent with a behavior-analytic understanding of human behavior, Raqib's approach to study organized

human practices (i.e., nonviolent strategies) is both "pragmatic and strategic" (Sharp & Raqib, 2009, p. 6). Raqib's understanding of nonviolent strategic behavioral practices offers similar advantages to the experimental analysis of behavior. In observing behavioral processes, we can identify relevant features in environment-behavior relations and reject misleading explanations such as attributing violence to "human nature". For example, in speaking about control relations between citizens and governments, Raqib (2015) said:

"Powerful opponents are not going to give people what they want just because they asked nicely, or even not so nicely. Nonviolent struggle works by destroying an opponent, not physically, but by identifying the institutions that an opponent needs to survive, and then denying them those sources of power."

Raqib discusses nonviolent strategies as mechanisms of altering behavior that do not rely in coercive control. These ideas are coherent with a large body of research suggesting that "individuals and groups experiencing coercive control by others typically respond with efforts to "control the controller," albeit often at great cost to themselves" (Mattaini, 2013, p. 55). Moreover, this analysis challenges the scope of the three-term contingency to explain cultural phenomena. Behavior analysts may consider expanding their unit of analysis to include intersecting contingencies at the level of individuals' behaviors, as well as the cultural milieu (e.g., institutions) under which system of interlocking-behaviors constituting resistance movements occur. In this vein, Sharp & Raqib (2009) recommendations for persons developing strategies to achieve liberation is to acquire knowledge "of the conflict situation, the opponents, and the society and its needs" (p. 16). In short, behavior analysts may aid clarifying the environmental arrangements necessary to achieve social change by enlarging their unit of analysis.

Scholar and Activist

As noted in the previous section, Jamila Raqib as a scholar promotes pragmatic nonviolent solutions for people living in oppressive regimes, including constructive noncooperative strategies to achieve social liberation. But Raqib's academic career is also aligned with an activist stance against social injustices. In other words, Raqib's thoughts do not end in academic journals, but rather they go to the people that can make the most of them. These are the actions of an activist: knowledge directly delivered to the citizens, no intermediaries needed. Activists do not wait for scientific products to become technologies and later objects of mass consumption, instead, they are the bridge between scientific knowledge and social issues. Behavior analysts working in

all fields (applied, basic, theory) can also be activists of their own research interests. Activist actions are not at odds with scientific activities; however, it may important to revisit the scientific goals of prediction and control and adapt them to be more reflexive and contextual.

In concluding, Jamila Raqib is an example of how scientists can engage in practices going beyond academia and contribute to the solution of global issues. These solutions are not going to be achieved by one discipline, and we must consider the strong possibility they are not going to be framed in strictly behavior-analytic terms. Nonetheless, it is time for behavior scientists to take a more active stance against the issues that matter to them (and their clients); in doing so, we can establish dialogues with other scholars to construct knowledge that people can use to achieve social liberation. ❖

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

Alabama ABA

BY PAIGE MCKERCHAR

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

One of the most important tasks ALABA's Executive Committee takes on is hosting an annual convention offering workshops, keynote addresses, and paper presentations from behavior analysts across the nation as well as active researchers and practitioners within our state and region. An important part of the annual convention is the opportunity for members to gather with former schoolmates, colleagues, and friends while networking with new professionals who often become important colleagues and collaborators. The annual convention is also vital because it offers the state's board certified behavior analysts a local opportunity to earn continuing education credits (CEs)—ALABA provided more than 1,000 CEs to 99 members last year.

Last year's convention was October 3–5 at the DoubleTree Hotel in Birmingham. Attendees filled 112 seats at the workshops, which included "A Behavioral Systems Approach to Ethics in Training and Supervision" (conducted by Dr. Matthew Brodhead) and "Practicing Dishing out Difficult Feedback" (conducted by Dr. Ellie Kazemi). Attendance at the 2-day non-compete presentation portion of the convention was the same as the previous year at 190 attendees. The keynote addresses offered instruction in best practice in supervision and the boundaries associated with practice in ABA: Dr. Ellie Kazemi's "Taking a Functional Approach to Supervision" and Dr. Matthew Brodhead's "A Call for Discussion About Scope of Competence in Behavior Analysis." Invited presentations included a broad range of topics from both basic and applied domains: Dr. Jennifer Fritz's "The Role of Precursors During Assessment and Treatment of Problem Behavior," Dr. Jin Yoon's "Delay Discounting in Addictions Research: Background, Findings, and Current Issues," and Dr. Rapp and colleagues' "The Alabama Psychiatric Mediation Review Team: A Collaborative Effort to Decrease the Use of Psychotropic Medication in Foster Care Youth." And member-submitted presentations addressed evidence-based mastery criteria, behavioral interventions for detained adolescent males, an ABA

classroom model for public schools, and billing. The president-elect, Jennifer Bruzek, shared some of her recent research in her Presidential Address: "A Descriptive Assessment of Older Adults: Findings and Interpretations."

Congratulations to the new president-elect John Rapp, members at large Mary-Kate Carey and Sarah Richling, and student representatives Kristen Brogan and Sally Hamrick. The 2019 Executive Committee, which also includes Sabrina Franks, Jennifer Bruzek, Paul Agostini, and Jules Starr, is actively preparing for this fall's 28th annual convention being held October 9–11 at the Hilton Birmingham at University of Alabama-Birmingham. Please visit www.alabamaaba.com for more information and to register for the convention. The chapter is looking forward to another productive year!

Alaska ABA

BY KIMBERLEY BURNETT

The Alaska Association for Behavior Analysis (AKABA) was formed in January 2014 to promote the science and theory of behavior analysis through the support of research, education, and practice. AKABA became affiliated with ABAI in March 2016. Membership is open to all persons interested in or actively engaged in behavior analysis in Alaska.

Membership benefits include low-cost CEs, discounted registration for the annual AKABA conference, access to a private members-only online forum, and updates on legislation and other events related to the practice and research of behavior analysis in Alaska. In addition, AKABA holds quarterly membership meetings and offers continuing education opportunities throughout the year. We invite you to visit our website (www.alaskabehavior.org) for current events, news, and membership information.

2018 was an eventful year for AKABA and included the following activities:

- **Continued Advocacy.** AKABA continued to be heavily involved in state-wide conversations about billing and coverage for ABA services with clients of all ages before and after the July 1, 2018, implementation of Alaska's EPSDT program. AKABA executive representatives were on hand during regular meetings to answer questions regarding service delivery, professional qualifications, and consumer concerns/ethical infractions. As the number of interdisciplinary professionals delivering autism and related helping services in Alaska increases, it is imperative that AKABA continue to have a strong voice advocating for behavior analysts.
- **Obtaining 501(c)(3) Nonprofit Status.** To permit access to new and greater resources, AKABA obtained 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization approval in 2018. This permits AKABA to apply for grants, receive electronic

system support available only to nonprofits, and accept donations. All donations to AKABA are tax-deductible, and AKABA has begun to register with businesses such as local grocery chains and Amazon.com that provide nonprofit giveback programs.

- **Establishment of a New Electronic Management System.** Following leadership changes in late 2017 and early 2018, it became clear that AKABA had outgrown its bootstrap member management systems. With some member-donated financial support and much member-donated technical support, AKABA was able to adopt a new Wild Apricot suite of services, including web hosting and member portal. Now, AKABA members can track their own membership status, renew membership, register for events, and communicate with other members privately through this system. DNS settings for the AKABA domains (www.alaskabehavior.org and www.alaskabehavior.com) were adjusted to reach our streamlined website. The new site includes a great deal of information and permits electronic donations as well.
- **Becoming an Approved CE Provider.** AKABA became an approved Behavior Analyst Certification Board Type 2 CEU provider in 2018. In partnership with the Center for Human Development, AKABA has provided 131 CE units to 27 behavior analysts in Alaska.
- **Holding a Second Annual Conference.** Continuing efforts from 2017, AKABA's second annual social and conference was Friday, November 2–Saturday November 3, 2018. Kickoff speaker was Representative Dan Saddler, proud parent of a son with autism and co-sponsor of SB 74, the Alaska law requiring insurance coverage for autism spectrum disorder.

AKABA was also honored to host Dr. Wes Dotson, director of the Burkhart Center for Autism and a national expert in remote supervision and training to be the keynote speaker, as well as local speakers Veronica Howard (UAA), Rachel White (CHD), Linda Robertson (Step-in Autism Services), Kim Burnett (Every Child Matters), Lyon Johnson (SESA), and Eric Murphy (UAA).

Both the conference and social were well attended and favorably reviewed by participants. Admission fees and partnerships more than covered the cost of the event and made up costs from the inaugural 2017 conference as well.

The focus for AKABA in 2019 is continuing to create a collaborative and inclusive behavior analytic community that includes bridging activities both between disciplines and within our own discipline of behavior analysis and increasing capacity in our state to meet current needs within Alaska's vast and often challenging geographical demographic.

Berkshire Association for Behavior Analysis and Therapy

BY ALAN HARCHIK

BABAT is Massachusetts's largest and longest-standing professional organization for behavior analysts. We are celebrating our 40th anniversary in 2019. Our website is babat.org. BABAT's mission is to advance behavior analysis in Massachusetts and beyond through professional advocacy, organization of continuing education and networking opportunities, professional recognition, and providing needed supports to our membership. The BABAT conference, held annually in October, continues to be a central focus of the board.

Annual Conference

The chapter's 39th annual conference was October 10–12, 2018. The conference was again sold out with over 1,100 professionals in attendance. The conference included more than three dozen invited speakers and distinguished presenters. This was our fourth year of an expanded three-day conference with an additional day of Masters Series of Workshops.

After much thoughtful deliberation, the BABAT board, with input from members, will be moving the conference to a new venue. The 40th Annual BABAT conference will be held October 2–4, 2019, at the DCU Center in Worcester, MA. Given the continued growth of the conference and having to turn away many attendees, it is with mixed emotions that we announce the conference will be leaving the University of Massachusetts for a setting that can accommodate a much larger attendance. BABAT thanks the University of Massachusetts for hosting, supporting, and being part of the conference since its inception. The conference will again start with a day of advanced topic workshops on Wednesday. In addition, more than 30 distinguished professionals have already agreed to participate on Thursday and Friday as invited speakers, with many more to come!

New last year, BABAT offered live online streaming of select invited presentations. Registration included 1- or 2-day options, with or without earning continuing education units. More than 200 online attendees viewed the live streaming across the two days. They were from 19 states and the District of Columbia, Canada, Russia, Saudi Arabia, and the United Kingdom. Online comments from attendees were very positive. BABAT plans to offer this again in 2019.

Legislation and Professional Practice

BABAT strives to advocate for our profession through legislative advocacy. The BABAT Professional Practice Committee helps support and develop legislation that advances opportunities for behavior analysts and the

people they serve. BABAT also provides an ever-expanding array of resources for behavior analysts in MA and surrounding areas. A recently developed resource page on babat.org provides members with links to relevant supports. BABAT's Professional Practice Committee also works to assist other national and state organizations that collectively advance the profession of behavior analysis.

BABAT Social

The eighth annual BABAT Social was April 25. It was held in Natick, MA. The event was an opportunity for New England behavior analysts to gather in an intimate setting to socialize, network, and receive updates on our field. For the second year in a row, the BABAT Social was a half-day mini-conference offering all ethics and supervision CEs members need for 1 year of their 2-year cycle.

Social Media

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

Honors and Awards

BABAT proudly presented the following honors and awards this year:

- The Jerry Shook Practitioner Award: Afton Carannante, Guidewire, Inc.
- BABAT Student Paper Award: Antonia R. Giannakakos, Caldwell University
- B. F. Skinner Foundation/BABAT Student Research Award: Priya Patil, Caldwell University
- B. F. Skinner Foundation/BABAT Student Poster Award: Olga Meleshkevich, Simmons University
- Behavior Change for Sustainable World Research Award: Lauren Martell, St. Lawrence College

The New England Behavior Analyst

BABAT recently posted its semi-annual newsletter, The New England Behavior Analyst. It is available online and provides our membership with important updates on legislative matters, conference highlights, student award winners, reflections on recent trends in the literature, and upcoming events for behavior analysts in New England.

BABAT Leadership

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

Connecticut ABA

BY MICHAEL WEINBERG, MELISSA OLIVE, AND MELISSA SAUNDERS

Our Public Policy and Legislative Outreach (PP&LO) Committee had a busy year. Not only did we rename ourselves from the Legislative Committee to PP&LO, but we finally secured the assistance of a lobbying firm and are proud to be working with Przybysz and Associates. We also completed a survey of members to determine their legislative priorities for the year. Licensure of behavior analysts in CT took effect in July 2019. To date, we have 778 Licensed Behavior Analysts. As a result of licensure, the CT DDS attempted to create a new policy allowing individuals without licensure to deliver PBIS services to individuals in the DDS system. The PP&LO committee worked to draft a letter to DDS informing them of the overlap between ABA and PBIS as well as our concerns with the new policy allowing some individuals to circumvent licensure. We are continuing to track various proposed bills and to advocate for those that directly impact the practice of behavior analysis and/or the clients we serve. For example, we submitted testimony in favor of early intervention, and we provided feedback to committee members related to restraint and seclusion proposed changes.

Our 15th annual state conference was a great success. Due to high demand and the need to increase capacity, the conference was moved to the Red Lion in Cromwell, CT. This year's conference attendance increased by 43% from last year, with 572 in attendance, CTABA's largest conference to date. We were also at capacity for vendor booths, with 24 organizations. We are greatly appreciative of our conference committee co-chairs, Melissa Saunders, MS, BCBA, LABA, LBA, and Melissa Hunsinger-Harris, MSED, BCBA, LABA, LBA, and the committee members, who have managed and put on an excellent and well-rounded conference with invited presentations by nationally recognized behavior analysts including Dr. Jonathan Tarbox, Dr. David Richman, Dr. Laura Turner, Dr. Justin Leaf, Dr. Carl Binder, and Dr. Patrick Friman. The conference also hosted an opportunity for pre-conference workshops by Dr. Melissa Olive, Dr. Justin Leaf, Joe Cihon, and Dr. Carl Binder, with over 100 pre-conference event registrations. Based on the popularity of pre-conference events, CTABA will look to expand offerings and capacity in the upcoming year.

CT ABA held several other CE events including our summer networking event offering an opportunity for professionals and students to socialize and learn about topics related to behavior analysis with invited presenters Dr. Robert Ross and Dr. Susan Ainsleigh, an interactive fall workshop on the IISCA with Dr. Gregory Hanley, a winter social that featured a discussion on the ethical pitfalls of social media that behavior analysts face by Dr. Bobby

Newman, and several well-attended free members-only events focused on licensure and restraint and seclusion laws.

We are pleased to have brought on Heather Teichman, MEd, BCBA, LABA (MA), LBA (CT), as our new CEO. Heather has administrative experience as state director of a major behavior analysis provider agency in CT. Our state continues to see dramatic growth in the numbers of BACB credentialed practitioners, with 782 BCBAs, BCBA-Ds, and BCaBAs combined, and 536 RBTs, totaling 1,318 behavior analyst practitioners. CT ABA currently has over 400 members.

Our Membership, Organizational and Sponsorship, Family and Consumer Outreach, Student Support, Continuing Education, and Public Schools Special Interest Committee for behavior analysts working in schools have all been very active in the past year. We have brought on a new technology committee chair, Krystina Gilhuly, MS, BCBA, LBA, to manage our organization's needs in that area.

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, April Bergh received the award. Congratulations, April!

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

Delaware ABA

BY KAORI NEPO

Delaware ABA was established in 2011. The purpose of the organization is to promote the science, understanding, and practice of behavior analysis through (1) encouraging cooperation among local behavior analytic organizations, (2) advising political, legislative, and policy-making bodies with respect to all matters pertaining to behavior analysis

in the state of Delaware, (3) arranging an annual meeting to discuss aspects of behavior analysis, (4) maintaining a website containing information about the chapter and behavior analysis in Delaware and elsewhere, and (5) functioning as a contact for and an affiliate of ABAA.

Governance

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

Membership

There are four categories for Delaware ABA membership:

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

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

Conferences

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

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annual convention and presented an Expo poster. Also in May of that year, Delaware ABA sponsored the Chimes conference to provide attendees BACB Type II CEs as an ACE provider. In April 2019, the representatives attended the chapter and licensure meetings of APBA. In May 2019, a representative of Delaware ABA attended the chapter training at the ABAI 45th Annual Convention and also presented an Expo poster. In November 2018, Delaware ABA hosted the first annual conference with invited speakers. Activities for 2018–2019 include:

- As an ACE provider, Delaware ABA sponsored a conference hosted by Chimes International and provided BACB Type II CEUs to attendees in May 2018.
- Delaware ABA also held its first conference, with great speakers Dr. Gina Green, Dr. Saul Axelrod, Dr. Mathew Tincani, Dr. Gary Allison, and Dan Unumb in November 2018.
- Delaware ABA updated the website to make the membership application process and conference registration easier.
- The sub-committee formed last year approached state stakeholders to address concerns regarding behavioral services provided in Delaware. The committee continues to explore effective ways to promote behavior analysis as well as improve the quality of such services in Delaware.
- The executive committee discussed the necessary steps to establish behavior analyst licensure in the state of Delaware. The members attended a workshop at Temple University to collaborate on the process with Pennsylvania.
- The executive committee discussed ways to increase the number of members through social media, conferences, and workshops.

Plan for 2019–2020

Delaware ABA will continue to hold a few events to offer CEs for members and to educate the general public regarding the science of behavior analysis. We will prepare for the second conference in fall 2019.

Additionally, we will continue to gain knowledge and work on tasks to develop behavior analyst licensure in the state of Delaware through attending the meetings and workshops at the ABAI and APBA conventions.

Georgia ABA

BY SHERRY SERDIKOFF

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

We held the 11th annual GABA conference in Athens, GA on December 1, 2018. We had over 150 individuals attend the conference, which featured invited presentations by David Test, Carrie Borrero, Stephanie Peterson, Carol Pilgrim, Kerri Peters, and Terry Falcomata, as well as a poster session with more than 15 presentations. We also held two well-attended pre-conference workshops: one by David Jaquess and the other by Tom Cariveau.

In 2018, we implemented an app-based system for managing continuing education provided at the conference and preconference workshops, which facilitated the attendance confirmation process at the conference and allowed us to distribute CE confirmation letters within 2 weeks of the conference.

In 2019, we plan to hold our 12th annual GABA conference, again in Athens, GA, on November 16, with two preconference workshops on November 15. We expect to have a well-rounded line-up of speakers that will address a range of topics relevant to behavior analysts in Georgia. Information about this year's conference can be found on our website in upcoming months: www.georgia-aba.org/conference-2019.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all board members for their hard work and dedication to the organization. This year, we welcome back returning



board members Colin Muething, Ph.D., BCBA-D, Kimberly Frame, Ed.D., BCBA, Ginger Sunbom, MS, BCBA, Chris Tullis, Ph.D, BCBA-D, Joanna Lomas Mevers, Ph.D., BCBA-D, and Valerie M. Volkert, Ph.D., BCBA-D. We also welcome new board members Nina Gerenscer, Ph.D., BCBA-D, Christine Robison, MAT, BCBA, Ginger Hill, MS, BCBA, Sara Freeman, Ph.D., BCBA-D, Cassandra Gayman, MS, BCBA, and Kiel Scates, MEd, BCBA.

Our goals for 2019 include continuing to expand our membership, updating the functionality of our website and membership software, and increasing our social media presence. For more information about GABA visit www.georgia-aba.org.

Hawai'i ABA

BY ANGELA BROFF

Hawai'i Association for Behavior Analysis (HABA) remained active in providing continuing education as well as networking events throughout 2018. We were honored to host keynotes Drs. Pat Friman and Caio Miguel along with several additional amazing presenters at our sold-out 2018 convention.

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

This year we will welcome Drs. Philip Hineline and Aubrey Daniels to the shores of the island of Oahu, in Waikiki, at our annual convention to be held September 26–27, 2019.

Iowa ABA

BY SARAH BERGTHOLD

The Iowa Association for Behavior Analysis (Iowa ABA) annual members' meeting was October 5, 2018, in West Des Moines, Iowa, in conjunction with the sixth annual conference. There were a number of newly elected board members. Samantha Cermack was elected president-elect, Kyle Cervone was elected treasurer, and Kristin Hanson and Janelle Ausenhus (2-year terms) and Brenda Bassingthwaite (1-year term) were selected as new board members at large. This year Iowa ABA also added a student representative to the board. Samantha Thurn was elected as the student member.

In 2018, Iowa ABA offered 13 CEs to members through conference and workshop opportunities, including a summer 2018 4-hour supervision workshop. Dr. Susan Wilczynski, Ball State University, presented "Using Evidence-Based Practice as an Ethics-Based Decision-Making Model for

Your Clients." The seventh annual conference is currently being planned and will be in West Des Moines early October 2019. Iowa ABA expanded the annual conference to include a pre-conference workshop. Conference presenters provided training and presentations on varied topics to 62 workshop attendees and 118 conference attendees.

Dr. Mark Dixon, Southern Illinois University, presented the workshop "PEAK Relational Training System." The annual conference included five speakers: Dr. Sacha Pence, Drake University, presented "Considerations with Acquisition and Generalization of Behavior-Analytic Skills when Training Staff," Dr. Jordan Belisle, Missouri State University, presented "Intelligence, Derived Relational Responding, and Rule-Governed Challenging Behavior in Children with Autism," Dr. Mark Dixon, Southern Illinois University, presented "The Importance of Derived Relational Responding for Persons with Autism," Dr. Valerie Farmer-Dougan, Illinois State, presented "Student Community Service, Shelter Dogs, and Operant Conditioning: A Triple Win," and Dr. Todd Kopelman, University of Iowa, presented "Lessons Learned: Using Telehealth to Evaluate and Treat Disruptive Behaviors." The conference also hosted its third student poster session, with six posters representing research from around the state.

Monetary support for the conference was provided by local, state, and regional organizations with an interest in behavior analysis. As a result, attendance numbers increased again from the 2017 conference to our largest attendance to date, allowing the organization to continue to plan for future opportunities for its members.

The board conducts open meetings on the second Thursday of each quarter and invites members to participate in meetings and on committees. The Publications Committee produced excellent work, maintained the organization website, and updated social media via Facebook with updates on our annual conference.

The Legislative Action Committee was very proud of the work to pass the licensure bill. Iowa ABA continues to work with legislators to employ this law. Recently, the state approved the rules and behavior analysts can begin to apply for licensure.

Iowa currently has 127 BCBA's, and Iowa ABA has supported several initiatives to recruit and retain BCBA's. Currently Iowa ABA has just over 120 members, with 67 members with their BCBA, 2 members with a BCaBA, and 14 RBTs. The expansion of ABA services and BCBA's is of paramount importance to Iowa ABA. Iowa ABA has continued to support a state grant for individuals pursuing their BCBA, as well as Drake University's new ABA master's program, with members providing practicum opportunities for students, supervising clinical experiences, and promoting the program.

Kansas ABA

BY ALLISON SERRA TETREAUULT

Mission

KansABA's (KansABA's) 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 executed its first year under our new governance and leadership. KansABA is now governed by an Executive Council that consists of a past president, Ed Morris; president, Allison Tetreault; a full-member representative, Megan Schmidt; an adjunct-member representative, Katie Gower; and student representatives, Brett Gelino and Josh Harsin. The Council is assisted by a secretary, Alec Bernstein, and a treasurer, Molly Pomeroy. In addition, KansABA has a Legislative Affairs Committee chaired by Lisa Popelka; a legislative liaison, Sara Diaz de Villagas; a Conference Committee and IT Committee chaired by Brett Gelino; a Professional Development Committee chaired by Tyler Re; and a professional development liaison, Ally Salzer.

Membership

KansABA has four membership categories. 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. For 2019, the Executive Council voted to separate membership and conference registration. Now, documentation is required from each membership applicant to support member category. Members now received discounts to our year-round events.

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 2019 conference was, "Present & Future Advances in Autism: From Research to Practice." Our presenters were Mary Jane Weiss (Endicott College),

"Social Skill and the Goal of Efficient Instruction: Meeting the Challenge with Evidence-Based Methods;" Jason Travers (University of Kansas), "Extraordinary Claims, Skepticism, and the Ethical Obligation to Empiricism;" Sarah Bloom (University of South Florida), "Current Research in Trial-Based Functional Analysis;" Ellie Kazemi (California State University, Northridge), "Leadership Skills for Supervisors;" and Mark Dixon (Southern Illinois University), "The Importance of Derived Relational Responding for Persons With Autism." Linda Burgen (Easterseals Capper Foundation) also presented "Applied Behavior Analysis Services in Kansas," which provided an update regarding research conducted on services in the state at the end of 2018.

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 and distinguished service to KansABA. The awardee for the latter was Alec Bernstein (University of Kansas). KansABA hosted an evening reception for the speakers, registrants, and staff.

Mini-Conferences

KansABA's Professional Development Committee holds mini-conferences that provide regular BACB continuing education credits. This year, the conferences were held on January 20, August 25, and October 27. The first was presented by Sarah Mead (Aurora University) titled, "Treatment 'Failures' in ABA." The second included two sessions, one by Allison Tetreault (KidsTLC & University of Kansas) titled, "Supervision of BCBA Candidates: Upcoming Changes and Ongoing Issues" and one by Annette Griffith (The Chicago School of Professional Psychology) titled, "Psychotropic Medication and Behavior Analysis: Ethical Considerations for Behavior Analysts." The third was a workshop developed by the Missouri Department of Public Health titled, "Is the Typical BSP up to Par? Presenting Elements for a Better BSP." The workshop was led by Rita Cooper, Melantha Witherspoon, Lucas Evans, and Teresa Rodgers. About 30 registrants attended each conference.

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 MOLLY DUBUQUE

Mission

The Kentucky Association for Behavior Analysis (KYABA) is an affiliated chapter of ABAI. Its mission is to advance awareness, development, and access to the science and practice of behavior analysis in the Commonwealth of Kentucky by (1) encouraging the understanding of behavior analysis in academic, research, and 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 forums for the presentation of scientific and technological achievements, clinical practice, and discussion of the affairs of the organization; and (6) publishing and distributing information on behavior analysis.

Executive Committee

KYABA is governed by an Executive Committee composed of a president, past president, president-elect, three representatives, and one student representative. The 2019 Executive Committee is composed of Molly Dubuque (president), Becky Nastally (past president), Luna Weiss-Salinas (president-elect), Amanda Ralston (representative), Alan Allday (representative), Tammy Hammond-Natof (representative), and Christina Hesley (student representative). The Executive Committee is assisted by a director of operations. The 2019 director of operations is Sarah Forister.

Committees and Task Forces

In an effort to improve the services offered by the organization, KYABA has committees and task forces 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. Sarah Forister and Christian Hesley 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. Amanda Ralston is this year's chair of the KYABA Social Media Committee. The mission of the KYABA Social Media Committee is

to disseminate information relevant to the association's events and initiatives. Luna Weiss-Salinas 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 activities relevant to the association's interests. 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 members bill for behavior analytic services.

Membership

KYABA 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 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 who does not qualify for Full membership. Affiliate members enjoy all the benefits of voting 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 conference registration and CE fees, notifications about continuing education opportunities, listing of the latest job opportunities in the field, eligibility for ABAI Chapter/Adjunct membership, subscription to our professional listserv network, access to the latest news in behavior analysis, a vote on issues pertinent to the organization (Full members only), and the opportunity to hold office in the organization (Full members only).

Events

KYABA has hosted events in the state since 2012. For the last few years, the organization has held an annual conference and a workshop series. These events have consistently sold out and drawn registrants from every corner of Kentucky and surrounding states. In April 2018, KYABA held a conference in Louisville. Our organization was fortunate to host Andy Bondy, Ellie Kazemi, Pat Friman, and Amanda Kelly. In October 2018, KYABA held another conference in Louisville. The theme for the conference was, "Behavioral Case Conceptualization: Focus

on Autism,” and we hosted Amy Kenzer, Alyssa Wilson, and Sarah Dunkel-Jackson. On February 1, 2019, KYABA hosted Tim Courtney, who presented a workshop on writing medically necessary treatment plans for individuals with ASD. September 6–7, 2019, KYABA will hold its annual conference focusing on early intensive behavioral intervention for young children with ASD. The confirmed speakers (as of March 2019) are Rebecca MacDonald, Adel Najdowski, David Celiberti, and Gina Green.

Contact Us

More information can be found on the organization’s website: www.kentuckyaba.org.

Lone Star ABA

BY GERALD E. HARRIS

This is our 10-year anniversary. We have accomplished a lot in that time and are stronger than ever. The Lone Star ABA (LSABA) chapter was established in 2009 to provide community support for professionals and students in the field of applied behavior analysis. Houston-area members include practitioners as well as educators, and those who work in either the public or private sectors. While a majority of the members are involved in the application of ABA to children with autism, LSABA recognizes and supports those professionals who show the utility of ABA in application to a variety of populations and problems.

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

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

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

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

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

The LSABA ABA Support Committee (ABASC) continues to work on awareness of and compliance with evolving ethical and professional standards in the practice of ABA. With the increase in ABA providers in the Houston area, LSABA has developed resources for increasing awareness of the current best standards for



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

One of the most exciting activities of LSABA this past year was the conference in May (Raising the Standard: ABA Ethics and Supervision) focusing on ethics and compliance with professional supervisory rules and best practices. With the support of FEAT-Houston, LSABA hosted a full-day conference for ABA professionals. Gina Green and Tim Courtney were the principal speakers. Attendance was good and feedback from area ABA providers was very positive. In February 2019, LSABA also conducted a 2-day conference for area ABA providers, "Leadership Solutions in ABA for Today's Behavior Analysts." We had good turnout, and feedback from attendees was very good. LSABA, never to rest on its laurels, is currently working on the next conference in May 2019.

Another important goal of LSABA is to inform and support the use of applied behavior analysis in the Houston area. To that end we work closely FEAT-Houston. An LSABA representative attends and participates in FEAT board meetings in order to facilitate communication between the two groups and help coordinate local ABA support activities. Such activities include LSABA BCBA's providing full-day ABA workshops for the community on specific topics of interest.

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

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

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

Overall, for a now maturing organization of 10 years, LSABA appears to have a strong foundation and a good track record of accomplishments. LSABA is certainly blessed with having dedicated and caring members, and excellent support from the ABA professional establishment.

Louisiana BAA

BY DEREK SHANMAN AND KATIE JENKINS

Mission and History

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

LaBAA was established in April 2012 as a 501(c)(4) and became an ABAI affiliated chapter in the fall of 2012. LaBAA is also an Affiliate of APBA and a BACB ACE provider.

Officers

LaBAA is governed by an Executive Committee comprising a president, past president, president-elect, treasurer, and secretary. 2018–2020 officers are Janice Huber, BCBA, LBA, president; Derek Shanman, Ph.D., BCBA-D, LBA, past president, treasurer; Charlotte Carp, Ph.D., president-elect; and Katie Jenkins, BCBA, LBA, secretary. The LaBAA Board of Directors comprises regional representatives from across the state, a parent representative, and a student representative. 2018–2020 regional representatives are Chad Favre, BCBA, LBA; Megan Matherne Perkins, BCBA, LBA; Carmen Vara-Napier, BCBA, LBA; Channing Langlinais, BCBA, LBA; Phyllis Rash, BCBA, LBA; and Dominique Rougeau, BCBA, LBA. Erica Lozy, BCBA, from Louisiana State University is the student representative, and Shannon D'Aquila is the parent representative. The legislative chair is Grant Gautreaux, Ph.D., BCBA-D, LBA. Elections for all officers and representatives are conducted in May/June every other year.

Membership

There are three classes of membership—Full, Affiliate, and Student. Benefits of membership include the following:

- Professional representation: LaBAA is committed to protecting the interests of Licensed Behavior Analysts

in the Louisiana state legislature.

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

LaBAA has grown from 278 members in the spring of 2018 to 339 members at the time of writing. Member meetings were held in May of 2018 in San Diego at the ABAI convention, October of 2018 in New Orleans, and in May 2019 in Chicago at the ABAI annual convention.

2018 Conference

LaBAA hosted the Sixth Annual Gulf Coast ABA Conference in October of 2018 in New Orleans. The 2018 conference committee was chaired by Katie Jenkins, BCBA, LBA, and co-chaired by Derek Shanman, Ph.D., BCBA-D, LBA. Approximately 350 attended the two-day conference. Presenters and attendees from across the United States took part in workshops, symposia, a poster event, a social, and a keynote address by Dr. Mark Dixon. Other invited presenters included Andy Chavez, MS, Annie Escalante, BCBA, Mike Dorsey, Ph.D., BCBA-D, LBA, Gordon Bourland, Ph.D., BCBA-D, LBA, Regina Crone, Ph.D., BCBA-D, LBA, and Dan Unumb, JD. The 2019 Conference Committee is chaired by Daniel NoackLeSage, BCBA, LBA and co-chaired by Jeanne Donaldson, Ph.D., BCBA-D, LBA.

The LaBAA Award for Distinguished ABA Advocacy was presented to Rhonda Boe, Executive Director of the Louisiana Behavior Analyst Board. LaBAA also held its annual Student Poster Competition during the conference. McNeese State University students Cheyne Galan and Kirsten Kidder were the winners. The Seventh Annual Gulf Coast ABA Conference is scheduled for October 18–19, 2019, in New Orleans at the Sheraton on Canal. LaBAA invites all of you to join in on the fun down in the Big Easy! For more information and updates on the conference go to www.labaa.net.

Other Activities and Initiatives

Louisiana Behavior Analyst Board (LBAB) Appointments: Last year, LaBAA collaborated with LBAB to conduct elections for open LBAB board positions. LaBAA submitted four nominees to the governor's office. At the time of writing Calvin Cryer, BCBA, LBA, and Courtney Wright, JD, BCBA, LBA, have been appointed to the

board. Appointments are pending for Alfred Tuminello, BCBA, LBA, and Angela Birdsall, BCBA, LBA.

Louisiana Coalition for Access to Autism Services (LCAAS): LaBAA has partnered with LCAAS to secure professional legislative services. As the state of behavior analysis continues to take shape within Louisiana, LaBAA has been very active in ensuring that the development and growth of behavior analysis remains beneficial to further developing the science of behavior analysis, the practice of behavior analysts, the mentoring of students of behavior analysis, and most importantly consumers of behavior analytic services. In addition, the coalition has worked with LaBAA members to educate the public and raise awareness about ABA services that behavior analysts and others provide.

Mid-American ABA

BY JULIE A. ACKERLUND BRANDT

The Mid-American Association for Behavior Analysis (MABA) is a regional affiliated chapter of ABAI. MABA is a membership organization devoted to promoting scholarly interchange in behavior analysis through its annual conference. The conference also allows for dissemination of the science of behavior analysis to the public and to professional behavior analysts in the Midwestern United States. The 18th annual MABA conference was September 21–22 in Normal, IL, at the Normal Theatre, an old Vaudeville theater converted into a conference venue.

The 2018 MABA president, Thomas Critchfield (Illinois State University), began the conference welcoming attendees and introducing one of two keynote speakers, Dr. Gregory J. Madden (Utah State University), who presented “Reducing Impulsive Choice.” Our first symposium of invited speakers included Dr. Daniel Fienup (Columbia University) speaking on “Skill Acquisition Learning Arrangements” and Dr. Olga F. Lazareva (Drake University) presenting “Non-Verbal Transitive Inference, Reinforcement History, and Spatial Representation” to end the morning sessions.

After lunch, our second symposium of invited speakers began with Dr. Janet S. Twyman (blast and Center on Innovations in Learning), who presented, “The Teaching Machine in the Digital Age: How Behavior Analysis Can Make Bad Teachers Good and Good Teachers Better,” which was followed by Dr. Terry Falcomata (University of Texas at Austin), whose talk was, “Translational Evaluations of Treatment Relapse: Operant Variability, Resurgence, and Persistence During Functional Communication Training.” Our final symposium on Friday featured Dr. Andrew R. Craig (SUNY), who presented “Resistance to Change of Behavior and Theory” followed by Dr. Anna Ingeborg Petursdottir (Texas Christian University) with

her presentation, “Emergent Tact Control: The Case of the Kitchen Bird and Other Stories.”

MABA then held an open business meeting, followed by the poster session, silent auction, and social. This year’s conference featured 25 posters representing work conducted at six institutions.

The second day began with Thomas Critchfield introducing our second keynote speaker, Dr. Ruth Anne Rehfeldt (Southern Illinois University Carbondale), who presented “On the Utility of Acceptance and Commitment Training for Behavior Analysts.” This was followed by our Forrest J. Files Symposium. Every year, we present two awards to graduate students who submit research papers. This year, our winners were Gideon P. Naude (University of Kansas) for his study “Delay of Gratification in Preschool Children Following Access to Print and Mobile Electronic Media” and Elizabeth A. Foley (University of Kansas) for her project “Comparison of Components of the Good Behavior Game in a Preschool Classroom.” Our final invited speaker symposium included Dr. Cynthia Pietras (Western Michigan University) presenting “Behavior Analysis and the Psychology of Climate Change” and Dr. Iser G. DeLeon (University of Florida) presenting “Social Motivation Theories of Autism: Is Insensitivity to Social Reward Really the Problem?” Dr. Tiffany Kodak (Marquette University), the 2018 president-elect and 2018 president of MABA, closed the conference and announced the location for 2019.

We are looking forward to the 2019 conference, to be held October 18–19, 2019, in Omaha, NE, at the Embassy Suites by Hilton, which will also have a block of rooms available at a discounted rate for conference attendees. The conference will again include addresses on both basic and applied behavior analytic research and theory. Early registration fees include MABA membership and are \$35 for students and \$100 for faculty and professionals. These fees will be available online only until October 4, 2019. After that, registration must be paid on site and will increase to \$50 for students and \$125 for faculty and professionals. CEs are also available for pre-purchase at \$10 each online until October 4, 2019. After that date, CEs must be purchased on site and will be \$15 each. We will offer approximately 10 CEs during the entire conference.

Students and faculty are encouraged to present posters on their research or theoretical efforts. We have submission guidelines and links on our website. In addition, up to two students are annually awarded the Forrest J. Files Student Research Award. This award includes the opportunity to present at the 2019 conference and a monetary award to help offset travel expenses.

The 2019 president-elect of MABA is Dr. Amanda Karsten (Western Michigan University). More information about MABA, the annual conference, lodging, student presentations and awards, registration,

and joining our email list can be found at www.mid-aba.com or by contacting the operations coordinator, Dr. Julie A. Ackerlund Brandt (the Chicago School of Professional Psychology) at jbrandt@thechicagoschool.edu.

Minnesota Northland ABA

BY ELIZABETH HARRI-DENNIS

Hello from the Minnesota Northland Association for Behavior Analysis (MNABA)! We welcomed some new faces to the full board this year: Marie Erickson as the southern Minnesota liaison, and Kate Schroeder as our student member liaison. We added a new membership chair position to help with our growing membership. Angelica Aguirre is our new membership chair. We also welcomed back Sara Snow in a new community member position. Returning this year are Michelle Traub as conference chair, Eric Larsson as legislative chair, Holly Johnson as North Dakota liaison, and Amber Bruns as South Dakota liaison.

We spent last year building on past successes and making efforts to be more inclusive. In 2018, our conference attendance continued to grow, to another record attendance year. We created a new reduced rate for direct support professionals. We had quite a showing from our direct support professionals! Because this reduced rate was successful in helping more direct support professionals attend, we will continue offering a reduced rate in the future.

We continue to make progress with the short-term and long-term objectives on our strategic plan through 2021. Our vision is to continue growing MNABA’s ability to dynamically and responsibly support Minnesota’s behavior analysts and behavior analysis consumers. Some additional highlights for 2018 are below:

- The annual Data Blitz was held in April at Mankato State University. We will continue to offer this free event to students and clinicians.
- We started a Behavior Analysts in Schools SIG at our 2018 conference, with the goal of engaging with existing groups and providing updates on issues important to school-based behavior analysts. We will continue to provide support to our members who are concerned with specific issues.

Our 2018 conference was a success. This year we stayed at the Crowne Plaza AiRE in Bloomington, MN, with easy access to the airport and the Mall of America. We will continue our multi-year partnership with this venue to allow our members to better plan for and look forward to our annual conference. Additional conference highlights include the following:

- Two pre-conference workshops.
- Keynote speaker Thomas Critchfield.
- Afternoon sessions had two tracks; one for members interested in supporting people with autism, and one

for eclectic interests, including OBM and working with elderly clients.

Below are some exciting things coming up for MNABA in 2019 and beyond, thanks to our strategic plan:

- January 2019, we were able to transition new board members into the organization with ease thanks to improved and detailed position descriptions.
- April 2018, we updated the community page on our website to include frequently asked questions and provide information on local services.
- Find us on Twitter (<https://twitter.com/MNorthlandABA>) and Facebook (www.facebook.com/MNorthlandABA). We're expanding our social media presence to better serve our members, keep members informed of everything the board does, and better promote all behavior analysis events in the area.

We look forward to all that 2019 has to offer MNABA and its members, including our conference scheduled for September 26–27. Please check www.mnaba.org often for details on this event and everything else we have going on—we would love to see you in Minnesota!

Missouri ABA

BY LEANNE HOPPER

The Missouri Association for Behavior Analysis (MOABA) is an organization founded to support and promote scientific research on basic principles of behavior and the effective and ethical application of those principles across the great state of Missouri. This was quite an active year for our board of directors. In March 2018, Dr. Jamie Severtson stepped down as president. Dr. Severtson moved to Illinois. Leanne Hopper, president-elect, then served as president for the remainder of the year. In 2018, the following also served on the board: Todd Streff (treasurer), Casey Clay (secretary), SungWoo Kahng (member at large), John Guercio (member

at large), and Nicole Schroeder (student representative). In November, before the annual state conference, elections were held to fill vacant board positions, and in 2019 we welcomed Jenny Frisbee (president-elect) and Maggie Pavone (member at large). Todd Streff was elected to continue to serve in the role of treasurer. Dr. SungWoo Kahng moved out of the state in summer 2018. We thank him for his service and dedication to our organization, even living in another state and continuing to support our board. CalABA reached out to look into a state association leadership summit during summer 2019. The board is participating in discussions of this summit and hopes to be able to send some board members to attend.

The annual MOABA conference in November 2018 was a major success, with attendance being close to that of the 2017 conference. We offered five conference presentations and four workshops, and our invited presenters were Matthew Brodhead, Caio Miguel, Neil Deochand, Jason Simmons, Kathleen Bailey-Stengel, Travis Blevins, Joseph Lambert, Julia Slowiak, and Carl Binder. In addition to our speakers, we held a business meeting, a student poster session, and a social hour, which were buzzing with energy, socializing, and networking. Discussions for the 2019 conference by the board include talks of changing the month the conference is held and having our conference in February or March 2020 rather than November 2019. There are also discussions of including our conference with another large conference that occurs in September 2019 with Thompson Center-University of Missouri.

In addition to the annual conference, we were able to sponsor an affordable full-day mini-conference with Vincent Carbone in Columbia, MO, July 28. Dr. Carbone provided a wealth of information and training in his presentations: “The Role of Joint Control to Teaching Complex Behavior to Children With Autism” and “Teaching Intraverbal Behavior.” This conference was well received by all attendees, and we look forward to providing an additional mini-conference during this year as well.



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It is possible we may be able to collaborate with other states in our area to support a multi-state conference over two days during summer 2019. If this moves forward, this collaborative conference may be an ongoing opportunity to partner with behavior analysts across the different states.

Montana ABA

BY LORRI COULTER

Montana ABA (MT ABA) continues to build membership and meet important goals since our establishment in 2013. Our membership has expanded to 40 BCBAs, 7 BCaBAs, and 3 BCBA-Ds across our state. The executive board represents this expansion from the plains to the mountains. The 2018–2020 president, Lorri Coulter, MS, SP, BCBA, LBA, is from the eastern side of the state; president-elect, Ania Young, Ph.D, BCBA, LBA, from the south-central area; and secretary, Jenny Vickhammer, MEd, BCBA, LBA, and treasurer, Karlyn Gibbs, MEd, BCBA, LBA, are from the northwest. In addition, our executive board has expanded to include three at-large members to further add member representation and voice to our decision process. MT ABA continue to rely on our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/MontanaABA) and website (www.mtaba.org) to keep our membership connected and provide outreach. The board has regular meetings on a monthly basis with the benefit of an online meeting platform.

In June 2018, MT ABA participated in hosting Dr. SungWoo Kahng, associate professor and chair of the Department of Health Psychology at the University of Missouri (MU) and the founding director of MU Graduate Programs in Applied Behavior Analysis. Dr. Kahng graciously volunteered to provide a training on ethics and treating severe problem behavior.

MT ABA hosted our third annual conference in Helena, Montana, in September. We featured speakers Lisa Coyne, Ph.D., BCBA-D, the founder and director of the McLean OCD Institute for Children and Adolescents at McLean Hospital, and Evelyn Gould, Ph.D., BCBA-D, research associate at the Child and Adolescent OCD Institute at McLean Hospital, Harvard Medical School; and Susan M. Schneider, Ph.D., BCBA-D, a scientific generalist with a broad perspective as a behavioral and biopsychologist. Dr. Schneider shared “Operant Principles Everywhere: Interdisciplinary Behavior Analysis and the Future of Our Field,” and Drs. Coyne and Gould made an introduction to Acceptance and Commitment Therapy.

Our licensure was approved and established in 2017 under the Montana Board of Psychology on which we have a seat. The hard work of our membership during the required legislative action and since is only a small piece of the commitment demonstrated to our profession. The Montana legislature meets biennially on odd-numbered

years for a 90-day session. This means our membership must be prepared to move swiftly on legislation that may impact MT ABA. We are well served in this capacity by MT ABA past president, Jackie Mohler, BCBA, LBA.

As always the devil is in the details and we are finding out just how bedeviling the growth of a profession can be. Members are now serving a variety of ages and agencies; we are entrepreneurs, business owners, and private practitioners. We consult and share information with our community and with one another on a host of topics and are always eager to share the benefits of ABA.

MT ABA is reaching out to other behavior analysis associations in our region by making and benefiting from invitations to our colleagues in nearby states. We welcome the opportunity to share information as they experience various stages of growth. Montana State University-Billings continues to serve as a resource by offering an approved applied behavior analysis course sequence. Our fourth annual conference is in the planning stages and we are proud to have Dr. Vincent Carbone coming to Montana in September.

Nevada ABA

BY JENNIFER BONOW

Through a series of key initiatives, the Nevada Association for Behavior Analysis (NABA) has prioritized growing the organization and more effectively advocating for its members and the field of behavior analysis in the state of Nevada. Below is a brief summary of the initiatives we implemented over the past year, as well as those we have planned to roll out over the next 6–12 months.

NABA has executed a number of initiatives aimed at growing the organization. These included modernization of the website to improve user experience while also increasing efficiency, regular town hall meetings to share information about the organization’s activities and offer opportunities for input from members, and publishing resources for individuals seeking information about behavior analysis in the state. Our 2019 strategic goals aimed at growth include increasing the number of events available to members throughout the year and revision of the bylaws to better represent the expanded focus of the organization.

In an effort to improve our advocacy, NABA has taken a more active role in the public policy matters impacting behavior analysts in our state. In 2017, a bill was introduced to the state legislature that moved regulation of behavior analysts from the Board of Psychological Examiners to a proposed Board of Applied Behavior Analysis, housed in the Aging and Disabilities Division. The Public Policy Committee (formerly the Legislative Committee) was established and worked quickly to address many areas of the proposed bill that were concerning to NABA’s members. Since then, this dedicated committee, led by Dr. Ken MacAleese, has established collaborative

relationships with many key stakeholders in the state and helped to shape the new law in a manner that more closely aligns with the prime concerns of NABA's members. Our major advocacy initiatives planned in 2019 include establishing a practice committee and increasing fundraising to support advocacy activities.

While focused on growth, NABA remains committed to its mission of promoting intellectual exchange and professional development. In service of this mission, NABA held its annual 2018 convention at the Westin Lake Las Vegas in October. The non-compete event featured a fantastic line-up of speakers including Tony Biglan, Michael Domjan, Amanda N. Kelly, August Stockwell, and others. A wide range of topics was covered such as increasing physical activity, establishing and supporting entrepreneurial endeavors, serving LGBTQ clients with integrity, and habituation. Attendees had the opportunity to earn up to 18 continuing education credits including those for supervision and ethics. Student members helped the conference run smoothly as volunteers and presented their research in the poster session. Rhonalyn Santos was the recipient of the Student Research Presentation Award and presented her work on Acceptance and Commitment Training with individuals with autism.

NABA's tradition of hosting an outstanding convention will continue this year at the Whitney Peak Hotel in Reno October 11–13. The Whitney Peak is a non-gaming, non-smoking hotel in the heart of downtown Reno. While the full speaker line-up is not yet confirmed, the non-compete format ensures that attendees will have an opportunity to fully experience all the conference has to offer across the applied, basic, and theoretical domains. NABA will continue to support student participation in the conference through scholarships, volunteer opportunities, and the Student Research Presentation Award. This year the conference committee is also organizing a job fair and awards for members whose contributions have added significant value to the organization.

NABA has set a goal to break the 300-member threshold in 2019. To help achieve this goal, NABA had an Expo poster and a business meeting at the ABAI convention in Chicago, IL. The organization is actively recruiting new members as well as encouraging existing members to increase participation in committees and events. Benefits of membership include access to resources, reduced conference registration, opportunities for free or below-market-cost CEs, and participation in social events throughout the year. Membership applications may be completed on the website, and membership is open to anyone with an interest in the field.

For more information on NABA, visit our website at www.nevadaaba.org, email us at NABA@nevadaaba.org, connect with us on LinkedIn, like us on Facebook, and follow us on Twitter at @NABAOfficial.

New Hampshire ABA

BY RACHEL ENOCH AND PEG CHAFFEE

Mission

The New Hampshire Association for Behavior Analysis (NHABA) is an affiliated chapter of ABAI. Its mission is to promote the growth and awareness of behavioral services in the state of New Hampshire by (1) supporting the development of standards of practice for behavior analysis; (2) promoting and supporting the conduct of behavior analytic research; (3) promoting research, education, and practice-based principles in behavior analysis; (4) promoting and supporting professional development of behavior analysts; and (5) raising awareness of the association and its services.

Executive Committee

NHABA is governed by an Executive Committee composed of a president, past president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer. The 2019 Executive Committee members are Rachel Enoch (president), Kim Kelly (past president), Peg Chaffee (vice president), Bonnie Montague (secretary), and Curran Pope-Konner (treasurer).

Membership

NHABA offers three categories of annual membership: Full Membership, Affiliate Membership, and Student Membership. Membership is open to all persons interested in or actively engaged in behavior analysis. Memberships start on the day of the annual conference and remain in effect until the date of the next annual conference. Full Member status may be obtained by any individual holding a terminal degree in a discipline directly related to or involving behavior analysis and whose full-time professional commitment includes teaching, research, and/or practice in behavior analysis. An Affiliate Member status may be obtained by any individual evidencing interest in the discipline of behavior analysis who does not qualify under the standards of Full Membership. Affiliate Members enjoy all the benefits of Full Membership and are able to vote on decisions of the chapter. A Student Member may be any individual pursuing formal training in the discipline of behavior analysis on at least a half-time basis, but not yet gainfully employed therein. Student Membership requires documentation to verify the applicant's student status. Student members may also vote on membership decisions of the chapter.

There are multiple benefits to becoming a member. These benefits include, but are not limited to, reduced conference registration, free CEs at NHABA meetings, mentorship networking platform to connect behavior analysts with others to share expertise, notifications about continuing education opportunities, access to the latest news in behavior analysis, a vote on issues pertinent to the organization, and the opportunity to hold office in the organization (Full Members only).

Events

NHABA has hosted events in the state since 2013. For the last three years, the organization has held an annual conference. The last two years the conference has sold out and continues to be a sought-after event for professional development in New Hampshire and surrounding areas. The location of the conference changes each year to extend the association's reach. In September 2018, NHABA held a conference in Manchester. The organization had the pleasure to host Vince Carbone, Kimberly Nix Berens, Thomas Freeman, Christy Warner, Thea Davis, and Cathy Booth. In November 2019, NHABA will hold its annual conference, with the location to be announced.

NHABA currently hosts quarterly chapter meetings with each offering a CE in either supervision or ethics. The association continues to determine the most effective platform to offer these meetings to reach the most members across the state. Currently, the meetings are hosted in person and also offer a virtual option. In January 2019, NHABA had the pleasure to host Matt Brodhead. In November 2018, the association hosted Megan Miller, and in April 2019, we hosted Solandy Forte, who presented a workshop on how to navigate cultural barriers in applied behavior analysis.

Currently, NHABA has 155 members and continues to grow. The association continues to seek effective ways to engage in outreach and disseminate information about activities and opportunities.

This year NHABA has plans to create a mentorship directory, host additional workshops, and offer a mini web series discussing timely topics in the field. NHABA continues to seek a stronger and active presence as a resource for individuals in the state of New Hampshire interested in behavior analytic services. The aim will remain to work toward the mission of the association as a whole and expand its reach and impact.

Contact Us

More information can be found on the organization's website: <https://nhaba.net>

New York State ABA

BY NICOLE DEROSA

The New York State Association for Behavior Analysis (NYSABA) has had another year full of growth and legislative activity. The breadth of our work has expanded such that we had to reorganize the needs of our Board and make the decision to on-board employees versus consultants. That is, the majority of the assistance needed by our organization has transitioned from project-based activities to consistent, ongoing tasks in order to fully support our Board of Directors. Thus, we now have a part-time administrative assistant and part-time executive Director working for our organization.

In September, we held our 29th annual conference at the Desmond Hotel and Conference Center in Albany. Attendees included behavior analysts, educators, speech therapists, psychologists, other professionals, students of behavior analysis, and consumers of behavior analysis services. We continued to see increased registration numbers, officially outgrowing the capacity of the current conference hotel. We are excited to be holding our 30th annual conference in a larger venue to accommodate our growing attendance numbers.

At the 2018 conference, we were honored to hear keynote addresses by Dr. Mark Dixon of Southern Illinois University and Dr. Janet Twyman of University of Massachusetts Medical School. Dr. Dixon's address focused on strategies for facilitating the generalization of skills to build upon more complex behavioral repertoires for children with autism. Dr. Twyman discussed the application of behavior analytic strategies in combination with technological advances

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for improving learning environments, resulting in an interactive, attention-grabbing presentation. We welcomed six other invited speakers: David Celiberti, Michael Dorsey, Purnima Hernandez, April Kisamore, Richard Kubina, and Gregory MacDuff. Topics included ethical considerations in promoting evidence-based treatments for individuals with autism; strategies for improving assessment and treatment decisions based in visual analysis; promoting independence and self-management in individuals with autism; considerations in implementing functional analysis and selecting function-based treatments for reducing challenging behavior; the application of behavioral principles and strategies in healthcare settings; and strategies for increasing complex social behavioral repertoires for individuals with autism. We again had an excellent line-up of presentations from members including workshops, symposia, paper sessions, and posters.

Board members this year included Dana Reinecke (president and parent and family co-chair), Nicole DeRosa (president-elect and compliance chair), Frank Cicero (past president and conference co-chair), Linda Matey (treasurer), Tricia Moss (secretary), Vanessa Patrone (representative at large), Joshua Jessel (representative at large and student activities chair), Nancy Dib (education chair), Bobbi Rogers (consumer representative and parent and family co-chair), Sally Izquierdo (legislative chair), Bobby Newman (representative at large and fundraising chair), Sam Blanco (marketing chair), Shari Schatzman (conference co-chair), and Jenn Engheben and Amanda Narra (membership co-chairs). In 2019, we welcomed new board members Kenneth Shamlan and Elizabeth Drago (representatives at large) and Vicki Madaus-Knapp (secretary). Additionally, our former secretary, Tricia Moss; president-elect, Nicole DeRosa; and president, Dana Reinecke, transitioned to new roles (president-elect, president, and past president, respectively).

We continue to pursue increased membership and member involvement to assist with addressing important

legislative issues. It remains true that licensed and certified behavior analysts in New York significantly outnumber members of NYSABA. All behavior analysts in the state are urged to join so that our voices can be heard by the state legislature. If you are not a member of NYSABA, become one. If you are a member, get a colleague to join. If you and your colleagues are members, we thank you and encourage you to become active in the association.

NYSABA continues to do important work regarding state regulation of behavior analysts. Licensing laws governing behavior analysis were fully implemented in 2016, and there is a continued need for educating new and prospective behavior analysts about how to become licensed and how to practice correctly and legally in New York. We continue to provide regular updates on our website and Facebook page, hold events at our annual conference, and disseminate information at other conferences around the state. Additionally, this year we are organizing informational webinars for our members, as well as facilitating the development of work groups to assist with behavior analysts throughout New York collaborating on practice issues. NYSABA continues to stay informed on the latest information coming from the New York State Office of Professions so that our members can be updated as soon as possible about any issues affecting the practice of behavior analysis.

One of the biggest issues affecting behavior analysts in New York continues to be the restriction on our scope of practice. That is, the practice of behavior analysis in New York is restricted to the treatment of individuals with a diagnosis of autism or related disorders who also hold a prescription to receive behavior analytic services, unless behavior analysts are employed by an exempt setting (exemptions possibly ending in 2020) or hold another license (e.g., psychologist, social worker). Unfortunately, our bill to remove the scope restriction did not pass this past legislative session. However, NYSABA is continuing to campaign to address this restriction of scope, through direct



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lobbying to pass bills to lift it, as well as media campaigns to draw attention to the problem. Despite NYSABA's efforts we cannot accomplish this goal alone. Thus, it's important for everyone in New York who is affected or concerned by this restriction to speak up. Please email NYSABAlegislative@gmail.com for information on how to help.

NYSABA continues to cohost "meet-ups" with sponsor agencies in an effort to support grassroots legislative efforts while encouraging collaboration among behavior analysts in different regions of the state. Meet-ups are continuously being scheduled and are advertised by eblast and on Facebook. We have also continued to have an active fundraising initiative, in which NYSABA partners with agencies, schools, and other entities around the state to present CE events. NYSABA provides a speaker, CEs, and advertising, and the partner organization provides space and attendees, with profits benefiting NYSABA initiatives. Anyone interested in suggesting or hosting a meet-up or fundraising event in their area should contact us at info@nysaba.org.

We are now planning our 30th annual conference, to be held in Albany November 7–8, 2019, which will include more great keynote and invited speakers. We will also continue to accept submissions from members. Members are encouraged to visit our website (www.nysaba.org) and the members-only portal, which we continue to update with information and events. Additionally, information and resources aimed at parents and family members of consumers of behavior analysis services can be found at the NYSABA Parent and Family website (www.nysabaparent.org).

South Carolina ABA

BY ZAHRA HAJIAGHAMOHSENI

South Carolina ABA (SC ABA) had another busy year! Board members included past president Adam Brewer, president Anna Craft, vice president Zahra Hajiaghamohseni, secretary Jessica Scibilia, and treasurer Aaron Check. Over the past year, SC ABA has diversified our reach. A focus on building relationships between stakeholders has become a driving force to organizational efforts. In addition to our annual conference, a student representative and social chair were appointed to the board, an organizational behavior management (OBM) initiative began, and a legislative affairs group was created. We are looking forward to another year of membership growth and increased stakeholder involvement.

Legislative Affairs Group

This task force was composed of several devoted members: Scott Braud (past board member), David Green, Kerri Krauss, Shannon Doughty, Mark Knight (past board member), Anna Craft (board member), Matt Legray, and Zahra Hajiaghamohseni (board member). A major accomplishment was information gathering from leaders

in the field and stakeholder education. This included bringing in a special presenter, Beth Urbanczyk, to share information on the licensure process.

DHHS Partnership

Efforts made in 2017 led to an ongoing partnership with SC ABA. SC ABA members Kerri Krauss and Anna Craft (board member) continue to hold routine calls with the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to discuss provider interests and stakeholder needs relative to the applied behavior analysis (ABA) benefit for individuals with qualifying diagnoses. As a result of ongoing input from stakeholders across the state, positive administrative and clinical changes to the DHHS (e.g., Medicaid) ABA benefit occurred in July 2018. In addition, we are happy to report that DHHS has partnered with the University of South Carolina (USC) to help increase BCBAs in South Carolina. In February 2019 a grant was approved for 25 applicants to seek BACB-approved coursework through USC leading to a BCBA certification.

OBM Initiative

Since January 2018, Aaron Check (board member), Zahra Hajiaghamohseni (board member), and Kerri Pakurar (board member) have worked to improve SC ABA using an OBM approach. We were also excited to provide BACB fieldwork supervisees Shaina Bermudez and Halie Tumbleston an opportunity to gain experience helping with this initiative. The project included a 2018 stakeholder survey, goal setting, improving processes for stakeholders, increased community involvement, and much more! The organizational goals for increasing conference attendance, revenue, and social media reach were far exceeded. We are thrilled to report we had a more than 25% increase in membership in one conference year, an almost 300% increase in revenue from the previous conference year, and a 100% increase in social media from the previous year. We are thrilled to continue using OBM to help SC ABA extend its reach and engage all of our stakeholders!

Social Chair

In November 2018, Courtney Lasky was appointed social chair in response to the stakeholder survey requesting more networking opportunities outside of the annual conference. Beginning in 2019, SC ABA will pilot quarterly networking events across different regions of the state.

Student Representative

In November 2018, Shaina Bermudez was appointed as our first student representative. She will serve a 2-year appointment. We look forward to having her input on behalf of our student membership.

In addition to these efforts, SC ABA hosted the following presenters at our annual conference in

Greenville, SC: Dr. Johnathon Tarbox, Dr. Megan Miller, Dr. Peter Gerhardt, Stacie Neef, and Beth Urbanczyk. Dr. Tarbox provided information on acceptance and commitment therapy (ACT) and the role of kindness in behavior analysis. Dr. Miller presented on advancements in autism intervention and breaking out of the Skinner box. Dr. Gerhardt presented on identifying critical skills to promote more positive outcomes in the transition to adulthood for young adults with ASD, Stacie Neef presented on the power of positive reinforcement and using behavior analysis with behavior analysts, and Beth Urbanczyk presented on licensure for behavior analysts. We were thankful to have such talented speakers and received great feedback on their presentations from our members!

SC ABA also hosted a poster session. The award-winning posters were chosen by our presenters. Our winners were Meka McKemmon from University of South Carolina, Blake Crosby from ABX Solutions, LLC, and Jeanine Stratton from Furman University. It was great to see so much diversity from our stakeholders. Special thanks to Dr. Tarbox for helping us demonstrate flexibility by awarding our first-ever three-way tie.

The 2018 conference also included the election of Kerri Pakurar as SC ABA's new vice president. With her strong commitment to the field of behavior analysis and to its expansion in South Carolina, she is bound to be a great asset to our organization. We would also like to thank the past president, Adam Brewer, for his contributions to the SC ABA board over the past 3 years.

Our 2019 conference will be in historic Charleston, SC, November 4–5. Our conference theme is “Diversifying Our Reach.” On November 4, we have Dr. Patrick Friman (keynote), Dr. Patrick McGreevy, Dr. Nicole Gravina, Dr. Katie Wolfe, and Shannon Biagi are our invited speakers. November 5 will be a full day of workshops from Drs. Gravina and McGreevy. For more information about our

conferences, membership, or upcoming events, please visit our website, www.sc-aba.org, or like us on Facebook (South Carolina Association for Behavior Analysis). As a perk of SC ABA membership, updates are regularly provided to members on relevant legislature, area events related to behavior analysis, and changes affecting providers.

Southeastern ABA

BY CHRISTY ALLIGOOD AND KAREN ANDERSON

The Southeastern Association for Behavior Analysis (SEABA) is a regional affiliate of ABAI. Like its parent organization, SEABA seeks to promote scholarly discourse within and about behavior analysis. SEABA membership is open to anyone with a scholarly interest in behavior analysis who registers for our annual meeting. Current members include established scholars, professionals, and students in psychology as well as related disciplines such as education, psychopharmacology, and social work. Most members reside in the Southeast, although some members participate from other parts of the US.

History

In 1984, Aaron Brownstein (UNC Greensboro) rallied a group of prominent behavior analysts in the Southeastern US around the idea of a regional conference on the science and philosophy of behavior analysis. The Southeastern US contained a large number of strong, but geographically scattered, academic and research groups (e.g., Florida, North Carolina, West Virginia, Alabama, and others) and without a venue for scholarly interaction. For many, the Southeastern Psychological Association had served this purpose, but the content of that conference had become overwhelmingly professional rather than scientific (i.e., following the direction of APA). SEABA was founded to be that venue for behavior analysts. SEABA was structured specifically to foster high-level discourse on research and theory in behavior analysis.



The organization's sole activity would be to conduct an annual conference. The conference format was developed specifically to replicate the environment of early behavioral conferences and scientific specialty organizations (e.g., the Behavioral Pharmacological Society). To this end, the conference was to be a day-and-a-half, non-compete program so that all participants could conveniently attend all presentations, establishing a common basis for discussion and interaction. Speakers were to be selected based on content and quality of their empirical and theoretical work, and to comprise a well-balanced program of basic, applied, conceptual, and philosophical presentations. Fall was selected to complement the ABAI convention in the spring, and the first meeting was held in fall 1984 in Myrtle Beach, SC.

A Special Emphasis on the Future of Behavior Analysis

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

Mission for Behavior Analysis

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

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

The 36th annual SEABA conference will be October 24–26, 2019, in Richmond, VA. More information, registration, and CEU pre-purchase are available at www.SEABAonline.org.

Tennessee ABA

BY LINDSEY BRADY AND PABLO JUAREZ

The Tennessee Association for Behavior Analysis (TABA) was established in 1997 and strives to increase awareness, program creation, and the provision of applied behavior analysis services across the state.

Currently, we have around 240 members. New initiatives discussed during our first Executive Committee meeting of 2019 are predicted to provide continued membership

increases. We discussed an increased focus on our social media presence, our communication with the various ABA university programs and community ABA providers across the state, and improvements in both our membership benefits and conference sponsor benefits. There are four conferences hosted each year: our annual conference as well as one in each of three regions: West, Middle, and East. The annual conference serves as a central location to discuss new ideas, issues, and research affecting behavior analysts across the state while our regional conferences allow for needs of local behavior analysts to be addressed.

Our 21st Annual Conference was at the Music City Center in downtown Nashville November 8–10. Around 300 behavior analysts came together to hear the following excellent speakers: Dr. Rob Horner, Dr. Dorothea Lerman, and Dr. Connie Kasari. Dr. Horner (University of Oregon) shared how applied behavior analysis can be used to solve larger social problems in addition to addressing the needs of individuals with disabilities. Dr. Lerman (University of Houston–Clear Lake) gave two presentations concerning effective training and provision of ABA services. One addressed the training and services provided by teachers and paraprofessionals in schools, and the second addressed how effective services delivered via telehealth can be to reduce target behaviors for individuals in hard-to-reach areas. Dr. Kasari (University of California, Los Angeles) gave both a lecture and a Saturday workshop. Her lecture covered increasing social skills of students with ASD in general education classrooms by involving their peers. Her Saturday workshop taught attendees how to increase joint attention and engagement for those with ASD while also increasing language.

Again this year, three students received BACB exam reimbursement awards. We also continued with our exciting Behaviorlympics, which showcased the knowledge of students from across the state. Awards were presented for best performance in a shaping race, terminology face-off, and other exciting activities. This is a forum for students to interact with each other and demonstrate their ABA skill set.

Important changes made in 2017 have had and will continue to have a positive impact on our ability to sustain and increase initiatives for increasing membership, disseminating information about and encouraging access to applied behavior analysis services, and ensuring that we assist our members in improving services and addressing issues as they arise. Our Executive Committee is made up of the following individuals: Pablo Juarez as president, Tiffany Denton as president-elect, James Meindl as past president, Annie Cornelius as West TN representative, Lauren Weaver as Middle TN representative, Beth Goodman as East TN representative, Kim Duong as West TN Student officer, Kate Chazin as Middle TN student officer, and Cindy Conley as East TN student officer.

Our committee chairs are Cady Conley and Michelle Hopton (co-chairs, Continuing Education), Erin Szarka (Publications), Logan York and Elizabeth West (co-chairs, Social Media), Beth Jason Grosser (Professional Standards), and Zachary Stevens (Membership). Lindsey Brady is the new director of operations. Together this group is dedicated to advancing the presence of TABA across the state by focusing on new initiatives, continuing to provide exciting and educational conferences, and focusing further on future plans concerning how best to support our members.

Utah ABA

BY AARON J. FISCHER

The Utah Association for Behavior Analysis (UtABA) was active this past year. The organization continues to see growth in membership, particularly in student members, with overall membership passing 200 in 2018. UtABA has also prioritized statewide access to CE professional development opportunities and committee/board meetings by providing high-quality videoconferencing. As such, UtABA members have multiple opportunities per year to engage in webinars and discussions regarding public policy issues, insurance reimbursement, school collaboration, and other topics.

UtABA's annual conference will be August 1–2, 2019, in Salt Lake City. For more information about the conference, including speakers, please visit www.ut-aba.org/events.

Washington ABA


BY ANASTASIYA SHAPOVALOVA

Washington ABA (WABA) has continued to grow steadily in membership and activity over the past year. In 2018, we upgraded our membership management system, moving to an online platform for greater efficiency and engagement via a members forum.

We held our biggest annual conference yet in August 2018 at Green River College in Auburn, WA. Our keynote speakers were Dr. James Carr, Dr. Molli M. Luke, Dr. Erin Barton, and Dr. George Sugai. A catered lunch and cocktail hour enhanced the conference experience. Dr. Charna Mintz was recognized with an award for her leadership as 2016–2018 WABA president and for her integral role in getting ABA licensure passed in our state. This year's conference will take place October 19, 2019, and is projected to be even bigger, including an all-day workshop with Dr. Greg Hanley the day after.

In addition to the annual conference, two continuing education (CE) webinars were presented: Dr. Yevgenia Veverka of University of Washington offered strategies for addressing mealtime challenges on October 10, 2019, and Dr. Sarah Trautman-Eslinger of STE Consultants, LLC and outgoing president of California ABA, presented strategies to make behavior analysis more widely understood, accepted, and used on May 1, 2019. Both online events were widely attended and received enthusiastic reviews. In an effort to continue offering WABA members CE opportunities throughout the year, we merged the Education and Conference Committees.

The number of licensed behavior analysts, licensed assistant behavior analysts, and certified behavior technicians in Washington has grown tremendously over this last year, which is a major success for our field and the families we serve. WABA has been central in dissemination of information specific to licensure while serving as the central voice to the WA Department of Health as they continue to refine rules and processes and respond to challenges brought forth by related professions (e.g., psychology). We anticipate needing to continue our effort to protect consumers of ABA services by advocating that ABA as treatment for individuals with autism be provided by licensed behavior analysts with appropriate training and education. WABA members have played an




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integral part in educating the public, medical professionals, educators, and decision makers within the Department of Health regarding this effort.

It has been a busy year in Washington, and we look forward to the challenges and achievements ahead.

Wisconsin ABA

BY MAHIN PARA-CREMER

The Wisconsin Association for Behavior Analysis (WisABA) is in its 15th year serving the needs of behavior analysts in the state of Wisconsin. In August of 2018, WisABA hosted its 11th annual conference at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, with internationally recognized speakers offering several practical workshops and providing continuing education for board certified behavior analysts. Dr. Jeffrey Tiger received our annual WisABA award for his significant contributions to the field of behavior analysis in the state of Wisconsin. Funding for our keynote speaker was provided, once again, by Corrine Donley, WisABA's first president and benefactor of our Founder's Fund. Our speakers included Gina Green, Charna Mintz, Abby Amacher, Megan Miller, Elizabeth Fong, Kala McClellan, Mahin Para-Cremer, Bill Ahearn,

and Jeffrey Tiger. Special thanks go to our sponsors: Center for Autism and Related Disorders, Integrated Development Services, and Wisconsin Early Autism Project.

On August 9–10, 2019, WisABA will host its 12th annual conference in collaboration with the behavior analysis program at Marquette University. WisABA is very excited to work with this program to bring the following invited speakers: Amanda Karsten, Dorothea Lerman, Linda LeBlanc, Amy Henley, Jennifer Fritz, Karen Toussaint, Claire St. Peter, Jeanne Donaldson, Pamela Neidert, and John Borrero. General topics will include preparing new behavior analysts, staff training and supervision, assessment and treatment of problem behavior, school-based behavioral interventions, and bringing behavior analysis into preschools. Additional workshops may also be offered. More specific information will be provided as it is available at www.wisaba.org/conference2019.

The state of Wisconsin continues to offer behavior analyst licensure contingent upon Behavior Analyst Certification Board certification. Wisconsin currently has over 275 Licensed Behavior Analysts. ❖



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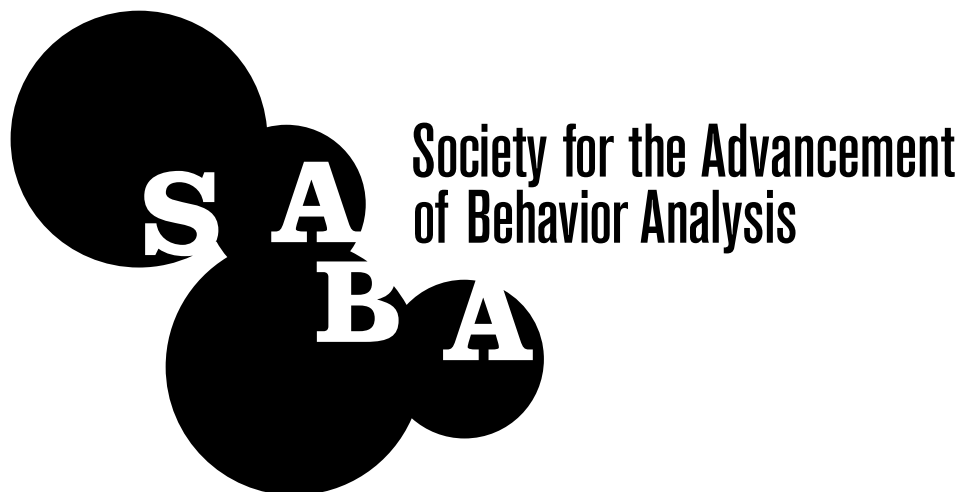
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"Thanks to the generosity of the SABA grant donors, I was able to travel to San Diego to present my master's thesis at ABAI 2018. I received invaluable feedback that I can incorporate into future research projects. All in all, it was a wonderful opportunity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

— Talia Ennett

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

— Sarah Davis

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

— Christina Nord

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

— Táhcita Mizael

SABA is accepting donations to send students to ABAI's 2020 Annual Convention through October 31, 2019.

saba.abainternational.org/funds/senior-student-presenter-fund

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

ABA Australia

BY ALAYNA HABERLIN

Over the past year, ABA Australia continued to grow. The dedication and hard work of our volunteers turned into many permanent products. ABA Australia held its third annual 2-day conference in Brisbane (July 2018). At the 2018 conference there were two international keynote speakers and 196 attendees. It was a great weekend learning about behavior analysis and meeting a growing group of people passionate about ABA. The conference committee has been busy throughout the year planning our next conference in Melbourne 26–28 July 2019. For the first time ever, we will be offering a 1-day workshop on the Friday before the conference.

The National Disability Insurance Scheme committee continued to work toward better recognition of behavior analytic services and BCBAs within the Australian government. They have prioritized three areas of focus this year: (1) work toward recognition of BACB certifications, (2) provide information about becoming registered with the National Disability Insurance Agency, and (3) provide information about the use of restricted practices to ensure members stay compliant with current policies.

There was increased activity in the social committee. Journal clubs met at local pubs to discuss research articles (in Sydney and Brisbane). It is wonderful to see members coming together after a busy day at work to talk about ABA with a refreshment in hand.

In April 2018, there was the formation of a new committee: the membership committee. They are actively looking to improve membership benefits and communication via our various social media platforms.

Finally, ABA Australia had a poster at the ABAI Expo in Chicago in May 2019. We loved connecting with behavior analysts from around the world. We especially enjoy challenging them to try vegemite!

As we look forward to the next year, the Board of Directors hopes that our committees continue to work toward the goals they have set for themselves and increase their productivity. In addition, the board will be busy working on a strategic plan for the association. On one level this is challenging, but it is also imperative to ensure the sustainability of ABA Australia and the quality of member benefits.

ABA Colombia

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

ABA Colombia continued its process of renovation during the last year. As a result of the efforts implemented in 2018 to attract more students and professionals to join the

organization and contribute to its mission and growth, a new generation of members actively started working on two main projects. First, was the reinstatement of the chapter's website (<https://abacolombia.org.co/>). Second, was development of materials (videos, texts, and audio) needed for the online course and webinar system that we expect to increase the chapter's visibility and scope and, ultimately, behavior analysis dissemination in Latin America. The International Development Grant (<http://saba.abainternational.org/grants/international-development-grant/camilo-hurtado-parrado/>) that the chapter received from the Society for the Advancement of Behavior Analysis has been key to the progress of these projects and for that we are immensely grateful.

Behavior analysis has grown in Colombia, and we expect that it will continue doing so. ABA Colombia members have participated during the last three years in a major event dedicated to discussing recent development in behavioral research in Colombia: Encuentro de Investigadores en Ciencias del Comportamiento (Meeting of Researchers in Behavioral Sciences, <https://bit.ly/2Wp1l7w>). Since the event is not exclusively behavior analytic, our efforts have focused on disseminating behavior analysis and, in doing so, encouraging collaboration and attracting new members. This year, Dr. Hurtado-Parrado's presentation will be part of a symposium on variability. He will discuss how behavior analysts view replication and generality, and how single-case research continues to be an underestimated alternative to the increasingly criticized null-hypothesis-testing approach (e.g., Hurtado-Parrado & López-López, 2015; Perone, 2018). Dr. Paulo Dillon (Universidad de San Buenaventura) will participate in a symposium dedicated to discussing different conceptual and methodological approaches to the study of memory (e.g., White, 2018; Wright, 2007); he will discuss the behavior analytic perspective in a session shared with neuroscientists and cognitive psychologists. ABA Colombia will record some of these presentations and poster sessions and will include them in the list of multimedia resources freely available on the website.

ABA Colombia's national and international presence also continues to grow. We have received requests from several international behavior analysts in search of possibilities to visit Colombia to conduct field trips or find opportunities for internships. In 2017, our organization supported a research project aimed at testing the positive effects of an instructional intervention (reappraisal training) on emotional and verbal responses toward Colombian conflict-related multimedia stimuli (e.g., text, pictures, and audio depicting violent actions of the armed groups involved). The manuscript was recently accepted for publication in a special issue of the journal *Frontiers*

in *Psychology* (www.frontiersin.org/research-topics/7039/research-on-emotion-and-learning-contributions-from-latin-america) focused on promoting Latin American research on learning and emotion (www.frontiersin.org/research-topics/7039/research-on-emotion-and-learning-contributions-from-latin-america). Considering the relevance of the topic (a five-decade conflict finished with a peace agreement that now is under major criticism), the high impact of this publication, and the fact that the manuscript will be open-access, we expect an increase in recognition of ABA Colombia locally and internationally.

We would like to conclude by acknowledging the important role of the professionals and graduate and undergraduate students who recently joined ABA Colombia and whose work has been key to the continuous development of this organization: Juan C. Forigua, Julian Cifuentes, Laura C. Suárez, Cristian Y. Urbano, and Pablo A. Ledesma. Also, it is important to note the contributions of Dr. Arturo Clavijo and Dr. Paulo Dillon in advising and inspiring these students, and, ultimately, promoting behavior analysis in Colombia and Latin America.

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ABA España

BY AIDA TARIFA RODRIGUEZ, VIRGINIA BEJARANO RUIZ, AND JAVIER VIRUES-ORTEGA

This past year we have continued to grow and expand our reach. ABA España is inspired to provide educational opportunities throughout the Spanish-speaking world. Over the last year we have become aware of several cases of academic and professional misconduct from Spanish-speaking students and professionals. ABA España's response to these concerns has been to emphasize more than ever before the BACB compliance code on ethics, not only as part of our coursework, but also through editorial initiatives. Through a special agreement with Routledge we have obtained permission to translate and publish the must-read handbook on ethics by Dr. Bailey and Dr. Burch. *Ética Para Analistas de Conducta* is now available in eBook format through our website, aba-elearning.com, and through Amazon and other platforms as a printed book.

The book was made possible through the university chair on applied behavior analysis that has been a collaborative effort between ABA España and the University of Cadiz (Spain). We continue to look into new editorial projects with the goal of making key reference materials available in Spanish.

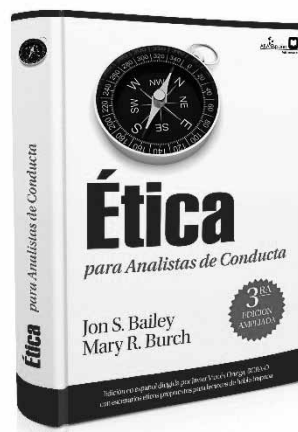


Figure 1. ABA España edited the Spanish version of *Ethics for Behavior Analysts*.

As an additional means to support practice and research, this year we have completed a small project involving the development of the behavior observation app Big Eye Observer (BEO). This simple and user-friendly solution (currently available through the app store only) enables practitioners and researchers to seamlessly record behavioral events in a range of applied contexts while obtaining full data output ready for email export and subsequent analysis. BEO also has the potential to become a tool for data sharing, and we are starting to use it with our students and supervisors in the process of facilitating data-based supervision.

The educational reach of our training initiatives both through our verified course sequence and through shorter online courses continues to expand. This year we have welcomed students from Spain, Argentina, Colombia, Chile, Mexico, and the US, where Spanish continues to grow. In an attempt to support high-quality supervised fieldwork experience (in addition to coursework) we continue to make available to eligible students a one-year internship through our special agreement with the New England Center for Children. This long-term collaboration benefited students from Mexico and Spain this past year.

Please visit us on aba-elearning.com or become part of our growing social media community, which this year has grown to 10,000+ through our combined presence on Facebook (@abaespanainfo), Instagram (@abaespana), Twitter (@ABA_Spain), and YouTube (www.youtube.com/ABAEspana).

ABA GERMANY

BY BENNO CHRISTOF BOECKH

The Association for Behavior Analysis Deutschland (ABAD) currently has 44 members and five board members. Annual membership meetings are in June. The 2018 meeting was in Düsseldorf (western Germany), and the 2019 meeting will be in Kassel (central Germany). Efforts to update the ABAD website in order to represent applied behavior analysis (ABA) more professionally and consistently to the German public are carrying on. Latest developments are a renewed overhaul of content and presentation, as well as a provider change in order to be able to implement changes to the website by appointed ABAD members rather than having to rely on outside agencies.

The debate among special education professionals, autism advocacy groups, charity fundraisers, and public financing bodies about the goals and ethics that govern past and current ABA practice in autism intervention has quieted down somewhat over the course of 2018 and early 2019; this is clearly a positive development. Yet public funding of comprehensive ABA services has become more difficult to obtain in some parts of Germany; in most areas the public funding situation remains unchanged. There is still some (albeit less) mixed media coverage of ABA. ABAD remains devoted to representing and communicating ABA to the German public as a socially and ethically viable and scientifically based method for autism intervention in varied settings.

ABAD is currently undertaking strong efforts to establish contact and network with those persons and organizations in Germany that are devising standards and recommendations about autism treatment and support. These efforts are being made in order to inform these individuals and entities about the foundations and opportunities ABA offers in terms of scientifically grounded autism intervention, and in order for these individuals and entities to consider ABA favorably in their

recommendations. ABAD is also reaching out to ABA professionals who have moved to Germany from abroad in recent years to motivate them to become ABAD members and share their experiences and ideas.

As before, most ABAD members are active in autism intervention, with one member being active in work-based security and academic teaching. Several ABAD members recently sat for or will soon sit for their BCBA/BCaBA exams. Several certified ABAD members started their own autism consulting businesses in 2018. Many ABAD members attended the EABA conference in Würzburg (southern Germany) in fall 2018.

ABA India

BY RAZIA ALI, SRIDHAR ARAVAMUDHAN, ANTARA DEY, SHRUTI KUNDU, MASILA MANI, RACHEL GEORGE, AND SMITA AWASTHI

The power of a few is the interesting challenge ABA India is taking up. Autism is likely to be the priority for most behavior analysts in the years ahead in India. Some studies are estimating the prevalence of autism in India at between 1 in 68 and 1 in 500, taking the estimate of persons affected to be between 6 and 10 million. There are only 39 behavior analysts in India to date to serve the needs of this large, vulnerable population that is growing. This small and early behavioral community is thus faced with the challenge of facilitating exponential growth of behavior analytic services.

The first challenge is increasing participation from behavioral colleagues. While most behavior analysts in India work long and demanding hours in their day jobs and at establishing their clinical practice, their participation in ABA India activities continues to remain low, and it is left to a core committed group of a handful to build the initial contingencies for wider participation.

The core working group of ABA India met for a half-day retreat to reflect on the current state of behavior analysis in India. They identified certain positive

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contingencies that need to be given impetus, threats that need to be addressed, and communities that need to be built to power growth.

Building an Indian Behavioral Community—First Steps

It was proposed to make love of the science a unifying thread for behavior analysts and students. To this end, it was proposed to host a summit in July 2019 for professionals to make research presentations. This would also be the first step toward shaping the research influence on clinical practice in the behavioral community. The second important agenda will be to arrive at a set of guidelines on how the community should respond to the ethical challenges faced in the Indian context. It was also proposed to provide time for networking and bonding given the geographical spread; contingencies must be established to facilitate interactions at the local city chapter level at least in the major metro areas.

Consultatively Evolving Ethical Action Standards

There have been instances of behavior analyst therapists being “poached” without adequate notice, resulting in disruption of services to clients. There is a need to agree to basic due diligence practices such as employing therapists only after they have served notice with their previous organization.

Additionally, there are several special education centers offering “ABA” without a BCBA supervising their programs. A formal communication needs to be issued, and all means within the legal framework in the country need to be explored to discourage such practices. Otherwise there is a real threat of this evolving field in India getting a bad reputation.

Building Positive Relationships With Other Stakeholders in the Society

There are parent lobbies and certain autism special interest groups where ABA is not spoken of well (sometimes very harshly and negatively) due to historical reasons. This is a reality that needs to be faced well and managed better. Some of the senior professionals should reach out and connect with such organizations, hold a dialogue, try to understand any legitimate concerns, and address them.

It is becoming increasingly clear to the core group that excitement about behavior analysis has just begun to take root in India. The core group recognizes that it is important to widen participation and see early successes in the areas of building contingencies for a thriving behavioral community, facing the ethical challenges firmly and formally, and engaging with other organizations working in the field of autism in India. We hope to report next year with well-calibrated measures and data that show significant progress.

ABA of Italy

BY FRANCESCO POZZI

The Istituto Europeo per lo Studio del Comportamento Umano (IESCUM; www.iescum.org) is an Italian chapter of ABAI and was established to translate into specific actions a vision of science in Italy, both experimental and applied. Since its founding, IESCUM has been committed to promoting the full range of behavior analytic scientific and humanistic potential. From this premise IESCUM has committed to the training, development, and evaluation of behavior analysis in clinical settings in various forms.

Experiential trainings in clinical behavior analysis, in acceptance and commitment therapy, and in functional assessment procedures with scholars and professionals such as P. N. Chase, C. Nikopoulos, and S. Ala'i-Rosales have been offered in Italy in the last year through IESCUM.

The dissemination of a sound culture in applied behavior analysis has been carried out institutionally through a 2-year postgraduate course sequence (“Master” in Italian), now in its 13th edition, along with several 180-hour and 60-hour courses, targeting operators who aim to become assistant behavior analysts or behavior technicians. IESCUM sees this coursework as an opportunity to spread behavior analysis beyond autism treatment.

IESCUM supported the foundation of SIACSA (www.siacsa.org), an Italian association whose aim is to represent behavior analysts operating in different fields and promote behavior analysis in political and social contexts. SIACSA was founded late in 2014 and now represents about 400 Italian behavior analysts.

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

In November 2018, IESCUM organized the second Italian conference of third-generation behavior therapies. This conference, called Mindfulness, Acceptance, and Compassion: Bridges Between Islands, was held in Milan

and included 500 professionals and researchers.

In September 2019, IESCU is supporting the activation of the first postgraduate course in behavioral economics in Italy. The so-called Master Executive is titled Persuasion, Decision, and Change Management and will take place in IULM University in Milan, with the support of several private organizations.

Association Française— Les Professionnels de l'Analyse du Comportement

BY DIANE FRASER

AFLPA is pleased to announce its new status as an online program, the first VCS completely in French; textbooks and journal articles will be translated, as will all lectures given by anglophones. This program will commence in September 2019. There are already many inquiries. Dr. Fraser, AFLPA's coordinator, has a new administrative partner, Helene Abdenour.

Atlantic Provinces ABA

BY KIMBERLY MAICH

The Atlantic Provinces Association for Behaviour Analysis (APABA) serves behavior analysts, educators, interventionists, partner professionals, and others interested in behavioral science and its application in the four Atlantic Canadian provinces of New Brunswick, Newfoundland & Labrador, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island.

APABA recently marked our fourth anniversary as an affiliated chapter of ABAI. We are amazed by the growth in membership since our inception in 2014, from 44 members in our first year to a slightly decreased membership of 64 at 2018's AGM. We have 55 full members, 6 student members, 2 affiliate members, and 1 honorary member; 11 of these are new members. Although the wide geographical region served by APABA poses some unique challenges, we also recognize the benefits and opportunities we are afforded by drawing together behavior analysts, educators, interventionists, partner professionals, and others interested in behavioral science and its application in the Atlantic provinces. We've also seen a continued increase in the number of members and partner professionals completing the requirements to become certified by the BACB since the inception of APABA. While there were 16 board certified behavior analysts or board certified assistant behavior analysts in Atlantic Canada in 2014, and 26 in 2017, we now have 51 (NB=29; NL=3; NS=15; PEI=4) (www.bacb.com).

A primary goal of APABA is to promote and encourage the development and awareness of the science of behavior analysis through research, education, and practice within our region. We also seek to facilitate networking and expand

opportunities for professional connection and collaboration among and between our members and others in the field. To that end, APABA has participated in multiple ABAI annual conventions, presenting posters in San Antonio (2015), Chicago (2016), Denver (2017), San Diego (2018), and again in Chicago (2019). In order to support the professional learning needs of our members, we dedicate a portion of our annual general meeting each fall to continuing education, focusing on areas of emerging need and interest among members. Past keynote presenters have included Drs. Robyn Catagnus and Elizabeth Fong, who shared their work on increasing cultural competence in behavior analysts, supporting APABA members to engage in more culturally proficient professional practice. Our 2018 AGM professional development was led by Drs. Kelly Schieltz, Matthew O'Brien, and Todd Kopelman, who trained attendees on the use of telehealth to train and coach interventionists supporting learners with ASD. Our members have also presented at other ABAI conferences, such as in San Juan, Puerto Rico, and Paris, France. Our members are delivering training throughout and beyond the Atlantic provinces and at times internationally, such as in Switzerland and France.

Since APABA serves such a broad geographical region, it is essential that we make effective and efficient use of electronic media and web-based platforms as we seek to support current members and reach prospective new members. The APABA Executive, along with the Communications and Public Education Committees, release newsletters each year to share information about recent and upcoming events. The APABA website (www.atlanticprovincesaba.com), which continues to evolve, is also an integral tool for communicating with members. Not only does it provide a central location for sharing information and resources, it has also been expanded this year to allow for online registration and payment for APABA events (as well as online donations to our local awards) and to provide a gateway to APABA's social media presence through our Facebook page and Twitter account.

Online study groups have also become a valuable addition to APABA's professional development and continuing education efforts. We have completed a range of highly successful web-based study groups through which members have had the opportunity to critically evaluate and discuss selections from the scholarly literature in the field. Our most recent topic was a supervision framework.

In 2017, APABA began "Behaviour Bits," a blog featuring submissions from members on topics highlighting the application of behavioral science to everyday situations (<https://behaviourbits.com>). Recently, members have provided insight for readers into self-monitoring using apps, understanding time-outs and considering alternatives, and getting ahead of selective listening.

APABA continues to provide awards to its members, including the recently established Verna O'Coin

Memorial Bursary, the Marlene Breitenbach Award, and the William L. Heward Behaviour Change Award for a Sustainable Future.

Last year, we created a Membership & Engagement Committee. We also recently updated our status as an ACE provider. Another major activity led with success by our now-past president Isabelle Cowan was the development of our strategic plan (2018–2020), a lengthy and involved process.

APABA has been the beneficiary of a host of gracious gestures and an abundance of support from behavior analysts and partner professionals since we first set out on this journey four years ago. We continue to extend our sincere appreciation to all who have helped us along the way. As our membership continues to grow and as we extend our reach across Atlantic Canada, our goal is to continue and build upon the initiatives that we have begun and to create new opportunities and pathways to share the value of behavioral science throughout our region. As part of this movement, we have been encouraging social get-togethers in our varied geographic regions. We also look forward to and welcome opportunities to connect with other ABAA-affiliated chapters across Canada and beyond to expand opportunities for professional learning, networking, and collaboration. Such collaboration currently includes consideration around non-monetary sponsorship of Newfoundland & Labrador's first local one-day ASD-focused conference entitled "Straight Talk About ASD" (October 2019) (St. John's, NL) and collaborating with UNB for the two-day Atlantic Provinces Autism Conference "Breaking Barriers, Building Understanding" (November 2019) (Fredericton, NB).

British Columbia ABA

BY KATIE ALLEN

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


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

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

In November 2018, BC-ABA hosted an in-person and online workshop on business considerations for private practitioners. A panel of accountants, lawyers, and marketing professionals was assembled to deliver tips and strategies.

BC-ABA's annual conference was in March 2019 at the University of British Columbia. This year we hosted two presenters, Dr. Linda Leblanc and Dr. Tyra Sellers, who spoke on measurement and ethics of supervision respectively. It was a great turnout both in person and with 40 members streaming online.

Two scholarships were offered this year at the undergraduate and graduate levels for students to present their research at next year's conference. Thea Brain received our graduate scholarship and received a \$1,000 prize to assist with her research. There were no submissions for our undergraduate scholarship. Please visit



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our website for more information about the scholarships and how you can apply: www.bc-aba.org. The call for papers for the 2020 conference will go out in October 2019. We welcome anyone to submit and look forward to expanding the variety of presentations. Next year's events will be posted once details are final so please visit our website to see what is coming up.

2019 will be the 10th year BC-ABA will be presenting a poster during the ABAl Expo. This is a wonderful event and a great way to meet BC-ABA board members and find out first-hand about BC-ABA and the current happenings. Please visit us!

BC-ABA's membership maintains at approximately 300 full, associate, and student members. There are multiple benefits to being a BC-ABA member. Our membership fee has not increased since the inception of BC-ABA, but the benefits to being a member improve each year, including access to conference presentation slides, reviewing BC-ABA meeting minutes for up-to-date information, receiving current information and news through our monthly emails, and networking with other members. All this for only \$30 CND per year for a full membership!

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

BC-ABA continues to be an active chapter and is honored to be the affiliate of ABAl in the province of British Columbia.

Central Chinese ABA

BY DEHUA GUO

The following is a list of some of Central China ABA's (CCABA's) accomplishments in 2018.

ABA Professional Training

The BCaBA training program for special education teachers in public schools in Haidian District in Beijing has been progressing smoothly, which has strongly promoted the application of ABA in public schools and has been conducive to drawing the attention of the government to ABA.

First Annual Meeting of CCABA and ABA Seminar

The council of CCABA held the chapter's first annual meeting in the Department of Special Education of Guangxi College for Preschool Education. Also, an ABA seminar and video contest of ABA teaching skills were held. 150 representatives of ABA service centers across the country participated in the meeting.

Promotion of ABA Services Among ASD Service Centers

The Alliance for ABA Promotion, founded in 2017 by CCABA, has been receiving such extensive attention from ASD service centers that in 2018 a number of them applied for membership, among which seven have become members of the alliance after having been reviewed by the CCABA council. Thus the number of member agencies has increased to 26.

ABA Major Established in a Chinese College for the First Time

The Department of Special Education of Guangxi College for Preschool Education has established the ABA major, with 50 students enrolled in the first session. It is the first ABA major in a Chinese college, which indicates official recognition of the disciplinary status of ABA from the Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China.



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New Progress in ABA Research

ABA is on its way to becoming one of the mainstream teaching methods and rehabilitation techniques for children with ASD. Practice research has been conducted more intensively on ABA; document retrieval results show that the number of published papers on ABA has increased from more than 200 in 2017 to more than 300 in 2018. CCABA is committed to pushing forward research focusing on the implementation of ABA adapted to local conditions in colleges and universities, which has obtained a large amount of evidence for the effectiveness of ABA in the rehabilitation and education of children with ASD.

Other Training

Commissioned by CCABA, Beijing Kangnazhou Autism Family Support Center continued to carry out an ABA training program, with two cohorts of Chinese applied behavior analysts (CNABA class C), for a total of more than 70, and providing supervision to more than 200 individuals in five ABA service centers. In 2018, five newly certified BCaBAs joined the CCABA team.

On behalf of the CCABA executive team, a delegation led by Ms. Hong Wen attended the 2018 ABAI Annual Convention in San Diego. The delegation had a friendly meeting with leaders and experts from ABAI.

In order to strengthen communication with ABAI, increase membership, and accelerate the popularization of ABA in China, CCABA has reestablished its council and work team. CCABA plans to improve its website, launch the electronic journal China ABA Research and Practice (scheduled for release in September 2019), and hold an ABA international symposium.

Hong Kong ABA

BY AMOY HUGH-PENNIE, REBECCA DOGAN, AND RAYMOND FUNGS

The Hong Kong Association for Behavior Analysis (HKABA) has been in the process of joining a new program to house our VCS for BCaBA and BCBA certification within the Education Department of the Open University of Hong Kong. The final outcome of this process will be announced in 2019.

Time was spent in 2018 talking with all board members to determine the best way to support and incentivize new and former members. A plan was determined that in 2019 new efforts would be made, which we can proudly say are now in effect. In February we held a meet and greet and had an excellent turnout of over 20 people. A board decision was also made to host talks on new intriguing topics for HKABA members as well as community members, such as “Ethics: Recognition and Resolution of an Ethical Dilemma”; “Habit/Tic Disorders”; “Teaching Interactions”; “The Award Winning App for Communication”; and

“Supervision and the TPRA Observation Procedure.” All of these are scheduled to take place between March and December 2019. The dates have been announced and we have a number of interested participants. CEUs will be provided for each event in the hope this will draw new members as well as maintain the members we have. We currently have 28 members and 9 professionals interested to join from our meet and greet event.

The chapter presented a poster called “Applied Behavior Analysis Is an Evidence-Based Practice for Autism” at the 2018 Hong Kong ASD Conference, Autism and Education: What Works. The conference was at the Lee Shau Kee Lecture Centre, Centennial Campus, University of Hong Kong, July 5, 2018.

Many of our board and chapter members presented research on topics of integration and inclusion, teaching and training behavior analysts, and verbal behavior, and submitted posters on these and other topics to the ABAI 44th and 45th Annual Conventions. We are very proud to have continued representation each year at the convention and other conferences.

If you live in or are planning to move to the Hong Kong area please contact us regarding membership through our website: www.hkaba.org. If you are interested in being part of a local conference, you may also contact us via our website. We invite any well-established and interested professionals. Looking forward to a most prosperous Year of the Pig!

Icelandic ABA

BY BERGLIND SVEINBJORNSDOTTIR, STEINUNN HAFSTEINSDOTTIR, KATRIN S. BJORNSDOTTIR, ASA RUN INGIMARSDOTTIR, AND HOLMFRIDUR OSK ARNALDS

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

We are a small and growing association of 71 members. Part of the association's purpose is to introduce the different behavior analysis master's and doctoral programs available to Icelandic students. Applied behavior analysis has a longstanding and well-established footing at the University of Iceland and more recently at the University of Reykjavik. Some students opt to do postgraduate research in behavior analysis in Iceland. Traditionally, Icelandic students have completed their graduate studies in applied behavior analysis abroad, such as in the US, UK, and Norway. Right now two students are studying abroad. The options for Icelandic students have recently expanded as Reykjavik University now offers an MSc program for 20 students each year in clinical psychology with a BACB course sequence in applied behavior analysis; the fourth group will graduate this year. In addition, Reykjavik

University will start an MSc in applied behavior Analysis in the fall of 2019. This program will include the 5th edition of the BCBA verified course sequence.

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

ICEABA's largest event this past year was the conference in November. The invited speakers were the well-known Dr. Gregory Hanley and Dr. Patrick Friman. The conference was attended by 120 participants, our biggest to date!

In 2018 ICEABA elected new chapter officers: Berglind Sveinbjörnsdóttir, PhD, BCBA (president), Steinunn Hafsteinsdóttir, MSc, BCBA (treasurer), and Katrín Sveina Björnsdóttir, MSc (secretary). Past president Ása Rún Ingimarsdóttir and past secretary Hólmfríður Ósk Arnalds will continue to be active with the new committee and assist current chapter officers.

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

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

Japanese ABA

BY SATORU SHIMAMUNE

The 36th annual convention was at Doshisha University in Kyoto, August 24–26, 2018. We had 488 attendees with 12 symposia and 89 poster presentations. We will hold the 37th annual convention at Otaru Civil Center in Hokkaido, August 30–September 1, 2019.

We are pleased to announce the publication of the *Behavior Analysis Encyclopedia* in Japanese this upcoming spring, which we have been working on the last few years.

Manitoba ABA

BY KARLI PEDREIRA

The Manitoba Association for Behaviour Analysis (MABA) is proud to be in its 14th year as an affiliated chapter of ABAI. During our 13th year several objectives were met, described below.

In October 2018, MABA partnered with the Department of Psychology at the University of Manitoba to host Dr. Timothy Vollmer (University of Florida) as the keynote speaker at our 13th Annual Conference. Dr. Vollmer delivered a presentation titled “Behavioural Treatments When Extinction Is Not an Option.” The conference also featured presentations by our invited speakers, Dr. Toby Martin (University of Manitoba and St. Amant Research Centre), who presented on a behavioral approach to mindfulness; Dr. Tricia Vause (Brock University), who presented on treating obsessive compulsive behavior in individuals with ASD; and Dr. Sonia Marrone, who discussed integrating motivational interviewing into diverse clinical settings. Our conference also included a panel discussion on exploring cultural differences in the service setting with Ben Adaman, Dr. Tricia Vause, and Dr. Duong Ramon.



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We are looking forward to our 14th Annual Conference, to be held Thursday, October 3, at the University of Manitoba. The conference will feature presentations by our keynote speaker, Dr. Megan Miller (Ohio State University). Stay tuned for information about other invited speakers in the coming months.

MABA became a CE provider in 2013, and in 2018 we organized several events that offered affordable or free CEUs to our members who are BCBAs and BCBA-Ds. In June, we hosted our second workshop and were excited to have Dr. Greg Hanley present “Practical Functional Assessment and Treatment of Problem Behaviour.” We also hosted our fifth webinar in collaboration with Ontario ABA. In August, ONTABA’s Professional Development Committee presented on ABA in the classroom, where we discussed strategies and challenges with supporting students’ independent engagement in the classroom. We look forward to continuing and developing partnerships with other Canadian ABAI chapters.

In pursuit of our mission to disseminate information on behavior analysis, MABA participated in the Manitoba Psychological Society’s annual psychology month event in February 2018, where we sponsored an information booth at St. Amant. Additionally, MABA sponsored the Parents for Autistic Children Everywhere (PACE) walk for World Autism Awareness Day in April 2018. Our Executive Council had a booth at the event and took part in the walk. In May 2018, MABA attended the ABAI annual convention in San Diego, CA, and presented a poster at the Expo. We greatly enjoyed participating in the event and also had the opportunity to network with fellow Canadian chapter board members. MABA was also excited to offer two awards in 2018. In May we announced the winner of our first student travel award. Also, with the help of Dr. Bill Heward, MABA offered a Behaviour Change for a Sustainable World Award.

As for the upcoming year, we will continue working on ongoing objectives and also work toward new goals. Our key objectives for 2019 include continuing to explore licensing and certification options, increasing our membership through various recruitment initiatives, providing a variety of presentations for the general public, organizing events that will provide CEs and promote membership, and partnering with local organizations, colleges, and universities to promote awareness of behavior analysis in Manitoba.

Norwegian ABA

BY ERIK ARNTZEN

In 2018, 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, an increasing number of members 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 a 4-day conference with 5–6 parallel tracks. At the conference in 2018, 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. Caio Miguel, Sacramento State, gave two presentations. The first was “Bidirectional Naming, Problem Solving, and the Development of Verbal Relations,” and the second was “Successive Matching-to-Sample and the Establishment of Conditional Relations.” Five 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. The number of posters has increased since they were first included in the conference program.

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) membership grew again throughout 2018, reaching an all-time high of approximately 1,240 members by our annual general meeting in December. During the last year our efforts continued 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. A new strategic plan will be developed at the end of 2019.

The Ontario Scientific Expert Taskforce for the Treatment of Challenging Behaviour (OSETT-CB) completed a comprehensive research synthesis called *Evidence-Based Practices for the Treatment of Challenging Behaviour in Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities*, which was published in early January 2019. The report contains a focused review of the literature along with nine key recommendations for policy makers and practitioners.

The full report is available to the public on our website at www.ontaba.org/pdf/ONTABA_OSETT-CB_Final_Report_Jan_2019.pdf.

Additionally, members of the Education Task Force continue to work on a comprehensive report to review the evidence-based use of behavior analysis in the education system. The committee aims to have the report ready for release in the summer of 2019.

Throughout the first half of 2018 representatives from ONTABA continued their consultative role in a working group with the Ministry of Children and Youth Services (MCYS) to further develop the Ontario Autism Program. In June 2018 the political party representing Ontario changed. After the election the working group ceased and further input from ONTABA was not requested from the new government. ONTABA was granted one meeting with representatives from the newly formed Ministry of Children, Community, and Social Services (MCCSS), previously MCYS, in September 2018. During this meeting ONTABA requested the release of the Health Professions Regulatory Advisory Committee (HPRAC) report on the risks and benefits of regulating behavior analysts in Ontario, which was provided to the previous minister in at the end of January 2018. At the time of this report the outcomes of the report from HPRAC are pending. ONTABA continues to prioritize regulation for the practice of behavior analysis and is working to complete the organizational processes required to support the passage of a private act which would provide title protection for behavior analysts in Ontario. The private bill, which the Professional Regulation Committee has been working on for several years, is in its final stages.

The board and committees were hard at work throughout 2018 completing the following tasks:

- A comprehensive revision of the bylaws, which incorporate revisions required to support the

implementation of the private act, the Ontario Not for Profit Corporations Act (expected to be in effect in 2019), and the growth of the organization (Board of Directors work).

- Creation of the “Jurisprudence and Ethics Knowledge and Competency Standards for Titled Behaviour Analysts in Ontario.” (Referred to as the “JE Standards”) in preparation for development of a jurisprudence module (Jurisprudence Committee work).
- An investigation of data-retention practices across ASD ABA service providers in the province (ASD Committee work).
- Publication of the ONTABA Ethical Billing and Business Practices document and formal release of OSETT-ASD Caregiver Summary (ASD Committee work).
- Seventeen different events offering CEs for behavior analysts across Ontario (Professional Development Committee work).

ONTABA brought 2018 to an end with our annual conference. Over 620 attendees each day were treated to presentations by Dr. Kazemi, Dr. Najdowski, and Dr. Koudys, as well as many wonderful local behavior analysts across 2 days.

Changes to the Ontario Autism Program in early 2019 pose a threat to behavior analytic services in Ontario and to those who benefit from our services. ONTABA will continue to advocate for evidence-based, needs-based, inter-ministerial approaches to behavior analytic services in Ontario. ONTABA remains committed to its mission of demonstrating leadership, knowledge, and innovation in education, training, and research for the ethical and effective application of behavior analysis.



Polish Society for Behavioral Psychology

BY BARTŁOMIEJ SWEBODZINSKI

The most event for Polish Society for Behavioral Psychology (PSBP) in 2018 was the 12th International Scientific Symposium in Poznań. It was co-organized by the University of Social Sciences and Humanities in Poznań. The special participants in the symposium were Dr. Niklas Törneke (Sweden) and Dr. Rebecca Sharp (Bangor University). The theme was “From theory to practice: different areas of application of behavioral therapy.”

Also in 2018, the chapter continuously worked on development of the Polish certification system (license) for behavior analysts. This system was created and introduced in 2010 together with partner organization Polish Society of Behavioral Therapy (www.terapeutabehawioralny.pl). Its aim was to improve the quality of work of behavior analysts in Poland by establishing professional standards of good work and proper conduct. Two members of PSBP participate on a regular basis in meetings of the executive committee of the system. The main responsibilities are the following:

- Evaluating applications of candidates to the title of behavior analyst according to standards of the Polish certification system.
- Developing standards for training programs and evaluating new training courses proposed by supervisors within the system.
- Answering ongoing questions concerning the certification system and providing consistent interpretation of its rules.
- Propagating knowledge about the certification system and behavioral therapy in Poland.

In 2018, we took patronage of books published in Poland:

- John D. Otis: *Przewlekły ból. Terapia poznawczo-behawioralna* (*Managing Chronic Pain: A Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy Approach Workbook*)
- Steven C. Hayes & Spencer Smith: *W pułapce myśli. Jak skutecznie poradzić sobie z depresją, stresem i lękiem* (*Get Out of Your Mind and Into Your Life. The New Acceptance and Commitment Therapy*)
- Russ Harris: *Zrozumieć ACT. Terapia akceptacji i zaangażowania w praktyce* (*ACT Made Simple. An Easy-To-Read Primer on Acceptance and Commitment Therapy*)
- Kelly G. Wilson & Troy DuFrene: *W sieci natrętnych myśli. Jak uwolnić się od bezustannej walki z lękiem i niepokojem* (*Things Might Go Terribly, Horribly Wrong. A Guide to Life Liberated From Anxiety*)

Works on the scientific editing of the book, *Applied Behavior Analysis, 2nd edition*, by John O. Cooper, Timothy E. Heron, and William L. Heward, are in progress from 2018. Three members of the PSBP board are engaged in it: Przemysław

Bąbel, Paweł Ostaszewski, and Krystyna Pomorska. We are also working on the Polish edition of *Skinnerian Science and Human Behavior* and Przemysław Bąbel, the President of PSBP, is preparing the scientific editing.

Finally, last year, we obtained a new logo and almost completed a new website.

Sociedad Mexicana de Análisis de la Conducta

BY ROSALINDA ARROYO, RODRIGO BENAVIDES, ROGELIO ESCOBAR, KENNETH MADRIGAL, ABRAHAM ORTIZ, AND MARIO SERRANO

The Mexican Society for Behavior Analysis (MSBA) is a nonprofit organization established on May 9, 1975. For the past 44 years, MSBA has taken the lead on (a) disseminating behavior analysis among psychologists and other disciplines; (b) establishing bonds with similar associations in Mexico and foreign countries; (c) advising institutions and associations regarding behavior analysis issues; (d) publishing the *Mexican Journal of Behavior Analysis (MJBA)*; and (e) organizing seminars, scientific events, and annual meetings to promote communication among behavior analysts in Mexico. Specifically, for the past year *MSBA* has pursued these last two points.

MJBA, edited since 1975, is now published every six months (June and December). A special section in the December issue includes monographic papers (formerly the September special issue). The special section in 2018 included commentaries by Jay Moore, Emilio Ribes, William Baum, Jack Marr, and Dave Palmer on the topic of selectionism in Skinner's early work. The special section in 2019 will be on experimental analyses of non-human animal social behavior and will be edited by Kennon A. Lattal and Hiroto Okouchi. In accordance with its open-access policy, in 2018 and 2019 *MJBA* released 1975–2015 print volumes and made them available to the public for free.

From October 22 to 26, the 28th Mexican Conference for Behavior Analysis (MCBA) took place at the Universidad Veracruzana. The event gathered 460 assistants and panelists from 15 public and private universities in Mexico and the United States of America. Among the workshops and symposia, and during the poster sessions, a total of 139 and 68 works were presented; philosophy of science, experimental and applied research, teaching, and technological applications of behavior analysis were among the topics discussed. Peter Killen and Charles Catania also participated in this event as guest speakers.

Behavior analysis courses are being excluded from academic curricula at Mexican universities, and it's by the joint effort of MSBA members, their teaching and research in grad schools, and events like the MCBA conference that contributions in our field are being made and shared within

our country. To this end, during the last conference, MSBA awarded Edith Marlen Feregrino Nuñez, Rebeca Andrea Flores Zenón, and Jonnathan Eduardo Gudiño Solorio with the MSBA bachelor's thesis grant.

In 2018, MSBA also recognized individuals who have demonstrated sustained and valuable contributions in the fields of applied and experimental analysis of behavior. Juan José Sánchez Sosa, who received the MSBA Applied Behavior Analysis Award, is currently at the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM), while Carlos Javier Flores Aguirre, who is currently at the Centro de Estudios e Investigaciones en Comportamiento at Universidad de Guadalajara, received the MSBA Experimental Analysis of Behavior Award. The 29th Mexican Congress for Behavior Analysis will take place October 21–25, 2019, at UNAM's Facultad de Estudios Superiores Iztacala.

Along with the Society for the Advancement of Behavior Analysis, MSBA matched funding for Kenneth Madrigal to promote behavior analysis in Mexico. His current project is aimed at raising interest among undergraduate students in behavior analysis courses. Through the use of MSBA social media, students are presented with news and announcements, which they can share and interact with. These announcements reached students who were not aware of *MJBA*, and also provided access to what could be their first behavior analysis approach.

Swedish ABA

BY DAG STRÖMBERG

The Swedish Association for Behavior Analysis (SWABA) had 192 members in 2018, which was 22 more than in 2017. One objective this year was for the chapter to maintain its increased activity on social media, in the form of disseminating research and news concerning behavior analysis, as well as providing opportunities for discussion among members. At the end of the year, 985 people were following SWABA on Facebook, a 16% increase from 2017. The association also has accounts on Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube, and Instagram.

SWABA's fall meeting in October 2018, in Stockholm, included five talks on the following topics: problem behavior, OBM, instructional design, ACT in diabetes type 1, and behavior analysis and team sports. Two other members' meetings took place in Gothenburg and in Karlstad, as part of our aim to spread interest in behavior analysis outside of the capital.

In March 2019, the annual meeting was in Stockholm. One talk was about the implementation of behavior-based safety and OBM to improve safety culture in the workplace. Two presenters described reinforcement-based training with animals. In addition, Dr. Jon-Arne Løkke from Norway gave a talk about supervision from a

behavior analytic viewpoint.

SWABA was represented at the 2019 ABAI Annual Convention in Chicago. As usual, a poster was presented at the Expo. Numerous visitors became virtual members (those who support the association but do not live or work in Sweden) for free, or renewed their virtual membership from last year. Also, bids were accepted for a unique SWABA t-shirt, the proceeds of which were donated to the SABA Unrestricted Fund.

SWABA supports the formation of special interest groups (SIGs), providing information about each group on the website. This year the Animals SIG, the Certified Behavior Analysts SIG, and the PBS SIG had meetings, while some of the other groups had contacts through social media. The Animals SIG co-hosted a conference on animal behavior in January in Skara. In August, in collaboration with the OBM Network, the OBM SIG hosted an international two-day conference in Stockholm, with 98 attendees from different countries.

For 2019, SWABA is very much looking forward to the ABAI 10th International Conference, which will take place in Stockholm September 29–30. This event will be a great opportunity for the development and dissemination of behavior analysis in Sweden.

SWABA would like to encourage anyone who plans to visit Sweden or other countries in Scandinavia to contact the board (info@swaba.se) to explore the possibility of meeting and/or lecturing. SWABA holds its annual meeting during the first quarter of each year and a fall meeting/conference in October. The 2019 fall meeting will take place October 19 in Stockholm. Please visit the SWABA website for updates concerning the program. ❖

Updates From ABAI's Special Interest Groups

Acceptance and Commitment Training SIG

BY EMILY SANDOZ

Recently, a number of behavior analysts have become interested in psychological flexibility, or behavioral flexibility, as an important dimension of human behavior. As a result, an increasing number of practicing behavior analysts have sought to integrate Acceptance and Commitment Training, which directly targets behavioral flexibility, into the applied behavior analysis services they provide.

Consistent with the behaviorally based psychotherapy approach Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (Hayes, Strosahl, & Wilson, 1999; 2012), Acceptance and Commitment Training (ACT) aims to increase behavioral flexibility, or sensitivity of the behavioral repertoire to changing contexts, in such a way as to foster values-consistent, goal-directed responding. In this way, ACT offers behavioral flexibility as a fundamental aspect of human health and well-being (see Kashdan & Rottenberg, 2010), contrasted with the inflexibility that characterizes repertoires dominated by rule-governed aversive control (Levin, Hayes, & Vilardaga, 2012). As applied behavior analysis grows in popularity and expands into new settings and domains, behavior analysts are increasingly confronted with behavioral repertoires dominated by persistent avoidance, excessive rule governance, and subsequent difficulty building effective, personally meaningful repertoires. ACT offers a theoretically consistent, empirically based approach to directly addressing this challenge by incorporating flexibility into assessment and intervention.

The ACT SIG was approved in 2018 with the mission to bring together professionals who have an interest in exploring and disseminating the application of ACT within the training and delivery of applied behavior analytic services. In the early months of the ACT SIG's existence, we focused first on establishing our board: Audrey Hoffman, Casey Clay, Courtney Tarbox, Emily K. Sandoz (president), Evelyn Gould (manager), Jonathan Tarbox, Josh Pritchard, and Tim Weil.

With the board in place, the SIG's initial focus in monthly meetings leading up to the annual convention was on clarifying primary objectives, developing policies for leadership structure and selection, piloting systems for board and member communications, and brainstorming strategies for member engagement.

The ABAI annual convention in Chicago was the first for the ACT SIG, and we participated fully. The board was represented at the SIG leadership training, we met new and potential members at the Expo, and we held our first business meeting. The business meeting focused on

introducing members to the policies and procedures we had established and getting feedback on how the SIG might support continued exploration of ACT in behavior analysis. Plans for the upcoming year focus on clarifying members' needs and optimizing board efforts to meet those needs. Anyone interested in joining the SIG can complete the registration form [here](#).

Autism SIG

BY JUSTIN B. LEAF

It has been an exciting year for the Autism Special Interest Group (SIG). We have added two new members to the Executive Council: Ian Melton and Brittany Melton. The Autism SIG Executive Council consists of Justin B. Leaf (president), Robert Ross (past president), Joe Cihon (secretary-treasurer), Mary Jane Weiss (board member-elect), Ian Melton (board member-elect), and Brittany Melton (board member-elect). Our most important activity this year was writing a paper titled "Evaluating Kupferstein's claims of the relationship of behavioral intervention to PTSS for individuals with autism" published in *Advances in Autism*. This article was a response to a study (also published in *Advances in Autism*) claiming that behavioral intervention causes high rates of posttraumatic stress for individuals diagnosed with autism. The Autism SIG Executive Council was concerned about these claims as well as the methodology. As *Advances in Autism* is an open-access journal, the Executive Council raised money to get our response published.

At the ABAI annual convention in San Diego we gave our First Annual Award for Outstanding Professional and Ethical Behavior to the California Association for Behavior Analysis (CalABA) board members.

We hope to continue to be productive and have several goals for the upcoming year. One is the continued development of a website to disseminate valuable information to our members. Second, we will hold a vote for new board members to help join in our endeavors. Third, we look forward to announcing awards that students and professionals can apply for at our annual meeting. Finally, we look forward to continuing to work closely with ABAI and the ABAI autism conference. We are optimistic that engaging in all of these activities will result in the improvement of behavioral intervention for individuals diagnosed with autism spectrum disorders. We hope that ABAI members will consider becoming members of the Autism SIG and help promote quality behavioral intervention for individuals diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder.

Behavioral Gerontology SIG

BY CLAUDIA DROSSEL

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

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

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

During the past year, the BGSIG has been busy furthering the dissemination of education, clinical training, and research in behavioral gerontology. Suggested strategies for workforce development resulting from an online planning session that had been facilitated by the Behavior Analyst Certification Board in 2018 were made available to members of the BGSIG online, for further comment and input. Outreach efforts, designed to grow interest in behavioral gerontology and provide links to relevant resources, are occurring via social media accounts (Facebook, www.facebook.com/groups/BGSIG/members/ and Twitter, <https://twitter.com/bgsig>). The closed Facebook group, administered by BGSIG officers, had 295 members and the Twitter account 554 followers in March of 2019. At the business meeting, the following topics were discussed: (a) revision of our website; (b) bylaws; (c) committees; (d) newsletter; (e) dues and membership—we now have a membership coordinator, Samantha Zohr, MS; (f) student presenter awards; and (g) annual financial report.

BGSIG membership benefits include access to a network of behavior analysts with shared interests in

aging and age-related issues and a subscription to the biannual newsletter, revised to include more education and research-related information for our members, particularly about member publications and grants.

Please contact the SIG's officers for more information:

cdrossel@emich.edu (chair); **drallisonilem@gmail.com** (treasurer); **hannasteinunn@simnet.is** (secretary); **christopher.walmsley@humboldt.edu** (web/newsletter editor); or **szohr@emich.edu** (membership coordinator).

Behavior Analysis and the Arts SIG

BY ABIGAIL B. CALKIN

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

Travis Thompson continues to maintain the Facebook page with at least weekly posts and commentary about artists, musicians, and writers as well as posts integrating the arts, artists, creativity, and behavior analysis. Readership is about 10 per post. See the BAARTs Facebook page: www.facebook.com/groups/303711403126912/.

The SIG was founded in 2014. It holds scheduled meetings at the annual ABAI convention. Discussions have included examining creativity within the behavioral framework, various articles, and plans for future publications, performances, or both. We look to expand member attendance at the annual meeting and welcome ideas for the proposed 2020 BAARTs evening.

Additional plans for the upcoming year include continued discussions of (1) additional presentations at the annual ABAI convention, (2) the connections between the arts and behavior analysis, (3) how to view any of the arts or a particular work of art from a behavior analytic perspective, (4) how many members are artists and in which fields, and (5) how many members have a strong interest in the various arts but are not artists per se. An additional idea for the future is learning who in ABAI are recognized artists—published creative writing authors (poetry, fiction, narrative or creative nonfiction, essay, etc.), artists who have been in juried art shows or sold a number of works (painting, drawing, architecture, sculpture, etc.), musicians (public performances, composers, conductors, etc.), and other categories. The criterion for this list is those who receive or have received pay for their work in the arts.

From June 2017 to April 2018, the SIG membership grew from 67 to 93, an increase of 28%. In the year since March 2018, the SIG membership has grown from 93 to 177, an increase of close to double.

At the 2018 ABAI convention, there were two presentations related to creativity and the arts. Marie Fletcher chaired a panel discussion called "Teaching

Curiosity: Discussion of Behavioral Approaches to Fostering Creativity and Philosophical Skills.” Francis Mechner gave a paper titled “Aesthetics, Animations, and Action!”

Whether an artist or an aficionado of the arts, to become a SIG member or if you are interested in learning more about the BAARTs SIG, please contact Dr. Calkin at abc@abigailcalkin.com. To join the Facebook group contact Dr. Calkin or Travis Thompson. The benefits of membership include receiving the excellent Facebook posts and viewing the expansion of behavior analysis into an area thought of as not related to or hard to relate to the analysis of human behavior. The combination of behavior analysis and its relationship to the arts is an exciting field.

Behavior Analysis and Selectionist Robotics SIG

BY RICHARD WEISSMAN

The Behavior Analysis and Selectionist Robotics (BASR) SIG focuses on the interrelationships between behavior analysis and selectionist robotics. This SIG has produced a corpus of electronic resources posted to a Yahoo Group that started on May 28, 2009, and a Facebook page that started in November 2009. Currently, there are 84 members in the Yahoo Group and 329 followers of the Facebook page. The BASR topics include anything members consider relevant to the overlap between behavior analysis and selectionist robotics. From a behavior analytic perspective, these overlaps can be classified in terms of the seven dimensions of behavior analysis, with applied and technological dimensions being the most frequently covered topics. There have been approximately 1,210 articles posted to the two sites since the SIG started. After 2014, the vast majority were posted on Facebook. Among the areas most thoroughly covered are where to go for training in the skills and fields associated with selectionist robotics including elements and composites comprising the skill sets, individual- and sector-level incentives for doing so, applications of behavior analysis within selectionist robotics, conceptual and generality issues in reinforcement learning,

and opportunities and crises anticipated to intensify as artificial intelligence technologies become more prevalent.

Three primary values for participating in this SIG are (1) training in a very lucrative, impactful, and expanding hybrid field, (2) creating a sustainable habitat for behavior analysts with skills in selectionist robotics to obtain employment by identifying opportunities in organizations, and (3) participating in research/action on developing behavioral solutions to the social implications of having so much of society's workforce rendered obsolete by emerging technologies. To make the website usable, there's currently an effort underway to create a clickable mindmap of the articles posted so far with associated classifiers so that information can be more readily obtained.


We are seeking new members to contribute to these sites, help organize the information, and benefit from that information over the coming year. Please join us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/Behavior-Analysis-and-Selectionist-Robotics-203462914195/) and Yahoo (<https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/behavioranalysisandrobotics/info>). Also, please post your nominations for officers on the Facebook page.

Behavior Analysis and Technology SIG

BY VICTOR RAMIREZ

The Behavior Analysis and Technology SIG was created with the mission to advance the science of behavior through the development, dissemination, and application of technology in basic and applied settings. Technology can refer to developments in behavioral science, as well as developments in computer science, information technology, and related fields. Technology may be defined as “...the use and knowledge of tools, techniques, systems or methods in order to solve a problem or serve some purpose” (Twyman, 2011).

This SIG aims to (1) serve as a scientific and professional reference and networking group for its members, (2) disseminate information to inform its membership and



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promote its mission to a wider audience, and (3) organize an annual meeting to provide a forum for discussion of the affairs of the SIG. In pursuit of the first aim, over the past year we have updated our website (<https://batechsig.com>) and created a Facebook page (www.facebook.com/groups/TheBATEchSIG) with more than 700 members. In service of aim two, we maintain a blog on our website and encourage Facebook members to post BA- and technology-related content and comment on posts.

Membership is free. Fill out a membership application, found here: <https://batechsig.com/membership/>.

Clinical SIG

BY EMILY THOMAS JOHNSON

ABAI's Clinical SIG was organized in 1979. In 2019, we celebrated 40 years! Active membership has been consistently maintained since. We are excited about the history of our field and its future direction.

Clinical behavior analysis (CBA) was once defined as the application of radical behaviorism (Skinner, 1953, 1974) to answer the most basic questions about outpatient adult behavior therapy (or any other type of psychotherapy) (Kohlenberg, Tsai, & Dougher, 1993). CBA involves the application of behavior analytic theory to the full range of human problems, many of which have traditionally been considered "mental health" issues. This application of behavioral theory has continued to expand to other areas of clinical services through the years. Clinical behavior analysts now contribute to research and treatment of mainstream clinical populations and problems, working in a variety of research and applied settings.

The Clinical SIG serves as home to those who have an interest in the clinical application of behavior analysis. A sample of domains in which clinical behavior analysts work includes the following:

- Anxiety disorders

- Autism spectrum disorder
- Behavioral gerontology
- Behavioral health
- Childhood disorders
- Cognitive rehabilitation
- Couples therapy
- Developmental disabilities
- Family therapy
- Forensic psychology (assessment and treatment)
- Habit disorders
- Health psychology
- Intellectual and developmental disabilities
- Mood disorders (e.g., depression)
- Serious mental illness (e.g., borderline personality disorder, schizophrenia)
- Substance abuse
- Trauma

From the field of CBA, multiple intervention modalities have developed and/or expanded, including the following:

- Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT)
- Behavioral Activation (BA)
- Behavior Therapy
- Community Reinforcement Approach and Family Training (CRAFT)
- Contingency Management (CM)
- Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT)
- Functional Analytic Psychotherapy (FAP)
- Integrative Behavioral Couples Therapy
- Problem-Solving Therapy
- Systematic Desensitization

The Clinical SIG does not require dues. We do accept donations for student-focused support initiatives. For 2018–2019, we have 374 members. While we are excited to have this number, we continue to be interested in growing in clinician, researcher, and student membership.

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

At the 2019 convention, the Clinical SIG presented information related to the SIG during the Expo and held a meeting to discuss work on several ongoing projects. We are collecting information from CBA academic training programs and research labs to promote workshops, conference events, and ongoing activities of interest to our membership. The Clinical SIG is also working to develop opportunities to recognize and support students and researchers focused on clinical interventions. Finally, we maintain a list of university-affiliated training opportunities in CBA that is available upon request or membership.

To be kept up to date on Clinical SIG activities and to access copies of the newsletter please check our listserv at http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/Clinical_SIG/. The SIG also maintains a Facebook group that may be joined by request: www.facebook.com/groups/abaclinicalsig/?ref=br_rs.

If you would like to join the Clinical SIG, please contact us using the link at www.abainternational.org/constituents/special-interests/special-interest-groups.aspx.

Dissemination of Behavior Analysis SIG

BY ASHLEY FIORILLI

In 2018–2019, the Dissemination of Behavior Analysis SIG successfully launched and maintained monthly CEU events, called Coffee & CEU. Our goal is to provide our members with free monthly Type II CE credits from folks who are doing fun, innovative, and exciting work with behavior analysis and, of course, dissemination within and outside our field. These presentations are live events, hosted on Saturday mornings. Some of our topics included public policy and ABA, technology and ABA, crisis intervention, and international dissemination.

In addition, we awarded two grants in 2018–2019. Winners are Autism Compassion Africa (ACA) and UncomfortableX. ACA is working in Ghana to disseminate behavior analysis and autism information. UncomfortableX has created a wonderful online community for folks to come together to discuss uncomfortable topics in our field, and they have also provided support for analysts to participate in political activism.



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Experimental Analysis of Human Behavior SIG

BY J. ADAM BENNETT

Report of 2017–2018 Activities

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

In October 2017, the SIG selected Dr. Michael Perone to receive the EAHB SIG Distinguished Contributions Award for 2018. Dr. Mark Galizio introduced Dr. Perone, summarizing his many contributions to the experimental analysis of human behavior. Dr. Perone then gave an award address reflecting on his career with an eye toward the future. The session was chaired by Dr. J. Adam Bennett.

In 2018, the SIG recognized the work of one emerging scholar with its annual Experimental Analysis of Human Behavior Student Paper Competition. Dr. Kathryn Kestner coordinated the competition. The award was presented to Charisse Ann Lantaya, a student in Caio Miguel's lab at California State University, for her work titled "An Evaluation of Successive Matching-to-Sample in the Development of Emergent Visual-Visual Stimulus Relations." Charisse gave a brief presentation, was presented with a certificate, and received reimbursement for her ABAI registration.

Finally, the SIG released its most recent issue of the *Experimental Analysis of Human Behavior Bulletin*, which can be downloaded at eahb.org.

Plans for 2019

Plans for the upcoming year will remain focused on promoting the experimental analysis of human behavior and basic behavioral research by three primary means: encouraging student research and scholarship in EAHB,

recognizing outstanding career-long contributions to the field, and maintaining an outlet for publishing human operant research.

The 2019 EAHB SIG Distinguished Contributions Award will be presented to Dr. Kate Saunders, Senior Scientist at the University of Kansas Institute for Life Span Studies. Dr. Carol Pilgrim will introduce Dr. Saunders and provide a summary of her many contributions to understanding human behavior. Subsequently, Dr. Saunders will give an award address reflecting on her research career.

The EAHB SIG continues to increase the size of its membership (currently 120 ABAI members) by (i) presenting a poster at the ABAI Expo, (ii) promoting the annual Distinguished Contributions Award address, and (iii) increasing the visibility of the *EAHB Bulletin*.

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

Health, Sport, and Fitness SIG

BY JULIE M. SLOWIAK

The mission of the Health, Sport, and Fitness Special Interest Group (HSF SIG) is to promote and support the practice and research of behavior analytic interventions to address human challenges in health, sport, and fitness. Our primary objective is to work in collaboration with other professionals to increase the number of behavior analysts working in the areas of health, sport, and fitness. We developed strategic goals to support the growth of this practice area focused on (1) visibility and awareness, (2) business skills and entrepreneurship, (3) credentialing and payment, (4) training and professional development, and (5) research and publication.

We are excited to report continued growth and interest in the application of behavior analysis to the



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areas of health, sport, and fitness. Over the past year, we took action to increase awareness and encourage those interested to join the SIG and engage with us at the ABAI annual convention and other conferences, as well as via email and social media. We continued to expand our members-only offerings, including new continuing education opportunities. We frequently encouraged members to submit their work related to health, sport, and fitness for presentation at the convention, and other regional and state conferences began regularly highlighting HSF-related research and events via our social media outlets.

In fall 2018, the Behavior Analyst Certification Board (BACB) invited our chair, Julie Slowiak, to participate in a strategic planning session to identify the barriers to increased workforce development in the health and fitness area and to generate an action plan to address those barriers. The final document was completed in January 2019, and the SIG officers used it to create strategic goals for implementation in the upcoming years.

At the ABAI 45th Annual Convention in Chicago, we were glad to see a variety of symposia and presentations related to behavioral medicine, self-management of health conditions, increasing physical activity, improving nutrition/eating habits, and enhancing athletic performance. The SIG also organized and hosted two running and two yoga events. Our goal is to increase visibility of the SIG at future conventions, possibly through organizing fun activities for attendees that focus on maintaining healthy habits while traveling and combating sedentary behavior while attending conferences.

At our annual business meeting, we presented an overview of the SIG's strategic plan and goals. Conversations among members continue to support the contention that several barriers and ethical considerations exist for those who desire to practice in the areas of health, sport, and fitness. In addition, opportunities to secure research and practicum experiences in academic programs is limited by the small number of ABA faculty with expertise or interest in health, sport, and fitness, as well as limited course offerings. Our focus will be to continue

to support those who are interested in practicing behavior analysis in these areas.

For more information, please go to our website (www.hsfsigabai.com) or Facebook page (facebook.com/ABAI.HSF.SIG/), or follow us on Instagram (www.instagram.com/hsf.abai) and Twitter (<https://twitter.com/hsfsig>). If you're interested in joining the SIG, you will find details on our website. Membership is \$10 per year for students and \$20 per year for professionals (we also offer a 2-year option). If you have any questions, want to contribute to our blog, or would like to take a more active role in the SIG, please email us at hsf.abai@gmail.com.

Multicultural SIG: Multicultural Alliance of Behavior Analysts

BY ELIZABETH HUGHES FONG

During the last year, MultiABA continued to train students in Japan through our course sequence. This was under the direction of our VCS coordinator, Kaori Nepo, Ph.D., BCBA-D. The course sequence added guest lecturers on various topics to supplement student learning. We will be graduating our last cohort in 2019, in anticipation of the course sequence being transferred to a university, per BACB requirements. We are thankful to our instructors: Kozue Matsuda, BCBA, Mari Uramoto, BCBA, and Yukie Kurumiya, BCBA, as well as our guest lecturers.

Our membership continued to grow, and our members engaged in variety of activities including presenting and publishing around topics in diversity. Our members self-reported speaking more than 26 languages, and are from all over the world.

In collaboration with professionals, experts, and student researchers, the board made the decision to update our name to the Culture and Diversity SIG, as well as to revise our mission in order to modernize our SIG and respond to current trends in the field.

We continue to have a subsection in *Behavior Analysis Research and Practice*, thanks to Dr. Duane Lundervold. We are interested in studies describing implicit to explicit bias related to diversity and how such bias affects professional



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

Over the next year we hope to become more active in research, education, and promotion of our mission. Our membership continues to grow, as do our continued efforts to connect and collaborate with other interest groups and organizations across cultures. We look forward to a successful 2019 and thank everyone for their support and interest in our organization.

Organizational Behavior Management Network SIG

BY BYRON WINE

Since 1982 the Organizational Behavior Management Network (OBMN) has been dedicated to promoting and enhancing education, research, and practice in OBM. The Network has nearly 350 members made up of students, practitioners, researchers, and others who are interested in OBM.

2018–2019 was a busy year for the SIG. Dr. Byron Wine assumed the role of executive director (ED). Byron was the president-elect and vacated that role when asked to assume the ED role. Adam Ventura and Dr. Barbara Bucklin both agreed to extend their president and past-president roles by an extra year to ensure a smooth transition. In addition, we were fortunate to welcome Dr. Sharlet Rafacz as the new president-elect.

The Network also welcomed our latest distinguished members at the 2018 business meeting held during the ABAI annual convention. Dr. Judith Komaki was awarded the OBM Network Lifetime Achievement Award. Dr. Heather McGee was awarded the Outstanding Contribution Award. We cannot overstate the contributions these two individuals have made to OBM over the years.

The board of directors and a host of volunteers continue to implement activities designed to disseminate and refine OBM. The webinars initiative has continued hosting several prominent OBM practitioners. We have had a positive reaction overall and plan to continue to provide these. The Network is also engaged in several activities designed to help refine and promote the field. We will report on the results of these efforts to members in the coming months.

OBMN will host its biannual conference August 9–10 in Richmond, VA. This will be a great opportunity to meet and learn from some of the most prominent OBM practitioners and researchers. The following speakers are already confirmed: Julie Smith, Scott Geller, Alicia Alvero,

Judy Agnew, Tim Ludwig, Laura Methot, and Lori Ludwig. Space is limited so please see the OBM Network website for registration details.

We welcome everyone interested in OBM to become members by visiting www.obmnetwork.com. Members get printed and online access to the *Journal of Organizational Behavior Management*, the OBMN newsletter, and webinars. If you have questions or comments, please feel free to contact Shannon Biagi at Shannon.biagi@gmail.com or Byron Wine at bwine@faisoncenter.org.

Positive Behavior Support SIG

BY JODIE SORACCO

The Positive Behavior Support Special Interest Group (PBS SIG) is dedicated to promoting research-based strategies that combine applied behavior analysis and biomedical science with person-centered values and systems change to increase quality of life and decrease problem behaviors. The PBS SIG's goal is to create awareness of how behavior analytic principles are applied in PBS activities and promote the use of PBS interventions in schools, communities, agencies, and homes and support practitioners in their use. PBS SIG members are engaged in experimental and applied analyses of behavior and interested in positive behavior support. The SIG was established in 2005 and has had four presidents since its inception.

The PBS SIG held its annual business meeting at the 2018 ABAI Annual Convention. Approximately 25 people attended. Combined with those expressing interest the previous year, the current stable membership of the PBS SIG is approximately 71, an increase of ~21 from the previous year. During the annual business meeting, the group received an overview of the PBS SIG. Much of the hour was open to 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 continue 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 focus 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. Additionally, the current president resigned after several years in the role. Nominations were opened to select a new president, and Jodie Soracco was elected.

As a result of the business meeting and additional surveys sent out following the meeting, the SIG identified areas of focus for 2018–2019.

Completed: Request and Facilitate More PBS Workshops

A proposal by SIG members was accepted for the 45th Annual Convention to conduct a panel discussion on the

impact of school-wide positive behavioral interventions and supports and applied behavioral analysis on educational systems. Additionally, a discussion of the relationship between ABA and PBS was conducted at the annual APBS conference in Washington, DC.

Started: Invite Implementation Science Scholars to Conduct Workshops

Since this need was established via social media and survey results, it will continue to be an ongoing discussion so as to develop a measurable goal.

Started: Explore Methods to Increase Social Media Presence to Connect Resources

The SIG participated in the summer 2018 ABA Readathon and hosted a SIG Power Hour. The SIG invited participants to read “Commentary: Evolution of Positive Behavior Support and Future Directions” (Knoster, 2018).

Additionally, the SIG promoted the Behavior Analysts for Positive Behavior Support Facebook page. An email was sent to the SIG listserv encouraging members to join a Facebook group created by several current members. Currently there are 538 members with an active presence.

To grow and maintain the PBS SIG, it will be essential for members to identify a more current understanding of its purpose and what benefits are expected. Thus, at this year’s business meeting, the PBS SIG will concentrate on identifying shared values and what is important to the group in accomplishing them, clarity of roles (focus on balance of work effort among members) and setting measurable short- and long-term goals.

Anyone interested in behavior analysis and positive behavior support is welcome to join the SIG. To become involved, email Jodie Soracco at jodie@unr.edu.

Rehabilitation and Independent Living SIG

BY CHRIS PERSEL

The Rehabilitation and Independent Living Special Interest Group (RaIL SIG), established in 1981, continued to support the need to expand the impact of behavior analysis in the field of rehabilitation, neurorehabilitation, and related areas. Patients with acquired brain injuries or other neurological disabilities require behavior analysts to integrate programming in settings with multidisciplinary teams and with individuals dealing with complex related medical conditions.

This SIG continues to be an opportunity for rehabilitation treatment professionals, including BCBAs, who are involved in brain injury rehabilitation to gather and compare thoughts, brainstorm ideas, and gather support for the field. The RaIL SIG has had members from states across the US and from India, Canada, and Ireland. After many amazing meetings and discussions last year, the SIG developed multiple plans to assist in expanding the understanding of brain injury and the need for behavior services. However, as in past years, time constraints have limited the ability to accomplish the goals set at these meetings. With renewed energy from the annual conference and regional meetings, there is hope to move the group agenda forward.

The RaIL SIG members participated in a planning project with the BACB to develop a long-term action plan for growing the field of behavior analysis in acquired brain injury. The documented plan outlined numerous areas of concern and challenges facing this focus area. Key points needed to develop the field include increasing the number of faculty mentors and related opportunities to provide education on brain injury to behavior analysis students and collaborate on research projects. Related is the need for practical training for students, including internship

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opportunities and partnerships between current treatment programs and BCBA verified practicum programs. Increasing the visibility and recognition of behavior analysis in neurorehabilitation is essential to further growth. The SIG has outlined plans to present material and research not just to ABA conferences but expand to other related professional conferences to promote the expansion of services. This concept seems to have caught on; for example, a large rehabilitation hospital in Colorado recently hired a full-time BCBA as part of their treatment team. This is rare in hospital settings and indicates a recognized need. It is the hope that through the efforts of SIG members and others, more job opportunities like this begin to open up, allowing BCBAs to demonstrate their positive impact. Finally, the action plan set goals for developing research in behavior interventions with brain injured patients. Current review is underway through the Brain Injury Association of America to develop behavior guidelines for this population; however, the body of research is very limited, making the process challenging. More research is needed desperately.

The RaIL SIG has continued to welcome members from diverse backgrounds, including physicians, brain injury professionals, students, and concerned family members. The power of that diversity is evident in lively discussions, informative exchanges of information, and long-standing relationships that provide much-needed support. Members are encouraged to share articles, program ideas, and professional experiences. Members of the RaIL SIG must be part of the solution. Growth of the RaIL SIG has come from current members networking with their peers and having the courage to step up to significant challenges this treatment population presents.

Visit the SIG Facebook page and join/like: www.facebook.com/pages/ABA-Rehab-Special-Interest-Group/118243448217580. Individuals can join the SIG any time by sending a message through the Facebook page to the chair, Chris Persel, or attending the next convention SIG business meeting.

SIG Español

BY MAPY CHAVEZ

Spanish

Desde el 2003, el SIG (Spanish Internacional Group) viene trabajando en crear una comunidad para aquellos miembros de ABAI quienes hablan español, ya fuera como primera lengua o como lengua adicional, así como a la comunidad de habla hispana en general. Nuestra membresía a continuado creciendo, y anticipamos seguirá creciendo. Nuestro planes para el futuro incluyen:

- Traer el TRACK en Español nuevamente a ABAI 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 ABAI 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 la ABAI a que presenten comunicaciones específicas o líneas globales de investigación, así como se comuniquen entre ustedes para organizar diferentes simposios.
- Finalmente, continuar la reunión anual del SIG Español durante la Convención de ABAI. Recuerden que todos están invitados (miembros y no miembros).

Realizamos una invitación a todos los miembros de ABAI quienes hablan español a unirse a nosotros. Si tienen alguna pregunta, o necesitan información adicional, pueden contactar a Mapy Chávez a mapy.chavez@alcanzando.org.pe.

English translation

Since 2003, the Spanish SIG has been working to create a community for those ABAI members who speak Spanish, either as a first language or as an additional language, as well as for the Spanish-speaking community in general. Our membership is growing, and we anticipate it will continue to grow. Our plans for the future include the following:

- Bring the Spanish track back to ABAI, 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 Spanish-speaking countries, more and more members of ABAI and the Spanish 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 ABAI to present specific communications or global lines of research, as well as communicate with each other to organize symposia.
- Finally, continue the annual meeting of the Spanish SIG during the ABAI convention. Remember that everyone is invited (members and nonmembers).

We make an invitation to all ABAI members who speak Spanish to join us. If you have any questions, or need additional information, contact Mapy Chávez at mapy.

chavez@alcanzando.org.pe.

Standard Celeration Society

BY SCS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Standard Celeration Society (SCS) became an ABAI SIG in 1995. Its mission is to uphold and advance the defining features and conventions of the standard celeration chart. The SCS aims to be a friendly and enduring forum, supporting application and dissemination of standard celeration charting across an expanding range of practitioners and other stakeholders. The values of the SCS that guide behavior in fulfilling the mission include acknowledgement and appreciation of the founding principles and applications of our science (i.e., standing on the shoulders of giants), generosity in our interactions with others, driving and embracing change, social beneficence, commitment to evidence-based practice, and having fun. Since 2015, the SCS has employed an organizational structure composed of a board of directors and volunteer leadership teams that actively work toward implementing new and maintaining current initiatives designed to further the organization's mission.

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

Current priority initiatives include the redesign of our website (www.celeration.org). While some components of the new website are already in place, we are completing the development of several other features, including a redesigned member gateway, free continuing education opportunities for members, publication resources, and training program locations for students interested in academic training, internships, and externships, among others. SCS membership fees are very reasonable and include discounted rates to our conference each year, access to the historical publication database of the *Journal of Precision Teaching and Celeration*, and soon to be announced web-based continuing education events (annual fees: sustaining, \$100; full, \$50; student, \$25). Along with our redesigned website, there is an initiative to highlight our organization's entrepreneurial members such that their skills, insights, and strategies developed over decades of

business development in the area of precision teaching can be made available to others looking to start their own businesses. This is an exciting opportunity to become involved with the SCS, as this organization has a long history of entrepreneurs creating successful operations that provide clinical/educational services outside the mainstream of applied behavior analysis.

Finally, as in many prior years, new and seasoned precision teachers gathered to learn and share research and clinical data at the SCS conference in November 2018. The society was honored to have Dr. Aubrey Daniels, Dr. Cathy Watkins, and Surya Vanka as keynote speakers along with an array of invited addresses, panels, paper symposia, and a symposium and poster session. The conference took place in Seattle, WA. This year, we celebrate our 32nd Annual International Precision Teaching Conference November 7–9 in St. Petersburg, FL, at the Tradewinds Resort. Please visit www.celeration.org for more information regarding the conference. The SCS eagerly welcomes new charters and precision teachers into our community. This nurturing group is full of brilliant and seasoned professionals who are always willing to offer advice or mentorship. Simply become a member and see the opportunities accelerate!

Theoretical, Philosophical, and Conceptual Issues SIG

BY TYLER S. GLASSFORD

The Theoretical, Philosophical, and Conceptual Issues Special Interest Group (TPC SIG) has spent another year seeking to encourage behaviorists to engage with theory. The TPC SIG is an accepting and encompassing group and continues 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 (www.reddit.com/r/TheoreticalIssuesSIG) that serves as our primary outlet for discussion and debate, though we still maintain a listserv.

The sub-Reddit is kept fresh by posting new discussion topics regularly that cover a variety of aspects of the theory of behavior. The SIG continues to extend an open invitation to anyone interested in contributing to discussions surrounding behavior analysis. Such aspects included game theory, pragmatism, self-management, resurgence, verbal behavior, and much more. The SIG views the sub-Reddit as a wonderful opportunity to

develop interest in disseminating and contributing to behavioral theory. 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.

This past year the TPC SIG has sought to increase its presence at the annual convention. Members submitted multiple symposia featuring discussions about the metaphysical aspects of behavior analysis. The SIG also held an annual meeting at the convention and discussed the listserv, the sub-Reddit, and positions for the upcoming year. The SIG encourages anyone interested to attend and get involved in the positions of the TPC SIG.

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. ❖

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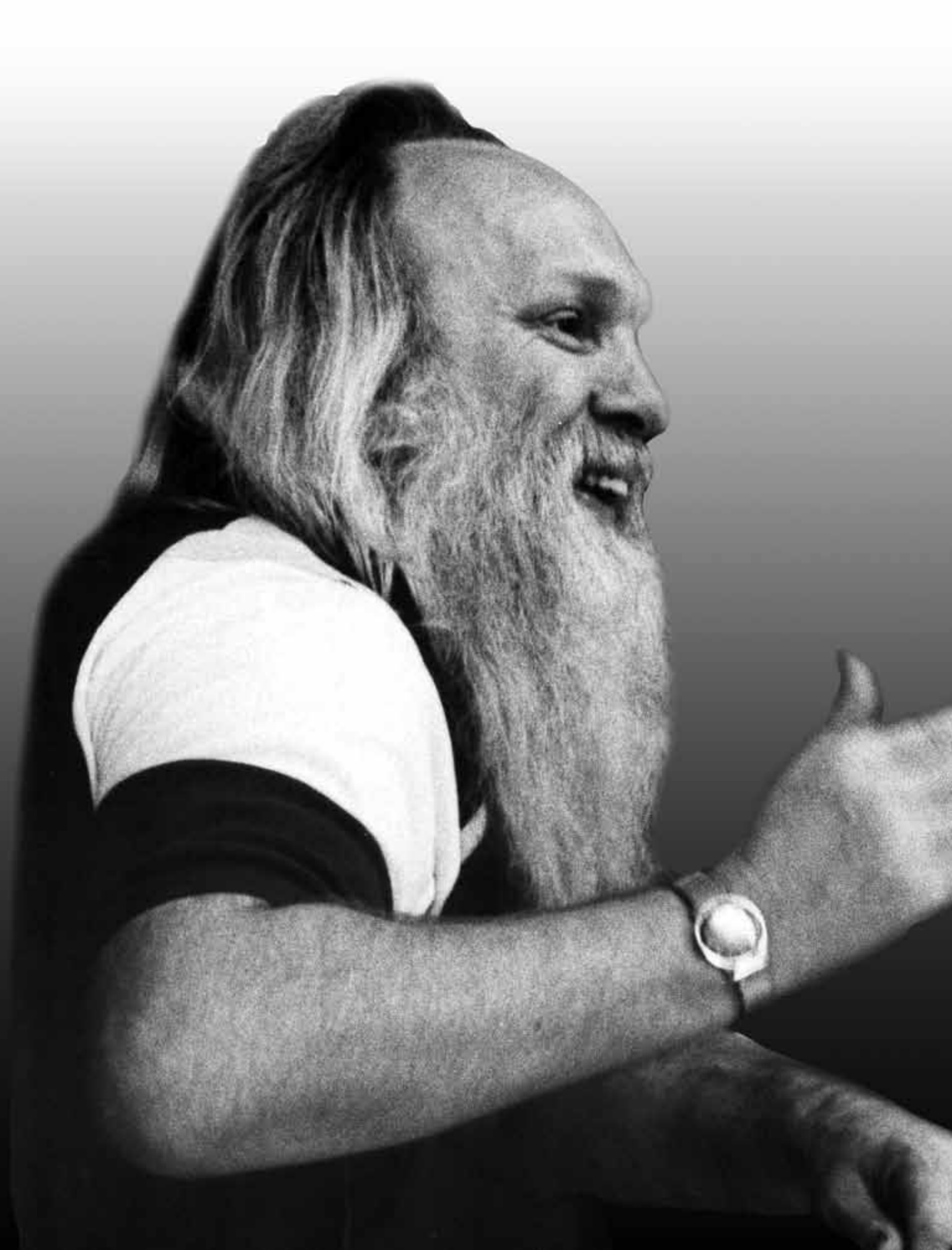
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Remembering Jerry Mertens

BY RICHARD W. MALOTT

**“I was a welfare kid. (I am so old the term “welfare,” was called “relief” as I grew up.) I grew up on “relief” all the way through high school. In 1954, I graduated from high school with no intention of going to college. In 1965, I was hired as a psychology faculty member at St. Cloud State. There was a lot of help in those 11 years to a ‘less fortunate’ kid (me). I was one who needed help with many deficits in my repertoire in the worst way.”
— Jerry Mertens**

Gerald (Jerry) Mertens died on January 11, 2019. Jerry was not a scholar, not a researcher; he had an MA from the University of Mississippi, and then he was a teacher at Saint Cloud State University (SCSU). He taught there for 53 years, from 1965–2018, the longest serving faculty member at Saint Cloud. But Jerry was also the founder of ABAI. If there’d been no Jerry Mertens, there’d have been no ABAI; and you wouldn’t be a member of this wonderful organization.

He loved the Amazing Randi, a professional debunker, almost as much as he loved the amazing B. F. Skinner. Jerry, and his grandchildren Noah, Jonah, and Hannah, regularly put on a magic show at Western Michigan University (WMU) for me and my BATS grad students. Students were charged with figuring out how the 'magic' works, and winners (the best two guessers) got a free dinner at a nice restaurant at the next ABAI conference.

"His infectious enthusiasm and devotion to student development was definitely a large factor in my entry into the field."

— Matt Miller

The following paragraphs are a mild paraphrase/plagiarization of Marge Peterson/Vaughn's *The Midwestern Association of Behavior Analysis: Past, Present, Future*, published in the first issue of *The Behavior Analyst*: In 1969, Jerry chaired a two-day session at the Midwestern Psychological Association (MPA), where the topic shifted from behavior analysis to improving the behavioral orientation in the MPA. And in 1971, Jerry chaired a full day's program on behavioral education methodology at MPA, but this time the topic shifted to organizing a behavioral group in the Midwest.

Then Jerry got behaviorists Jim Dinsmoor elected as a member of the MPA Council and Nate Azrin as president in 1973, and Sid Bijou as a council member in 1974. Also in 1974, Izzy Goldiamond got the Billing's Hospital Auditorium at the University of Chicago, where Jerry could hold what I consider the first meeting of ABAI, though it was initially called the Midwest Society of the Experimental Analysis of Behavior, until Vic Laties suggested it be changed, and so, for a while, we became the Midwestern Experimental Analysis of Behavior Group. However, at the meeting we again changed our name; this time we became the Midwestern Analysis of Behavior Association (MABA). Jerry was appointed the General Coordinator of our meeting for 1975, which was to be held concurrently with MPA, in Chicago.

In addition, the Organizational Committee was formed. Its goal continued to be to get behavior analysis accepted within MPA, which included getting a formal behavior analysis position on the MPA Program Committee, but the best MPA would offer was a position for a "maze psychologist." To this, our Neil Kent replied, "I don't know anyone who still calls anybody a 'maze psychologist.'"

Then Jerry's undergrad protégée, Marge Peterson, graduated from SCSU and entered WMU's grad program, which gave Jerry confidence to delegate much of the preparation of the 1975 MABA conference to Neil and the WMU crew. And while Jerry was desperately trying

to get financial support for MABA, Neil implemented the time-honored procedure of giving Marge academic credit, rather than dollars, for putting in many hard-working hours playing a crucial role in the establishment of MABA (which would later become ABAI). The conference was to be held in May, the same time as MPA, in the Blackstone Hotel, just across a narrow street from the Hilton, the MPA hotel. In the late fall of '74, Neil and Marge were hoping MABA might get 200 attendees, but by early '75, the onslaught of papers being submitted caused them to raise their hopes to 500 attendees.

Then, in the summer of 1975, Jerry took a group of his Road Scholars on his annual bus tour of behavioral centers around the country, where he also met with behavior analysts, confirming invited speakers, getting titles of their talks, and finding chairs for the presentations. A lot of last-minute hustles. But at our conference, we had 95 papers, 26 symposia, 14 workshops, 20 invited speakers, and 1,000 people in attendance!

"Rest in peace my dear mentor! I felt so lucky and honored to be your student and TA at SCSU from 2012–14. You were the most important person guiding me to this field. I learned so much from you, not just technical things, but also how to be a responsible and helpful professional. I remember when I first became your TA, I was frequently late to our meetings. You were very angry, and told me, 'If you are not punctual, and always late, you will never be successful, you won't get into a master's program, and you should just go back to China.' Hearing that was very aversive, but it changed my behavior. I hope what I am currently doing in China is what you expect from me—helping others have the best life possible."

— Siqi Xie

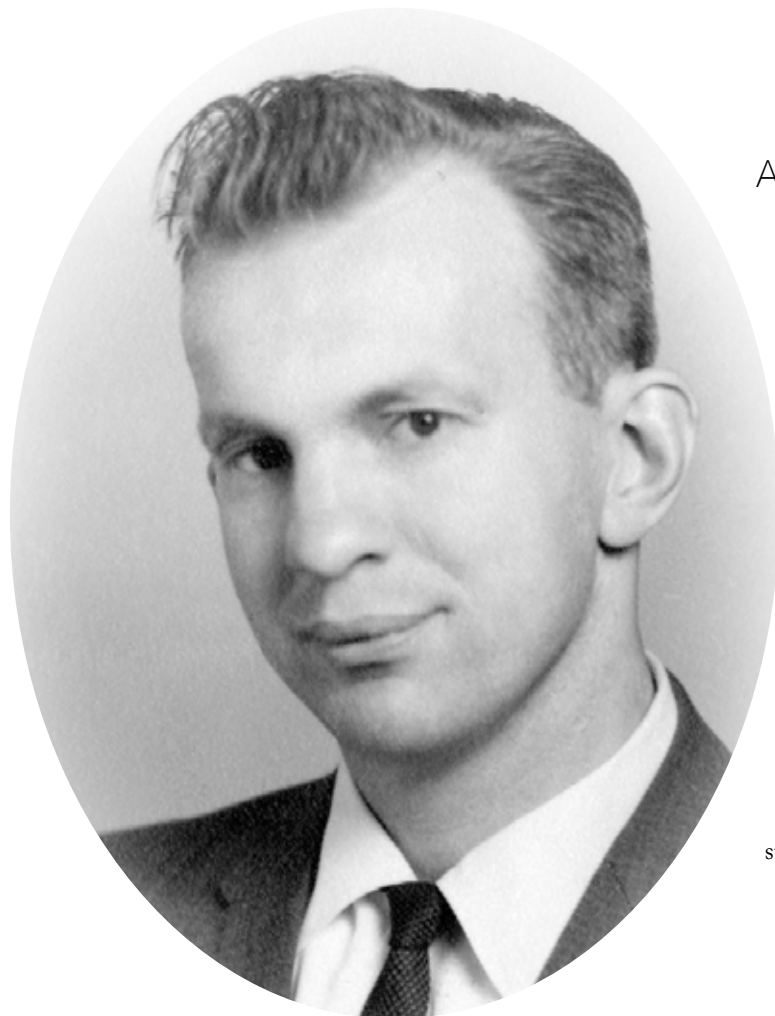
In addition to playing a major role in the preparation for our 1975 MABA conference, Jerry also developed the first draft of our by-laws and objectives. But then, on the last day of the conference, there was the meeting of the Organizational Committee: They decided to cut loose from MPA. MABA would meet when and where we chose, independent of MPA. But that was completely contrary to Jerry's rationale for establishing MABA, which was to influence MPA, to get them to be more accepting of behavior analysis and the research done by behavior analysts, not to establish a completely separate organization; so Jerry stormed out of the first or second

pre-ABAI conference (depending on who's counting)—he stormed out of his own conference, vowing never to return, but also vowing not to abandon his original goal of making MPA hospitable to behavior analysis and behavior analysts. And, indeed, Jerry, along with me and a few others, did struggle to continue working toward softening up MPA; after all, he'd gotten a behavior analyst as president and a couple more on the board. We could just build from there. But as the brilliant Don Baer later commented, it's one thing to pull off a revolution; but watch out for the counter revolution. Nate was the first and last behavior analyst to be president of MPA. And after a few years of struggling, Jerry finally gave up. But more importantly, and what I admire Jerry most for, is that after a few years of voicing concern about how MABA had corrupted its original mission, he returned to our fold, becoming an active member and bringing his undergrad students with him. Not only that, but he returned, every year, dressed in a pigeon suit passing out M&Ms to help ABAI members get through the tedium of standing in the registration lines at the beginning of conferences.

"I took the last 'Psychology Tour' in the early 2000s with Jerry and Sylvia. It was an incredible experience, and Jerry had an incredible influence on me. We were so happy to see him and his family last summer in Salem, and will definitely miss him. Peace always to Jerry!"

— Darlene Crone-Todd and Barrie Todd

Even if Jerry hadn't played a key role in the beginning of MABA, I mean ABA, I mean ABAI (what's next?), he did play a major role in spreading the behavior analysis word, taking a bus load of students on a tour of behavior analysis centers every summer, running an undergrad behavior analysis training program at SCSU, and sending his graduates to behavior analysis grad programs around the country. Though many of you may never have heard of him, Jerry was a major force in the field. ❖



Additional Links and References

You should read Marge's article on the early history of ABAI, not only to learn more about Jerry but also to learn more about ABAI and how to start a really cool organization, from scratch and with no scratch: Peterson, M. E. (1978). The Midwestern Association of Behavior Analysis: Past, present, puture. *The Behavior Analyst*, 3-15.

You should also check out Jerry's own self-written obituary—pure Jerry Mertens: www.legacy.com/obituaries/SCTimes/obituary.aspx?page=lifestory&id=191257922

And if you'd like to see Jerry in action, here's a video we shot of him doing his magic and lecturing to my WMU grad students: <https://vimeo.com/27278411>

14TH ANNUAL

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10TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Stockholm

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INVITED SPEAKER PREVIEW

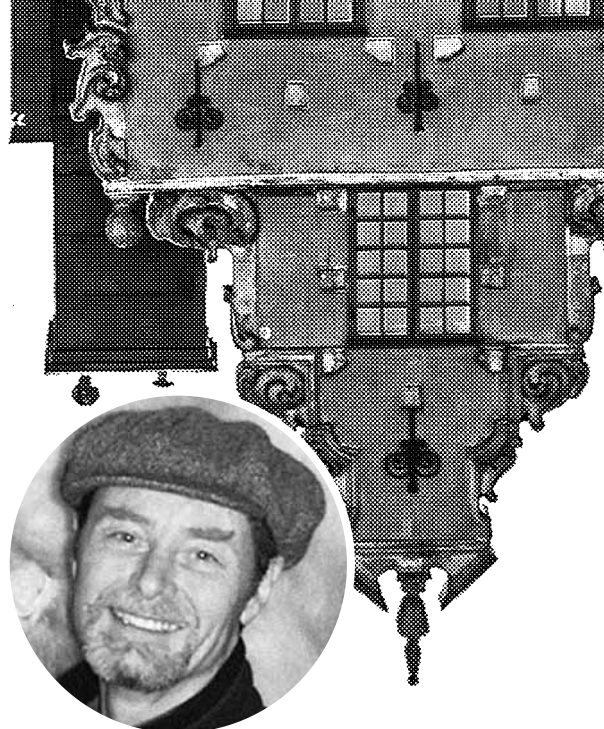
We are delighted to host our 10th International Conference in Stockholm, Sweden. Late September is a great time to visit Stockholm for a conference that will feature over 90 hours of programming, including 13 invited sessions. We are planning an event that will be global and expansive and include presentations on autism, addiction, ACT, mindfulness, ethics, telehealth, parent training, staff training, social skills, and more.

There will also be a poster session with over 100 posters from around the world. Continuing education credits will be available for many sessions.

The conference will be at the Stockholm Waterfront Congress Centre—a venue that offers a comfortable layout and is across the street from our headquarters hotel, the Radisson Blu Waterfront Hotel.

There are about 45 restaurants less than a mile away, and a metro station at the main entrance. A 15-minute walk will take attendees to Old Town and Stortorget Plaza. A 15–20-minute metro ride can transport you to other attractions, such as the Museum of Modern Art, Skansen (an open-air museum representing five centuries of Swedish history), the Vasa Museum (a preserved seventeenth-century ship), and much more.

We are excited about the lineup of invited presenters joining us in Stockholm, who represent some of the brightest minds in behavior analysis from around the world. The 10th International Conference will feature much more beyond the invited track, including additional panels, symposia, posters, a special welcome reception, and more. We encourage you to review the invited presentation summaries on the following pages and check out the entire online program (www.abainternational.org/events/international-2019) when making your plans. See you in Stockholm!



Peter Killeen: Noble Aspirations

The 10th International Conference takes place in a country that regularly celebrates noble achievements—recognizing them every year with prizes to individuals in diverse fields who have “conferred the greatest benefit on mankind”.

The first year’s laureates included William Röntgen, the discoverer of x-rays; Emil von Behring, developer of an anti-toxin for the deadly disease of diphtheria; and Henri Dunant, founder of the Red Cross Movement and Geneva Convention. None of the ensuing benefits would have materialized if each of these men had not had aspirations and focused their energies on achieving them. This presentation will ask what are the aspirations of behavior analysts and how they might make progress toward achieving them. Each of the laureates listed above provide a model for different kinds of aspiration. Röntgen, the basic scientist, was studying very different phenomena when he made his life-saving discovery. von Behring, the applied scientist, was persistently focused on the problem of one deadly disease. Dunant, the social activist, had a vision of a world of nurturance, peace, and brotherhood. These kinds of themes are not only present in, but proclaimed by ABAL, whose mission is to “contribute to the well-being of society” through basic, translational, and applied research, and practice. Dr. Killeen shall draw out examples of such visions relevant to this audience, ask for help in formulating others, and describe behaviors that will help to nurture them. The goal of this opening lecture is to leave the audience with one or more well-articulated aspirations that they may continue to develop and carry back to workplaces, classrooms, labs, and daily life.

Eva Bertilsson: Cooperative Animal Care Using Response Contingent Stimulus Presentation

Animal welfare is a growing concern in our society, and the principles and procedures from applied behavior analysis are widely used by animal caretakers in their effort to deliver the best possible care. Service providers in the animal care sector are continually evolving their procedures and protocols, with a growing focus on enhancing the non-human individual's control over its situation. While it is not entirely possible to gain informed consent in its true sense from our animal participants, it is still worthwhile to strive in that direction. Strategies using response contingent stimulus presentation (sometimes referred to as "start button behaviors") are one example of this effort, allowing the animal to direct the pace and progress of a procedure. This presentation will provide a variety of examples where response contingent stimulus presentation has been used in settings as diverse as service dog training, noise desensitization, and cooperative veterinary care. Training protocols are described, and foundations are provided for further reflections and scientific inquiries.



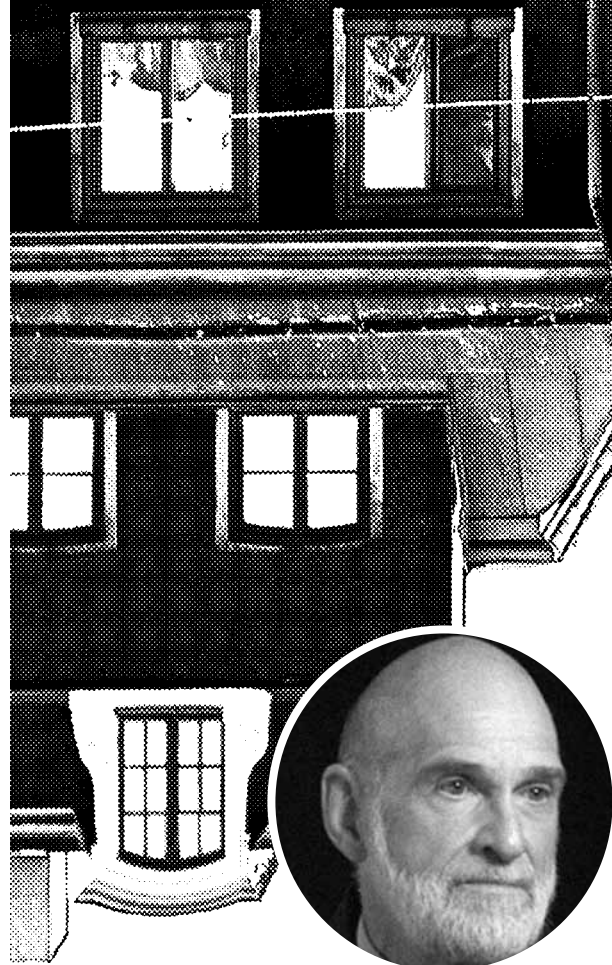
Dermot Barnes-Holmes: An Updated Version of Relational Frame Theory and How it Connects More Directly With the Concerns of Applied Behavior Analysis

The seminal research on equivalence relations by Sidman (1994) and colleagues, which commenced in the early 1970s, led in the mid-1980s to the development of relational frame theory (RFT; Hayes, Barnes-Holmes, & Roche, 2001). In principle, the theory aimed to provide a modern behavior-analytic account of human language and cognition, but it had a relatively limited impact on language teaching and training programs within applied behavior analysis. Although there are likely many reasons for this lack of impact, this talk will argue that one of the primary problems was the absence of a readily accessible systematic framework for presenting the key elements of the theory itself. Recently, however, a systematic framework has begun to evolve, which is playing a key role in updating RFT. Critically, this framework appears to have the potential to connect the theory more directly to the concerns of applied behavior analysts who are focused on improving the language and cognitive abilities of their client populations. This new systematization of RFT is known as the hyper-dimensional multi-level (HDML) framework. The key elements of the HDML, for the purposes of language/cognitive training, involve 20 intersections between five levels of relational development (mutual entailing; relational framing; relational networking; relating relations; and relating relational networks), which vary along four contextual dimensions (coherence; complexity; derivation; and flexibility). The lecture will describe the HDML framework as a type of 'periodic table' for conceptualizing language/cognitive deficits and how to approach their remediation. Relevant concrete examples of recent uses of the HDML in this regard will be provided.



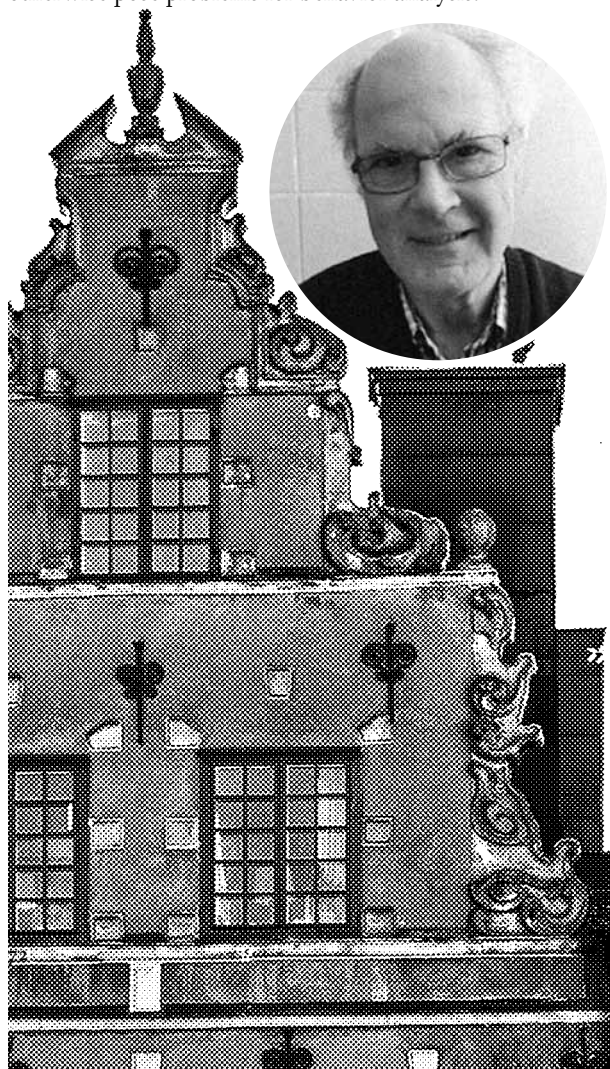
Julian Leslie: The Relevance of Metaphysics to Behavior Analysis

Behavior analysis takes a natural science approach to human and animal behavior. Some basic tenets are widely agreed in the field but, arguably, some other assumptions are implicit in our approach and, if unexamined, may impair progress. Some of these are in the realm of metaphysics, that which is known *a priori*, and what can be deduced from what is so known. There is a strong Western philosophical tradition of naturalism and realism since the time of David Hume and these principles are embedded in the metaphysics of science and thus have been imported into behavior analysis. However, 20th-century American philosopher, Rorty suggests that these are not necessary truths, but conventions of that philosophical tradition. Alternatively, we can adopt metaphysical assumptions that do not entail the familiar problems of dualism. Additionally, we have been constrained by some assumptions made by Skinner about the operant conditioning process which again are not necessary and may need to be discarded. Revising our metaphysical and theoretical assumptions, while retaining core principles that define behavior analysis, may enable us not only to resolve debates about private events, but also to provide accounts of interesting findings on animal cognition that otherwise pose problems for behavior analysis.



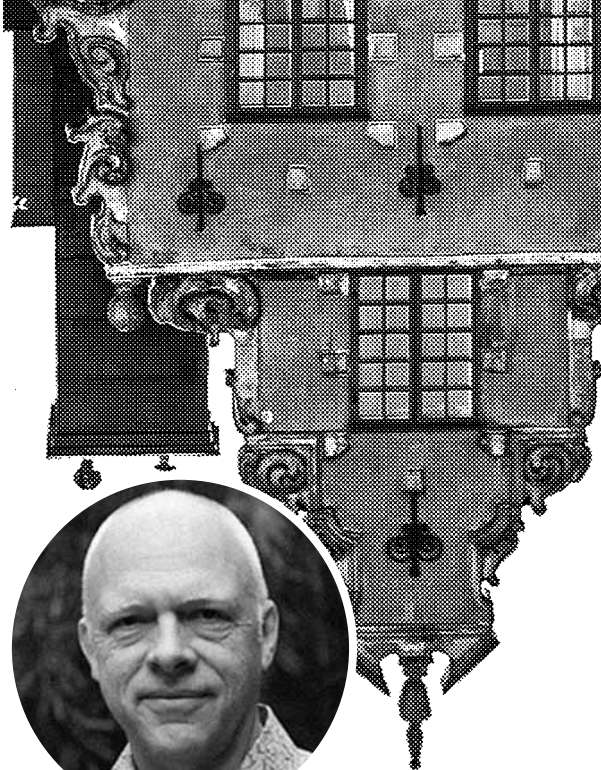
R. Douglas Greer: How Children Develop Naming and How This Development Sets Life's Prognosis

Bidirectional naming (BiN) developmental research has advanced our understanding about how children come to learn the names of things incidentally from experiences and how this leads to continuous expansion of new controlling stimuli. Interventions are available that allow the instantiation of BiN when children are missing the relevant stimulus control (i.e., children with autism, those raised in disenfranchised environments, and second language learners). Several types have been identified including the simultaneous acquisition of: actions, additional sounds, learning under exclusion conditions, and different effects of familiar and unfamiliar novel visual stimuli. We are learning how BiN in one language affects: bilingual children's responses in each language, monolingual children and adult response to tests of BiN in an unfamiliar language, and the role of echoic precision in derived naming in an unfamiliar language. Moreover, the types of BiN that are part of children's verbal developmental repertoire, at any given point in stimulus control development, determine what can be taught/not taught, what can be learned/not learned from observation, the types of learn unit presentations that are most effective, and the relations between BiN and other relational responding.



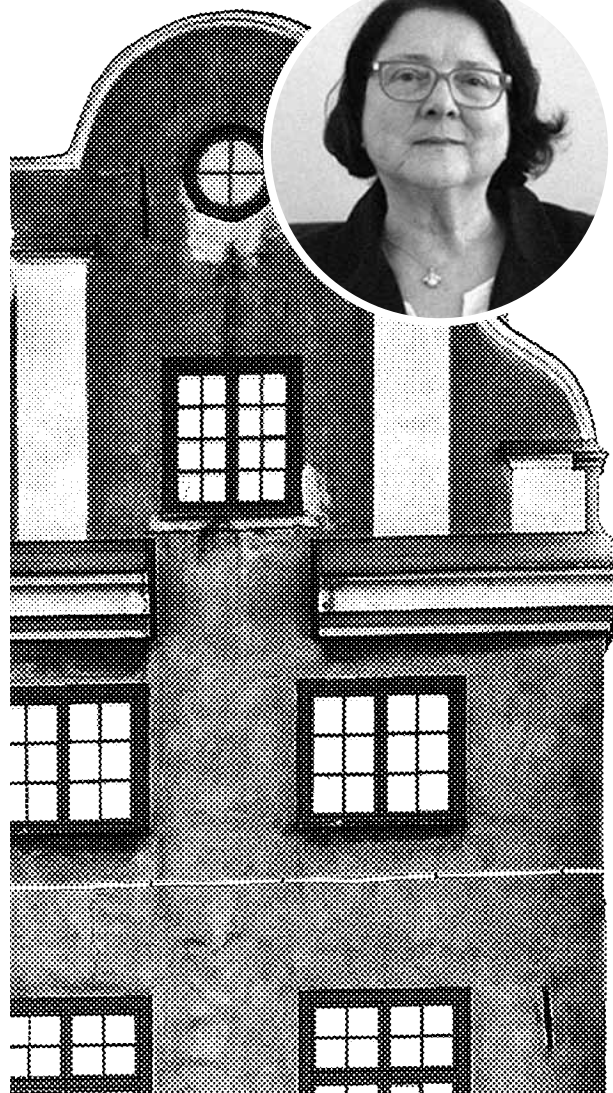
Deisy de Souza: From Basic Research to Large-Scale Dissemination of a Behaviorally Oriented Reading Curriculum

This presentation will focus on the results of the joint efforts of a research team in developing instructional procedures, derived from behaviorally oriented basic research, for teaching rudimentary reading and writing skills. Curriculum development was based on the concepts of verbal operants (B. F. Skinner), on the stimulus equivalence paradigm (Murray Sidman), and on the principles of the Personalized System of Instruction (Fred Keller). The procedures and contents were organized in a comprehensive curriculum, currently available online for use in school and therapeutic settings. The research program to validate the curriculum involved basic science to elucidate key behavioral processes, translational science to study these processes under controlled laboratory conditions, and applied studies in the classroom to verify whether the findings of the translational program could be sustained in less controlled conditions. The delivery of the curriculum through public schools gradually grew in scale, reaching progressively larger samples of learners. Current investigations focus on the logistics to transfer the management of the teaching tools to the school system.



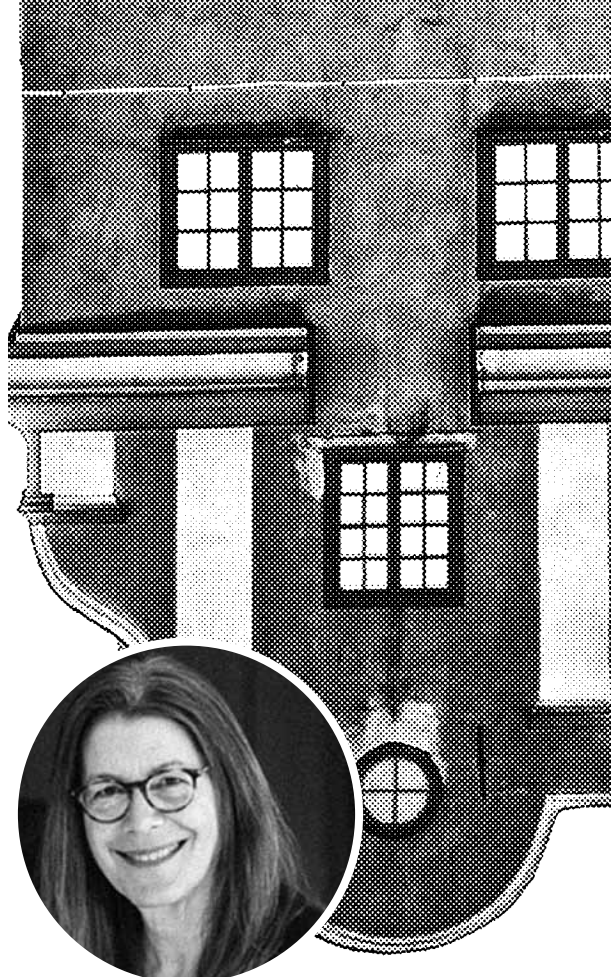
Iver Iversen: Selection and Creation Processes in Operant Acquisition of Different Response Units From Lever Pressing to Brain Activity

Acquisition of operant behavior customarily takes place within a few minutes for standard response units such as brief lever presses, and the process of operant acquisition is often referred to as “simple.” However, research shows that acquisition may consist of several different processes operating at different times within the overall acquisition process. Experiments will illustrate the different processes when acquisition is “slowed down” by making response units more complex by adding dimensional requirements such as duration, direction, distance, or speed to the response. Examples will range from lever presses that are studied in duration and direction, through wheel running studied as length, direction, and speed of individual run bouts, and sequences of different responses. Acquisition of complex response units is also demonstrated in chimpanzees drawing in different directions with a finger on a monitor and further illustrated for the human EEG (electroencephalogram) where different EEG patterns can be brought under stimulus control. In operant acquisition, already existing responses can be selected and modified, and non-existing responses can be created by reinforcement contingencies. The defined response unit and the arranged contingencies of reinforcement are crucial variables in acquisition of operant behavior. The distinction between response selection and response creation is not always heeded in the literature, but has implications for both experimental and applied research.



Magnus Johansson: PAX Good Behavior Game: Cultural Adaption and Pilot Trial in Sweden

The Good Behavior Game (GBG) has decades of research in classrooms with positive short-term and long-term effects impacting a broad range of outcomes, such as reduced behavioral problems, preventing substance abuse and improving educational attainment (Kellam et al., 2011). GBG has its roots in the behavior analytic tradition (Barrish, Saunders & Wolf, 1969) and PAX GBG (e.g., Streimann et al., 2017) has evolved by increased inclusion of the students as well as adding several evidence-based kernels (Embry & Biglan, 2008) to create a set of tools for teachers to use in their everyday classroom activities within the regular school curriculum. Adapting PAX GBG, which was created in the USA, to accommodate the cultural differences in Swedish schools was an important undertaking before conducting a pilot trial. This presentation will detail the process of cultural adaption and its outcomes, as well as describe the application and co-dependence of several of the evidence-based kernels included in PAX GBG. Implementation strategy, adherence, and future recommendations based on experiences from the pilot trial will also be discussed. The pilot trial was a within-subjects design, with 14 classrooms in grades 1-2. Outcomes were assessed before the intervention and after five months, using classroom level observations by independent observers, as well as teachers and parents filling out Strength and Difficulties Questionnaires for the participating students. Results showed large effects on both observations and teacher's SDQ-ratings. Uniquely, this trial also investigated teachers' perceived stress, indicating a very large decrease in stress levels.



Susan Friedman: Learning Solutions: Improving Zoo-Animal Welfare With ABA

ABA principles, procedures and ethical standards are directly relevant to improving the welfare of zoo animals. A basic internet course was developed to improve ABA knowledge and skills of zoo keepers, veterinarians, and other animal professionals. In this presentation, the course and three case-studies of ABA interventions implemented by zoo keepers will be briefly described: reducing self-injury with an elephant, increasing time in the visitor viewing area with a rhinoceros, and replacing rough handling of a baby orangutan by a surrogate orangutan mother.



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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.

August

Arkansas ABA Fourth Annual Conference and Workshop

August 29–30
Fayetteville, AR
Fayetteville Town Center
www.arkaba.org

Japanese ABA 37th Annual Conference

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

Japanese ABA 37th Annual Conference

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

New Zealand ABA 16th Annual Conference

August 31–September 1
Christchurch, New Zealand
<https://nzaba.org>

September

Kentucky Association for Behavior Analysis Annual Conference

September 6–7
Louisville, KY
Founders Union Building
<http://www.kentuckyaba.org>

Montana ABA Fourth Annual Conference

September 12–13
Billings, MT
MSUB College of Education and
Campus Library
<https://mtaba.starchapter.com>

Florida ABA 39th Annual Conference

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

September (cont.)

Hawai'i ABA 15th Annual Convention

September 26–27
Honolulu, HI
Manoa Grand Ballroom
www.hawaiiaba.org

Minnesota Northland ABA Annual Conference

September 26–27
Bloomington, MN
Crowne Plaza AIRE
www.mnaba.org

ABAI 10th International Conference

September 29–30
Stockholm, Sweden
www.abainternational.org

October

Berkshire Association for Behavior Analysis and Therapy Annual Conference

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

Manitoba ABA 14th Annual Conference

October 3
Winnipeg, MB
Marshall McLuhan Hall,
University of Manitoba
www.maba.ca

Iowa ABA Seventh Annual Conference and Workshop

October 3–4
West Des Moines, IA
Hilton Garden Inn
<http://iowaaba.com>

Alabama ABA 28th Annual Convention

October 9–11
Birmingham, AL
Hilton Birmingham at UAB
<http://iowaaba.com>

Nevada ABA Annual Conference

October 10–13
Reno, NV
Whitney Peak Hotel
<https://nevadaaba.org/>

October (cont.)

Oregon ABA Annual Conference

October 11–12
<http://oraba.org>

Hoosier ABA 11th Annual Conference

October 16–18
<http://hoosieraba.com/>

Louisiana BAA Gulf Coast ABA Conference

October 18–19
New Orleans, LA
The Sheraton on Canal
www.labaa.net

Mid-American ABA Annual Conference

October 18–19
Omaha, NE
Embassy Suites by Hilton Omaha
www.mid-aba.com

Washington ABA Annual Conference and Workshop

October 19–20
Auburn, WA
Green River College
www.washingtonaba.org

Sociedad Mexicana de Análisis de la Conducta 29th Annual Conference

October 23–25
Tlalnepantla, Mexico
Facultad de Estudios Superiores Iztacala
de la UNAM
www.smac.org.mx

Australian Association for Cognitive and Behaviour Therapy 40th National Conference

October 24–26
Adelaide, South Australia
The Playford
www.aacbt.org.au

Southeastern ABA 36th Annual Conference

October 24–26
Richmond, VA
The Hilton Richmond Downtown
www.seabaonline.org

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