

INSIDE BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS

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SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28–TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 2021

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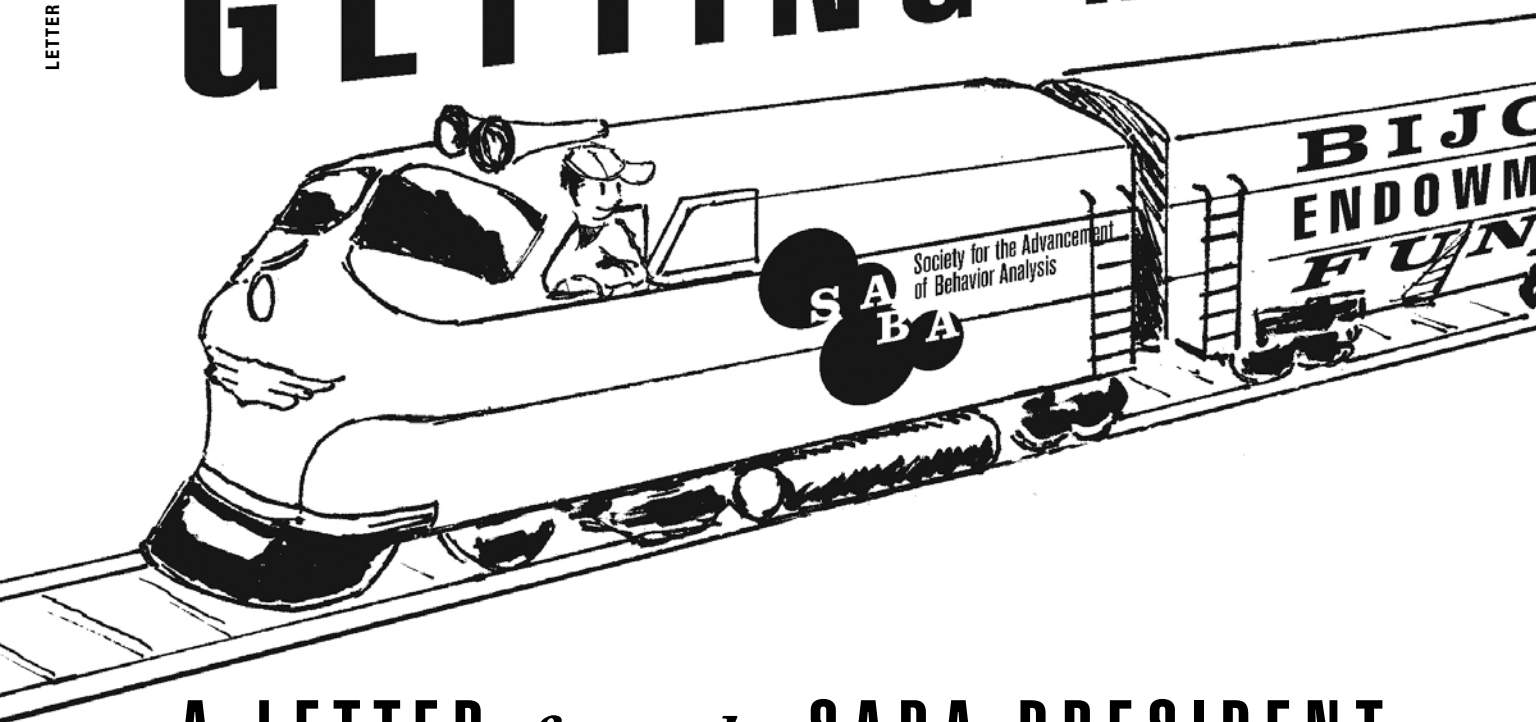
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ON THE COVER

Illustration: MARTIN BURCH

GETTING MILES



A LETTER *from the* SABA PRESIDENT

BY PETER KILLEEN

YOU KNOW THE SOCIETY FOR THE ADVANCEMENT of Behavior Analysis (SABA) because every year the ABAI annual convention opens with the SABA award ceremony, where we honor distinguished members who have been major contributors to behavior science. Let me invite you to attend our second virtual annual convention opening event and join me from the comfort of your home to honor our 2021 award recipients:

- M. Jackson (Jack) Marr for Distinguished Service to Behavior Analysis
- Carl Hart for Effective Presentation of Behavior Analysis in the Mass Media
- Allen Neuringer for Scientific Translation
- Carmen Luciano for International Dissemination of Behavior Analysis
- The Center for Autism and Related Disorders (CARD) for Enduring Programmatic Contributions in Behavior Analysis; CARD founder Doreen Granpeesheh will receive the award on behalf of her organization.

Individuals and organizations such as these, and each of you in your own ways, are what make behavior analysis an

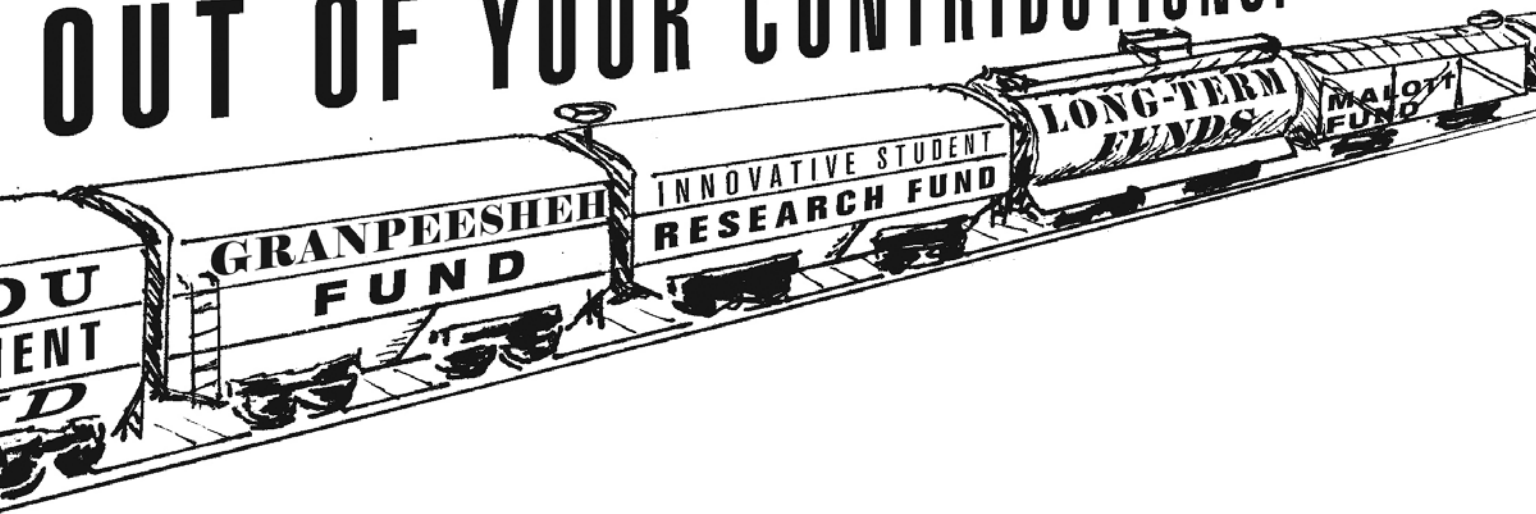
effective and important contributor to the well-being of our society. Not only do you work as behavior analysts for the well-being of those around you, many of you contribute generously to SABA so that it may foster behavior analysis. Thank you for that; let me share how SABA is fulfilling that mission. SABA was created to provide financial support for the advancement of behavior analysis. Its funds were established by the contributions of many ABAI members and significant donors from our discipline. SABA has supported 182 research, development, and dissemination projects through grants, and has helped 713 students grow their careers by remitting their registration fees for ABAI events.

When you decide to donate to SABA, your contributions will be dedicated to the purpose you specify. You can donate either to a long- or short-term fund, to help students advance their careers in behavior analysis or to help more established researchers and practitioners innovate, making new discoveries and applications in the field.

Long-Term Funds

Long-term funds will be kept in perpetuity. By managing

OUT OF YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS:



the principal of the funds, SABA disburses the interest on them as grants to support research and advancement of behavior analysis. Some of the largest funds have been made by significant individual donors.

Sidney W. and Janet R. Bijou Endowment Fund

This fund was created through the generous donations of the Bijous in 1996. The fund now has more than \$614,000 and has supported 33 doctoral students doing research in child development from a behavior analytic perspective. The 2020 grant recipients were the following:

- Crystal Fernandez of the University of North Texas for her work in bidirectional naming.
- Rebekah Lee of Endicott College for a project using tact training and intraverbal bidirectional naming.

Doreen Granpeesheh Fund

We are most grateful to Doreen Granpeesheh for her generous donation of \$100,000 to establish a fund in her name. The Doreen Granpeesheh Fund will be dedicated to introducing our community to other disciplines to develop and collaborate on more comprehensive interventions for the understanding and treatment of autism. Initially, the fund will sponsor presenters from related fields at the ABAI annual convention; we look

forward to developing other ways to encourage the use of collaborative experiments and interventions issuing from those interactions.

Other long-term funds have been created with the cumulative donations of many members, including through a capital campaign. We are grateful to be able to continue supporting behavior science and to expand the discipline's reach through these funds.

Innovative Student Research Fund

This fund was created to support master's and doctoral students' basic and applied research. The fund has supported 68 students to date. The 2020 grant recipients follow:

- Rebecca Caughron Chalmé of West Virginia University to support her master's thesis research in evaluating the interoceptive discrimination-stimulus properties of cannabidiol oil.
- Carolyn Ritchey of Auburn University, for her master's thesis research into the role of response effort in resurgence.
- Sydney Batchelder of the University of North Carolina Wilmington to support her doctoral dissertation research to assess the effectiveness of nicotine replacement therapy and contingency management for smoking cessation in Black populations.

Illustration: MARTIN BURCH

- Will Fleming of the University of Nevada, Reno for his doctoral dissertation research on understanding cultural change through turn-based matching-to-sample procedures.

We are especially thankful to the ABAI Science Board, who provided the first round of reviews of Bijou, thesis, and dissertation applications.

International Development Fund

This fund provides assistance to individuals and organizations pursuing the development of behavior analysis internationally. To date, SABA has funded 73 research projects in 40 countries around the world. This year's grant recipients follow:

- Guy Bruce of Appealing Solutions, LLC to support completion of his web application ProgressCharter, which helps schools apply behavior analysis concepts to manage their organizational performance.
- Alexandra Herman of Eötvös Loránd University to support her work in disseminating the science of behavior analysis in Hungary and to support Hungarian BCBA's.
- Ashley Knochel of The Chicago School of Professional Psychology to assist in the formation of the Pan-African Association for Behavior Analysis.
- Flora Moura Lorenzo of Universidade de Brasília to support the development of the Nurturing Brightness Network, an online community for disseminating behavior analytic tools for classroom management based in the literature of nurturing.
- Luiz Henrique Santana of Universidade de São Paulo to assist in the development of the International Online Museum on Behavioral Psychology and Neuroscience to inform the public of the history of experimental behavior analysis using a gaming approach.

Public Awareness Of Behavior Science Fund

Grants from this fund are awarded to projects that disseminate the science and practice of behavior analysis to the general public. Thus far the fund has awarded eight grants. The 2020 recipients were the following:

- Frank Cicero of Seton Hall University to support his work to design a training program in behavior analysis for general education teachers.
- Jill Harper of Melmark New England, who is developing a training program to equip first responders with the knowledge they need to effectively interact with people with autism during crisis situations.
- Kristine Jolivet of the University of Alabama to support her project Embedding Applied Behavior Analysis Principles Into Residential and Juvenile Correctional Facilities.
- Anna Young and Cheryl Young-Pelton of Montana State University, Billings for their work to educate legislators, educators, caregivers, and parent support groups in rural areas about ABA services.

Short-Term Funds

These funds are used for a targeted purpose without attempting to maintain the principal over time. By lifting the precondition to keep the principal in perpetuity, these funds can be used opportunistically in response to emerging developments.

Richard W. Malott Fund

During the summer we received a generous donation of just over \$91,000 from Dr. Richard Malott to continue funding a faculty position at Western Michigan University to manage the Behavior Analysis Training System program for the next academic year, given anticipated budget cuts.

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Senior Student Presenter Fund

This fund is used to support the convention registration of senior student presenters. The fund has supported 518 students thanks to the contributions of ABAI members. Grant recipients and their donors are matched, meaning each learns the names and affiliations of the others so they can recognize each other.

ABAI Student Member Registration Campaign Fund

This year, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, members of the behavioral community stepped up to help ABAI Student members by covering 75% of their convention registration fee; SABA matched these donations. Ninety-one donors contributed to the fund, which has thus far aided 163 students in attending the 2020 Annual Convention and 32 students in attending the Culturo-Behavior Science for a Better World Conference in October.

With your donation to SABA, your gift will continue “earning you miles” by way of strengthening and expanding the science and practice of behavior analysis. As you consider your options for charitable giving this year, please remember SABA. On behalf of the SABA Board, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to all the donors to SABA from September 1, 2019, to November 1, 2020 (see list of donors in this issue).

If you have not yet made a donation, I encourage you to do so by December 31; donations made in the US are tax deductible. Also, I encourage you to consider SABA in your estate planning as a way to contribute to the long-term development of behavior science and its application. ❖

\$10,000 Grants for Doctoral Research in Behavioral Development

Applications Due February 12, 2021

The Sidney W. and Janet R. Bijou Grant provides funding for doctoral students in departments of psychology, education, or related areas that can support research in behavioral development. For each academic year, the endowment may provide up to two \$10,000 grants.

Please apply at the Society for the Advancement of Behavior Analysis website:
<http://saba.abainternational.org/grants/sidney-w-janet-r-bijou-grant/>.

This grant supports research designed to incorporate behavioral principles to advance our understanding of human development. Developmental concepts could include chronological and developmental age, neurobiological and genetic factors associated with development, or the impact of developmental trajectories on adult behavior.

While intervention research could be appropriate, the primary research questions must be related to developmental and behavior analytic principles. The primary purpose may not be to overcome deficits or challenges associated with a behavioral disorder or developmental disability (e.g., ADHD, autism), independent of a fundamental developmental principle.



SABA
Society for the Advancement
of Behavior Analysis

2019–2020

SABA Donors

On behalf of the SABA Board, we are grateful for all the ABAI members who contributed to SABA in the past year to help build our funds. These donations enable SABA to provide annual grants that support research in and the development of behavior analysis. This list reflects donations from September 1, 2019 through September 1, 2020.

\$5,000 and above

Unrestricted Fund

Robert N. Woll

Student Member Registration Campaign

Sharon Chien

\$1,000–\$4,999

Capital Campaign

Christine E. Hughes
Charles T. Merbitz
Raymond C. Pitts
Greg Stikeleather

International Development Fund

Linda J. Parrott Hayes

Student Member Registration Campaign

Greg Stikeleather

Student Presenter Fund

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Sigrid S. Glenn
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Public Awareness of Behavior Science

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Ruth Hurst
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Mark Mattaini
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Elizabeth Meshes
Pete Molino
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Maribel Stikeleather
Noor Syed
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Gladys Williams
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Linda Yi
Kimberly Zoder-Martell

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Elizabeth A. Bugliarello-Wondrich
Corrine R. Donley

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Mark Galizio
Celia Wolk Gershenson
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Sofia F. Peters
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Society for the Advancement
of Behavior Analysis

Donate to the SABA Senior Student Presenter Fund

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

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

— Talia Ennett

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

— Sarah Davis

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

— Christina Nord

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

— Táhcita Mizael

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


Culturo-Behavior Science for a Better World Conference Sets New Directions

BY MARK MATTAINI

ABAI's first culturo-behavior science conference, held virtually October 7–9, 2020, reflects the organization's decision to expand attention to the potential for behavior science to contribute to larger-scale community and cultural challenges. At a time when pressing local, national, and global issues including major public health issues, human rights violations, poverty and other inequities, and the overriding crisis of climate change are of urgent concern, the need for such expansion is clear. Presenters and attendees collectively argued that emerging behavior science research and theory have real potential to be of help—but only in collaboration with communities, other disciplines, and movements already active in these areas. For that reason, this transdisciplinary conference included presentations by, and discussions among, behavior scientists and specialists in urgent current challenges. Responses from the nearly 400 attendees, and observations during the conference, indicate real excitement for this work.

The conference began with a keynote address by Lonnie Thompson, a renowned professor and researcher of earth sciences from Ohio State, returning to us after serving as the keynote speaker at ABAI's 2012 Behavior Change for a Sustainable World Conference, to emphasize the increasing urgency of climate change. Three ABAI scientists specializing in this area (Tony Biglan, Oregon Research Institute; Magnus Johansson, Oslo Metropolitan University; and Mark Alavosius, Praxis2LLC) followed in a symposium exploring realistic opportunities to further advance work

in this critical area. Other specialists presenting on the first day of the conference included Vince Francisco (University of Kansas) speaking about behavior science and community health promotion; Kerri Kennedy (American Friends Service Committee) providing insight into global peace and security interventions; and Casey Holtschneider, a social work professor from Northeastern Illinois University and executive director of the LYTE Collective in Chicago, presenting research addressing more just and effective responses to youth homelessness. Angela Campbell (HACC, Central Pennsylvania's Community College), Mark Jackson (Wayne State University), and Monica Porter (Indiana University, South Bend), all graduates of the Western Michigan University behavior analysis



**CULTURO-BEHAVIOR
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BETTER WORLD

program, completed the day in a symposium on increasing Black participation in higher education.

Thursday began with a keynote offered by Bruce Thyer (Florida State University), a social worker and psychologist who presented a behavior analytic perspective on social welfare policy, expanding on work he developed in the 1996 book *Finding Solutions to Social Problems: Behavioral Strategies for Change* (Mattaini & Thyer). Three of our own, Chris Ninness (Behavioral Software Systems), Jomella Watson-Thompson (University of Kansas), and Roberta Freitas Lemos (Fralin Biomedical Research Institute, Virginia Tech Carilion), responded in a symposium that included attention to child welfare, violence in marginalized communities, chronic poverty, and social exclusion. Expanding further, Kaston Anderson-Carpenter (Michigan State University) provided an invited address in which he argued for transdisciplinary behavior science and public health expansions in marginalized and underserved communities, with special attention to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer populations.

Given the breadth and complexities of the presentations to that point, Sigrid Glenn (University of North Texas), Jonathan Krispin (Valdosta State University), Ramona Houmanfar (University of Nevada, Reno), and Felipe Leite (Imagine Tecnologia Comportamental) took on the challenge of clarifying and expanding on critical conceptual issues in culturo-behavior science in a symposium. This was followed by a related symposium on research and training on culturo-behavior science, areas that clearly require attention given the expansion into the kind of efforts presented in the conference; presenting were Ingunn Sandaker (Oslo Metropolitan University), Aécio Borba Vasconcelos Neto (Universidade Federal do Pará), Traci Cihon (University of North Texas), and Marcelo Benvenuti (Universidade de São Paulo).

Presentations for the day ended with discussion of understanding and informing policy and funding decision-making processes, particularly at the federal level, provided by Juliane Baron, executive director of the Federation of Associations in Behavioral and Brain Sciences, and Sharon Courtney of Tulane University. A dinner break was followed by an evening poster session, with more than 100 posters, including a contest judged by senior presenters and members offering three \$1,000 prizes for the strongest posters (to be donated to the charity of choice of the winners).

The final day began with a keynote by Carlos Guevara, associate director of the UnidosUS Immigration Policy Project, titled “A Generation at Risk: Family Separation Policies Across the Country and Their Impact on American Children.” The engaging symposium that followed on immigration and human rights was offered by Richard Rakos (Cleveland State University), Megan Kirby (University of South Florida), and Shahla Ala’i (University of North Texas). In one of the most important

presentations of the event, Robert Horner (University of Oregon) spoke on implementing behavior analysis at scales of social importance—clearly an essential challenge given the range of issues addressed in this conference. Maria Amalia Andery (Pontifícia Universidade Católica de São Paulo) and Emmanuel Tourinho (Universidade Federal do Pará) then addressed the importance of universities in advancing work addressing major social issues.

The day ended with two presentations, the first by Roberto Aspholm (University of Saint Thomas, Minnesota): “Conceptualizing Gang Violence Prevention From the Streets Up,” one of several presentations that specifically addressed engaging communities and marginalized populations in collaborative efforts to understand and develop effective responses to the urgent and complex issues discussed throughout the conference. The final address of the event, “Interdisciplinary Action Supporting Cultures of Social and Environmental Justice,” was presented by Mark Mattaini (Jane Addams College of Social Work, University of Illinois at Chicago), the conference chair. Also integrated into the program during breaks were a series of informal networking sessions, led by several of the senior presenters—particularly valuable in virtual conferences where informally meeting between events is more complex than at on-site gatherings.

This Culturo-Behavior Science for a Better World Conference was not a stand-alone event, but rather an important resource in pursuing ABAI’s recent commitment to expanding attention to community- and cultural-level science. From Skinner’s beginning, behavior analysts and scientists have long asserted that they could serve as unique resources for addressing social issues, primarily by constructing societies that “achieve conditions under which human beings will show the productivity, the creativity, and the strength inherent in their genetic endowment and which are essential to the survival of the species” (Skinner, 1975). ABAI is taking several related steps toward advancing that goal, this conference among them. In addition, ABAI in 2019 both integrated the now 42-year-old journal *Behavior and Social Issues* into our stable of journals, and developed a VCS to support a new graduate-level certificate in culturo-behavior science. In addition, in 2020 the first book in ABAI’s behavior science book series, *Behavior Science Perspectives on Culture and Community* (Cihon & Mattaini) was published. It is becoming clear that attention to the kinds of challenges explored in these events and resources, given our growing knowledge, provides new opportunities—but also new obligations.

References

- | | |
|--|--|
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|--|--|

15TH ANNUAL AUTISM CONFERENCE: SYNERGY *of* SCIENCE *and*

BY RUTH ANNE REHFELDT

This year has been marked by challenges of a seemingly insurmountable nature, and the science and practice of autism treatment around the globe have not been untouched by them. The 15th Annual Autism Conference program resonates with such themes—please join us February 28–March 2, 2021, for this online event.

First, the global pandemic has forced our field to conceptualize how high-quality services can be delivered to persons with autism spectrum disorders and their families when face-to-face service is not an option. A workshop by Stephanie Peterson and Becky Eldridge (Western Michigan University) and presentations by Jennifer McComas (University of Minnesota) and Matthew Brodhead (Michigan State University) will

address evidence-based strategies for consultation via telehealth and the ethical challenges therein.

Second, the racial reckoning in the US has awoken us to the urgency of growing culturally humble professionals. Needed are transparent discussions about the experiences of people who have been disenfranchised, whether as members of their professional communities or service recipients themselves. Presentations by Jomella Watson-Thompson (University of Kansas) and Sarah Lechago (University of Houston-Clear Lake) will focus on this topic, and a women's panel featuring Shahla Ala'i (University of North Texas), Doreen Granpeesheh (Center for Autism and Related Disorders), Erin Rasmussen (Idaho State University), and Denise Ross (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee) will share insights on leadership in applied behavior analysis.



PRACTICE WORLDWIDE

Third, as ABAI continues to support education and dissemination beyond the US, presentations by Ilana Gerschlowitz (the Star Academy, South Africa), Angeliki Gena (University of Athens, Greece), and Sergio Lara (Asopormen, Colombia) will showcase efforts to grow behavior analysis globally.

The program for each autism conference is formulated with input from ABAI's membership and prior conference attendees. This conference will feature workshops and presentations on such important topics as effective supervision (Tyra Sellers, Behavior Analyst Certification Board), food selectivity (Mary Jane Weiss, Endicott College), special education (Ilene Schwartz, University of Washington), neurobiological indicators (Annette Estes, University of Washington), teaching approaches

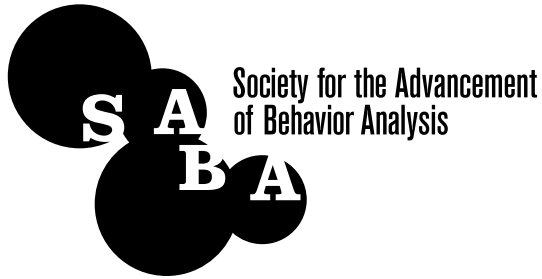
(Justin Leaf, Autism Partnership Foundation), academic skills (Kent Johnson, Morningside Academy), and state reimbursement for services, including for services using telehealth (Stephen Gillaspay, American Psychological Association).

Although we will not be able to meet in person, the virtual conference will provide opportunities for interaction and dialogue at the poster session, as well as an update on the important professional activities of ABAI's Autism Special Interest Group (Joseph Cihon, Autism Partnership Foundation).

We look forward to seeing you at the 2021 Autism Conference, Synergy of Science and Practice Worldwide.



Photography: MARTIN BURCH



2020 SABA Grant Reports

The Society for the Advancement of Behavior Analysis (SABA) awarded the following grants in 2020:

- **Thesis grant winner (basic), \$1,500:**
Rebecca Caughron Chalmé (West Virginia University)
- **Thesis grant winner (basic), \$1,500:**
Carolyn Ritchey (Auburn University)
- **Dissertation grant winner (applied), \$3,000:**
Sydney Batchelder (University of North Carolina Wilmington)
- **Dissertation grant winner (basic), \$3,000:**
Will Fleming (University of Nevada, Reno)
- **International development grant winner, \$1,000:**
Guy Bruce (Appealing Solutions, LLC)
- **International development grant winner, \$1,000:**
Alexandra Herman (Eötvös Loránd University)
- **International development grant winner, \$1,000:**
Ashley Knochel (The Chicago School of Professional Psychology)
- **International development grant winner, \$1,000:**
Flora Moura Lorenzo (Universidade de Brasília)
- **International development grant winner, \$1,000:**
Luiz Henrique Santana (Universidade de São Paulo)
- **Sidney W. & Janet R. Bijou grant winner, \$10,000:**
Crystal Fernandez (University of North Texas)
- **Sidney W. & Janet R. Bijou grant winner, \$10,000:**
Rebekah Lee (Endicott College)
- **Public Awareness grant winner, \$2,500:**
Frank Cicero (Seton Hall University)
- **Public Awareness grant winner, \$2,500:**
Jill Harper (Melmark New England)
- **Public Awareness grant winner, \$2,500:**
Kristine Jolivet (University of Alabama)
- **Public Awareness grant winner, \$2,500:**
Anna Young and Cheryl Young-Pelton (Montana State University, Billings)

The following articles are summaries of the reports submitted by the 2020 awardees.

Master's Thesis Grants (Basic): Discriminative Stimulus Effects of Cannabidiol (CBD) Oil



BY REBECCA CAUGHRON CHALMÉ
Rebecca Caughron Chalmé is a doctoral student at West Virginia University (WVU), working in the behavioral pharmacology laboratory under the supervision of Dr. Karen G. Anderson. This SABA grant will support her master's thesis research, which is

designed to evaluate interoceptive discriminative-stimulus properties of cannabidiol (CBD) oil. CBD is touted as a cure-all for a variety of disorders, including anxiety. Some websites and retailers go as far as to suggest that CBD could function as an anxiolytic drug in place of more traditional medications like benzodiazepines; however, the suitability of CBD as a substitute for benzodiazepines is unknown.

In the study the grant will support, before each training session rats are given either saline or chlordiazepoxide (CDP), a benzodiazepine drug, and then placed in a two-lever operant-conditioning chamber with responding on one (injection-appropriate) lever reinforced and responding on the alternate lever extinguished. For example, on CDP days, responding on one lever produces food, whereas on saline days, responses on the opposing lever produce food. Once responding occurs consistently on the injection-appropriate lever across sessions, various doses of CBD are administered in place of saline or CDP, and generalization tests occur in extinction. The number of responses on the CDP-appropriate lever in a test session provides information about whether CBD and CDP share interoceptive discriminative-stimulus properties, and thus may clarify CBD's role as a potential anxiolytic drug.

In addition to research, Rebecca is passionate about undergraduate instruction. She has taught Introduction to Psychology and the Behavior Principles laboratory course at WVU, and has advised incoming freshmen in the psychology major. Rebecca hopes to earn her Ph.D. and continue her academic career in research and teaching at a university.

Rebecca would like to thank SABA for supporting her master's thesis research. Additionally, she would like to thank Dr. Anderson, her WVU labmates and colleagues, and her husband for their support during her doctoral training at WVU.

Resurgence as Choice (RaC) and Response Effort: An Interdisciplinary Collaboration Assessing Resurgence in Humans



BY CAROLYN RITCHEY

Carolyn Ritchey is a graduate student working in the Translational and Applied Behavioral Science Lab at Auburn University under the direction of Dr. Chris Podlesnik. Her thesis project will introduce a novel and interdisciplinary laboratory

procedure for directly examining the role of response effort in resurgence. Resurgence is a laboratory model of how relapse occurs following successful treatment with differential reinforcement-based procedures, which are highly effective in achieving initial reductions in problem behavior such as aggression or self-injury, but these behaviors are susceptible to resurgence during changes in treatment conditions. For example, resurgence occurs when reducing or eliminating reinforcement for an alternative response (e.g., asking for a break) increases an extinguished target response (e.g., hitting to escape task demands).

Problem behavior and alternative responses often differ in response effort (e.g., hitting may be more effortful than requesting a break). The proposed project will incorporate techniques and equipment from a kinesiology laboratory to manipulate individuals' response effort in a choice task. University students will serve as participants, responding on handheld force transducers. The force (effort) required to produce points exchangeable for monetary reinforcers will differ across response options. Force output and variability of force produced during contingency changes (simulating changes in treatment conditions) will be examined. The project includes two experiments, each using a group design and multilevel modeling techniques to characterize the degree to which the group means apply to individuals.

Specific Aims

(1) Reveal the role of effort in resurgence of a target response following removal of all reinforcers (Experiment 1). We hypothesize that greater effort requirements for a target response versus an alternative will decrease the magnitude of resurgence of the target response following removal of reinforcers for both responses.

(2) Reveal the role of effort in resurgence of a target response during continued treatment (Experiment 2). It is often desirable to increase the complexity of an alternative response following successful treatment (e.g., requiring "Can I have a break, please?" instead of "break"). We hypothesize that increasing effort for an alternative

response will increase the magnitude of resurgence of the target response despite unchanged alternative reinforcement contingencies.

Doctoral Dissertation Grants (Applied): Assessing the Effectiveness of Nicotine Replacement Therapy and Contingency Management for Cessation of Smoking in Black/African Americans



BY SYDNEY BATCHELDER

Sydney R. Batchelder is a Ph.D. student at the University of North Carolina Wilmington (UNCW) studying applied behavior analysis. She has a bachelor of science in psychology with a concentration in behavior analysis from Eastern Connecticut

State University, where she graduated with university and departmental honors. Sydney received her master of arts in applied behavior analysis in December 2019 from UNCW, and she currently works with Dr. Wendy Donlin Washington researching interventions to treat substance use in at-risk populations.

Her dissertation focuses on smoking cessation in African American populations, who are at higher risk for smoking-related illnesses than the general population. African American individuals are also less likely to use nicotine replacement therapy, and one aim of this study is to understand whether there are cultural reasons that make nicotine replacement less effective or appealing. A second aim is to expand research on contingency management, an evidence-based practice for drug cessation, as there is little research on its effectiveness across ethnic groups.

The study will use a two-branch multiple-baseline across participants design. One branch will receive both contingency management monitored twice daily and nicotine replacement, and the other will receive contingency management and a placebo. The treatment will last three weeks, and a one-month follow-up will provide information about maintenance effects of the intervention after its termination. Sydney and her colleagues at UNCW will begin recruitment and data collection at the start of the fall 2020 semester and will complete the project by the end of the spring 2021 semester. She hopes this study will gather preliminary data to support her line of research focused on this understudied and at-risk population.

Doctoral Dissertation Grants (Basic):

Understanding Cultural Change through Turn-Based Matching-to-Sample Procedures



BY WILL FLEMING

As a graduate student at the University of Nevada, Reno under the advisement of Dr. Linda J. Hayes, Will Fleming conducts experimental and theoretical work on cultural behavior, verbal behavior, and behavioral economics from both operant and interbehavioral perspectives.

Will's dissertation will use a turn-based matching-to-sample procedure (TBMTS) to investigate the relevance of verbal behavior in establishing cultural behavior across a series of experiments. Similar to studies on non-human reference by Skinner, Savage-Rumbaugh, and colleagues, TBMTS involves trials in which (1) one individual selects a stimulus from Set A in the presence of a stimulus from Set B, (2) a second individual selects a stimulus from Set B in the presence of that selected by the first, and (3) both individuals receive the same points simultaneously. Individuals take turns selecting first and second across trials. When communication is restricted and when the stimuli do not have conventional functions prior to experimentation, TBMTS is especially useful for investigating metacontingent control over interlocking behavioral contingencies (IBCs) observed when correspondence (second player selecting the sample for the first) and non-correspondence (second player not selecting the sample for the first) are reinforced. Under conditions that favor correspondence, participants demonstrate shared and symmetrical correspondence. After establishing steady patterns, one participant's responding generally does not change as their partner's does when non-correspondence is reinforced.

Three experiments will be conducted to target possible verbal factors contributing to both the establishment of IBCs and which dyad member demonstrates flexible response patterns. In Experiment 1, dyads will receive instructions in which reinforcement contingencies are more or less completely described in either referential or non-referential terms. In Experiment 2, the degree and duration to which patterns of correspondence and non-correspondence are established will be measured when the number of sample and comparison stimuli are

systematically manipulated. In Experiment 3, dyads composed of children with differential verbal abilities, measured by the PEAK Equivalence Pre-Assessment, will determine the relevance of verbal repertoire complexity on the establishment of cultural behavior. Together these experiments will inform relations between cultural behavior and verbal processes and suggest avenues by which cultural behavior can be altered.

International Development Grants: ProgressCharter App



BY GUY BRUCE

Dr. Bruce thanks the SABA Board of Directors for awarding him a 2020 International Development Grant. He will use the money to speed completion of ProgressCharter, a web-mobile application that will make it easy for schools to use their EARS to change

how people work together, so that all students can make efficient progress toward their educational goals.

EARS stands for Evaluate student progress; Analyze causes of staff performance problems; Recommend changes in staff resources, training, and management; and Solve performance problems by designing and implementing recommended solutions. EARS is a pragmatic change process, an application of behavior analysis to engineer the organizational performance of schools.

Dr. Bruce has partnered with a business leader and a special education professor in Chile to provide ProgressCharter to Spanish-speaking schools in Latin America, and to English-speaking schools throughout the world. Beta testers will have a choice of English or Spanish. Dr. Bruce will add other languages based on demand. If your school is interested in participating in a ProgressCharter beta test, you may reach Dr. Bruce at 309-303-1527 or guybruce@appealingsolutions.com.

Behavior Analysis Dissemination in Hungary



BY ALEXANDRA HERMAN

Alexandra Herman graduated with an MSc in psychology from Eötvös Loránd University in Hungary in 2009. She started working as an applied behavior analysis (ABA) therapist the same year, and has been working in the field ever since.

She graduated with a distinction in ABA from Bangor

University in 2018, receiving her second MSc, then became a Board Certified Behavior Analyst that year. Alexandra spent more than four years in the UK as an ABA therapist and consultant working mainly with children with ASD and language impairment in home, school, and community settings.

Her main areas of expertise are early intervention, therapist and teacher training, and, most importantly, dissemination of the science of behavior analysis in her home country of Hungary.

Hungary currently has four board certified behavior analysts. Alexandra has been working with her colleagues on dissemination for the past 10 years, creating an ABA therapy center for children with autism in Budapest; delivering trainings, consultation, and workshops for parents; supporting mainstream schools in integrating children with special educational needs; and presenting at conferences throughout the country.

Hungarian BCBAs agree that delivering training at a prestigious university and developing professional and ethical national standards are essential steps in further dissemination. Therefore, the International Development Grant will be used to support (1) the first ABA course sequence in Hungary, at Eötvös Loránd University (Alexandra is the coordinator for this VCS, which was approved in October 2019) and (2) creation of the Hungarian Association for Behavior Analysis, a national organization for behavior analysts.

With the help of this grant, an online campaign will be established to advertise the VCS coursework and disseminate the science of behavior analysis, as well as to support Hungarian BCBAs—who have already laid the foundation for the Hungarian Association for Behavior Analysis (including practice guidelines and a mission statement)—to take the final steps in its establishment.

Formation of the Pan-African Association for Behavior Analysis



BY ASHLEY KNOCH

This International Development Grant will be used to assist in the formation of the Pan-African Association for Behavior Analysis (PAABA). In light of the recent Behavior Analyst Certification Board changes regarding international focus, there is a need to

develop a credentialing body designed to meet the unique demands for behavior analytic services across the African continent. In collaboration with Dr. Jane Paul, BCBA-D, Meryem Ouahmane, and the Pan-African Congress on Autism, PAABA will foster a continental platform of advocacy and support by providing quality training standards to encourage effective and culturally responsive dissemination of applied behavior analytic services across Africa. This will include formulating standards of professional conduct, creating and maintaining a registry of certified members, and supporting individual African nations interested in developing country-specific licensure.

Ashley Knochel is a recent graduate of the ABA master's program at the University of South Florida and one of three BCBAs in Kenya. She is currently a first-year doctoral student in the ABA program at the Chicago School of Professional Psychology. Ashley is passionate about culturally responsive dissemination and enhancing the social validity and sustainability of behavior analytic practice in African settings.



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Nurturing Brightness Network



BY FLORA MOURA LORENZO

Contexts with high levels of inequality set strong concurrent contingencies for school attendance for children from vulnerable families. As the informal economy and early labor are used as means to address the need for immediate income, school dropout prevents around 40% of Brazilian

students from finishing basic education. Hence, in the pursuit of equity, schools in Brazil could benefit from strategies that support children's learning and academic success.

The SABA International Development Grant will assist in the development of the Nurturing Brightness Network, an online community for disseminating behavior analytic tools for classroom management based in the literature of nurturing. Application in primary schools has shown systematic improvement in pupils' social interactions and basic academic repertoires in both the short and long term. By acquiring the ability to focus in a safe and collaborative environment, children from all socioeconomic backgrounds can find they are fully capable of learning. Many children from low-income families in Brazil have not had this experience, nor have their relatives.

The online platform will provide guidance for teachers, principals, healthcare workers, and policy makers from different educational systems across the country to connect and collaborate toward the implementation of nurturing strategies in their workplaces. Content will be available in modularized videos and texts grounded in scientific evidence, interactive forums, interviews with experts, and webinars. Participants will be encouraged to support one another while receiving technical input and feedback for their own projects. Dissemination across public schools is expected through social contagion among professionals within and between municipalities.

Flora Moura Lorenzo, doctoral candidate at the University of Brasília, conceptualized the project and will coordinate it. Professionals with backgrounds in other fields key to the promotion of nurturing schools were invited to participate. Aline Godoy Vieira, doctoral candidate at São Paulo University; Darlene Cardoso Ferreira, MSc; Débora Pereira, MSc; and Lorena Araújo, MSc, will collaborate across applied behavior analysis, emancipatory education, and collective health. The initiative is nonprofit and has no affiliation with any particular organization.

International Online Museum on Behavioral Psychology and Neuroscience



BY LUIZ HENRIQUE SANTANA

Along with support from the Department of Experimental Psychology at the University of São Paulo and a 2019 Federation of European Neuroscience Societies History Online Project Award, this SABA International Development

Grant will assist in the development of the International Online Museum on Behavioral Psychology and Neuroscience to inform the public of the history of experimental behavior analysis using a gamified approach. This project offers a tool for systematic replication of classical experiments via a server for open/citizen science that may be used for educational and scientific purposes.

Users will be able to explore the museum and play an array of games based on experiments in behavior analysis, in order to learn about the science behind each experiment. The museum will also collect users' performance data to build an international database for the replication of classic experiments in behavioral psychology and behavior analysis. Science in the 21st century requires a multi-level approach to train emerging researchers in its history and to encourage them to build new pathways based on solid evidence from the past.

Luiz Henrique Santana, MSc, is a Ph.D. candidate in experimental psychology and a research assistant in the behavioral investigations lab with Dr. Miriam Garcia-Mijares at the University of São Paulo, as well as a visiting graduate researcher in the comparative psychobiology lab at UCLA with Dr. Aaron Blaisdell.

Sidney W. & Janet R. Bijou Grants: From Pointing to Naming



BY CRYSTAL FERNANDEZ

Crystal Fernandez is a doctoral student at the University of North Texas studying under the mentorship of Dr. Jesús Rosales-Ruiz. Prior to beginning her doctoral program, she worked with children with autism as a public school teacher and as a BCBA in a clinical

setting. Her research interests include the development of behavior and its stimulus control, practitioner and parent training, and increasing access to services for traditionally

underserved populations. The Bijou Grant will support her project examining the role of pointing in the development of bidirectional naming for children with autism.

Bidirectional naming, or the ability to learn names of items without direct instruction, is considered a developmental cusp. Bidirectional naming in itself requires many prerequisite skills, and thus programming for this repertoire typically occurs long after a child begins intervention. The delay is due to the assumption that a particular degree of listener and speaker repertoires is necessary before the two repertoires can join. Although many prerequisite skills have been identified, no studies have examined the role of pointing in the development of bidirectional naming.

Current behavior analytic procedures typically describe pointing in terms of a listener response or in terms of a request. In contrast, Horne and Lowe (1996) describe a parent-child interaction in which a child initiates a verbal episode through pointing. In this description, the child's pointing is indicative of speaker behavior to begin a social interaction. This is supported by child development research that suggests pointing is a way for children to begin verbal interactions with others, and thus is an important milestone in language development (Goldin-Meadow, 2007; Colonnaesi, Stams, Koster, & Noom, 2010).

The current study asks if teaching pointing as a speaker can accelerate the teaching of bidirectional naming to children who begin with fewer prerequisite skills. The incidental learning of new words will be evaluated within the instructional setting and within the natural environment. Participants will be recruited across three groups with various levels of speaker and listener repertoires. This study will have implications for designing teaching protocols, particularly for children who do not make adequate progress with established protocols.

Establishing Generalized Equivalence Class Performance Utilizing Tact Training and Training Intraverbal Bidirectional Naming: a Multiple Study Replication and Extension With Participants of Various Age Ranges and Varied Levels of Verbal Skills

BY REBEKAH LEE

Rebekah Lee received her MSP in speech-language pathology from the University of South Carolina and her MEd in applied behavior analysis and autism from Endicott College. As a dually certified professional, SLP and BCBA,

she is particularly interested in verbal behavior as it relates to language learning and problem solving. She believes that in contrast to linguistic or cognitive theories of language development, the verbal behavior approach allows for a more empirical and systematic analysis. Other research interests include stimulus equivalence, instructional design, and interdisciplinary collaboration.



Rebekah will be completing the study for which the Bijou Grant was awarded as a Ph.D. student in applied behavior analysis at Endicott College under Dr. Mary Jane Weiss. The study will be conducted with students from her professional setting, a school district where she will have access to and a plan for collaboration with other speech-language pathologists, BCBAs, general educators, and special educators.

Rebekah's project will be a replication and extension of a 2017 study by Jennings and Miguel that used tact training and intraverbal bidirectional naming with college students to establish generalized equivalence class performance. The replication will comprise four experiments in order to investigate bidirectional naming for establishing generalized equivalence classes with four age ranges. Subjects will be 5–10 students in each grade range of K4–2nd, 3rd–5th, 6th–8th, and 9th–12th who are considered typically developing and are not receiving special education services. As a replication and extension study, it will follow the original study's methods to the extent appropriate based on the participants' ages and verbal skills. The project goal is to improve clinical/educational practice by providing an understanding of the ways verbal behavior skills contribute to general language acquisition, language learning, concept formation, and problem-solving skills. The Bijou Grant will assist with expenses for skills assessments, session materials, participant motivation, coding and analysis of data, and travel to the ABAI convention for presentation of results.

Public Awareness Grants: ABA Training Program for General Education Teachers



BY FRANK CICERO

A variety of problem behaviors in general education classrooms are frequently reported. These behaviors disrupt the classroom environment, decrease student achievement, increase teacher stress, and negatively impact teacher retention (Mitchell et al.,

2015). General education teachers with knowledge and experience in ABA are better equipped at dealing with disruptive classroom behavior (Young & Martinez, 2016). Unfortunately, data indicate that general education teachers often do not hold to a behavioral explanation of student problem behavior, do not have training in functional behavior assessment and treatment, and feel unprepared to deal with classroom behavior issues (Mitchell et al., 2015; Young & Martinez, 2016). The purpose of the current project is to attempt to mitigate these issues by designing a training program in ABA specifically for general education teachers. The idea for this project grew out of experiences conducting professional development workshops in behavior analysis for public school districts over the past several decades. Although the titles of the workshops are often not specific to special education, administrators usually assign the ABA topics to teachers in special education classrooms, while the general education teachers attend workshops focusing on academics or standardized testing.

The current project was designed by Dr. Frank Cicero of Seton Hall University; several colleagues in the Department of Educational Studies and students in the ABA program will help execute it. The study will attempt to increase the use of ABA techniques by general education teachers through the initiation of a training program designed specifically for general education. Ten general education teachers from two public school districts in New Jersey will be selected to participate in a six-month training program. The program will consist of academic workshops, mock projects, and in-vivo classroom modeling and guidance. The project is seen as a pilot for larger and ongoing partnerships between the university's ABA program and public school district general education programs. The funding from the SABA grant will be used to provide each teacher with a textbook in ABA, classroom materials to support behavior change plans, and a one-year membership in the New Jersey Association for Behavior Analysis.

Proactive Strategies for Interacting With Individuals With ASD or Other Intellectual Disabilities During Emergency or Crisis Situations



BY JILL HARPER

Jill M. Harper, Ph.D., BCBA-D, LABA, is the Senior Director of Professional Development, Clinical Training, and Research at Melmark New England. Dr. Harper has been providing clinical services in the area of behavior disorders for almost

15 years. In addition to her clinical work, she holds an adjunct faculty position at Endicott College and is an active member of the research community, designing and disseminating applied research.

Handling emergency or crisis situations can be a challenge for first responders and other community professionals who encounter people with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) or other intellectual disabilities, as they are often unfamiliar with the unique characteristics presented by these individuals. Building familiarity with such challenging behaviors can lead to more positive, de-escalating approaches and outcomes.

The SABA Public Awareness Grant will support Dr. Harper and the leadership team at Melmark New England in the development and evaluation of educational materials and a training program to teach proactive strategies for interacting with individuals with ASD or other intellectual disabilities during emergency or crisis situations. The curriculum, using behavioral skills training methodology (e.g., Miltenberger, 2003; Parsons, Rollyson, & Reid, 2012; Reid, 2017), will include both knowledge and performance competencies at the initiation of, throughout, and following the training.

Initial implementation will occur through ongoing collaborative relationships with community facilities. Pending the outcome of initial implementation, the training curriculum will be replicated across other organizations. As dissemination of the training curriculum grows, a train-the-trainer model will be developed, during which members of community organizations will be trained to implement the curriculum, collect data, and report all outcome measures with high integrity.

Embedding Applied Behavior Analysis Principles Into Residential and Juvenile Correctional Facilities



BY KRISTINE JOLIVETTE

This SABA grant will help support the project Embedding Applied Behavior Analysis Principles Into Residential and Juvenile Correctional Facilities, which focuses on creating and disseminating facility-specific content applications to introduce staff

to and improve their use of behavior analytic principles and practices, in lieu of punishment and other reactive practices, when working with vulnerable and marginalized youth exhibiting problem behaviors.

Thousands of youth with chronic and intense behavioral challenges are daily served in residential and juvenile corrections facilities, spending the majority of their time

with staff who may lack any training related to behavioral principles, and may rely solely on punishment and other reactive strategies to induce (unsuccessfully) behavioral change. We posit that applied behavioral principles can be successfully integrated into the daily operations by these staff and flexibly applied with youth across academic/behavioral/social-emotional domains to increase engagement/achievement and improve outcomes.

We will provide behavioral principles exposure, explicit instruction, and reinforcement with facility context-specific examples through a stakeholder gathering and project website, suitable for use in these applied and authentic settings. The project will have four phases, focused on scalability, sustainability, and replicability:

- Phase 1: Secure stakeholder involvement through our existing network; conduct a needs assessment on behavioral principles; create a list of common challenging youth behaviors/scenarios in these settings; create initial briefs on the principles.
- Phase 2: Interface with stakeholders on rationale for ABA principles within their context; create an initial set of deliverables per feedback; create a sustainability plan.
- Phase 3: Conduct the stakeholder gathering/iterative processes; create website infrastructure; push website live.
- Phase 4: Edit/add deliverables per ongoing website feedback/stakeholder voice; increase public awareness of deliverables; maintain website.

Our core stakeholders are both agency- and facility-level staff in multiple positions and departments from more than five states and eight agencies that serve school-age youth with and at risk for disabilities in residential treatment centers and juvenile justice facilities. The funds from this grant will help offset the housing costs of participants for the stakeholder gathering. This project is jointly led by Drs. Kristine Jolivette, Sara Sanders, and Skip Kumm at the University of Alabama.

ABA in the Middle of Nowhere



BY ANNA YOUNG AND
CHERYL YOUNG-PELTON



According to a 2018 article in *Nature* magazine, the top three “middle of nowhere” U.S. towns are in the largely rural state of Montana. Residents of rural areas have a significantly diminished likelihood of accessing necessary healthcare services, including ABA. The “ABA in the Middle of Nowhere” campaign aims to capture the attention of legislators, educators, caregivers, parent support groups, and healthcare providers to describe what ABA services can accomplish given current progress

in technology, which is making training and behavioral consultation more accessible than ever.

The campaign will include information about how behavior analysis can offer effective, advanced, and respectful approaches to addressing behavioral needs. Its messaging will emphasize the value of informing state legislators about the benefits of behavior analysis so that policies may reflect progress, not barriers to service.

The SABA Public Awareness Grant will support production of a video that will be posted on social media and relevant websites as well as a radio commercial featuring messages from behavior analysts, educators, and service recipients attesting to the effectiveness of ABA. Funds will also be used to design brochures and flyers about ABA services and to host “Coffee With a Behavior Analyst” informational meetings across the state. ❖



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

Alabama ABA

BY PAIGE MCKERCHAR

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

One of the most important tasks ALABA's Executive Committee 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 their 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 board certified behavior analysts a local opportunity to earn high-quality continuing education credits—they provided over almost a thousand CEs to 100 certificants last year. Last year's convention was held October 9–11 at the Hilton Birmingham at UAB. Attendees filled 71 seats at their workshops, which included "Training Staff & Caregivers to Provide ABA Services to Young Children With Autism Spectrum Disorder" (conducted by Dr. Corina Jimenez-Gomez) and "Alternative Functional Behavioral Assessment Formats: What to do When the Gold Standard Isn't Feasible" (conducted by Dr. Nathan Call). Attendance at the two-day, one-track presentation portion of their convention decreased about 25% from the previous year with 141 attendees. This change is likely the result of having a national association's convention in the southeast region the spring prior to the fall convention. The ALABA keynote addresses explored new areas of practice, approaches to research, and understanding of ethics for behavior analysts: Dr. Megan Heinicke's "Expanding Behavior-Analytic Services to NeuroRehabilitation Settings," Dr. Nathan Call's "Advancing Behavior Analysis by Extending the Continuum of Research Questions and Methods," and Dr. William Ahearn's "Ethics for the Behavior Analyst in the Age of Licensure and Certification." Invited presentations included a broad range of topics from both basic and applied domains: Dr. Christopher Podlesnik's "Modeling and Mitigating Relapse of Problem Behavior," Dr. Nadratu Nuhu's "Descriptive Analyses of Eye Contact

During Social Interactions," Dr. Richling, Dr. Carey, and Ms. Cook's "Understanding and Improving Treatment Selection," and Dr. Jesse Logue's "The Apprentice: An Innovative Approach to Meet the BACB's Supervision Standards." This year's Rep. Patterson Service to Autism Presentation was given by Dr. William Ahearn, "Best Practices in Treating Repetitive Behavior: From Stereotypy to Social Skills." President-elect, John Rapp, shared some of his recent research in his Presidential Address on "THE APMRT: Analyzing Variables That Could Influence Prescriber Behavior."

Congratulations to new president-elect, Sarah Richling; members-at-large, Sarah Bedell, Makenzie Bayles, and Matthew Busick; and student representatives, Ashley Anderson and BreeAnna Dalton. The 2020 Executive Committee, which also includes Jennifer Bruzek, John Rapp, and Mary-Kate Carey, is actively adjusting its plans for the fall convention. Please visit them online at www.alabamaaba.com for more information and to become a member. The Chapter is looking forward to all the new learning experiences the year has to offer!

Arizona ABA

BY ERIN COOK

The last twelve months have seen incredible areas of growth for the community of behavior analysts in Arizona as Arizona ABA (AzABA) continues to challenge the boundaries of what they can provide. Specifically, AzABA has invested in the development of their annual conference, in critical legislation, in the growth of their social media presence, and in the processes that make the organization sustainable. In addition to these new projects, AzABA has also maintained a trajectory of growth amongst its five special interest groups and is looking to add a sixth in 2020. The special interest group topics are feeding, RFT/ACT, expanding the scope of ABA, and ABA in schools and coordination of care. Each of them meets monthly with a range of 5–20 participants, and often provide opportunities to earn CE.

As a part of the development of sustainable processes, AzABA re-evaluated some of the values that it employs in pursuit of meeting the needs of the community. The Board of Directors felt that the following values were true representations of long-term outcomes that the organization seeks to achieve:

- Be a Community Resource: We strive to present learning opportunities and professional development across a wide variety of interests and will seek to maintain a pulse on the needs of those we serve.
- Advance our Ability to Practice: We will fight for the integrity of behavior analysis in political and legal doings within Arizona.
- Purposeful Governance: We commit to process-driven

and data-supported decision making, and careful and considerate financial planning.

- **Connection:** We are working to create a place where the behavior-analytic community can come together with each other, with other professionals, and with community stakeholders. We value the inclusion of our entire membership and the recognition of every voice.

As AzABA moves into a new year, the organization looks forward to continuing to bring these values to life. Membership can look forward to new and improved opportunities to grow as professionals, and specific avenues for the growth of quality service providers in our state.

Behavior Analysis Association of Michigan

BY JAMES T. TODD

Behavior Analysis Association of Michigan (BAAM) members continue to make many positive contributions to the effective, ethical, and science-based treatment of problems associated with autism, traumatic brain injury, addiction, and other conditions. We can add to that the important work of those in organizational behavior management, behavioral medicine, education, behavioral research, university and college instruction, animal training, and other areas. We are in an interim period in terms of legislative activity. Behavior Analysis licensing is now active and required in the state, meaning a growing number of Licensed Behavior Analysts and associated professional recognition. On the legislative downside, Michigan's "No Fault Insurance Reform" passed with a large bipartisan majority after years of failed attempts. This is not actually reform of the "no-fault" aspect of vehicle insurance, but modification and reduction of lifetime medical coverage for a range of vehicle accident injuries. The effects of the legislation are yet to be seen, will include significantly cut benefits for many people with vehicle related TBI and significant reductions in reimbursements for expert treatment providers. Many Michigan behavior analysts work in the head-injury rehabilitation field. The 2020 Annual BAAM Convention was an incredible success. It was held February 20–21 at the Student Center on the campus of Eastern Michigan University (EMU). We ended conference with 777 tickets sold, the second highest total yet. Many illness-related cancellations held the numbers down a bit. BAAM attendees came from more than two dozen universities and colleges, over a dozen states, and the province of Ontario. This year, we once again had a record number of poster presentations submitted, mostly by student contributors. Many local and regional agencies sent staff and administrators, reflecting the expansion of behavior analysis opportunities in the state. The growing participation of faculty and students from Central Michigan

University, Michigan State University, Oakland University, University of Toledo, and Wayne State University did not go unnoticed. A new undergraduate focused track was added to the meeting, and we hope to expand that in the coming years. BAAM extends special thanks to the staff of the EMU Event Planning Office, especially Meg Castro, the Catering Department, and all the workers in the Student Center for their contributions to making the conference run smoothly. The support of the EMU Psychology Department, BAAM's sponsor, was again essential to our success. Special thanks go to the Psychology Department head, Ellen Koch. As always, the BAAM staff and volunteers, led by EMU students Elise Pearl, Eleah Sunde, and Caitlyn Sorensen-Kowalski, did excellent work planning and managing the convention. BAAM once again had two keynote addresses. The Thursday keynote, "Young Skinner on Stimulus and Response Classes," was delivered by David Palmer of Smith College. Palmer's presentation discussed some fundamental aspects of the development of the concepts of stimulus and response class. The Friday keynote, "The War on Science: The Invasion of ABA?" by Kimberly A. Schreck of Pennsylvania State Harrisburg described the apparently growing problem of certified behavior analysts espousing and practicing empirically unsupported and even scientifically repudiated treatments. The many other convention sessions and presenters are too numerous to fully list. Their important and interesting contributions can be seen in the 2020 convention schedule on the BAAM website. BAAM will hold its 2021 Annual Convention February 27–28, again in the award-winning Student Center at EMU. BAAM intends to continue to offer a mix of basic, applied, and theoretical presentations and workshops. Online program submission and registration will again be available, and we look forward to even greater attendance and will add some new convention features to accommodate the growth. For more information, visit the BAAM website at www.baam.emich.edu.

Behavior Analysis Association of Mississippi

BY LUCY KAY JONES

Mission and History

The Behavior Analysis Association of Mississippi (BAAMS) is a non-profit corporation under the laws of the State of Mississippi, promoting ABA'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. BAAMS serves as a scientific and professional reference group for all in the State of Mississippi who identify themselves as scientists or practitioners in disciplines that embrace the principles and practices of behavior analysis. BAAMS works to identify and

promote the use of effective, humane, and ethical behavioral procedures in meeting the educational and habilitative needs of persons that are typically developing and persons with developmental disabilities within the State of Mississippi.

Additionally, BAAMS advises political, legislative, and policy-making bodies with respect to all matters pertaining to behavior analysis in the State of Mississippi and organizes and sponsors an annual convention, which serves as a forum for presentation of scientific progress, technological advancements, and clinical practice, as well as discussion of the affairs of the organization. BAAMS was founded on February 7, 2015 and became an affiliate state chapter of ABAI in 2015.

Officers

BAAMS is governed by an Executive Committee comprised of a president, past president, president-elect, treasurer, secretary, ABAI & APBA representatives, the ad hoc student representative, and four members of the duly designated regions of the State. The 2020–21 officers are DeTerrence Allen, BCBA, LBA, president; BreAnna Newborne, BCBA, LBA, past-president; Chris Furlow, Ph.D., BCBA-D, LBA, president-elect; Crystal Toche, BCBA, LBA, treasurer; Lucy Kay Jones, BCBA, LBA, ABAI representative; Kimberly Bellipani, Ph.D., BCBA-D, LBA, APBA representative; Lillie Jeter, BCBA, LBA, Region 1 representative and acting secretary; Brittany Bell, BCBA, LBA, Region 2 representative; Katie Boozer, BCBA, LBA, Region 3 representative; Greg Stanford, BCBA, LBA, Region 4 representative; and Laura Quintero, student representative.

Elections for all officers and representatives are conducted at the Annual BAAMS Conference each year, previously held in March and now scheduled to occur annually in November of each for terms lasting January–December for each year.

Membership

There are three types of membership with BAAMS: Full members, Affiliate member, and Student member. The criteria and benefits of membership include:

- Full member (including original Founding member of BAAMS): Any individual holding (a) at least a Bachelor's degree in behavior analysis, psychology, education, or related field, with training or professional experience in behavior analysis and whose full time professional commitment includes teaching, research, and/or practice in behavior analysis or (b) BACB certification (i.e., BCBA-D, BCBA, or BCaBA). Full members may vote and hold office.
- Affiliate member: Any member evidencing interest in the discipline of behavior analysis, but lacking formal training therein, may apply for this class of membership. Affiliate members are entitled to all

benefits except for (a) the right to vote on matters of interest to the organization, and (b) the right to hold office. Affiliate members may serve as members on BAAMS committees.

- Student member (including original Founding Student member of BAAMS): Any individual pursuing formal training in the discipline of behavior analysis, which may include programs in behavior analysis, psychology, education, or a related field but not yet gainfully employed therein on at least a half-time basis may apply for membership in this category. Such application must be accompanied by an endorsement on letterhead by a program coordinator or program official certifying the applicant's student status. This application will be reviewed in a manner like the review of those candidates for Full member status. Student members may neither vote nor hold office, though they may serve as members on BAAMS committees.

BAAMS has 83 active members as of April 5, 2020.

Member meetings occurred at the 2019 Annual BAAMS Conference in Jackson, MS, and the 2019 ABAI Conference in Chicago.

Meeting Activity

The 2019 BAAMS Conference was held in Jackson, MS, on March 20–21; speakers included Sarah Trautman-Eslinger, “Share the Love: How to Make Behavior Analysis More Appealing and Successful” and an ABA Business Workshop, as well as James Meindl, “Media Evoked Mass Killings.”

A member meeting occurred in Chicago at the 45th Annual ABAI Convention on May 25, 2019. Region representatives organize quarterly meetups for members in their designated region.

Other Activity

BAAMS representatives attended ABA Day at the Capitol on March 19, 2019.

In recent weeks, in light of the COVID-19 pandemic crisis, BAAMS has been engaged in lobbying for authorization of telehealth services from Mississippi insurance providers; BAAMS hosted an online meeting for all members on Friday, April 3, to discuss strategies for risk management and telehealth service delivery; the intent is for these meetings to occur at least once every two weeks at this time.

California ABA

BY JOCELYN THOMPSON

The California Association for Behavior Analysis remains committed to actively serving our membership, community stakeholders, and consumers of ABA. Annual highlights

include attendance of over 2,500 at our Regional Conference in Santa Clara, California (March 5–8) and trending to have an increase in our membership, with over 2,200 current members. We have continued to support both behavior analysts working in academia and those practicing in clinical settings. Further, we have continued to be actively involved in public policy matters related to the practice of ABA and there have been various CalABA sponsored activities promoting community/stakeholder outreach.

CalABA's annual Science Retreat for university faculty lead by our Academic Liaisons was productive and set in motion some exciting developments. First, CalABA sponsored two annual research grants that are intended to support innovative and collaborative research that extends the scope of behavior analysis and supports the next generation of scientist-practitioners. These are in addition to the student research grants, which were increased to four grants annually. CalABA also established a Science and Academics Committee, similar to the Membership and Conference Committees, that is comprised of academics and community members. This committee reviews the grant submissions and supports other science and academics-related initiatives by CalABA. Lastly, CalABA now covers all the registration fees for full-time academics that attend the annual regional conference.

CalABA hosted a series of free webinars for registered behavior technicians and CE events BCBA's. In order to better support our members and disseminate the various applications of ABA, CalABA now supports three special interest groups: Behavior Analysts in Education, Diversity and Inclusion, and Business Practices.

Our public policy committee has been active this year and continues to develop innovative ideas to better engage the general membership in public policy matters that impact the practice of ABA in CA. In March 2019, CalABA hosted its first Legislative Day where members went to the state capitol to speak to legislatures about AB 189 (mandate that Autism service providers and professionals be mandated reporters of child abuse) and provide them information on behavior analysis. The event was well received, and we are happy to report that AB 189 passed unopposed.

Outreach continues to be priority for our organization. We have established a separate Stakeholder Advisory Committee to increase communication and collaboration between CalABA and various stakeholder groups throughout CA. Recommendations from this committee have resulted in CalABA's participation in a number of events that provided information about the science and applications of ABA to a wider audience.

Connecticut ABA

BY MARIS K. PELKEY

Connecticut ABA (CTABA) has had a productive year. Our Membership, Organizational, Family & Consumer

Outreach, Home Services, Student Support, Public Schools, Professional Issues, Technology, Continuing Education and Public Policy and Legislative Outreach (PP&LO) committees have remained active and have allowed for robust member participation across this past year.

Our Board of Directors (BOD) held our first annual retreat this year, allowing us to work effectively and efficiently to target several action items for the benefit of our members. With the help of our Technology Committee, we moved all BOD communication and CTABA documents to an online format which has streamlined sharing of information. Finally, we developed a Code of Conduct for BOD members which is in line with the BACB's Professional and Ethical Compliance Code.

Our PP&LO Committee had an especially successful year. We continue to work with our lobbying firm, Przybysz and Associates. CTABA was contacted by CT's Department of Public Health's licensing division to share education on the role of the behavior analyst. To date, we have 900 licensed behavior analysts in CT. We are continuing to track various proposed bills and to advocate for those that directly impact the practice of behavior analysis and the clients we serve. For example, we submitted testimony in favor of autism services, provided feedback to committee members related to restraint and seclusion proposed changes, and supported the introduction of CT's blue envelope program which allows for improved communication between police officers and drivers with autism. Additionally, the PP&LO Committee is actively working to form relationships with insurers in the state to promote education and effective coverage of behavior analysis.

Our 16th annual state conference was a great success. Due to the unexpected closure of our initial conference site, the conference was moved to Mohegan Sun Resort and Casino in Uncasville, CT, allowing for an exciting new venue. This year's conference attendance included over 500 attendees and our vendor booths represented 28 organizations. We are greatly appreciative for our conference chair, Heather Teichman, M.Ed., BCBA, LABA (MA), LBA (CT) and the committee members, who managed to put on an excellent and well-rounded conference with keynote speaker Dr. William Heward and invited speakers Dr. Wayne Fisher, Dr. Rick Kubina, Dr. Robert Ross, and a parent panel with Lorri Unumb, Michele Trivedi and Mary Rosswurm. The conference also hosted an opportunity for preconference workshops, having over 50 preconference event registrations. Under Dr. William Heward's recommendation and support, this was CTABA's first environmentally friendly, green, conference.

CTABA continues to offer several CE Events throughout the year for our members. We held our 7th Annual Fall Workshop event in September 2019 with invited presenter Kent Johnson.

Our state continues to see dramatic growth in the numbers of BACB credentialed practitioners, including 868 BCBA's, BCBA-D's, and BCaBA's combined, and 526 RBTs, totaling 1394 behavior analysis practitioners. CT ABA currently has over 500 members.

Since 2013, CTABA 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, Jennifer Wood received the award. Congratulations Jennifer!

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 regarding CTABA.

District of Columbia ABA

BY MARY CARUSO-ANDERSON, LERA JOYCE JOHNSON, KEVEN SCHOCK, JOSEPH CLEM, ELENA ZAKLIS, AND CYNTHIA ESCOBAR

District ABA (DC ABA) has celebrated its third year. Although technically, the District of Columbia is quite small geographically, its metropolitan area extends to nearby states of Maryland and Virginia (aka, the DMV). Currently, there is no licensing of behavior analysts in DC. As such, insurance companies that reimburse licensed behavior analysts will not credential behavior analysts in DC. Companies like CareFirst state that they only credential behavior analysts who are licensed. The District of Columbia also has a different political structure than the sovereign 50 states. It has a city council and mayor but is under the exclusive jurisdiction of the U.S. Congress which may impact any licensure effort in the District. Our neighbor affiliate chapters (VABA and MABA) have graciously supported the establishment of a DC ABA to focus on the specific needs of families and ABA providers in the District and the surrounding Metropolitan area.

Mission

To promote the professional practice, ethics, research, and dissemination of behavior analysis and its associated technologies, serving the Washington Metropolitan area (aka DMV) of Washington D.C., and to provide its members with support and continuing education opportunities within the field of behavior analysis.

Executive Board

DC ABA is governed by an Executive Committee comprised of the elected offices of president, past-president, president-elect/vice president, and three at large representatives. The Committee is completed by the appointed positions of secretary, communication officer,

and treasurer. The 2020 Executive Board consists of Mary Caruso-Anderson, Ph.D., BCBA-D, LBA (VA & MD; president), Keven Schock, MA, BCBA, LBA (president-elect/vice president), Lera Joyce Johnson, Ph.D., BCBA-D, LBA (VA & MD; past-president), Cynthia Escobar, MA, BCBA (at-large representative), Joseph Clem, M.Ed., BCBA (at-large representative), Elena Zaklis, MA, BCBA, Colleen Williams, M.Ed., BCBA (communication officer), Robin Moyher, Ph.D., BCBA-D (secretary), and Jacquelin Jackson, MS, BCBA (treasurer). The Executive Board meets twice per month.

Working Committees

To meet the goals and initiatives of the organization, DC ABA has working committees headed by a representative of the Executive Board. Other members of each working committee are drawn from the general membership. The Membership Committee (chaired by Joseph Clem) focuses on supporting members of DC ABA (i.e., trainings, resources, socializing) and growing the number of members, which includes behavior analysts, other professionals, RBTs, parents, allies, etc. The Program/Conference Committee (chaired by Mary Caruso-Anderson) focuses on organizing any events (i.e., annual conference, special events, etc.) for DC ABA. The Marketing/Publications Committee (chaired by David Mittermaier) focuses on creating and maintaining all printed and online publications of DC ABA, including social media posts, blog, and resources for membership and public educational purposes. The Public Policy Committee (chaired by Lera Joyce Johnson) focuses on furthering the regulated practice of behavior analysis in Washington, DC, including research of licensure initiatives across the country, drafting ABA licensure laws for DC and working for their ratification.

Membership

DC ABA offers four categories of membership: Full membership, Professional membership, Affiliate membership, and Student membership. Full membership is available to any individual holding a graduate degree in a discipline directly related to or involving behavior analysis, who is an active behavior analyst in good standing and whose professional commitment includes teaching, research, and/or practice in behavior analysis. Full membership may include BCBA, BCBA-Ds, or other credentialed behavior analysts. Full members may vote on membership decisions of the chapter.

Professional membership is available to any individual holding a bachelor's degree or any individual holding a graduate or higher degree but does not meet criteria for Full membership. Professional membership would include those with course work or experience directly related to or involving behavior analysis and who have at least one year of experience in professional commitments, such as

teaching, research, and/or practice in behavior analysis. This may include BCaBAs or RBTs with a bachelor's degree. Affiliate membership is available to any individual who has evidenced interest in the discipline of behavior analysis. This membership category may include parents or family members of clients, community members, teachers, individuals in related services or providers of services to mutual clients of behavior analysts. Student membership is available to any individual pursuing formal training in the discipline of behavior analysis. Currently, benefits at each level include discounted CEs and event registrations.

Currently, DC ABA has enrolled 50 members of which 33 hold Full memberships, nine Professional, three Affiliate, and three Student memberships. This is a slight increase since last year. In 2019, DC ABA enrolled 44 members of which 34 Full memberships, four Professional, three Affiliate, and three Student memberships.

Events and Activities

DC ABA became incorporated in February 2018 and became an affiliate chapter of ABAI in March 2018. Dechert law firm assisted DC ABA (pro bono) with the complicated process to apply for non-profit status in DC. This process was delayed due to the government shutdown, but we received our non-profit status May 10, 2019 and became an affiliate chapter of APBA November 20, 2019.

In March 2019, DC ABA offered a full-day workshop CE event in collaboration with The Chicago School of Professional Psychology, DC Campus. Michelle Silcox, CMRS, Jodi Bouer, Esq., and Kim Mack Rosenburg, Esq., presented on the newly adopted CPT 1 codes for ABA services. Emphasis was on development of ethical billing practices at the intersection of best clinical practice and insurance payor requirements.

Our primary focus in 2020 will be to facilitate the submission of a licensing model act in the District of Columbia. Other goals include increasing resources for professionals and parents, increased membership, recruiting parent members, active dissemination of behavior analysis, working with other regional ABA groups, specifically Virginia ABA and Maryland ABA to promote behavior analysis across the DMV region, and becoming a CEU provider.

Visit us online! DC ABA has established a social presence through its website (districtaba.org), Facebook (DC ABA), and Twitter (@[districtaba](https://twitter.com/districtaba)).

Illinois ABA

BY SCOTT HERBST

This was an exciting year for the Illinois Association of Behavior Analysis. In February 2020, we hosted our 10th Annual Convention in Naperville, a suburb of Chicago and over 400 professionals, students, and other interested

parties attended. This marked an over 100% increase in attendance over the prior year (held mid-state) and a 60% increase over the last time (2018) it was held in Chicago. Similarly, our membership grew by over 60% this year. ILABA continues to work on passing a licensure bill. As of this writing, our focus is on working with opposition so as to craft a bill that works for all Illinois stakeholders. Our legislative committee continues to work with our bill's sponsor and other interested parties to craft that language. Finally, we are excited to share that this year we began offering online educational opportunities to our members. Additionally, we began hosting meetups throughout the state to provide our members further opportunities to network and learn from each other.

Kansas ABA

BY ALLISON SERRA TETREAULT

Mission

Kansas ABA'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 developed a new Historian position this year to ensure consistency and institutional memory within the organization. This position is filled by Ed Morris, past-president and co-founder of KansABA. In addition, KansABA is governed by an Executive Council that consists of president, Allison Tetreault; full-member representative, Megan Schmidt; adjunct-member representative, Katie Gower; and student representatives, Brett Gelino and Josh Harsin. The Council is assisted by secretary, Alec Bernstein, and 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 Kelly Harrison; and a professional development liaisons, Tyler Ré and 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 the 2019 year, 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 2020 conference was "Improving Community and Cultural Systems: From Research to Practice". Our presenters were Susan Schneider (University of the Pacific), "Behavior Analysis for Climate Action"; Tony Biglan (Oregon Research Institute), "The Evolution of More Nurturing Societies"; Mark Mattaini (University of Illinois at Chicago), "Toward Cultures of Social and Environmental Justice: A Constructional Approach"; Jomella Watson-Thompson (University of Kansas), "Using a Behavioral Community Approach to Address Violence through Multisector Collaboration"; and Melbourne Hovall (San Diego State University), "Real Time Measures of Behavior: Setting the Stage for Individual and Societal Change."

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. In addition, Juniper Gardens Children's Project was awarded for their distinguished contributions to behavior analysis in Kansas. This award was accepted by Judy Carta, Charlie Greenwood, Vance Hall, and Brian Boyd on behalf of the organization. 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, September 24, and November 2. The first conference included two sessions. The first was presented by Steven Payne (California State University) titled "Identifying Reinforcing Stimuli in the Dog Shelter: Food and Attention as Reinforcers for Shelter Dog Behavior". The second session was presented by Julie Ackerlund Brandt (The Chicago School of Professional Psychology) titled "The Power of Attention: Why We Should Assess Different Types". The second workshop was conducted by Sacha Pence (Drake University) and was titled "Effective Training

Models: Considerations when Using Behavior Skills Training". The third was comprised of a talk by Jennifer Zarcone (May Institute) and Annette Griffith (The Chicago School of Professional Psychology) titled "Measuring Behavioral Effects of Psychotropic Medication." About 20 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 liaisons 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.

Lone Star ABA

BY GERALD HARRIS

The Lone Star Applied Behavior Analysts (LSABA) chapter was established in 2009 to provide community support for professionals and students in the field of applied behavior analysis. Houston area members include practitioners as well as educators, and those who work in either the public or private sectors. While many 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 wide variety of populations and problems.

The monthly LSABA chapter meetings continue an excellent forum to inform practitioners of ABA related news, events, and issues. At the beginning of each meeting, different committee members will present specific information on current issues, followed by a discussion of local relevance. Each meeting also reviews specific relevant research articles, which provides ABAI approved CE credits to eligible members.

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, tells Members about opportunities to voice their opinions and concerns, provides relevant information to governmental individuals and agencies enacting and implementing those laws and regulations, and educates providers and the community on the practical impact for them. This past year LSABA has voiced positions on several Texas legislative and regulatory issues, including inclusion of ABA services for public

assistance programs and information regarding the new Licensed Behavior Analyst system in Texas.

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

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

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

Local conferences are our latest endeavor. We are providing two conferences per year now. These include some of the best-known ABA presenters and are well attended. These conferences focus on best practices for ABA professionals and have received very good feedback from the ABA community.

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 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, LSABA appears to have a good foundation and a good track record of accomplishments. LSABA is certainly blessed with having dedicated and caring members, and excellent support from the ABA professional establishment.

Massachusetts ABA

BY SUSAN AINSLEIGH

The Massachusetts Association for Behavior Analysis (MassABA) was established in 2010 to support the science and practice of behavior analysis in Massachusetts. As the home of over 2500 BCBA®s, 15 Verified Course Sequences (VCS)® leading to the BCBA® credential, and 7 Verified Course Sequences (VCS)® leading to the BCaBA® credential, Massachusetts boasts among the highest per capita concentration of behavior analysts in the world and an active behavior analytic community. The vision of MassABA is to serve as the trade organization for this community. MassABA has focused its efforts to fulfill this vision by:

- Supporting behavior analysts seeking licensure by assuring that licensure applications are processed in a timely manner;
- Supporting legislation that would strengthen the licensure process in Massachusetts with the creation of a separate licensing board for behavior analysts;
- Supporting the expansion of insurance coverage for ABA services;
- Advocating for timely reimbursement of ABA services by state funding sources;
- Expanding regional continuing education events for behavior analysis practitioners in more remote locations of the region;
- Expanding interaction and correspondence with MassABA members via social media;
- Advocating for behavior analytic professionals practicing in public schools by organizing a monthly networking event and advocating for adequate supports for BCBA's in public schools;
- Hosting an annual conference that brings diverse behavior analytic voices and applications to our membership.

Legislative Update:

Over the past year MassABA has continued to work with state government leaders to keep them abreast of issues of importance to our membership. This included assisting with the development of two bills that would: a) create a separate licensing board for behavior analysts (HB3479) and b) better align licensure with BACB® certification criteria (S-134). Mass ABA board members attended an advocacy day and briefing at the Mass State House, to which all MassABA members were invited, reviewing the importance of these bills and outlining procedures for effectively talking to state legislators about the content of the bills. Both bills have successfully passed from the Joint Commission of Protection and Professional Licensure. MassABA members were also invited to legislative hearings on the expansion of ABA services, rates for ABA services provided through Mass Health, and reporting requirements for providers. Finally, MassABA board members, in collaboration with BABAT and MassCAP,

provided feedback on documentation standards proposed by the Behavioral Health Center for Excellent (BHCOE®).

Insurance Update

MassABA has been a consistent supporter for broadening insurance accessibility for recipients of ABA in MA, and also for providing ABA providers with increased information about insurance coverage and changes. In July 2019 MassABA co-sponsored a webinar for ABA providers on Mass Health updates. Additionally, during the 2019 annual conference, MassABA co-sponsored (with the Autism Insurance Resource Center) an insurance roundtable session, inviting representatives from several MA insurance providers to speak with behavioral service providers about updates in coverage for ABA services. Representatives from 5 insurance agencies participated in a panel discussion at this event, which was provided for MassABA members at no charge. In December, MassABA members attended a full-day workshop provided by the Autism Insurance Resource Center (AIRC) in Worcester MA. This full-day event, which was attended by several hundred MA service providers, included insurance updates, networking opportunities, and concurrent workshops on the following topics: Health Insurance Provide Rights and Obligations, Audits, Recoupments & Fraud, and Appeals & Litigation. Mass ABA assists AIRC with disseminating information about all scheduled events, cosponsors events with AIRC, and annually donates to AIRC to support their work in advocating for improved insurance coverage for MA service recipients.

Strategic Planning and Implementation Update

As an extension to the strategic planning process completed by MassABA in 2018, MassABA updated its vision statement, revised its by-laws, set measurable goals, and developed an implementation plan for achieving these goals in 2019 and beyond. MassABA hired an Executive Director to facilitate implementation of the strategic plan and professionalize its procedures, beginning in January of 2019. Monthly review of the strategic plan occurred by the Board of Directors, and many initiatives are underway to achieve the goals dictated by this plan. These initiative include the formalizing of position descriptions for MassABA board members, expansion of social media outlets to better connect with members, recruitment of student representatives to join the board of directors and student volunteers to assist at MassABA events, broadening access to professional development opportunities for all members, development of a code of conduct for members at MassABA events, and the increase of engagement and involvement of members in all of MassABA's initiatives.

Professional Development Update

MassABA has hosted an annual conference for each of the past nine years. In 2019, the annual conference was expanded to offer events across two full days. Over 25 presenters and 700 attendees participated in the 2019 Annual Conference, welcoming keynote speakers Lorri Sheely Unumb (Autism Speaks), Dr. Dorothea Lerman, & Dr. Justin Leaf, as well as over a dozen invited and accepted speakers. Workshops held on the first day of the conference included intensive training by Adam Ventura focusing on supervision & training, a workshop on ethical issues and feeding and treatment in behavioral feeding by Dr. Melissa Olive, an overview of the Essentials for Living (EFL) by Dr. Patrick McGreevy and Troy Frey, and Ethics/ Social Skills Training by Dr. Justin Leaf. An insurance roundtable discussion, co-sponsored by the Autism Insurance Resource Center, also opened the annual conference. The annual conference was sold out for the 6th year in a row.

MassABA expanded its regional professional development events to better serve individuals in more remote areas of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, including the Cape Cod region, and Western MA region. Two events were held in the fall of 2019 and spring of 2020 focusing on the applications of ABA to feeding disorders.

MassABA's active Public School Committee co-sponsored a monthly networking event for BCBAs working in public schools in the Commonwealth titled: Professional Practices Symposium for Behavior Analysts: Developing Effective ABA Programs in Public School Systems. This monthly event was held conveniently during school-time hours. Over 100 BCBAs working in public school districts around the Commonwealth attended. A series of speakers accompanied opportunities to network and problem solve challenges associated with behavioral service delivery in public school settings.

Public School Services Update

In addition to the above noted successful networking and professional development series for public school BCBAs, MassABA welcome to the Board of Directors a new position titled Public School Representative, serving as a liaison between the Public School Committee and the Board of Directors. This committee began gathering information from public school practitioners on challenges faced by those providing ABA services in public school settings. MassABA also assisted the Massachusetts Autism Commission in conducting a survey aimed at BCBAs working in public school setting to gather information about the recruitment and retention of highly qualified service providers in these settings.

MassABA has several active committees who work to address specific areas of interest to our members. These committees include:

- The School Based BCBA Committee

- The Legislative Committee
- The Strategic Planning Committee
- The Conference and Events Committee

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

Missouri ABA

BY JENNY FRISBEE

The Missouri Association for Behavior Analysis (MOABA) is an organization founded to support and promote scientific research on basic principles of behavior and the effective and ethical application of those principles across the great state of Missouri. This year we welcomed Jennifer Weyman (president-elect) and Alan Lowe (student representative). Returning board members included Jenny Frisbee (president), Leanne Hopper (past president), Todd Streff (treasurer), Casey Clay (secretary), Maggie Pavone (member at large), and John Guercio (member at large). We thank Nicole Schroeder (former student representative) for her commitment to MOABA and the practice of behavior analysis in Missouri. The annual MOABA conference in November 2019 was a success, with a sold-out venue. We offered five conference presentations and four workshops. Our invited presenters included Tyra Sellers, Pamela L. Neidert, Joshua Pritchard, Melissa R. Nosik, Seth Gregory Walker, Janice Smith, Andrew Craig, Kate Fiske, Alison Betz, and Nicholas Maio-Aether. In addition to the annual conference, we were able to sponsor an intimate summer workshop with the co-author of *Deliberate Consulting*, Nick Weatherly, in Columbia, MO. We are looking forward to continuing to support the practice of behavior analysis across the state and future planning of quality continuing education.

Nebraska ABA

BY NANCY LAMB

For years Nebraska was a member of the regional Heartland Association for Behavior Analysis (HLABA). With the expansion of ABA in the region other states started their own ABA associations leaving Nebraskans as the vast majority of the membership of HLABA. During 2019 steps were taken to merge the Nebraska Association for Behavior Analysis (NEABA) with the Heartland

Association for Behavior Analysis including new bylaws. NEABA and HLABA officially merged following the 2019 HLABA Convention.

New board members were not elected due to the merger. Nancy Lamb, Vice-President of NEABA became President after the merger. Andrea Clements, previously President of HLABA became Past-President. An election of board members will resume at the 2020 NEABA convention to be held March 5th and 6th 2020.

The Legislative Committee of NEABA worked closely with contracted consultant David Montgomery (past Executive Administrator for the Nebraska Board of Health) who is an expert on Nebraska Legislature's 407 process. The committee has closely followed the APBA Model Licensure Practice Act in development of Nebraska's documents. Unfortunately, Mr. Montgomery had to terminate his contract with NEABA due to major health concerns. NEABA Legislative committee has every intention to continue our efforts and progress toward licensure for BCBAs and BCBA-Ds in Nebraska.

NEABA will continue to promote the science and practice of Applied Behavior Analysis in the state of Nebraska. We will continue to focus on: Providing educational resources as identified by our membership, expanding ABA across the State, educate stakeholders about the fundamental principles of ABA and its application in areas beyond Autism (i.e., intellectual disabilities, education, rehabilitation, business and government).

Nevada ABA

BY ALICIA MACALEESE

NABA has continued to work on improvement via a series of key initiatives that were put in place by the previous board. Nevada Association for Behavior Analysis (NABA) has continued to prioritize the growth of the organization.

NABA has executed a number of initiatives aimed at growing the organization over the past year and half. Some of these were mentioned last year but continue to be relevant to the current board and organization as a whole. We are continuing the modernizations 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 2020 strategic goals are a continued aimed at growth including increasing the number of events available to members throughout the year and continuing to organize the operation of the organization.

As last year's report noted, 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 which moved regulation of behavior analysts

in the state 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. In 2020, we will continue to expand the number of people involved in legislative matters so when the 2021 legislative sessions are active we are prepared with a number of people to take action efficiently and effectively. A new chair was appointed to this committee, Dr. Gwen Dwigings with Dr. Ken MacAleese continuing to facilitate in a mentor-like role. This change was made to further the number of people involved and continue to broaden people involved in legislation. An attempt was made to revise and update our bylaws, however only a few measures were passed by our membership.

NABA held its 2019 conference at the Whitney Peak Hotel in Reno, NV on October 10–13, offering a non-concurrent event featuring an outstanding line-up of events with 220 individuals in attendance. The conference showcased the diversity of behavior analysis with presentations across experimental, applied, and theoretical areas. Notable speakers Dr. Jordan Bonow (suicide prevention-workshop), Dr. David Cox (ethics-workshop), Dr. Ellie Kazemi (supervision-workshop and Keynote speaker), Dr. William Baum, Pierre Louis and Brett DiNovi, Dr. Warren Bickel, Dr. Sharlet Rafacz, Dr. Amy Odeum, Dr. Mitch Fryling, Dr. Ken MacAleese, Dr. Traci Cihon and Stu Law (recipient of the Student Research award). The conference offered up to 18 continuing education credits for BACB credentialed individuals which included workshops on ethics, suicide prevention, and supervision. NABA supported a range of student work through the Student Research Presentation Award (recipient: Stu Law) and the poster session with 22 posters, largely presented by student researchers.

In our ongoing efforts to increase membership and disseminate information, NABA hosted an Expo booth and held a business meeting at the most recent ABAI Annual Convention in Chicago. NABA has webinars and town hall meetings using a webinar platform to keep members up to date on relevant happenings in Nevada and we plan to offer CEU's for future webinars. We had an hour-long webinar by Dr. Sandoz in December that we offered for free to the first 100 members who registered for the conference. In addition to webinars, the NABA board has formed 4 subcommittee (public policy, dissemination, practice an, and student) to give members another avenue to participate in the organization.

To start off this year, NABA provided 1.5 free CEUs for a Behavior Analysis Research Fair that the University of Nevada, Reno Behavior Analysis program put on in February. This year, NABA will host the annual conference on October 15th-18th at the Whitney Peak Hotel in Reno, NV. This non-gaming, non-smoking hotel is located in the heart of down-town Reno and will afford members and speakers to access local restaurants and entertainment. Our speaker line-up is still to be determined however we do have several speakers who have confirmed including Dr. Richard Yi, Dr. Susan Schneider, Dr. Erin Rasmussen, Dr. Claire St. Peter, Dr. Rebecca Tagg and Dr. Larry Williams. We are planning on providing 16 CEUs for our annual conference. NABA will continue have a single-track conference covering applied, basic and theoretical discussions. NABA is continuing the NABA Silver Sage Award which recognizes a Nevadan who has made a significant contribution to the field of behavior analysis in the areas of research, practice, dissemination, policy, or advocacy. Nominees may or may not be members of NABA or work in the field of behavior analysis. Preference will be given to nominees whose contributions to the field have directly benefited students, researchers, practitioners, or consumers of behavior science in the State of Nevada. Winners of the Silver Sage Award are formally recognized and are invited to present at the annual conference of the Nevada Association for Behavior Analysis. Presentations are in the area of work for which they received the award. This year's recipient is Dr. Larry Williams.

NABA will provide support to students student members through presentation opportunities via the Student Research Presentation Award and poster session, and provide supplemental conference funding through volunteer positions and conference scholarships.

Moving forward, NABA seeks to increase our membership base and to encourage more involvement from members throughout the year. We are looking to 2021 as well and collaborating with the OBM Network to cohost a conference for our members. We are also invested in garnering more participation from our members on committees and providing the board with ways to better serve our membership. NABA remains committed to building partnerships in our community to advance the field of behavior analysis.

NABA has set a goal to break the 300-member threshold in 2019. To help achieve this goal, NABA held an expo booth and a business meeting at the Annual 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 CEUs, 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: www.nevadaaba.org
- Email us at NABA@nevadaaba.org
- Connect with us on LinkedIn: Nevada Association for Behavior Analysis
- Like us on Facebook: Nevada Association for Behavior Analysis
- Follow us on Twitter: @NABAOfficial

North Carolina ABA

BY RUTH HURST & KRISTI TOWARD

The North Carolina Association for Behavior Analysis held its 30th anniversary conference in Raleigh, NC, February 19, 2020. The conference was a great success thanks to the leadership of Kristi Toward, president (KLT Behavior Consulting), as well the rest of our Executive Council including Selene Johnson, past president (ABC of NC); Callie Plattner, president elect (Mosaic Pediatric Therapy); Monique Baker, vice president (Effective Interventions); Leigh Ann Strain, secretary (Effective Interventions); Nancy Poteet, treasurer (private consultant), Leica Anzaldo, member-at-large (Easterseals UCP of NC and VA), Aleck Myers, member-at-large (Autism Society of NC), Erin Moran, student representative (University College London), Jamie Clary, publications editor (Riddle Developmental Center), Fred Spooner, senior NCABA advisor (UNC-Charlotte), Duke Schell, senior NCABA advisor (Riddle Developmental Center), Ruth Hurst, liaison to ABAI, NC Psychological Association, and ACE Coordinator (Murdoch Developmental Center), and a host of other NCABA volunteers.

Our nine invited speakers traveled from across the state and country to present on topics including ethical issues in the treatment of feeding difficulties in children (Melanie Bachmeyer, Ph.D., LP, BCBA-D, UNC Wilmington); teaching perspective-taking skills to individuals with autism (Adel Najdowski, Ph.D., BCBA-D, Pepperdine University); moving from 1:1 intervention to small group instruction (Patrick McGreevy, Ph.D., BCBA-D, Patrick McGreevy & Associates); behavior analytic equations (Cary Trump, Ph.D., BCBA-D, University of Northern Colorado); transferring skill-based treatment to caregivers (Kelsey Ruppel, Ph.D., BCBA, LABA, FTF Behavioral Consulting); behaving analytically in the provision of school supports (Robert Pennington, Ph.D., BCBA-D, UNC Charlotte); update from the BACB Ethics Department (Tyra Sellers, JD, Ph.D., BCBA-D and Sara Lichtenberger, Ph.D., BCBA-D, BACB); behavior analysis in the mainstream of daily life (Patrick Friman, Ph.D., ABPP, Boys Town); and behavioral pharmacology of impulsive and risky choice (Raymond Pitts, Ph.D., UNC Wilmington).

We had a total of 147 (pre-conference workshop attendees for presentations on teaching functional life skills (Patrick McGreevy, Ph.D., BCBA-D, Patrick McGreevy & Associates) and Balance which is a home-based collaborative approach to addressing emerging behavior problems (Kelsey Ruppel, Ph.D., BCBA, LABA, FTF Behavioral Consulting) and 103 attendees at our post-conference workshops on public speaking by behavior analysts (Patrick Friman, Ph.D., ABPP, Boys Town) and strategies for providing high quality supervision (Tyra Sellers, JD, Ph.D., BCBA-D and Sara Lichtenberger, Ph.D., BCBA-D, BACB).

Our nine concurrent sessions also covered a breadth of topics presented by local and national experts: Monique Baker, Kat Tinker, & Breana Dutcher (Effective Interventions); Shanun Kunnavatana Casey Clay, & Kristen Kelley (Easterseals UCP of NC & VA); John Keller (The Geriatric Behavior Laboratory - GerBL); Tracy Vail, Amy Swaim, & Jean Jarrett (Let's Talk Speech and Language Services); Kellie Syfan & Aakriti Tripathi (Carolina Center for ABA); Holly Moses (Crossvine Clinical Group); Jeannie Golden, Corbett Hall, Drene Bryant, & Kristin Spruill (East Carolina University); and Patrick O'Leary & Rebecca Cardillo (Positive Behavior Supports Corp.).

A total of 475 people registered for the 2020 conference, which was a record high for our organization. Each of the invited and concurrent talks were well-attended and our speakers did an outstanding job delivering meaningful and important content to our attendees. This year, NCABA was able to offer both NCPA and BACB continuing education credits, including supervision and ethics credits, for each of the invited and concurrent presentations as well as for the pre-and post-conference workshops. More than 3000 BACB continuing education credits were awarded. Worthy of note, and thankfully, NCABA Secretary Leigh Ann Strain spearheaded an effort to find and use a software program so that we can more efficiently manage both BACB and Psychology CEUs.

At the opening of the conference, Kristi Toward gave thanks to the members of the NCABA Executive Council and acknowledged their continued efforts with supporting and growing this vibrant organization, putting together the 2020 conference, and continuing to work on behavior analyst practice issues in our state. Awards were given to several very deserving individuals during the opening remarks. NC State Representative Chuck McGrady (NC House of Representatives) was awarded the NCABA "Do Things" Award; Selene Johnson (ABC of NC) was awarded the Fred Keller Excellence in Behavior Analysis Award; Emily Hardy (Effective Interventions) received the Technical Utilization Award, and Shelby King (Autism Society of North Carolina) was awarded the J. Iverson Riddle Student Scholarship.

A special award of appreciation was given to Jim Phillips (Autism Society of North Carolina), a long-time supporter and founding board member of NCABA. This is only the second time this award has been given by the organization and recognizes Jim's major contribution to the field and the organization. He has positively affected the lives of many people with developmental disabilities and the people he has supervised. Prior to working for the Autism Society of North Carolina, Jim was a psychologist at the Western Carolina Center (now the J. Iverson Riddle Developmental Center) and the Directory of Psychology at Murdoch Developmental Center.

The NCABA Student Representative, Erin Moran from the University College London, organized an excellent student symposium for this year's conference, including presentations by: T. Kristina Mosely (UNC Wilmington), Amy Clausen (UNC Charlotte), and Melissa Tapp (UNC Charlotte).

The poster session included research conducted by graduate students and professionals. Prizes were awarded to presenters in two categories, Professional and Graduate Student. The Professional Poster Award went to Connor Sheehan (Pediatric Feeding Clinic, UNC Wilmington) while the Graduate Student Award went to Richelle Hurtado (UNC Wilmington).

This year's annual business meeting was—for the third year in a row—exceptionally well-attended. The status of practice issues for behavior analysts in North Carolina were discussed. The newly elected officers were announced and are listed on our website, along with a link that members can use to contact them by email. The Board welcomes Shanun Kunnavatana in the position of vice president, Mark Stafford into the position of member at large, and Ashley Stroman into the position of student representative. Leigh Ann Strain was re-elected into the position of Secretary position.

Deserving a special thank you and acknowledgement are Jamie Clary, Ruth Hurst, Fred Spooner, and Duke Schell who serve non-voting but essential functions for the NCABA Board. Jamie Clary serves as our NCABA Web Editor, Ruth Hurst serves as our liaison to ABAI and other groups, and Fred Spooner and Duke Schell serve as Senior NCABA Board Advisors. We want to sincerely thank outgoing board members Selene Johnson (Past President) and Erin Moran (Student Representative) for all they have done to support and advance NCABA during their terms.

For the fifth year the NCABA Executive Council approved partial financial assistance in order to send the President or another designated board member to the national conference and annual chapter leadership training. This opportunity for financial assistance for an NCABA officer to attend the ABAI convention is reviewed annually by the Executive Council.

Please visit our website at www.nc-aba.com and see additional highlights from the 31st annual NCABA

Conference, including photos of award and poster winners this year and in years past and find information on becoming an NCABA member. The NCABA website also provides information about our history since 1989, including the "25 Year History" slide show, links to newsletters, and information about the conference and upcoming events, including our NCABA summer Autism conference and planning for our 32nd annual conference to be held February 2021.

Ohio ABA

BY BRYAN DROESCH AND JENNIFER SWEENEY

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

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

The OHABA Executive Board members as of March 2020 included the president, Jennifer Sweeney, Ph.D., BCBA-D, COBA; past-president Nicole Powell, Psy.D., BCBA-D, COBA; president-elect Janet Hansen, Ph.D., BCBA-D, COBA; secretary Bryan Droesch, MEd, BCBA, COBA and treasurer, Nichole Williams, BCBA, COBA. The OHABA Board is committed to making the organization a resource for members across the state. The 2020 OHABA Board includes Marketing and Technology co-chairs Ron DeMuesy, MEd, BCBA, COBA, and Lee Geer, BCBA, COBA; Membership chair Brittany Duffy, BCBA, COBA; Professional Standards chair Janette Long BCBA, COBA; Education chair, Dacia McCoy, Ph.D., BCBA-D, COBA; Program co-chairs, Andrew Penmer, M.Ed. BCBA, COBA and Nicole DeLano, MS, BCBA, LBA, COBA; Public Policy chair, Jen Gonda, M.Ed., BCBA, COBA; and student representative, Meghan O'Neal, BA.

In 2019-2020, the full board and committees worked hard to coordinate increased opportunities for members. Our board continues to expand representation from all parts

of Ohio. We had an increased presence on social media including a members only Facebook group. In April of 2019, OHABA was proud to offer a two-day conference at the Marriot Columbus University Area in Columbus, Ohio. In addition, we offered town hall meetings in multiple areas across the state that included ethics CE opportunities for members. We offered supervision CE's as well. We participated as exhibitors in multiple conferences across Ohio and neighboring states. In February 2020, OHABA was proud to offer its 10th annual conference a two-day conference at the Marriott Columbus University Area.

Membership Information

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

- December 2014: 127 members
- December 2015: 148 members
- December 2016: 185 members
- December 2017: 225 members
- December 2018: 276 members
- December 2019: 300 members

OHABA is intent on continuing to increase its membership by offering CE opportunities to members across the state. Individuals interested in joining OHABA can find a membership form on our website, www.ohaba.org. Fees are \$30 for full members, \$25 for affiliate members, and \$15 for student members. Benefits of membership include a reduced registration fee for OHABA conferences with CEs included; free ethics CE opportunities at town hall meetings held in different regions of the state four times per year; the opportunity to exchange ideas, discuss job leads, and share the results of research and practice efforts; upcoming access to various workshops and webinar opportunities; and updates on changes affecting the practice of applied behavior analysis. Individuals interested in becoming members, or any members interested in serving on the board or a committee, should contact OHABA at ohaba@ohaba.org.

Annual Conference 2020

The 2020 conference was February 7-8 at the Marriott Columbus University Area, which was our largest yet having roughly 400 attendees. Invited speakers included Linda LeBlanc, Rick Kubina, Amanda Kelly, and August Stockwell. Fees for our annual conference were \$200 (full members), \$250 (nonmembers), and \$115 (student members). In addition to great speakers, OHABA celebrated its 10th annual conference with many special events. OHABA worked with Dr. Bill Heward and Dr. Jonathan Kimbell to bring ConClue to life at our event. This was based on their 2019 *Operant* article "Should We Play Games at a Time Like This?" The event added a fun

twist to the conference where attendees were reinforced for engaging in green behaviors. At various points through the two day event, individuals were randomly reinforced and received great prizes. In addition to ConClue, Drs. John Cooper, Timothy Heron, and Bill Heward attended the membership mingle. During this event, the authors conducted a book signing and meet and greet. These events, fabulous talks, and record attendance made the 10th annual conference a success!

Certification in the State of Ohio

Over the past five years, the OHABA board has worked closely with the Ohio State Board of Psychology (OSBP) to educate BCBAs on the process and importance of becoming Certified Ohio Behavior Analysts (COBAs). Only individuals who have the COBA designation can practice behavior analysis in the state, except in exempt settings. The last step in obtaining the certification requires candidates to attend a half-day workshop and pass an exam covering the rules and regulations regarding behavior analytic practice in Ohio. The board has committed to having representation at each of these workshops to assist in answering questions and to ensure newly certified members are aware of OHABA as a resource. As a result of OHABA's efforts to build a relationship with the OSBP, the Board of Psychology is looking to appoint a member to its board with the BCBA/COBA designation. This will improve the awareness of the practice of behavior analysis in the state while also providing a seat at the table.

Public Policy

This past year, OHABA has increased its efforts in the area of public policy. The Board appointed a Public Policy chair in the hopes of assessing current climate in Ohio and areas of needed awareness and action. Over the past year, OHABA has begun to develop a plan to move forward, reached out to state legislators, and worked with various stakeholders at the state and national level. At the 2020 conference a representative from the state Medicaid office attended to learn about behavior analysis and our practice.

Future Direction

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

Oklahoma ABA

BY TIFFANIE MOORE

Over the past year, the Oklahoma Association for Behavior Analysis (OKABA) has focused on advocacy, with members working hard to secure Medicaid coverage for ABA in the state. While celebrating increased access to care, OKABA has worked to expand its reach by providing members with a newsletter focused on local topics/events, planning for continuing education opportunities, and working with organizations sharing similar goals (ex. Autism Speaks). In addition to its affiliation with ABAI, OKABA recently established affiliation with APBA. While the chapter is still in its infancy, the group is focused on organizing events that

education (CE) credits which satisfy the BCBA's ethics and supervision requirements. We are also offering CE credits for psychologists via the Pennsylvania Board of Psychology. This year's presenters included Frank Bird, Kevin Callahan, Amanda Fisher, Rebecca MacDonald, Helen Maguire, Andrew Schlesinger, and Byron Wine who presented on a diverse range of topics, including organizational behavior management, behavioral skills training, the use of technology to enhance client care and clinical decision-making, and establishing social skill development in toddlers.

Membership and event registration was strong again this year. We hosted over 125 attendees during the three-day conference, which also included a poster session highlighting emerging research from our region, and a forum for exhibitors promoting the practice of behavior analysis in our area.

Pennsylvania ABA

BY JIM CHOK AND RICHARD FOXX

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

Mission and Vision

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

History

PennABA was incorporated in 1998. Richard Foxx and William Helsel saw a need to support behavior analysis in the state of Pennsylvania. In 2000, Richard Kubina chaired a meeting at the ABAI annual convention to help elect PennABA's first set of officers. With the creation of PennABA, service providers, teachers, students, and families in Pennsylvania gained a resource that fosters the application and growth of behavior analysis.

PennABA Updates

The PennABA Executive Council has continued its efforts to advance legislation related to the licensing of behavior analysts in the state of Pennsylvania. Richard Foxx, Executive Officer, and Keith Williams, Transitional Executive Director have met with Gina Green from APBA and PA Representative Thomas Mahaffie, sponsor of the Pennsylvania Licensure Bill, to determine how PennABA can support the bill. To that end, PennABA is pursuing becoming a 501C 6 Nonprofit so that it can hire a lobbyist to work on behalf of the licensure bill as well as other professional concerns of the PennABA membership.

PennABA held its annual conference this year in Lancaster, PA, from March 24th through March 26th. During our conference we offered workshops and presentations that allowed BCBAs to earn continuing

Closing

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

Philadelphia Metropolitan ABA

BY ART DOWDY

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

The PMABA chapter seeks to better serve as a scientific and professional reference and networking group for its members by making a number of changes this year. This year the PMABA chapter has increased its board membership, held business meetings, continued membership efforts, revised bylaws, formalized financial procedures, revised the website, created online paying

options, and is renewing its commitment to dissemination of information relevant to local behavior analysts as well as providing continuing education events per year. The chapter is led by the following executive council members: Art Dowdy, president; Amanda Guld Fisher, past president; Beth Rosenwasser, information officer; Jessica Kendorski, secretary; and Art Dowdy, treasurer, website, and membership coordinator. We are always looking for members interested in getting involved in the organization and taking leadership positions. Please contact us if interested!

PMABA has recently become involved in supporting the ABA in PA initiative to support the proposed bill to license behavior analysts in Pennsylvania. PMABA has issued a formal letter of support for the bill, members of the board have advocated with legislators and helped to edit the bill language. We also held a joint CEU event between the ABA in PA initiative and PMABA about the licensure act and ethical issues. PMABA is also sponsoring BACB CEUs for the ABA in PA annual conference including speakers Dr. Gina Green and Rick Murray.

We have continued regular Black Scorpion Society meetings, originally facilitated by Drs. Phil Hineline and Charles Catania. We've held 5 Black Scorpion meetings over the last year in which local behavior analysts get together and discuss journal articles at a local watering hole. Dr. Phil Hineline often selects leads an article discussion in these events which is always a great way to satisfy our cravings for fun and intellectual conceptual debates and discussions. Dr. Don Hantula and Dr. Saul Axelrod have led discussions as well, facilitating a wide array of topics from consumer choice to the double agent robot procedure to deviancy training, and the future of behavior analysis.

The chapter has continued work to revise its bylaws and administrative procedures and updated their website (<http://pmabainfo.wixsite.com/pmaba>) that acts as a resource for local behavior analysts providing membership information, local events, and other important information. We added an online payment option for membership and CEs. We held a membership drive in the fall and are planning future CE events as well.

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

Texas ABA

BY ZACHARY MORFORD

The Texas Association for Behavior Analysis (TxABA) is designated as a 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization in the United States. Although TxABA was not officially incorporated as a nonprofit until January 25, 1990, it began offering services in 1986. That year, TxABA held its first annual conference in Dallas, TX and became an affiliate chapter of the Association for Behavior Analysis International (ABAI), which at the time was only ABA, not ABAI. TxABA has held an annual conference every year since 1986.

According to archived records, TxABA held a strategic planning meeting July 21-22, 1995 in which the officers:

- Identified threats and opportunities for behavior analysis in Texas
- Revised TxABA's mission statement to abide by Aubrey Daniels' ACORN test. The resulting mission statement, according to the meeting minutes, was, "To advance the science and application of behavior analysis to improve the world we live in."
- Identified strategic areas in which to support the mission and developed concrete objectives and activities related to each strategic area.

In 1995, we estimate that TxABA's annual conference had 83 attendees. Unfortunately, we do not have the data to estimate their annual membership. In 2019, TxABA's membership increased to 1,138. Figure 1 below depicts the estimated growth in TxABA's conference attendance from its original 1986 conference through the 2019 (33rd) Annual Conference.

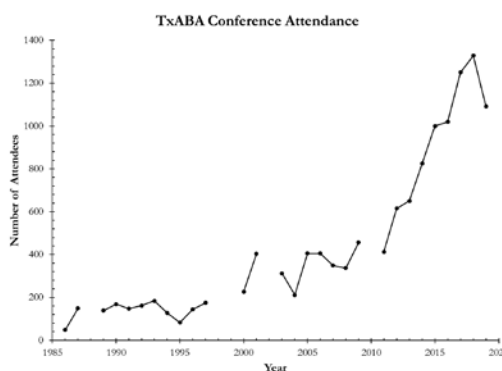


Figure 1. TxABA conference attendance 1985-2019.

According to the Behavior Analysis Certification Board (BACB), the total number of certificants (RBTs, BCaBAs, BCBAs, and BCBA-Ds) are expected to grow from 5,110 in 2018 to 16,783 in 2023 (228% growth), with RBTs projected to make up 12,619 (75%) of those certificants. Figure 2 depicts the projected growth of certificants in Texas 2018-2023.

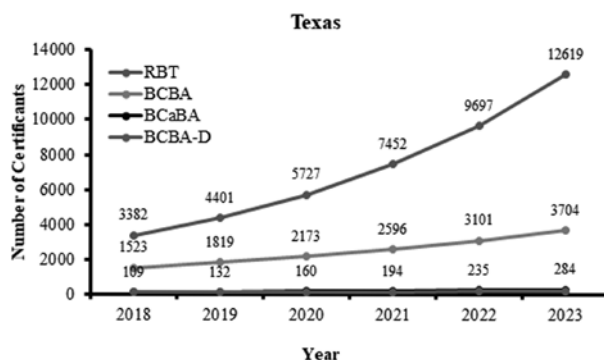


Figure 2. Projected BACB certificant growth, 2018-2023.

Despite the growth, there remain massively underserved areas in Texas. The majority of certificants are in and around the “Texas Triangle” (Dallas-Fort Worth, Houston, and San Antonio/Austin). Figure 3 depicts the number of BCBA-Ds, BCBAAs, and BCaBAs by zip code. This figure was created using anonymous 2019 data from 1,903 certificants provided by the BACB.

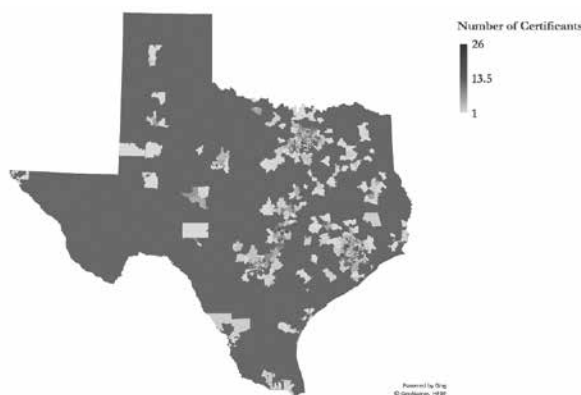


Figure 3. Frequency (count) of BCBA-Ds, BCBAAs, and BCaBAs by zip code. Data were created using anonymous 2019 data consisting of 1,093 certificants. Data were provided by the BACB.

Considering this tremendous growth, the TxABA executive council (EC) decided to create a second strategic plan to outline a strategy to properly meet the needs of behavior analysts and its members in Texas. The first step in the development of this plan was to contact the current TxABA membership with a survey regarding what they believe the priorities of TxABA should be—87 (7.73%) members responded. Figure 4 depicts the top 9 priorities ordered left to right by the proportion of members who ranked that item as a high priority.

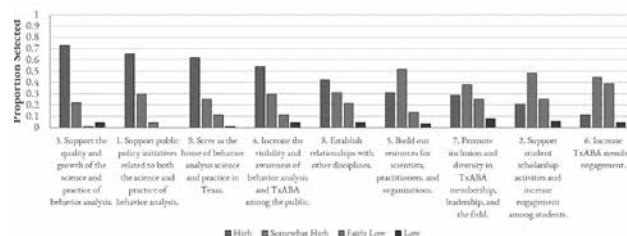


Figure 4. Top 9 TxABA member priorities ordered left to right by the proportion of members who ranked that item as a high priority.

After this, the executive council met in San Antonio, TX on August 6, 2019 to discuss a second strategic plan. The outcomes of this meeting were:

- An outline the top five long-term priorities of the organization
- A refined mission statement

Prior to this meeting, TxABA’s mission was to advance the science and application of behavior analysis to improve the world in which we live. To that end, TxABA strives to disseminate knowledge from the science of behavior analysis to the public and to professional behavior analysts working in Texas and its neighboring states.

The executive council refined the mission to advance the science and application of behavior analysis to improve the world in which we live by disseminating knowledge from the science and providing resources to the behavior analytic community and the public in Texas in an ethical and high-quality manner.

The executive council has met monthly since August, 2019 to fill in the details of the strategic plan. The final plan will be available on TxABA’s website by May, 2020.

TxABA 2020 Annual Conference Update

TxABA held its annual conference April 24–26, 2020. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, TxABA decided on March 16 to change the format of the conference from an in-person to a virtual format. Using Zoom as its platform, TxABA held 49 hours of presentations across three days and eight conference tracks. We had 1,004 virtual attendees and 45 poster presenters. In 2019, we had 1,104 attendees and 48 poster presenters.

Vermont ABA

BY CHERI KEITH

Vermont ABA, established in 2004, has continued fulfilling its mission to support the growth of behavior analysis in the state of Vermont. The current board consists of 11 board members.

Over the past year, VtABA organized and hosted several events, including a free Ethics Training on January 17th, 2020 in conjunction with our annual business meeting.

Each year, VtABA strives to provide its members with a free Ethics or Supervision training. This year, Dr. Tyra Sellers presented strategies for effective supervision. Additionally, this was the first year that VtABA hosted its free training as an all-day event and included lunch to those who participated in the business meeting. This event was a great opportunity for current members to obtain free CEUs as well as to be active participants in the meeting portion of the event. We also hosted an annual conference in April, with presentations by Dr. Alicia Alvero and Manuel Rodriguez on Organizational Behavior Management.

Last year's conceptualization of subcommittees continued to be implemented and proved to be useful in improving our chapter and increasing membership. The social media committee continued to disseminate information through various social media platforms. Our event committee organized and executed discounted online/webinar CEU events to members. Our website committee continued to work on necessary updates and improvements to the VtABA website to streamline membership, registration, and event processes. Additionally, the website committee revised the resource section of the website and created an employment section to post Vermont employment opportunities to members as well as made revisions and additions to the resources section of the website.

The board has continued to spend considerable time updating systems and procedures including updating and revising financial records and processes, reviewing the chapter's governance and bylaws, improving yearly timelines for board functioning, and operationalizing board member roles and responsibilities. For more information please visit us at:

Website: www.vtaba.org/

Facebook: VT ABA

Twitter: @Vt_ABA

Instagram: #vt_aba

Virginia ABA

BY CHRISTY EVANKO

The Virginia Association for Behavior Analysis (VABA) is the affiliate chapter of ABAI in Virginia. We represent behavior analysts in Virginia and ended 2019 with over 800 members! Last year, we increased membership by 36.7%. The Commonwealth of Virginia has the 8th largest number of BCBA-Ds, BCBAs, BCaBAs, and RBTs (combined) in the United States. The association has been in existence since 2003 and is a 501c6 organization. VABA contracts with a lobbyist and has one paid position, an Administrative Director. Recently with the help of our lobbyist, we introduced a bill to add Applied Behavior Analysis services to the state plan and direct Medicaid to use the correct Category 1 codes. Other bills include the use of Licensed Behavior Analysts in schools, both private consultants and as

employees. Last year, Behavior Analysts were included in at-risk funding initiatives for public schools. We are currently working with the Department of Education to facilitate the use. We have been working closely with the Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services and the Virginia Department of Medical Services (Medicaid) to make sure behavior analysts are included in service areas where they can add value and be productive members of multi-disciplinary teams. We have an active Policy Committee and are continually looking for areas to facilitate and disseminate behavior analysis in Virginia. In 2019, VABA distributed four newsletters that were each opened by half of our membership or more. We published seven blog posts with information that affects practitioners in Virginia, including public comment recommendations. We communicated to over 1400 people via Facebook, almost 1000 via Twitter, and opened an Instagram Account. We publicized more than 40 jobs on our Web site. We held an annual conference in Reston, Virginia that had almost 500 attendees and 30 sponsors. We held 1 in-person continuing education event (apart from the conference), 5 Webinars, 2 Student Study Sessions, and 4 networking happy hours. We published an annual report that can be found on our website (www.virginiaaba.org/about/annual-reports/). To make sure we are meeting our members' needs, we produce a survey annually. Using data from the last survey, we recently updated the strategic components of our goals:

- Improve Viability and Sustainability of the Organization;
- Provide Quality Service to Our Members;
- Advocate for the Science of Behavior Analysis in the Commonwealth.

This year, we are set to hold a conference in Newport News in April and have sold out of exhibitor tables. We are frequently monitoring our strategic plan to find better ways of serving our members. We hope to hold more networking events and offer more continuing education opportunities beyond our conference. VABA Membership offers a lot of benefits including an annual conference, networking opportunities, quarterly newsletter, CEU offerings (including the conference and beyond), members-only resources, lobbying and policy efforts, and discounts on a variety of outside products. The VABA Board of Directors works diligently to make sure we are relevant to behavior analysts in Virginia. We meet quarterly and stay in continual contact to provide benefits that our members need and ask for. We are proud to represent behavior analysis in Virginia.



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

ABA Australia

BY ALEXANDRA BROWN

ABA Australia continues to grow. We have over 250 members, made up of behaviour analysts, students, and affiliate members from related disciplines. BCBA numbers are also increasing. In 2019, the number of certified behaviour analysts (all categories) surpassed 100 for the first time. We are also seeing a significant increase in RBTs across the country. Australia now has two post graduate course sequences in Applied Behaviour Analysis, which is an amazing achievement for a country where ABA is still relatively young.

Our fourth annual, 2-day conference in Melbourne (July 2019) sold out. For the first time ever, we offered a 1-day workshop on the Friday before the conference, which was a huge success. So much so that the keynote speaker, Dr Evelyn Gould, returned to Australia in February for a 3-day ACT workshop. This event also sold out. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, our 2020 conference was postponed to 2021.

As always, our various committees have continued to work toward increased recognition of behaviour analytic services and BCBAs; however, our priorities have now shifted toward the development of an Australian Regulatory Board. Whilst this will be an enormous task, feedback from our members is optimistic and encouraging.

ABA Australia had a poster at the Virtual ABAI Expo in May 2020. We loved connecting, in an albeit different way, with behaviour analysts from around the world. ABAI's support for international chapters at the Affiliate Chapter Training was also very much appreciated by our attending board members, particularly for the focus on self-regulation. This virtual conference was an amazing feat, and we are thankful for the ABAI team for pulling this together in an incredibly short time-frame.

As we look forward to the next year, we will continue to work toward our goals of increased awareness and recognition of ABA in Australia.

ABA Germany

BY BENNO CHRISTOF BOECKH

The Association for Behavior Analysis Deutschland (ABAD) currently has 41 members and five board members. Annual membership-meetings are held in June. The 2019 meeting was held in Kassel (Middle Germany), and the 2020 meeting will be held in Berlin (Eastern Germany). The efforts to update the ABAD website in order to represent applied behavior analysis (ABA) more professionally and consistently to the German public have been completed in the course of 2019, and ABAD now has a modern and

informative internet presence (www.aba-d.de/).

Debate about and criticism towards the practice and funding of ABA in Germany have been quiet in the course of 2019—the main wave of criticism towards ABA of past years (mainly 2010 until 2017) within Germany seems to be over, for now. ABAD is continually 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 still undertaking strong efforts to establish contact and to network with those persons and organizations, who are devising standards and recommendations about autism treatment and support within Germany. New contacts have been established—for instance with Germany's biggest professional psychological association (www.bdp-verband.de/). 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; also, in order to start establishing independent ABA recognition within Germany.

ABAD continues to reach out to ABA professionals who have moved to Germany from abroad in recent years. Furthermore, ABAD has intensified their links with ABA Switzerland in 2019.

As before, most ABAD members are active in autism intervention, with one ABAD member being active in work-based security and academic teaching.

Concerted efforts were made by ABAD in 2019 and early 2020 to translate further documents and outlines describing and defining ABA practice by the BACB into German.

ABA India

BY SUVENDU BARIK, ANTARA ROY, NEELIMA WILSON, AND AJAI VADAKKATH

Applied Behavior Analysis continues to increase in strength in India thanks to efforts at an individual level by behavior analysts. The number of certificants from Indian soil has grown to 40+ from less than a handful a few years ago. There is a successful Verified course sequence which is into its seventh year with student enrollments increasing every year. Several national and International behavior analysts have had the opportunity to make presentations on the effectiveness and evidence base of ABA in several autism themed conferences across the country. There are more Behavior Analysts from India attending international conferences, seminars and workshops. Research publications in peer reviewed journals have begun. The Indian Academy of Pediatrics and the All India Institute of Medical sciences have included ABA

in their recommended treatments for autism. Parents of children on autism spectrum are showing more interest in having ABA as a primary mode of treatment for their kids as the improvements shown by kids having consistent ABA based intervention is quite evident.

While individuals have continued to do good work, ABA India itself has been through a period of inactivity and the recent BACB announcement has occasioned a detailed review of the history by well-wisher parents. An analysis of contingencies that were barriers to effective teamwork was undertaken to chalk out a way forward for ABA India to contribute on a larger scale with a new and younger team of aspirants keen to make a difference at national level. A membership drive conducted recently resulted in 83 keen and committed parents, professionals and students of ABA signing up. A small, but no-doubt a promising start.

The immediate imperatives for ABA India are to address a variety of issues.

At the organization level, enroll active volunteers who can devote their time to providing a thrust to ABA India's mission and vision. Focus on increasing memberships to the organization for facilitating a variety of activities. Rejuvenate engagement with the Government of India specially the Rehabilitation Council of India to recognize applied behavior analysis as an approved treatment in India for individuals with disabilities and mental health issues. An application to the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is being made for recognition of behavior analysis and a meeting sought with the Minister for the approval of a course of study in behavior analysis. Facilitate course offerings in India through tie ups with reputed universities.

At the society level specially for protecting families with autism, spread awareness about ABA as primary mode of treatment for kids on autism spectrum across India and educating families on professional qualifications necessary for its practice while counseling on existing malpractices.

Building positive contingencies for behavior analysts and students to bond through meet ups to share research presentations and networking opportunities.

In summary, ABA India, convinced by the idealism, enthusiasm and energy levels of young professionals, has opened the platform to members and committed volunteers. It welcomes everyone to be the change they would like to see. The invaluable contacts with both BACB and ABAI can be leveraged by the governing council and members to address immediate challenges and set in motion effective contingencies for long term growth to take ABA in India to greater heights.

ABA Turkey

BY ELIF TEKIN-IFTAR

Behavior analysis area has been getting more recognized in Turkey. We conducted seminars to disseminate the information about behavior analysis and recent research. In addition to these effort we established our national association titled as Applied Behavior Analysis of Turkey. Now that we have been working about how to link the membership status of National Association and ABA Turkey Chapter.

ABA of Italy (IESCUM)

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 experimental behavior analysis with scholars and professionals such as P. N. Chase, J. T. Blackledge, 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 (ABA) has been carried out institutionally through a 2-year postgraduate course sequence ("master" in Italian), now in its 14th edition. Along with several 180-hour and 60-hour courses, the course targets operators who aim to become assistant behavior analysts or behavioral technicians. A postgraduate course in behavioral economics has been activated in collaboration with IULM University in Milan. The program, named Executive Master in Persuasion, Decision and Change Management, is the first of its kind in Italy and is aimed at applying behaviorally informed policies to organizations and society. 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 500 Italian behavior analysts. IESCUM 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. In the last 5 years, IESCUM developed a network of national centers for early intensive

behavioral interventions with children with autism, based on the MIPIA model. The network today includes 15 centers, either managed by IESCU or whose equipe is systematically supervised by IESCU.

Alberta ABA

BY MIRANDA MACAULEY

The Alberta Association for Behaviour Analysis (AltaABA) is in its fourth year as an affiliated chapter of ABAI. During this year, AltaABA held their first official voting slate of contested seats for new Board members who were officially welcomed onto the board in May. The board has the following 10 elected board positions: president, president-elect, past-president, treasurer, secretary, student member-at-large and 4 members-at-large (one as public relations officer). The yearly Annual General Meeting (AGM) for members occurs in the Spring of each year and their third AGM was scheduled for April 2020. The AGM was unfortunately cancelled when we were all faced with a worldwide pandemic. Many decisions were being made to physically distance and stay at home in order to keep everyone safe and healthy. The AltaABA membership was sent a digital AGM report to provide the required updates on committees, finances and future activities. The digital AGM report is also made available for members in their website portal. AltaABA's membership has grown by 26 members over the last year to a total of 56 members at the time of the AGM report. The current total number of active BACB certificants in Alberta remains low at a total of 49 (1 BCBA-D, 45 BCBAs, 0 BCaBAs, 3 RBTs).

AltaABA continued to engage the membership through social events and social media over the past year and will continue to do so. AltaABA hosted a CE event at the last AGM in May 2019 about "Hot Topics in AAC" which was very well received by the membership and was also attended by individuals from other disciplines and parents. AltaABA also held a Q&A panel discussion in February 2020 entitled "Practicing Behaviour Analysis in Alberta" which was hosted by the student member-at-large and a fellow student-member. The panel responded to students in this province struggling to find placements and supervisors for field experience requirements and provided networking for newly arriving BCBAs to this province. The panel included three experienced BCBAs who have been practicing and providing supervision in Alberta for at least a few years. The event was well attended by approximately 30 individuals in person and 13 individuals via an online platform.

In addition, AltaABA continues to maintain a strong relationship with MacEwan University and its BICA Program (a VCS course sequence at the Bachelor's level), co-founded by Dr. Russ Powell and Miranda Macauley, M.A., BCBA in the Fall of 2016, and soon to be entering its fifth year. AltaABA will continue networking with

MacEwan University as well as continue efforts to reach and gain members from other universities and organizations across the province.

Finally, AltaABA was also very pleased to add its support to a Federal Strategies Statement for Autism Spectrum Disorders that was submitted to all the federal political parties and released to the public in October 2019 calling for a national strategy for accessing evidence-based treatment.

For further information or to join the chapter please visit: www.altaaba.ca or follow us on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram.

Atlantic Provinces ABA

BY MONICA PETERS

The Atlantic Provinces Association for Behaviour Analysis has recently marked our fifth anniversary as an affiliated chapter of ABAI. We are amazed by the growth in membership that we have experienced since our inception in 2014, from 44 members in our first year to a slight increase in membership of 68 at 2019's AGM. We have 56 full members, 10 student members, 1 affiliate member, and 1 honorary member; 4 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 behaviour analysts, educators, interventionists, partner professionals, and others interested in behavioural science and its application in the four Atlantic Canadian provinces of New Brunswick, Newfoundland & Labrador, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island. 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 Behaviour Analysts or Board Certified Assistant Behaviour Analysts in Atlantic Canada in 2014, and 26 in 2017, we now have 57 (NB=34;NL=3; NS=16; PEI=4; www.bacb.com).

A primary goal of APABA is to promote and encourage the development and awareness of the science of behaviour 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 at the conferences in San Antonio (2015), Chicago (2016), Denver (2017), San Diego (2018), Chicago (2019), with plans in place for Washinton (2020). 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 behaviour analysts, supporting APABA members to engage in more culturally-proficient professional practice and Drs. Kelly Schieltz, Matthew O'Briend, and Todd Kopelman, who trained attendees on the use of telehealth to train and coach interventionists supporting learners with ASD. Our 2019 AGM professional development was led by Dr. Patrick McGreevy, who trained attendees on how to select a curriculum for children with autism and children with developmental disabilities. Our members have also presented at ABAI's international conferences, such as Puerto Rico and Paris. Our members are delivering training throughout and beyond the Atlantic Provinces and, at times, internationally, such as Switzerland, Paris, and Ghana.

Since APABA serves such a broad geographical region spanning Canada's four Atlantic Provinces, 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 ABAPA 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, but 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.

Online professional learning 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 of applied behaviour analysis. Our most recent topic was the clinical implementation of token economies.

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.

Between 2018 and the end of 2019, all of the goals outlined in the 2018-2020 strategic plan were met. The executive will develop a new strategic plan in April 2020.

Finally we continue to be an ACE provider to be able to provide CEUs to our members.

Looking ahead

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

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 behavioural 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 ABAI-affiliated chapters across Canada and beyond to expand opportunities for professional learning, networking, and collaboration. Such collaboration included signing of a federal statement led by the Ontario Association for Behaviour Analysis, advocating for federal strategies on the improvements of supports for those with autism, participation at the first Atlantic Provinces Autism Conference, held at the University of New Brunswick. APABA gave 1 member a free registration to this conference and a few members of APABA presented on various topics.

Australian Association for Cognitive Behaviour Therapy

BY PETER POHLMAN

Throughout 2019, AACBT hosted four national speaking tours and a further 17 branch events—the format of these events varied between masterclasses, workshops and informal pub discussions. Examples of some of the topics covered include anxiety, eating disorders, chronic pain, insomnia, perfectionism, death anxiety, mindfulness and parenting, tic disorders, and oppositional defiant disorder.

The president of AACBT is Associate Professor Melissa Norberg, deputy director of the Centre for Emotional Health, and director of the Behavioural Science Laboratory at Macquarie University. She was previously Treasurer for AACBT.

2020 has seen a rapid change in how we approach the delivery of our events and has brought forward our plans on offering online training to our members and guests. Our plans had included more than 30 face-to-face events, including three national speaking tours (Paul Salkovskis, Jackie Persons and Willem Kuyken), and our 41st National AACBT Conference. Now, we are offering 100% online continuing development, and our speakers will include international presenters such as Roz Shafran, Martin Antony, and David M. Clark, plus many domestic speakers with shorter recorded webinars.

Some of the topics to be covered throughout 2020 include: suicidality, loneliness, schema therapy, delivering digital-CBT, supporting gender diverse clients, social anxiety, and OCD. State-based branches perform many hours of voluntary work to prepare our events and prepare

with presenters within their jurisdiction, and the National Board thanks them, and the National Workshops Coordinator, for their on-going time and effort.

AACBT is deferring our 2020 National Conference in Fremantle, Western Australia, and look forward to hosting our 41st conference in 2021. AACBT will continue to offer our Early–Mid Career Travel Grants available to AACBT members to support travel to the AACBT National Conference following acceptance of either an oral or poster presentation. AACBT will award complimentary scientific program registration, plus up to \$1,000 to help cover eligible travel expenses for the applicant to attend the conference. This on-going initiative invests in the CBT community of Australia and encourages on-going research into CBT. The Board thanks our National Conference Coordinator for their service in supervising our largest annual event.

In 2016 we moved to our new web portal, and improvements to this portal have continued, with the recent addition of a members only e-library. In 2020 we will continue to host our own conference abstract submission processes, rather than out-source this service. Members have access to an exclusive area of the website, which includes access to our annual reports, our journal (“Behaviour Change”), and an e-library with 40+ titles.

The Board recognises the work of the Editor and editorial board of “Behaviour Change”, who are overseeing the growth and improvements for our journal.

AACBT is proud to be adding a third national award to our offerings in 2020, to recognise achievements in the field of cognitive and behaviour therapy. These are typically awarded at our National Conference, however in 2020 the recipients are invited to produce a webinar for dissemination. The new award in 2020 is the “AACBT Mid-career Award”, and joins the existing “The Tracy Goodall Early Career Award”—the 2019 winner was Dr Catherine Quinn—and the “Distinguished Career Award for Contribution to Cognitive or Behavioural Research and Therapy”—won in 2019 by Professor Frank Deane.

AACBT would like to acknowledge our Fellows: Professor Peter Lovibond, Professor Michael Kyrios, Professor Matthew Sanders, Professor Colin MacLeod, Professor Tracey Wade, Professor Ross Young, Professor Mark Dadds, Professor Mark Creamer, Professor Kim Halford, Professor Nicole Lee, Dr Sarah Egan and our most-recent inductee, Professor Louise Sharpe. We thank them for their continuing contributions to the CBT community in Australia and assisting AACBT throughout the year. In particular, we would like to recognise Professor Sanders, who in early 2020 was inducted as an Officer (AO) in the General Division, for distinguished service to education and research in clinical psychology, and to child, parent and family wellbeing.

Chinese ABA

BY KARINA CHEUNG

In the previous year, the China Association for Behavior Analysis (CABA) has focused on promoting the science of behavior analysis in Mainland China by (a) providing applied behavior analysis professional training course sequence for local therapists; (b) taking part in writing both professional and parental training books about ABA, autism, verbal behavior, and life-long intervention; (c) organizing its sixth annual conference. The year 2019 was a busy and fruitful year for CABA. On October 26–27, 2019, we held our fifth annual conference in Guangzhou, China. Scholars, practitioners and interested individuals from all around the country attended. This year’s conference with support from both China Association of Rehabilitation of Disabled Persons, Peking University Sixth Hospital and the Association of Autism Professional Committee, Guangdong Province. We have Ms. Xu XiaoMing (secretary of China Association of Rehabilitation of Disabled Persons), Ms. Feng YouXia to attend our opening ceremony. Dr. Guo YanQing from the Peking University of Sixth Hospital gave a presentation on ABC in Educational Training. Ms. Cheung Miao Miao from Starrysky Education and Research Centre presented “The relationship between ABA and ASD”. Dr. Zhang Dorothy Xuan from Chicago School brought the audience into the development and future of ABA. Ms. Diana Yip presented her research about PBS used in an inclusion setting. Ms. Zhao Qi presented her team’s effort in implementing ABA principles in inclusion kindergarten. Ms. Fang Jing showed the audience their effort on using ABA to help adults with special needs. Ms. Chen XuHong shared the model of the inclusion system and policy of Guangdong Province. Dr. Lin FanYu and Dr. Zhang Dorothy Xuan presented their study of Ethics. Dr. Li Xue shared with the audience her study of Social Skill Training for children and young adults with ASD. Dr. Zhu Jing gave a speech about early intervention for ASD. Besides our annual conference, CABA has been continuously working with both Ai You Foundation and Beijing Ivy Medical Expert League to provide workshops focused on applied behavior analysis for therapists and families around the country. Our bustling year ended with a committee discussion on the future development of ABA in China. Dr. Guo’s concept of Professional-Elite Training series (PETs), Professional-General Training series (PGTs), and Public Awareness Training series (PATs) were well accepted by the CABA/ABA-CARDP committee members and some of the training series as mentioned above has already started. Further implemented details were discussed during the meeting. In 2020, we will continue working actively towards the goal to provide high quality and professional services to the Chinese public in the above-mentioned ways.

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

Experimental Analysis of Behaviour Group UK and Europe

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

It gives us great pleasure to report on the three-day 2019 Experimental Analysis of Behaviour Group (EABG) London conference, held at the University College London (15 th~17th April, 2019).

Over 200 delegates attended a variety of high quality presentations from human and animal learning, the analysis of verbal behaviour, behaviour analysis in education (e.g., Direct Instruction, Precision Teaching), clinical and remedial therapy, information technology, Early Autism Intervention, and staff productivity and operational behaviour management (OBM).

The 2019 meeting included an encouraging mix of academics, applied researchers, parents, and non-academics who work in the field as applied behaviour analysts attended, many of whom had travelled internationally.

It was a privilege to welcome Dr. Megan Heinicke to present the Annual Professor Fergus Lowe Memorial Keynote Address. Dr. Heinicke is an assistant professor in the Psychology Department at California State University, Sacramento where she teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in applied behavior analysis and developmental disabilities. Dr. Heinicke's talk 'Expanding Behavior-Analytic Services to Neuro-Rehabilitation Settings' served as a thought-provoking topic, highlighting this lesser covered area of ABA in neurorehabilitation settings.

We also welcomed a number of distinguished invited addresses at the conference. Dr. Rebecca Sharp, Bangor University who presented on Behavioural gerontology, 'Applying our science to older people and people with dementia in the UK'. This was an insightful and thought provoking presentation. Rebecca discussed the small but expanding body of literature that is generating around the

effectiveness of functional assessment methods, function-based interventions, and environmental changes to improve the quality of life in older adults. Rebecca highlighted what we understand about how people with dementia, and how they interact with their environment and suggested avenues for future applied and translational research, discussing the practice issues specific to older adults in a UK context.

Dr. Nick Gore (University of Kent, UK) summarised key developments and work streams that have emerged through the work of the Sharland Foundation Developmental Disabilities Research and Impact Network (SF-DDARIN) in recent years. Nick discussed the evolution of Positive Behavioural Support (PBS) from a basic science of human behaviour through stakeholder collaboration in the UK, considering the research and strategic activities that have been initiated in recent years and concluded with the identification of potential strategies and research questions that may support the continued development and implementation of PBS in the future.

We were also very pleased to host the UK Society for Behaviour Analysis' update meeting chaired by Dr. Mecca Chiasa who provided an update from the on behalf of the current board members.

Continuing Education Units (CEUs)

EABG delivered a total of 43 events across the three-day event, including symposia, invited addresses/tutorials, panel discussions, and workshops. The 2019 meeting offered a total of 25 CEUs for Board Certified Behaviour Analysts available for no additional charge. The number of free CEUs being awarded to BCBA and BCaBA delegates this year was 700 (see figure 1) and the number of delegates collecting CEU's this year was 71 similar to 2017 figures (see figure 2).

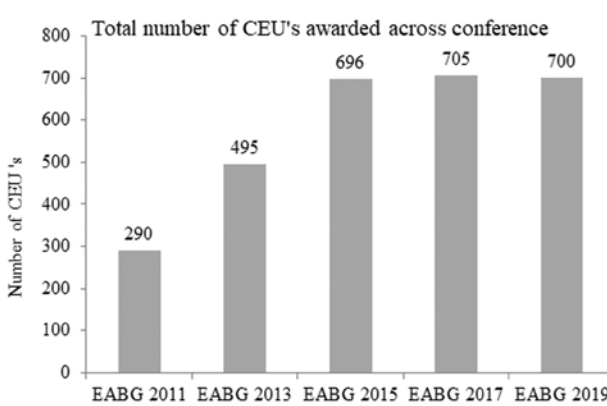


Figure 1. Comparison of total number of CEUs awarded at the 2011, 2013, 2015 2017 and 2019 EABG conferences.

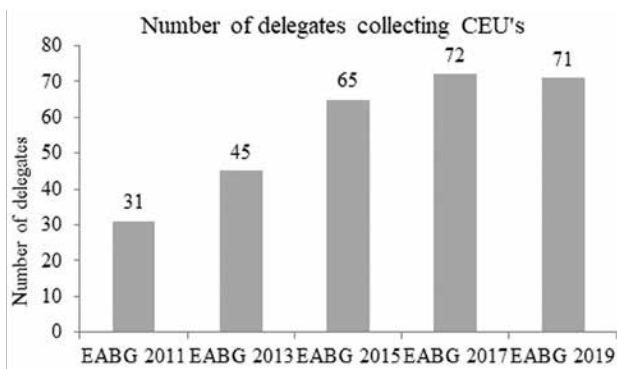


Figure 2. Comparison of total number of delegates collecting CEU's at the 2011, 2013, 2015, 2017 and 2019 EABG conferences.

The EABG team wishes to thank all the delegates and presenters who attended the conference and to our invited speakers who delivered truly inspiring and thought-provoking talks. Special thanks are due to students from Bangor University, Wales who volunteered and worked hard to facilitate the smooth running of the conference: Jane, Zoe, Chandni, April, and Mayuri. Many thanks to John Draper and the support team at University College London for assisting and hosting the event yet again.

The broad range of high quality behaviour analytic research and training disseminated during EABG 2019 was an encouraging reflection of the strength and continued evolution of Behaviour Analysis in Europe.

Hong Kong ABA

BY JEREMY H. GREENBERG

Founded in 2010, The Hong Kong Association for Behavior Analysis (HKABA) is finishing its 10th year. Our Board continues to represent four agencies involved in the practice research of applied behavior analysis in Hong Kong. In 2019, we had an ambitious and diverse workshop schedule. Some of the meetings were well attended while others are expected to be re-scheduled to this year. The Verified Course Sequence hosted by HKABA since 2012 was transferred to local agency The Children's Institute of Hong Kong. HKABA will continue to direct its attention to supporting the international credentialing process, and maintaining the credential of board certified behavior analysts in Hong Kong through offering CEU workshops as well. All HKABA members and everyone in our fair city experienced some intensive resilience training this winter with the challenges posed by the coronavirus pandemic. Hong Kong schools were closed for about two months! We are confident that a brighter and safer future awaits. To be involved with HKABA, please contact us via our website www.hkaba.org.

Israel ABA

BY EINAV COHEN, MICHAL HIRSCHMANN, AND JUDY LAZAR-ROSENZWEIG

The Israeli Applied Behavior Analysis (IABA) affiliated chapter—time for change! Following the BCBA's announcement regarding future changes in policy toward international certification of behavior analysts in December 2019, a new era has begun in Israel, summarizing years of effort to promote Israeli licensure and certification. Alongside with the IABA usual yearly activities of providing annual conferences, workshops and other initiatives promoting behavior analysis in Israel, the activity of the licensure and certification committee was most notable. IABA's chairperson Dr. Michal Hirschmann initiated and took part in numerous meetings throughout 2019 with Professor Amos Rolider, chairperson of Mentha organization (organization of the Israeli board certified behavior analysts) to promote unified representation of the behavior analysts community in front of officials in the Ministry of Health in Israel who is responsible for licensure of health related professions. These efforts yield the establishment of a committee comprised of members of IABA and Mentha organization for the purpose of creating a document to be presented to the Ministry of Health in Israel that first sets criteria to certification of behavior analysts in Israel and ultimately leading to the licensure of the profession. We are excited to announce that the committee reached agreements and is ready to present them to officials within the Ministry of Health office in Israel. The goal of the communication with the Ministry of health in Israel is to recognize the behavior analysis profession as one of the professions authorized under the law of health professions in Israel. In addition, IABA is also happy to announce that due to the American board announcement of limiting its certifications to the United States and Canada, a new committee established to write an Israeli certification exam that will serve as the basis to certification and licensure in Israel. Representatives of both IABA and Mentha organization are members of this committee. The members of this exam committee are committed to construct an exam complying with the highest professional standards existing in the field by 2022. Special events in 2019 included IABA's annual conference and three other workshops catering to different current needs. The annual conference focused on behavior analysis within different religions and cultures in the Israeli society. The conference provided an opportunity to present cases and interventions of different minorities in Israel providing a broad perspective of the varied minorities such as Israeli Arabs, refugees and orthodox Israelis. An important workshop in 2019 focused on the latest amendment to the Israeli special education law that effects the work of behavior analysts who work within schools in Israel. This workshop received rave reviews as there is uncertainty

within the community relating to the implementation of this law and its effect on behavior analysts who work in the field. With the support of IABA, a new committee was established to promote the behavior analysis field in the north part of Israel. Its first meeting held in August 2019 focused on setting goals and course of action to dispel myths and misconceptions on behavior analysis in the northern district of Israel. Outcomes of this gathering included plans to exposure of the field in different venues and emphasis on corporation with multidisciplinary teams in the north of Israel. In 2019, IABA also reached out and cooperated with other nonprofit and private organizations whose work is based on applied behavior analysis in relation to autism. This effort yielded a workshop focused on effective interventions to work with children with autism. Other activities of IABA included the efforts of other committees such as the website committee who worked on updating IABA's site and allowing the option of inserting a "business card" to each of its members to allow broad exposure to populations seeking behavior analysis services. In addition, a broad professional pool of literature and interventions was established in IABA's site to allow comfortable access of members to various literature and samples of interventions supporting their work. Finally, this wonderful achievements of IABA would not have been possible without IABA's 22 dedicated volunteers and eight members of its broad management. IABA would like to take this opportunity to thank all the volunteers who made 2019 a year filled with great accomplishment contributing to the promotion and growth of the behavior analysis field in Israel. IABA looks forward to productive 2020 and will keep its emphasis on growth in the number of its members and the services provided to them.

Japanese ABA

BY KENJI OKUDA

The 37th annual convention was held at Otaru Civil Center in Hokkaido, from August 30–September 1, 2019. We had over 348 attendants with 11 symposiums and 80 poster presentations. We will hold the 38th annual convention fully online operated by Aichi University in Aichi, from August 28–30, 2020.

Kenya ABA

BY POOJA PANESAR

Kenya Association for Behaviour Analysis (KABA) is still operating in collaboration with Kaizora Centre for Neurodevelopmental Therapies in Kenya. We had a very exciting event in July 2019 where we went to a remote town in Kenya called Meru. An awareness campaign was held for autism spectrum disorders and cerebral Palsy by Kaizora. Pooja Panesar, KABA president, was able to

present basic concepts of behaviour analysis that parents in the remote area would be able to use to improve the quality of their children's and their lives. This was the first time that behaviour analysis was disseminated in a remote area in Kenya. We hope to move from county to county sharing tips and strategies for parents to use. At the moment the most relevant way to disseminate behaviour analysis is through strategies in helping individuals with developmental disorders—as the field grows in Kenya and members from diverse backgrounds are able to join, we will be able to increase the scope. We also collaborated with Kaizora Child Development Centre in Tanzania in holding an autism awareness event on April 4, 2020, where our chairperson, Pooja, presented on basics of applied behaviour analysis. We reach out for more members to join in, and for support in helping KABA build a website and putting newsletters together.

Manitoba ABA

BY RYAN HECKERT

The Manitoba Association for Behaviour Analysis (MABA) is proud to be in its 15th year as an affiliated chapter of ABAA. Several objectives were met during our 14th year, described below.

In October 2019, MABA partnered with the Department of Psychology at the University of Manitoba to host Dr. Megan Miller (PEAK ABA Solutions) as the keynote speaker at our 14th Annual Conference. Dr. Miller delivered a presentation entitled "The Parent is Always Right: Effectively Training Parents in Behavior Analytic Interventions." The conference also featured presentations by our invited speakers, Dr. Alison Cox (Brock University), who presented on psychotropic medication and behaviour analysis, and Dr. Andrew Hall (Manitoba Adolescent Treatment Centre), who presented on an interdisciplinary approach among psychiatrists and behaviour analysts.

Our conference also included presentations by our Student Travel Award winner, Sophie Robitaille, and our Behaviour Change for a Sustainable World Award winner, Julia Turner. The conference concluded with a panel discussion addressing the myths and misconceptions of ABA. The panel consisted of Dr. Megan Miller, Dr. Alison Cox, Dr. C. T. Yu, and Mr. Brendan Boehr.

We held our 15th Annual Conference, to be held on September 24, 2020, in a virtual format. The conference will feature a keynote presentation by Dr. Robert Ross (Beacon ABA Services).

MABA became a CE provider in 2013, and in 2019 offered several events to offer affordable or free CEUs to our members who are BCBAs and BCBA-Ds. These events included our conference and a webinar. In June 2019, in conjunction with the Ontario Association for Behaviour Analysis (ONTABA), we hosted our sixth webinar

which featured Dr. Shane Spiker, who presented on self-care among BCBAs. We look forward to continuing and developing partnerships with ONTABA and other Canadian ABAI chapters. In March 2020, MABA held a webinar by Dr. Matthew Brodhead, who presented on risk mitigation during the COVID-19 pandemic.

As part of our mission to disseminate information on behaviour analysis, MABA participated in the Manitoba Psychological Society's annual Psychology Month event in February 2019, where we sponsored an information booth during a lunch hour event at St. Amant. MABA also sponsored the Parents for Autistic Children Everywhere (PACE) walk, held on World Autism Awareness Day in April 2019. Our executive Council attended the event and took part in the walk. In May 2019, MABA attended the ABAI annual convention in Chicago, IL, and presented a poster at the Expo. We greatly enjoyed participating in the event, and the opportunity to network with other affiliate chapters from Canada and around the World. In May 2019, we also announced the winner of our second Student Travel Award. MABA was excited to be part of the Expo at this year's ABAI online conference. It was great to connect with colleagues, old and new, in the online format!

For the upcoming year, we will continue to work on ongoing objectives, and will also work toward new goals. Our key objectives for 2020 include increasing our membership through various recruitment initiatives, provide additional CE opportunities for our members, provide presentations for the general public, and develop partnerships with local organizations and universities to promote awareness of behaviour analysis in Manitoba.

Norwegian ABA

BY ERIK ARNTZEN

In 2019 the Norwegian Association had about 550 members, and this number has decreased a bit over the last couple of years. Most of the members hold a bachelor's degree in social welfare; however, there is an increasing number of members holding a master's degree and Ph.D.

The Norwegian Association arranges an annual conference. The number of attendees at the annual conference this year was 710. The conference was a 4-day conference with 5–6 parallel tracks. At the conference in 2019, we had presentations within all domains of behavior analysis, and there is a growing interest in both experimental and conceptual issues. Also, papers with focus on translational research were presented. Dr. Douglas Kostewicz, University of Pittsburgh, gave two presentations. The first was "Evidence-Based Behavior Analysis: Based on...what?", and the second was "Visual Analysis Within Behavior Analysis." More than 5 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 posters were included in the conference program.

The Norwegian ABA publishes two journals: *The Norwegian Journal of Behavior Analysis* and *The European Journal of Behavior Analysis*. *The Norwegian Journal of Behavior Analysis* is published twice a year. The journal 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. *The European Journal of Behavior Analysis* (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 was published in 2000. *EJOBA* has a collaboration with Taylor & Francis Group.

Philippines ABA

BY MARIA TERESA COJUANGCO

Philippine ABA (PABA) in 2019 conducted more training programs for local government health agencies. Staff and parent trainings were given addressing different concerns on behavior issues of children with special needs in their communities. New community health intervention centers participated in the joint training project of PABA with local government sponsored health agencies. PABA assisted these centers in creating their specific ABA intervention and monitoring programs. PABA Affiliate Centers supported more community health centers in providing training program assistance to parents and caregivers of underprivileged children with special needs. They continued assisting groups from other regions outside of Metro Manila and other regional health centers and public schools about ABA programs as an intervention program for children with special needs. PABA continued to pursue its awareness campaign program for local ABA practitioners to attain more training in improving ABA practice in the country within the standards of BACB Board. More practitioners gained training and obtain their credentials as registered behavior technicians or board certified behavior analysts. More ABA practitioners obtained mentorship and supervision from BCBA professionals local and international practitioners. Medical practitioners handling special needs children were recommending more ABA intervention programs under board certified practitioners to parents and schools. Better results were observed on children monitored under an ABA program. More doctors through their affiliated hospitals reached out to PABA affiliates to assist them in giving updates on ABA practice regularly. PABA facilitated two comprehensive lectures on ABA intervention for developmental pediatrician doctors of a private hospital as part of the hospital's training program. They observed

several affiliate centers on site how an ABA intervention program was facilitated. PABA's collaboration with a local university in giving lectures on ABA became a regular program for the university term. More local universities and government health agencies sought assistance for PABA to give more training and lectures on ABA. PABA committed to give more assistance to these universities, health agencies and hospitals for them to benefit in their research and training program needs. PABA has been recognized by more health agencies offering intervention programs as a major contributor in uplifting the standards of their individual intervention programs.

Polish Association of Behavioral Therapy

BY EWA KULIGA

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

Currently, PABT has more than 47 registered members from every significant behavioral therapy center in Poland, as well as the parents of persons undergoing behavioral therapy and other concerned experts (physicians, academics, and students). It cooperates with a number of Polish centers and institutions focused on providing effective help to persons with autism and publishes the informational periodical *Krok za krokiem (Step by Step)*, which contains articles by world-renowned experts on teaching persons with autism.

PABT has promoted behavioral therapy by organizing specialist trainings for a wide range of attendees (mainly the teachers and parents of the emotionally and developmentally disabled). Over 1700 participants attended trainings in 2019.

In 2014, the association formed non-public schools “UMIEM” (“I can”). Two of them are located in Krakow, and one opened in September 2017 - in Raciborz. In total, “UMIEM” schools provide education to 35 students with autism spectrum disorders and intellectual disabilities.

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

quality of therapeutic services. Polish License of Behavioral Therapist runs an integrated system of theoretical and practical training to enable trainees to gain the title of behavioral therapist. At present, 207 people in Poland have been granted the title of licensed behavioral therapist, 31 people have the title of behavioral supervisor and 3,650 are in the process of acquiring qualifications.

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

- Route I (for practicing therapists) includes completion of a three-level course in behavioral therapy and at least five specialization courses, no less than 2 years of professional practice under supervision, completion of no less than 50 hours of internships at any of the collaborating centers and a positive reference from the head of the relevant therapy center.
- Route II includes completion of a three-level course in behavioral therapy and at least five specialization courses, completion of no less than 120 hours of internships at any of the collaborating centers, professional practice under supervision (a minimum of 50 hours of supervision), and a positive reference from the supervisor.
- Route III includes completion of the following courses from the Institute of Psychology at Jagiellonian University: “Analiza zachowania (Behavior Analysis)” and “Stosowana analiza zachowania (Applied Behavior Analysis)”, completion of at least five specialization courses, no less than 100 hours of internships at any of the collaborating centers, professional practice under supervision, and a positive reference from the supervisor.
- Route IV includes completion of postgraduate studies in applied behavior analysis at the SWPS University of Social Sciences and Humanities, completion of no less than 80 hours of internships at any of the collaborating centers, professional practice under supervision (a minimum of 50 hours of supervision per year), and a positive reference from the supervisor.
- Route V includes completing degree studies in the Faculty of Psychology of the SWPS University of Social Sciences and Humanities (also as a unified masters degree studies): “The Psychology of Shaping and Modifying Behavior”, masters degree studies in psychology in the SWPS University of Social Sciences and Humanities in Poznań, module: “Application of Behavior Therapy in Education for Children of Normal and Disordered Development—An Introduction”, other relevant studies including a module covering applied behavior analysis, lasting at least 60 didactic units; the coursework has to be presented to the Board of Polish License of Behavior Therapy system for official acceptance, at least five specialty courses, at least 100 hours of training in one of the collaborating

facilities, including at least two training periods of minimum five consecutive days each (i.e. at least 20 hours each), work under a supervision of a current holder of a Supervisor's License (at least 50 hours of supervision)

- Route VI includes: obtaining BCBA certificate.

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

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

- The Behavioral Therapy Clinic (BTC) in Cracow and a local branch of the BTC in Wrocław, Rzeszów and Racibórz provides therapeutic support for the families of developmentally and emotionally challenged persons from all over Poland. The BTC's operations include diagnostic consultations for children with suspected developmental disorders (performed usually by a team consisting of a psychiatrist, a psychologist, a speech therapist, a special education teacher, and a rehabilitator) and conducting home therapy programs. The consultations are an opportunity to establish a program for therapy and the parents are instructed on its implementation; during subsequent visits, such a program undergoes the necessary modifications and the parents' skills are further improved. Currently PABT's BTC oversees home therapy for almost 3,500 families throughout Poland.
- The Emergency Intervention Team (EIT) is a short-term (up to 2 weeks), intensive therapy for persons with developmental and behavioral disorders and their families facing material and other hardships. In 2018, several families from all over Poland used this form of therapy.
- The integration classes (IC) are aimed at younger children with disabilities identified as belonging to the spectrum of autism, but possessing basic group-work skills. The classes are conducted on the basis of preschool teaching methodology and the principles of applied behavioral analysis. The objectives of the classes are to integrate the children within a group and develop their social competence. There are currently eight children participating in the classes.
- The social skills training (SST) are classes conducted in small groups and intended to develop positive social behaviors. The classes are aimed at older children with emotional disorders, Asperger's syndrome, and high functioning children with autism.

One of the most important achievements of 2019 was The First Behaviorist Meeting, in which over 200 specialists from all over the country participated. During the conference individuals and centers presented their work, results and research in practice of applied behavior analysis.

In 2019, further works were carried out related to the adaptation of the SYSABA IT system (System of support for behavioral therapy centers working with people affected by developmental disorders).

The aim of SYSABA was to develop and create a unique computer system for comprehensive support of a behavioral therapist working mainly with people with developmental disorders. The most important functions of the system are:

- keeping electronic files with controlled access creating a tool for fast data entry during therapy,
- creating analyzes of conducted therapies in real time,
- support of the therapist's decision about the next steps of therapy,
- support for some forms of training for future therapists, and
- detection of knowledge in patient data and their therapy.

At present, 41 therapeutic centers use SYSABA. ABT works to obtain resources that allow further development of the organization and introduce new statutory activities (including research programs).

Québec ABA

BY MYRA-JADE LUI

2019 was a relatively quiet year, but productive nonetheless. As the number of certified individuals grows in Quebec (at the time of writing, 48 BCBA/BCaBAs and 13 RBTs listed on registry), members and colleagues note an increasing interest from community partners about the skills possessed by certified behaviour analysts and technicians. Our certified members are currently employed by private and public sector organizations offering behavioural autism services, special education schools, as well as general education school boards in and around the Montreal area. Although our numbers are still small compared to some of the other provincial chapters, in the absence of any formal recognition from the provincial government (and therefore the absence of funds allocated specifically for services by certificants) the growth we have experienced can still be considered an achievement.

In addition, to the ongoing work the board of directors has been doing to upkeep the association, this year we made important advances in uniting with the other Canadian affiliate chapters. Our first contact with them came soon after the Ontario provincial government announced huge cuts to their autism services, and ONTABA activated quickly with parent groups to fight the changes. Following the first video-conference of the Canadian chapters on May 2 (with representatives from each chapter present), all chapters committed to more regular communication and knowledge transfer across the provinces.

Lastly, to celebrate our 10th anniversary, we decided to push the limits with our annual conference and invite several international speakers, instead of a single one. To

this end, we were grateful to have confirmed Dr. Gregory Hanley, Dr. Tom Szabo, Dr. Merrill Winston, and Dr. Marc Lanovaz for this event. Our collaboration with the OBM Network also meant we could invite more renowned behaviour analysts to Quebec to share some wisdom, and thus we added a second day of conference presentations on topics related to organizational behaviour management with Dr. Josh Pritchard, Dr. Byron Wine, and Shannon Biagi, BCBA. Further, we planned a special cocktail event to show our gratitude to the members who have supported our initiatives over the past 10 years, and organized video-recording access to members for the Friday presentations in order to offer access to this material even to those who live in remote parts of Quebec. All of these initiatives come at a considerable cost but have allowed us to expand how we disseminate behaviour analysis to those near and far. Our chapter is looking forward to the upcoming year and further supporting bilingual and French-speaking behaviour analysts and practitioners.

As is the case with so many of the ABAI affiliate chapters, the COVID-19 pandemic considerably changed the plan for our chapter's annual conference. In early March we heard from two of our speakers who, due to their organization's travel restrictions, could not come to Montreal to present. Once these announcements were made our board decided to postpone the event to 2021 (a decision that was then validated with the subsequent banning of large gatherings and the closures of the borders between Canada and the US), and spent the next several weeks re-organizing the speakers, film crew, and locations. We are happy to announce that all of the speakers have confirmed their presence at our 2021 conference, and hopefully we will be able to offer the event we had originally planned.

Taiwan ABA

BY LI-TSUN WANG

During the year of 2019, the Taiwan Association for Behavior Analysis (TABA) kept on promoting behavior science to parents, special education teachers, private institution, and more. The activities held during this year included workshops, lectures, practice training, the annual TABA conference, and an institution behavior intervention training workshop. These activities helped people in Taiwan improve their professional knowledge about and skills within behavior science.

- The TABA annual conference was February 16, 2019, and focused on new practice and research trends related to inclusive environments. The conference theme was "Diversity Resolution in Inclusive Education through ABA", and the program included James King(BCBA, program director of ABA Department, Seek Education, Inc.) and Dr. Wang, Hui-Ting (BCBA-D, associate professor of the Department of Special Education at

NTNU). The conference was attended by 83 people representing a variety of professional backgrounds, including education, speech therapy, occupational therapy, special education, and, of course, behavior analysis. Thanks to the support of SEEK Inc., the event was able to provide continue education credit for BCaBAs and BCBAs.

- We accepted an invitation by Chung Shan Medical University at Taiwan, to introduce verbal behavior to college students and also held a workshop—supported by the Yunlin Taiwan Fund for Children and Families—to provide special education caregiver teaching.
- In March, we accepted an invitation by Changhua Special Education Resource Center to teach funtional behavior analysis to special education teachers at an elementary and senior high school who had encountered many problem behaviors in the classroom.
- We continued providing training for families with special kids about basic ABA techniques, providing talks like "Teaching VB at Home", "Emotional Education Training Program at Home", and "How To Play With Kids."
- TABA held two workshops titled "Social Skill Group Training Practice " and "FBA and Behavior Intervention Practice". A total of 20 members attended these workshops and feedback was positive.
- We continued our mission to disseminate knowledge of behavior analysis to professionals, and in December, we held a 4-hours CE training titled "Practicing Ethically", to promote ethics training for BCBA/BCaBAs.

We rescheduled the annual TABA conference from February to April, because of COVID-19. This year, the conference theme was "Implementation and Future of Application of Applied Behavior Analysis in Inclusive Environments," and we invited two professors—Dr. Peng Fen Wu and Dr. Ya-Ping Wu—who presented on the application of research results in inclusion environments.

Also in 2020, we developed and offered a basic behavior science workshop for parents, along with advanced workshops on FBA and toilet training. We also offered CE opportunities for special education teachers and ABA practitioners who work in schools or private institutions. We remain committed to our mission to spread knowledge of behavior analysis to professionals and parents, promote the science in Taiwan, and invite more members and professionals join us. ❖

Updates From ABAI's Special Interest Groups

Acceptance and Commitment Training SIG

BY AUDREY HOFFMAN, EMILY SANDOZ,
AND EVELYN GOULD

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 (ACT), 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), 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 affiliated with ABAI 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. Current board members include Audrey Hoffmann, Courtney Tarbox, Emily K. Sandoz, President Evelyn Gould, Manager Jonathan Tarbox, Josh Pritchard, and Tim Weil. One hundred and fourteen new members joined the SIG during 2019. With the goals of supporting current members, encouraging membership growth, and creating a sustainable leadership structure, the board has continued efforts to advance the mission and objectives of the SIG. During 2019 the board members further clarified the primary objectives of the SIG and developed policies and leadership structures. The board participated in the 2019 ABAI convention in Chicago by disseminating information about the SIG at the Expo, attending the leadership training, and organizing and executing the first SIG business meeting. Recent efforts have focused

on transitioning SIG membership services to ABAI and organizing and executing a board nomination and election process. We are excited to elect new board members who will continue the efforts of the initial board members.

Autism SIG

BY JUSTIN B. LEAF

It has been an exciting year for the Autism SIG. 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). This year we have been working on developing new guidelines for consumers and practitioners on quality intervention and quality behavior analysts. We hope to continue to be productive and have several goals in the upcoming year. We will be holding elections 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 Autism SIG meeting. Finally, we look forward to continually working closely with ABAI and the ABAI autism conference. We are optimistic that engaging in all of these activities will result in the improvement of behavioral intervention for individuals diagnosed with autism spectrum disorders. We hope that professionals will consider becoming members of the Autism SIG and help promote quality behavioral intervention for individuals diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder.

Behavioral Gerontology SIG

BY CLAUDIA DROSSEL

Behavioral gerontology, the application of the science and philosophy of behavior analysis to problems of adults age 65 and older, has a long tradition, from Ogden Lindsley's (1964) chapter on the design of geriatric behavioral prosthetics, and 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 and reinforcer selection for individuals with neurocognitive disorders (e.g., Engstrom, Mudford, & Brand, 2015; Lucock, Sharp, & Jones, 2020). Indeed, behavior analysts across specialties work with older adults. The Behavioral Gerontology SIG (BGSIG) provides a forum for students, practitioners, and researchers with interests 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 solutions 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), aging with a disability, and effective healthcare navigation, including participation in inter- or multidisciplinary teams. During the past year, the BGSIG has been busy furthering the dissemination of education, clinical training, and research in behavioral gerontology. Outreach efforts, designed to grow interest in behavioral gerontology and provide links to relevant resources, are occurring via social media accounts (www.facebook.com/groups/BGSIG; <https://twitter.com/bgsig>). In March 2020, the closed Facebook group, administered by BGSIG officers, had 422 members (up from 295), the Twitter account 580 followers (up from 554). Because of the accelerating growth of interest in behavioral gerontology, the BGSIG is increasing its effectiveness by (1) instituting formal bylaws, policies, and procedures; (2) introducing membership fees, with dues administration implemented through ABAI; (3) enhancing its web design to permit resource sharing and members-only resources; (4) forming committees for advocacy and communication with members, quarterly meetings, and members-only resources (e.g., grant-writing; electronic library). The BGSIG is also considering a committee for the promotion of inclusive language, to reduce ageism. 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, now being revised to include more education and research-related information for our members, particularly about publications and grants. Because of the extensive effort to promote behavioral gerontology broadly and effectively, the business meeting identified members ready to complete formal tasks within the SIG (e.g., committee leadership), and it generated action items which were revisited by the officers and interested members in an online business meeting on December 2, 2019. A new position within the SIG, international representative, was created. An online meeting in March of 2020 focused on finalizing the bylaws and preparing for changes in the administration of membership as well as the composition of officers. BGSIG members were asked to vote on the bylaws and changes in leadership during the May 2020 business meeting. 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.

Behavior Analysis and the Arts SIG

BY ABIGAIL B. CALKINOTHER

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 (www.facebook.com/groups/303711403126912/) with at least weekly posts and commentary about past and present artists, musicians, and writers, as well as posts integrating the arts, artists, creativity, and behavior analysis. Readership is about 10 per post.

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. We have a number of people interested in the arts, but who are not artists per se as BAARTs members. Another 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 having received pay for work in the arts.

From June 2017–April 2018, SIG membership grew from 67 to 93, an increase of 28%. From March 2018–2019, SIG membership grew from 93 to 177, an increase of close to double. As of 29 February 2020, we have 220 members. Whether you are 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@abigailbcalkin.com. To join the Facebook group contact Travis Thompson or Abigail Calkin. The benefits of membership include receiving the excellent Facebook posts as well as viewing the expansion of behavior analysis into an area thought of as unrelated to or hard to relate to the analysis of human behavior. However, the combination of behavior analysis and its relationship to the arts is an exciting field. We hope to see more discussion of this on the Facebook page in the near future. The ABAI meetings tend to be attended by a small number of people and, each year, all new people. We hope for greater attendance that will help us plan well for the 2021 event!

Behavior Analysis in Military and Veterans' Issues SIG

BY KENT A. CORSO AND ABIGAIL B. CALKIN

The Military and Veterans (MilVet) SIG is entering its ninth year of operation at ABAI. The SIG focuses on how the field of applied behavior analysis (ABA) can contribute to those who currently serve or previously served in the military. There are many issues that concern the military and veteran communities (e.g., suicide, PTSD, TBI, and autism). Co-chairs, Abigail Calkin and Kent Corso, and members remain excited about working on the issues and needs of this specific population. During its early years, the SIG devoted a significant amount of time to increasing membership, while also examining viable ways of accessing the military and veteran community. A few long-term projects are now well underway that have helped recruit additional members. The MilVet SIG currently has 80 members. When the co-chairs first applied to be a SIG there were 14 members. While the co-chairs are pleased with the SIG's membership growth, over the past two years we have seen a decreased rate of new members joining the SIG. As a result, the co-chairs commit to spending more time and effort this year increasing membership and stimulating more involvement by current members. With the current projects in motion, members will begin playing more active roles in the actual delivery of ABA to military and veteran communities. One of the MilVet SIG members, Megan Miller, created a Facebook page on May 28, 2014: Behavior Analysis in Military and Veterans' Issues SIG. The site is a closed group, which grew to 86 members in its first year. At the end of its second year, it had 190 members, an increase of 220%. In its third year, membership was 252, and as of March 15, 2018, the SIG had 367 members. On February 29, 2020 the page had 503 members. This year SIG members commenced a three-year long research project at Whiteman Air Force Base, the Air Force installation with the most suicides among all

Air Force installations. SIG co-chair, Kent Corso, leads the team, including SIG members Jim Meador, Abigail Calkin, and Mike Kondis. Currently, archived data is being collected, mirroring the pilot study these same SIG members conducted in 2016-2017 for the Air National Guard. Additionally, this team previously launched the only native application for the standard celeration chart (i.e., AimStar Lite), making the digital standard celeration chart accessible on iOS devices world-wide! In January 2020, the same team launched the first API for the digital standard celeration chart, for the first time in history, enabling computers to communicate about data and automatically generate a standard celeration chart for the data the two computers discuss. Our Facebook page contains weekly questions and requests about opportunities to learn more about how to treat this population and where to gain such experience. The absence of formal systems of ABA care delivery within the Department of Defense and Department of Veterans Affairs continues to be a barrier to providing ABA providers access to helping this population. SIG member Dr. John Borgen, most recently at the Oregon Institute of Technology, has begun a literature review to help support advocacy for ABA's application in the Departments of Defense and Veteran Affairs medical systems. The SIG formally requests that ABAI partner with it to discuss potential advocacy and collaboration to address this issue. The barrier is that ABA is not contained in federal regulation: 32 CFR 199.2 definition for reliable evidence standards. Without inclusion in this federal statute, ABA will not be accepted or reimbursed for anything other than autism within the military or veteran medical systems. There is much that the field of ABA can contribute to the military and veteran community. Despite the barriers, the SIG will continue to support this community, raise awareness and build momentum through the ABA community at ABAI and elsewhere. Professional conferences are great opportunities to meet prospective members of the MilVet SIG, current members, and the co-



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

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 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.wordpress.com>) and posted to our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/groups/TheBATechSIG), with more than 800 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: <https://batechsig.wordpress.com/membership/>.

Clinical SIG

BY EMILY THOMAS JOHNSON

Clinical Behavior Analysis (CBA) involves the application of behavior analytic principles to the full range of human problems, many of which have traditionally been considered "mental health" issues. CBA clinicians work with the relationship between thoughts, feelings, and other behavior to help people move beyond their problems and toward living more fulfilling lives. This area of behavior analysis has expanded exponentially in the last 20 years. Within ABAI, the Clinical Special Interest Group of ABAI is for those who have an interest in clinical applications of behavior analysis. Our membership works in both research and applied settings. The Clinical SIG is dedicated to facilitating collaboration between researchers and clinicians to further the field's ability to apply clinical populations. This group seeks to promote Clinical Behavior Analysis (CBA) at ABAI and is interested in maintaining the longstanding relationship between basic research and clinical application. The Clinical SIG is

working to develop opportunities to recognize and support clinicians and students doing research in this area. To stay in touch with other members and to be kept up to date on Clinical SIG activities and to access copies of the newsletter please check our listserv at <https://groups.io/g/ClinicalSIG>. If you would like to join the Clinical-SIG, please contact us using the link at www.abainternational.org/Special_Interests/clinical.asp.

Culture and Diversity SIG

BY ELIZABETH HUGHES FONG

The Culture and Diversity SIG rebranded in 2019 and since then we have a new board, and an increase in membership. In 2020, we elected new a board during the 2020 SIG meeting and are developing a plan for increased activity and visibility. Membership is currently free and we welcome anyone to join.

Dissemination of Behavior Analysis SIG

BY JOHN O'NEILL

The Dissemination of Behavior Analysis Special Interest Group (DBA-SIG) held our annual meeting and social event virtually during the online 46th Annual Convention. All attendees were invited to express their thoughts and suggestions in an open and inclusive discussion of our progress and future endeavors. In addition, officers met on a quarterly basis and provided regular updates to our members through newsletters, town-hall meetings, and social media. We provided free monthly continuing education events to members that included a broad range of topics such as culture, diversity, empathy, humility, public policy, technology, and therapy. Our continued mission for 2020 is to disseminate the science of human behavior to the public at large, through easily understood explanations. Our goal is to promote behavior analysis in a positive and accurate light, to help society realize the potential of our science. Over the last year, our membership continued to grow and we were proud to award two more dissemination grants: The Arabic Resource Hub Project will involve the creation of a brand-new website that will promote the dissemination of the science of human behavior to the public at large in the United Arab Emirates, and to all Arabic-speaking individuals interested in behavior analysis globally. The project aligns perfectly with the DBA-SIG mission as it will use easy to understand explanations in the Emirati dialect of the Arabic language to promote behavior analysis in a positive and accurate light, whilst helping society realize the potential of our science. Reaching a Wider Audience—A Free, Accurate Textbook on Behavior Analysis will create an open educational resource

textbook titled, *Special Topics in Applied Behavior Analysis*. The book will contain more than 10 chapters that cover the philosophy, history, and applied literature related to specific areas of practice in behavior analysis. It will be published under a Creative Commons license, allowing students, teachers, and the general public to access and use accurate, peer-reviewed information about the science in any number of diverse educational settings. Chapters will be written by BCBAs and graduate students with peer reviews by a team of volunteer BCBAs, BCBA-Ds, and other doctoral level collegiate faculty in order to ensure accuracy and readability. As we look to the future, the DBA-SIG is excited to report the results and impact of these and past grant winning projects. We encourage all behavior analysts to engage in value-driven efforts to disseminate our science to new and emerging areas with a focus on personal, social, and cultural inclusion and acceptance. We envision a world in which behavioral science permeates the fabric of society and moves us toward a thorough understanding of the complex concept of behavior. We are committed to this end and to assisting others in their pursuit of this goal. Students (\$15) and professionals (\$20) who wish to join and participate in the DBA-SIG, can become members through our website (www.broadcastbehavior.com). Benefits include eligibility for dissemination grants, free monthly CE events, and access to a vibrant community of advocates and resources.

Gambling SIG

BY GSIG OFFICERS


The Gambling Special Interest Group (GSIG) is a home base for behaviorists interested in gambling research and treatment. Our mission is to foster the growth of gambling research in behavior analysis through collaborative research efforts, the coordination of researchers and ideas, and the sharing of resources for the mutual benefit of the field, its adherents, and

those who are impacted by such endeavors. Most of our business is online, through email chains and our message board. We invite interested parties to join the GSIG for free; whether your interest relates to research, treatment, policy, all of the above, or more broadly about risk and choice, we bet you will find the GSIG resources and literature on the behavioral analysis of gambling rewarding. Our website (<http://gsig.squarespace.com>) is where prospective members can get information about the GSIG and join our group. The website also houses research software. Each program represents hours of work or finances staked by a behavioral researcher, and each program is completely free to our members. The programs simulate gambling with control over features of the games. As always, GSIG members are encouraged to download these programs, experiment with their features, and incorporate them into their own research. Join us at gsig.squarespace.com and on our discussion board, or at upcoming events. Persons interested in gambling should also visit *Analysis of Gambling Behavior* at <http://repository.stcloudstate.edu/agb> for a journal devoted to behavioral research. The GSIG has had a long relationship with *Analysis of Gambling Behavior*, as many GSIG members have supported the journal in various roles over the years.

Mental Health SIG

BY ANDREA DUROY

The Mental Health Special Interest Group was formed November 2019. The Mental Health SIG is dedicated to developing and disseminating evidence-based resources and information to ABAI members and the general public on mental health while raising awareness and understanding of mental health from a behavior analytic perspective as well as promoting behavior analytic research on mental health. In 2020, the Mental Health SIG hosted two continuing education events focused on self-care for



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behavior analysts. The Mental Health SIG also hosts a thriving Facebook group which offers support for board certified behavior analysts.

Open Educational Resources

BY MARGARET DANNEVIK PAVONE

The Open Educational Resources SIG was announced in January 2020. The group is growing and currently includes 41 members. At the annual ABAI conference, the SIG held its first business meeting. The group meets bi-monthly online to share resources, collaborate, and socialize. Goals for the coming year include offering quarterly free open access continuing education events and learning more about how the SIG can meet the needs of its members. In March, the group hosted a continuing education event where attendees learned about the different types of creative commons licenses and how open educational resources can contribute to the goals outlined in the Professional Ethics and Compliance Code for behavior analysts.

In collaboration with the Dissemination of Behavior Analysis SIG, we hosted an event titled, "OER's Role in Dissemination." Topics included an introduction to open engaged pedagogy, OERs in the ABA classroom, how OERs can be used to promote diversity and inclusion, and the use of R to create OERs. Joining the SIG is free and can be done on the SIG's Facebook page: www.facebook.com/groups/BehaviorOERSIG. The OER SIG membership consists of ABAI members working in research, teaching, and practice who are interested in disseminating behavior analytic materials using open licenses. Students and community members are also invited to actively contribute to the mission of the SIG.

Organizational Behavior Management Network SIG

BY BYRON WINE

Since 1982, the Organizational Behavior Management Network (OBMN) has been dedicated to promoting Organizational Behavior Management (OBM). OBMN is committed to enhancing education, research, and practice in OBM. The Network is made up of students, practitioners, researchers, and others who are interested in OBM. The Network offers webinars designed to allow prominent OBM practitioners and researchers to share their expertise. These webinars are presented at low cost to maximize the exposure of OBM. For the first time in 2020, OBMN offered continuing education for many of the webinars.

In August 9–10, 2019, the OBMN hosted its biannual conference in Richmond, VA. Several hundred people attended the conference to learn from the best in the field. We were honored to have a prestigious group of OBMers

including: Julie Smith, Scott Geller, Alicia Alvero, Judy Agnew, Tim Ludwig, Laura Methot, and Lori Ludwig. The reviews were fantastic and we are currently planning our next conference in 2021. On April 3–4, several members of OBMN board of directors presented at Quebec ABAI. Over the past few years, OBMN has made an effort to spread OBM internationally. Over the next few years, we plan to continue working in conjunction with our international colleagues to continue to expose the world to OBM through lectures and presentations. 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 any 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 the how behavior analytic principles are applied in PBS activities and promote the use of PBS interventions in schools, communities, agencies and in homes and support practitioners in its use. The PBS SIG members are those engaged in experimental and applied analyses of behavior who are interested in positive behavior support. The SIG was established in 2005 and has experienced four presidents since its inception.

The PBS SIG held its annual business meeting at the 2019 Annual Conference of the Association for Behavior Analysis International. Approximately 15 people attended the business meeting. Combined with the people expressing interest the previous year, the current stable membership of the PBS-SIG is approximately 71 individuals. During the annual business meeting, the group received an overview of the PBS-SIG. The majority of the hour centered on discussions on how to grow and maintain the PBS SIG within ABAI. The PBS SIG will concentrate on identifying shared values and what is important to the group in accomplishing, clarity of roles (focus on balance of work effort among members), and setting measurable short and long-term goals for the SIG. Shared values identified from the meeting: person centered planning, socially significant outcomes, networking/partnership, dissemination, and broad applications. The SIG identified four ways in which we can move toward accomplishing these goals: creating a SIG Leadership Team, increase social media and listserv

activity, increase participation, and more frequent meetings.

As a result of the business meeting the SIG identified areas of focus for the 2019-2020 year. These included:

1. Development of a SIG Leadership Team: Completed.

- 6 members are included on the team
- This team has met a total of three times this year.

2. Increase social media and listserv activity: In progress.

- Encouraging more presence of the PBS SIG to participate on the Behavior Analysts for Positive Behavior Support Facebook page. Currently there are 851 members with an active presence, a 58% increase from 2018.
- Find ways to leverage the active participation from the Facebook group into the ABAI PBS SIG

3. Increase Participation—In progress.

- Recruitment and attending sessions at ABAI on PBS
- Send an announcement to SIG members and Facebook Page members a list of PBS related conference sessions at ABAI
- Host a Happy Hour (SIG Mixer)- Work on creating happy hour mixers at ABAI for networking and partnership opportunities.

Anyone who is 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

Established in 1981, The Rehabilitation and Independent Living Special Interest Group (RaIL) has supported the need to expand the field of Behavior Analysis into rehabilitation, neurorehabilitation and related treatment arenas. The focus has been especially relevant for patients with acquired brain injuries or other neurological disabilities including individuals dealing with complex, related medical conditions that clearly require behavior analysts to integrate programming in settings with multidisciplinary teams and concerned caregivers. This SIG has provided the opportunity for rehabilitation treatment professionals, including BCBAs, that are involved in brain injury rehabilitation to collaborate, investigate and establish support for the field and its impact on the population. The RaIL SIG has had members from states across the U.S and from as far away as India, Canada and Ireland. Over the past year, the dynamic and intense work being done in this area has presented challenges with maintaining momentum with multiple plans developed by the SIG over the past years to assist in expanding the understanding of brain injury and the need for behavior services. Dr. Megan Heineke,

University of California, Sacramento, has taken on co-chair responsibilities to help drive the agenda through her excellent advocacy in this specialized area and her neurorehab research lab and student program. This renewed energy combined with the connections established and developed at the annual conference and regional meetings, will continue to establish the RaIL SIG as a strong and valuable voice for this underserved population. The efforts of RaIL SIG members have not gone unrewarded in the field of brain injury rehabilitation. An industry leading acute rehabilitation hospital recently hired a BCBA to integrate with their therapeutic teams to better address behavior challenges in the very early stages of recovery. The difficulties facing all BCBAs in such settings include staff training and commitment to behavior principles, program and treatment integrity and overall acceptance to the value of behavior analysis post brain injury. While this situation has been a great move forward toward all those goals, many hospitals and rehabilitation settings have not recognized and integrated BCBAs into the services they offer. The Brain Injury Association of America (BIA) remains committed to establishing the guidelines necessary to assist rehabilitation facilities with treating behavior difficulties post injury. A team, including a RaIL SIG member, is working with the BIA to review, analyze and disseminate behavior treatment guidelines for brain injury rehabilitation. It is the team's hope that their efforts will produce important results that can be shared this upcoming year. The long-term action plan developed by the RaIL SIG with the BCBA continues to provide motivation and key steps in growing the interest and opportunities for BCBAs in neurorehabilitation. There remains a strong need for student development programs to expose BCBAs to this population and help them learn the tremendous impact they can have on the patients and family in recovery. All of this requires increased visibility and experiential opportunities, so those currently working in the field need to step up and speak out. It requires facilities and administration understand the value added to their treatment by having BCBAs on staff. Finally, the action plan outlined how essential it is to develop research regarding behavior interventions with brain injured patients and make efforts to publish and communicate the results. The body of research remains very limited, making the progress difficult and limiting awareness of the need. More research is desperately needed so the opportunities are there. The RaIL SIG continues to invite and welcome members from diverse backgrounds including physicians and brain injury professionals from all disciplines to students and concerned family members. It is that diversity that has allowed for thoughtful and enlightening 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 a part of the solution.

The continued growth of the RaIL SIG must 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 to check it out and join/like, (www.facebook.com/pages/ABA-Rehab-Special-Interest-Group/118243448217580). Individuals can join the SIG anytime by sending a message through the Facebook page to chairman Chris Persel or visit the group at the next conference SIG business meeting.

SIG Español

BY MAPY CHAVEZ

Spanish

En el 2003, se formó el SIG (Spanish Internacional Group) con el objetivo de 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. Desde entonces 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) Si aun no son parte de nuestro SIG, los invitamos a unirse a nosotros, y esperamos verlos a todos en ABAI.

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.

Teaching Behavior Analysis SIG

BY DACIA MCCOY

Teaching Behavior Analysis SIG Within the field of Behavior Analysis, teaching takes many different forms including staff training, academia, teacher consultation, parent education, and skills training for clients. The Teaching Behavior Analysis (TBA) SIG is a collaborative group that encompasses all of these areas and more with the goal of improving teaching and learning throughout the field and beyond. All are welcome to join and there are no dues to participate. The TBA SIG has a variety of ways to get involved and connected with other members. One simple opportunity is to join the engaging listserv where members often post resources, references, open-source tools, and faculty or internship positions. To become a member of the listserv, please send an email to Dacia McCoy at mccoydi@ucmail.uc.edu and copy our list manager, Pat Williams, at deadmantest@gmail.com. The large membership ensures a range of topics covered and generally a quick response from diverse viewpoints. Some recent topics included:

- Surveys related to behavior analysis
- Free resources and teaching aids
- Open faculty and post-doc positions nationally and internationally

- Rapid Prompting Methods
- Pseudoscience in autism
- Conference announcements
- Specialized interests, such as geriatrics/ dementia care

Furthermore, we have an active and growing Facebook page (@Teaching Behavior Analysis) with more than 6,750 members. This is another venue where resources, collaboration, and professional development opportunities are shared. Additionally, we now have an Instagram and Twitter page! You can follow us at: www.instagram.com/teachbehavioranalysis/ and <https://twitter.com/AnalysisTeach>. With all of these platforms advertisements for commercial products and books are not permitted to allow for open dialogue and the group's focus to remain. As we do each year, we hosted a TBA SIG business meeting at the Annual Convention and this is a fun way for members to meet in person, learn more about the group, and provide direction for the upcoming year. Make sure to look for the session at the next convention. There are also several ways to get involved in a leadership role within the group. If you are interested in learning more about running for a committee position or contributing to group initiatives you can email Dacia McCoy at mccoydi@ucmail.uc.edu. We are excited to continue to offer these great resources to members and look forward to seeing your involvement in the TBA SIG.

Theoretical, Philosophical, and Conceptual Issues SIG

BY TYLER S. GLASSFORD

This year has been a year of development for the SIG. For the first year ever the SIG has introduced the Online Philosophy of Behavior Analysis Journal Club thanks to the work of Carsta Simon. The journal club has met each month in the past year to discuss current theoretical issues that influence behavior analysis. The club is open to all interested, students, professors, and practitioners. In the upcoming year the SIG has plans to discuss new leadership and welcomes any interested to join. If you are interested in joining our special interest group or learning more about the Online Philosophy of Behavior Analysis Journal Club we will invite you to our listserv: <http://lists.stcloudstate.edu/mailman/listinfo/tpc-l>. ❖

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AUTISM LEARNING PARTNERS
MAKING PROGRESS POSSIBLE

In-house conferences for all BCBAs (expenses covered) with keynote provided by leading speakers in the field.

Ultimately, we are an agency that embraces values-driven leadership, that provides training and resources for providing quality care, and lots of opportunity for professional development and career progression.

<https://autismlearningpartners.com/careers/>

2020 Supporting and Sustaining Members

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

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2020-2021 Calendar of Upcoming Conferences

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

2020 December

Maryland ABA 23rd Annual Conference

December 3–4
To be held virtually
www.mdaba.org

Ontario ABA Annual Conference

December 11–12
To be held virtually
www.ontaba.org

2021 February

Texas ABA 36th Annual Conference

February 11–14
To be held virtually
<https://txaba.org>

Illinois ABA Annual Conference

February 18–19
To be held virtually
www.ilaba.org

North Carolina ABA 32nd Annual Conference

February 26
To be held virtually
www.nc-aba.org

ABAI 15th Annual Autism Conference

February 28–March 2
To be held virtually
www.abainternational.org

March

Connecticut ABA 17th Annual Conference

March 4–5
To be held virtually
<https://ctaba.org>

Swedish ABA Annual Meeting

March 20
Location TBD
www.swaba.se

April

Virginia ABA 17th Annual Meeting and Conference

April 16–17
Newport News, VA (or virtual - TBD)
www.virginiaaba.org

May

Massachusetts ABA Annual Conference

May 13–14
Location TBD
www.massaba.net

ABAI 47th Annual Convention

May 27–31
Location TBD
www.abainternational.org

July

ABA Australia Annual Conference

July 23–25
Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
World Square Rydges Hotel, Sydney
<https://afbba.wildapricot.org>

October

Southeastern ABA 37th Conference

October 14–16
Columbia, SC
The Courtyard Columbia Downtown
www.seabaonline.org

Australian Association for Cognitive and Behaviour Therapy 41st National Conference

October 28–30
Fremantle, Western Australia, Australia
Esplanade Hotel Fremantle by Rydges
www.aacbt.org.au

Mid-American ABA Conference

October 28–30
Detroit, MI
Crowne Plaza Detroit Downtown
Riverfront
www.mid-aba.com



ABA Billing Codes Commission



The mission of the ABA Billing Codes Commission is to facilitate evidence-based applied behavior analysis by advancing the multi-disciplinary understanding, dissemination, and standardization of the adaptive behavior CPT® billing codes.

To submit inquiries or provide feedback, visit us at: **www.ababillingcodes.com**



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Share research and experience through presentations, posters, and journal articles.

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Receive discounts on ABAI event registration and association products and services.

Upcoming Events

15th Annual Autism Conference
February 28–March 2, 2021
Now Online!

47th Annual Convention
May 27–31, 2021
Now Online!

16th Annual Autism Conference
March 5–7, 2022
Seattle, WA

48th Annual Convention
May 26–30, 2022
Boston, MA

Stay connected.

ABA | I

47th

Annual Convention

*program details
and registration at*

[www.abainternational.org/events/
annual/annual2021/convention-home](http://www.abainternational.org/events/annual/annual2021/convention-home)

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