# Society for the Advancement of Behavior Analysis

By Dr. Janet S. Twyman, SABA President



Yes, this is the annual column asking you to support The Society for the Advancement of Behavior Analysis (SABA), which in turn provides financial support for the field of behavior analysis. Read on to learn more about why SABA's mission is essential, and how you can help.

SABA was chartered in 1980 as a 501(c)3, non-profit organization devoted to the welfare and future of behavior analysis. It is the only organization whose specific mission is to develop and enhance behavior analysis; in this way it can be seen as our only organization dedicated to behavior analysis for the sake of behavior analysis.

SABA secures and administers private funds in support of the field. It accepts tax-deductible donations and distributes those donations through grants and fellowships, and helps ensure the future of the field through the sponsorship of student presenters at ABA International's annual convention. The convention is also a forum used by SABA to recognize leaders in behavior analysis at an annual awards ceremony and thank its contributors at a reception the first night of the convention.

### **FEATURED!**

**SABA** This issue includes an update from the current SABA President and recognizes the 2007-2008 SABA donors.

**ABAI FELLOWS** The 2008 ABAI Fellows are announced in this issue. As well, nominations are being sought for 2009 ABAI Fellows. This section begins on page 8.

**RECAP OF ABAI 2008 IN CHICAGO** This article provides a report on the most recent ABAI convention, which was held in Chicago in May. The recap appears on page 12.

**UPCOMING CONFERENCES** Keep your event calendar or PDA current with the upcoming behavior analysis conferences listed on page 14.

**BOARDS AND COMMITTEES** Read about the important work being done by ABAI's boards and committees, including pending initiatives of the new Practice Board and Science Boards on page 16.

**ADDITIONAL ABAI UPDATES** Other sections in this issue provide reports from ABAI affiliated chapters, special interest groups, organizational members, and other behavioral organizations.

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### **General Information**

The ABAI Newsletter is ABAI's primary means of communicating with members about association activities, the activities of ABAI chapters and special interest groups, upcoming events, job positions in behavior analysis, and other items of interest to the behavioral community.

### **Subscriptions**

All members of the Association for Behavior Analysis receive The ABAI Newsletter as a part of their membership benefits. Institution and nonmember subscriptions may be obtained at a cost of \$41/year. Single issues may be purchased for \$15.

### Submitting to the ABAI Newsletter

The Association for Behavior Analysis International publishes the *ABAI Newsletter* three times a year. The newsletter Editor is Maria E. Malott, Ph.D., Executive Director/Secretary Treasurer of ABA International. Publication dates and submission deadlines are as follows:

Deadline for Submissions	Mailing Date
December 15	January 30
June 15	July 30
September 15	October 30

### **Articles and Advertisements**

All advertisements are accepted and published on the representation of the advertiser and its agency that they are authorized to publish the entire contents thereof and that, to the best of their knowledge and belief, all statements made therein are true. The advertiser and the agency agree to hold the publisher harmless from any and all claims arising out of advertising published. Publication of articles, announcements, or acceptance of advertisements in The ABAI Newsletter does not imply endorsement by ABA International. ABAI reserves the right to reject any advertisement or copy that ABAI, for any reason, deems unsuitable for publication in any Association publication.

Articles and announcements must be submitted to the ABAI office for consideration. Articles should consist of information of general interest to the behavioral community, and should not be reports of empirical research or conceptual developments; as such articles are more appropriate to refereed journals. Announcements and other advertisements must be relevant to behavior analysis science and/or practice.

Classified advertisements may be submitted by e-mail, in hard copy, or by fax, and will be entered at the ABAI office. The fee for classified is \$100\* for the first 25 lines and \$4 for each additional line (approximately 50 characters/line). ABAI reserves the right to edit.

Display advertisements should be submitted as high-quality electronic files (at least 300 dpi). The following table shows the standard pricing for display advertisements.

Display size	Price*
Full page (7" wide x 10" deep)	\$750
Half page (6 $\frac{1}{2}$ " wide x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ " deep)	
or (3½" wide x 9½" deep)	\$500
Quarter page (31/4" wide x 41/2" deep)	\$300
Business card	\$165
0 1 1 11 11 (10) (	

Organizations with ten (10) or fewer employees receive a 10% discount on all advertisement prices.

<sup>\*</sup> Prices subject to change

#### Continued from front cover

The opening event at the ABA International Annual Convention is the SABA Awards Ceremony. It is a public opportunity for SABA to recognize leaders in our field, and with each awardee presenting an overview of his or her work it is often one of the most highly attended events of the convention. The event is a warm celebration of what's best in behavior analysis and a collective opportunity to honor awardees for their work in and commitment to behavior analysis. Past awardees include:

Distinguished Service to Behavior Analysis: Dr. Edmund J. Fantino (2008), Dr. Teodoro Ayllon (2007), Dr. James Dinsmoor, posthumously, (2006), Dr. Jon Bailey (2005), Dr. Beth Sulzer-Azaroff (2004), Dr. Victor Laties (2003), Dr. Jack Michael (2002), Dr. Murray Sidman (2001), Dr. Sidney Bijou (2000), Dr. Ogden Lindsley (1999), Dr. Montrose Wolf (1998), and Dr. Donald Baer (1997). Winners under the ABA Award Committee: Dr. Joseph Brady (1996), Dr. Victor Laties, and Dr. Philip Hineline (1994).

International Dissemination of Behavior Analysis: Dr. Linda J. Hayes (2008), Dr. Eitan Eldar (2007), Dr. Joseph Morrow (2006), Dr. R. Douglas Greer (2005), Dr. Michael Davison (2004), Dr. Maria E. Malott (2003), Dr. Paolo Moderato (2002), Dr. Carolina Bori (2001), Dr. Liliana Mayo (2000), Comunidad los Horcones (1999), Dr. Emilio Ribes-Inesta (1998), and Dr. Masayo Sato (1997). Winner under the ABA Award Committee: Dr. Murray Sidman (1996).

Public Service in Behavior Analysis: Dr. Michael Keenan (2008), Dr. Henry Pennypacker (2007), Dr. Robert Horner (2006), Dr. Robert Mager (2005), Mr. Michael Hemingway (2004), Dr. Douglas Carnine (2003), Dr. Richard Malott (2002), Dr. Kent Johnson (2001), Dr. Charles Schuster (2000), Dr. Gerald Shook (1999), and Dr. Aubrey Daniels (1997). Previous winners under the ABA Award Committee: Dr. Brian Iwata (1996), Dr. Gina Green (1995), and Dr. John Jacobson (1994).

Impact of Science of Application: Dr. Murray Sidman (2008), Dr. Steven Hayes (2007), Dr. Nathan Azrin (2006), Dr. Howard Rachlin (2005), and Dr. Tony Nevin (2004).

Enduring Programmatic Contributions to Behavior Analysis: Kennedy Krieger Institute (2008), The May Institute (2007), Behavior Analysis and Therapy Program of Southern Illinois University (2006), The New England Center for Children (2005), West Virginia University Department of Psychology (2004), Society for the Experimental Analysis of Behavior (2003), University of Florida (2002), Eunice Kennedy Shriver's Behavior Technology Group (2001), University of Kansas (2000), Princeton Child

Development Institute (1999), and the Department of Psychology at Western Michigan University (1998).

Effective Presentation of Behavior Analysis in the Mass Media: Ms. Amy Sutherland (2008), Dr. James M. Kauffman (2006), Dr. Ivar Lovaas (2004), Dr. Richard Foxx (2003), John Palfreman (2002), Dr. Roger McIntire (2001), Dr. James Partington (2000), Dr. Scott Geller (1998), and Karen Pryor (1997). When the Association for Behavior Analysis International administered the awards, recipients included: Catherine Maurice (1996), Dr. Gary Wilkes (1995), and Dr. Paul Chance (1994).

Please join us at the Phoenix Convention Center in May when the 2009 SABA Awards will be presented.

Let SABA know whom you think should be honored in 2009. Recommendations for SABA awards are made by ABA International members and reviewed and voted on by the SABA Board of Directors. All ABA International members are strongly encouraged to make recommendations (and of course provide the rationale for the recommendation) for any or all of the SABA awards. See

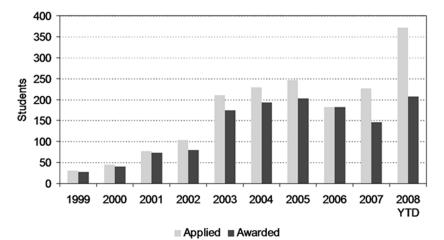
www.abainternational.org/saba/awards.asp for award guidelines. Recommendations can be made at any time, and watch your inbox for e-mails forewarning of annual nomination deadlines.

To support new research and beginning researchers, SABA provides annual grants to support experimentation in and the development of behavior analysis. SABA has awarded thousands of dollars each year for the past several years, with \$17,000 in grants given out in 2008 and \$20,000 planned for distribution in 2009. The following grants, based mostly on endowments, are given annually:

- The Experimental Fellowship. This fund provides financial support for students doing research in the experimental analysis of behavior. Eight students have received a total \$19,000 since its inception in 2002. Our 2009 awardees of grants of \$2,000 each are Amanda Calvert, University of Washington and Carla Lagorio, University of Florida.
- The Sidney W. & Janet R. Bijou Fellowship. The Sidney W. and Janet R. Bijou Fellowship Fund is the result of generous donations by the Bijous. The fund provides grant support for students doing research in child development. Since 1998, 17 students have been awarded \$86,500 from the Sidney W. and Janet R. Bijou Fellowship. Our 2009 awardees of grants of \$5,000 each are Jessica Frieder from Idaho State University and Sarah Kupzyk from the University of Nebraska, Lincoln.

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- The International Development Grant. This fund was started to ensure ongoing support for the international development of behavior analysis. Since 1999, there have been 25 International Development Grant Recipients receiving \$29,000 in support. Our 2009 awardee of a \$3,000 grant is the not-for-profit organization, PEER International, which works to bring effective instructional practices and behavior analysis to students and teachers in township schools in South Africa.
- The Student Registration Grant. SABA provides complimentary registration for qualifying students who are presenting authors during ABA International events. This fund is widely supported by donations from the ABA International members, with over 150 members supporting almost 200 students. Since 1996 the SABA Student Presenters Fund has provided a total of \$76,005 in registration grants to around 1,500 student presenters. Figure 1 shows SABA's continued support of student presenters.



SABA continues to increase and diversify the types of grants it provides. Beginning in 2009, SABA will offer annual Doctoral Dissertation and Master's Thesis Research Grants to support two student theses projects in the amount of \$500 each and two student dissertation projects in the amount of \$1,000 each. Look for eligibility and applications information on these new grants, and all SABA grants at www.abainternational.org/saba/gf.asp. We encourage all eligible ABA International members to apply so that SABA may support your outstanding work.

Another exciting development is SABA's support of the Don Hake Basic/Applied Research Award presented annually by the American Psychological Association Division 25: Behavior Analysis. With SABA's annual support of this award, it is now the Association for Behavior Analysis International's Don Hake Basic/Applied Research Award.

To support its grant efforts, SABA has raised (and continues to raise) funds for three endowments:

Doctoral Dissertation and Master's Thesis Research. To foster long-term development of Doctoral dissertation and Master's thesis research in behavior analysis, ABA International has generously agreed to support the \$3,000 annual amount awarded in this grant until the endowment reaches as self-sustaining status, which SABA's financial advisors tell us is at least \$100,000 for modest annual awards. We need your support to meet this goal (and of course a larger endowment means larger awards). Look for a fundraising drive in specific support of this endowment, to begin in December 2008.

- Student Presenters Fund. All donations to this fund are given out within the year of the donation. We need your support to keep this fund replenished so SABA may continue to support student participation at ABA International events. Please consider joining hundreds of your behavioral colleagues by making a tax-deductible donation to this fund.
- \* Unrestricted Fund. Donations to this fund are "unrestricted" and not designated for a single specific purpose. The SABA Board of Directors determines how the unrestricted funds should be allocated (sometimes to support a restricted fund) and what activities unrestricted funds should support.

The potential of SABA, ABA International, and behavior analysis relies upon your financial support. SABA is small, private, non-profit organization, existing solely for the benefit of behavior analysis and is directly accountable to the behavioral community through its permanent connection with ABA International's Executive Council. For information on SABA programs and funds, and on how you can make a donation to help preserve behavior analysis, go to: http://www.abainternational.org/saba/donations.asp.



# Society for the Advancement of Behavior Analysis (SABA) Donations

### **General Information**

SABA was chartered in 1980 as a non-profit corporation devoted to the welfare and future of behavior analysis. SABA exists to secure and administer private funds in support of behavior analysis. These activities include, but are not limited to, the advancement of basic knowledge about behavior analysis and the applications of that knowledge to problems of developmental disabilities, and other areas.

SABA supports behavior analysis through both independent projects that it initiates and through underwriting activities of the Association for Behavior Analysis International (ABAI). The nine Directors of SABA also are members of the Executive Council of ABAI.

Gifts of cash, securities, and other property are given absolutely or in trust by individuals, corporations, and foundations for the benefit of behavior analysis. Gifts received through the annual, endowment, and planned giving programs of SABA are used to supplement the activities of ABAI and its members beyond the financial support such programs can receive from the ABAI membership. The Society's Board of Directors and staff work with both members of ABAI and other donors to determine specific programs to be supported with funds received by SABA.

### **Advantages of Giving**

The Society provides advantages to donors and to behavior analysis because:

- It is private and non-profit, existing solely for the benefit of behavior analysis.
- It is directly accountable to the behavior analysis community through its permanent connection with ABAI's Executive Council.
- It allocates unrestricted gifts to help advance behavior analysis in areas which otherwise might not be funded.
- It is flexible in working with donors to see that any specific requests they have will be honored within the guidelines of the Society.
- Its gifts are tax deductible.
- Its small size and low overhead ensure that gifts are directed to programs and not to administrative costs.

### Tax Status

As a non-profit organization, SABA is exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)3 of the 1986 Internal Revenue Code as amended.

Contributions to SABA qualify for tax deductions to the full extent provided by law. The IRS identification number assigned to SABA is 38-2325364.

#### **Standards**

The Society is deeply committed to the philosophy, science, and practice of behavior analysis and will support only those activities and programs consistent with this commitment.

The Society safeguards privacy rights and confidential information. The Society neither accepts nor grants favors for the personal gain of any individual, nor does it accept favors where a higher public interest would be violated. The Society avoids actual or apparent conflicts of interest and, if in doubt, seeks guidance from appropriate authorities.

### **Contributions**

When making a donation to support the advancement of behavior analysis, please indicate to which SABA fund you are contributing:

The **Doctoral Dissertation and Master's Thesis Research Endowment Fund** will provide financial assistance for individuals for long-term development of dissertation and Master's thesis research.

The **Student Presenters Fund** supports registration fees for senior student presenters of a paper or poster at the ABAI annual convention.

**Unrestricted funds** are used to support the SABA award ceremony at the ABAI convention and other regular SABA activities.

### Gifts should be made to:

Society for the Advancement of Behavior Analysis, Inc. 1219 South Park Street Kalamazoo, MI 49001

Gifts may also be made online by visiting www.abainternational.org and selecting the link to the SABA Web site.

SABA welcomes inquiries about gifts of any type by writing to the above address, by calling (269) 492-9310, by sending a fax to (269) 492-9316, or by e-mailing the ABAI office at mail@abainternational.org.

### 2007 & 2008 SABA Donors

We want to take this opportunity to thank all of the ABAI members who contributed to SABA in 2007 and 2008 to help build our funds. This list reflects donations received from January 1, 2007 through June 27, 2008.

### \$5,000

### **Unrestricted Fund:**

Berkshire Association for Behavior Analysis and Therapy

### \$1,000-\$2,000

### Doctoral and Master's Endowment:

Greg Stikeleather

### International Endowment:

Greg Stikeleather

### **Unrestricted Fund:**

Greg Stikeleather

### \$500-\$999

### Doctoral and Master's Endowment:

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**Evergreen Center** 

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### **Unrestricted Fund:**

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As we continue our national expansion, we are actively seeking behavior analysts to join our team. We have current and future openings for licensed psychologists, board certified behavior analysts (BCBAs), and board certified associate behavior analysts (BCABAs) in locations across the country.

Behavior analysts will work with our team to provide consultation services to individuals with intensive behavioral needs.

Responsibilities include functional behavior assessments and training for children and families. Opportunities for participation in applied research, ongoing projects, and publications and professional development activities.

Ph.D., BCBA, or BCABA required. We offer competitive salaries, an excellent benefit package, and many exciting career opportunities.

### **ABOUT MAY INSTITUTE**

- Sponsoring organization of the National Autism Center<sup>sm</sup>
- Recipient of the 2007
   Programmatic Contributions to Behavior Analysis Award from the Society for the Advancement of Behavior Analysis (SABA)
- Northeast partner to the National Technical Assistance Center on Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports

FOR CONSIDERATION, PLEASE APPLY ONLINE AT WWW.MAYINSTITUTE.ORG.

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Shaping Futures. Changing Lives.

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### 2008 Fellows of ABAI

ABAI is proud to announce the 2008 Fellows of the Association for Behavior Analysis International.



Dr. Patrick C. Friman is Director of Clinical Services at Father Flanagan's Boys' Home (Boys Town) and a Clinical Professor in the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Nebraska School of Medicine. He also served as Director of Clinical Training and Associate Chair of the Department of Psychology at the

University of Nevada at Reno and formerly held faculty positions at the University of Pennsylvania, John Hopkins, and University of Kansas Schools of Medicine. He is an internationally recognized expert in the application of behavior analytic methods to behavioral medicine. One of his specialties is behavioral pediatrics, particularly focused on the successful treatment of common but potentially serious childhood behavior disorders such as habits, sleep problems, oppositional behavior, and incontinence. He has published more than 170 articles, two books, and is widely recognized as a preeminent lecturer and disseminator of the values and applications of behavior analysis to lay as well as scientific audiences. He has served as a reviewer editorial board member for virtually every major behavioral journal and was the editor of The Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis during the years 2005–2007.



**Dr. R. Wayne Fuqua** is Professor and Chair of Psychology at Western Michigan University. Dr. Fuqua earned his Ph.D. in Psychology from the University of Florida in 1977. He has been on the faculty at Western Michigan since 1976, where he has served as Director of Graduate Training (1994–1999) and

Department Chair (1999–present). Throughout his career he has contributed substantially to the Department's long-standing reputation as one of the foremost academic programs in behavior analysis (graduating more than 300 doctoral-level behavior analysts). Under his leadership, the Department has survived multiple institutional challenges and has thrived. In addition to this sustained record of administrative service, Dr. Fuqua has been on the editorial boards of and published over 50 articles in some of the field's most prestigious and respected journals. His research has targeted a diverse range of society's most important problems including health, community, and clinical behavior analysis; developmental disabilities; rehabilitation; behavioral medicine; and HIV prevention.



**Dr. Leonard Green** received his BA from City College of CUNY in 1969, and his Ph.D. from SUNY at Stony Brook in 1974. He now is Professor of Psychology at Washington University in St. Louis. He is best known for his extensive and innovative research in behavioral economics and probability and delay discounting, in which he has

published a very considerable number of seminal papers in a very wide range of journals. He is the author (with Kagel and Battalio) of Economic choice theory: An experimental analysis of animal behavior (Cambridge University Press, 1995, 2007) and has edited three other books. He was editor of the Journal of the Experimental Analysis of Behavior from 2003 to 2007, and has been Associate Editor of this journal as well as the Pavlovian Journal of Biological Science. He has served on a number of editorial boards including for Behavior and Philosophy and Behaviour Analysis Letters. He is on the Society for the Experimental Analysis of Behavior Board of Directors, the Executive Board of the Society for the Quantitative Analyses of Behavior, the Board of the Cambridge Center for Behavioral Studies, and the Board of Directors of Missouri Families for Effective Autism Treatment.



**Dr. Stephen T. Higgins** is currently Vice-Chair of Research, Department of Psychiatry at the University of Vermont. In this department he also served as Director of Pre- and Post-doctoral Training in Human Behavioral Pharmacology and as Director of the Substance Abuse Treatment Program. He is an internationally recognized

researcher in all aspects of drug abuse and its treatment. His work has transformed this field in application, research and theory. He initiated the first effective treatments for cocaine dependence through the reinforcement of abstinence coupled with pro-social reinforcement contingencies for developing and maintaining behaviors incompatible with drug abuse. He has been particularly innovating in applying the principles of behavioral economics to drug dependence treatment. His career has been a productive blend of basic and applied research as well as mentoring and has been recognized by many awards and honors. He is Fellow of four APA Divisions, a recipient of the Don Hake Basic/Applied Research Award, and was elected President of the College on Problems of Drug Dependence. For nearly two decades, his work has been supported by many substantial grants from the National Institute on Drug Abuse, including the prestigious Method to Extend Research in Time (MERIT) Award.



**Dr. Dorothy C. Lerman** is Professor of Psychology at the University of Houston, Clear Lake, where she directs the Master's program in applied behavior analysis. She received her Ph.D. in Psychology from the University of Florida in 1995, specializing in the experimental analysis of behavior.

Her areas of interest include autism, developmental disabilities, functional analysis, teacher and parent training, and treatment of severe behavior disorders (e.g., aggression, self-injury), and she has published more than 60 research articles and chapters on these topics. Dr Lerman is the founding Editor of Behavior Analysis in Practice and past Associate Editor for The Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis and Research in Developmental Disabilities. She has received a number of significant awards for her work, including the Award for Distinguished Contributions to Applied Research (APA Division 25, 2007), the B. F. Skinner Award (APA Division 25, 2001), and the New Researcher Award (American Association on Mental Retardation, Division 5, 2001).

### **Designation as Fellow of ABAI**

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

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



Dr. F. Charles (Bud) Mace is
Professor of Psychology and Director
of Research for the Psychology
Program at the University of
Southern Maine. He is also Director
of the ACHIEVE laboratory school for
children with emotional disabilities.
He previously held faculty positions
at Lehigh University, Rutgers

University, the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, and the University of Wales, where he developed major clinical-research and post-graduate training programs in the area of developmental disabilities. Dr. Mace has published over 100 articles and chapters and is most well known for his research on the functional analysis of severe behavior disorders, behavioral momentum, and the Matching Law. He currently serves as President of the Society for the Experimental Analysis of Behavior and is past Editor of the Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis, as well as recipient of the D. F. Hake Award for Distinguished Contributions to Basic and Applied Research from APA (Division 25).



Dr. William J. McIlvane has the rank of Professor in both
Departments of Pediatrics and of
Psychiatry at the University of
Massachusetts Medical School and
also serves as Executive Director of
the Eunice Kennedy Shriver Center.
In addition to his basic innovative
and influential work in stimulus

control and the conditions leading to emergence of abstract relational functions, he has successfully applied this research to the teaching of those with severe intellectual disabilities. For example, he has developed a research and development program called Praxis Technology Transfer to efficiently train complex skills in the developmentally disabled. His collaboration with colleagues in Brazil has been particularly fruitful in development of applications of his stimulus control research to instructional innovation in public schools. He has consistently received external funding for his work and is the author of more than 100 scholarly papers and book chapters and has edited two books. He has served on National Institute of Health Review panels and on the editorial boards of several behavioral journals, including the Journal of the Experimental Analysis of Behavior and The Behavior Analyst, and as Associate Editor of the American Journal on Mental Retardation.

### **ABAI Fellows**

www.abainternational.org/member/fellows



**Dr. Dennis Russo** is the Chief Clinical Officer of the May Institute where he is responsible for the organization's diverse array of clinical services, training, and research. Dr. Russo holds an appointment at the Tufts University School of Medicine in Boston. He earned his Ph.D. at the University of

California, Santa Barbara in 1975. Dr. Russo began pioneering the application of behavior analytic principles to the medical problems of children and adolescents while at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and John F. Kennedy Institute. Later, he helped create the Society of Behavioral Medicine, developed the first behaviorally-based pediatric program at Harvard Medical School, co-edited one of the first books on using behavioral procedures in medical problems, and co-authored Behavioral Medicine with the Developmentally Disabled. His published research has focused on relationships between behavior and disease and the development of evidence-based behavior analytic treatments in pediatric psychology. He has served on a number of editorial boards and his accomplishments have been recognized through numerous professional honors.



Dr. K. Geoffrey White is Professor of Psychology and Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) at the University of Otago, New Zealand, where he gained his Ph.D. in 1973. He is an internationally recognized expert on discriminative and remembering processes, having contributed more than 100 research

publications in these and related areas. He served as an Associate Editor of the Journal of the Experimental Analysis of Behavior, and as Editor of the New Zealand Journal of Psychology, and on the editorial boards of these and very many other journals. He received the prestigious George A. Miller Award from the American Psychological Association in 2000, and is a Fellow of the American Psychological Society, the British Psychological Society, and the New Zealand Psychological Society, and was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of New Zealand in 1994.



### **Capitol Autism Services**

Bringing the Autism World Together ONE piece at a time



Capitol **Autism** Services composed of a highly skilled and supported clinical team from the fields of behavior analysis, special education and psychology. All members of the team, regardless of position, are knowledgeable and understanding of the impact of their positions in ensuring delivery of meaningful services to the children and families. We Believe that all children can learn and it is our responsibility to identify the ways in which each child learns best and match the program and teaching techniques to that learning style.









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Opportunities

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Flexible Hours

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**Team & Community Events** 

**Tutor** Daily implementation of individualized programs and behavior intervention strategies for children with autism, ranging in age from 18 months to 14 years.

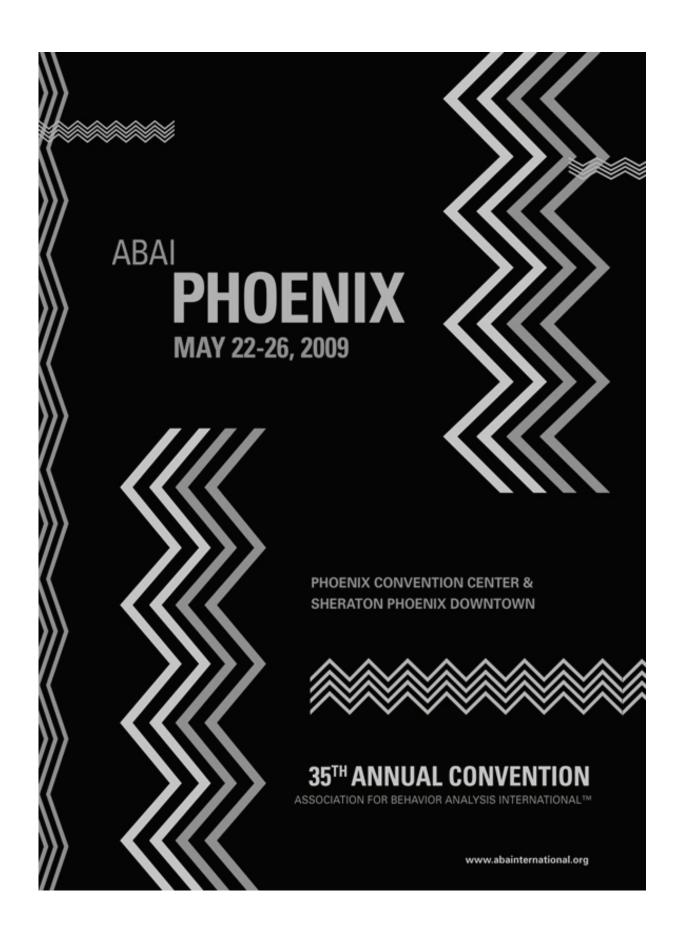
Lead Tutor In addition to providing intervention to children with autism, and training and support to Tutors and other team members.

**Behavior Consultant** Assessment, program and behavior intervention plan development, program progression, supervision and training to tutors and families.

**Supervisor** Training, development, support, and supervision to behavior consultants, and program development and progression.

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www.capitolautismservices.com



# Continued Convention Success in 2008! Recap of ABAI 2008 in Chicago

By Dr. Maria E. Malott

The Association for Behavior Analysis International honored its roots during our return to Chicago for the successful 34th Annual Convention. We had 4,602 registrants, and Figure 1 shows how convention attendance has continued to grow over the past ten years.

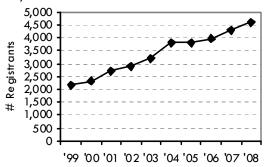


Figure 1. Ten-year attendance at the ABAI convention.

This attendee number does not reflect the visiting registrants from the Association for Psychological Science (APS) annual convention, with whom we were able to share our scholarly event for the first time this year. In exchange, our registrants were able to take advantage of the opportunity to visit the APS convention as well.

Also new this year was the "State of the Science" lecture series, which highlighted ABAl's scientific foundation and was a big hit. Attendees were captivated by speakers Dr. Edmund Fantino (University of California, San Diego); Dr. Tony Nevin (University of New Hampshire); Dr. Murray Sidman (see Figure 2 below) and Dr. Travis Thompson (University of Minnesota). The feedback in reference to this event was highly affirmative, with comments such as "The Sidman/Thompson/Nevin event was brilliant!" and "The State of the Science lectures were excellent."



Figure 2. Dr. Murray Sidman and his wife Rita.

Attendees came from all over the world. There was representation from 33 countries as well as from 49 U.S. states and the District of Columbia.

Of 4,559 evaluations sent to attendees, 762 were returned: a 17% response rate. Of those returned, 91% rated the convention program as Excellent–Very Good overall. Figure 3 shows the percentage of respondents who evaluated various aspects of the convention as "Very Good" to "Excellent."

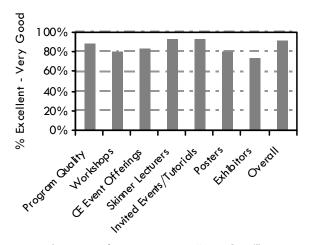


Figure 3. Percent of survey responses "Very Good" to "Excellent."

We also received excellent feedback from our members and have developed a plan that will show additional improvements across all areas of the ABAI Annual convention. You will be able to appreciate our enhancements at the 2009 Annual Convention.



Figure 4. Drs. Julie and Ernest Vargas.

The ABAI Cooperative Bookstore featured over 700 titles and over 9,000 books. This year customers were

able to take advantage of a convenient new shipping service available right in the bookstore. In Figure 4 above you can see Drs. Julie and Ernest Vargas in the ABAI Bookstore.

The dedicated commitment and hard work of many individuals made the success of the ABAI convention possible. The Program Committee did its usual extraordinary job scheduling events and encouraging submissions for many fine invited events and tutorials. Many thanks to Dr. Ramona Houmanfar and the area coordinators (see Dr. H's Program Board update beginning on page 23).

I need to thank the ABAI staff members, who, as usual, were among the highest-rated aspects of the convention in the survey results. 96% of responses from our members indicated that the staff provided excellent/very good services. This team of professionals, made up of ABAI employees and convention volunteers, worked incredibly hard behind the scenes to ensure the event went smoothly. A total of 75 people worked the event.

Our event staff members were Michael Cooper, Emily Drilich, Jennifer Hauglie, Deb Lemons, Jack Lingbeek, Joseph Romeo, Majda Seuss, Nancy Wood, and Amanda Wright from the Association for Behavior Analysis International.

Kristin Cook, Jessica Grow, Erin Kammers, Jori Mitchell, Rachel Ooms, Nanea Thomas, Cory Visser, and Emilie Warren from Calvin College joined our team, as well as Amberly Bassett, Shelby Crisan, Rachel Pullman, and Rachel VanderWiel from Grand Valley State University. In addition, from the University of Michigan we had Emily Laughlin and from Western Michigan University, Kelly Floyd.

We are already planning for ABAI 2009 in Phoenix, Arizona. Event details are being prepared and the 2009 Call for Papers is published on the ABAI Web site. The 2009 convention Web pages will be updated as the schedule, program, and other details are finalized. In addition, ABAI held the first ever Education Conference in Reston, Virginia, September 5–7 and will be holding the third Autism Conference in Jacksonville, Florida, February 6–8, 2009.

We hope you can join us for at least one of these exciting and informative events next year!



Figure 5. Poster Presentations were well attended and enjoyed.

### 5th International Conference: Oslo, Norway

When: August 7 - 9, 2009

Where: Radisson SAS Plaza, Oslo

Find more information on the International Conference at:

https://apps.abainternational.org/oslo/index.aspx

ABA International conducts conferences around the world to promote behavior analysis outside the United States. International conferences have been held in Sydney, Australia (2007);
Beijing, China (2005); Campinas, Brazil (2004); and Venice, Italy (2001).

We welcome you and all those interested in the philosophy, science, education and teaching of behavior analysis to join us in Oslo for an outstanding educational conference!

### **Calendar of Upcoming Conferences**

For more details, please visit the Web sites indicated and the Affiliated Chapters section of the ABAI Web site.

### October 2008

### Minnesota Heartland ABA

October 9–10 Omaha, NE http://www.hlaba.org

#### Northwestern ABA

October 10–11 Spokane, WA Gonzaga University www.cwu.edu/~warren/nwaba/ about.html

### Berkshire Association for Behavior Analysis and Therapy

October 16–17 Amherst, MA University of Massachusetts www.babat.org

#### Manitoba ABA

October 18 Winnipeg, MB University of Manitoba www.maba.ca

### Alabama ABA

October 21–23 Auburn, AL Marriott at Grand National www.auburn.edu/alaba

### Nevada ABA

October 27–28 Reno, NV Grand Sierra Resort and Casino www.unr.edu/psych/behavior/ NABA.html

### Southeastern ABA

October 31–November 1 Atlanta, GA Crowne Plaza http://psychweb.cisat.jmu.edu/ serdiksl/seaba/seaba.htm

### November 2008

### **New York State ABA**

November 6–7 Albany, NY The Albany Marriott http://www.nysaba.org

### November 2008 (cont.)

#### Tennessee ABA

November 7–9 Nashville TN Opryland Resort and Convention Center www.taba.org

#### Missouri ABA

November 21–22 St. Louis, MO Holiday Inn Southwest Viking www.moaba.org

### Ontario ABA

November 20–21 Toronto, ON Westin Prince Hotel www.ontaba.org

### December 2008

### Maryland ABA

December 5
Baltimore, MD
Tremont Grand
www.marylandaba.org

### February 2009

February 6-8

### Third ABA International Autism Conference

Jacksonville, FL Hyatt Regency Jacksonville-Riverfront www.abainternational.org

### Behavior Analysis Association of Michigan

February 19–20 Ypsilanti, MI Student Center, Eastern Michigan University www.baam.emich.edu

### North Carolina ABA

February 20 Wrightsville Beach, NC Holiday Inn SunSpree www.nc-aba.com

### March 2009

#### Texas ABA

March 6–7 Houston, TX www.unt.edu/behv/txaba

#### California ABA

March 12–14
Burlingame, CA
Hyatt Regency San Francisco
Airport
www.calaba.org

### Pennsylvania ABA

March 26–27 Hershey, PA Hershey Lodge and Convention Center www.pennabal.org

### Virginia ABA

March 29 Harrisonburg, VA James Madison University www.v-aba.org

### **April 2009**

### Connecticut ABA

April 4 Cromwell, CT Crowne Plaza Hotel www.ctaba.org/index.html

### Four Corners ABA

April 6–7 Sedona, AZ www.4caba.org

### May 2009

### 35th Annual ABAI Convention

May 22–26 Phoenix, AZ Phoenix Convention Center & Sheraton Phoenix Downtown www.abainternational.org

### August 2009

### 5<sup>th</sup> International ABAI Conference

August 7–9 Oslo, Norway Radisson SAS Plaza Hotel www.abainternational.org



### **Updates from ABAI Boards and Committees**

### **ABAI Education Board**

By Dr. Charles Merbitz

This year was a transition year for the Education Board, as 2007 was the sixth and final year of the leadership of Pamela Osnes, Ph.D., BCBA. Under her capable leadership, the Education Board established a number of subcommittees and projects. However, in 2007-2008, several important responsibilities of the Education Board underwent significant change. One change was that Agency-Based Behavior Analysis Training (ABBAT) was removed from the Education Board's responsibilities. Other changes are noted below, in the summaries of the reports of the Council of Directors of Graduate Training Programs, the Accreditation Board, and the student subcommittees. Finally, in Fall, 2008, Charles Merbitz assumed responsibility for Coordinating Education Board activities. Several teleconferences with Committee Chairs were conducted, with a focus on the issue of assisting the Accreditation Board in making ABAI accreditation more attractive and ultimately more rigorous, as the depth and breath of graduate curricula and training are key to the survival of the discipline. While a goal of the BACB is to provide approval of training sequences addressing what is needed to provide competent service delivery, it would seem to be the purview of ABAI to accredit programs that advance the science and its theoretical foundations.

### Council of Directors of Graduate Training Programs in Behavior Analysis

At its annual meeting in May, 2007, members of the Council of Directors of Graduate Training Programs in Behavior Analysis voted to disband that body. As noted by Dr. Jennifer Austin (University of Houston, Clear Lake), "During the annual meeting, representatives of member programs discussed the mission of the COD and its role in ABAI. Many felt that there was considerable overlap between the COD's objectives and those of groups both within and outside ABAI. For instance, student volunteers of ABAI's Education Board (of which the COD is a part) have undertaken such endeavors as updating the Graduate Training Directory and syllabus bank. Further, the Accreditation Board (also a part of the Education Board) has assumed the task of setting standards for graduate education and evaluating the extent to which programs meet those standards, as has the Behavior Analysis Certification Board (BACB). These entities influence graduate training to a degree that leaves little room for alternative input.'

Dr. Austin also noted that, "Interest in the group has declined steadily over the past few years, both in membership and attendance at annual meetings. For these reasons, our membership voted to disband the group with the understanding that interested parties still could contribute to Education Board objectives."

However, she felt that there would be renewed interest in the COD if the ABAI Executive Council identifies new issues for the COD to undertake and thus revises its mission.

#### **Accreditation Board**

The Accreditation Board, John Borrero (University of the Pacific), Chair, was very active in 2007-2008. Currently fourteen schools are ABAI accredited, of who four will see accreditation lapse in 2008; currently all four are in various stages of reaccreditation. Two additional schools have applied for accreditation, and eight site visits are scheduled or pending. As can be seen, with this volume of activity it is challenging for the current four members of the Accreditation Board to even schedule visits. Consequently, the Board plans to formalize the process of site visitor qualification and participation. The Board wishes to solicit a larger group of ABAI members to take part in visits, and appoint these members for three years. Each year, another group can be recruited, so that a rotating cadre of site visitors is available, and the burden of visits can be shared. Going forward, it is hoped that the names of this expanded group can be published in the ABAI Newsletter in recognition of their work. The Board has identified forty ABAI members to solicit for this group and recruitment efforts can start in the summer of 2008, pending Council approval.

The Board also has made progress on pursuit of national accreditation. The Board has identified two prerequisites for this effort. First, the Board seeks to move forward with the development of a formal training program for site visitors and formal standards of assessment. Since the American Psychological Association (APA) has already established a model for accreditation and published the relevant training and procedures, the Board members feel that adoption of a model based on the APA's is feasible, with the support and input of Council.

The Board also has identified another issue. Considering that there are well over 100 course sequences approved by the BACB, as compared to the 14 ABAI accredited programs, it appears that there are insufficient incentives for programs to pursue ABAI accreditation. Board members have discussed this issue with colleagues and as a next step, have designed a survey to seek more data on the barriers to accreditation.

The Board also considered the issue of accrediting undergraduate programs. Dr. Borrero reports that, "All members of the ABAI Accreditation Board view the development of guidelines for the accreditation of undergraduate programs as essential. We are also aware that this is a priority for the Executive Council. However, given the concerns regarding the current guidelines for accrediting graduate programs (please see above), the Board considers any attempts to accredit

undergraduate programs premature. Once an agreed upon set of standards for the accreditation of graduate programs (Master's and doctoral, separately) is developed, an extension to undergraduate programs can be enacted. At present however, the Accreditation Board simply does not consider the accreditation of undergraduate programs as prudent given the absence of a formal process of assessment."

### **Student Subcommittees**

Four other activities of the Education Board slowed during the transition of Board Coordinators. These were the student subcommittees: Employment Placement & Internship Site Identification, Gwen Dwiggins, Chair (Ohio State University), the Syllabi Bank (including Distance Learning), Amanda Guld, Chair (The Ohio State University), the Student Vita/START project, Joel Vidovic, Chair (Behavior Analysts Inc., CA), the ABAI Student Member Retention project, Gwen Dwiggins, Chair (The Ohio State University) and the Graduate Training Directory, Judah Axe, Chair (The Ohio State University). To transition the activities of the Education Board, graduate students from the Chicago School of Professional Psychology have been recruited to replace the Ohio State students. New student members are Lori Aguirre, Oswaldo Ochoa, Steven Rhodes, Fawna Stockwell, Ann Sturtz, Kerin Weingarten, and Erika Wilhelm. They have begun the process of transitioning the subcommittee work. Initial priorities are the Syllabi Bank and the Graduate Training Directory, followed by the ABAI Student Member Retention, Employment Placement & Internship Site Identification and the Student Vita/START projects. Contacts with the Ohio State students were initiated and subcommittees were formed to review the goals and develop goals and activities for 2008-2009. However, no work on these has been completed, so the goals will be continued and passed along to the new groups.

### Goals for 2008-2009

Continue Syllabi Collection Efforts. As the graduate training directory (GTD) is updated, recruitment efforts should pursue recruitment from all universities and faculty listed in the GTD. Also, a category should be added to reflect syllabi submitted from distance learning programs.

Identify Methods to Track and Increase Number of Student Vita in START. (Student Vita/START Subcommittee, Joel Vidovic [Behavior Analysts, Inc., CA], Chair). In 2005—2006, the Education Board determined an accurate measurement system to track student vita postings on the START Network thereby accomplishing the first portion of its goal. With the development of an accurate measurement system, the Education Board felt that it was prepared to work on the second portion of their goal and began to assess the effectiveness of an intervention designed to increase the number of student vita that are posted in the START Network in 2006–2007. A mass e-

mail was sent to all student members, which was followed by an increase in student postings. For 2008–2009, a goal will be to replicate this intervention, first by initiating a monthly count of student postings, and second by issuing another e-mail appeal.

Update Graduate Training Directory. (Graduate Training Directory Subcommittee, Judah Axe [OSU], 2007 Chair). In 2006–2007, a number of recommendations for improving the GTD were made. The GPA and GRE search functions, which were problematic in 2007, now seem to work perfectly. The GTD also now has search functions for programs that offer a Master's degree and ones that offer a doctoral degree. No search function is yet available for traineeships and internships. Also, the layout of programs was modified to enhance usability and clarity, as was recommended last year. Thanks to the ABAI database staff for making these changes. The GTD sub-committee of the Education Board will prompt programs to update their profiles on the GTD with an annual deadline of October 1 so that prospective students can be informed about graduate programs before application deadlines in December and January. However, it is recommended that the ABAI office contact ABAI accredited graduate programs about updating their entries on the GTD by the ABAI conference each year as this is a requirement for maintaining accreditation.

We will resume sending questionnaires to student members of ABAI as well as professors asking about their experiences with the GTD and their recommendations for improvement. We will identify graduate programs that are eligible for the GTD and recruit them to participate.

### **Membership Board Update**

By Dr. Rachel S. F. Tarbox

The Membership Board is comprised of the Student Committee, Fellows Selection Committee, Recruitment and Retention Committee, Application Review Committee, and the Organizational Review Committee. We have had yet another successful year, marked by both an increase in membership and attendance at our 34th annual convention.

The Student Committee has been very active this year, and we on the Membership Board would like to formally welcome Erick Dubuque as the new Student Committee Chair. We would also like to thank Corina Jimenez-Gomez and Marianne Jackson for all of their hard work toward continuing to make the Student Committee active and effective. Please see the Student Committee report in this newsletter for a complete summary of their activities.

The Fellows Committee has several new announcements. The current Fellows selection committee members are: Judith Favell, Brian Iwata, Jerry Shook, Kennon A. (Andy) Lattal and Michael Davison, Chair. Sadly, it is time for

Jack Marr to end his term and we sincerely thank him for his contributions toward the establishment and success of the Fellows Committee. We are pleased to welcome Michael Davison as the new Chair of the Fellows Committee, and Andy Lattal as the new Experimental representative on the committee.

Amanda Adams has been selected as the new Chair of the Recruitment and Retention Committee. We look forward to the energy that she will bring to this important position and thank her for agreeing to serve in this role.

We would like to thank Jack Michael for serving as the chair of the Application Review Committee (ARC) since 1989. Without Dr. Michael's outstanding contributions, ABAI would not have become the vital organization it is today. Edward K. Morris has graciously agreed to step into this position. Since taking over, Dr. Morris has formed a three-person review committee to review the ABAI bylaws concerning full membership. The committee now includes himself, Adam Derenne, and Ruth Anne Rehfeldt. The committee has developed a "Requirements and Documentation" manual. The manual does not alter ABAI's bylaws for full membership, but it does request more documentation to meet the requirements specified in them. At the point which this newsletter article is being submitted, the ARC is reviewing the full membership applications using the original documentation requirements. Once these are complete, the new documentation standards will be published and become the standards for reviewing the applications. We would like to formally thank the new ARC for all of their time and commitment during this process.

The Organizational Review Committee (ORC) has had yet another successful year. The mission of this committee is "to assess the quality of applicants for organizational membership and their appropriateness for acceptance, as well as the adequacy of materials they submit to ABAI for printed or electronic publication." We would like to thank Jay Moore for his continued efforts as the Chair of this committee, and David Wilder and Jennifer Austin for their work as committee members. The ORC continues to review applications and advertising materials for ABAI and ABAI-sponsored events; a list of approved organizations can be found on the ABAI Web site.

Finally, my term as the Membership Board Coordinator has come to a close. It has been an honor to hold this position during such an exciting time in the growth and development of our field and our organization. I would like to thank ABAI for this opportunity and all of the ABAI members for your support and we anticipate yet another productive year.

### **Practice Board Update**

Working to Meet the Needs of Practicing Behavior Analysts while Protecting Consumers, and to Assure the Alignment of the Practice of Behavior Analysis with the Science of Behavior

By Dr. Michael Dorsey, Dr. Michael Dougher, Dr. R. Douglas Greer, Dr. Linda J. Hayes, Dr. Travis Thompson, & Dr. Michael Weinberg

Over the past ten years, the field of behavior analysis has experienced extraordinary growth, related in large part to the explosion in the number of children being diagnosed with pervasive developmental disorder/autism and the recognition of the efficacy of behavior analytic interventions in their treatment (Mental Health: A Report of the Surgeon General, 1999). Coincidentally with this increased level of public recognition, the membership of ABAI has essentially doubled in size, from just over 2,000 in the mid 1990's to over 5,500 in 2008 and another 13,000 members of ABAI affiliated chapters. Within the past several years, there has been a significant evolution of ABAI from a scientific organization to one that also recognizes and supports the professional practice of behavior analysis. ABAI is comprised of members from different educational backgrounds who practice behavior analysis in various domains. As the science and practice of behavior analysis have grown, so have the services that ABAI provides to all of its members, especially practitioners. At the same time, ABAI's efforts are designed to assure the alignment of the practice of behavior analysis with the science of behavior, which is essential to maintain the integrity of the field.

### **Doing More for Practice: The ABAI Practice Board**

The ABAI Executive Council as well as the ABAI Practice Board recognizes that at this time, and with the critical venture of professionalization of the discipline, there is much more to do. We are able to report on the strides ABAI has taken in honor of its commitment to practice-related matters.

The ABAI Practice Board (PB) was founded to better understand issues related to the practice of behavior analysis, to serve behavior analysts engaged in practice, to protect consumers of behavior analytic services, and to assure an alignment of practical applications of behavior analysis with the systemic foundations of behavior science. We have been working toward the achievement of these outcomes. This year, we have seen the formation of the Association of Professional Behavior Analysts (APBA). The ABAI Executive Council has made, and will continue to make every effort to work cooperatively with this new organization to maintain the cohesiveness of the field. The Council was pleased to collaborate on a statement of mutual support to develop the field in compatible ways. For more information on the deliberations and decisions made by ABAI and APBA representatives, please review relevant documents,

available on the ABAI Web site at: www.abainternational.org/BA/practice/pb.asp.

The efforts of the APBA to support certified behavior analysts' interests and needs have the potential to be effective for the wider practitioner community. We trust that future opportunities to work together for the benefit of all practitioners of behavior analysis will become available. ABAI and the ABAI PD are committed to the support of the Behavior Analysis Certification Board (BACB) and the needs of certificants.

The ABAI Practice Board was formed in response to the charge from the ABAI Executive Council, "to meet the needs of ABAI members and members of its affiliated chapters providing behavior analytic services to various constituencies consistent with the scientific foundations of behavior analysis." At the core of this mission is the Board's responsibility to promote the professional provision of evidence-based, applied behavior analytic services and to protect the public. Members of the Practice Board include Michael Dorsey, Michael Dougher (ABAI Council Representative), R. Douglas Greer, Linda Hayes (Chair), Travis Thompson, and Michael Weinberg.

The ABAI PB is committed to partnering with and seeking both the support and guidance from all of the ABAI affiliate chapters as well as those ABAI special interest groups (SIGS) whose focus relates to the professional practice of behavior analysis. The general mission and goals of the Practice Board include assisting ABAI affiliated chapters and ABAI special interest groups with advocacy, lobbying, and legislation; serving as a resource/clearinghouse on federal legislative issues and action alerts; examining other successful models of practice-oriented advocacy; establishing relationships with other practice advocates; and working with ABAI's Public Relations Committee to improve the public perception of behavior analysis. An important part of the ABAI PB's charge is to ensure that applications of behavior analysis in the many fields in which it is taking place are in keeping with the philosophical foundations, interpretive practices and investigative outcomes of the science of behavior.

### Current Services Provided by ABAI in Support of Behavior Analytic Practitioners:

- The ABAI Annual Convention offers:
  - A significant portion of the program dedicated to the practice of behavior analysis
  - The opportunity to learn the connection between science and practice through its translational research track
    - Over 100 practice-related workshops
    - A preeminent B. F. Skinner Series and highly prominent invited events
    - Opportunity to interact with all affiliated chapters and special interest groups

- The Fifth International ABAI Conference: Oslo, Norway
- The Third Annual Autism Conference: Hyatt Regency Jacksonville
- ABAI offers the opportunity for networking, sharing, and education
  - Education Conference in September 2008, Evidence-Based Practice, Scientifically Based Instruction, and Educational Effectiveness
- Provides a wealth of information through its Web Site (about 3,000 pages)
- Distributes three annual newsletters
- A job placement service for behavior analysts
- A bookstore with nearly 1,000 Titles
- A strong continuing education program for both BACB certificants and psychologists
- ABAI-published journals on practice
  - Behavior Analysis in Practice, inaugural issue in Spring 2008
  - The Analysis of Verbal Behavior, with a record number of subscriptions

### New Initiatives of the PB in Support of Behavior Analytic Practitioners

The ABAI PB will assist state groups (e.g., ABAI affiliated chapters) with advocacy, lobbying, and legislation on both the federal and state levels. The Practice Board will advise, educate and advocate for the professional interests of ABAI members and protect the constituencies served by them with respect to legislative issues that directly affect members' professional practice. The PB will also review the advantages and disadvantages to practicing behavior analysts of endorsing specific legislation; survey other professional agencies about their policies and procedures for overseeing professional practice; and make public statements regarding practice, as well as work with legislators and PR professionals to pursue legislation that supports ABAI, its members who are behavior analytic practitioners, and serves to protect the public.

- Exploring and pursuing credentialing possibilities that benefit and protect the interests of the field, behavior analytic practitioners, and the public. The Board seeks to increase the value of certification and other credentials that might assist members to further protect practice and those served.
- Expanding and improving continuing education opportunities, including establishing and maintaining criteria, processes, and a management system for approval of ABAI CE providers and for other (e.g., psychology, especial education, etc.) CE program management and oversight.

Investigation of the state of practice, practitioner needs of behavior analysts, service recipients' needs, and evaluation of outcomes provided by behavior analysts with different credentials as well as by non-behavior analysts. Results of such information gathering activity will be acted upon as warranted and deemed appropriate by the Practice Board, with Council approval, accordingly.

### **Identifying the Needs of Our Members**

ABAI recognizes that it has a commitment not only to members who are BACB-certified, but also to those from varied educational backgrounds and professional disciplines whose practices are not suited to BACB certification. In order to best serve our members, the ABAI Executive Council and the ABAI Practice Board are in the process of distributing a survey to the membership that will assess specific needs. We look forward to the distribution of this survey, and the input from the full ABAI membership. It is vitally important that we hear directly from the membership as to how the ABAI PB can best serve its many and different needs.

### **Public Relations**

ABAI's Public Relations (PR) Committee operates under the leadership of Janet Twyman, Chair, with members Eric Dubuque, Patrick Friman, Timothy Hackenberg, and Hank Schlinger, all of whom work in conjunction with ABAI's public relations firm to achieve the mission, "to develop materials and resources for the general public and the media to promote an accurate and positive view of behavior analysis." The Task Force has been developing a media contact list and determining/inviting topic area experts; developing a "self-nomination" form for ABAI members to recommend topic area experts for potential inclusion on the media contact list; developing PR presence on the ABAI Web site; increasing PR awareness among ABAI members, other professionals, and the public; and increasing PR efforts in science and scholarly domains.

### **Event Opportunities**

A very substantial component of the ABAI annual convention, approximately 50%, has been dedicated to matters of practice—notably many in autism, but also in other practitioner-related areas. As well, this year in Chicago, the annual convention program offered a few hundred events on applied behavior analysis and service delivery. ABAI's next annual convention will be held in Phoenix from May 22-26, 2009 at the Phoenix Convention Center. The 2009 convention will again provide a rich, wide variety of applied presentations.

In addition, ABAI's international conferences offer strong programs with respect to practice-related issues. The next international conference will be held on September 7-9, 2009 in Oslo, Norway.

Further, ABAI has developed outstanding specialized events, created specifically for practitioner audiences. This year, ABAI was able to offer a well-received conference on evidence-based practice in education in Reston, Virginia, which addressed many of the most pressing issues facing practitioners in educational settings. In 2009, the 3<sup>rd</sup> ABAI Autism Conference will take place in Jacksonville, Florida, on February 6-8. Details will be posted on the ABAI Web site shortly.

### **Organizational Support**

One of ABAI's newer efforts in support of practitioners and the organizations that employ them has been the creation of a membership category specifically tailored to meet their needs, namely that of organizational member. Organizational membership serves those who hire professional behavior analysts by providing marketing and networking opportunities and linking qualified professionals with practitioner organizations.

#### Services for Members

ABAl's extensive Web site includes information for practitioners, educators, and researchers, among others, as well as electronic newsletters, ABAI journal abstract search capability, and the ability to purchase educational DVD's of past invited speakers at ABAI conventions, among much else. A directory of members is available to ABAI members through their Web portal. In all, the ABAI Web site boasts over 3,000 pages dedicated to serving its membership.

A very new resource for practitioners is the journal Behavior Analysis in Practice. The inaugural issue came out in May, and subscriptions for 2008 are still available (2009 subscriptions are currently being accepted). This peer-reviewed journal provides science-based information on best practice in behavior analysis.

### **Science to Practice Continuum**

The efficacy of practical applications of behavior analysis depends on the congruence between these applications and the science of behavior from which they were derived. It is thereby essential for ABAI's Practice and Science Boards to work together closely. The Practice and Science Boards have compatible goals of working with other organizations to promote and provide education to the public about the science of behavior and the scientific basis of its applications.

### In Sum

Many other services are forthcoming, and we seek your support for their development. In the interim, we encourage you to respond to the survey that we are distributing.

### ABAI Student Committee Spring 2008 Report

By Dr. Corina Jimenez-Gomez

The ABAI Student Committee's mission is to provide organizational support for ABAI student members that will promote participation in ABAI and professional growth, and enable members to contribute to the science of behavior analysis.

### **Student Committee Accomplishments and Activities**

**Promoting Student Involvement.** In order to promote involvement, the committee plans to e-mail student members to encourage election of new ABAI student representatives, and to contact student members and program representatives to request suggestions and encourage participation in the Behavioral Bash.

Getting Information to Student Members. The ABA Student Committee Web page was updated and now includes ABAI student-oriented events, a list of 2007-2008 Program Representatives, Presidential Scholar Essay Contest information, and a request for nominations for the Outstanding Mentor Awards.

The fall newsletter included information on Student Representatives, the mission of the Student Committee, ABAI 2008 Chicago Conference, contests, and awards.

Mass e-mails were sent to student members that addressed topics such as PDS events in the 2008 conference; nominations for the Outstanding Mentor Award; Presidential Scholar Essay Contest submissions; and the Find-a-roommate program, in which the student committee helped five ABAI student members connect that were interested in this program.

ABA Convention 2008 – Chicago. During the conference, the Student Committee organized 12 events for the 2008 ABAI conference as part of our Professional Development Series. The committee is the sponsor of the annual Student Committee Business Meeting and Expo Poster and organized the Behavioral Bash with the help of Program representatives. During all PDS events, we collected survey data from attendees on the quality and relevance of the events. The data will be used in the planning future events.

The winner of the first "Presidential Scholar Essay Contest," Todd A. Ward (University of Nevada, Reno) was announced at the Presidential Scholar address and received a book written by Dr. Becker, this year's Presidential Scholar. The winning essay is published in this issue of the ABAI newsletter.

### Plans for 2008-2009

The committee's plans for the upcoming year are to continue to encourage involvement of ABAI student members; further promote PDS events for the ABAI convention through program representatives, our website, and e-mail summary of these events; solicit

student participation at ABAI events through the Program Representative initiative; implement the strategic plan to further promote growth of student membership in ABAI; and encourage participation in the Presidential Scholar Essay Contest.

### **ABA Student Representatives**

In May, Corina Jimenez-Gomez (Student Representative) moved to Past Student Representative, Erick Dubuque (Student Representative-Elect) moved to Current Student Representative, and Marianne Jackson (Past Student Representative) left the council.

2008 Presidential Scholar Essay: "Gary Becker and Behavior Analysis: Collaboration for Complex Human Behavior"

Todd A. Ward, M. A. University of Nevada, Reno

The life's work of economist Gary Becker has shaped the way our society deals with social problems. In a time when criminal behavior was thought be a product of mental illness, Becker looked to factors related to employment opportunities and the justice system. Today, research based on Becker's perspective informs the development of sentencing regulations administered by judges. His perspective also improves our understanding of workplace issues such as the earnings gender-gap and workplace discrimination (Becker, 1993).

Becker's impact is due in part to his enriched economic perspective, the basic tenants of which are outlined below. Becker (1993, 1995) describes his approach as an analysis of the social world with unparalleled explanatory power that allows for the contribution of many social sciences in their respected domains. This essay will briefly outline the essence of Becker's system and provide a general conceptual framework to guide collaboration between his approach and behavior analysis.

Skinner's approach (1974) conceptualized the individual as a locus at which phylogenic and ontogenic histories converge to produce behavior at any given point in time. In economics, the household may be thought of as the locus at which income and costs of material goods interact to produce economic behavior. Becker's system, however, greatly enriches the role of the household in terms of the diversity of convergent factors as well as the diversity of behavior produced by such factors (Febrero & Schwartz, 1995). It is this enrichment that leaves Becker's system unrivaled in its explanatory power and paves the way for a seamless union of behavior analysis with economics.

Traditionally, economic behavior constituted the buying and selling of material goods bought and sold in the market-place. Such behavior thus functioned to maximize material gains while minimizing monetary costs. Becker, by contrast, conceptualized economic behavior as a product resulting from the interaction of material goods

with time. The incorporation of time led Becker to conceptualize virtually all human behavior as "goods" analogous to material goods but whose price is no longer solely a function of the market, but also a function of time which produces a *shadow price*; now, such traditionally non-economic behavior as sleeping has a "price." To Becker, sleeping is a good whose shadow price is a function of the interaction of certain material goods, such as a bed and a house, with time. The value of time is not fixed, but fluctuates throughout the week and is a function of income and type of employment (Febrero & Schwartz, 1995).

Secondly, Becker differs from traditional economics in his acceptance of historical influences on behavior. He gives particular importance to one's childhood history, including the effects of parental interaction, tradition, and what may be generally described as socialization (Becker, 2002). These factors then influence general patterns of behavior later in life such as those related to religion, politics, tastes for certain foods and fashion, as well as one's smoking and drinking habits. Such factors also allow Becker to reject the traditional economic notion of "irrationality," or behaving in a way that seems disconnected to the costs and benefits of the behavior. For example, a family's resistance to sell the house in which they lived for 20 years for exceedingly more than its monetary worth would be called irrational to traditional economists, but not to Becker. Becker would examine the histories acquired by the family who has lived in the house for all of those years and the sentimental value the house acquired during that time.

Any scientific system, if properly formulated, provides a means to practically deal with the small part of nature to which it addresses (Skinner, 1953). Behavior analysis deals with the behavior-environment relations of the individual organism. The analytic goals of prediction and control led to the conception of the operant class, rather than specific behavioral instances, as the primary analytical unit (Skinner, 1957). Thus, reinforcement increases the probability that all responses which have received that kind of reinforcement in the past will occur again so long as the physical or relational (i.e., arbitrarily applicable; see Hayes, Barnes-Holmes, & Roche, 2001) antecedent stimulus properties resemble those that previously occasioned such reinforcement.

While behavior analysts exceed in explaining individual behavior given environmental conditions, Becker exceeds in explaining the existence of environmental conditions themselves. Kantor (1982) might say that while behavior analysts account for the functional properties of stimuli, Becker accounts for the very existence of stimulus objects. Such objects include those one may call "technological," such as articles of clothing, automobiles, and houses, some of which provide resources directly relevant to our survival, such as food, water, and electricity. For the most part, the modern cultural environment in which behavior is nested cannot exist

without some sort of income to "purchase and maintain" that environment. Furthermore, while Becker (1993) accounts for the statistical behavior of sociological groups at a macro level, the behavior analyst would account for psychological collectivities (Kantor, 1982), or common behavior among individuals with respect to stimulus objects. A major source of such common behavior resides in those childhood interactions with members of particular sociological groups called "socialization," of which Kantor and Becker specifically address. Thus, carefully articulating the scientific boundaries of behavior analysis and economics can provide for a productive collaboration between both fields.

This opportunity for collaboration comes at a time when some behavior analysts have expressed concern that Skinner's (1953, 1971) dream of large-scale cultural change has yet to occur and that our scientific interests are narrowing (Geller, 2001; Hayes, 2001). Collaboration with Becker could potentially address these issues by providing a fresh source of ideas to stimulate research in complex human behavior, particularly the sparse behavioral research on human social behavior (Johnston, 1996), and supplement existing related behavioral studies such as those investigating resource allocation (Pietras, Cherek, Lane, & Tcheremissine, 2006) and marketing (Hantula & Bragger, 1999). Collaboration with macro-level sciences such as Becker's presents an exciting opportunity to meld Skinnerian and Kantorian theory, to aid in the full realization of Skinner's dream, and tackle human behavior it its full complexity.

### References

References are available by visiting the Student Committee Report on the ABAI Web site at http://www.abainternational.org/ABA/newsletter/vol31 2/StudentCommittee.asp

## Behavior Analysis in Practice

For more information or to subscribe to Behavior Analysis in Practice, visit www.abainternational.org/
BAinPractice.asp

## Annual Convention Program Committee Report

By Dr. Ramona Houmanfar

We experienced another successful convention at ABAI 2008. As always our accomplishment was a product of the contribution and support provided by the ABAI administrative staff, ABAI Executive Council, and the ABAI Program Committee.

The following is an overview of some changes in the ABAI Program Committee structure, and a data-based outline of the ABAI 2008 program.

### **Program Growth**

As shown in Figure 1 and Table 1, the total number of submissions was 1,651, a 4.8% increase from 2007.

Major growth of the program this year was in symposiums and poster submissions. Posters continued to account for the majority of submissions (55%), followed by individual papers (20%), panel discussions (3%), invited presentations (2%), symposia (19%), and tutorials (1%). In addition, Autism (AUT: 26%), Experimental Analysis of Behavior (EAB: 14%), Education (EDC: 14%), and Developmental Disabilities (DDA: 12%) continued to be the largest areas and together accounted for 45% of

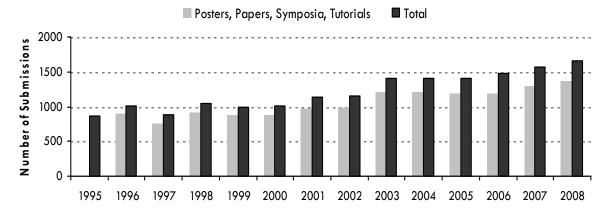


Figure 1. Number of submissions by year.

	% Change:										
Type of	2007 -										
Presentation	08	08	07	06	05	04	03	02	01	00	99
Posters Panels &	4.40%	757	725	683	711	708	715	630	609	535	584
Symposia	17.80%	298	253	250	231	235	261	184	196	198	160
Papers Invited	0.00%	273	273	217	215	230	208	1 <i>57</i>	147	125	116
Addresses	0.00%	26	26	26	22	21	22	21	19	1 <i>7</i>	15
Meetings	-3.90%	51	53	60	41	33	47	38	43	35	38
Workshops	-7.40%	94	101	92	86	78	62	40	45	41	33
TOTAL		1,499	1,433	1,328	1,306	1,305	1,315	1,070	1,059	951	946
Reunions	-21.40%	1 <i>7</i>	1 <i>7</i>	14	14	14	13	10	13	10	11
Special Events (w/o tutorials) Invited	0.00%	13	13	12	12	25	21	23	20	15	10
Tutorials	0.00%	18	13	12	11	12	6	5	6		
ABAI EXPO <b>GRAND</b>	10.90%	112	101	111	65	57	51	56	52	42	33
TOTAL	4.80%	1,651	1,575	1,477	1,408	1,413	1,400	1,159	1,144	1,018	1,000

Table 1. Total Number of Submissions by Category (1999–2008).

all submissions. Behavioral Pharmacology, Community Interventions; Social and Ethical Issues (CSE), DDA, EDC, Teaching Behavior Analysis (TBA), and Theoretical, Philosophical, and Conceptual Issues (TPC) experienced a decrease in the number of submissions from 2007.

The B. F. Skinner Lecture series included nine non-ABAI invited presenters in its second year. Overall, we have experienced a gradual increase in the number of presentations which demonstrated a healthy pattern of growth over time.

### **Area Coordinators**

The updated list of co-coordinators for program areas will be included in the Call for Papers for ABAI 2009. The successful recruitment of the new co-coordinators for a majority of areas would not be possible without the help and support of their senior co-coordinators. We are grateful to these colleagues for their contribution to the vitality of the ABAI program.

The following Senior Co-Coordinators' terms ended at the conclusion of the 2008 convention:

- Behavioral Pharmacology: John Roll (2005-2008)
- Community Interventions, Social and Ethical Issues: Saul Axelrod (2007-2008)
- Experimental Analysis of Behavior: Mark Reilly (2006-2008)
- Organizational Behavior Management: Timothy Ludwig (2005-2008)
- Teaching Behavior Analysis: Pamela Osnes (2005-2008)
- Verbal Behavior: William Potter (2005-2008)

### **Program Quality**

The Program Committee rejected 28 submissions based on the revised submission criterion which was adopted a couple of years ago. The following is a list of rejected submissions by area and type:

- Autism: 8 papers, 3 posters, 1 symposium, and 7 workshops
- Clinical, Family, Behavioral Medicine (CBM): 1 paper and 2 workshops
- Developmental Disabilities: 2 posters
- Organizational Behavior Management (OBM):
   4 posters

**Road Map Session** Autism Newcomer's Event: A Guide to the Autism Track at ABAI 2008 was chaired by Jeffery Tiger (Program Coordinator of the Autism area) this year. We thank Dr. Tiger for his contribution to the success of this event, which was adopted a couple of years ago.

Last, but not least, I would like to thank my co-chair, Bill Palya, for his collaboration, and all of the Program Coordinators and other members of the Program Committee for their outstanding efforts this year. In addition, on behalf of the ABAI Program Committee, I would like to thank Maria Malott and her exemplary staff members for their support and guidance.

### **Publication Board Update**

By Dr. Carol Pilgrim

The Publication Board made several accomplishments during the 2007-2008 year. Excellent issues of *The Behavior Analyst* (TBA), and one issue of *The Analysis* of *Verbal Behavior* (TAVB) were processed on schedule under the continuing leadership of Marc Branch (TBA), and the new leadership of Mike Dougher (TBA) and Caio Miguel (TAVB) (see Editor Reports for a description of contents).

Under the extremely capable direction of Dorothy Lerman, ABAI is now proud to offer a new publication, directed toward practicing behavior analysts and related professionals and emphasizing science-based information on best practices. Editor Lerman is to be commended for her success in ushering plans for BAP through the Council approval process, and for establishing a strong editorial team for the journal. The inaugural issue of BAP was processed on schedule (see Editor's Report for description of contents).

Proactive steps to increase submissions were followed as planned, which included inviting manuscripts, continuing to promote electronic submission of manuscripts, communicating with authors in a timely manner, and enhancing visibility of the journals through the Web sites and other electronic sources. The efforts are yielding positive results. Ensuring a healthy stream of submissions remains an important goal for both journals.

The quality content and respectable processing times for all three journals provide evidence of smooth operating procedures. The Editor's Reports for TAVB and BAP provide description of further efforts to enhance operations, which should in turn facilitate manuscript processing.

TBA and TAVB are included in the Pub Med Central of the National Library of Medicine, impacting availability of manuscripts, enhancing visibility of the journals, and increasing their attractiveness as an outlet for authors.

Marc Branch's term as Editor of TBA came to a close on July 31, 2007. Mike Dougher began his term as the new Editor on August 1, 2007. The transition has proceeded smoothly.

With the publication of the most recent issue of TAVB and after years of incomparable service, Jack Michael has retired as Editor. The TAVB Editor's Advisory Board has completed a search process for the next Editor, and has nominated Dr. Caio Miguel to serve. Dr. Miguel is

eminently well-qualified for the position, having served as Senior Associate Editor of the journal for the past year. No one knows the current operations of the journal better. The ABAI Executive Council formally approved Dr. Miguel's appointment at the May meeting.

### The Analysis of Verbal Behavior

By Dr. Caio Miguel

This report covers activities of TAVB for the calendar year of 2007–2008 (Vol. 24). After serving as an associate editor for the past two years, I was appointed to serve as the Senior Associate Editor (AE) beginning in October 2007. Dr. Jack Michael's electronic files were transferred to me between October and November after which I assumed editorial responsibilities for the upcoming issue.

### **Journal Mission**

The Analysis of Verbal Behavior is for the original publication of experimental or theoretical papers relevant to a behavioral analysis of verbal behavior. Manuscripts are typically relevant to at least one of the following topics: the elementary verbal operants, autoclitics, multiple control, private events, rule-governed behavior, epistemology, scientific verbal behavior, language acquisition, language assessment and training, second languages, pedagogy, the verbal behavior of nonhumans, and verbal behavior research methodology.

### **Manuscript Processing**

At the time I assumed editorial responsibilities for Vol. 24; fourteen (14) manuscripts had been submitted for publication in TAVB. Of the 14 articles submitted for publication in 2007, two articles had been sent for review before I assumed the Senior AE position. Therefore, 12 manuscripts were processed between the months of November 2007 and January 2008. Each manuscript was assigned to an AE who then sent the article to at least two independent reviewers. I served as the AE for six manuscripts, and assigned the remaining manuscripts to others (two guest AEs). Reviewers were given between two to four weeks to return their comments. AEs, reviewers, and authors worked very hard to meet the publication deadline set by ABAI. Twelve manuscripts were accepted for publication and will appear in Vol. 24.

Three papers were already submitted for Vol. 25 and are currently being processed. Unfortunately, many authors who have recently inquired about submissions to TAVB were discouraged by the news that if accepted, their articles would not be printed until 2009. The reduced number of submissions to the journal may be partially a product of its periodicity.

### Papers Published in Volume 24

Volume 24 was published in May 2008. It contains 12 manuscripts: 10 full research articles and two

discussion/conceptual papers. The issue reached its page limit (around 200).

#### **Board of Editors**

TAVB's editorial board has not substantially changed in many years. For Vol. 24, Dr. Barbara Esch and Dr. Anna Petursdottir were added to the editorial board. I was also added as the Senior AE. Regrettably, Dr. Scott Wood's name was removed. In addition, 20 individuals served as ad hoc or guest reviewers for one or more of the manuscripts. My suggestion is that a rotation system for editorial board members and AEs be created for TAVB. I will be happy to follow up on this.

Below is the current Editorial Board (Vol. 24):

### Editor

Jack Michael, Ph.D., Western Michigan University

#### Senior Associate Editor

Caio F. Miguel, Ph.D., BCBA, California State University, Sacramento

### Associate Editors and Advisory Board

Genae Hall, Ph.D., BCBA, Behavior Analysis and Intervention Services

Sam Leigland, Ph.D., Gonzaga University

David C. Palmer, Ph.D., Smith College

William F. Potter, Ph.D., BCBA, California State University, Stanislaus

Henry D. Schlinger, Ph.D., BCBA, California State University, Los Angeles

Mark L. Sundberg, Ph.D., BCBA, Sundberg and Associates

### Editorial Board

James E. Carr, Ph.D., BCBA, Western Michigan University

Thomas S. Critchfield, Ph.D., Illinois State University

Jeffrey S. Danforth, Ph.D., Eastern Connecticut State University

Michael J. Dougher, Ph.D., University of New Mexico

Barbara E. Esch, MA, BCBA, Esch Behavior Consultants, Inc.

John W. Esch, Ph.D., BCBA, Esch Behavior Consultants, Inc.

Deborah L. Grossett, Ph.D., BCBA, Mental Health and Mental Retardation Authority of Harris County, TX

Bruce E. Hesse, Ph.D., BCBA, California State University, Stanislaus

Michael D. Hixson, Ph.D., BCBA, Central Michigan University

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Los Angeles

Carmen Luciano, Ph.D., Universidad de Almeria, Spain

John H. Mabry, Ph.D., University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

Richard W. Malott, Ph.D., BCBA, Western Michigan University

Jay Moore, Ph.D., University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee Matthew P. Normand, Ph.D., BCBA, University of the Pacific

Joseph A. Parsons, Ph.D., University of Victoria Anna I. Petursdottir, Ph.D., Texas Christian University Cynthia J. Pietras, Ph.D., Western Michigan University Kurt Salzinger, Ph.D., Hofstra University

Ted G. Schoneberger, MS, BCBA, Stanislaus County Office of Education

David W. Sidener, Ph.D., The Garden Academy
Joe Spradlin, Ph.D., University of Kansas
Kenneth R. Stephens, Ph.D., Operant WebSites, Inc.
Janet S. Twyman, Ph.D., BCBA, Headsprout, Inc.
Julie S. Vargas, Ph.D., West Virginia University
Margaret E. Vaughan, Ph.D., Salem State College
Stuart A. Vyse, Ph.D., Connecticut College

### **Acknowledgements**

Drs. Barbara and John Esch are to be commended for their assistance during the period of editorial transition. They also mediated initial communications between Dr. Michael and the authors before editorial responsibilities were transferred to me. I would also like to express my gratitude to Jack Michael, my former mentor and dear friend who has entrusted editorial responsibilities to me. I hope I did not let him (or ABAI) down.

I would also like to thank Majda Seuss for mediating my communications with the managing editor. Volume 24 wouldn't have been published on time without her help.

### **Additional Projects**

My main goal for TAVB over the next three years is to decrease processing times. There is no reason why articles could not be processed in two months (average). I have recently created new routing sheets for TAVB and a new system for organizing submitted manuscripts. These new systems' changes may resolve some of the problems faced this past year.

I would also like to increase the number of quality TAVB submissions by personally inviting authors to submit their work, and also organizing special issues surrounding topics in the analysis of VB. Additional submission formats may encourage authors to consider TAVB as a publication outlet for their research. These may include brief research reports, clinical reports, and didactic papers. I would like to be given the opportunity to implement some of these changes.

### **Behavior Analysis in Practice**

By Dr. Dorothea Lerman

Behavior Analysis in Practice (BAP) is a peer-reviewed translational publication designed to provide sciencebased information on best practice in behavior analysis. The target audience includes practicing behavior analysts, educators and related personnel, staff in settings where behavior-analytic services are provided, and scientist-practitioners. Types of articles published in BAP include empirical reports describing the application and evaluation of behavior-analytic procedures; discussion papers on professional and practice issues; reviews of the empirical literature that provide best practice guidelines, technical articles on methods, data analysis, or instrumentation in the practice of behavior analysis; tutorials on terms, procedures, and theories relevant to best practice in behavior analysis; and critical reviews of books and products that are aimed at practitioners or consumers of behavior analysis.

This first annual report covers the activities of BAP from its inception in October 2006 to the close-out of its first issue in March 2008. The current journal Editor (Dorothea Lerman) and Associate Editors (Greg Hanley, Stephanie Peterson, Tim Vollmer, Dave Wacker, Doug Woods, Denny Reid, John Austin, George Noell, and Ray Miltenberger) began service in December 2006. Currently, the editorial board consists of 45 reviewers. All terms will end May 31, 2009.

The following start-up activities were completed by the Editor and Associate Editors in early 2007:

- (a) Submission of journal name to the ABAI Council,
- (b) appointment of reviewers to the editorial board,
- (c) drafting of manuals for the Editor and Associate Editors, (d) description of article types and review criteria, and (e) solicitation of articles for the first issue.

### Papers Published in the First Issue (Spring 2008)

The first issue contained seven papers: three empirical reports and four discussion/review articles. Three of the articles were invited by the Editor (Iwata & Dozier, Miltenberger, Shook & Favell). The total number of pages (48) was the maximum designated by the ABAI Council. See Table 1 for first-issue content analysis.

Year	2008 1(1)
Empirical Reports	3
Discussion/Review Papers	4
Book/ Product Reviews	0
Technical Articles	0
Tutorials	0

Table 1. Content analysis of Volume 1.

### **Processing of Manuscripts Submitted in 2007**

Between January 1, 2007 and December 31, 2007, 38 new manuscripts were submitted. Eight manuscripts had been received in 2008 at the time this report was prepared (mid-April, 2008). The percentage of papers accepted in 2007 (31%) was somewhat low but not unexpected for a new journal. As shown in Table 2, the mean processing time for articles in 2007 was 2.3 months. Mean processing time (Receipt- Decision) is defined here as the number of months between the date a paper was received by the editor and the date the editor or associate editor informed the author of the initial decision. The longest time was 4.5 months. Actioneditor time, the time from the receipt of the last review to when a decision letter went out, averaged 21 days.

Year	2007
#Manuscripts	38
% Accepted	31%
Receipt-Decision (months)	
Mean	2.2
Median	2
Range	1.5-4.5
AE Decision (days)	
Mean	21
Range	2-70

Table 2. Mean processing times.

### **Board of Editors**

The Board of Editors at the time of this report is shown in the list below. All board members were selected for a two-year term. I plan to establish a rotating three-year schedule for the editorial board prior to May 2009. During 2007, 14 individuals served as guest associate editors and 36 individuals served as guest reviewers for one or more manuscripts.

### 2007-2009

Scott Ardoin, Ph.D., University of South Carolina Jennifer L. Austin, Ph.D., BCBA, University of Houston, Clear Lake

Jon S. Bailey, Ph.D., BCBA, Florida State University John C. Borrero, Ph.D., BCBA, University of Maryland, Baltimore County

Vincent J. Carbone, Ph.D., BCBA, The Carbone Clinic James E. Carr, Ph.D., BCBA, Western Michigan University Marjorie H. Charlop-Christy, Ph.D., Claremont McKenna College

Linda Cooper-Brown, Ph.D., University of Iowa Mark R. Dixon, Ph.D., BCBA, Southern Illinois University Glen Dunlap, Ph.D., University of South Florida Judith E. Favell, Ph.D., BCBA, Advoserv

Wayne W. Fisher, Ph.D., Munroe-Meyer Institute Patrick Friman, Ph.D., Father Flanagan's Boys Home and University of Nebraska School of Medicine Louis Hagopian, Ph.D., Kennedy Krieger Institute William L. Heward, Ed.D., BCBA, The Ohio State University

Thomas S. Higbee, Ph.D., BCBA, Utah State University Michael B. Himle, University of North Dakota Rob H. Horner, Ph.D., University of Oregon Brian A. Iwata, Ph.D., BCBA, University of Florida Kent Johnson, Ph.D., Morningside Academy Deb Kamps, Ph.D., University of Kansas Linda A. LeBlanc, Ph.D., Western Michigan University Ethan S. Long, Ph.D., BCBA, The Bay School Nancy E. Marchand-Martella, Ph.D., Eastern Washington University

R. Mark Mathews, Ph.D., University of Sydney Jen McComas, Ph.D., University of Minnesota Nancy A. Neef, Ph.D., The Ohio State University Mark F. O'Reilly, Ph.D., BCBA, University of Texas at Austin

Gary Pace, Ph.D., BCBA, May Institute Marsha B. Parsons, MA, J. Iverson Riddle Developmental Center

James W. Partington, Ph.D., BCBA, Behavior Analysts, Inc. John T. Rapp, Ph.D., BCBA, St. Cloud State University Hank Roane, Ph.D., BCBA, Munroe-Meyer Institute, University of Nebraska Medical Center Joel E. Ringdahl, Ph.D., University of Iowa Maureen Schepis, Ph.D., BCBA, Applied

Gerald L. Shook, Ph.D, BCBA, Behavior Analyst Certification Board

**Behavioral Consulting** 

Sigurdur Oli Sigurdsson, Ph.D., University of Maryland, Baltimore County

Richard Smith, Ph.D., BCBA, University of North Texas Bridget Taylor, Psy.D., BCBA, Alpine Learning Group Rachel Thompson, Ph.D., BCBA, New England Center for Children

Bruce Thyer, Ph.D., Florida State University Frans van Haaren, Ph.D., BCBA, Autism Early Intervention Clinics

Ron Van Houten, Ph.D., Western Michigan University David Wilder, Ph.D., BCBA, Florida Institute of Technology

April Worsdell, Ph.D., BCBA, Southern Illinois University

### **Additional Acknowledgements**

Keith Van Norman provided invaluable service as the Managing Editor, and Bill Heward provided muchneeded assistance and support.

### **Science Board Update**

By Dr. Timothy Hackenberg

The ABAI Science Board was formed in November 2007, assuming the duties of the former Science Policy and Research Board. The reorganization was designed to lend greater support to science-related activities and initiatives. The mission of the Science Board is to advocate on behalf of behavior science and behavior scientists including, but not limited to: providing support and resources to behavior analysts engaged in the creation and dissemination of scientific knowledge; working with federal and state funding agencies to support behavior science; providing information and resources to students interested in pursuing careers in behavior science; promoting public understanding of behavior science; and working with other scientific organizations in promoting the causes of behavior science.

The first task of the Science Board has been to appoint its members. I am very pleased to announce that Tom Critchfield, Amy Odum, Greg Hanley, and Randy Grace have agreed to serve 3-year terms. Although the Board has only been fully constituted for a few months, we have been working together on a number of initiatives, including a Special Program Track on Translational Science at the 2009 Convention. Jointly sponsored with the newly created Practice Board, the program track will highlight cutting-edge science that spans the laboratoryto-practice continuum. We have organized sessions on delay discounting, behavioral economics, token reinforcement, relational learning, and behavioral momentum, to name just a few. These sessions will be modeled after last year's highly successful State of the Science Lectures, also sponsored by the Science Board. Look for published versions of these talks in the upcoming issue of The Behavior Analyst.

On the regulatory front, the Science Board has created a Task Force to study and make recommendations to the NIH Guide for the Care and Use of Animals in Research. The NIH Guide is important in establishing guidelines for IACUCs and other regulatory bodies that impact animal research. Steve Dworkin has agreed to Chair the Task Force; other members include Marc Branch, Karen Anderson, Chris Newland, and Ray Pitts. The Task Force will meet in Atlanta in late October to discuss and make recommendations to the Guide. We have also joined forces with other organizations in this effort, including the Science Directorate at the American Psychological Association, the American Physiological Association, the American Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care International, and the Federation of Behavioral, Psychological, and Cognitive Sciences. This is an important opportunity for us to weigh in on matters of significance to behavioral science, and I am happy that ABAI is supporting this effort.

I will provide updates on Science Board activities in upcoming newsletters. In the meantime, if you have ideas about how to promote science within ABAI and beyond, please feel free to contact me.

### **New ABAI Organizations**

ABAI welcomes a new 2008 Special Interest Group:

Child Welfare SIG

For more information on special interest groups or for a SIG application, visit www.abainternational.org/special\_interests/si.asp

ABAI also welcomes the new 2008 Affiliated Chapters:

British Columbia ABA Iowa ABA Louisiana ABA

Minnesota
Northland ABA

Ohio ABA

South Carolina ABA

For more information on ABAI chapters or for an affiliated chapter application, visit www.abainternational.org/chapters.asp

### Why Should I Join ABAI?

The Association for Behavior Analysis International has more than 5,000 members from 40 countries. ABAI's members include scientists who conduct basic and applied research, practitioners in a wide range of human service professions whose work is enhanced by the findings of behavior analysis research, professors who teach behavior analysis, undergraduate and graduate students, and consumers of behavior analysis services.

### ABAI membership would give me...

- opportunities to expand and enhance my knowledge and skills about the science and/or practice
  of behavior analysis through attending conventions, workshops, and conferences; reading ABAI
  journals, etc.
- opportunities to share the results of my research and practice efforts with other Association for Behavior Analysis members.
- access to a worldwide network of scientists, practitioners, and others who are committed to increasing our understanding of behavior and how that knowledge can help create a better world.
- recognition as part of the world's largest and most widely respected organization of behavior analysts.

### Membership benefits include:

- Reduced registration fee for annual convention and pre-convention workshops.
- FREE subscription\* to The Behavior Analyst, ABAI's peer-review journal of conceptual and review papers on topics of interest to researchers and practitioners. (\*for all members excluding Chapter/Adjunct).
- Reduced subscription fee for student members to Behavior Analysis in Practice, ABAI's peer-reviewed journal translating research to practice for practitioners. Inaugural issue published Spring 2008.
- Reduced subscription fee to The Analysis of Verbal Behavior, ABAl's peer-reviewed journal of research and conceptual articles on verbal behavior.
- FREE subscription to the ABAI Newsletter, ABAI's peer published three times per year with news, etc.
- Access to members-only portions of the ABAI Web site, such as the Membership Directory and selected employment services.

To learn how to become a member of ABAI, see the ABAI 2009 Membership Form on page 82 or go to www.abainternational.org/member/index.aspx.

### **Updates from ABAI's Affiliated Chapters**

### **Affiliated Chapters Board Report**

By Dr. R. Douglas Greer

There are 60 affiliated chapters worldwide. As we become more global, making a distinction between non-USA and USA chapters seems no longer relevant. There are over 12,900 members in the chapters and membership has been growing at a rate of 6.5% annually over the past ten years according to information on the ABAI chapters' Web site.

Some of the chapters serve as exemplary models. I recently attended the Norwegian ABA conference and there were over 850 attendees. Behavior analysts are probably the majority there where they serve families, individuals with developmental disabilities, and provide educational centers for people with special needs. This astounding accomplishment should inspire all of us to attend the conference in Oslo next year: we could all learn something from them. The same might be said for Brazil, where Fred Keller was the father of behavior analysis. Both of these chapters and countries have provided significant contributions to the basic science as well as the applied science. In both of these countries behavior analysts are well situated in standard professions. Korea is also an interesting example of the growth of behavior analysis within a particular existing profession: in their case special education is the core profession. These shining examples of how we can fuse behavior analysis into society provide important models for all of the chapters. Clearly, the tools that our science provides are needed in existing professions. Our discipline provides the tools, and getting those tools to those who are already positioned to serve should be a major effort of our organization. In the cases I cited above this has happened.

In last year's presidential address, Janet Twyman pointed out the importance of diversification. Behavior analysis is not just for autism spectrum disorders, and it is not a supplemental service such as speech or physical therapy. Our principles and tactics are critically needed in education and in applied psychological services. In the USA, behavior analytic practices are simply a major part of special education. On a regular basis the Council for Special Education in the USA disseminates evidencebased practices to its members. The majority of these are tactics from applied behavior analysis. Clearly behavior analysts who are special educators have had an influential impact on a very large number of professionals in that field. The growing influence of Acceptance Commitment Therapy in clinical psychology is a recent example of how new procedures from behavior analysis are on the way to become standard clinical psychological practice. The impact of Headsprout® on reading instruction is still another example of spreading

the practice. Efforts like these are new sources for growth.

Many chapters have benefited from the demand for serving individuals on the autism spectrum, and the importance of BCBA certification as a vehicle for spreading behavior analysis cannot be underestimated. This movement has, for example, been beneficial to the countries in Europe. The demand for services appears to have led to support for basic science psychology programs where the demand for applied services has provided support for the continuation of their very fine basic programs. Hopefully, this will lead to the diffusion of the science within well-established existing professions. Our international presence is growing, and we need to find ways to support that growth as well as to find ways of helping all chapters with the means to spread the science in diverse existing professions.

This is my last report as chair of the affiliated chapters. It has been an educational and humbling experience to become more acquainted with the very talented and capable members of our chapters. I leave you in the very capable hands of Pamela Osnes, who has served ABAI so well in many other capacities.

### ABA Colombia

### "Behavior Analysis and Knowledge Societies: Challenges and Opportunities"

By Wilson López-López, María Constanza Aguilar Bustamante, Juan Pablo Gamboa, Camilo Hurtado, and Luis Manuel Silva

During 2006 and 2007, ABA Colombia developed and improved the Web site www.abacolombia.org.co, which has supported the Author Seminar devoted to B. F. Skinner given by Professors Blanca Patricia Ballesteros de Valderrama and Wilson López López, at Javeriana University. ABA Colombia's Web site is a space for communication and exchange of knowledge, with almost 13,000 joined and registered members who use our resources everyday. Our Web site has exceeded 88,000 hits, and it has become a meeting point and source of knowledge for many users. Our membership in the Iberoamerican Federation of Psychologists' Associations (FIAP) (http://www.fiapsi.org) has also contributed to develop the visibility of ABA Colombia.

In addition, ABA Colombia, together with the Spanish Association of Behavioral Psychology, has been editing The International Journal of Clinical and Health Psychology (http://www.aepc.es/ijchp/index.php?coid=English). That journal was rated among the top Spanish journals in psychology and at the end of 2005 was included in databases such as the Institute for Scientific Information (ISI), the Social Sciences Citation Index and the Current Contest/Social and Behavioral Science.

As mentioned in our last report, ABA Colombia assumed the commitment of being one of the nongovernmental organizations devoted to the development of cooperation in Bogotá. Currently, we are engaged in a development process supported by the Alcaldía Mayor de Bogotá (City Council). In 2006, all City Council requirements were satisfied by ABA Colombia and at the end of 2007 our organization was certified to participate in programs and projects which principally aim to solve social problems in Colombia.

ABA Colombia has been developing training programs in accordance with our members' demands. For instance, in 2006 our organization gave support and auspice to the organization of the V Iberoamerican Congress of Psychology (http://www.uv.mx/facpsi/), which took place in Veracruz, Mexico (May 16–20, 2006). On the other hand, we gave support to the Iberoamerican Congress of Psychology and Law, which took place in Bogotá in November, 2006

(http://sparta.javeriana.edu.co/psicologia/congresos/juridica/). During 2007, ABA Colombia worked together with the Peruvian Association of Psychologists to organize the IV Iberoamerican\* Congress of Psychology, which will take place July 16–19, 2008

(http://www.congresofiapperu.com/principal.htm).

Finally, FIAP, ABA Colombia, and the Spanish Association of Psychologists developed an alliance with the Universidad Autónoma del Estado de México (Autonomous University of the State of Mexico) and its Redalyc project (Journals Network of Latin America, the Caribbean, Spain and Portugal), generating one of the most important open access information projects in psychology around lberoamerica (http://redalyc.uaemex.mx/redalyc/portales/areas/ind ex.jsp?area=15). In 2008 we hope to improve the site and increase its services. In addition, ABA Colombia will open an international service of free information in psychology on FIAP's Web site (http://www.fiapsi.org/jl/).

ABA Colombia has continuously identified the need to work with autism and learning disabilities, because of the increasing number of people asking for help with these problems. However, there aren't any Colombian organizations giving financial support for poor and disabled children. In addition, there is no specialized information available. For these reasons, we ask the analyst community for their financial and professional support for training and attention towards these issues.

### **ABA India**

By Smita Awasthi, BCBA

ABA India was registered as a non-profit nongovernmental organization in 2007. Since the formation of the chapter, we have received innumerable inquiries regarding ABA services in India applicable in the field of autism and other disabilities. We also had opportunities to open a dialogue with doctoral candidates in psychology with interests ranging from

education, teaching, accreditation, and research. ABA India is presently evaluating information to set guidelines for future participations.

ABA India's Web site is fully functional and is launching its first e-Newsletter. ABA India is aware of at least two centers, one in Delhi and another in Mumbai, having Board Certified Behavior Analysts involved in staff training and ABA practices including data gathering, functional assessments, and regular monitoring.

The interest generated has also led to at least four to five professionals from India working towards their certification as BCBAs and BCABAs. These are significant developments which herald the dawn of behavior analysis in India.

ABA India participated in the 2008 ABAI Autism Conference in Atlanta with a poster and the May 2008 ABAI Conference in Chicago, thus keeping updated with the latest developments in the field. These participations have been self-funded.

In 2008–2009, ABA India plans to identify universities both in India and abroad with interest in collaborating to begin ABA courses in India. Identifying resources for coordinating research in autism and planning for an annual conference on ABA are some other future goals.

ABA India invites application for membership which is open in five categories: Full, Affiliate, Emeritus, Student and Supporting Members.

### **ABA of Brazil**

By Dr. Martha Hübner

The Brazilian Association of Psychotherapy and Behavioral Medicine (ABPMC) was founded on November 4, 1991. Its objective is to congregate psychologists, researchers, professors, and students that are interested in the scientific and technological development of behavior analysis.

ABPMC, the Brazilian ABA chapter, currently has 8,000 names in its mailing list. Each year for the past five years, 1,600 people have attended its convention, which typically occurs in August or September. In 2004, ABPMC had the honor to organize the second international meeting of ABAI, which 2,420 people attended. Today, ABPMC has 1,510 members. However, recognizing that the average Brazilian's budget can not afford an annual membership to a scientific association, we believe the number of behavior analysts in Brazil to be close to 8,000 people (the total number of names of behavior analysts in our database).

ABPMC's members come from all over Brazil, from north to south. Many regional meetings have been held over the past six years, with ABPMC support, and around 400 to 500 people attended each one. We have regular annual meetings in the State of São Paulo (city of Campinas and São Carlos), Center-West Region meeting (in Brasília), São Luis State, Piauí State, Goiania, Bauru,

Rio Verde, Vitoria, and Salvador, among others. The Board of Directors of 2008/2009 decided that every person that goes to these regional meetings will receive a discount for the annual meeting of ABPMC.

For the years of 2008 and 2009, the ABPMC central office is located in Campinas, a very modern city in the State of São Paulo. According to its bylaws, every two years the chapter's directory board must change. The ABPMC central office has already been located in the capital of the country (Brasília), and in the cities of Campinas (SP), Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo, and Londrina.

Since its foundation, ABPMC has organized an annual meeting where members and interested people present papers and disseminate the most important advances in many areas of behavior analysis. In 2007, for the XVI Annual Meeting 1,100 people came to the national conference that was held in Brasília on September 24th—27th.

This year, the XVII Annual Meeting of ABPMC was held from August 28th to 31st. See our website for highlights and details. The president of the association is Martha Hübner and the president of the annual meeting is Patrícia Piazzon Queiroz.

Since 1999, ABPMC has published a regular journal called Revista Brasileira de Terapia Comportamental e Cognitiva (Brazilian Journal of Behavior and Cognitive Therapy), which is nationally recognized and very well received by the academic community. Its editorial board is now dedicated to making it an international journal. In 2007, the Brazilian ABA chapter published an article in this journal describing the relationship among scientific associations in Brazil, which includes the history of ABPMC and ABAI, as well as the foundation of our chapter. Coherent with this initiative, behavior analysts have been discussing better political representation of the area among government institutions in order to increase the power and the inclusion of the area in the decisions that support the development of research, as well as the diffusion of knowledge produced by behavior analysis. Recently, ABPMC created a formal committee responsible for the diffusion of behavior analysis, called "Committee of the Diffusion of Behavior Analysis."

The proceedings and papers presented during our annual convention will be published in a book series named Sobre Comportamento e Cognição (About Behavior and Cognition), which has already published 21 volumes. We also have a newsletter, Contexto, where members, invited authors and affiliated organizations may expose their ideas about behavior analysis and about our association.

To submit papers to the Brazilian ABA chapter (ABPMC) convention or for more information, go to www.abpmc.org.br. We also invite you to submit your paper to our journal: (www.rbtcc.org).

### **ABA of Italy (IESCUM)**

By Dr. Paolo Moderato

The European Institute for the Study of Human Behavior (Istituto Europeo per lo Studio del Comportamento Umano, IESCUM) is a non-profit organization located in Parma. The general purpose of this association is to engage in acts of social usefulness, with a charitable and non-profitable mission respecting the freedom and dignity of all people. This association is non-party, non-political, and exclusively engaged in social and humanitarian purposes.

The specific purposes of this association are to promote the science of behavior, to advance the scientific study and understanding of behavior and its humane application to solve practical problems, and to prevent and relieve human suffering in the various fields in which scientific psychology has been developing in the course of the twentieth century and in the emerging fields to which scientific psychology will be called to operate in the new millennium.

#### **Research Activities**

Research activities include collaborating with Italian and international research institutes and universities, associations, and institutions with analogous purposes, implementing clinical and experimental research projects, and distributing scholarships for the implementation of scientific research, of national or international value, on experimental or applied behavior analysis of human behavior.

### **Promotion and Dissemination**

Realization of activities for the dissemination of scientific knowledge include organizing and conducting conferences and cultural meetings that promote discussion and education on issues of public interest; sponsoring conferences that will serve as a forum for presentation of technological achievements in behavior analysis; professional development, training and education of psychologists, medical doctors, and all other professionals relating to or involved in the study, or the applications of behavior analysis. Scientific and quality control is guaranteed by an international advisory board, composed of distinguished scholars of worldwide notoriety that will take responsibility for the quality of the scientific and cultural level of IESCUM initiatives.

### Membership

Membership is open to all persons, institutions, organizations or associations who have met the criteria set in the bylaws for membership and who have been approved for such membership by the Council. The number of members is unlimited.

Dues are established by the Executive Council and are due on January 1 of each calendar year, as the membership year runs from January 1st through December 31st. Members are required to respect the

bylaws, additional internal rules, and deliberations from the Executive Council.

### Accomplishments over the Past Year

During its first year as the Italian Chapter of ABAI, IESCUM has promoted the development of behavior analysis in Italy, organizing courses and workshops, participating in national and international congresses, and supporting presentations and publications.

Meanwhile, IESCUM has promoted the dissemination of scientific knowledge by creating its own Web site, www.iescum.org, which includes links to related Web sites focused on specific areas of research and intervention. Through these Web pages, IESCUM publishes news about its events and activities.

### Plans for 2008-2009

In the next year IESCUM aims to increase its educational activities by organizing more workshops and continuing the management of advanced courses. Great importance will be given to research activities. Some fundamental research projects have already begun. Communication on the Web is also going to increase with the activation of new, specific Web sites and newsletters. IESCUM is also being represented in the most important international congresses, which are considered as crucial for the diffusion of up-to-date knowledge on research and application of behavior analysis in Italy.

### Alabama ABA

By Dr. Jennifer Gillis

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

The 16<sup>th</sup> annual ALABA convention was held at the Four Points Sheraton in Tuscaloosa from October 23–25, 2007. It was a very successful convention by any standard. A total of 77 individuals attended the four preconvention workshops on Tuesday, with most people staying to attend the convention on Wednesday and Thursday. The workshops by Denny Reid, Ph.D., BCBA and Bill Ahearn, Ph.D., BCBA were especially well attended and received excellent feedback from conference attendees.

Attendance for the convention was the highest it has been in the last five years, with a total of 157 people attending: four attended as affiliate members,135 as professional members (25 students, 34 with a baccalaureate degree, 55 with a Master's degree, and

21 with a doctoral degree), and 18 registering as nonmembers. The professions of teaching, social work, psychology, and counseling were well represented. This past year's conference also saw the most Board Certified Behavior Analysts in attendance ever, with over 45 BCBAs attending.

The 2008 ALABA convention will be held at the Marriott at Grand National in Auburn, Alabama from October 21–23. ALABA is excited to announce that this year's keynote speaker will be Gina Green, Ph.D., BCBA. ALABA is currently assembling the rest of the program, which may be found on our Web site www.auburn.edu/alaba later in the year. If you will be moving to the area or are interested in more information about ALABA, please visit our Web site and send us your contact information.

## Australian Association for Cognitive Behaviour Therapy

By Ross G. Menzies

The Australian Association for Cognitive Behaviour Therapy (AACBT) is a non-profit organization which promotes the scientific approach to understanding and modifying behavior in applied settings. The AACBT is a multidisciplinary association for professionals with an interest in the application of the principles of behavioral and cognitive psychology. The Association encourages, organizes and supports professional development activities and the dissemination of published information about CBT. It also encourages and supports research in CBT. The AACBT consists of a National Executive and five State Branches (New South Wales, Victoria, Western Australia, South Australia, and Queensland). A sixth State Branch (Tasmania) is currently being established. In sum, the AACBT aims to: promote the ethical practice of CBT; organize continuing education and training in CBT; promote research in CBT; publish and disseminate information about local and international developments in CBT; educate the community in the principles and ethical practice of CBT; organize the annual AACBT National Conference; and publish ongoing research in the AACBT national scientific journal, Behaviour Change.

The AACBT is a proud organization with a long history of sustained contribution to the development of CBT. The scientific journal of the Association is currently in its 24th volume. The Association has just held its 30th Annual National Conference on the Gold Coast of Queensland. The 31st National Conference was held in Adelaide in September 2008, and the Western Australian Branch is well underway in its planning for the 32nd National Conference to be held in Perth in 2009. The success of the AACBT National Conferences over three decades has been assured by strong National Executive structures and continuity of involvement from key individuals in the Association. Each State Branch of the AACBT is an incorporated body run by its own State Executive in accordance with its Articles of Association. The State President of each Branch is a member of the National

Executive of the AACBT, reporting regularly to the national body about: 1) memberships, 2) finances and budgets, 3) seminars and workshops, 4) newsletters, and 5) future directions. All states have remained continually financially strong across the entire history of the Association.

#### **Current Activities**

The AACBT National Executive has been exploring options for a bid to host the 7th World Congress of Behavioural and Cognitive Psychotherapies (WCBCT) since early 2005. In that year, the National President called for expressions of interest from State Branches for an Australian bid. Four States (New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, and South Australia) indicated their interest in hosting the WCBCT. The National Executive considered the following ten issues in evaluating initial bid proposals: 1) conference facilities; 2) social facilities; 3) accommodation; 4) government and financial support available; 5) other supports; 6) access to the rest of Australia; 7) airport capacity/capability; 8) added value; 9) general appeal; and 10) availability of volunteers and other supports for the conference.

Full submissions were received from four State Branches in October 2006. In addition, each bidding State gave a 20-minute presentation to the National Executive of the AACBT at that time.

All four bids were deemed viable by the National Executive. Accordingly, a site selection subcommittee, with representatives from every State Branch, was established to visit each proposed site on a national tour in January 2007. This tour allowed: detailed exploration of the facilities and infrastructure available at each site; inspection of surrounding hotels, including a range of room types in each hotel; sampling of catering at each site; experiencing, through the eyes of a delegate, activities for the proposed social program at each site; inspection of other sites of cultural significance; meetings with staff associated with the Convention Centres and tourist agencies, including the key staff proposed by each State to be involved in the running of the WCBCT; and meetings with senior State Government Ministers offering support to state bids.

In addition to the site inspection National Tour, an independent agent was employed to provide comparisons between states on costs of: airfares from major cities across the globe; hotel rooms at all classes within a 10 minute walk of the proposed convention centers; exhibition space at the various centers; plenary halls and breakout rooms; and food/catering at each convention centre.

Following the collation of this material the Site Selection Committee met to recommend a host city and Congress Organizer to the National Executive. A clear consensus of representatives from across Australia strongly favored Sydney as the bid city, and this recommendation was unanimously supported by the National Executive of the AACBT. Principle reasons for the selection of Sydney included: recognition of the city in the international market; outstanding speaker facilities, plenary halls and other infrastructure at the Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre (SCEC); central location of the SCEC; outstanding range of hotel accommodation at all levels within a 5-10 minute walk from the SCEC; outstanding range of options for a social program; large number of volunteers available in the AACBT's largest state branch; competitiveness of pricing at the SCEC; world-class airport, public transport and other infrastructure in Sydney; waterfront location of the SCEC on Sydney Harbor, a recognized icon in the world travel industry; and outstanding access to cafes, restaurants, and bars within meters of the SCEC.

# Behavior Analysis Association of Michigan (BAAM)

By Dr. James T. Todd

BAAM's work this year continued to revolve around its growing annual convention but included some interesting sidelights. Approximately 300 people representing more than a dozen universities and colleges from over ten states and the province of Ontario attended the BAAM convention held March 13–14, 2008 in the Eastern Michigan University Student Center. Many local and regional agencies sent staff and administrators. Hundreds of BACB continuing education units (CEUs) were generated—more than triple last year's number. The BAAM book fair featured over 30 behavior analytic book titles. The BAAM staff, including convention managers Heather Anson, Jennifer Kowalkowski, and Nicole Henriksen did an outstanding job organizing and running the convention. BAAM extends special thanks to the staff of the Eastern Michigan Events Planning Office, Catering, and the new Student Center for their contributions to making BAAM run smoothly in the new facility.

The 2008 Keynote address was provided by Dr. Jack Michael of Western Michigan University. Dr. Michael spoke on the topic of "Motivating Operations," and received an award from BAAM for "Enduring and Continuing Contributions to Behavior Analysis." Western Michigan University also received a BAAM award for providing "A Stimulating and Reinforcing Environment" for Dr. Michael's contributions.

Other convention highlights included well-attended workshops on autism treatment by Mark Sundberg and Eric Larsson (Lovaas Institute). Paul Andronis (Northern Michigan University) gave a talk on "Autism, Biology, and Behavior Analysis" to a packed room. Dennis Delprato (Eastern Michigan University) gave a presentation on the history of behavior analysis. Verbal behavior, aging, and autism issues continued to receive attention by BAAM presenters. James Carr, Linda LeBlanc, students, and colleagues from Western Michigan presented sessions on a wide variety of behavior issues.

Carl Johnson, Michael Kephart, Sharon Bradley-Johnson, and their colleagues and students from Central Michigan University presented a symposium on "Utilizing Organizational Behavior Management and Industrial and Organizational Psychology Measurement Methodologies to Improve Customer Service." Wayne Fuqua and his colleagues and students from Western Michigan presented an interesting session on "Simulation-Based Training to Improve Health Care Team Skills and Reduce Medical Errors." Lisa Manthey of Wayne State University conducted a symposium with her colleagues on "Multisystemic Therapy," a type of behavioral medicine that can contain significant behavioral components. Scott Gaynor's group (Western Michigan) presented a symposium on "Understanding and Treating Childhood Problems: Evaluating School-Based Interventions for Anger and Reading and Characterizing the Experiences of Parents of Children with an Autism Spectrum Diagnosis." Eastern Michigan's John Palladino discussed the problems of retention of special education teachers in "Burned Out or Fatigued?: What's the Real Cause of Special Education Teachers' Exoduses From the Profession." James T. Todd (Eastern Michigan University) talked about historical issues and methods of automating data collection in applied settings. A wide variety of topics were represented in over 40 posters. BAAM is especially pleased to acknowledge the continuing contributions of Western Michigan students and faculty to the BAAM poster session.

BAAM is pleased to have played a role in the successful defense of an Oakland County Michigan family falsely accused of sexual abuse through "facilitated communication" (FC). Michigan is seeing an increase in the use of FC due to the promotional efforts of affiliates of the Autism Society of America, continuing universitylevel instruction in FC as a valid intervention for autism, and strong promotion by individual FC advocates. In the Oakland County case, the parents had been accused of eight years of systematic sexual abuse against their 14year-old, non-verbal daughter with autism. There was no physical evidence consistent with the accusations. The father spent 80 days in jail without bond, the mother was put on an electronic tether, and the two children were taken away. BAAM Secretary/Treasurer James T. Todd (Eastern Michigan University) was contacted by the defense to provide scientific background research on the validity of facilitated communication. Todd was joined by Howard Shane of Harvard University, and both gave crucial testimonies during a two-day special hearing in January. Because it had the backing of hundreds of signatories, including many members of ABAI, BAAM's 1996 resolution against the validity of facilitated communication was read into the court record. Even though the judge ruled in favor of accepting facilitated testimony in court, the strength of the evidence and testimony against the credibility of the accusations eventually forced the prosecution to dismiss all of the charges. The dismissal occurred just days before the BAAM convention, making it possible for Judge Deborah

G. Tyner, one of the winning defense attorneys, to give a special invited presentation on "Court, Litigation, and the Expert Psychological Witness: Implications and Lessons for Psychologists, Treatment Professionals, and Academics on the Stand." Judge Tyner thanked BAAM members for their support of empirically-based autism treatments, and acknowledged the work of behavior analysts providing the scientific evidence that helped win the dismissal. More information on this case can be found in a special report on the BAAM Web site.

BAAM will hold its 23<sup>rd</sup> annual convention on March 26–27, 2009 in the Student Center on the campus of Eastern Michigan University. BAAM intends to continue to offer a mix of basic, applied, and theoretical presentations and workshops. On-line program submission and registration will again be available, and we look forward to an expanded book fair, more refreshments, and other new convention features. For more information, visit the BAAM Web site at www.baam.emich.edu.

The Behavior Analysis Association of Michigan has been organized to support and promote scientific research on the basic principles of behavior and the extension of those principles to create demonstrably effective and humane outcome-based therapies with the primary goal of establishing and enhancing functional independent living skills.

# Berkshire Association for Behavior Analysis and Therapy

By Dr. Alan Harchik

The Berkshire Association for Behavior Analysis and Therapy held another successful conference in October 2007 again at the University of Massachusetts Amherst campus. This was the 28th consecutive year of the conference, and it continues to grow year after year with more than 500 attendees in 2007. The program was diverse and included topics such as treatment for challenging problematic behaviors, teaching verbal behavior and language, using behavior analysis and therapy in clinic settings, data collection, assessment, staff training, and applications in sports and athletics. Speakers included Richard Foxx, Gina Green, Brian Iwata, Raymond Miltenberger, Dorothea Lerman, Richard Fleming, Mark Sundberg, James Carr, David Palmer, and Sung Woo Kahng. Brian Iwata received the Annual Murray Sidman Award for Enduring Contribution to Applied Behavior Analysis. Continuing education units (CEUs) were available for certified behavior analysts and associate behavior analysts. Planning is underway for the 2008 conference, to be held October 13-14 at the same location at the University of Massachusetts. The call for papers is out and available at the chapter's Web site: www.babat.org.

#### California ABA

By Dr. Christina Whalen

The California Association for Behavior Analysis (CalABA) now includes 942 members, an increase of 183 members from last year (24%). Our annual conference continues to grow in popularity, with more than 900 in attendance at our 2008 conference in February in Orange County, California (an increase of about 18% from last year).

Many CalABA members attended and presented at the ABAI conference in Chicago this year and CalABA had a poster at the ABAI Expo to inform people about CalABA and the upcoming conference in 2009.

The CalABA Conference Committee for 2009 is now busy preparing for next year's conference which will be held at the Hyatt Regency San Francisco Airport in Burlingame, CA. The conference will be March 12–14, 2009. The Conference Committee is currently planning the list of invited speakers, continuing education workshops, and other exciting events for the 2009 conference. Elections for new board members are also currently underway, with ballots available in the Spring CalABA newsletter, sent out in May, 2008.

With its increasing success as an ABAI chapter, CalABA continues to further educate and improve behavior analysis practices in California and has a strong influence in surrounding states and across the U.S.

Benefits of CalABA membership include:

- Being part of a large group of dedicated behavior analysts
- Receiving reduced CalABA conference fees
- Gaining continuing education opportunities
- Experiencing diverse, high-quality conferences
- Being provided with guidelines for ethical research and practice
- Becoming prepared for Certification (available through workshops)
- Receiving the CalABA newsletter twice a year
- Networking with colleagues
- Participating in awards and recognitions at the annual conference
- Obtaining professional representation in California legislature

#### Charter ABA

By Dr. Charles Merbitz

CABA, the Charter Association for Behavior Analysis, is the oldest local ABA association still in existence. CABA was formed in the 1960's by faculty and students from the University of Chicago. Now, five decades after its creation, CABA is undergoing a renaissance and expansion. CABA has a new home, the Chicago School of Professional Psychology, which now has seven faculty members who are also members of ABAI and over 100 graduate students in its Department of Applied Behavior Analysis. The City of Chicago also has behavioral faculty and students at the University of Chicago, DePaul University, the University of Illinois at Chicago, St. Xavier's, and the Illinois Institute of Technology. CABA is also developing a new, expanded scope; the new CABA will move beyond the city of Chicago and support behavior analysts in the State of Illinois as well as the surrounding region. CABA plans to have a conference each spring as well as its annual meeting at ABAI and its other local meetings. CABA volunteers are working on the development of a Web site and a newsletter. The Web site is now in place and can be accessed at http://www.thechicagoschool.edu/content.cfm/charter a ssociation for behavior analysis caba. Contact Ann Sturtz or Kerin Weingarten at The Chicago School of Professional Psychology for more information about CABA's activities: aba@thechicagoschool.edu.

#### Chinese ABA

By Dr. Yanqing Guo

Chinese ABA is again focused on parent training and fee-free professional training workshops in 2007–2008. We have conducted six parental workshops and more than 20 lectures on applied behavior analysis. We had approximately ten new professional members join our chapter last year.

We will have our first chapter meeting in March 2009, and are setting up our own Web site. We now have a continuing education course entitled "Applied Behavior Analysis" in our institute, and later we hope to make it available at Peking University. Within the next year, I hope to have my own postgraduate students, and I will encourage them to pursue applied behavior analysis through their research topics.

In the coming years, we believe things will go much better, although advocating for applied behavior analysis in China still presents many challenges.

ABAI Affiliated Chapters www.abainternational.org/chapters.asp

#### Connecticut ABA

By Dr. John Molteni

This year Connecticut ABA (CTABA) experienced significant growth in both its membership and attendance of its annual conference. We held our 4<sup>th</sup> annual conference in April with a number of exceptional and nationally known speakers. Our first-ever poster session and student poster award occurred this year and was well received. We will be planning additional tracks for our 2009 conference and encourage anyone interested in our conference to contact John D. Molteni, Ph.D., BCBA through the CTABA Web site at www.ctaba.org. We look forward to your participation in our continued growth.

# **Delaware Valley ABA**

By Dr. Paul Neuman

The mission of the Delaware Valley Association for Behavior Analysis is to bring together new and established behavior analysts from the local region (Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, and Maryland) in a casual yet informative setting. Our objective is to provide continuing education for behavior analysts in a setting that affords local behavior analysts the opportunity to socialize. This approach has been very successful at assembling behavior analysts who have busy and hectic work schedules. Another primary goal of DVABA is to increase cohesiveness among local behavior analysts and to provide a support network for individuals who might otherwise be isolated as a result of working in diverse settings with service providers and researchers who do not have a behavior-analytic orientation. Many of our members are the only behavior analysts at their places of employment.

Typical of the past several years, we succeeded at attracting quality speakers. We had four excellent speakers over the 2007/2008 academic year. First, Katie Croce, MA, BCBA and Kelly Kates-McElrath, MA, BCBA gave a presentation titled "Self and Match: Self Monitoring in the Classroom." Then, Christopher Bloh, Ph.D., BCBA presented his work "Comparing Transfer of Stimulus Control Procedures across Learners with Autism." Our third speaker, Breanna Winder, presented research on "Gestures, Vocalizations, and Toy Play at 18 Months: Possible Early Indices of Autism." Finally, Bill Ahearn, Ph.D., BCBA, spoke of "Research to Practice and Back Again: Translation, Automatic Reinforcement, and Behavioral Momentum." Overall, our speakers provided us with an educational and fun year.

We added many members this year, and some of our new members are new, as well, to behavior analysis. In addition, we continue to offer continuing education units to board certified behavior analysts. We plan to continue growing over the coming years, and to have interesting and informative speakers. Those who are interested in becoming a member should contact Paul Neuman at pneuman@brynmawr.edu.

# Experimental Analysis of Behaviour Group UK and Europe

By Dr. J. Carl Hughes

The Experimental Analysis of Behaviour Group (EABG) held its biennial meeting at University College London in 2007. The meeting was a great success with over 160 delegates in attendance across the three days; academics, postgraduate students, and applied researchers came from across Europe, North America, and further afield. Reassuringly for the future of behaviour analysis in Europe, at the 2007 meeting we hosted a higher number of student presenters than ever before, and, notably, there was an increase in attendees employed as applied behaviour analysts in service delivery settings. Both of these encourage a positive outlook.

Currently we organise the EABG London meeting and the European Association for Behaviour Analysis (EABA) meeting on alternating years (EABG on odd years and EABA on even years). The 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of the EABA took place in September in Madrid, Spain, and the next EABG meeting will be held at Easter 2009 (http://eabg.bangor.ac.uk).

# Special Edition of the European Journal of Behavior Analysis

Our most significant development over the last year was the publication of a special edition of the European Journal of Behavior Analysis (EJOBA). EJOBA is supported by the Norwegian Association of Behavior Analysis (NAFO), and founded by three of its members, Arne Brekstad, Per Holth, and Erik Arntzen, from Akershus University College, Oslo. The first volume of EJOBA was released in 2000 and since then, two volumes have been published each year. More recently, EJOBA has published a number of special editions focusing on stimulus equivalence, bereavement, precision teaching, and non-contingent reinforcement. One of the ongoing aims for the EABG is to provide support for EJOBA. The 2007 edition (Vol. 8:2) is the first volume of the journal to contain peer-reviewed articles arising from a European behavioural conference, and this represents a significant move to both supporting EJOBA and also promoting applied and basic behaviour analysis in Europe.

The 2007 volume contains (a) a brief history of the Experimental Analysis of Behaviour Group (EABG) with some comments on how the group has influenced the development of behaviour analysis in Europe (Hughes, 2007); (b) three of the invited addresses from the April 2007 meeting; and (c) ten other papers that were presented in symposium at the conference. It was fitting that in the first peer-reviewed journal edition of the EABG, two of our most committed supporters from the U.S., Doug Greer and Lanny Fields, contributed papers (Fields & Moss, 2007; Greer, Stolfi, & Pistoljevic, 2007). At the meeting we were pleased to welcome two of the

major contributors to British behaviour analysis, Professor Bob Remington and Professor Richard Hastings, to talk about the Southampton Childhood Autism Programme (SCAmP) and the recent important contribution to the evidence for early intensive interventions, reporting results from a field effectiveness study of ABA for children with autism in the UK education system (Remington et al., 2007).

It was also our great pleasure to welcome David C. Palmer to give our keynote address. On the 50th anniversary of Skinner's Verbal Behavior, Dr. Palmer talked about structure and function within verbal behaviour and argued that an important goal of the next 50 years is to show how structural phenomena in verbal behaviour are subsumed by a functional account (Palmer, 2007). We also welcomed Dr. Jerry Shook to his first EABG. Dr. Shook is Chief Executive Officer of the Behavior Analyst Certification Board, Inc., (BACB). The BACB continues to be a major catalyst in the development of training programs and certification of behaviour analysts internationally, and during his visit he made some significant contributions toward our hope to move forward to increase training initiatives and expand the move towards certification of those working as behaviour analysts in Europe (Hughes & Shook, 2007). It is appropriate at this point to acknowledge the efforts of the EJOBA editorial team, and in particular Erik Arntzen, for bringing the special edition to print. Please help support European behaviour analysis by subscribing to the EJOBA (www.ejoba.org).

#### **Supporting Certification in Europe**

Another noticeable difference to the 2007 conference was the number of BCBA and BCABA delegates looking to gain their continuing education units (CEUs) at the conference. In the past few years we have witnessed a huge increase in the number of European behaviour analysts gaining BCBA/BCABA certification. We had 12 events, consisting of symposia, invited addresses, panel discussions, and workshops, offering a total of 19 CEUs. We piloted the inclusion of the cost of obtaining CEUs in the registration payment for the conference. Our aim was to remove one of the barriers to obtaining those much needed CEUs. The feedback from the delegates, especially those who do not have financial backing to attend such events, was that this was a very positive move and for many made the difference as to whether they could fund attendance at the conference. We are now in the situation in the UK and Europe of being able to provide many of the CEUs for certified behaviour analysts; this is a crucial development in the move to certification and self-sufficiency in Europe, and again especially important to those certificants who are often unable to gain funding to attend the ABAI conference and other events in the US on a regular basis (see Hughes & Shook, 2007).

This is an exciting time for behaviour analysis in Europe. We also improved markedly in the training provisions available to behaviour analysts and those wishing to develop their knowledge of the area. There now exist 16 BACB/BCABA course sequences approved across several universities in Europe—Wales, Norway, Ireland, England, Sweden, Spain, Italy, and Portugal (Hughes & Shook, 2007).

#### **Conclusions**

During the past year, the EABG has maintained its commitment to continued education about behaviour analysis to the European public and professionals. Our aims for the following year are to continue our support for EABA and to continue to support behaviour analysis through BCBA and BCABA training and promotional events. In brief, the evidence from the EABG 2007 meeting suggests that behaviour analysis in the UK and Europe is vibrant. The EABG continues to provide a forum for the dissemination and discussion of high quality behaviour analytic research. The European Association for Behaviour Analysis and the European Journal of Behaviour Analysis evidence continuing endeavours in the development of behaviour analysis across Europe. The next meeting of the Experimental Analysis of Behaviour Group is scheduled for Easter 2009.

If you would like further information about the EABG please contact Carl Hughes (c.hughes@bangor.ac.uk) or visit the EABG Web page for updated information of the annual conferences (http://eabg.bangor.ac.uk)

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### Florida ABA (FABA)

By Dr. H. Allen Murphy

During our first venture to Jacksonville, a record 1,032 people attended FABA's 27th Annual Meeting in September 2007. The conference featured 65 sessions, 17 pre- or post-conference workshops, and 29 posters. A short list of the presenters included Murray Sidman, Jack Michael, Hank Pennypacker, Jim Partington, Janet Twyman, Jon Bailey, Ernie Vargas, Dave Wilder, and Clive Wynne.



Figure 1. Dr. Brian Iwata (left) and Dr. Jon Bailey.

In recognition of the 25th anniversary of his seminal article on functional analysis, FABA and ABAI Past-President Brian Iwata provided the Keynote Address "Some Antecedents and Consequences of Functional Analysis Methodology: An Historical Perspective." Immediately following the Keynote, Dr. Iwata was presented with the first FABA Outstanding Scientific Contributions to the Field of Behavior Analysis Award (see Figure 1). A follow-up symposium titled "Extensions of Functional Analysis" organized by Tim Vollmer featured presentations by former Iwata students Jennifer Zarcone, Iser DeLeon, Dorothea Lerman, and Rick Smith. FABA President Karen Wagner's ambitious Presidential Address, "It Takes a Community to Raise a Good Behavior Analyst: We're Only as Strong as Our Weakest Link" with video clips from a number of behavior analytic notables was very well received. The same can be said for the annual Community Outreach pre-conference event, an outgrowth of Florida's Behavior Analysis Service Program for foster care consumers offered gratis for parents and teachers in the local community who can not attend the conference.

The Florida Legislation is in session at the time of writing this article. FABA has the good fortune to be able to acquire the services of a lobbyist, Eric Prutsman, who qualifies as an Honorary Behavior Analyst given his commitment to the field. Eric has worked closely with the FABA Executive Committee to promote and support ABA

and we are happy to announce two significant outcomes of these efforts. First, the Florida Senate has unanimously passed a bill requiring insurance companies to pay for treatment for children with autism. The impact made by, and recognition of, ABA is apparent from this quote from Eric. "There was no debate, only discussion of how behavior analysis makes all the difference in the world for autistic children. And you can't say this about many bills (or any that I can think of); there wasn't a dry eye in the Senate as the bill passed 39-0." The bill will now proceed to the House, and we have our fingers crossed.

September 14-20, 2008, was officially designated as "Florida Behavior Analysis Week" to coincide with FABA's 28th Annual Conference, one you did not want to miss! This year's convention was held at the beautiful Hyatt Regency Coconut Point Resort and Spa in Bonita Springs on Florida's southwest coast. The conference kicked off with a full day of workshops on Wednesday, September 17, followed by a Hospitality Suite sponsored by the Bay Area Association for Behavior Analysis. Two full days of sessions occurred on Thursday and Friday with the Thursday Keynote Address offered by Amy Sutherland, author of What Shamu Taught Me About Love, Life and Marriage, and the Friday Presidential Address "How Not to Start a Career but Still End up Where You Belong" by Tony Gelabert. The conference wrapped up with Saturday morning presentations largely geared for those who were unable to attend during the week. As always, the FABA Store featured a full array of behavior clothing, literature, and gift items including the popular Behavior Counts, Got Data? and our newest Think Function lines.

Several themes were featured for 2008:

- Recognition of the anniversaries of four milestones in behavior analysis: the 1938 debut of The Behavior of Organisms with a presentation by Jack Michael; Julie and Ernie Vargas will speak about Walden Two in its 60th year; a symposium on 50-year old JEAB; and, trends in JABA over 40 years by several of its past editors.
- The reemergence of environmental issues as a public and behavioral concern including a presentation by Jeanine Plowman Strafford on Furman University's efforts to "go green." The convention hotel offered eco-tours!
- And, behavioral applications in animal training and welfare including presentations by Jon Bailey, author of How Dogs Learn.

To learn more about FABA and the most recent FABA conference, go to www.FABAworld.org, www.behaviorcanchange.org, or contact Al Murphy at amurphy@pc.fsu.edu.

#### Four Corners ABA

By Dr. Jeff Kupfer

The Four Corners Association for Behavior Analysis (4 CABA) was founded in 2006 and recognized in 2007 as the regional chapter for ABAI representing Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, and Utah. The mission of 4 CABA is to:

- Serve as a scientific and professional reference group for all in the states of Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico and Utah who identify themselves as scientists or practitioners in disciplines and activities that utilize the principles and practices of behavior analysis.
- Promote basic and applied research that will advance understanding of human and other animal behavior.
- Identify and promote the use of effective treatment procedures in the educational, therapeutic, and habilitation needs of persons in Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico and Utah within the ethical guidelines set forth by the Behavior Analysis Certification Board®, Inc.
- Organize and sponsor an annual conference that will serve as a forum for presentation of scientific research, technological achievements, and demonstrations of successful transfer of technologies. Presentations bridging animal and human research are particularly welcome.
- Promote the development and expansion of education, training, and employment in the field of behavior analysis.
- Support efforts of allied organizations in providing evidence-based behavior analytic services

#### **Our First Annual Meeting**

On April 4–5, 2008, 4 CABA held its first annual meeting in Boulder, Colorado. Approximately 80 persons attended the inaugural celebration at the historic Broker Inn Hotel.

Invited speakers from the four state catchment area and elsewhere provided a diverse range of topics that captured the spirit of our mission statement. Speakers included: Carl Cheney, Michael Dougher, Christine E. Hughes, Raymond C. Pitts, William R. Hutchison, Peter Killeen, Jeff Kupfer, Michael Mozzoni, Amy Odum, and Carol Pilgrim. Our poster session drew presenters from the four member states, as well as from California, Idaho, and New York.

Other activities included an APBA information sharing session by David Hatfield to bring behavior analysis practitioners into contact with the new organization.

We anticipate that the location for future annual meetings will be rotated around the four states, offering attendees opportunities to learn more about behavior analysis in neighboring states and a forum for

exchanging ideas and professional interests. Next year's conference will be announced by June 30, 2008.

4 CABA is pleased to announce the following Officers and Directors:

President-Elect: Anne Kupfer Board of Directors: Pamela Martien Co-Student Representative: Trina Spencer Co-Student Representative: Paulette Christopher

#### Four Corners ABA Web Site

4 CABA has a Web site devoted to the activities of the organization. The Web site can accessed at: http://www.4CABA.org. Kenneth Stephens constructed the site and maintains its content. We will continue to expand the site to increase the flow of information in the four states regarding behavior analysis.

#### Continuing Education Unit (CEU) Provider

In 2007, 4 CABA was approved as an ACE CEU provider. Full and Supporting Members attending the Four Corners ABA conference are entitled to earn CEUs for attended presentations at no additional charge.

#### **Upcoming plans: E-Newsletter**

4 CABA will be starting an e-newsletter that will be sent to all members later this year. The newsletter will contain a page devoted to each of the four states regarding behavior analysis opportunities, events, and general topics of interest.

#### Membership

Applications and membership information can be obtained from our Web site: www.4CABA.org.

# Georgia ABA By Jessica Pugh

The Georgia Association for Behavior Analysis (GABA) was founded in 2002. At that time, there were not many behavior analysts in Georgia. In fact, there were only three BCBAs in the entire state. There was, however, a very loose-knit community of professionals and academics. Our beginnings were informal, largely consisting of social gatherings with some discussion about the state of behavior analysis in Georgia and whether an affiliated chapter would be beneficial. In the early 90's, there had actually been a state chapter, but interest had waned, members had moved away, and the chapter had dissolved within a few years.

Recreating a state chapter was met with some skepticism; however, a few individuals persisted, and a tenuous affiliated chapter was formed by 2002. The main objectives of the chapter were to provide: (1) a professional network and resource for behavior analysts in Georgia; (2) a forum for members to collaborate, disseminate recent research, share ideas, and discuss needs; (3) a voice to promote the ethical and effective use of behavior analysis; (4) a resource for those seeking ABA services in Georgia; (5) the organization of an annual regional ABA conference; and (6) a provider of continuing education for professionals in Georgia.

During the years since, one of GABA's successes has been recruiting membership. At this time, there are over 79 members. While this is certainly a modest membership, we continue to grow and hope to increase membership substantially in the coming year. Certification in GA has also grown from three BCBAs in 2001 to 65 today (some of whom are BCABAs).

In regard to promoting behavior analysis and providing resources, one of GABA's major accomplishments this year was our first annual conference in September, 2007. We had an attendance of over 30 people who were behavior analysts, professionals, teachers, as well as others. We had a one-day, general-session conference, which included topics related to developmental disabilities (e.g., autism), school applications (e.g., functional assessment, behavior management), performance management, and others. We are working on plans for a similar conference in 2008.

Thus far, the main role of GABA in the development of behavior analysis in Georgia has largely been related to education and networking. Not surprisingly, some members are located at universities. Informing and involving students in behavior analysis has been very beneficial. We are working to include more students in our meetings and membership. Additionally, the professional network that GABA provides to behavior analysts has allowed many of us to discover that we are not as isolated in Georgia as we may have thought. In addition to the networking, we will also have meetings to discuss topics such as BCBA/BCABA supervision, insurance payments for ABA, and precision teaching.

Because the number of behavior analysts with certification is growing so quickly, the demand for continuing education will increase as well. Consequently, meeting this need will also be a role for GABA in the future.

#### Hawai'ian ABA

By Dr. Kim A. Meyer

The Hawaii chapter has held two conferences in the past year. Our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual conference occurred in August of 2007 with a focus on reinforcement and its uses. Our featured presenter was Dr. Tiffany Kawaguchi of Hawaii State Hospital who discussed the Animal Assisted Therapy (AAT) program and how positive reinforcement is used in the training of clients and service dogs. The AAT trains the clients at Hawaii State Hospital who then perform the actual training of the service dogs. Part of Dr. Kawaguchi's presentation included a demonstration of the training by a client and dogs in her program. Other presenters at the conference included Dr. Christine Walton and Dr. Kim Meyer who discussed reinforcement

and its applications with individuals with developmental disabilities and individuals diagnosed with severe and persistent mental illness. The three presenters then held a panel discussion/question and answer session with conference attendees. About 40 participants attended the conference with the great majority being members of HABA.

Our 4<sup>th</sup> annual conference was held in April, 2008 and featured Jose Rios, BCBA, a behavioral consultant from California, as our keynote speaker. Mr. Rios' presentation stressed the importance of strengthening the link between functional assessment and behavioral interventions. In addition, he conducted a workshop emphasizing the importance of being aware of our own behavior and the flexibility to change our behavior if we hope to impact the behavior of our clients. Jessie Mitchell and Jana Ortiz, Ph.D. were also presenters and discussed the challenges and rewards of working within interdisciplinary teams in the implementation of positive behavior support plans. There were about 50 attendees at the April conference with the majority again being HABA members.

In addition to the two conferences, the HABA chapter has also published two newsletters online and will be completing a third this summer. There have also been efforts to improve the interface between HABA and local universities. In November, a HABA speaker addressed the Psychology Club at Brigham Young University, Hawaii. In April, the Clinical Director of the Clinical Studies program at the University of Hawaii contacted HABA and volunteered to coordinate information from HABA to clinical faculty members and students.

Plans for the upcoming year include a continued emphasis on increasing our membership and improving contacts with local universities and agencies. One of the challenges facing HABA is the lack of academic programs in the state that provide students with behavior analytic training. This is noteworthy because several local agencies do view HABA as an important source of behavioral training for the employees. We are hoping that improved collaboration with academic institutions might provide advantages for all parties. A second major goal will be continued efforts to obtain non-profit status from state and federal governments. Third, we will be planning our 5th annual conference and hope to identify possible speakers in the near future. Last, we will be electing new officers in early 2009. Current officers are Christine Walton, Ph.D., Treasurer; Jessie Mitchell, BCBA, Secretary; and Kim Meyer, Ph.D., President.

#### **Heartland ABA**

By Dr. Steven Taylor

The past year was very successful for HLABA. In that time, the attendance at our annual conference and our total membership of HLABA increased significantly, and HLABA has become a recognized affiliate of the Association for Behavior Analysis International and successfully completed our second annual conference. The conference was greatly expanded and included presenters from throughout the Midwest as well as a poster session and available continuing education units through Glenwood Resource Center. At the 2007 conference, workshops were conducted by Dr. Phil Strain (Peer-mediated social skills training programs for young children with autism), Dr. Pat Friman (Anxiety and applied behavior analysis), and Dr. Wayne Fisher (ABA treatments for autism). Additional presentations were also given by Dr. Keith Allen (Pediatric Pain Management), Dr. Tiffany Kodak (Assessment of verbal operants in children with autism), Dr. Henry Roane (Preference and reinforcer assessments), and Dr. Bill Warzak (Enuresis assessment and treatment). We've already determined our workshop speakers for the 2008 conference (October 9-10), which will include Dr. Jon Bailey (Ethics for behavior analysts), Dr. Ed Daly (Applied behavior analysis and school psychology), and Dr. Brian Iwata (Functional analysis). The HLABA Web site contains a call for papers for the 2008 conference. In addition to the invited presenters, we anticipate speakers from various behavior analysis programs throughout the region, including the University of Iowa: the University of Kansas; the University of Nebraska, Lincoln; the University of Nebraska, Omaha; Boys and Girls Town; and the Munroe-Meyer Institute. Finally, at the 2008 conference we will hold a student poster competition in which the student judged to present the best empirical dataset will receive an award of \$200 to apply toward the presentation of their poster at the 2009 annual meeting of the Association for Behavior Analysis International in Phoenix, Arizona.

HLABA has done a great deal to advance and support behavior analytic practices throughout the region and boasts members from Colorado, Iowa, Nebraska, and South Dakota. Nevertheless, our group is working hard to further promote behavior analysis in the Heartland region. As many are aware, there is a growing diversification within the field. Among researchers and practitioners there is a wide variability in the populations served. Likewise, the field has experienced a growth in the consumer of behavior analytic services, particularly in the areas of primary caregivers and school personnel. As a result, HLABA must be able to serve as a professional organization and resource to both groups. Through our diligent Board of Directors, we have a number of initiatives that should continue to promote the growth of behavior analysis in this region. Examples of these initiatives include hosting presentations that target the provision of behavior analytic services in home and

school settings and conducting quarterly clinical case/research reviews via telehealth or in person throughout the region. The Board hopes to expand student involvement within HLABA by conducting the previously mentioned student poster competition at the 2008 conference. Finally, we have developed our Web site so members can keep up with various activities throughout the year. The current HLABA officers are Henry Roane, President; Tami McDowell, Vice President; Anney Fahrenholz, Secretary; Lera Joyce Johnson, Representative at Large; Elizabeth Gawley, Student Representative; and Steve Taylor, Past President. Information regarding HLABA is available from the Web site (www.hlaba.org) or via e-mail (info@hlaba.org).

### Icelandic ABA (ICEABA)

By Atli Magnússon

The Icelandic Association for Behavior Analysis (ICEABA) was founded August 15, 2004. ICEABA is a forum for people interested in the growth and development of behavior analysis in Iceland. ICEABA's goals are to disseminate and promote behavior analysis, support behavior analytic research, communicate with and support students interested in the field, correspond with behavior analytic associations around the world, and to support the establishment of a union of behavior analysts. Currently ICEABA has 36 members, consisting of students, teachers, social facilitators, psychologists, parents, and behavior analysts. ICEABA's Web site, www.atferli.is, was launched on May 10, 2006. No annual events have been planned yet as ICEABA is rather young, but we hope to be able to put some events together in the future. Behavior analysts interested in visiting Iceland to present or have a workshop are encouraged to contact ICEABA (atli.magnusson@greining.is).

This past year has been very productive for ICEABA. In June we were honored to host Shahla Ala'i-Rosales, Ph.D., BCBA and Jesus Rosales-Ruiz, Ph.D. During their visit they gave presentations and held a workshop for professionals and parents on their outstanding Family Connections Project. Both the workshop and the talks were very well attended. This year ICEABA members have met regularly to discuss ongoing and past research projects. In April, a group of ICEABA members held a meeting at the University of Education. The goal was to introduce the work that is done by behavior analysts and promote graduate studies in the field of behavior analysis. In May, we presented our informational poster on ICEABA at the ABAI Expo in Chicago, attended by both old and new friends of ICEABA.

#### Israel ABA

By Dr. Amos Rolider

Membership in Israel ABA (IABA) has grown substantially during 2008. Currently, 134 members are registered with the Association in full and affiliate membership status. IABA, in collaboration with the two ABAI/BACB approved programs at Wingate College and University of Tel Aviv, has organized five meetings during which members shared their clinical and research activities with their colleagues. We were blessed to have Drs. Andy Bondy and Doug Greer as our guests from the U.S. who shared their work with the ABA community, conducted workshops, and provided the keynote addresses in those meetings. The highlight of this year was no doubt the Annual IABA Conference held at Wingate College in March, where over 400 participants attended more than 15 sessions. We were honored to have the President of ABAI, Dr. William Heward, as our special guest at the conference; his contribution to its success was substantial. In addition, we have completed the translation of the ABAI code of ethics to Hebrew.

#### Jordanian ABA

By Dr. Mousa A. Al-Hassan

The major aim of Jordanian ABA (JABA) has been to establish a Master's program in behavior analysis that serves the Jordanian community and the region. Based on the need of Jordan and the surrounding region for behavior analysts and specialized programs in behavioral management and psychosocial health, and after intensive discussion with the Association of Behavioral Analysis International (Maria Malott, Linda Hayes, Jack Marr), Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST) established a Master's Program in applied behavior analysis.

The major objective of this program has been to prepare behavior analysts to: promote healthy behaviors; modify unhealthy behaviors; manage behavioral disruptions across lifespan; provide consultations for individuals and families; and measure and evaluate behavioral interventions.

#### **Establishment of the Program**

Opening a Master's program in applied behavior analysis was a challenge for JUST. Financial and human resources in behavioral analysis are very limited; however, intensive work was conducted by all parties (JUST faculties of nursing and gradate studies and ABAI) to overcome such a challenge.

This work has resulted in designing the curriculum of the Applied Behavioral Health Analysis Master's Program (34 credits) and setting a two-year plan of study for the program. The syllabi for the program's courses were also designed, and faculty members from the U.S. were assigned to teach in the program over the two-year period (summer of 2007—summer of 2009). A JUST-funded scholarship plan was set to arrange Ph.D.-

prepared instructors in behavioral analysis for the program's sustainability. The JUST Deans' Council approved of the Applied Behavioral Health Analysis (ABHA) Master's Programs on March 20, 2007.

#### **Outcomes**

The ABHA Master's program was opened in summer of 2007; classes began on June 17, 2007. Thirteen Students have enrolled in the program, and the students completed three courses (5 credits) during the summer semester. So far, more than five Ph.D.-prepared instructors in Behavioral Psychology from different universities in the U.S. including University of Nevada, Reno, Georgia Tech University, and West Virginia University contributed to the program's teaching process. One scholar (supported by JUST) has already left to attend the University of Nevada, Reno, to complete her Ph.D. in Behavioral Analysis and another two students have been accepted in West Virginia University Behavioral Analysis Ph.D. programs; they are expected to leave for the USA in August of 2008.

The Jordanian Association of Behavior Analysis, an ABAlaffiliated chapter with ten members, has been established to support JUST's Applied Behavioral Health Analysis Master's program. A Web page for the JUST ABHA Master's program has been set up with the cooperation of the Association of Behavioral Analysis International. Students can access information about course syllabi, reading materials, and other information about behavioral analysis using: http://www.abainternational.org/private/jordan/planof

nttp://www.abainternational.org/private/jordan/planot study.asp. Also, we plan to conduct a scientific day to increase the community awareness about the importance of behavioral analysis and scientific-based intervention for management of behavioral health problems, particularly autism. This is expected to be held in November of 2008.

#### **Evaluation**

All of the students are Jordanians; no one from the surrounding region has yet requested enrollment in the program. The students have completed 11 credits out of 34 and have demonstrated motivation and commitment; their experience was described as interesting and encouraging by both the students themselves and instructors. The next batch of students will be recruited during April of 2008. The students will start their training course in the fall of 2008. Instructors, who are board certified in behavioral analysis, will supervise the students' training. A few problems need to be resolved to improve the program quality: lack of books and journals in the field of behavioral analysis; improvement of the students' computer skills, especially in elearning/distance learning. Currently, along with ABAI and University of Nevada, Reno, we are working to resolve these issues.

#### Kansas ABA

By Dr. Edward K. Morris

The purpose of Kansas ABA (KansABA) is to provide a forum for disseminating information about the science and practice of behavior analysis and education and training programs therein; discussing issues relevant to the science and practice of behavior analysis; maintaining disciplinary, professional, and ethical standards in the science and practice of behavior analysis; and enhancing and recruiting interest in behavior analysis throughout the State of Kansas.

Among KansABA's primary 2007-2008 contributions was to assist Kansas City area autism advocacy groups in making a case to the Kansas state legislature for funding and for services for children with autism and their families. With the assistance of testimony from Professor James A. Sherman (University of Kansas), the autism community was successful in gaining services for an initial group of families. Another contribution has been to co-sponsor and offer BACB continuing education units (CEUs) for behavior-analytic workshops in Kansas and the Kansas City metropolitan area, most notably, a December, 2007 workshop by Ron and Justin Leaf on the facts, folklore, and myths of discrete-trial training in early intensive behavioral intervention in autism. This year, we also began offering BCBA CEUs for colloquia sponsored by the Department of Applied Behavioral Science (ABS) at the University of Kansas, among them Michael Douaher's "Clinical and Everyday Implications of Recent Research on Derived Relational Responding." Jay Moore's "When Did B. F. Skinner Become a Radical Behaviorist?," and Dan Bernstein's "How Generative Is a Behavioral Model of Teaching?" We also now offer BACB CEUs for ABS talks and formal discussions. These have been on such topics as adjunctive behavior, behavioral pharmacology, conditioned reinforcement, functional analysis, the matching law, preference assessments, and the misrepresentation of applied behavior analysis in autism.

For 2008–2009, we plan to continue assisting the autism community, co-sponsoring workshops, and providing CEUs for the workshops and ABS colloquia and related events. In addition, we will upgrade our Web site, making it more accessible and useful to the citizens of the state of Kansas.

#### Manitoba ABA

By Kirsten Wirth

The Manitoba Association for Behaviour Analysis (MABA) is in its third official year of affiliate status with ABAI. Over the past year we have met several goals: we provided an outstanding newsletter to our membership, presented a poster at the ABAI conference in San Diego, held a conference with Dick Malott as our guest speaker, held booths at several conferences in Manitoba, and increased our membership by 29%. For 2008 we have set similar goals and have established several

committees within our organization to reach and surpass those goals. Our committee areas are composed of public relations, conference, newsletter, and membership. Each committee has set specific targets for the year. Specifically, we would like to actively work towards achieving our mission of promoting behaviour analysis in our province through each committee. We plan to increase our newsletter output to two newsletters per calendar year and provide information that will target expert and novice behaviour analysts. The newsletter will have several segments: research reports; professional development; reviews on books, Webcasts, articles, Web sites, application of behaviour analysis to areas people often do not know about, and information on behavioural services in Manitoba. We have a very strong behaviour analytic membership base and would like to increase our membership to include additional members outside of our area. We will target media releases both written and auditory and try to reach a wide audience by discussing issues that are pertinent to the general public. Topics we are pursuing include providing the do's and don'ts of using time-outs with children, effective study tips for university students, and how to determine if a treatment option is worth considering. Planning is underway for our 3rd annual conference, October 18, 2008, and we look forward to this year's guest speakers, Maurice Feldman and Linda J. Parrott Hayes. Finally, we wish to support the growth of behaviour analysis in Manitoba by providing advocacy support to the University of Manitoba's ABA faculty for increasing academic positions in the area. As we all know, behaviour analysis as a field has demonstrated solid procedures for changing countless behaviours over numerous years of research. Unfortunately, those who appreciate that the most are behaviour analysts. All too often other approaches claim effectiveness with little to no empirical support. The unfortunate outcome is that the general public tends to accept these dramatic claims that have no evidence, while rejecting ours, often the only approach that is based on science. The success of systemwide application of behaviour analysis is going to rest largely on translational research, good education, and effective marketing, which is currently lacking. Local affiliate ABAI Chapters have an obligation to reach their public and teach society. The Manitoba Association for Behaviour Analysis is still very new, but we are committed to working towards dissemination to society in our province. This is a hefty long-term goal, but we can help pave the way for others who are interested in making social change and introduce behaviour analysis to the general public.

# **Maryland ABA**

By Dr. SungWoo Kahng

The Maryland Association for Behavior Analysis (MABA) continues to be strong. Membership and attendance to the annual meeting has grown from just under 100 individuals in 1999 to an average of 237 individuals from 2005–2007 (242 in 2007). In addition to members

from the State of Maryland, we continue to draw participants from the surrounding Mid-Atlantic area. Our annual meeting has provided an opportunity for behavior analysts in the region to hear talks from distinguished behavior analysts covering a wide range of topics (applied, basic, and conceptual). We were honored to have William Ahearn (New England Center for Children), John Borrero (University of Maryland, Baltimore County), Dorothea Lerman (University of Houston, Clear Lake), Gregory Madden (University of Kansas), and William McIlvane (Eunice Kennedy Shriver Center) as our distinguished speakers this past year. Additionally, last year we introduced the MABA Graduate Student Symposium. Those selected to participate in the symposium received a travel grant to present their research at our annual meeting. Recipients of last year's grants were David Jarmolowicz (Progressive Contingencies of Reinforcement: Some Important Schedule Distinctions, West Virginia University), Leah Phaneuf (Effects of Individualized Video Feedback Combined with Group Parent Training on Maternal Inappropriate Behavior, Syracuse University), James Diller (Effects of Acute and Repeated Administration of Caffeine on Temporal Discounting in Rats, West Virginia University), and Allison Tetreault (Teaching Social Initiations to Children with Autism via the use of Point-of-View Video Modeling, West Virginia University). We look forward to making this symposium an annual part of the MABA meeting.

The annual meeting also provides members within the region an opportunity to present posters on a variety of topics. This year, we had nearly 30 posters from institutions such as Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Kennedy Krieger Institute, The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Concord University, University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Bancroft Neurohealth, Caldwell College, Youngstown State University, and James Madison University. We welcome all posters relevant to behavior analysts and look forward to the continued participation of our MABA members.

At the end of last year's conference, David Kuhn (Kennedy Krieger Institute) stepped down as President and Peter Gerhardt (Organization for Autism Research) has assumed the role of current President. Jennifer Crockett (Kennedy Krieger Institute) was elected President-Elect and Peter Girolami (Kennedy Krieger Institute) joins John Huete (Kennedy Krieger Institute) as Member-at-Large. Finally, Nicole Hausman (University of Maryland, Baltimore County) was elected Student Representative. We thank the continued support of the Kennedy Krieger Institute and the other behavior analytic institutions in the Mid-Atlantic area. Furthermore, we are grateful to the student volunteers from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County.

The 2008 Annual Meeting is schedule for Friday, December 5 in Baltimore, Maryland. Our speakers for this year's conference are William Dube (Eunice Kennedy Shriver Center), John A. (Tony) Nevin (University of New Hampshire), Kenneth Silverman (The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine), Richard Smith (University of North Texas), and David Wacker (University of Iowa). We anticipate another highly successful meeting. For more information, please go to http://www.marylandaba.org.

#### Massachusetts ABA

By Jack Stokes

Massachusetts Association for Behavior Analysis (Mass ABA) was formed from the Greater Boston Association for Behavior Analysis in October of 2007. The formal mission of the organization is to assist professionals practicing applied behavioral analysis, uphold the highest professional standards by providing peer-to-peer support and presenting frequent opportunities for continuing education, and to assist in the support and education of individuals receiving ABA services by working to maintain appropriate ethical behavior of practitioners and advocating for the adoption of specific professional standards for the delivery of applied behavioral analysis services by the state of Massachusetts.

To accomplish this goal, the organization's main focus is working with professionals across the state to develop a new executive council as well as bylaws. People interested in joining Mass ABA can contact Dr. Michael Dorsey at mdorsey@vinfen.com.

# Mid-American ABA

By Dr. Adam Derenne

The Mid-American Association for Behavior Analysis (MABA), a regional affiliate of the Association for Behavior Analysis International, is a membership organization devoted to promoting scholarly interchange in behavior analysis through its annual convention. The 8th annual MABA convention was held October 5th-6th in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. More than 100 people attended the convention, with graduate and undergraduate students comprising the majority of attendees. The convention began when Dr. Jay Moore (University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee) described the effects of reinforcer delay on choice and Tal Yarkoni (Washington University) discussed the use of functional neuroimaging to study decision-making. Later, Dr. Douglas Woods (University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee) spoke about basic and applied research on Tourette's Syndrome, and Dr. David Wacker (University of Iowa) described the longterm maintenance of functional communication training. During the afternoon of the first day, Dr. Linda LeBlanc (Western Michigan University) addressed the role of intraverbals and problem-solving in children's language, Dr. David Jewett (University of Wisconsin, Eau Claire) spoke about discriminative stimulus effects associated with acute food restriction, Dr. Valeri Farmer-Dougan (Illinois State University) presented research on individual differences in reward sensitivity during paired and

group foraging, and Dr. Leonard Green (Washington University) shared his recent research on choice, impulsivity, and self-control. The first day ended with poster presentations by students and faculty.

The second day of the convention began when Dr. John Borrero (University of Maryland, Baltimore County) discussed the assessment of stimulus value in applied contexts, and Henry Roane (University of Nebraska) presented new research on the treatment of problem behaviors in autism. The final talks were by Erica Pozzie (Southern Illinois University), winner of the MABA student paper contest, who spoke about enhancing self-control in children with brain injury, and outgoing president Dr. Ruth Anne Rehfeldt (Southern Illinois University), who spoke about assessing relational learning deficits in perspective-taking in children with autism.

The 2008 convention was held October 3<sup>rd</sup>—4<sup>th</sup> in Champaign, Illinois at the Holiday Inn Hotel and Conference Center. The conference again included addresses on both basic and applied behavioranalytic research.

MABA holds a business meeting at the annual convention and again at the ABAI convention. Persons interested in this organization are welcome to attend either meeting. The current president of MABA is Dr. James Carr (Western Michigan University) and the President-Elect is Dr. Kevin Klatt (University of Wisconsin, Eau Claire). More information about MABA and the annual convention can be found at the organization Web site: http://www.uwec.edu/maba/ or by contacting Adam Derenne at adam.derenne@und.edu.

#### 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. Over the past year, MOABA has continued to provide continuing education for the behavior analytic community through its yearly convention and partnering with the Autism Intervention Conference at the University of Missouri, Columbia. Dialogue regarding practice standards for behavior analysts and legislative issues has continued: Todd Streff represented MOABA at the Missouri Blue Ribbon Panel hearing on Autism treatment. Over the next year we plan to continue our dialogue on practice standards and legislative issues in addition to providing behavior analysts continuing education opportunities. This year, elections will be held for several board positions. Current board members include: Jenny Frisbee (President), Kimberly Salls (Vice President), Tami Galensky-Pentz (Secretary), Todd Streff (Treasurer), Kyler Hasl-Wright (Member at Large), Dave Pentz (Member at Large), and Nicole Domachowski (Student Representative) Additional membership, election, and yearly conference information can be found on our Web site at www.moaba.org.

#### Nevada ABA

By Dr. Ramona Houmanfar

#### Nevada ABA (NABA) 2007 Conference

NABA held its 2007 conference at the Grand Sierra Resort and Casino in Reno on October 18–20. The success of the 2<sup>nd</sup> NABA conference was a product of the tremendous work and support provided by the NABA Council and the Program Committee. The following is an outline of the NABA 2007 program and the associated discussions and changes that will affect the next two years of program structure.

Our list of keynote speakers and other invited presenters at the NABA 2007 conference included Steve Hayes, Brian Iwata, and Pat Friman and invited presentations by Tony Biglan, Caio Miguel, Jack Marr, Carl Binder, Billy Baum, Bill Abernathy, Greg Strikeleather, Cathy Watkins, Gerry Shook, Kent Johnson, Hayne Reese, Tim Ludwig, Michele Wallace, Martha Pelaez, Dick Malott, Hank Schlinger, and Sam Liegland. A University of Nevada, Reno Behavior Analysis Program Alumni Invited Paper Session featured presentations by Mark Adams, Kimberely Berens, Eric Burkholder, Michael C. Clayton, Deirdre L. Fitzgerald, Fernando Guerrero, Thomas S. Higbee, Adel C. Najdowski, Meeta R. Patel, and Jonathon J. Tarbox. Four workshops, a student poster session and exposition, and a NABA business meeting rounded out the two-day conference.

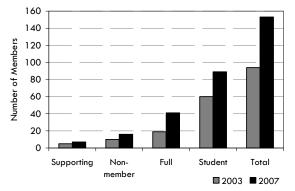
Ramona Houmanfar (University of Nevada, Reno) was selected by the NABA Council to serve a two-year term as President, and Dr. Mark Alavosius (University of Nevada, Reno) was elected as the next President. Larry Williams (University of Nevada, Reno) will continue for an additional two years as the NABA Secretary and Treasurer, and Carl Cheney (Utah State University) will also continue for an additional two years as the At-Large Representative. Tim Fuller (University of Nevada, Reno) will continue for an additional two years as the NABA Student Representative, and Christy Coffman (University of Nevada, Reno) will serve as the next Student Representative. The NABA Board would like to thank NABA 2007 Committee Chair Linda Hayes for her invaluable leadership, and other members of the Program Committee, Erick Dubuque, Mitch Fryling, Jared Chase, and Jennifer Castellanos, for their outstanding efforts. In addition, we would like to thank Jennifer Castellanos, Editor of NABA Newsletter, for generating the first NABA Newsletter in the February of 2008 and Erick Dubuque for his design and development of the NABA Web site

(http://www.unr.edu/psych/behavior/NABA.html).

#### **Membership Report**

NABA has four classes of members: Supporting, Full, Student, and Affiliate. NABA presently has over 150 members, with nearly that number attending the 2007 conference. While students constitute a majority of the membership pool (and conference attendees), there is a

noticeable growth in the category of full members. The following graph depicts the NABA membership growth during the last four years. The largest increases were in the full and student member categories, with 23 and 29 increased members respectively. Total membership grew 63% from 94 members in 2003 to 153 total members in 2007. This trend is expected to continue as association meetings are held more frequently and



NABA gains visibility in Nevada communities.

Figure 2. Types and number of NABA members in 2003 as compared to 2007.

#### Upcoming Workshop Series Co-Sponsored by Nevada Association for Behavior Analysis (NABA) & Intellectual Disabilities (AAIDD)

NABA will co-sponsor a conference and workshop series with Region II of the American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AAIDD) in October of 2008. This event will be chaired by Robin Williams, Director of Intensive Services in Northern Nevada.

"From the Ivory Tower to the Streets: Research to Practice"

October 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>, 2008, Grand Sierra Resort Hotel and Casino, Reno, Nevada.

Check out the NABA website at www.unr.edu/psych/behavior/NABA.html for more information and updates.

# New Jersey ABA (NJABA)

By Dr. Marlene Cohen

NJABA's plans for its 4<sup>th</sup> annual conference are well under way. To increase the number of data-based papers and symposia this year, for the first time we have put out a call for papers to NJABA members and other related professionals. Each year, NJABA's annual conference more closely approximates a smaller scale ABAI convention and now our focus is to increase attendance. Many, many thanks to NJABA's Conference Planning Committee, Lori Bechner, Sharon Reeve, Greg MacDuff, Mary Beth Walsh, and Linda Meyer!

In an effort to evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of having our conference in August, NJABA has determined that by scheduling the 2009 conference in July, we could increase attendance by enabling some of the private schools to close for the day

and allow all of their staff to attend the conference. This serves the purpose of providing an excellent training opportunity to those staff as well as significantly increasing attendance. Our goal is to boost attendance from 200 to 300 attendees. Stay informed about our conference by visiting our Web site, www.njaba.org. In addition to conference information, there are many other valuable sections of the Web site, which has been masterfully created by Ken Reeve.

Mary Beth Walsh, our first Consumer Representative and part of NJABA's Board of Directors, is working hard to define this new role. She has reached out to other state chapters for feedback. It appears that NJABA is one of the few state chapters that have a consumer representative. We are very proud to be among those few as this is a very critical role and part of the mission of NJABA.

On March 14, we were honored to host a workshop presented by Dr. Gina Green. The workshop was attended by approximately 100 people and was very well received. Dr. Green's topics include a morning session on evaluating autism treatment and an afternoon session on stimulus control. As one of the attendees, I can say that it was an exciting and informative workshop!

On the government affairs front, Suzanne Buchanan has arranged for a series of articles on ABA and autism to be placed in the New Jersey Psychological Association's newsletter. This is an excellent opportunity to provide valuable information to other professionals about the efficacy of applied behavior analysis for individuals with autism spectrum disorders. There will be two series of topics that include effective behavior consultation to schools, functional assessment, pharmacology, family issues and siblings, adolescent and adult issues, cognitive behavior therapy in private practice, Asperger syndrome, and an overview of autism and effective interventions.

In addition, NJABA has successfully worked with the Behavior Analyst Certification Board to open up a non-coursework option for doctoral level professionals. This would allow professionals with a doctorate to take the certification exam without completing the five-course certification series. We are hopeful that this will help to strengthen our support from our esteemed colleagues who did not take advantage of the non-coursework option when the BACB offered it in their initial certification process. This will be an important move as we continue to explore the option of licensure for behavior analysts.

This will be my last address as President of NJABA. It has been an extreme pleasure and honor to hold this position over the past four years. I am excited with the growth that NJABA has achieved and look forward to further progress as I move to the position of Past President. I ask our membership to provide the same level of support for our upcoming President, Lori Bechner, as you have so graciously provided to me.

# Norsk Atferdsanalytisk Forening (Norwegian ABA)

By Jon Arne Farsethås

The last year has been very successful for the Norwegian Association for Behavior Analysis. After a few years of decline, membership rose to an all-time high (1,011 members), and the annual convention in April was an immense success, with a record attendance of 857 participants. The major effort we have taken upon ourselves to publish an international journal, the European Journal of Behavior Analysis, seems to have finally paid off, professionally if not financially. Thanks to our very professional editorial troika, the journal appears to have found its form as well as its audience. The Norwegian ABA chapter will also host ABAI's 2009 International Conference in Oslo in August; we are very excited about this event and look forward to assisting as best we can to make it a success.

#### North Carolina ABA

By Dr. R. M. Duke Schell

North Carolina Association for Behavior Analysis (NCABA) met at the Holiday Inn SunSpree Resort at Wrightsville Beach, February 19th –21st, 2008. Over 220 conference participants, including 47 students, made the 19th annual conference of NCABA a great gathering for people interested in behavior analysis across the state and region. The new, larger meeting space and accommodations made it possible for us to hold eight conference workshops for psychology and behavior analyst continuing education units (CEUs) that attracted over 175 people. We offered top-notch behavior analysis topics throughout the conference that brought 41 people seeking behavior analyst continuing education credits at an affordable price. With the larger meeting space we were also able to double the number of concurrent sessions offered in the middle day of the conference from six to 12. The data and feedback suggest that the conference workshops, presentations, and hotel accommodations were thoroughly enjoyed.

Even before the actual conference got started, people were learning from prominent behavior analysts in four preconference workshops by Brian Iwata, University of Florida; Mark Sundberg, Sundberg & Associates; Kelly Wilson, University of Mississippi; and Jeannie Golden, NCABA Past President from East Carolina University. We started off the conference properly with our award presentations. The Technical Utilization Award went to Tony Boss, a Behavior Specialist from the Murdoch Developmental Center; the Student Scholarship Award to Pam Mims, our NCABA Student Representative from UNC, Charlotte; the "Do Things" Award given to Denny Reid, from the Carolina Behavior Analysis & Support Center; and the Fred S. Keller Excellence in Behavior Analysis Award to Jim Favell, retired Director of Research from the J. Iverson Riddle Developmental Center (JIRDC). Congratulations to all award recipients

and also those who were nominated. After the awards, we were treated to invited addresses by Gretchen Thwing; Jim McGimsey and Ron Mazik from Advoserv in Mt. Dora, Florida; and Brian Iwata.

Next was the NCABA student symposium, hosted by Pam Mims, which included outstanding presentations by April Mustian, UNC, Charlotte; Valerie Mazzotti, UNC, Charlotte; Rachael Cushing, UNC, Wilmington; and Latisha Blue, East Carolina University. A panel on Relational Frame Theory and Acceptance and Commitment Therapy with Kelly Wilson and Rhonda Merwin, Duke University, was hosted by Ruth Hurst, NCABA President Elect from UNC, Wilmington and Martin Ivancic of JIRDC. The first day of the conference was topped off by the evening poster session, hosted by Jennifer Deacon, NCABA Vice President, where 16 data-based posters and three university behavior analysis programs were showcased. Mark Sundberg and Kelly Wilson did a superb job of judging the posters for NCABA. The Outstanding Student poster was awarded to Pam Mims and the Overall Outstanding poster, also selected from the student group, went to Erica Blackwell, Ruth Hurst, Ashley Stretton and W. E. Crews from UNC, Wilmington. Congratulations again to the award recipients.

The second day of the conference opened with Brian Iwata and Carol Pilgrim, UNC, Wilmington, both former Presidents of ABA International, discussing the future of behavior analysis with conference participants. This was followed by 12 concurrent sessions over the next three hours (for a listing of the presenters and topics please go to our Web site) and then three invited addresses by Mark Sundberg, Kelly Wilson, and Jeannie Golden after lunch. After closing down the silent auction, we celebrated our award winners at the crowd favorite NCABA Social, where we were treated to wonderful live music by the Bad Ash Band from JIRDC. I'm sure that some pictures from the Social will make it to our Web site: www.nc-aba.com.

The final morning of the conference opened up with the annual NCABA Business Meeting and the announcement of the newly elected officers. Ya-yu Lo, NCABA Member-at-Large from UNC, Charlotte, was elected Vice President; Beth Schmitt was re-elected as Secretary/Treasurer; April Mustian was elected as Student Representative; and Kelly Sutton, JIRDC, was elected as Member-at-Large. Ruth Hurst moves into the role as President, Jennifer Deacon moves into the role of President-Elect, and Duke Schell once again enjoys the role of Past President. Jamie Clary finishes six years on the NCABA Executive Council in three separate capacities—Student Representative, Secretary/Treasurer and President—but will remain a non-voting Board member as our NCABA Webmaster. Best of luck to the new Board as they prepare for the 20th Anniversary celebration in 2009.

The rest of the morning was rounded out with an invited address by Carol Pilgrim and an invited symposium hosted by Denny Reid, with papers presented by Perry Lattimore and Marsha Parsons from JIRDC, and Wendy Fitch from Cleveland County Schools. After wrapping up the NCABA conference proper, four workshops were held in the afternoon taught by Maureen Schepis, past NCABA President and Director of the Center for Early Communication & Learning, Kelly Wilson, Mark Sundberg, and Barbara Metzger, past NCABA Board member and Assistant Professor from Sam Houston State University in Texas. See you all next year for the 20th NCABA reunion!

#### Northwestern ABA

By Dr. Kimberly P. Weber

Northwestern ABA (NWABA) is a very small chapter that has a core membership of about 35 to 50 as well as additional members who attend conferences and seek out information regarding the behavior analytic field. This year our chapter conference will be held on the Gonzaga University campus on October 10th and 11th. We are planning to present informational strands on autism and literacy.

#### **Ontario ABA**

By Peter Wyngaarden

Established in 1993, the Ontario Association for Behaviour Analysis (ONTABA) serves a continually growing community of persons interested and involved in behaviour analysis in Ontario. ONTABA has members from a variety of professional areas, such as education, nursing, health care, and psychology. It also has members outside of Ontario's provincial boundaries: in 2007, it had members from at least two other provinces and two states.

ONTABA's vision is to foster a culture of excellence, integrity, and expertise for the advancement and promotion of the science of behaviour analysis. To this end, ONTABA's centerpiece is its annual conference and annual general meeting. Held in November each year, the conference is always a highlight; the 2007 conference was no exception. It was sold out, with over 300 people in attendance on each day. Greatly reduced student rates enabled many students to attend the event. Many Ontario academics and professionals disseminated their research and clinical work. In addition, ONTABA hosted three distinguished international speakers, Dr. Richard Foxx, Dr. Michael Mozzoni, and Dr. Andrew Bondy. Also, for the first time, ONTABA attached an additional daylong workshop to the conference. In this workshop, Dr. Andy Bondy instructed 155 attendees on "Teaching Nine Critical Communication Skills."

The conference presentations were outstanding and inspiring. They also reflected a wide range of investigation and application of behaviour analysis in Ontario. Over the past few years, the conference has seen an increase in presentations on intervention with

children with autism. This year was no exception. However, there were also presentations on the treatment of aggressive-destructive behaviour, the treatment of anxiety disorders, models of self-injurious behaviour, the analysis of verbal behaviour, neuro-rehabilitation, social skills training, teaching communication skills, etc. This breadth of topics serves as a reminder that ONTABA's mission—to demonstrate leadership, knowledge, and innovation in education, training, and research for the ethical and effective application of behaviour analysis—can never be thought of as being limited to any particular setting or particular clinical group.

The 2007 ONTABA conference also saw the inaugural presentations of three ONTABA awards. One, presented to Dr. Larry Williams, was for outstanding contributions and excellence in the field of Behaviour Analysis Education; the second, presented to Dr. Adrienne Perry, was for outstanding contributions and excellence in the field of Behaviour Analysis Research; the third, presented to Dr. David Factor, was for outstanding contributions and excellence in the field of Behaviour Analysis Clinical Practice. It is hoped that these awards will continue to be used by the ONTABA membership to recognize significant contributions to the field of Behaviour Analysis.

This year ONTABA is undertaking several new initiatives. The ONTABA Analyst—ONTABA's newsletter for information sharing, opinion pieces, research articles, and articles on clinical work—is now published in colour. In addition, a redesigned Web page (www.ontaba.org) is more informative and user-friendly. ONTABA introduced the capacity for on-line registration and payment of membership and conference fees. ONTABA's Web page is well used, generating more than 200 e-mail inquires in 2007 through its Web page e-mail. Inquiries addressed issues regarding certification, membership, ABA services, and other issues.

ONTABA has also undertaken a search for a new logo. The logo will be included in revised and refreshed brochures, posters, etc. These posters and brochures are to assist in a concentrated effort toward enhancing membership from the expanding university and college ABA programs being offered in Ontario.

ONTABA also continues to pursue and provide educational and professional development opportunities for its members. Appropriate application is what we hope will result from ONTABA's annual conference becoming eligible to offer continuing education credits towards maintaining BACB certification. In addition, ONTABA has co-sponsored satellite conferences and workshops. In May 2008, a workshop entitled "An Introduction to Verbal Behaviour" was offered. The event, hosted by Shining Through Centre (www.shiningthrough.ca) and co-sponsored with George Brown College, was eligible for BACB continuing education credits.

Certification is a major interest to ONTABA membership. As previously reported, ONTABA has an agreement with the BACB to provide Alternative Pathways to certification for its membership. The Alternative Pathways are designed to deal with the unique situation in Ontario, where limited (but expanding!) opportunities exist for training and supervision in applied behaviour analysis. Work continues to be done by ONTABA's Transitional Certification Committee for a formalized system of certification once the Alternative Pathways have expired. In addition, ONTABA is also actively investigating models and methods of certification for practitioners of applied behaviour analysis who provide direct, hands-on ABA-based services.

These are exciting times to be involved in behaviour analysis in Ontario. The field continues to garner recognition and respect in the public sphere. Educational and practical experience opportunities for those who are interested in the field are expanding. And, as an ABAI affiliate, ONTABA continues to explore creative ways of enhancing the services it offers to its membership.

# Pennsylvania ABA

By Dr. William Helsel

Pennsylvania ABA (PennABA) was founded in the late 1990s by Richard M. Foxx and William J. Helsel to provide an opportunity for Pennsylvania's growing number of behavior analysts to further their knowledge in the field and to connect with other behavior analysts. Since then, PennABA has held an annual conference attracting participants from across the state and maintained a membership of over 200 people. Dr. Foxx continues to serve as the organization's Executive Director and Dr. Helsel as President.

After successful two-day conferences in 2005 in the Philadelphia area, 2006 in the Harrisburg/Hershey area, and 2007 in Pittsburgh we returned to the Harrisburg/Hershey area for our 2008 meeting at the beautiful Hershey Lodge. The attendance between 2006 and 2007 jumped up 13%, and between 2007 and 2008, 34% (n = 116) or more thoroughgoing an acceleration of x3.2 (thanks Og). We had five invited speakers: William Ahearn, Ph.D., BCBA, Director of Research at the New England Center for Children and Clinical Assistant Professor in the Master's in Applied Behavior Analysis (MABA) Program at Northeastern University, carried out a workshop on assessing and treating stereotypic behavior and offered a paper on analyzing social deficits; Saul Axelrod, Ph.D., BCBA, Professor of Education at Temple University, gave a paper looking more broadly at the relations between ABA and autism; Kimberly Schreck, Ph.D., BCBA, Associate Professor of Psychology and Coordinator of the Applied Behavior Analysis Master's Program at Penn State Harrisburg, shared a paper examining practices of behavior analysts in their treatment of autism; Tristram Smith, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Rochester Medical Center (URMC) and

serves as the research director for the Multi-site Young Autism Project, directed a workshop on ABA for schoolage children with autism and offered a paper on "what's new" in early intensive behavioral intervention; Mary Jane Weiss, Ph.D., BCBA, Director of Research and Training at the Douglass Developmental Disabilities Center at Rutgers University, led a workshop on teaching social skills and also discussed comprehensive ABA programming in a paper presentation. We are indebted to each of these individuals for the generosity they showed PennABA.

The wide range of topics covered reflects the interests of PennABA's diverse membership of behavior analysts, psychologists, special educators, students, and colleagues from neighboring states. In order to meet the needs of our membership, PennABA provides continuing education credits for behavior analysts and psychologists, and for Acceptance and Commitment Therapy to Pennsylvania educators at no additional cost. Students are an integral part of our membership, and PennABA has benefited from our relationship with several universities in Pennsylvania with graduate-level programs in behavior analysis. Students are represented on PennABA's Executive Council and have presented their research at our annual conferences.

Please visit our Web site, www.pennaba1.org, which contains information about upcoming events, conference and membership registration forms, links to organizations that may be of interest to our members, and job postings in behavior analysis in Pennsylvania. PennABA also continues to publish an electronic newsletter sent to our members in the late winter or early spring.

# Philippine ABA, Inc.

By Maria Teresa Cojuangco

The Philippine Association for Behavior Analysis (PABA) had an exciting yet challenging year in 2007. With the very limited resources of the Association, we are proud that we were able to conduct a second round of accreditation for ABA practitioners in the country. Through the generosity of Dr. Joseph Morrow, President of ABC School of Sacramento and PABA Consultant, we were able to accredit one special school and three private practitioners.

In November, 2007, Dr. Morrow and Ms. Paulette Diaz, also from ABC School, conducted a one-day seminar on the basic principles of ABA entitled "When Everybody Cares: Implementing an Effective ABA Program."

To raise funds, PABA collaborated with A Child Can Foundation, an accredited ABA center in the Philippines. In August, 2007, both organizations sponsored Repertory Philippines' musical play, Cinderella.

The Association is continuously encouraging membership and accreditation. Plans for the coming year include offering short ABA courses through the assistance of Dr. Morrow and inviting speakers to talk on various topics relevant to the practice of ABA.

#### Polish ABA

By Dr. Monika Suchowierska

The Polish Association for Behavior Analysis (PABA) was founded in 2000 by Jacek Kozlowski, Ph.D. and his colleagues at the University of Gdansk. Since 2000, PABA has been fulfilling its goals of developing and disseminating knowledge about behavior analysis as a science of behavior and about the radical behaviorism of B. F. Skinner as a philosophy of this science. In seven years, PABA's efforts have concentrated on disseminating knowledge about conceptual, experimental, and applied behavior analysis to students and professionals interested in behavioral approaches in Poland. Specifically, in 2007, we had the following accomplishments (in chronological order):

- In early 2007, the Spring 2007 issue of Behavior Analysis Digest International (BADI) was prepared, for the first time, in two languages: English and Polish. Fall 2007 issue of BADI contains two articles by members of Polish ABA and this issue also will be prepared in two languages.
- In May 2007, Monika Suchowierska and Rafał Kawa attended the 33<sup>rd</sup> conference of ABA International in San Diego. During the conference, they had three presentations and a poster representing Polish ABA.
- Following the conference, Monika and Rafał traveled to Mexico to visit Los Horcones, a famous behavioral community. The visit was very successful and resulted in several presentations and one published article in Poland about Los Horcones and Walden Two.
- In June 2007, the first group of students (15) graduated from Warsaw School of Social Psychology, the first program in the country in applied behavior analysis. Some of the graduates will take the Behavior Analysis Certification Board exam in 2008.
- In July 2007, PABA assumed the patronage of the Center for Early Intervention Step by Step, which offers early intensive behavioral intervention to children with autism.
- In September 2007, PABA, together with the Center for Early Intervention, participated in the Festival of Science organized by the University of Warsaw.
   During the festival, behavior analytic methods were presented.
- In late 2007, PABA started to discuss with the National Autism Center the possibility of affiliating the two organizations.
- Throughout 2007, a group of PABA members worked on a glossary of behavior-analytic terms in Polish.
   The glossary is to be published in 2008.
- In the fall of 2007, a decision was made to hold a conference organized by PABA and Warsaw School

- of Social Psychology in April, 2008. The title of the conference was "Behavioral Psychology: Theory, Research, Practice".
- In 2007, four meetings of PABA were held (March 13, May 12, July 7, November 10) during which three lectures were given.

Although we are proud of PABA's accomplishments in the last year, we have set high goals for ourselves for the next year. We want to "think outside the box," that is, in ways that would present behavior analysis to broad audiences. Thus, in 2008 we plan to publish a glossary of behavior-analytic terms in Polish, strengthen the connection between PABA and the Cambridge Center for Behavioral Studies as well as the National Autism Center, make BADI a regular English and Polish publication, increase the number of Board Certified Behavior Analysts in Poland, and increase membership.

# Polish Association of Behavioral Therapy

By Ewa Kuliga-Musioł

The Polish Association of Behavioral Therapy (Polskie Stowarzyszenie Terapii Behawioralnej, PABT) is a country-wide, non-profit organization of active practitioners of behavioral therapy. The 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 the Association is to promote behavioral therapy among therapists and academics.

Currently, the Polish Behavioral Therapy Association has 140 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). PABT provides substantial patronage for and cooperates with a number of Polish centers and institutions (in Krakow, Gdańsk, Poznań, Lublin, Bydgoszcz, and Warsaw, among others) oriented to providing effective help to persons with autism. It also has two local branches in Częstochowa and Poznań. The association publishes the informational periodical Krok za Krokiem (Step by Step) with articles by world renowned experts on teaching persons with autism.

#### **Promoting Behavioral Therapy**

In 2007, the PABT focused on organizing specialist trainings for a wide range of attendees (mainly the teachers and parents of the emotionally and developmentally disabled). We estimate over 700 participants attended such trainings in 2007.

PABT also conducted practical trainings (training and observational internships) for pedagogy (The Pedagogical University of Cracow, the Jagiellonian University) and psychology (the Jagiellonian University)

for students and tutors from other educational institutions, and endorsed the supervision system. In addition, PABT took promotional actions, such as publishing brochures and flyers and propagating information, via Web sites.

#### **Fulfilling Statutory Activities**

PABT operates the Behavioral Therapy Clinic (Ambulatorium Terapii Behawioralnej, BTC) where we provide therapeutic support for the families of emotionally challenged persons all over Poland. The scope of the BTC's operations includes diagnostic consultations for children with suspected developmental disorders (performed usually by a committee consisting of a psychiatrist, a psychologist, a speech therapist, and a special education teacher) and conducting home therapy programs (the consultations are an opportunity to establish a program for the 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, PBTA's BTC oversees home therapy for over 300 families throughout Poland. PABT organizes voluntary service reinforcing the therapeutic actions carried out in the patients' homes. In 2007, PABT also focused on obtaining the means to allow further development of the organization and branching out through introducing new statutory activities (including research programs).

A general meeting of the Association's members crucial for the PBTA was held last year with the guest lecture by Professor Joseph Cautilli entitled "Generalization and Delayed Motivational Systems."

This year, the PBTA intends to continue the ongoing work of the BTC and commence the operations of the Emergency Intervention Team (Zespółu Interwencji Kryzysowych, ZIK), a new form of statutory activity providing short-term, intensive therapeutic help for the families of persons suffering from emotional disabilities and other hardships. Yet another new initiative that the PBTA hopes to bring about this year is a summer behavioral rehabilitation camp. The rehabilitation camp is to be held for the benefit of the families of persons with emotional disorders from all over Poland, especially for the families of the patients of behavioral therapy centers operating under the care of the PBTA and for the patients of PBTA's BTC.

Our plans for the near future include the development of two new local branches of the BTC in Poznań and Wrocław, as these areas require a great deal of clinical behavioral therapy as provided by the BTC.

# Sociedad Mexicana de Análisis de la Conducta (Mexican Society of Behavior Analysis)

By Dr. Carlos A. Bruner and Jorge Ruiz

The Mexican Society of Behavior Analysis (MSBA) relies on the publication of the Mexican Journal of Behavior Analysis (MJBA) and its biennial conventions to disseminate our discipline across the country. Our most recent, XVIII Mexican Biennial Convention of Behavior Analysis, was held on November 22–24 in the city of Xalapa, Veracruz. The convention gathered about 500 attendees from 16 states of the country, representing 35 different universities, both public and private. Although most attendees were either academicians or students, professional psychologists were also present. The convention program included 281 presentations by 384 different authors and coauthors. We had nine keynote addresses by distinguished behavior analysts, both national (E. Ribes, V. Alcaraz, L. I. Duran, and C. Santoyo) and international (J. Marr, L. Hayes, D. Cerruti, M. Pelaez, and H. Drummond). Also included were nine invited addresses by prominent behavior analysts (D. Velazquez, J. Burgos, J. Vila, A. Fleming-Holland, O. Garcia-Leal, P. Arriaga, C. Carpio, G. Bacha, and J. G. Sanchez). In addition to these outstanding presentations, the convention program featured 13 symposia with 52 speakers, 27 paper sessions with 102 presenters, and 50 posters with 105 authors and coauthors. The convention program also included six tutorials and six workshops on different themes. The themes treated in the tutorials were social psychophysics, the philosophy of behaviorism, associative learning, self-control and response-induction, and variability. The themes of the workshops were behavior modification with children, addictive behaviors, feeding disorders, emotional behavior, and guidelines for writing research reports and proposals and the use of Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS). Table 1 (below) shows the content of the papers presented during the convention.

	d Behavior Analysis (Total 164)
Achievement	28
Reading	19
Development	18
Teaching	16
Learning	15
Socialization	13
Treatment	10
Health	9
Stress	8
Addictions	8
Informatics	7
Eating	5
Reciprocity	8 7 5 4 2 2
Personality	2
Concepts	2
Bas	ic Behavior Analysis (Total 104)
Stimulus control	37
Learning	16
Induction	12
Foraging	10
Choice	9
History effects	8
Social skills	5 4 3
Memory	4
Perception	3
	Behavior Theory (Total 13)
Behaviorism	Behavior Theory (Total 13) 7 2 2 1
Ethics	2
Concepts	2
Ontogeny	1
Socialization	1
Table 1. Paper Topics Presented at the Mexican	
Convention of Behav	rior Analysis.

Analysis of the statistics indicates the success of the convention. Relative to our XVII convention held in September 2005 in the city of San Luis Potosi, SLP, the XVIII convention attracted about the same number of attendees. However, in other aspects, the latter convention surpassed the former. Mexican states represented at the convention increased from 13 to 16. University representation increased from 25 to 35. Presentations increased from 234 to 281, along with authors and coauthors, from 302 to 384. Keynote addresses' increased from five to nine, and different from our former convention, in the latter we enjoyed the participation of five international speakers. Invited addresses remained the same at nine. Although symposia and its respective speakers decreased from 18 (with 90 presenters) to 13 (with 52 presenters), paper sessions increased from 22 to 27 (with 104 speakers in each of the two conventions). Most notably, posters increased from 33 (with 103 authors) to 50 (with 105 authors). While the tutorials remained the same (six), the workshops increased from four to six. With regard to the balance of papers on applied and basic behavior analysis and theory, the former clearly exceeded the latter, replicating the same balance of the penultimate

biannual convention. With regard to the type of subject used for research, either animals or humans, the ratio remained stable in both conventions (about 51 to 151 and 80 to 188, respectively).

Given that the convention statistics also reflect the state of the discipline in our country, these data support the claim made in my previous article in the ABA Newsletter (Bruner, 2006) with regard to the fact that Mexican behavior analysts are well-versed on a variety of themes, both in the breadth and depth of their knowledge, and in their coverage of topics, both traditional and in vogue. In addition, such coverage is wide enough to contribute significantly to the development of our discipline, both in our country and internationally. The presence of members of the international community at the convention shows this kind of international collaboration.

As noted in my previous article in the ABA Newsletter, our Mexican conventions of behavior analysis seem to be a miniature version of ABAI's annual conventions. For example, the balance between papers on applied and basic behavior analysis is similar. In addition, the balance between papers using human and animal subjects is also similar in ABAI and MSBA conventions. This is a worthy comparison because it suggests that, at least proportionally, Mexican behavior analysts are in step with ABAI's leadership in our discipline.

Apart from the obvious asymmetries between ABAI and MSBA, certain circumstances have slowed the growth of the MSBA. These differences suggest the need to formally restructure our society to make it more inclusive and to promote its financial health. Plans were made, but unfortunately the necessary statutory reform did not occur during my term as president. I thus leave this responsibility to our new president, Dr. Carlos Flores of the University of Guadalajara. I would like to conclude this message by mentioning that although MSBA still needs in-depth reforms, some steps have been taken in the right direction. During the most recent assembly of voting members, three initiatives were approved. One is that in the future the Mexican conventions of behavior analysis will be held annually instead of biennially. The second initiative allows for the creation of an advisory board composed by past presidents of MSBA to hasten the learning curve of newly elected presidents. The third resolution allows for an increase of membership dues and subscriptions fees to the Mexican Journal of Behavior Analysis such that the society's margin of profit will increase. The latter resolution will in turn allow for printing special issues of MJBA (suspended during the last two editorial terms) and to provide seed funds to organize future academic events and conventions.

#### Swedish ABA

By Kenneth Nilsson

The membership of the Swedish ABA (SWABA) is approaching 200, the largest number since the organization was founded in 1996. The interest for behavior analysis in Sweden is increasing at a fairly steady rate in several areas, from clinical work with the developmentally disabled to organizational behavior management.

We are pleased to see a growing interest in behavior analysis among students of psychology at several universities around the country. Best developed so far are the courses given at the Stockholm School of Education, where Dr. Lise Roll-Pettersson has for some years now managed courses in applied behavior analysis for professionals within special education and clinical psychology.

On the clinical side, Sweden now has a fairly large group of professionals interested in the so-called third wave of behavior therapies; many of these, such as Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT), have clear connections to behavior analysis.

Consultants working in several areas (e.g., health care, safety, finance, governmental services) have over the past few years shown a greater interest in organizational behavior management (OBM). There have been several opportunities to learn OBM in Sweden. In particular, workshops have been offered with behavior analysts visiting from the U.S. and the UK.

SWABA was represented by 20 members at the 2008 ABAI annual convention in Chicago. During the convention, SWABA presented a poster at the International Expo. As part of the poster presentation we arranged a lottery with a SWABA T-shirt as first prize, with the winner being drawn from attendees who registered as "virtual members" (i.e., members not residing or working in Sweden, but who want to support the organization). Also, bids were accepted for a unique SWABA T-shirt, with the money received from the high bidder being donated to the ABA International Development Fund.

SWABA maintains a Web forum for its members that can be reached from the organization's Web site (www.swaba.org). The Web site will go through major changes during the year. So far, it has served as a bulletin board, a meeting point for its members, and a convenient way to keep track of members.

During coming years, we will promote behavior analysis and focus on increasing member interest in achieving competence as certified behavior analysts. SWABA would like to encourage anyone who plans to visit Sweden or Scandinavia to contact Kenneth Nilsson (kenneth.nilsson@beteendeanalys.com), the current president, to discuss a possible visit. SWABA will arrange its annual meeting in Stockholm in the late fall of 2008.

#### Taiwan ABA

By Dr. Hua Fena

During the past year, Taiwan ABA (TABA) accomplished quite a lot. First of all, through continuous support from SEEK Education, Inc., we held an international conference in Taichung. The invited speakers, Dr. Campbell and behavior consultants from Seek Education, designed a two-day conference to introduce the latest treatment strategies for teaching children and adults with highfunctioning autism. In addition, three workshops lasting at least two days were held in north, central, and south Taiwan, and attracted more than 300 participants. A six-day advanced workshop for professionals was held in Central Taichung, and a four-day workshop for parents was held in Taipei and drew about 55 participants. The most important milestone is that Taiwan ABA has been approved by the Taiwanese government and became a legal association.

The Graduate Institute of Rehabilitation Counseling, National Changhua University of Education, continues to offer BCBA course sequences through the on-campus Master's degree program, and the number of students enrolled in this program has grown from three to eight. SEEK Education also has joined the satellite program offered by University of Nevada, Reno, and is trying to offer other options for professionals interested in pursuing BCBA accreditation in Taiwan.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> TABA annual convention was held in June and TABA invited posters and paper presentations to share evidence-based research around Taiwan. Other plans are to provide applied behavior analysis programs of beginning, intermediate, and advanced levels to train parents, teachers, and professionals in Taiwan. Three board members in TABA and two honors scholars, Dr. William Heward and Dr. Gerald Shook, have been invited to lecture at our international conference in Wuhan, China, which is sponsored by SEEK Education Inc. At least one issue of the TABA newsletter will be published, and TABA will maintain a Web site (http://www.taiwanaba.org.tw) where one can find conference announcements, membership directory, parents' sharing, and links to other behavior analysis sites, including ABAI.

#### Vermont ABA

By Meg McGee

This past year has been one of change, development, and initiative for the Vermont Association for Behavior Analysis (VABA). For the first time since its inception in 2004, a change in the Board occurred in June, 2007. The current Board wishes to express its gratitude to inaugural Board Chair David Powsner and Vice-Chair Ed Sbardellati for their commitment, vision, and dedication to bringing "life" to VABA. Their continued efforts to support VABA's mission and initiatives will benefit many future boards and members.

VABA has several pivotal projects in development. The first includes representation of behavior analytic practices at local conferences and the development of the first VABA conference anticipated for October 2009. We were pleased to have Mark Sundberg, Ph.D. present at the Vermont Autism Institute on June 23 <sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> in Burlington and join us for our annual meeting on June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2008.

After the unfortunate contamination of our Web site, a new Technology Committee is in the process of redesigning the Web page to better meet the needs of VABA members, families, community professionals, and students. We hope the people of Vermont will come to VABA if they have questions about applied behavior analysis, and it is our intent to make additional resources and educational materials readily available through our Web page. We hope to unveil this new resource at our annual meeting.

We have initiated a process of inviting new Board Certified Behavior Analysts (BCBAs) and Board Certified Associate Behavior Analysts (BCABAs) in Vermont to join our chapter. There are currently 18 BCBAs and three BCABAs in Vermont. We hope this number grows given the preapproved Johnson State Master's program in Applied Behavior Analysis and the availability of the certification sequence through the Vermont Higher Education Collaborative. VABA developed an organizational membership category this year and is developing additional categories of membership. The Board is actively considering avenues to support our neighboring states without ABAI affiliate chapters. In addition, we continue to provide our members with free continuing education credits for VABA supported events.

VABA is nearing completion of the Vermont state legislative review process. We are seeking state regulation and licensure of the BCBA and BCABA. The decision to pursue this particular form of regulation came after researching the processes and products of state affiliate chapters who completed or were completing similar projects. Thank you to everyone who has been so supportive of our undertaking. This effort has been headed by current Vice-Chair Melinda Neff who has graciously given her time and energy. It is our intent to report on the success of this initiative next year!

A challenge facing our state and chapter is the limited availability of applied behavior analytic services. This is due to both a deficit of expertise and the localization of available services to a small number of counties. This is an area of evaluation and consideration as we approach this next year. VABA looks forward to another year of serving our community, advocating for our members, and supporting best practice in behavior analytic services in Vermont.

#### Virginia ABA

By Dr. Sherry Serdikoff

The Virginia Association for Behavior Analysis (VABA) is an organization for people interested in behavior analysis and is primarily an interest group. VABA works to promote behavior analysis by:

- Arranging an annual conference for the discussion of research and conceptual issues in behavior analysis.
- Maintaining a Web site containing information about the organization and about behavior analysis in Virginia and elsewhere.
- Functioning as the Virginia contact for and representative of the Association for Behavior Analysis International (ABAI).
- Promoting cooperation between behavior analytic organizations in other countries, regions, states, and localities.

On March 1, 2008 we held our 4th annual conference. The invited addresses featured behavior analysts specializing in a wide range of areas: SungWoo Kahng (Kennedy Krieger Institute), W. Joseph Wyatt (Marshall University), Matthew W. Johnson, (Johns Hopkins University), Maureen A. Conroy (Virginia Commonwealth University), Donald A. Hantula (Temple University), and Jennifer L. Crockett (Kennedy Krieger Institute). Additionally, there was a poster session that featured primarily student research. We intend to hold our 5th annual conference in March of 2009. Please visit our Web site at www.v-aba.org.

#### Wisconsin ABA

By Dr. Roger Bass

The Wisconsin Association for Behavior Analysis (WisABA) began largely through the efforts of Dr. Corrine Donley, Professor Emeritus from the University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh. Dr. Donley brought several behavior analysts together at a meeting in Oshkosh where she advanced the importance of a state organization for dealing with the specific problems facing behavior analysts there. Of special concern was the availability of and payment for BCBA-level consulting, the need for services that address increasing numbers of children with autism, and the recognition of behavior analysis' contributions to Wisconsin's education, social services, and higher education.

Those concerns raised questions regarding how to best bring behavior analysis to bear on those issues. After phone conferences with Drs. Thomas Critchfield and James Johnston, the membership agreed that holding a conference would be the best way to highlight behavior analysis' contributions, establish WisABA as an important contributor to behavior analysis in Wisconsin, and serve an organizing function by bringing relevant parties together.

Planning and raising funds for that conference have consumed most of WisABA's time and energy. This is not to say that other concerns have gone unnoticed. We have stayed abreast of issues involving state funding for autism, licensing requirements for those working with autistic children, and reimbursement issues for BCBAs, to name only a few. But the membership generally agrees that the best way for a small state organization to move forward is to deal effectively with these concerns issueby-issue and use the conferences to cumulatively make changes.

The first conference primarily addressed autism and education. We received a generous grant from the Friends of Autism, a state parents group. This conference was held August 13th and 14th at Carthage College in Kenosha, Wl. Nationally recognized researchers and practitioners, several from Wisconsin, presented, gave workshops and presentations, or both. Principals responsible for starting and maintaining effective instructional programs described how to make schools work. A state legislator presented on the need for proven instructional methods; teachers and teachers-intraining had the opportunity to meet with those who are achieving more than many educators dream possible;

and parents had a chance to acquire skills, learn about behavior analytic resources in the state, and discuss behavior analytic service availability and delivery from their vantage point.

Interactions between behavior analysts, teachers, and parents were encouraged by holding a WisABA Social following dinner on August 13th. In addition, "Town Hall" meetings will be held where open discussion will be encouraged between researchers, teachers, parents, and legislators. More on the conference is at http://WisABA.org (click on the "Conference" link). Speakers' bios, agendas, and abstracts are available along with a conference registration form.

Those interested in becoming WisABA members will find a membership link at the http://WisABA.org Web site. Membership opens up a world of possibilities: WisABA is a young, growing organization eager to help its members choose the direction they wish to take when pursuing issues involving behavior analysis in Wisconsin. We have educators, experimentalists, social workers, students, speech therapists, parents, and others whose varying interests reflect the wide ranging importance of our field. There is a great deal to do and WisABA is a mechanism for helping us achieve those goals.

# **Organizational Membership**

ABA International organizational membership allows numerous opportunities for your behavioral organization to market services and network with other behavioral organizations and behavior analysts. Benefits are many, and include:

- A single exhibitor's booth at ABAI's annual convention.
- Three complimentary individual memberships and convention registrations.
- An institutional subscription to The Analysis of Verbal Behavior.
- A 25-line classified advertisement in three issues of the ABAI Newsletter.
- A set of ABAI membership mailing list labels. Inclusion of your organization in ABAI's on-line membership directory.
- Your logo, a brief description, and link on the ABAI Web site.
- Opportunities to connect with and recruit behavior analyst employees.
- Unlimited job postings on START for one calendar year (Jan-Dec). You can also take advantage of our job board and interview scheduling services at ABA International's annual convention.
- Inclusion of a two-page article in the ABAI Newsletter highlighting the organization's background, history, and application of behavior analysis science and technologies through its services. (New members only.)

Although organizational membership by no way implies ABAl's endorsement of the services provided, this package allows organizations to utilize ABAl's resources more effectively and at a discounted price. Materials submitted for publication or posting on the ABAl Web site are subject to review by the Organizational Review Committee.

# CAREER OPPORTUNITIES IN APPLIED BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS





Come work in a true Behavior Analytic Organization providing innovative education services in the San Francisco Bay Area.

#### Spectrum Center provides educational services:

- For children 3 22 years of age
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# **Updates from ABAI Special Interest Groups**

### **Applied Animal Behavior**

By Dr. Jennifer Sobie

The Applied Animal Behavior Special Interest Group was created in 1994 to promote research and application of behavior analytic principles in the field of animal training and animal behavior therapy. Originally named the Trainer's Forum, the SIG changed its name in 2007 to reflect the overriding interest of its membership—the application of behavior analysis to the improvement of the lives of people and their pets and animals living in captivity.

One avenue of support that we are proud to provide is the Marian Breland Bailey Award (MMBA) for Student Research and Scholarship. This award recognizes student achievements in the field of AAB research based on behavior analysis, selecting award recipients from those presenting at the annual convention based on research topic, design, methodology, and presentation. There were over 15 applied animal-related student presentations at the 2007 conference in San Diego, CA, and we are pleased to announce the following award winners:

Angela Drake from the University of North Texas received the MBBA in the amount of \$100 for her poster titled "From Feral to Friendly: Shaping 'Tameness' in Felines." Jesus Rosales-Ruiz, also from the University of North Texas, was the second author of this poster.

Kathryn Kalafut from the University of North Texas received the MBBA in the amount of \$100 for her talk titled "Free Operant Training Tasks: The Effects of a 2:1 Ratio of Conditioned and Unconditioned Reinforcer Delivery on the Performance of Dogs." Erica Feuerbacher and Jesus Rosales-Ruiz, also from the University of North Texas, were the second and third authors of this talk.

Renee Railton from the University of Waikato received the MBBA for Best Bridge Study in the amount of \$50 for her talk titled "Presenting Stimuli to Hens: Which Type of Screen is Best?" T. Mary Foster, Catherine R. Sumpter, and William Temple, all from the University of Waikato, were the second, third, and fourth authors of this talk.

Please share in congratulating each of these three students on their fine work in the area of applied animal behavior research, and check our Web site for a list of 2008 recipients.

#### **Programs Needed**

The field of applied animal behavior has experienced impressive growth in recent years, growth reflected in part by the exponential increase in animal behavior-related presentations at the annual convention. This trend is exciting and encouraging, and yet growth rarely comes issue-free. As an expanding field with a substantial market, the discipline is facing problems similar to those faced by clinically practicing behavior

analysts. By example, in the spring 2006 issue of *The Behavior Analyst*, Johnston, Foxx, Jacobson, Green, and Mulick made the statement,

The competencies required for practicing behavior analysis cannot be acquired through nonacademic training experiences because those experiences tend to lack many important features, such as prerequisites for admission, intensive supervised involvement with course material and recipients of behavior-analytic services over a period of months, and systematic measurement of performance.

Johnson et al. were referencing the increasing popularity of the positive behavior support movement and the relative lack of education accompanying its practice. However, the sentiment rings equally true in the field of applied animal behavior. Particularly impacted is the segment of applied animal behavior dedicated to behavior consultation for owners of pet dogs.

In the absence of any regulating bodies and a paucity of accredited education programs, countless self-acclaimed "behavior experts" borrow vocabulary and little else and wade into the living rooms of unsuspecting families while espousing nonvalidated and potentially harmful treatments. In reality, applied animal behavior counseling is a field that requires knowledge of species-specific ethology coupled with a complete understanding of the principles and applications of behavior analysis. Many self-proclaimed animal behaviorists have neither.

A large part of the problem is that need has out-distanced academic opportunity. The AAB SIG receives a steady stream of correspondence from both undergraduate and graduate students inquiring into the availability and location of behavior analytic programs that offer education relevant to applied animal behavior. But accredited programs of study in applied animal behavior are few. An exception to this rule is found in the United Kingdom, where many universities offer flourishing programs in applied animal behavior. Programs such as the University of Southampton's Companion Animal Behaviour Counseling provide dedicated study in the field, but the United States has only one such program: the Applied Animal Behavior program at the University of Illinois Champaign/Urbana.

In recognition of the gap between need and resource, the SIG would like to encourage ABAI members to consider mentoring students with an interest in the field. We understand that many faculty members who teach behavior analysis do not have a great deal of experience in determining the validity of research projects in the field of applied animal behavior, and we will be happy to provide you any support you may require.

#### **Autism**

By Dr. Mary Jane Weiss

I have served in the capacity of Autism SIG President since May of 2006. This has been a very busy and exciting two years for the SIG and for the Autism/ABA community. I have been honored to serve the SIG, and will continue to be actively involved in SIG activities. Ruth Donlin, currently President-Elect, assumed the Presidency after the 2008 ABAI convention. In addition, Suzannah Ferraioli became the new Secretary-Treasurer.

#### **Accomplishments**

The SIG has published and disseminated the Revised Consumer Guidelines. (Thanks to COSAC for funding the printing of the guidelines.) In the past year, we have also developed a user-friendly, parent-oriented version of the guidelines. We plan to refine and distribute this document over the next year, and hope that it will be a useful tool for families in search of competent providers.

We have a new Newsletter Editor; David Fischer has assumed the position. (Thanks to Kate Fiske for her fine work; she will be missed.) We have new guidelines for submitting a variety of articles, which we developed to help simplify the submission and editorial processes.

We also developed new guidelines for voting for President of the SIG. This was in response to our large growth and the need for procedures that enable wider-scale participation of the membership in the process. The current election will be the first election conducted in accordance with our new guidelines.

We also worked to revitalize our Web site. This effort will continue into the coming year.

At the annual meeting in 2007, we had a panel discussion on organizations serving the autism professional community. Thanks go to Peter Gerhardt of the Organization for Autism Research, Suzanne Buchanan of the Center for Outreach and Services for the Autism Community, and David Celiberti of the Association for Science in Autism Treatment. We also thank Jerry Shook for providing us with an update on certification-related issues.

Our research award winners were Lindsay Sessor and Marie Rocha. Thanks go to our judges Jane Howard, Marlene Cohen, and Mark Harvey.

#### Goals for the Next Year

We would like to increase our membership to accurately reflect the interest and participation of ABAI members in autism-related activities. We also plan to continue to focus on practitioner issues and to work collaboratively with ABAI, APBA, and the BACB to achieve these goals. Web site development remains a large priority, and we are hopeful that it will be enhanced substantially this year.

#### Membership

We welcome new members who share our interest in applied behavior analysis and autism treatment. Members receive the SIG's quarterly newsletter at no cost. For information on Autism SIG membership, current committees, newsletter archives, and consumer guidelines, visit our Web site at www.autismsig.org. The Autism SIG is eager to include and involve as many members as possible in our activities. Clear areas of need include: participation on committees, contributions to the newsletter, and writing and editing content for the Web site. Please let us know if you have an interest in helping in these ways!

#### **Active Core Committee Members**

I want to thank our core group of SIG volunteers David Celiberti, Past President Ruth Donlin, President-Elect Davic Fischer, Newsletter Editor Josh Milstein, Web Site Master Nadine Byczcowski, former Newsletter Assistant Suzanne Buchanan, Secretary/Treasurer Kate Fiske, and former Newsletter Editor Tamara Bannon, as well as Marianne Butler, Jenna Miller, Barbara Wells, Lori Bechner, Bob Ross, and Karen Lenard.

### **Behavioral Gerontology SIG**

By Dr. Linda LeBlanc

The mission and objectives of the Behavioral Gerontology SIG are to provide intellectual, clinical, and organizational support to other professionals interested in aging and to foster behavior analytic research in aging. Each year the SIG holds a business meeting in which members discuss issues in the field and of professional development. In addition, an annual award is presented to a student presenting research in the area of aging. One important members' benefit is a subscription to the bi-annual newsletter, which contains information on upcoming conferences in the area of aging, recent published research, and other information pertaining to the field of behavioral gerontology. During the past year, 25 members attended the annual SIG meeting at ABAI. Among the topics discussed were the development of a Web site for the SIG; how technologies can be best distributed; issues related to staff buy-in; health issues for older adults, including what can be done to aid those issues (e.g., diabetes, obesity); and minority issues in

The annual SIG student presenter award was presented to Jonathan Baker and his presentation entitled "Conceptualizing and Treating Aphasia Using a Behavior Analytic Model," which focused on a how behavior analysts can begin research and treatment for aphasia, a language impairment most commonly seen in adults over the age of 65.

The SIG also elected several new officers: Stacey Cherup was elected to be in charge of the newsletter, Allison Jay was elected Treasurer, Nick Mui Ker was elected as Secretary, and Jonathan Baker was elected as Web

Master. Linda LeBlanc continues to serve as President of the  ${\sf SIG.}$ 

The SIG Web site came online in the fall of 2007 and contains back issues of the SIG newsletter as well as links to aging-related Web sites. The site also contains information on becoming a member of the SIG and applications are available online.

In the coming year, the SIG plans to continue to develop the Web site as a resource to members and those interested in behavioral gerontology. The SIG also plans on starting a discussion forum to further benefit members.

# **Behavioral Technology**

By Dr. Christina Whalen

In its first year, the Technology SIG has attracted about 15 members, and we are predicting growth in 2008–2009 with the increasing prevalence of technology in ABA. At the 2008 ABAI convention in Chicago, a poster was presented to recruit new members at the EXPO and a business meeting was held to make plans for 2008–2009.

This year, the SIG has made plans for the launch of a Web site that will provide information about technology in ABA, a list of companies who provide ABA technology, blog postings about the use of technology in ABA, and a research review on ABA and technology. A committee has been initiated with roles assigned to individuals who will work on the site and begin to grow the SIG membership online. For the 2009 ABAI convention, the SIG plans to present a symposium and a panel on ABA and Technology.

# **Behaviorists for Social Responsibility**

By Drs. Mark Mattaini and Richard Rakos

Behaviorists for Social Responsibility (BFSR, prior to 2000: Behaviorists for Social Action) has been an ABAI SIG for over 25 years. Many behavior analysts came to the field motivated to use the natural science of behavior to make a difference in the world, and there are many opportunities to do so. In recent years, BFSR has published the journal Behavior and Social Issues (BSI), an openaccess scientific journal available in print as well as on the Web at www.behaviorandsocialissues.org (at no cost). The journal has experienced over 140,000 file downloads in the past year, and represents one way to contribute. The SIG also consistently supports a number of ABAI convention presentations related to social issues. Still, there is much more that could be done. In the coming year we will be asking all members of ABAI to contribute to a dialogue related to potential further contributions of the science to supporting social justice, human rights, and environmental action, and to devote some time during the year to volunteering such contributions, and documenting successes and attempts through an updated Web site. Further details on this campaign will be announced in the near future. BFSR and BSI are also homes for those behavior analysts with

interests in cultural analysis, an area in which much more work is badly needed (and upon which much action in areas of social responsibility depend).

# **Behaviorists Interested in Gambling**

By Dr. Simon Dymond

The mission of the Behaviorists Interested in Gambling (BIG) SIG is to foster and promote research on gambling and treatments for problem gambling from a behavioral perspective. Meeting this mission is important for behavior analysis because we, as a field, have basically been silent in the large literature on gambling.

The BIG SIG recently published a new journal, Analysis of Gambling Behavior. Originally published online, Analysis of Gambling Behavior is now housed at the University of North Dakota, which will print the journal (two issues per year) and share ownership with Dr. Jeff Weatherly. Back issues will be available online (url to be announced soon).

Consider taking out a subscription to Analysis of Gambling Behavior (\$40: Professionals & Institutions; \$20: Students), by contacting Dr. Jeff Weatherly (jeffrey\_weatherly@und.nodak.edu) or Dr. Mark Dixon (mdixon@siu.edu).

In other news, the BIG SIG elected Dr. Simon Dymond of Swansea University as its President. Simon is looking forward to undertaking the onerous social activities and networking that this position confers.

For more information about the BIG SIG, or to get involved in SIG activities, contact Dr. Simon Dymond (s.o.dymond@swansea.ac.uk).

#### Clinical

By Dr. Thomas Waltz

The Clinical Special Interest Group of ABAI (Clinical SIG) is dedicated to facilitating collaboration of researchers and clinicians in further development and application of applied behavior analysis in 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.

At this year's convention, Clinical SIG members presented the first "Roadmap to convention events of interest to Clinical Behavior Analysis." Prior to the convention, Clinical SIG volunteers combed the convention program for events that addressed treatment, assessment, and philosophical issues of interest to CBA. The presenters also previewed many basic research presentations and described how they were relevant to CBA. A second service the Clinical SIG provided at this years conference was presenting a poster outlining where to get graduate training in CBA at the ABAI Expo. SIG leadership would like to thank all Clinical SIG members who volunteered their time and energy to these two events.

The Acceptance and Commitment Therapy summer training institute was held in Chicago just after the annual ABAI convention. This placement was intended to increase the attendance of clinical psychologists at the ABAI convention. The Clinical SIG hopes that future events will be integrated within the ABAI convention structure under a larger track for clinical, family, and behavior medicine (CBM) events. ABAI has always had pre-convention workshops that have focused on radical behavioral approaches to psychotherapy. We have the membership expertise to produce a stronger CBM track and the Clinical SIG will be actively recruiting other radical behavioral approaches to psychotherapy (e.g., Behavioral Activation, Contingency Management, Couple's Therapy, Dialectical Behavioral Therapy, Functional Analytic Psychotherapy, Gerontology, and Pediatrics) to expand their offerings at the ABAI convention. Clinical SIG membership is also working on ways to recruit membership back from other organizations. The SIG will be planning future events similar to the "Roadmap" presentation at this year's convention to help clinicians discover all that ABAI has to offer them.

Several important events promoting the dissemination of CBA have occurred in 2007 and are occurring in 2008. There has been a resurgence of books focusing on issues related to radical behavioral psychotherapy. Jonas Ramnerö and Niklas Törneke's ABCs of Human Behavior provides a well needed introduction to behavior analysis for psychotherapists. Doug Woods and Jonathan Kanter edited a book on understanding behavior disorders that highlights contemporary CBA treatments for a wide variety of clinical problems. The long-awaited books on Functional Analytic Psychotherapy, A Guide to Functional Analytic Psychotherapy and Functional Analytic Psychotherapy in Practice were completed by the numerous leaders in that approach and are due out later this year. The impressive array of Acceptance and Commitment therapy books will continue to expand ever further. And the most exciting development related to the Clinical SIG is the upcoming new special section of The Behavior Analyst focusing on contemporary issues in CBA.

Clinical Behavior Analysis is alive and well at ABAI. The Clinical SIG will continue to work to expand the offerings ABAI has for radical behavioral psychotherapists and actively recruit new members to this exciting field. If you would like to join the Clinical SIG, please contact us using the link at

 $www.aba international.org/Special\_Interests/clinical.asp.$ 

### **Crime and Delinquency**

By Dr. Joseph Cautilli

If you believe in improving the world with behavior analysis, then this is the SIG for you. Crime hurts people, destroys families, and degrades communities. Crime affects not only the victims and their families, but the families of criminals, as well.

Work to revitalize the Crime and Delinquency SIG at ABAI continues. This SIG was dormant for several years but socially is much needed and within behavior analysis, is justified. Large issues of public policy and financing are dedicated to crime prevention and crime reduction. In addition, our current prison system needs substantial reform.

Behavior analytic interventions have played an influential role in efforts to reduce crime and delinquency. Today, one in 35 people in the U.S. alone are involved with the criminal justice system. The Crime and Delinquency SIG is committed to providing information on the effectiveness of behavior analytic interventions to prevent crime and rehabilitate offenders, including treatments for addictions, arson, and sex offenders. A community reinforcement approach to treatment is one of the few evidence-based practices for addictions to gain national and international acceptance. In addition, our goal is to ensure that over the next five years, substantial training in these techniques is available at the ABAI convention.

Behavioral interventions can reduce crime by approximately 13-20% (Redondo-Illescas, Sánchez-Meca, & Garrido-Genovés, 2001). The American Psychological Association lists behavior modification as an empirically-supported treatment for sex offenders. As well, behavioral parent training is a well-established treatment for oppositional defiant disorder and conduct disorder, which are often forerunners to adolescent delinquency (see O'Donohue, & Ferguson, 2006). Finally, behaviorally-oriented residential treatment programs, such as teaching family homes (Bernfeld, Blase & Fixsen, 2006), are listed by the Surgeon General as promising for children and adolescents with conduct disorders. Recent evaluations of the literature suggest that the program is even more effective on post-release recidivism than first thought (Kingsley, 2006) so the results are promising.

However, other areas are less influenced by behavioral treatments. For example, a recent study found that nearly a third of veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan who received care from Veterans Affairs between 2001 and 2005 were diagnosed with mental health or psychosocial ailments. These citizens may be at risk for becoming involved with the law enforcement system. The aforementioned study was published in the March 12, 2007 issue of Archives of Internal Medicine and carried out by researchers at the University of California, San Francisco and the San Francisco VA Medical Center who examined data from 103,788 veterans. Of the total, 32,010 (31%) were diagnosed with mental health

problems, psychosocial problems, or both, including 25,658 who received mental health diagnoses. More than half (56%) were diagnosed with two or more disorders. Other mental health conditions included anxiety disorder (24%), adjustment disorder (24%), depression (20%) and substance abuse disorder (20%). Many evidence-based behavioral treatments exist for this population, including exposure therapy to reduce symptoms of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, behavioral activation for treating depression, and community reinforcement and contingency management programs to reduce substance abuse. Recently, efforts have shown some interesting success for Acceptance and Commitment Therapy to prevent problems (Polk, personal communication). However, many clinicians are reluctant to use these interventions even in the VA hospital system.

In response, the Crime and Delinquency SIG has joined forces with Citizens United for the Rehabilitation of Errants Chapter for Veterans to begin lobbying efforts to ensure that behaviorally-based treatments are offered as prevention. One area of particular promise in prevention of criminal activity is the program of Kevin Polk and colleagues (Polk, 2007), who use a version of Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT) in an intensive outpatient program for veterans who have suffered varying types of military trauma. The program is highly structured and runs 12 sessions in one week with two additional sessions for data collection. Initial data reveal promising results and incidental interviews with subjects are hopeful.

This SIG is both a science and practice SIG. It attempts to work with Federal, state, and local prison authorities and provide information to families and loved ones of the incarcerated. In addition, the SIG's goals include providing future research in the area of rehabilitation, reforming sentencing laws, advocating for more and better job training and education for prisoners, improving reintegration of prisoners to society, and working to eliminate racial profiling and employment discrimination of convicted felons. The Crime and Delinquency SIG strives to reduce crime through the application of behavioral principles and by promoting a policy of criminal justice reform to include these interventions.

The Crime and Delinquency SIG has an active listserve of approximately 50 members at http://www.baocommunity.org/mailman/listinfo/830-cdfba, which it runs in partnership with the Behavior Analyst Online (BAO) organization. To date, this listserve has posted over 70 government contract request for proposals for federal community re-entry programs. In addition, more then 100 job announcements have been posted for work within all levels of criminal justice and forensics. With the funding and resources from the Second Chance Act becoming available soon, this is a great area of behavior analysts to make an impact.

In addition, the SIG is an active member in producing the newest BAO journal, the *Journal of Behavior Analysis of* 

Offender and Victim—Treatment and Prevention. This journal has a mission to highlight the role of behavior analysis in adult and juvenile crime prevention; assessment of offenders including risk assessment; and treatment programs from a behavioral orientation including, but not limited to, the use of behavioral counseling, collaborative goal setting, contingency management, functional assessment, functionally-based interventions, respondent conditioning and counter conditioning procedures, functional analytic psychotherapy and acceptance and commitment therapy, among much else.

The vision of the Journal of Behavior Analysis of Offender and Victim—Treatment and Prevention is as follows: we imagine a world in which evidence-based practices are utilized to reduce recidivism and crime. By 2001, the Bureau of Justice Statistics estimated that 2.7% of adults in the U.S. had served time in prison. This is almost a full percentage over the 1.8% of adults that were estimated to have served in 1991. The dramatic rise in incarceration speaks to the need for strong offender treatment and prevention programs. Our first two issues have been loaded with diverse range of journal articles, and we invite the whole behavioral community to contribute to this journal.

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### **Developmental Behavior Analysis SIG**

By Dr. Martha Pelaez

The Developmental Behavior Analysis SIG has focused on behavior-analytic functional relations in a developmental frame, that is, where those relationships are examined across two or more points in a developmental sequence. The SIG's emphases are upon environmental-unit behavior-unit interactions in basic and applied contexts, in mammalian species, and across any sequences or combinations of developmental points (and, in initial phases, at single developmental points). Species-specific considerations are taken into account in relation to the functional relationships. Use of demographic independent variables is not encouraged, except when they could facilitate clearly uncovering the underlying behavioral processes. Occasionally, the environment-behavior interactions in a developmental frame are grouped under a superordinate concept (e.g., "attachment," "learned helplessness"), to allow the behavior-analytic description/explanation to be evaluated against an alternative description/explanation. More generally, the SIG examines also how different theoretical positions, within and without behavior analysis, approach identical questions. The historical bases of behaviorism, and of behavior analysis as a scientific or applied field, may be examined also.

In this context, the Developmental SIG routinely produces a full program for each annual meeting of ABAI, in which symposia, papers, invited addresses, tutorials, and panel discussions covering the range of interests noted above are represented. At the Chicago convention, we added applied behavior analysis (specifically on the effects of touch and massage therapy on infancy) symposia in a developmental frame to our program.

The following were the invited speakers for this 2008 convention:

- Howard Rachlin (Stony Brook University), "Self-Control and Social Cooperation"
- Peter Killeen (Arizona State University),
   "Tutorial: Evo-Devo"
- Tiffany Field (Touch Research Institute-University of Miami-Medical School), "Massage Therapy Research"

The SIG also produces a journal titled *Behavioral* Development *Bulletin* (BDB) that publishes refereed articles on theory and research under the conception of developmental behavior analysis outlined above. This year BDB will be publishing a special issue on the development of autism with Dr. Smita Shukla as the Guest Editor.

In this frame, the Developmental Behavior Analysis SIG welcomes members from those working in basic behavior analysis, in applied behavior analysis, or both. Dues are \$15 per year and include a subscription to Behavioral Development Bulletin. To become a member please contact

Dr. Martha Pelaez, College of Education, FIU, Miami FL, 33199, USA. Members are encouraged to send articles for publication in *Behavioral Development Bulletin* to Martha Pelaez, and papers, symposia, debates, and the like, for inclusion on the SIG program of the annual ABAI Convention to Jack Gewirtz, Department of Psychology, DM294, FIU, Miami, FL, 33199, USA.

# **Dissemination of Behavior Analysis**

By Josh Pritchard

Over the past six months, the Dissemination of Behavior Analysis (DBA) SIG has grown in size, begun some initial activities, and increased online activity. The DBA established an Accurate Online Representation Committee (AORC) which consists of six volunteers. This Committee has been working to correct misinformation in the online world and has corrected three private Web sites and begun publishing, monitoring, and updating articles on Wikipedia. To date, the AORC has accrued over 1,500 edits to Wikipedia and monitors over 80 articles.

As membership grows and plans are developed, we expect more and more participation. The SIG's agenda over the next twelve months includes the further refinement of the Web site, with development of a public and a member section. The member section will include a host of ideas/activities that any student of our science can help disseminate. The public side will have user-friendly tutorials about various topics in our science. We hope to develop a speaker's bureau of volunteers and topics as well as a "speaker's toolkit" for those who would like to present some of our topics. In the upcoming year, we hope to offer a free series of podcasts that incorporate humor into our science, making the content even more palatable to the lay audience. We also plan to take initial steps to collaborate with interested parties to locate non-behavioral conferences of audiences amenable to presentations introducing our science. These projects are only in their infancy, but we hope to see some considerable progress by the next ABAI convention!

The DBA SIG had a booth at the ABAI Expo in Chicago where we provided small, easily accomplished projects to further disseminate our science. One option was to sign up for the SIG. As we look to 2009, we hope to achieve a membership of over 200 behaviorists and to get several campaigns on track, including a group working in popular media to provide the public with contact to our science. This convention was a great step towards further dissemination, and we hope to see more members join to help accurately represent our science to the public.

#### **Evidence-Based Practice**

By Dr. Teri Lewis-Palmer

The purpose of the Evidence-Based Practice (EBP) SIG is to promote socially important behavior by facilitating effective and sustainable practices in real world settings. Our goal is to develop a SIG that reflects member input and focuses on a select number of activities that can be completed within the year. To that end, we asked members to provide information about activities that the EBP SIG could prioritize over the next few years. Before providing a summary of the results, we would like to extend a quick thank you to those members who provided us with information.

Collaboration around EBP issues with policy makers, other disciplines, and other ABAI SIGs emerged as a top priority. Additionally, members indicated a strong interest in support research and developing a common definition of EBP. Finally, a third area of focus involves increasing visibility of EBP issues by increasing our presence within ABA conferences and across non-ABA conferences, and by disseminating white papers on relevant EBP issues.

There are several activities that the EBP SIG could undertake. However, it is important that we focus our efforts on those activities that are meaningful and achievable. At the SIG meeting we discussed results from the survey with the intent of determining activities for the upcoming years and reviewed proposed bylaws.

If you have any questions or comments regarding EBP SIG activities or would like more information, please contact me at tlewispalmer@gmail.com. We look forward to working together over the next year.

# Experimental Analysis of Human Behavior

By Dr. Cynthia Pietras

This past year the Experimental Analysis of Human Behavior (EAHB) SIG continued to promote its interest area through sponsorship of the Experimental Analysis of Human Behavior Bulletin, the Student Paper Competition, and the EAHB SIG Distinguished Career Award. The Experimental Analysis of Human Behavior Bulletin (www.EAHB.org) is an online, ongoing journal for empirical articles, research in progress, technical information, and other articles and activities related to human operant research. The yearly Student Paper Competition is designed to promote and recognize scholarly activity in the experimental analysis of human behavior, and the annual Distinguished Career Award aims to recognize and honor an individual who has made outstanding lifetime contributions to the experimental analysis of human behavior.

In 2007, the EAHB SIG held its annual meeting at the ABAI convention in San Diego. At this meeting, the SIG congratulated and gave awards to the 2006-2007 Student Paper Winners: Jennifer Hitt (Illinois State University) and sponsor Dr. Tom Critchfield (Illinois State

University) for her paper, "An Application of the Matching Law to Big Ten Basketball;" and Brian D. Kangas (University of Florida) and sponsor Dr. Diana Walker (The Chicago School of Professional Psychology) for his paper, "An Adjusting-Dose Procedure To Identify the Optimal Reinforcing Dose of Nitrous Oxide." The SIG was also honored to present its 2007 Distinguished Career Award to Dr. David R. Schmitt for his contributions to the experimental analysis of human social behavior.

This year at the ABAI annual convention, the SIG presented awards to our new student paper winners: Daniel Fienup (Illinois State University) and sponsor Thomas S. Critchfield (Illinois State University) for the paper, "Establishing Concepts of Inferential Statistics and Hypothesis Decision Making Through Contextually-Controlled Equivalence Classes;" and Yusuke Hayashi (West Virginia University) and sponsor Manish Vaidya (University of North Texas) for the paper, "Effects of Stimulus Discriminability on the Acquisition of Conditional Discriminations in Adult Humans." The SIG would like to acknowledge all of the participants and reviewers who made this event possible.

The SIG was very excited to present its 2008
Distinguished Career award to Dr. Charles Catania. Dr.
Catania presented a brief address at ABAI titled, "The
Origins and Consequences of Fictional Verbal Entities."
The SIG also sponsored a symposium this year titled, "The
Experimental Analysis of Human Social Behavior:
Symposium in Honor of David R. Schmitt." The symposium
was designed to honor the work of Dr. Schmitt, the 2007
recipient of the Distinguished Career Award, who was
unable to attend ABAI last year. Lastly, the SIG held its
annual meeting at ABAI where we discussed nominations
for the SIG's Student Paper Award Coordinator and
Treasurer, the EAHB Bulletin, nominations for next year's
award recipients, membership, and other business. The
meeting was open to everyone interested in attending.

Additional information on the EAHB SIG, the EAHB Bulletin, and membership can be found at www.eahb.org. Those interested in the student paper competition should consult the Web site for contest rules and instructions. We are accepting nominations for next year's Distinguished Career Award. Submissions to the EAHB Bulletin are always welcome.

#### Instructional Design

By Dr. Guy Bruce

The Instructional Design SIG provides a forum to share applications of behavior analysis to the design of efficient learning programs. Our activities are limited to presenting our work at the annual ABAI conference. At the 2007 convention, we hosted a special symposium titled "Instructional Design, What's New?" This session provided an overview of instructional design theory, research, and applications presented by a large number of individuals, in a format "borrowed" from the Celeration Chart Share sessions. The session attracted a large audience, and due to popular demand, we presented it again at the 2008 convention. People interested in joining the Instructional Design SIG are encouraged to contact Guy Bruce at (309) 734-5341 or guybruce@maplecity.com.

#### OBM Network

By Dr. John Austin

Mark your calendars! The 12th Bi-Annual Organizational Behavior Management (OBM) Network Conference will be held on February 19-20, 2009 in Cocoa Beach, Florida. The conference will be held at the oceanfront Cocoa Beach Hilton and will focus on "Leadership." Featured speakers include the country's leading authorities on the use of behavior analytic techniques to improve performance in organizations and increase safety. The conference is sponsored by Aubrey Daniels International, Continuous Learning Group, Quality Safety Edge, and Safety Performance Solutions, This year the conference will highlight the important contributions OBM is making in organizations worldwide. We anticipate many attendees from businesses eager to learn more about OBM and will be gearing our marketing efforts toward this end.

One of the initiatives for the next year or two for the OBM Network will be to make OBM research more relevant for business. A round table discussion on this topic will be held at the upcoming OBM Network conference described above. Anyone with ideas on ways in which this might be accomplished is welcome to participate in the discussion.

Congratulations to Kristen Rost of CUNY-Queen's College in New York for winning the OBM Network Chris Anderson Research award for 2008. Under the guidance of Dr. Alicia Alvero, Kristen's research will focus on behavior-based safety and ergonomics.

The Web site, http://OBMnetwork.com continues to get over 50,000 visitors per year from all around the world. In 2007, the OBM Network had more members than ever, with 282.

Haworth Press, the publisher for the Journal of Organizational Behavior Management, which is a member benefit for OBM Network members, has been acquired by the large publisher Taylor & Francis. For now, nothing

will change regarding subscriptions; however, the journal has undergone an overhaul in terms of how manuscripts are handled. Most everything is electronic now, including electronic proofs for authors. This is resulting in much quicker turn-times on manuscript reviews and publication.

## **Parent Professional Partnership**

By Dr. David Celiberti

As you may know, the Parent Professional Partnership (PPP) SIG was created in 2001 to better meet the needs of parents within the ABA community. In particular, the PPP SIG provides information, networking, and resources for parents attending the annual ABAI convention or seeking information about the behavior analytic treatment of autism. Although the bulk of our SIG's efforts center around autism spectrum disorders, parents of children with other disorders and disabilities may be interested in our activities or our Web site. There are also dozens of professionals who are members of our SIG. We encourage them to share our link, www.pppsig.org, with the families with whom they work.

We are an all-volunteer group but are proud of our accomplishments thus far. The leadership of this SIG is comprised of a small handful of parents and professionals. There are no financial resources as we charge no dues.

# Parent Professional Partnership SIG Officers and Committees

The current officers for 2007-2008 are as follows: Co-Presidents are David Celiberti, Ph.D., BCBA and Barbara Wells, Parent Member; Secretary is Tamara Bannon, LMSW, BCBA; Consumer Liaisons are Marianne Butler, Parent Member, Lynn Faerber, BA, Jenna Glennon, MAT, BCBA, Peggy Halliday, BA, BCABA, Germaine Ibrahim, M.Ed., and Audrey Meissner, M.Ed., BCBA (Canada).

The Public Relations Committee's objectives are to support the Association for Behavior Analysis International in reaching out to the local and adjoining communities of the region hosting each annual ABAI convention, but more extensively the autism-specific conferences. The committee also aims to forge alliances with organizations that have compatible goals with the PPP SIG and to support the public awareness of the Web sites for the PPP SIG and the Autism SIG by sharing our link with other organizations and distributing information about the SIG. The members are Jenna Glennon, MAT, BCBA (Chair); Germaine Ibrahim, M.Ed.; Lynn Faerber, BA; and Marianne Butler, Parent Member.

The Convention Committee's objectives are to develop and distribute materials for parents attending the ABAI convention. This committee will also organize networking opportunities for parents and professionals at the convention and inform SIG members about upcoming conference experiences. In addition, the Convention Committee will coordinate our activities with the

Association for Behavior Analysis International. The Members are Tamara Bannon, LMSW, BCBA (Chair); Germaine Ibrahim, M.Ed.; and Barbara Wells, Parent.

The SIG Web site Committee objectives are to develop the Web site for the PPP SIG and expand and update content. The Web site Committee members are David Celiberti, Ph.D., BCBA (Chair); Lori Bechner, MA, BCBA; Marianne Butler, Parent Member; Peggy Halliday, BA, BCABA; Audrey Meissner, M.Ed., BCBA; and Barbara Wells, Parent.

#### **Update on PPPSIG.org**

If you have not already done so, please visit our Web site, PPPSIG.org. The Web site includes information about the goals and objectives of the SIG, officers and contact information, an extensive list of links, books, and resources, and a description of upcoming conferences. We recently added new content prior to the ABA conference this past May, specifically more frequently asked questions and resource descriptions. This is a work in progress and we are grateful to Josh Milstein from Rutgers University who has provided significant support in maintaining and improving upon our Web site.

#### **Become Involved**

If you would like to join the Parent Professional Partnership SIG or discuss ways to become more involved, please contact Tamara Bannon at tamara.bannon@njcosac.org. If you have suggestions for resources and links for our Web site, please contact David Celiberti at dacnys@aol.com. If you have a suggestion for a consumer-friendly, behavior analytic conference that can be added to our Web site, please contact Barbara Wells at Barbara.wells@njcosac.org.

#### **Positive Behavior Support**

By Dr. Robert Putnam

At the 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference of the Association for Behavior Analysis International, the following officers were elected for the Positive Behavior Support (PBS) Special Interest Group. Robert Putnam was elected President, Benjamin Smith was elected Vice President and Pat Egan was elected Secretary/Treasurer. One of our goals has been to grow the membership of the ABAI PBS SIG section. One of these strategies has been to increase both membership in the Association of Behavior Analysis International and the PBS SIG by reaching out to members of the Association for Positive Behavior Support. Conversations have occurred with the leadership of the Association for Positive Behavior Support as to how to work together to promote positive behavior support and applied behavior analysis. The Positive Behavior Support SIG met at the 34th Annual Conference of the Association for Behavior Analysis International on Sunday May 25, 2008. People interested in the Positive Behavior Support SIG's activities are encouraged to contact Dr. Putnam at (781) 437-1207 or bputnam@mayinstitute.org.

# Practitioner Issues in Behavior Analysis (PIBA)

By Dr. Joseph Cautilli

As behavior analysis becomes increasingly professionalized, it has developed difficulties unique to the practice of behavior analysis in the school system, mental health system, and developmental disabilities system. This SIG is dedicated to the establishment of behavior analysis as a unique clinical practice. We support Federal, local, and state initiatives including but not limited to the licensing of behavior analysis. All behavior analysts involved in clinical practice, organizational behavior management, or social services are welcome to join the SIG.

After the formal acceptance of the PIBA SIG by the ABAI Executive Council, we held an open survey to determine our issues for the upcoming year. We requested use of the Behavior Analyst Online SIG's policy listserve to generate a place for voting and serve as the primary means for the PIBA SIG to discuss issues regarding insurance regulations, licensing, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services regulation changes, national provider identification numbers, and a host of other topics.

Over a two-week period ending December 6, 2007 we advertised on various relevant listserves for prospective members to join us on the policy listserve to vote on critical items for the SIG. At this time, the list has over 125 members (our starting membership for the SIG) and 113 members eligible to vote. Over 25% of the new membership voted for one or more topics covering governing board structure and content, bylaws development, dues structure and pricing, licensing of behavior analysts, faculty and graduate program development, third-party insurance coverage for behavior analytic services, basic and applied research links, and pamphlet development, among other items.

The items supported by a majority of respondents will receive immediate attention and form the core of the Practitioner Issues in Behavior Analysis SIG's ambitious agenda. We welcome all behavior analysts, both basic and applied, to join us in addressing important issues.

# Rehabilitation and Independent Living

By Dr. Mike Mozzoni

The Rehabilitation and Independent Living Special Interest Group met with representatives from Timber Ridge NeuroRestorative Inc., The Mentor Network, Center for NeuroSkills, Learning Services and members from the State of Alabama and the University of Guadalajara Mexico. The group spoke about conducting an evidence-based literature review regarding ABA and Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) using the American Academy of Neurology (AAN) guidelines for evidence. There was conversation regarding the measures of evidence and how it fits or does not fit with what we do, as single subject designs (SSD) are rated as class-four evidence

and random control trials are rated as class-one. The AAN guidelines were distributed electronically to the attendees for comment. Members were asked to search for large ABA studies utilizing random control trials or nonrandomized trials, as we were in agreement that what few ABA publications concerning ABI were all SSD to our knowledge. It was also roundly agreed that there are too few behavior analysts applying their skills to the area of neurorehabilitation. The Department of Defense and the Veterans Administration are faced with a large influx of soldiers with blast-related brain injures and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. They are interested in utilizing ABA; however, there are too few practitioners to provide services. As a result they are forced to look elsewhere for help although they are increasingly aware of the utility of ABA. We have an opportunity to provide services to a very needy and high profile population, which could increase the visibility and value of ABA in mainstream America.

# Sex Therapy and Educational Programming

By Dr. Bobby Newman

The Sex Therapy and Educational Programming Special Interest Group (STEP SIG) of ABAI was created to fill gaps in the areas of applied behavior analytic research and practice in sex therapy and education. The STEP SIG marked its first anniversary at the ABAI convention of 2008. We are happy to announce that we have achieved our first set of annual goals, which included putting together a symposium of sexual behavior research and treatment reports for the annual ABAI convention, the creation of a yahoo group to facilitate discussion of SIG activities, and the creation of our first newsletter. Topics in the newsletter ranged from tracking public policy and education efforts (e.g., factors influencing participation in a condom distribution program) through sex education work with individuals diagnosed with developmental disabilities.

As in many other areas of research, the contributions and potential contributions of applied behavior analysis have not been properly appreciated. Behavior analysts generally operate outside the mainstream of sex therapy, with exactly one overlapping member between ABAI and the largest professional sex therapy organization. Discussion with representation from that organization indicated that there were no individuals who were listed as both Board Certified Behavior Analysts and certified sex therapists. According to the same report, only one BCBA has presented research at the conference of the organization, or published in its journal (a case study of marital difficulty caused by paraphilic behavior, and its resolution). STEP SIG aims to change that and to increase awareness of applied behavior analytic research within mainstream sex therapy and sex education.

Many of our members work with individuals diagnosed with developmental disabilities, where sex education is rarely carried out in a data-based manner in keeping

with the needs of the individual. As a result, there are gaps in the behavioral repertoire of the individual with developmental disabilities, which can lead to embarrassing situations, and possibly even legal complications and loss of freedom and autonomy. We hope that by encouraging data-based sex therapy and education, we can change this disturbing fact.

Our second annual business meeting was held at the ABAI 2008 convention and all interested individuals were invited to attend. Those interested in the aims and activities of the SIG are encouraged to contact Bobby Newman at (516) 448-5042 or darkoverlordaba@prodigy.net.

# SIG Español

By Dr. Mapy Chavez-Brown

El SIG Español se dedica a la difusión del análisis del comportamiento entre los miembros del ABAI que hablan español, así como a toda la comunidad de habla hispana.

Nuestra misión incluye el establecer lazos de comunicación y colaboración entre miembros de ABAI que hablan español, ya sea como lengua maternal, o segunda lengua. Otro objetivo del SIG es promover la presentación de investigaciones logradas en países de habla hispana durante la convención anual de ABAI.

El SIG Español se reúne cada durante la Convención Anual de ABAI. Aquellos interesados en obtener más información, o hacerse miembros, pueden comunicarse con:

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# Speech Pathology

By Dr. Barbara E. Esch

The mission of the Speech Pathology Applied Behavior Analysis (SPABA) SIG is to promote dissemination of behaviorally oriented speech and language research/application of evidence-based practices to speech and language professionals. Our members have been active during the past year both in the U.S. and internationally to further this mission.

Our members reported varying activities for 2007-08 in venues accessed by speech and language professionals (SLP). Manuscripts (published or in press) included 11 empirical papers and seven discussion papers or book chapters. Conference presentations consisted of papers, posters, seminars, short courses, and workshops. There were 15 such presentations at ABAI 2008, three more than at ABAI 2007. For the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association's 2007 convention, ABAI Speech

Pathology SIG members submitted two proposals, one of which was accepted and presented at their November meeting. At international, state, and regional conferences attended by speech/language professionals, SIG members made 18 presentations. SIG members also conducted many non-conference workshops during the year for audiences of SLPs, occupational and physical therapists, teachers, program administrators, paraprofessionals, and parents or other caregivers.

Several of our SIG members hold faculty appointments in university (or college) communication arts and sciences departments through which speech pathologists typically receive most of their academic training. One such department at a U.S. college has recently approved a Master's program in autism and will offer courses taught by behavioral SLPs (including one of our SIG members) as well as by Ph.D.-level instructors holding the BCBA® credential. According to our SIG member-instructor in this new program, "I think it's exciting that the program will be strongly anchored by the principles of ABA."

SPABA SIG goals for 2008-09 will be aimed at increasing our dissemination activities in the areas listed above and continuing to promote professional collaboration between speech pathologists and behavior analysts. We are particularly motivated to increase student participation and, to that end, we will establish a SPABA SIG student representative position. Our new student representative will work closely with the SIG's membership chair and others to plan and develop activities that offer opportunities for students to become involved in the SIG and in ABAI more broadly.

We invite interested individuals to learn more about the Speech Pathology SIG at www.behavioralspeech.com or through our email at SPABASIG@yahoo.com. For other information, please contact us: Barbara Esch, (Chair) besch1@mac.com; Mareile Koenig (Secretary) areilekoenig@comcast.net; Jamie Severtson (Membership) jamie.severtson@hotmail.com; or Tracie Lindblad, (Treasurer) tracie@cdco.com.

#### **Standard Celeration Society**

By Michael Fabrizio

Rooted firmly in the practices and procedures of Precision Teaching, the Standard Celeration Society (SCS) exists to promote standardized measuring and monitoring of behavior frequencies and their celerations. This past year marked another milestone for the SCS as it held the 20th International Precision Teaching Conference (IPTC) in Kansas City in November 2007. With over 150 people attending the conference, its theme of "Back to the Future: Honoring the Past, Navigating the Future" marked this important event in the SCS's history. Coordinated with the opening of the Ogden R. Lindsley Memorial Archives housed at the Behavior Research Company, the 20th IPTC featured distinguished presenters from our field such as Hank Pennypacker, Ann Duncan Hively, Carl Binder, Abigail Calkin, Rick Kubina, Patrick McGreevy, Owen White, Claudia McDade, Chuck Merbitz, and Wells

Hively who, along with all of the conference's other presenters, gave riveting and insightful presentations. The SCS Executive Committee wishes to thank both the Behavior Research Company and the Lindsley Archives Committee for jointly hosting the conference as well as Nancy Hughes-Lindsley, Scott Born, Megan Willesen, and Courtney Pepper-Owens for all of their fantastic work that contributed so much to the success of the conference.

Beyond the highly successful 20th annual IPTC, the SCS also unveiled a newly designed Web site (www.celeration.org) with significantly expanded content including on-line versions of all back issues of the *Journal of Precision Teaching and Celeration*, as well as vastly improved functionality inducing online membership renewal, conference registration, and voting. The SCS Executive Committee extends its thanks to Scott Born of the Behavior Research Company for all of his hard work on our site.

The SCS also proudly announces that it will resume publication of the Journal of Precision Teaching and Celeration as an online resource available to SCS members. The next issue of the Journal should now be available to SCS members with subsequent issues of the Journal already in production.

#### **Verbal Behavior**

By Dr. William Potter

The Verbal Behavior (VB) Special Interest Group held its annual meeting at the ABAI convention in Chicago—all were welcome to attend. Our purpose at the annual SIG meetings is to provide a gathering for folks interested in verbal behavior research and application, to conduct business related to the VB SIG, to bestow awards and grant monies on winning recipients (see below), and to set goals for the upcoming years.

This past year, the SIG created a new research grant—a \$500 award to a student conducting research in the verbal behavior area. Dr. Caio Miguel is the VB Grant Coordinator and can be reached at miguelc@csus.edu for additional information. The winner of this award was announced at the annual meeting; the results will be published on the SIG's Web site at www.vbsig.org. The grant application guidelines state that this program provides monetary support for empirical research in verbal behavior conducted by students. Eligible proposals are typically relevant to at least one of the following topics: primary and secondary verbal operants, multiple/joint control, private events, rule-governed behavior, language acquisition, language assessment and training, second languages, pedagogy, the verbal behavior of nonhumans, verbal behavior research methodology, etc.

In addition to the grant, the SIG carried on its annual research competition, which is organized by Judah Axe. The competition guidelines state that a submitted paper must be original research in the area of verbal behavior with an undergraduate or graduate student as the first

author. A submitted paper can be a contribution of a conceptual analysis, a study conducted in the area of basic research, or an empirical investigation conducted under an applied framework. Submissions are restricted to researchers who are either current student members of ABAI or individuals in their first year out of the school in which they conducted the research. Submissions should adhere to American Psychological Association publication guidelines and be no longer than 30 pages. To find out more information about the competition contact Judah Axe at axe.3@osu.edu. The results of the competition will also be posted to the VB SIG Web site. Dr. Traci Cihon and Dr. Caio Miguel are the new newsletter editors (thanks to Dr. Matt Normand for all his hard work on previous issues). Feel free to contact them with articles or information you would like to see published in the newsletter. Past issues of the newsletter are available on the SIG's Web site. Traci can be contacted at tcihon@gmail.com and Caio at miguelc@csus.edu. The VB Web site can be viewed at www.vbsig.org. If you would like to contribute your presentations or papers to be available on the SIG site, email Bill Potter at wpotter@csustan.edu. Please include in your email a letter giving the SIG permission to post the presentation.

The SIG reserves the right to limit the number and type of presentations that will be placed on the site; we are primarily interested in articles related to Skinner's analysis of VB, as well as extensions of that analysis.

Dave's email is reitmand@nova.edu. Dues for full members are \$10 for one year and \$5 for students. If you need to pay your dues, or would like to contribute to the efforts of the VB SIG, please send your contribution to our treasurer, David Reitman at:

Center for Psychological Studies Nova Southeastern University Fort Lauderdale, FL 33314

Another goal of the SIG is to support the journal which publishes much of the research in this area: The Analysis of Verbal Behavior. For more information about the journal or to subscribe or submit an article, please visit: https://www.abainternational.org/store/ViewJournals.asp

Finally, the dues for the SIG are kept low intentionally; they are not enough to support three grants and research competitions. The funds for those activities have been generously donated by Dr. Jack Michael, Dr. Vince Carbone, Dr. Mark Sundberg and Ted Schoneberger. If you would like to contribute to these efforts, please email Dr. David Reitman at reitmand@nova.edu.

# Making a World of Difference

Pacific Child and Family Associates offers applied behavior analysis services for children and adults with autism and other developmental disabilities. We are committed to providing the highest quality, scientifically based services, built on a foundation of respect for those we serve.

We are always looking for enthusiastic, creative behavior analysts to join our team of dedicated professionals.

Please email inquiries to caraentz@pacificchild.com



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# **Updates on ABAI Accredited Programs**

An important component of ABA International's efforts to promote quality in the science of behavior analysis is the ABAI accreditation program. The accreditation process pursues excellence in graduate programs in behavior analysis, and provides evaluation of them as a service to the public, the profession, and prospective students.

# The Interdisciplinary Master's Program in Applied Behavior Analysis at California State University, Los Angeles

By Dr. Hank Schlinger

#### **Program Mission and Description**

The Master's program in applied behavior analysis (ABA) at California State University, Los Angeles (CSULA) was first accredited in 1994 by the Association for Behavior Analysis International, only the second ABA program accredited by the Association. The program, founded by Barry Lowenkron and G. Roy Mayer, is unique in a number of ways, not the least of which is that it is an interdisciplinary program involving two different departments—the Department of Psychology and the Division of Special Education and Counseling—in two separate colleges within the University. Students apply to either the Psychology Department or the Division of Special Education and Counseling, and once admitted, take courses in both departments. The advantages of an interdisciplinary program have been described elsewhere (Mitchell & Lowenkron, 1995).

The aim of the program is to provide comprehensive training in behavior analysis. Students are expected to develop both a theoretical understanding as well as mastery of the application of the science of behavior analysis. The program, which most students complete in approximately two years, is designed to prepare students for employment at the Master's level or for doctoral study. The program's core curriculum has been approved by the Behavior Analyst Certification Board (www.bacb.com).

## Coursework

The most salient feature of the joint program is the emphasis on analysis and application. The psychology courses emphasize experimental and conceptual analysis and the counseling courses emphasize application (Mitchell & Lowenkron, 1995). Thus, the psychology courses include two two-quarter sequences of experimental analysis (Psychology of Learning and Behavior and Seminar in Learning and Behavior) and conceptual analysis (Introduction to Analysis of Behavior and Seminar in Applied Behavior Analysis), plus a course in research design (Single-Case Research Design), graduate electives in conceptual issues in behavior analysis and verbal behavior, and a field experience class.

The counseling courses focus on application and consultation and include a three-course sequence dealing with behavior analysis in applied settings (Behavior

Analysis in School, Home, and Agency Settings;
Advanced Behavioral Contingency Management in
Schools; and Advanced Topical Study in Application of
Behavior Analysis to Education), a course on conducting
functional analyses of severe behavior problems
(Behavior and Interventions for Severe Behavior
Problems), and two practicum courses (Supervised Field
Experience in Applied Behavior Analysis, Practicum: Staff
Development and Consultation).

Although when originally conceived, both programs required a research thesis, a comprehensive examination option is now available and is recommended for students who don't necessarily intend to pursue doctoral training.

### **Faculty**

The faculty members in the joint program have published in journals such as the Journal of the Experimental Analysis of Behavior, the Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis (JABA), The Behavior Analyst (TBA), The Analysis of Verbal Behavior (TAVB), The Psychological Record (TPR), and the American Psychologist. They have served as Editor of TAVB and Associate Editor of TBA, are on the editorial boards of JABA and the Journal of Mind and Behavior, and have served as guest reviewers for Behavior and Philosophy, Behavioural Processes, European Journal of Behavior Analysis, JABA, Journal of Mind and Behavior, Scientific Review of Mental Health Practice, and TPR.

The faculty's research interests include applied behavior analysis dealing with parent education; child maltreatment; intimate partner violence; youth violence and developmental disabilities; the refinement of assessment and treatment methodologies with respect to behavior disorders, parent, student, and staff training; the acquisition of verbal behavior; the interaction between medication and behavior in children with ADHD; basic learning processes; conceptual issues in psychology; verbal behavior; development of response-class hierarchies; social skills and autism; maintenance and generalization of treatment gains; and instructional design.

Full-time faculty in the Division of Special Education and Counseling include: Randy V. Campbell, Rh.D. (Southern Illinois University) (rcampbe@exchange.calstatela.edu) and Michele Wallace, Ph.D. (University of Florida) (mwallac@exchange.calstatela.edu). Full-time faculty in the Department of Psychology are Henry D. Schlinger, Ph.D. (Western Michigan University) (hschlin@calstatela.edu) and Daniel B. Shabani, Ph.D. (Western Michigan University) (dshabani@shabani-institute.org).

#### **Contact Information**

More information on both programs can be found on their respective Web sites

(www.calstatela.edu/academic/ccoe/div\_edsp\_degrees.htm, www.calstatela.edu/academic/psych/html/ABA.htm) and in our entry in the Association for Behavior Analysis International Graduate Training Directory (www.abainternational.org/start). An application packet can be obtained from the program Web sites or by calling the Psychology Department (323-343-2250) or the Division of Special Education and Counseling (323-343-4400).

# References

Lowenkron, B., & Mitchell, L. (1995). Developing an interdisciplinary master's program in applied behavior analysis. *The Behavior Analyst*, 18, 321-329.

# Florida State University at Panama City Master's Program in Applied Behavior Analysis

By Dr. H. Allen Murphy

The Florida State University (FSU) Master's program in applied behavior analysis, founded in 1999, is located on the beautiful Panama City campus nestled among the oaks on North Bay less than three miles from the "World's Most Beautiful Beach" on the Gulf of Mexico. Students also have the option of living in Tallahassee, 100 miles to the east. Currently, all classes are offered via interactive TV with faculty dividing their time between the two campuses.

The Master's curriculum approved by the Behavior Analyst Certification Board is designed to produce well-rounded professional behavior analysts with an emphasis on a thorough knowledge of behavior analytic principles, practical application, and the ability to communicate to consumers and professionals. A variety of practical experiences are available and all students are typically provided the opportunity for paid assistantships with a tuition waiver.

Our first year of accreditation by the Association for Behavior Analysis International has been marked with several notable events. All bode well for the future of the program and students. These are described below in chronological order.

The Early Child Autism Program (ECAP, formerly, ABOVE ALL) was fortunate in being able to hire Megan DeLeon, a recent graduate from the Master's program, as the Clinical Coordinator. Megan's experience and enthusiasm for providing behavioral services for children on the autism spectrum has become evident with the new directions she has taken ECAP.

We are delighted to announce that Sarah Lechago has accepted a faculty position beginning Fall 2008. Sarah is completing her Ph.D. from Western Michigan University under the direction of Dr. Jim Carr. Her focus is on the

application of Skinner's analysis of verbal behavior and she will assume the role of ECAP's Director.

The Second Annual ABA Job Fair was held in Tallahassee this year. We had 16 exhibitors from around Florida present to recruit ABA Master's students as well as undergraduate psychology majors.

We graduated our 100<sup>th</sup> Master's student in April. This brings our total graduates to 109.

Seventeen new students from another outstanding applicant pool were admitted for the fall 2008 semester. Nine will be based in Tallahassee with the remaining eight in Panama City. The incoming students will be coming to us from as far away as New York, Ohio, and Nebraska.

The FSU Master's Program was highlighted in an article in the New York Times on April 20 along with five other ABA exemplary programs. For more information about the program or to apply, visit the Web site at <a href="http://www.pc.fsu.edu/index.cfm?Pl=Graduate&P2=59">http://www.pc.fsu.edu/index.cfm?Pl=Graduate&P2=59</a>.

# ABAI Accredited Programs at The Ohio State University

By Dr. Sheila A. Morgan

The ABAI accredited graduate programs in special education at The Ohio State University prepare leadership personnel for integrated research, teaching, and professional practice that will enhance special education services across diverse populations. These activities are guided by the philosophical, scientific, and technological principles of applied behavior analysis. The MA program emphasizes the development and implementation of behavioral interventions for improving socially significant behavior. A research thesis is required, and students can choose from a wide variety of school, residential, employment, and other settings in which to complete field experience requirements and conduct their thesis research. The Ph.D. program places major emphasis on helping doctoral students learn to conceptualize, plan, conduct, and disseminate applied research in special education under the close guidance and assistance of a faculty mentor. The course sequences in the MA and Ph.D. programs have been pre-approved by the Behavior Analyst Certification Board. Students who complete one of the graduate programs may qualify to take the BCBA examination.

# MA Program

Most graduates of the MA program are employed by public schools, private schools, or community agencies to work as teachers, behavior analysts, or program supervisors providing educational or behavior analysis services to individuals with disabilities. Skills are developed through an intensive one-year full-time or two-year part-time curriculum of course work encompassing principles of behavior, single subject research design, application of interventions, legal and ethical issues, and teaching; supervised field experience; and a thesis with

questions and methods based on a behavior-analytic approach to problems or issues. Students attend a thesis seminar presented by all ABA/special education faculty. These seminars provide students with guidance for designing and implementing single subject research and writing their thesis.

# Ph.D. Program

Approximately 75% of Ph.D. program graduates are employed as faculty in special education college and university programs (throughout the U.S. and in several other countries) where they train teachers and conduct research. Other graduates of the doctoral program hold a variety of supervisory or administrative positions in local education agencies, state education agencies; and private agencies that provide educational, residential, vocational programs, or a combination of the three, for individuals with disabilities. Research and leadership skills are developed through an intensive, three-year full-time curriculum of formal course work and special topic seminars encompassing conceptual analysis, research and scholarship, design and application of educational interventions, professional communication, legal and ethical issues, and teaching; supervised experiences integrating research, college teaching, and professional practice; a variety of non-credit-earning requirements (e.g., co-advising thesis students, authoring manuscripts for publication); and a dissertation whose questions and methods are based on a behavior-analytic approach to problems or issues. Through their immersion in a rigorous, full-time program of studies, students interact with one another and with faculty mentors on a near-daily basis. This socialization in a behavior analytic community and culture is a key feature of the training program. Other key features include the following.

**Strong Cohort.** All doctoral students take the same sequence of courses during the intensive first year of the program. This fosters a strong cohort group, which has proven to be a major source of support for our students. Each student's program of study and research becomes increasingly individualized during the second and third years, reflecting the particular area(s) of application in which the student wishes to develop special expertise.

Teleconference Seminar. Each autumn quarter, the work of prominent researchers in special education and applied behavior analysis is featured in a weekly teleconference seminar. Researchers at other universities serve as guest faculty and provide the seminar's content. The teleconference seminar has proven to be one of the most intellectually challenging and exciting components of the curriculum, giving students and program faculty an opportunity to explore together current issues and research with the scholars who are producing the work.

**Behaviorism Seminar Series.** A series of seminars provides students with an understanding of behaviorism as the philosophy of the science of behavior and its implications for research and practice in special education. Students read, write summaries of, and discuss in detail the ideas

of Skinner, whose work provides the seminars' primary content and other authors who have critiqued, debated, and extended

the discussion of behaviorism.

Thesis Co-Advisement. Thesis co-advisement provides several benefits for the doctoral student: a direct, supervised practicum in advising graduate student research; two additional opportunities to help conceptualize, design, and conduct applied research; valuable practice in editing, writing, and providing advice and feedback to a university student; participation as a "guest examiner" in the student's oral defense of the thesis; and co-authorship of any conference presentations and/or journal articles derived from the thesis.

**Professional Writing Seminar.** The program also includes a formal course covering strategies and tactics for writing and submitting papers to professional journals. The journal writing seminar is designed to remove the mystique and aura of complexity that surrounds the authoring/publishing process and to provide students with a basic strategy and a set of specific tactics for systematically planning, writing, and submitting scholarly work.

#### **Admission Requirements**

To be admitted to the MA program in ABA, students must have a bachelors degree in special education or a related discipline (e.g., psychology), a GPA of at least 3.0, and competitive GRE scores. To be considered for admission to the doctoral program an applicant must: hold a Master's degree in special education or a closely related discipline (e.g., psychology), have professional experience serving the educational needs of individuals with disabilities, be willing to commit to an intensive threeyear program of full-time study, and have the desire to obtain a leadership position in special education. Admission is also based on a minimum 3.0 from an accredited university, three letters of recommendation from persons competent to judge the applicant's success in a doctoral program, GRE scores, program match (e.g., with respect to behavior analytic program focus), and an interview with faculty.

# The Behavior Analysis Program at West Virginia University

By Dr. Kennon A. Lattal

The Behavior Analysis Program in the Department of Psychology at West Virginia University (WVU) offers doctoral level training in both the experimental analysis of behavior and in applied behavior analysis. The program also will initiate in the fall semester of 2008 a terminal Behavior Analysis Master of Arts degree. Graduates of the latter program will be eligible to sit for the BCBA examination without further course or practicum work.

WVU's Psychology Department is a recent recipient of both an APA Council of Graduate Departments of Psychology Award for Innovation in Graduate Education, for its development of the junior colleague training model, and an ABAI Sustained Programmatic Contributions to Behavior Analysis award. Both of these awards recognize the Department's focus on its graduate students. The doctoral program also is accredited by ABAI.

The Program's home is in the University's new Life Sciences Building, where it enjoys state of the art classrooms, laboratories, offices, and computing facilities. There are six faculty members in the program, all holding doctoral degrees and representing a broad spectrum of behavioranalytic expertise. Their combined experience includes numerous research grants, professional organization leadership positions, journal editorial positions, and awards for teaching, research, and service. Detailed information on each faculty member may be viewed at the program's Web site, the address for which is provided in the last paragraph below.

Currently, there are 19 doctoral students and two MA students in the program. Countries other than the United States represented among our recent graduate students and visiting students are Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, France, Japan, Jordan, Mexico, and Venezuela. The curriculum includes course work, applied practica, and research experiences that ensure students are well versed in all aspects of contemporary behavior analysis. Doctoral students are expected to participate in research throughout their time in the program, including presenting their research at professional meetings and thereafter publishing it. All students in the MA program and doctoral students seeking applied expertise participate in a range of practicum experiences in various community agencies and local school systems, arranged by faculty members.

As part of the junior colleague training model, students have a voice in program and Department governance. Every Department committee has at least one student who is a full voting member—including committees that recruit new faculty members and the committee that evaluates faculty members for promotion, tenure, and merit raises. Under this model as well, students often choose to work with more than one faculty member during their tenure in the program (although most conduct their thesis and dissertation research with their primary advisor).

Full program information, including application materials, curriculum information, and information about the faculty and present students is available at the Program's Web site: http://www.wvu.edu/~psychology/graduateprogram/index.htm.

# Master's Degree in Applied Behavior Analysis at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County

By Dr. Iser G. DeLeon, Dr. A. Charles Catania (emeritus faculty), Dr. John C. Borrero, Dr. SungWoo Kahng, and Dr. Sigurdur O. Sigurdsson

The Applied Behavior Analysis track at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC), is a partnership between the Department of Psychology at UMBC and the Department of Behavioral Psychology at the Kennedy Krieger Institute (KKI), a renowned facility for children with developmental disabilities and one of the Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions in Baltimore, Maryland. Courses and practical experiences are taught and supervised, respectively, by faculty at both UMBC and KKI. Historically, over 85% of our students have been concurrent employees of KKI. Although the two institutions are formally independent (admission into the UMBC program does not guarantee employment at KKI and vice versa), there are several attractive benefits of being both a student at UMBC and an employee at KKI. First, because the work at KKI is directly relevant to the practice of behavior analysis, students can receive practicum credit (more below) for carrying out their work responsibilities under the supervision of Board Certified Behavior Analysts. Also, several of the core courses are taught by faculty at KKI—the same individuals who supervise practical experiences. This permits a seamless opportunity, often in the same environment, for transfer of learned concepts to clinical application. In addition, a benefit of working for KKI is full tuition reimbursement. Therefore, not only are students paid for their work, but their employment also covers most of the costs of their education.

The core course sequence at UMBC is approved by the Behavior Analysis Certification Board. As a result, students who have the prerequisite number of supervised hours (which can be earned at KKI: see below) are ready to sit for the Board Certified Behavior Analyst exam following graduation. The core course sequence consists of 36 credit hours that are completed in four full semesters across two years by most students. Twelve of these credits include four core behavior analytic courses: Learning, Methods in Applied Behavior Analysis, Measurement in Applied Behavior Analysis, and Advanced Topics in Behavior Analysis. Twelve additional credits are distributed across a variety of behavior analytic electives and departmental core courses in social and biological bases of behavior. Behavior analytic electives are offered over a range of topics including Verbal Behavior, Mental Retardation, Developmental Disabilities, and Organizational Behavior Management.

The remaining 12 credits are distributed across practicum and intervention requirements. Generally, students take Practicum I and II during their first two full semesters (Fall and Spring of their first year) and Intervention I and II during their second two full semesters (fall and spring of

their second year). As noted above, students normally complete the Practicum hours at KKI, although other alternatives are possible. This usually means that students take active roles as therapists, under the supervision of one of the KKI Behavioral Psychology faculty, in one of several clinics including the Neurobehavioral Inpatient Unit, the Neurobehavioral Outpatient Clinic, and the Pediatric Feeding Disorders Program. In 2008, KKI received the SABA Award for Programmatic Contributions to Behavior Analysis in recognition of its behavior analytic research and practice spanning over three decades. More information about the specific activities of these units can be found at www.kennedykrieger.org.

The Intervention sequence serves as the capstone experience for students. At minimum, students are expected to identify a behavior in need of change, typically for one or more patients at KKI, and then carry out all that is required in intervening on that behavior. This means designing and conducting necessary assessments; designing and carrying out treatment evaluations; collecting, compiling, and reducing data as needed to make clinical decisions; and presenting their results to a committee consisting of members from both UMBC and KKI. Although the intervention sequence is not a thesis requirement, many students elect to complete a research-quality intervention under the supervision of one of the faculty (the core faculty includes six members of the editorial boards of JABA and JEAB, including one former Editor of JEAB and two former Associate Editors of JABA). Some of these interventions have been published (e.g., Fyffe, Kahng, Fittro & Russell, 2004; Toole, DeLeon, Kahng, Ruffin, Pletcher, & Bowman, 2004), while several others are in preparation.

Students may conduct intervention research not only at KKI but also with ABA faculty members at UMBC, Dr. John C. Borrero and Dr. Sigurdur Oli Sigurdsson. Dr. Borrero's research interests can be broadly defined as behavioral assessment, particularly in applying quantitative models to the behavior of individuals with developmental disabilities and their primary caregivers, and translational research designed to improve behavioral programming for young children and individuals with developmental disabilities. Dr. Sigurdsson has research interests in organizational behavior management and behavioral safety; his research focuses on situational risk-taking, prevention of musculo-skeletal disorders, predictors of successful behavioral safety implementations in industry, and long-term maintenance of safety processes. Dr. A. Charles Catania retired in the spring of 2008, and now has the rank of emeritus faculty.

Our graduates have quickly found employment after completing their degrees. Often, they take positions in facilities that serve children with autism and other developmental disorders and several have risen to positions of leadership within these facilities. Others choose to continue into Ph.D. programs. Some of these graduates pursue doctoral degrees within the UMBC psychology department in either the Applied

Developmental Psychology program or in the Human Services Psychology Program. Others have gone on to leading Ph.D. programs in behavior analysis, including the University of Florida, University of Kansas, and West Virginia University.

Baltimore is a rich environment for behavior analysts. There are several facilities that practice behavior analysis in the immediate area and we are now expanding the opportunities for supervised experience for our students. Many of these facilities employ our graduates and there is increasing recognition of the Board Certified Behavior Analyst credential in Maryland. The region's ABAI affiliated chapter, the Maryland Association for Behavior Analysis, has been housed within our departments since its inception, and there is ample opportunity for UMBC students to become involved (typically, a UMBC student has served as the student representative to MABA). The Distinguished Scientist Speaker Series at KKI has allowed our students to interact with numerous renowned behavior analysts over the past five years and the UMBC and Johns Hopkins environments provide a wealth of opportunities for students to contact leaders in numerous related fields of investigation. More detailed information about the program can be found at the university's Web site at http://www.umbc.edu/psyc/grad/abaflyer.html and online in Catania, DeLeon, and Cataldo (2001) at http://www.behavior-analyst-today.com/VOL-1/BAT-1-4.pdf. Questions should be directed to either Iser DeLeon at deleon@kennedykrieger.org or Sigurdur Oli Sigurdsson at sos@umbc.edu.

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# **Developmental Pediatrician**

The UAMS Department of Pediatrics, Section of Developmental Pediatrics, is seeking candidates for a Developmental Pediatrician, for the Schmieding Developmental Center at the Centers for Children in Lowell, Arkansas. The position would be at the rank of Instructor or Assistant professor. M.D. degree and board eligibility/board certification in Developmental Pediatrics is required. The position is available immediately.

The Schmieding Developmental Center performs multidisciplinary team evaluations, testing and follow-up for patients with a variety of diagnoses including learning and attention problems, developmental disorders, genetic disorders and neurological deficits. The Center currently employs 11 clinicians (a child and adolescent psychiatrist, 2 neuropsychologists, 3 psych examiners, 2 speech pathologists, a psychotherapist, a social worker and a nurse practitioner) and sees over 200 patients per month with additional growth expected.

The UAMS Department of Pediatrics employs over 200 faculty members and 75 residents. Arkansas Children's Hospital (ACH) is among the largest children's hospitals in the United States and is the only tertiary care facility for children in the state. The Centers for Children in Lowell is the latest addition to a network of 24 existing Arkansas clinics that are part of a working collaboration between the UAMS Department of Pediatrics and ACH. This program is the first step in creating a statewide system of healthcare accessibility for children needing subspecialty and developmental care. The Centers for Children occupies a 40,000 square-foot, two-story building, which houses the Schmieding Developmental Center, the Schmieding KIDS FIRST program (a developmental preschool) and various Regional clinics.

Located in the center of booming Northwest Arkansas and the beautiful Arkansas Ozarks, the region offers Midwestern family values combined with the genteel civility and friendliness of the South, affordable housing, world class school options, a mild climate, excellent cultural and artistic venues, endless outdoor recreational opportunities plus extraordinary natural beauty. With a population in excess of 420,000, Northwest Arkansas offers the most desirable features of large cities with a home town atmosphere. For more information regarding the Department of Pediatrics and the Centers for Children, see the Department's web site: http://www.uams.edu/pediatrics.

To apply for the position, please send a letter of interest and curriculum vitae to:

Program Director Schmieding Developmental Center Centers for Children 519 Latham Drive

Mary Ann Scott, Ph.D.

Lowell, AR 72745 (479) 750-0125

ScottMaryAnn@uams.edu

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If you are an interested applicant please contact Dr. Jonathan Tarbox at j.tarbox@centerforautism.com.

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If you are interested in joining the CARD SOS team, please contact Katharine Gutshall at k.gutshall@centerforautism.com.

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Members of ABA International enjoy reduced convention registration fees, subscriptions to the ABAI Newsletter, and access to on-line membership services through the ABAI portal. Additional benefits are included in each member type description, below.

# **Full Members**

Full membership dues help support the involvement of undergraduate and graduate students in behavior analysis.

Additional Benefits: voting rights on ABAI business matters, to participate in the nominations and election of officers, and a subscription to the journal, *The Behavior Analyst*.

Requirements: A Master's degree in experimental or applied behavior analysis or contributions to the field of behavior analysis. Submissions are subject to review by the Full Member Application Review Committee. When requesting this status, submit a vita that contains all the information requested on the "Application for Full Member Status Checklist" on the next page for the one category under which you are applying, as well as the accompanying checklist.

#### **Emeritus Full Members**

Emeritus Full membership is for individuals who have been approved for full membership status and are over the age of 65.

Requirement: Send verification of age when applying for this status for the first time.

#### Supporting and Sustaining Full Members

Supporting and Sustaining Full memberships provide additional support to encourage the involvement of undergraduate and graduate students in the science and practice of behavior analysis through increased membership dues.

Additional Benefits: Citation in the ABAI Newsletter and the Convention Program Book.

# **Affiliate Members**

Affiliate Membership is for individuals who have an interest in behavior analysis or have completed undergraduate credit, but do not meet the full member education requirements. Dues help support the involvement of undergraduate and graduate students in the science and practice of behavior analysis.

Additional benefit: subscription to the journal The Behavior Analyst.

Requirement: Send a letter of recommendation from a voting member of ABAI International or complete the "Recommendation from a 2008 ABAI Full Member" section below.

#### **Emeritus Affiliate Members**

Emeritus Affiliate membership is for individuals who are over the age of 65 but do not have voting rights.

Requirement: Send verification of age when applying for this status for the first time.

# Supporting and Sustaining Affiliate Members

Sustaining & Supporting Affiliate memberships provide additional support to encourage the involvement of undergraduate and graduate students in the science and practice of behavior analysis through increased membership dues.

Additional Benefit: Citation in the ABAI Newsletter and the Convention Program Book.

# RECOMMENDATION FROM A 2009 ABAI FULL MEMBER FOR AFFILIATE MEMBERSHIP I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, believe the interests/studies of the applicant meet ABAI's Affiliate membership requirements. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# **Chapter/Adjunct Members**

Chapter/Adjunct membership is for individuals who are members of an ABA International affiliated chapter.

Requirement: Send proof (e.g., member fee receipt or copy of membership card) from the chapter confirming current chapter membership or complete the "Verification of ABAI-Affiliated Chapter Membership" section below. If purchasing a three-year membership, proof must be sent annually at the time of ABAI membership renewal.

VERIFICATION OF ABAI-AFFILIATED CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP	
l,, have the proper knowledge and authority to assure that the applicant is a member of theABAI affiliated chapter.	
Date:	
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# **Student Members**

Student membership is for full-time undergraduate or graduate students, residents, or interns.

Additional benefits: subscription to The Behavior Analyst and free resume posting in the on-line job placement service.

Requirement: Send proof of full-time student, intern, or resident status or complete the "Verification of Full-Time Student Status" section below. Students who do not send proof with their application will be charged the fee for and classified as Affiliate members until verification is received.

VERIFICATION OF FULL-TIME STUDENT STATUS				
I,, certify the applicant is a full-time student, intern, or resident at (insert institution name):				
Date:				
Equity Signature:				

# ABA International 2009 Full Member Application Requirements and Checklist

Full membership in the Association for Behavior Analysis International (ABAI) requires the minimum of a Master's degree in psychology, behavior analysis, or a related discipline and a demonstration of competence in either the experimental analysis of behavior or applied analysis of behavior. When requesting this status for the first time, select the one category from the checklist below for which you are qualified and submit the required documentation. Applications are subject to review by the Application Review Committee; applicants will be classified as Affiliate Members until a decision is made by the Committee.

#### PRINT YOUR NAME:

#### ☐ CATEGORY 1: Experimental Analysis of Behavior

I have the minimum of a Master's degree in psychology, behavior analysis, or a related discipline and my attached vita demonstrates competence in the experimental analysis of behavior via evidence that my training included a minimum of one year's supervised laboratory research and that my graduate project, thesis, or dissertation was an investigation based in the experimental analysis of behavior.

#### ☐ CATEGORY 2: Applied Analysis of Behavior

I have the minimum of a Master's degree in psychology, behavior analysis, or a related discipline and my attached vita demonstrates competence in the applied analysis of behavior via evidence that my training included a minimum of one year's supervised practicum and that my graduate project, thesis, or dissertation was an investigation based in the applied analysis of behavior.

# ☐ CATEGORY 3: Other Competence in Experimental Behavior Analysis

I do not have the minimum of a Master's degree in psychology, behavior analysis, or a related discipline but my attached vita demonstrates competence in experimental behavior analysis via evidence of two or more years supervised experience in the experimental analysis of behavior.

# ☐ CATEGORY 4: Other Competence in Applied Behavior Analysis

I do not have the minimum of a Master's degree in psychology, behavior analysis, or a related discipline but my attached vita demonstrates competence in applied behavior analysis via evidence of two or more years supervised experience in the applied analysis of behavior.

# Required Documentation for Categories 1 - 4

For the above selections, please provide the following documentation:

A) For the terminal degree, the vita must include:

Date degree was conferred

Degree granting institution

Title of the graduate project, Master's thesis or doctoral dissertation

Name of applicant's graduate advisor (if there was no advisor include the name of a graduate faculty member in the program who can serve as a reference).

B) For the supervised research or practicum, the vita must include:

Dates it took place

Research topic

Name of the institution at which it was supervised Supervisor's name, e-mail, phone number, and mailing address

**Note:** unsupervised job experience does not meet the requirement for supervised research experience.

C) If selecting Categories 1 or 2 (Experimental or Applied Analysis of Behavior) please also include:

The title and a 100-word abstract of the graduate project, Master's thesis or doctoral dissertation

A 50-word description of the supervised research activities, appended as the last page of the vita

 If selecting Categories 3 or 4 (Other Competence in Experimental or Applied Behavior Analysis) please also include:

A 250-word description of the two years of supervised experience in the analysis of behavior, appended as the last page of the vita

# ☐ CATEGORY 5: Significant Contributions to Behavior Analysis

I do not meet the requirements for Categories 1-4, above; however I have made significant contributions to knowledge in behavior analysis as evidenced by research publications or any such other meanings as may be determined by the ABAI Membership Board.

# Required Documentation for Categories 5

For the selection of Category 5 (Significant Contributions to Behavior Analysis), please provide the following documentation:

A) For the terminal degree, the vita must include:

Date degree was conferred

Degree granting institution

Title of the graduate project, Master's thesis or doctoral dissertation

Name of applicant's graduate advisor (if there was no advisor include the name of a graduate faculty member in the program who can serve as a reference)

- B) For evidence of significant contributions to knowledge in behavior analysis, the vita shall normally include multiple reports of empirical research, literature reviews, or conceptual analyses published in well-cited, peer-refereed journals, chapters, or books. Conference presentations and posters alone will rarely suffice.
- C) The names, e-mails, phone numbers, and mailing addresses of two professional references who can comment on the significance of the applicant's contributions to knowledge in behavior analysis.

# ABA International 2009 Membership Form

Mail form and payment to: 1219 South Park Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49001 Telephone: (269) 492-9310; Fax: (269) 492-9316.

MEMBERSHIP	<b>DUES FOR RENE</b>	WING AND <b>N</b> EW	MEMBERS						
Please circle	Please circle Category A C		Cate	Category B Category		ory C Catego		jory D	
Membership Type:	1-Yr	3-Yr	1-Yr	3-Yr	1-Yr	3-Yr	1-Yr	3-Yr	
Sustaining Affiliate	\$308	\$308 \$893	\$231	\$670	\$185	\$536	\$123	\$357	
*Sustaining Full	Ψοσο		Ψ <b>2</b> 31	ψ0/ 0	Ψ103				
Supporting Affiliate	<b>\$</b> 167	\$485	\$126	\$364	\$100	\$291	\$67	\$194	
*Supporting Full	Ψ107	Ψ-05	ψ120	ΨΟΟΨ	φισσ	Ψ2/1	ΨΟ	Ψ174	
Affiliate	\$126	\$366	\$95	\$274	\$76	\$219	\$50	\$146	
*Full	Ψ120	<b>\$300</b>	Ψ75	Ψ27 4	Ψ/ Ο	ΨΖΙγ	\$30	ψ140	
Chapter/Adjunct	\$50	\$144	\$45	\$131	\$45	\$131	\$45	\$131	
Emeritus	\$50	\$144	\$45	\$131	\$45	\$131	\$45	\$131	
Student	\$50	N/A	\$45	N/A	\$45	NA	\$45	N/A	
*First-time Full Member applicants have additional requirements. Please submit all documentation listed on preceding Membership Information form.									

ABA International offers discounted fees for members with permanent residency in countries with per capita income of less than 75% of the United Membership fees for States'. ABAI determines members' permanent residency based on members' mailing addresses. Fees have been divided into four categories. Income internationa per capita information was obtained from the World Bank Group, 2006. Source data is available at http://www.worldbank.org/data/ auickreference/auickref.html. If your country is not listed above, but you feel you qualify for reduced dues based on the income per capita of your I members: resident country, contact the ABAI office. Category A: For countries with income per capita of 75%-100% of the US, including Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bermuda, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Qatar, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, and all other countries not listed in categories B, C, and D. For countries with income per capita of 50%-75% of the US, including Hong Kong, Italy, Kuwait, New Zealand, Singapore, Spain, and the United Category B: Arab Emirates. (Members in Category B receive a 25% discount on membership dues). For countries with income per capita of 25%-50% of the US, including Bahrain, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Greece, Israel, Korea, Portugal, and Saudi Category C: Arabia. (Members in Category C receive a 40% discount).

Category D: For countries with income per capita of <25% of the US, including Albania, Argentina, Bangladesh, Benin, Brazil, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Egypt, Georgia, India, Jordan, Malaysia, Mexico, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Russian Federation, South Africa, Thailand, Turkey, and Venezuela. (Members in Category D receive a 60% discount).

Personal Information
TITLE (CIRCLE): Dr. / Prof. / Ms. / Mrs. / Mr.
FIRST NAME:
Preferred First Name:
MIDDLE INITIAL:
LAST NAME:
AFFILIATION:
DATE OF BIRTH:
GENDER (CIRCLE): Male / Female
ADDRESS (CIRCLE): Home / Work
Street:
CITY:
STATE/PROVINCE:
POSTAL ZIP CODE:COUNTRY:
CITIZENSHIP:
E-Mail:
WORK TELEPHONE #:
HOME TELEPHONE #:
CELL #:
FAX # (Home / Work):
Personal information such as age and annual income will be kept confidential. This information is collected for the purpose of membership data analysis only.

JOURNAL SUBS	CRIPTIONS				
	Student	Individual			
The Analysis of Verbal Behavior	<b>□</b> \$23	<b>□</b> \$32			
Behavior Analysis in Practice					
The Behavior Analyst*		<b>□</b> \$49			
*Dues for all membership categori INCLUDE subscriptions to The Behav		r/adjunct			
<b>International orders</b> must add \$10 for BAP shipping	TAVB and/or \$20	) for TBA or			
PAYMENT DUE					
Amount for Dues: Subscriptions: <b>Total =</b>					
If paying by credit card, please complete	the following:				
☐ American Express ☐ Discover ☐ MasterCard ☐ Visa					
NAME ON CARD:					
CARD NUMBER:					
EXPIRATION DATE:					
SIGNATURE:	·				
Payment of dues is subject to current federal, state the tax-exempt status of your payment, contact yo tax information. All funds are in U.S. dollars. Over	ur local office of feder	al, state, or local			

applicant will be considered donations to SABA unless a request for a refund is received by the ABAI office in writing within 45 days. Requests for membership cancellations will not be granted. Please be advised that full payment in U.S. dollars must be received by the ABAI office before services will be granted. Payment may be made by check (payable to ABA

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International), credit card, or money order.

# ABA International 2009 Membership Form pg. 2

Student Member Information	1	Primary Discipline			
☐ High School	☐ Undergraduate	Check the one box that most closely describes your field of study:			
☐ Master's ☐ Doctoral		Behavior Analysis			
☐ Post Doctoral		☐ Applied Behavior Analysis			
Name of School You Attend:		☐ Behavior Theory and Philosophy			
Program Name:		☐ Experimental Analysis of Behavior			
Expected Grad Date:		☐ Organizational Behavior Management			
Reason for Membership or R	Renewal	Psychology			
☐ Encouraged by University P	Program	<ul><li>☐ Behavioral Psychology</li><li>☐ Clinical Psychology</li></ul>			
☐ Family Members Exposed to		☐ Clinical Psychology ☐ Counseling Psychology			
☐ Maintain Certification Statu		☐ Developmental Psychology			
☐ Obtain The Behavior Analys	st	☐ Educational Psychology			
☐ General Interest in Behavio	r Analysis	☐ Experimental Psychology			
☐ Required by Employer		☐ Industrial/Organizational Psychology			
☐ Other:		☐ School Psychology			
Degree Held		☐ Social Psychology			
Most Recent Degree Received: _		☐ Counseling			
Conferring Institution:		☐ Education			
Year Received:		☐ Medicine			
Certification		☐ Neuroscience			
Are you a certified behavior and	alyst? ☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Psychiatry			
If yes, by whom?		☐ Public Policy and Administration			
BACB #:		☐ Rehabilitation/Rehabilitation Science			
Languages Spoken		<ul> <li>☐ Special Education</li> <li>☐ Speech Pathology/Speech-Language-Hearing Sciences</li> </ul>			
First Language:		☐ Social Work			
		☐ Sociology			
Second Language:		Other:			
Third Language: Position Title		Annual Income Range:			
		<del>-</del>			
Please check one box that most of	closely describes your job title:	□ <\$15,000 □ \$15,000-\$35,000 □ \$35,001-\$55,000 □ \$55,001-\$75,000			
☐ Administrator		□ \$75,001-\$100,000 □ \$100,001-\$150,000			
☐ Student		$\square > 150,000$ $\square$ Do not wish to share data			
☐ Consultant/Staff Trainer☐ Professor/Academic		During the past 12 months have you served as a member of a			
☐ Psychologist/Therapist		grant review committee?			
☐ Researcher		During the past 12 months did you receive funding for			
☐ Social Worker		behavioral research?			
☐ Speech/Language Patholog	gist	Note: This information may be shared with persons or agencies/organizations engaged in efforts to support & promote behavioral research.			
☐ School Teacher		What source provided the funding?			
☐ Parent		The state of the s			
☐ Other:		What was the amount of funding? \$over (# of)year(s			
Primary Activity		What is the subject of your funded research?			
Please check the one box that m	ost closely describes your work:	May we have your permission to contact your institution or			
☐ Administrative/Management	nt	university library on your behalf to advertise our journals?			
Clinical/Therapeutic Service	e	If yes, please provide name of institution and contact information:			
☐ Consulting		<u></u>			
☐ Research					
☐ Social Service		Participation is needed on ABAI Boards & Committees. Please			
☐ Staff/Parent Training	- /K 10)	indicate where you would like to volunteer:			
☐ Teaching (Primary Educatio☐ Teaching	011/ N- 1 Z)	☐ Affiliated Chapters			
☐ Training or Continuing Educ	ration	☐ Education			
	nt, not currently employed, etc.)	Membership – Recruitment & Retention			
•		☐ Program — Program Committee			
		☐ Publications			
		☐ Science			

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# ABA International 2009 Membership Form pg. 3

**Special Interest Groups (SIGs)** are a critical component of ABA International and provide additional services and support to members with specialized interests. SIGs are initiated by members to provide a forum for information exchange and a vehicle to promote a particular area of interest.

Please indicate which SIGs of which you are a member of and which you are interested in. Mark those you are a member of with  $\bf M$  and those you are interested in with  $\bf I$ .

Applied Animal Behavior	Health, Sports & Fitness
Autism	Instructional Design
Behavior Analyst Online	Interbehaviorists
Behavioral Gerontology	Neuroscience
Behavioral Medicine	OBM Network
Behavioral Technology	Parent-Professional Partnership
Behaviorists for Social Responsibility	Positive Behavior Support
Behaviorists Interested in Gambling	Practitioner Issues in Behavior Analysis
Child Welfare	Rehabilitation & Independent Living
Clinical	Sex Therapy and Educational Programming (STEP)
Crime and Delinquency	SIG Español
Development & Behavior Analysis	Speech Pathology
Direct Instruction	Standard Celeration Society
Dissemination of Behavior Analysis	Teaching Behavior Analysis
Evidence-Based Practice	Verbal Behavior
Experimental Analysis of Human Behavior (EAHB)	
Affiliated chapters are membership organizations associated with a growth of behavior analysis. They are defined by a geographical l	
nternational maintains a mutually beneficial relationship with 64 af	
America. These chapters often hold conferences, sponsor lectures, a	
Please indicate which ABAI affiliated chapter(s) you are a member	
hose you are interested in with <b>I</b> .	,
ABA Colombia	
ABA India	Kansas ABA
ABA of Argentina	Korean ABA
ABA of Brazil	Louisiana ABA
ABA of Italy (IESCUM)	Manitoba ABA
Alabama ABA	Maryland ABA
Asociación Latinoamericana de Analisis y Modificacion	Massachusetts ABA
del Comportamiento	Mid-American ABA
Asociación para el Avance de la Ciencia de la Conducta:	Middle East ABA
ABA España	Minnesota Northland ABA
Australian Association for Cognitive Behaviour Therapy	Missouri ABA
Behavior Analysis Association of Michigan	Nevada ABA
Behaviour Analysis in Ireland	New Jersey ABA
Berkshire Association for Behavior Analysis and Therapy	New York State ABA
British Columbia ABA	New Zealand ABA
California ABA	Norsk Atferdsanalytisk Forening (Norwegian ABA)
Charter ABA	North Carolina ABA
Chinese ABA	Northwestern ABA
Connecticut ABA	Ohio ABA
Delaware Valley ABA	Ontario ABA
Experimental Analysis of Behaviour Group UK	Pennsylvania ABA
Florida ABA	Philippines ABA
Four Corners ABA	Polish ABA
Georgia ABA	Polish Association of Behavioral Therapy
Hawai'ian ABA	Sociedad Mexicana de Analisis de la Conducta
Heartland ABA	South Carolina ABA
Iceland ABA	Southeastern ABA
Indiana ABA	Swedish ABA
lowa ABA	Taiwan ABA
Israel ABA	Tennessee ABA
Italian Association for the Analysis and Modification of	Texas ABA
Behavior	Vermont ABA
Japanese ABA	Virginia ABA
Jordan ABA	Wisconsin ABA
JOI GOLL ADA	VVISCOIISIII ADA

and



# ABA International 2009 Annual Convention Registration Form

Mail form and payment to: 1219 South Park Street, Kalamazoo MI 49001 Telephone: (269) 492-9310; Fax: (269) 492-9316

CONVENTION REGISTRATION							
	Entire Conve	One Day Registration					
	(Sat., May 23 – Tues., May 26)		☐ Sat., May 23	ay 23 🔲 Mon., May 25			
			□ Sun., May 24	☐ Tues., M	lay 26		
	Until 3/2	3/3 - 4/30*		Until 3/2	3/3 - 4/30*		
Sustaining, Supporting, Full or	□ \$1 <i>37</i>	□ \$1 <i>57</i>	Select Day Above	□ \$69	□ \$79		
Affiliate Member							
Emeritus or Student Member	□ \$69	□ \$79	Select Day Above	□ N/A	□ N/A		
Chapter/Adjunct Member	□ \$1 <i>77</i>	□ \$1 <i>97</i>	Select Day Above	□ \$92	□ \$102		
Non-member	□ \$325	□ \$345	Select Day Above	□ \$121	□ \$131		

To register for the convention at the member rates, including if you are a student, you must be a 2009 member of ABAI for the 2009 calendar year. To renew your membership, please fill out the separate ABAI 2009 Membership form. If you do not wish to renew your membership for 2009, you must register as a non-member.

Name Badges will be required for entry to all convention events. All attendees, including presenters, must register for the convention.

\*On-site Registration: Pre-registration will end April 30, 2009. Registration forms received after this date will be processed on-site during the convention. On-site registration will open at 5:00 PM on Thursday, May 21.

All Student, Emeritus, and one-day registration fees will increase by \$10 on-site. Affiliate, chapter/adjunct, full, sustaining, supporting, and non-member registration fees for the entire convention will increase by \$20.

Personal Information	PAYMENT DUE				
TITLE (CIRCLE): Dr. / Prof. / Ms. / Mrs. / Mr.	Donation to support Student Presenters\$				
FIRST NAME & M.I.:	Total Payment\$				
Preferred First Name:	Please be advised that full payment in U.S. dollars must be				
LAST NAME:	received by the ABAI office before services will be granted.				
AFFILIATION:	Payment may be made by check, credit card, or money order.				
ADDRESS (CIRCLE): HOME / WORK	Make checks payable to ABA International or charge your:				
	☐ American Express☐ Discover ☐ MasterCard ☐ Visa				
CITY:	NAME ON CARD:				
STATE/PROVINCE:	CARD NUMBER:				
POSTAL ZIP CODE:COUNTRY:	EXPIRATION DATE:				
E-MAIL:	SIGNATURE:				
WORK TELEPHONE #:	BILLING ADDRESS (IF DIFFERENT FROM ABOVE):				
HOME TELEPHONE #:					
WORK FAX #:	CITY:				
HOME FAX #:	STATE/PROVINCE:				
CELL #:	POSTAL ZIP CODE: COUNTRY:				
Cancellation Policy: Requests for registration refunds, minus a	Overpayments and discounts not taken will be considered				

Cancellation Policy: Requests for registration refunds, minus a \$30 processing fee, received by 12:00 midnight (EST) May 1, 2009 will be met. Refund requests received after the deadline, except for those made as a result of a death in the immediate family, will not be granted. Cancellation due to death must be submitted to the ABAI office in writing; ABAI reserves the right to request legal verification of the death. Requests for registration transfers (attendee replacements) received by 12:00 midnight (EST) May 1, 2009 will be processed in the ABAI office prior to the convention. Requests made after this date will be processed on-site at the Registration Counter. There will be a \$30 processing fee for transfers.

membership cancellations will not be granted.

Special Accommodations Policy: ABAI makes accommodations for convention attendees with disabilities. We ask that individuals requiring special arrangements at the convention submit their need in writing and follow up with the ABAI office accordingly.

Arrangements are not guaranteed for requests made after 12:00

donations to SABA unless a request for a refund is received by

the ABAI office in writing within 45 days. Requests for

midnight (EST) April 1, 2009.

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# The Analysis of Verbal Behavior

If you are interested in a behavioral analysis of language, *The Analysis of Verbal Behavior* is the ideal journal for you. No other journal offers this unique contribution to the empirical and conceptual analysis of verbal behavior.

The Analysis of Verbal Behavior (ISSN 0880-9401) publishes original papers relevant to the elementary verbal operants, autoclitics, multiple control, private events, rule-governed behavior, epistemology, scientific verbal behavior, language acquisition, language assessment and training, second languages, pedagogy, the verbal behavior of nonhumans, and verbal behavior research methodology.

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Volume 22	\$ 32.00	\$ 23.00		x = \$_	
Volume 21	\$ 32.00	\$ 23.00	\$ 75.00	x = \$_	
Volume 20	\$ 32.00	\$ 23.00	\$ 75.00	x = \$_	
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Volume 18	\$ 32.00	\$ 23.00	\$ 75.00	x = \$_	
Volume 17	\$ 32.00	\$ 23.00	\$ 75.00	x = \$_	
Volume 16	\$ 32.00	\$ 23.00	\$ 75.00	x = \$_	
Volume 15	\$ 32.00	\$ 23.00		x = \$_	
Volume 14	\$ 32.00	\$ 23.00		x = \$_	
Volume 13	\$ 32.00	\$ 23.00	\$ 75.00	x = \$_	
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Volume 6	\$ 32.00	\$ 23.00		x = \$_	
Volume 4	\$ 32.00	\$ 23.00	\$ <i>75</i> .00	x = \$_	
Volume 1, 2, & 3 bound together	\$ 32.00	\$ 23.00		x = \$_	
* International Shipping Fee, per volume	\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00	x = \$_	
Set					
Volumes 1-24	\$ 395.00	\$ 395.00	\$1015.00	x = \$_	
(Volume 5 is unavailable)					
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SUBTOTAL				\$_	
6% Sales Tax (Michigan Residents Only)	SUBTOTAL x .06 =		•••••	\$_	
TOTAL				\$_	
Name:	E-mail:				
Street Address:					
City: State:Country:	ZIP Co	ode:			
Phone:	Fax:				
Credit Card #:					
□Visa □MasterCard □Amex □Discover					
Signature:					

# The Behavior Analyst Order Form

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Subscription 2009*	Individual Stude	nt Institution Quantity Total
Volume 32, 2009, No. 1 (spring) & No. 2 (fall)*subscript	\$ 49.00 \$ 22.0 ions sold as package on	
Separate Volumes (Circle Issue 1 or 2)	Individual/Student	Institution Quantity Total
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Volume 29, 2006, No. 1 (spring) or No. 2 (fall)		\$ 58.00 x = \$
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Volume 24, 2001 No. 2 (fall)		\$ 58.00 x = \$
Volume 23, 2000 No. 2 (fall)		\$ 58.00 x = \$
Volume 22, 1999, No. 1 (spring) or No. 2 (fall)		\$ 58.00 x = \$
Volume 21, 1998, No. 1 (spring) or No. 2 (fall)		\$ 58.00 x = \$
Volume 20, 1997, No. 1 (spring) or No. 2 (fall)		\$ 58.00 x = \$
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Volume 18, 1995, No. 1 (spring) or No. 2 (fall)		\$ 58.00 x = \$
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Volume 13, 1990, No. 1 (spring) or No. 2 (fall)	\$ 23.00	\$ 58.00 x = \$
Volume 12, 1989, No. 1 (spring) or No. 2 (fall)	\$ 23.00	\$ 58.00 x = \$
Volume 11, 1988, No. 1 (spring) or No. 2 (fall)	\$ 23.00	\$ 58.00 x = \$
Volume 10, 1987, No. 1 (spring) or No. 2 (fall)	\$ 23.00	\$ 58.00 x = \$
Volume 9, 1986, No. 1 (spring) or No. 2 (fall)	\$ 23.00	\$ 58.00 x = \$
Volume 8, 1985, No. 1 (spring) or No. 2 (fall)	\$ 23.00	\$ 58.00 x = \$
Volume 7, 1984 No. 2 (fall)	\$ 23.00	\$ 58.00 x = \$
Volume 6, 1983, No. 1 (spring) or No. 2 (fall)	\$ 23.00	\$ 58.00 x = \$
Volume 5, 1982, No. 1 (spring) or No. 2 (fall)		\$ 58.00 x = \$
Volume 4, 1981, No. 1 (spring)		\$ 58.00 x = \$
Volume 1 & 2, 1978-9		\$ 58.00 x = \$
Set	ψ 20.00	Ψ 30.00 λ Ψ
Volumes 1-31, excluding missing issues	\$ 728.00	\$ 1158.00 x = \$
(Issues 3.1, 3.2, 4.2, 7.1, 15.1, 15.2, 16.1, 19.2, 23.1, a	and 24.1 are unavailabl	e)
*International Shipping fee, complete set	\$ 67.00	\$ 95.00 x = \$
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Credit Card #: Expiration		
□Visa □MasterCard □Amex □Discover Signature	<b>:</b>	



Behavior Analysis in Practice (BAP) is ABA International's new peer-reviewed journal for practitioners and the people who train and supervise them. Published twice annually, BAP promotes empirically-validated best practices in an accessible, colorful format and describes not only what works but also the challenges of implementation in applied settings. Articles and topics published in BAP will include empirical evaluations of behavior-analytic procedures and programs; discussion papers on professional and practice issues; technical articles on methods, data analysis, and instrumentation; tutorials on terms, procedures, and theories relevant to best practices; and critical reviews of books and products that are aimed at practitioners or consumers of behavior analysis.

#### **Order Form**

Quantity	Description	Unit price			Total
		Individual	Student	Institution	Total
	Volume 1 (2008)	\$35.00	\$25.00	\$88.00	\$
	International shipping fee, per annual subscription*	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$
6% Sales Tax (Michigan Residents Only) SUBTOTAL x .06 =					
*(Prices include domestic shipping and handling)  Total Cost Included =					\$

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Credit Card #: Exp	piration:
Signature:	

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Mail or fax form and payment to:
ABAI; 1219 South Park Street, Kalamazoo MI 49001
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