

INSIDE BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS
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2022



Boyd 2022



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17th ANNUAL

AUTISM

CONFERENCE

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conference **FEBRUARY 20 & 21**

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ON THE COVER

Illustration: MARTIN BURCH



RACING TO MEET OUR 2022 GOAL

What Is SABA Anyway?

A Letter From the SABA President

BY CAROL PILGRIM

ACRONYMS ABOUND in our field today, and the number of organizations focused on behavior analysis is on the rise as well. Perhaps it's no surprise then that the title, "SABA President," often meets with blank faces. Although you've likely contacted and even benefitted from the activities of SABA (e.g., through student presenter funds, research grants, or inspiring opening events at the annual ABAI convention), members of ABAI are sometimes unclear on the nature and function of SABA and on its distinctive relationship with ABAI. These brief remarks are intended to address such puzzles, and to illustrate the important role of SABA through a report on its recent activities.

At its crux, the Society for the Advancement of Behavior Analysis (SABA) provides financial support for the field of behavior analysis. Chartered in 1980, SABA is a nonprofit corporation devoted to the welfare and future of behavior analysis. It is able to pursue this integral mission as a result of private financial gifts and donations

from generous and dedicated members of the behavior-analytic community. In short, SABA provides a tax-deductible mechanism that enables individuals to contribute directly to the continued growth and development of our science. The society amplifies donor gifts through long- and short-term investments in a range of targeted funds, and it distributes proceeds to support talented students, to facilitate global promotion and public awareness of the science, and to honor our most impactful leaders by providing a platform by which their work can reach a broad audience, among other important targets. Since its beginning, SABA has sponsored 199 research, development, and dissemination projects through competitive grant programs, and has supported participation in the ABAI Convention for 1,893 graduate students through Student Presenter Grants. Highlights of SABA's work for this past year include the following:



2023 SABA Awards

The opening event of each year's annual convention is an awards ceremony held in honor of a select group of behavior analysts, each chosen for their extraordinary contributions in one of five categories. Please plan to join us for this always inspiring celebration to kick off the 2023 ABAI Convention in Denver. We are proud to announce the 2023 award winners:

- Linda Hayes for Distinguished Service to Behavior Analysis
- Ken Silverman for Scientific Translation
- Zulima Gabriela Sigurðardóttir for International Dissemination of Behavior Analysis
- APOPO for Effective Presentation of Behavior Analysis in the Mass Media

- Oslo Metropolitan University for Enduring Programmatic Contributions to Behavior Analysis

Congratulations to these esteemed colleagues, for all they've done in promoting behavior analysis.

Supporting Students

SABA distributed \$17,416 to 44 student members as Student Presenter Grants this year, to support attendance at the 2022 ABAI Convention in Boston. These monies help make convention attendance more accessible for students and thus provide opportunity for discussing their research with a national audience of peers and senior scientists. In addition to the presenter funds, the interest from SABA's Innovative Student Research Fund made \$30,000 available this year for student research grants, including \$5,000 each for up to four doctoral dissertation grants, and \$2,500 each for up to four master's thesis grants. The grant proposals are reviewed by ABAI's Science Board; preference is given to grants involving translational research.

Winners of the 2022 dissertation grants were the following: Natalie Buddiga (University of Nevada, Reno) for a basic research project on social distance and choice as analyzed in a Prisoner's Dilemma Game; Elizabeth Houck (University of North Texas) for applied work on the impacts of conditioned aversive stimuli for people with intellectual disabilities who have experienced trauma; Rebecca Chalme (West Virginia University) for translational work on the effects of ethanol and nicotine on delay discounting; and Elizabeth Thuman (University of North Carolina Wilmington) for a translational animal model of positive practice overcorrection. Winners of the 2022 thesis grants include: Brandon Miller (University of Kansas) for a translational thesis on the effects of cannabis-related cues on demand for cannabis; and Carson Yahrmarkt (Northern Michigan University) for a basic thesis on the effects of spatially diffuse versus localized stimuli on pausing in rich-lean transitions.

Thanks to a particularly generous gift from Sidney and Janet Bijou, the current status of the Sidney W. and Janet R. Bijou Fund made possible \$40,000 for up to four

grants of \$10,000 each for students doing research in child development from a behavior-analytic perspective. The 2022 winners of the Bijou Grant were Madeleine Mason (University of North Carolina Wilmington) for a rodent model of concept development, Jeanne Stephanie Gonzalez (University of Florida) for the study of teaching children to recall past events, and Eilis O'Connell-Sussman (Endicott College) for a project on parent training designed to establish echoic repertoires for babbling in infants with down syndrome.

The Innovative Student Research in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Grant is SABA's newest student grant category. Because the long-term SABA DEI fund on which the grants are based is also relatively new, it has not yet reached a level sufficient to generate the interest that would typically be required for grant support. SABA has been able to contribute from the Unrestricted Fund for this purpose for now, but a sustainable grant program here will require increased donations targeting DEI. For 2022, \$20,000 for up to four grants of \$5,000 each was made available. DEI grant submissions are reviewed by ABAI's DEI Board. Our 2022 DEI Research Grant winners were Annette Maldonado (University of Utah) for work on training and supports for caregivers of children diagnosed with autism in Puerto Rico, Shauna Diffley (National University of Ireland Galway) for work on teacher training in precision teaching to target learning loss by educationally disadvantaged students, and Emma DenBleyker (University of Cincinnati) for a project targeting teacher use of equitable behavior-specific praise in an EBD classroom.

Congratulations to these student researchers for their exciting proposals. We certainly look forward to learning from their findings.

International Development Fund

This fund provides the basis for grants to individuals or organizations with projects designed to promote behavior analysis internationally. To date, SABA has made possible 83 development projects in 42 countries worldwide. For 2022, \$10,000 was available for four to 10 grants of \$1,000 or \$3,000 each, with the top-scoring grant from outside the U.S. also eligible for a travel grant of up to \$1,000, to present at the annual convention. Five grants were awarded this year, to the following winners: Maria del Rosario Ruis-Olivares (Spain) for \$3,000; Sophie Ganevitch (Ukraine) for \$3,000; Helder Gusso (Brazil) for \$2,000; Karina Bermudez (Mexico) for \$1,000; and Buket Kisac-Demiroglu (Turkey) for \$1,000. Congratulations to these colleagues; their important work represents an exciting range of geographic areas of focus and serves as a model to us all for approaching global outreach.

Public Awareness Fund

In addition to the increased visibility for behavior analysis that follows from the SABA awards, student support, and international program efforts, another relatively new SABA fund makes possible grants for projects that aim to introduce and promote the science of behavior analysis to the general public. At this point, SABA has sponsored a total of 15 public awareness projects. For 2022, this fund made available \$10,000 for two to four grants of \$2,500 or \$5,000 each. Winners of the 2022 Public Awareness Grants were Camilo Hurtado-Parrado (Southern Illinois University; \$5,000) for a proposal to develop and utilize materials in Spanish to counter misinformation about behavior analysis; and Angelika Anderson (University of Waikato; \$4,500) for a proposal to provide information about behavior-analytic interventions to New Zealand parents of autistic children. Congratulations to these innovative colleagues; it is notable that their work is also of international relevance, even as it seeks the critical goal of helping the public better understand our approach.

Reaching SABA Goals

While their missions have much in common, SABA and ABAI are formally distinct entities. ABAI functions as the primary membership organization for those interested in the philosophy, science, application, and teaching of behavior analysis, providing an array of member services (e.g., conferences, journals) made possible by dues, registrations, and subscriptions. In contrast, SABA's focus is specifically on providing financial resources for activities that contribute to the future of the field, as illustrated by the present review of SABA's recent work. Please note that, as a nonprofit organization whose sole purpose is scientific, SABA is exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the 1986 Internal Revenue Code. Remember that when you donate to SABA, your contribution is tax deductible to the full extent provided by law, and you can select the focus for which your funds will be used. We are ever grateful to our benefactors, some of whom have established significant financial legacies for SABA's work, and all of whom help make our goals possible. If you've not done so previously, we hope you can consider joining the ranks of SABA donors. Gifts of any size are most welcome and important. Including SABA as part of your estate planning can also be arranged. Your generosity is critical in ensuring that behavior analysis, as a culture, not only survives but flourishes. ❖



How are we different? **You are among your PEERS.**

ABAI has made exciting changes to the Career Center to help you find your dream job. With 500+ new jobs posted, come check out the hottest behavior analysis job site!

Positions for all experience levels, including RBT, BCBA, BCBA-D, bachelors, master's, and doctoral. With several exciting career opportunities available, ABAI looks forward to assisting you in your job search and professional growth.

Make sure to save the date for ABAI Career Fairs—unique opportunities to meeting with hiring companies face-to-face!

- **17th Autism Conference**
Monday, February 20, 2023
- **49th Annual Convention**
Sunday May 28, 2023

Career Central

www.abainternational.org/careers

2021–2022

SABA Donors

On behalf of the SABA Board, we are grateful for all the ABAI members who contributed to SABA in the past year to help build our funds. These donations enable SABA to provide annual grants that support research in and the development of behavior analysis. This list reflects donations from September 1, 2021, through October 26, 2022.

\$10,000 and above

SABA Unrestricted Fund

Sharon Chien

\$5,000–\$9,999

SABA Unrestricted Fund

Alyce M. Dickinson

New England Center for Children

\$1,000–\$4,999

DEI Student Research Fund

Carol Pilgrim

Greg Stikeleather

International Development Fund

Greg Stikeleather

SABA Student Presenter Fund

Greg Stikeleather

Student Member Registration Fund

Greg Stikeleather

SABA Unrestricted Fund

Philip N. Hinline

Mark Galizio

Judi Komaki

Maria E. Malott

M. Jackson Marr

Harold J. Miller

Michael Perone

Greg Stikeleather

\$500–\$999

DEI Student Research Fund

Christine E. Hughes

SABA Student Presenter Fund

Dennis D. Embry

\$500–\$999 (cont.)

Student Member Registration Fund

Greg May

SABA Unrestricted Fund

Harold and JeNeal Miller

\$250–\$499

SABA Student Presenter Fund

Andy Bondy

Jessica Love

Edward K. Morris

Paul D. Neuman

Student Member Registration Fund

Kathie Papera

SABA Unrestricted Fund

Kent Johnson

\$100–\$249

DEI Student Research Fund

Raymond C. Pitts

Danielle Ramos

RuthAnne Rehfeldt

Katherine Isabel Reising

Bridget A. Taylor

Jomella Watson-Thompson

SABA Student Presenter Fund

Judah B. Axe

Saul Axelrod

Sheila Barnes

Francisco J. J. Barrera

Andy Bondy

Abigail B. Calkin

Nikia Dower

Mitch Fryling

Mark Galizio

Ezra Hall

William J. Helsel

Weihe Huang

\$100–\$249 (cont.)

SABA Student Presenter Fund (cont.)

Weihe Huang

Christine E. Hughes

Faunamin Jimenez-Foster

Gwen Johnson

Karen M. Lionello-DeNolf

Raymond G. Miltenberger

Michael Perone

Stephanie M. Peterson

Raymond C. Pitts

Erin B. Rasmussen

Rocio Rosales

Tom Spencer

Peter Sturme

Rachel Taylor

Douglas C. Taylor

Michele R. Traub

Tricia Corinne Vause

Thomas J. Waltz

Alexander Ward

David W. Wesch

Student Member Registration Fund

Francisco J. J. Barrera

Thomas A. Brigham

Rodney J. Conard

Mark Galizio

Leonard Green

Kelly Higby

Einar T. Ingvarsson

Sandra Lewis

Henry S. Pennypacker

Michael Perone

Claire C. St. Peter

Angela Marie Thomas

Joseph M. Vedora

SABA Unrestricted Fund

Robert A. Babcock

Gordon Bourland

William J. Helsel

Jonathan L. Katz

Dolleen-Day Keohane

\$100–\$249 (cont.)

SABA Unrestricted Fund (cont.)

Allen Neuringer
Kenji Okuda
Brady J. Phelps
Raymond C. Pitts
RuthAnne Rehfeldt
Zuïlma Gabriela Sigurdardottir
Stephanie J. Stolarz-Fantino
Dag Strömberg
William J. Sweeney
David W. Wesch
Charles C. Wills

\$50–\$99

DEI Student Research Fund

Judah B. Axe
Darlene E. Crone-Todd
Jessica Culloo
Christopher Fox
Kristin Frigelj
Cameron Hodgkin

SABA Student Presenter Fund

Eiman Alismail
Thomas A. Brigham
Alayna T. Haberlin
Jane S. Howard
Karen Kate Kellum
Tiffany Kodak
Zuïlma Gabriela Sigurdardottir
Vicci Tucci

Student Member Registration Fund

Laura Melton Grubb

SABA Unrestricted Fund

Robert Dlouhy
Alayna T. Haberlin
Karen Kate Kellum
Jeff Kupfer
Suzanne H. Mitchell
Brady J. Phelps
Ginger R. Raabe

Other Amounts

DEI Student Research Fund

Emerson Aul
Judah B. Axe
Abigail B. Calkin
Iser Guillermo DeLeon
Megan Duffy Cassella
Jonathan K Fernand
Julia H. Fiebig
Cassandra M Gayman
Jessica Emily Graber
Karen Kate Kellum
Adel C. Najdowski
Erin B. Rasmussen
Kathryn E. Theroux
Vicci Tucci
Thomas J. Waltz
Alexander Ward
Susan Wilczynski

SABA Student Presenter Fund

Erik Arntzen
Lauren Bauer
Samantha Bergmann
Kerry Ann Conde
Alison Cox
Iser Guillermo DeLeon
Jonathan K Fernand
Daniel Mark Fienup
Christopher Fox
Jessica Emily Graber
Veronica J. Howard
Mary Elizabeth Hunter
April N. Kisamore
Justin Charles Strickland
Forrest Toegel
Susan Wilczynski

SABA Unrestricted Fund

Donna Marie Banzhof
Samantha Bergmann
Alec M Bernstein
Robert Dlouhy
Claudia Drossel
Christopher Fox
Denise M. Keller
Carolynn S. Kohn

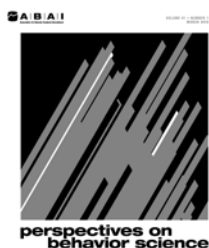
Other(cont.)

SABA Unrestricted Fund (cont.)

Zuïlma Gabriela Sigurdardottir
Lisa M. Todd
Forrest Toegel
Olga Vojnovic-Fireman
Rebecca A. Watson
Helena Marie Whitlow-Stanzione
Susan Wilczynski
Criss Wilhite

ABAI Journals

ABAI publishes six behavior analysis journals: *The Analysis of Verbal Behavior*, *Behavior Analysis in Practice*, *Behavior and Social Issues*, *Perspectives on Behavior Science*, *Education and the Treatment of Children*, and *The Psychological Record*, which are overseen by the Publication Board.



Perspectives on Behavior Science

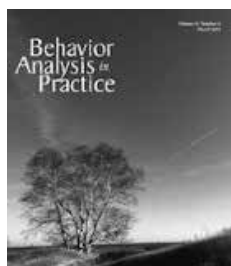
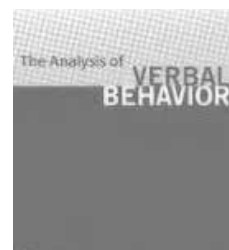
The official publication of ABAI. In addition to articles on theoretical, experimental, and applied topics in behavior analysis, it included literature reviews, re-interpretations of published data, and articles on behaviorism as a philosophy.

www.abainternational.org/journals/pobs

The Analysis of Verbal Behavior

Supports the dissemination of innovative empirical research, theoretical conceptualizations, and real-world applications of the behavioral science of language. The journal embraces diverse perspectives of human language, its conceptual underpinnings, and the utility such diversity affords.

www.abainternational.org/journals/avb



Behavior Analysis in Practice

Designed to provide science-based, best-practice information relevant to service delivery in behavior analysis, the mission of this journal is to promote empirically validated best practices in an accessible format.

www.abainternational.org/journals/bap

The Psychological Record

Founded in 1937 by renowned interbehaviorist J. R. Kantor, this journal welcomes investigations of basic behavioral processes, translational studies that bridge experimental and applied analyses of behavior and conceptual articles pertinent to the theory and philosophy of behaviorism.

www.abainternational.org/journals/tp



Behavior and Social Issues

Affiliated with the Behaviorists for Social Responsibility SIG, this journal serves as a primary scholarly outlet for articles that advance the analysis of human social behavior, particularly with regard to understanding and influencing significant social problems.

www.abainternational.org/journals/bsi

Education and Treatment of Children

This journal disseminates information about behavioral assessments or interventions for children and youth who are at-risk for or experiencing emotional or behavioral problems.

www.abainternational.org/journals/etc



GO PLACES.

*New membership cycle begins
September 1.*

LEARN

Read leading behavior analysis publications, join live webinars, and attend events with top-tier speakers.

CONNECT

Network at ABAI events and meet with experts in behavior analysis research, practice, and education.

INFLUENCE

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

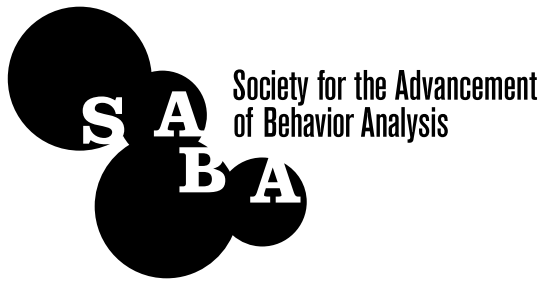
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2022 SABA Grant Reports

The Society for the Advancement of Behavior Analysis (SABA) awarded the following grants in 2022:

- **Innovative Student Research in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion grant winner \$5,000:**
Emma DenBleyker (University of Cincinnati)
- **Innovative Student Research in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion grant winner \$5,000:**
Shauna Diffley (The National University of Ireland, Galway)
- **Innovative Student Research in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion grant winner \$5,000:**
Annette Maldonado (University of Utah)
- **Dissertation grant winner \$3,000:**
Brandon Miller (University of Kansas)
- **Dissertation grant winner, \$3,000:**
Carson Yahrmarkt (Northern Michigan University)
- **Thesis grant winner, \$1,500:**
Natalie Buddiga (University of Nevada, Reno)
- **Thesis grant winner, \$1,500:**
Rebecca Chalme (West Virginia University)
- **Thesis grant winner, \$1,500:**
Elizabeth Houck (University of North Texas)
- **Thesis grant winner, \$1,500:**
Elizabeth Thuman (University of North Carolina Wilmington)
- **International development grant winner, \$1,000:**
Karina Bermúdez and Karina Caro
- **International development grant winner, \$1,000:**
Sophie Ganevitch
- **International development grant winner, \$1,000:**
Helder Gusso
- **International development grant winner, \$1,500:**
Buket Kisac-Demiroglu
- **International development grant winner, \$1,000:**
Maria Ruiz-Olivares
- **Sidney W. & Janet R. Bijou grant winner, \$10,000:**
Jeanne Stephanie Gonzalez (University of Florida)
- **Sidney W. & Janet R. Bijou grant winner, \$10,000:**
Madeleine Mason (University of North Carolina Wilmington)
- **Sidney W. & Janet R. Bijou grant winner, \$10,000:**
Eilís O'Connell-Sussman (Endicott College)
- **Public Awareness grant winner, \$2,500:**
Angelika Anderson
- **Public Awareness grant winner, \$2,500:**
Camilo Hurtado-Parrado

The following articles are summaries of the reports submitted by the 2022 awardees.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Grants

Equity-Focused Behavioral Interventions That Disrupt Discipline Disparities for Minoritized Students in the Classroom



BY EMMA DENBLEYKER

Emma DenBleyker is a doctoral student at the University of Cincinnati studying School Psychology and Applied Behavior Analysis. Her research concentrates on equity-focused behavioral interventions that disrupt discipline disparities for minoritized students in the classroom.

Her dissertation study utilizes self-monitoring and performance feedback to increase equitable distribution of behavior-specific praise across racial groups. Through the generous support of the Innovative Student Research Grant in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Emma will be able to carry out the activities of this project more effectively. Specifically, anti-racism resources for teachers will strengthen the consultation process and contribute to teachers' understanding of the role of bias in schools. Emma is honored to receive this grant and looks forward to sharing the results of the study at the 2023 SABA Conference.

Effective Teacher Training in Precision Teaching



BY SHAUNA DIFFLEY

Shauna is a first year Ph.D. student in Applied Behaviour Analysis in The National University of Ireland, Galway. She is conducting her research under the supervision of Dr. Aoife McTiernan, Dr. Rick Kubina and Dr. Chris Noone. Her research will work towards the development of

effective teacher training in Precision Teaching (PT) in order to target learning loss experienced by educationally disadvantaged children in Ireland. Children from educationally disadvantaged backgrounds have experienced up to 60% larger learning losses than their peers as a result to the COVID-19 pandemic (Engzell et al., 2021) due to lack of resources including books, digital devices, and parental assistance (Darmody et al., 2020).

Training teachers in educationally disadvantaged schools to employ evidence-based practices such as PT may provide them with a means to accelerate learning within the context of a highly reinforcing and engaging learning environment. This research fits within the context of ensuring that every child's right to an effective education is honoured and it promotes diversity, equality and inclusion within the education system.

This research also aims advance scientific knowledge in PT and behaviour analysis, with an aim of making it more readily accessible outside in public schools. To date, researchers and psychologists primarily act as the intervention agents within the PT literature (McTiernan et al., 2021) thus this project aim to address this gap and move towards effectiveness as well as efficacy trials. Teacher training in PT will be developed and evaluated with respect to both student and teacher outcomes. Key concepts such as treatment fidelity and social validity will be explored in order to determine achievable implementation standards and the acceptability of the training.

Overall, it can be said that Shauna's passion to help others, specifically children from disadvantaged backgrounds, to achieve their full potential and promote diversity, equality and inclusion within the education system is the driving factor behind this research.

References

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Extending and Evaluating Culturally Sensitive ABA Services to Spanish-Speaking Caregivers Who Live in Puerto Rico



BY ANNIETTE MALDONADO

Annette (Annie) Maldonado, MEd, BCBA, LBA is a fourth-year doctoral candidate at the University of Utah studying school psychology with an emphasis in applied behavior analysis (ABA). Her research broadly centers around equity of accessibility to evidence-based practices for individuals

from minoritized backgrounds, cultural and linguistic

adaptations to behavioral evidence-based interventions, and interdisciplinary assessment and intervention.

For her dissertation project which was generously funded by SABA's Innovative Student Research Grant in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Annie is extending and evaluating culturally sensitive ABA services to Spanish-speaking caregivers who live in Puerto Rico. Specifically, Annie is evaluating a broader adaptation of the Autism Network's Research Units in Behavioral Intervention (RUBI) Parent Training for Disruptive Behaviors (Bearss et al., 2018) on caregivers' management of challenging child behaviors alongside the use of Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT) supports to help caregivers of children diagnosed with autism manage stress. The adaptations to be implemented in this study followed the Ecological Validity Model (EVM; Bernal et al., 1995) and the Cultural Adaptation Process Model (CAP; Domenech-Rodríguez and Wieling, 2004).

As these services and research intervention will be provided remotely via telehealth, the funds received will assist with the provision of devices and access to internet for participating families. These resources will help provide much-needed evidence-based services to the target population, especially as ABA providers are scarce on the island. Additionally, Annie's project will add to the literature and inform researchers and clinicians about cultural and linguistic adaptations to ABA services targeting both child behavior and caregiver stress.

Annie is honored for the support received through SABA's grant for her dissertation research. She would also like to thank Drs. Aaron Fischer and Keith Radley, her dissertation committee, her UofU cohort and program mates, and her friends and family for their support during her doctoral training at UofU.

Doctoral Dissertation Grants

Social Distance and the Related Constructs of Altruism and Cooperation



BY NATALIE BUDDIGA

When an individual chooses to march in protest for the equal rights of another group, it is an altruistic choice. And when a manager takes advantage of an employee with rude sexual comments or advances, it is a selfish choice. Choosing between a selfish and altruistic/cooperative option is called a social dilemma—"a choice between acting so as to

maximize one's own reward and acting so as to maximize the reward to a group of people" (Rachlin & Jones, 2010, p. 416). Different treatments and interventions are aimed at decreasing this selfish choice in these social dilemmas, yet our scientific understanding of selfishness and altruism is still growing. Social discounting provides an avenue through which to grow research related to altruism. It describes how the value of a reinforcer decreases as the recipient increases in social distance. Social distance, the changing parameter, is usually established by stating "imagine that you have made a list of the 100 people closest to you in the world ranging from your dearest friend or relative at position #1 to a mere acquaintance at #100," (Jones & Rachlin, 2006, p. 284). While this social distance ordinal rank produces orderly social discounting, the lack of research on the construct itself precludes a scientific understanding of altruism. Thus, Natalie's research is concerned with social distance and the variables which influence it. Using a prisoner's dilemma game, relevant variables, including delay and power, will be manipulated in order to evaluate their influence on social distance. Through this research, Natalie aims to enhance our scientific understanding of social distance and the related constructs of altruism and cooperation.

Effects of Combined Ethanol and Nicotine on Delay Discounting in Male and Female Sprague-Dawley Rats



BY REBECCA CHALMÉ

Rebecca Chalmé first fell into the clutches of behavior analysis in Dr. Margaret Martinetti's alcohol research lab at The College of New Jersey. As an undergrad, she gained experience in behavioral-economic research, investigating effects of environmental enrichment on demand

for ethanol in rats and conducting a cross-cultural analysis of demand for alcoholic beverages in French and American college students.

In 2018, Rebecca began her graduate work in behavior analysis at West Virginia University under Dr. Karen Anderson. Rebecca's research focuses on behavioral effects of commonly used drugs such as cannabinoids, alcohol, and nicotine. Her master's thesis, funded by a 2020 SABA grant, evaluated stimulus effects of cannabidiol (CBD) oil in rats trained to discriminate chlordiazepoxide, a benzodiazepine anxiolytic, from saline. Results indicated that CBD partially substitutes for chlordiazepoxide, but at such high CBD doses and to such a low degree that clinical relevance is unlikely.

Rebecca's 2022 SABA grant supports her dissertation research into effects of combined ethanol and nicotine on delay discounting in male and female Sprague-Dawley rats. Although alcohol and nicotine are commonly used together, relatively little research has been published investigating behavioral outcomes of their combined administration. Additionally, female subjects remain underrepresented in the literature, despite evidence of sex differences in alcohol and nicotine's effects on neurotransmission and behavior. Rebecca's dissertation is designed to assess delay discounting at baseline and following acute ethanol, nicotine, and combined administration. Existing literature suggests two potential outcomes: a synergistic effect in which doses that have little or no effect on their own produce a larger behavioral disruption when combined, or a push-and-pull effect in which ethanol disrupts behavior and nicotine recovers it. It is unclear which, if either, outcome will be observed in delay discounting, and whether results will vary by subject sex.

Upon completion of her Ph.D., Rebecca intends to secure a postdoctoral position where she can refine her training in behavioral pharmacology while learning new skills in behavioral neuroscience. She is grateful to SABA for its commitment to supporting graduate students in behavior analysis. Finally, she would like to thank Dr. Anderson, her colleagues in the lab, and her husband Raymond for their never-ending support and encouragement.

Understanding of the Effects of Conditioned Aversive Stimuli on Behavior in Adults With ID Who Have Experienced Trauma



BY ELIZABETH HOUCK

Elizabeth Houck earned her BA in neuroscience at Johns Hopkins University and her M.Ed. from the University of Texas at Austin. She is currently a Ph.D. candidate at the University of North Texas, working with Dr. Joseph Dracoby. Elizabeth's primary areas of research include

the assessment and treatment of severe problem behavior and behavior changes following trauma for people with intellectual disabilities (ID).

The awarded SABA grant will provide funding for studies to advance understanding of the effects of conditioned aversive stimuli (CAS) on behavior in adults with ID who have experienced trauma. People with ID face increased risks of exposure to adverse events (e.g., abuse, neglect, etc.). Although progress has been

made in the treatment of stress-related disorders in the general population, treatment of these disorders in people with ID remains under-researched. For example, effective treatments for behavior change following exposure to trauma in the general population rely heavily on therapies that require complex communication repertoires. Additionally, exposure to adverse events often leads to increases in problem behavior and decreases in independence in activities of daily living for people with ID. Consequently, many people with ID and traumatic histories may be receiving treatment from behavior analysts or psychiatrists with little to no direct assessment of the effects of past trauma or CAS (many of which are unavoidable) on their behavior. The goals of this project are threefold. First, we will describe the effects of the presence of CAS during preference assessments on 1) choice latency, 2) selection order, 3) heart rate, 4) skin conductance, and 5) cortisol levels. Second, we will describe the effects of the presence of CAS on 1) problem behavior, 2) heart rate, 3) skin conductance, and 4) cortisol levels during a functional analysis. Finally, we will describe the effects of a treatment package including teaching an active escape response to temporarily terminate or reduce exposure to a CAS and behavioral relaxation training on behavioral and physiological measures and the re-acquisition of skills lost after a traumatic event.

Examining the Mechanisms Underlying the Effectiveness of PPOC Procedures



BY ELIZABETH THUMAN

Elizabeth (Liz) Thuman is a Ph.D. student at the University of North Carolina Wilmington (UNCW) under the mentorship of Dr. Chris Hughes. Liz has a bachelor of arts in psychology with minors in applied behavior analysis and neuroscience from

UNCW. Liz graduates with her master

of arts in applied behavior analysis in August 2022. Liz's primary research interests include the experimental analysis of punishment, in particular the mechanisms responsible for the effects of timeout from positive reinforcement and contingent work procedures.

Liz's dissertation research focuses on positive practice overcorrection (PPOC), a commonly used punishment procedure within a variety of settings. Early research on PPOC was conducted within academic, clinical, and home settings (e.g., Doleys et al., 1976; Carey & Bucher, 1983; Cole et al., 2000); however, it seems necessary and important to make the connection between applied and basic realms to fully understand the mechanisms underlying PPOC's

effectiveness. This study is designed to answer questions that have arisen from applied research such as what is the optimal duration of PPOC, should the contingent work necessarily be related to the punished response, what is the mechanism underlying the punishment effect, and how should we consider the social validity of these procedures? More translational research in this area will allow for applications of PPOC to be most effective and ethical.

The 2022 Innovative Student Research Dissertation Grant will help fund Liz's doctoral research, which is a two-experiment study designed to examine the mechanisms underlying the effectiveness of PPOC procedures by disentangling the confounded components of the procedure within an animal model. This will be examined by yoking a timeout (TO) from positive reinforcement without a work requirement to the time required to complete a work requirement in PPOC. The second purpose is to evaluate the punishing effects of PPOC and the yoked TO when an alternative source of reinforcement is not (Experiment 1: single reinforcement key) and is (Experiment 2: concurrent schedule) available. By examining the optimal baseline through which to compare punishment effects, the aim is to inform the best practices for implementing PPOC or TO.

Master's Thesis Grants

The Role of Cannabis-Related Drug Cues on Behavioral Economic Demand



BY BRANDON MILLER

Brandon Miller is a doctoral student in Michael Amlung's behavioral economics and addiction neuroscience lab at the University of Kansas. His primary research interests involve common behavioral processes and contextual factors that influence consumption of psychoactive drugs.

His research uses behavioral economics and behavior analysis to examine manipulatable factors that alter preference for drugs. An additional interest of his is in the applications of behavior analysis to behaviors observed in populations typically served by other human service fields, like clinical psychology.

This SABA grant will support his master's thesis research study, which will be examining the role of cannabis-related drug cues on behavioral economic demand for cannabis and evaluating the effect of drug use context on cannabis demand. Although several studies have examined changes in demand as a function of cue exposure in the context of alcohol and tobacco, few studies to date have

examined this question with cannabis. Likewise, although many studies have established that certain contexts affect alcohol demand—such as the need to drive—it is unclear whether context similarly impacts cannabis demand apart from a single study on job-related responsibilities.

This study will use a randomized mixed repeated-measures design in which demand will be assessed before and after participants view either high-resolution photos of cannabis (e.g., dried cannabis, paraphernalia) or neutral images (e.g., flowers, household objects). Participants will begin with an initial purchase task to determine baseline level of general cannabis demand, followed by three purchase tasks in the context of hypothetical cannabis use situations (i.e., typical scenario, prior to sleep, and prior to driving). Results from this study may inform clinical interventions by demonstrating conditions in which cannabis demand is increased, potentially contributing to excessive or risky use.

Effects of Environment Stimuli on Behavioral Disruptions Produced During Favorable/Unfavorable Transitions



BY CARSON YAHRMARKT

Carson Yahrmarkt is a master's student at Northern Michigan University (NMU). His interest in the Experimental Analysis of Behavior began when he was an undergraduate researcher in Dr. Paul Andonis' cockroach laboratory. He is currently working on his master's

thesis studying under Drs. Cory and Forrest Toegel. The SABA grant will support Carson's master's thesis research, which involves the study of factors that maintain behavioral disruptions during transitions between schedules of reinforcement. These transition-related disruptions are particularly problematic in the daily lives of individuals with developmental disabilities.

Carson's study will evaluate effects that different kinds of environmental stimuli have on the behavioral disruptions produced during transitions from favorable to unfavorable reinforcement schedules. Rats will respond in standard operant chambers with two retractable levers. In some conditions, the schedules will be signaled by spatially localized stimuli (i.e., the lever that is available in the chamber); in other conditions, they will be signaled by spatially diffuse stimuli (i.e., tones played over the chamber's speaker). These conditions will allow us to learn about the role that the reduced contact possible in arrangements that use spatially localized signals plays in maintaining behavioral disruptions.

Following this research and completion of his master's degree, Carson plans to pursue a Ph.D. in Behavior Analysis. Ultimately, Carson plans to continue his academic career at a university where he can teach and conduct basic and translational research.

International Development Grants Web-Based Behavior Analysis Resources in Spanish

BY KARINA BERMÚDEZ & KARINA CARO



Applied behavior analysis is a science that has proven to be effective at improving people's lives through the application of basic principles to increase specific behaviors, such as social, academic, and verbal, as well as reduce problem behavior. However, there is a limited number of resources in Spanish for parents, teachers, and students interested in understanding behavior analysis principles and applications, limiting the opportunities for training in the field of ABA and the access to ABA services in the Spanish-speakers community.



The funds of the International Development Grant will be used to develop a website with resources in Spanish that will include 1) booklets and infographics about the behavior analysis principles and applications, 2) digital games to practice the applications of the behavior principles in different settings and 3) a section on the website with information on research projects, events, and opportunities for work and training in the field of ABA in Latin America. User experience and social validity questionnaires will be applied once the website has been launched, and the data will help improve it.

The objective of the project is to disseminate reliable information about the field of ABA and build a community among Spanish-speakers through the generation of collaborative networks.

The website will remain free and permanently available. Collaborations with behavior analysts will be sought to maintain the website updated with information about the development of ABA in Latin America.

Dissemination of ABA in Ukraine



BY SOPHIE GANEVITCH

Applied Behavior Analysis has been taught mainly in Russian through remote learning in Ukraine for over 10 years, by BCBAs originally from the region, now residing in Israel and USA. There are currently 4 Behavior Analysts certified by the BACB in Ukraine, and numerous professionals in the field at various levels of training and experience in ABA.

Since the decision of the BACB to no longer offer credentialing of Behavior Analysts outside of the USA and Canada, Ukraine has focused on increasing its independence in establishing Applied Behavior Analysis in Ukraine, and in growing local expertise in the field. A fundamental part of this process is to establish a common language in the field and to make this language accessible to parents and professionals both in and out of the field. Once the terminology is established, modules and course sequences on behavior analysis can be offered through Ukrainian universities. This will be an essential component of the profession becoming recognised in Ukraine.

The SABA grant will be used to translate, typeset and print "The ABA Visual Glossary: Applied Behavior Analysis" by Makoto Shibusaki into Ukrainian. This book is highly rated among students and practitioners due to its accessible format, and will establish the language for the profession within Ukraine. It will be used for trainings for parents, teachers and other professionals, and courses on ABA or based on ABA concepts. The grant will ensure access to professional translators and typesetters, and that the project can be completed in a timely manner due to accessibility of funds to support the project.

Operanda - Federal University of Santa Catarina



BY HELDER GUSO

The Operanda Platform offers Massive Open Online Courses (MOOC) related to scientific methods.

This platform was developed by the Behavior Analysis Center of Federal University of Santa Catarina (UFSC, Florianópolis, Brazil) under coordination of professor Helder

Lima Gusso. The instructional design of the courses are planned based on Behavior Analysis contributions, such as Personalized System of Instruction (Keller Plan or Brasília Plan) and, especially, Programming of Teaching (a Brazilian

contribution developed by Carolina Martuscelli Bori, Silvio Paulo Botomé and other Brazilian behavior analysts).

This project was created from the identification of the low rate of scientific literacy even among university students and the difficulty that many of them have in comprehending the usage possibilities of the scientific method as the basis for professional exercise, especially when the subject is behavior. Such data highlights the necessity of developing educational programs to better qualify professionals to present scientific behaviors.

Operanda has great potential for expansion and long-term sustainability. It was developed using open software and it is maintained on the server of a Brazilian public University. Each course on this platform is planned and evaluated by a team of graduate and undergraduate students, who were trained on Behavior Analysis and Programming of Teaching on regular university courses taught by professor Gusso.

The eight main educational principles used on Operanda are: (a) emphasis on what the student should be able to do in the real world, (b) consideration of the estimated repertoire of the course's target audience, (c) active student participation, (d) complete and gradual mastery of knowledge and skills by the student, (e) emphasis on positive reinforcement, (f) use of informative and immediate feedback on the student's performance, (g) respect for the individual pace of learning, and (h) continuous course improvement based on empirical data (Gusso et al, 2021).

The SABA grant will help Operanda's development with new updated equipment for the team. The Operanda Platform can be found at <https://operanda.sites.ufsc.br>

Verbal Behavior Approaches in Teaching Language Skills to Children With ASD in Turkey



BY BUKET KISAC-DEMIROGLU
Buket Kısac-Demiroğlu, Ph.D., BCBA-D, is an assistant professor of special education and a department chair at Zonguldak Bulent Ecevit University (ZBEU). She completed her master's and doctoral degree in special education at the University of Pittsburgh. She conducted research

projects on teaching verbal behavior and provided presentations about verbal behavior-related topics at conferences. She is the editor of an ABA textbook and an author of the verbal behavior chapter. She has taught many ABA-related undergraduate courses.

Language interventions that have evolved from the science of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) have been shown to be effective in improving communication skills

for children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). It is crucial to implement these interventions early on for lasting improvements in functional abilities of these children. Verbal behavior approach is one model of intervention developed to incorporate Skinner's (1957) functional analysis of verbal behavior as primary to the curriculum and has been used to teach a range of language skills to children with ASD. However, the teacher's use of verbal behavior approach for improving language abilities of children with ASD in a Turkish Special Education School are few. The dissemination of verbal behavior approach in educational settings is crucial and carefully designed, implementation-focused studies regarding the verbal behavior approach is necessary. Thus, the goal of this project is to promote the use of verbal behavior approach in teaching language skills to children with ASD in public school in Turkey. This international grant will be used to support implementation of verbal behavior approach procedures by special education teachers in Turkey. The Project will involve the following steps: (1) creating self-directed online training modules, (2) using behavior skills training and vivo training for teacher training for implementing verbal behavior in a classroom (3) collecting data on the accuracy of implementation (4) collecting data on student performance (5) collecting data on social validity and (6) presenting and sharing the results of the project through peer-reviewed journals and/or conferences.

School Behavior Analysis Unit



BY MARIA RUIZ-OLIVARES

It is common to hear teachers complaining and making negative comments about their students' behaviour in the classroom. This situation produces feelings of frustration and discomfort among teachers, and poor academic

performance among pupils, among others. The lack of training in applied behaviour analysis among teachers implies that they frequently apply punitive measures that are maintained by negative reinforcement.

The aim of this project is to create a School Behaviour Analysis Unit (UACE) that supports schools through research, prevention and intervention to manage the behaviour of their students. In other words, the aim is to provide teachers with the necessary resources to learn how to manage the behaviour of their pupils using strategies based on applied behaviour analysis (such as the Good Behaviour Game; or Check in-Check out). This will have a positive effect on the behaviour of the teacher, which in turn will have a positive effect on the behaviour of their students, thus improving not only the classroom climate, but also the teaching-learning process.

The UACE will be based on 3 fundamental pillars. Firstly, research, being an opportunity, not only to transfer knowledge, but also to continue research in this line. Secondly, prevention, another important pillar of this unit. Training will be offered to people or educational centres interested in improving their daily classroom practice with the aim of preventing further behavioural problems in students. Finally, research and prevention cannot be understood without intervention. It will establish the necessary steps to improve the work of all teachers who want to learn how to manage the behaviour of their students and thus improve their daily practice in the school and in the classroom through training and research.

The impact of this proposal is expected to be high. If the results are positive, it is likely to expand exponentially at regional, national and international levels. Thanks to the support received from the Society for the Advancement of Behavior Analysis (SABA), (International Development Grant), this project will improve the work of many teachers.

Public Awareness Grants

Informing and Empowering New Zealand Parents of Autistic Children With Increased Access to Information on the Effectiveness and Behavior Analytic Interventions



BY ANGELIKA ANDERSON

Behavior analysis has long been a strong academic discipline in New Zealand. Recently there has been a decline in the availability of ABA services in the community to address important problems and in particular in meeting the needs of individuals with autism spectrum disorder.

Misinformation and disinformation about ABA are widespread in the New Zealand community and have contributed to this decline. Trustworthy New Zealand based information about the benefits of ABA is hard to find, but critical in the multicultural context of this country. Indigenous populations in particular highly value local and culturally relevant information.

This SABA grant will support an information campaign to address this issue by providing and disseminating local, culturally relevant, and accessible information in two ways:

- Developing and disseminating brief plain-language messages or information bites (in English and Te Reo Māori) and videos illustrating the real-life benefits of ABA.
- Supporting parents of children with autism to form a self-help / lobby group.

The short-term outcome will be an increase in accessible information about the benefits of ABA for all kinds of populations including autistic individuals and their families. The parent group will be provided with support for their activities, including lobbying. Long term this should lead to increased demand for services, and ultimately increased availability of services.

We expect the project to have impact beyond the funding period in that social media sites will be maintained, and the parent self-help and lobby group will continue to thrive.

The funding will directly support three students including at least one Māori student currently enrolled in a behavior analysis program with a small stipend and by providing them with the opportunity to work alongside senior academics.

Angelika Anderson is an Associate Professor and the director of the behavior analysis program at the University of Waikato, New Zealand. Her main interests include promoting evidence-based practices and reducing the research to practice gap by engaging with local stakeholders. She previously worked at Monash University, where she established the first Verified Course Sequence in all of Australia just prior to moving to New Zealand.

“No es Cierto!” Countering Misinformation About Behavior Analysis in Spanish: Creation and Dissemination of Materials Based on an Evidence-Based Template by Paynter et al. (2019)



BY CAMILO HURTADO-PARRADO

The impact of Behavior Analysis on societal problems not only depends on the scientific advancements of the field but also on how behavior-analytic science and application are incorporated into cultural practices. Despite important education, dissemination, and advocacy efforts aimed at

increasing positive recognition and uptake of behavior analytic science and application, anti-behavior-analysis

incorrect information keeps circulating, often promoted by academics, professionals, or advocates (Keenan et al., 2019). The resulting lack of proper recognition of our discipline makes it unavailable, misunderstood, misrepresented, and misapplied in several countries.

Keenan et al. (2018) highlight some of the reasons for this situation. "...Communicating with parents [and stakeholders] about ABA interventions is already challenging in a context where the available teaching material is readily available in English... It is easy to appreciate how much more difficult it is to do the same job in a context with many different languages, cultural practices, diverse regulatory environments, idiosyncratic national educational structures, and limited teaching materials." (p. 3).

These extra challenges apply to the case of Hispanic communities within the US and in Spanish-speaking countries, due to the lack of appropriate behavior-analytic materials in Spanish. The SABA Public Awareness Grant funds will be used to (1) translate strategic articles to Spanish, and (2) use these translations to design materials that will aid with education, dissemination, and advocacy of behavior-analytic science and practice across target populations (parents and caregivers, educators, students, policymakers, and health-services providers). The design of these materials will be guided by research on effective procedures to reduce misinformation about behavioral interventions (Paynter et al., 2019, 2021). This "template for countering misinformation" includes manipulations related to (a) increasing source credibility, (b) alignment with values of the target population, (c) using strategic types of rules (e.g., descriptive or injunctive), (d) using warning stimuli that guard against engaging with misinformation sources, (e) increasing salience of relevant stimuli, and (f) designing graphics tailored to boost corrective impact, increase attention and retention, and reduce counterarguing behavior. These materials will be hosted in an online hub dedicated to countering misinformation about Behavior Analysis and will be distributed across key organizations.

Sidney W. & Janet R. Bijou Grant

Examining the Difference Between Skill Deficits and Performance Deficits When Assessing Children's Ability to Recall Events in the Past

BY J. STEPHANIE GONZALEZ



J. Stephanie Gonzalez is a doctoral student at the University of Florida studying under the mentorship of Dr. Timothy Vollmer. Before starting her doctoral program, she received her MA in Applied Behavioral Analysis and Clinical Science at Rollins College and her BS at the University of Central

Florida. She has been practicing behavior analysis for 10 years. Her research interests primarily focus on complex verbal behavior, teaching recall skills, and methods for assessing social validity of behavior analytic services. The Bijou Grant will support her dissertation examining the difference between skill deficits and performance deficits when assessing children's ability to recall events in the past.

The ability to accurately respond to someone's question about an event in the past has been demonstrated to develop around the age of 3 or 4 in typically developing children. Stephanie's primary interest relates to skill repertoires differences between children who can and can't reliably and accurately respond to these questions regardless of age. Prior literature has demonstrated some effective methods for teaching children to respond to these questions. She hopes to expand this literature in a myriad of ways. The primary focus of her research will be to teach children to reliably respond to a question about events in the past using novel strategies from those currently described in the literature. She also wants to conduct detailed assessments of all participants intraverbal, tact, social, and other related skill repertoires. She plans to conduct comparisons between these skill repertoires that might provide new insight into why some children are successful with these tasks while others are not. Furthermore, she plans to analyze secondary measures of recall responses like latency to respond. Finally, she plans on generalizing effective methods for teaching recall skills to more socially significant goals based on caregiver and child input. Teaching recall skills, as opposed to testing recall skills, is a relatively novel area of research in behavior analysis and the Bijou grant will help support the program of study that Stephanie hopes to pursue throughout her career.

Experimental Designs for Understanding Symbolic Learning



BY MADELEINE MASON

Madeleine Mason is a doctoral student at the University of North Carolina Wilmington studying applied behavior analysis under the mentorship of Dr. Mark Galizio. She received her MA in psychology from UNCW and worked for several years as a BCBA

serving individuals with autism before returning to UNCW for her doctoral studies. Her research interests include stimulus equivalence and emergent behavior. The Bijou Grant will support her doctoral research into an innovative rodent model of functional equivalence class formation.

The ability to relate symbols and their meanings is fundamental to complex cognition and language. The development of symbolic behavior, however, is difficult to study in human children as their rich natural learning history acts as a confound to experimental preparations. An animal model would be a useful tool, but there have been only a handful of demonstrations of symbolic-like processes in a limited number of species (Galizio & Bruce, 2018; Lionello-DeNolf, 2021). A simple discrimination reversal procedure originally developed in pigeons (Vaughan, 1988) has recently yielded some of the first evidence of functional equivalence in rats (Mason et al., 2021). In this procedure, rats are trained respond to olfactory stimuli arbitrarily assigned to one of two sets. The contingencies associated with each set are repeatedly reversed such that on some sessions responding to members of Set 1 is reinforced while on other sessions responding to members of Set 2 is reinforced. If subjects shift responding to be consistent with the newly reversed contingency after only a few trials, before contacting each individual stimulus, this is considered evidence for transfer of function across class members.

Madeleine and her team will extend previous research by assessing the extent to which functional classes formed by rats reliably model those formed by humans. To assess class expansion, a novel odor discrimination will be trained with just one member of each class, followed by a test of function transfer between the novel odor and remaining class members. In another set of experiments, a novel response or Pavlovian function will be trained to just one member of a class, then tested for transfer to remaining class members. This research will provide valuable insight how symbols acquire meaning, how we learn from symbols, and potentially how interventions can be designed to promote symbolic learning in individuals with developmental disabilities.

Caregiver Training for Infants With Down Syndrome



BY EILÍS O'CONNELL-SUSSMAN

Eilís O'Connell-Sussman earned her MA in autism and intellectual disabilities at Teachers College, Columbia University, and continued her education in applied behavior analysis (ABA) at the Florida Institute of Technology. She is currently a Ph.D. student in Endicott College's

ABA program under the advisement of Dr. Mary Jane Weiss. Her research interests focus on applying the science of ABA to individuals with intellectual disabilities, specifically Down syndrome. She is interested in researching interventions that address the Down syndrome phenotype and can shape early intervention programs to support child development. Additional interests include culturally sensitive interventions and treatment outcomes related to the family as a whole and compassionate care skills for behavior analysts.

The Bijou Grant will support her research work in caregiver training for infants with Down syndrome. A behavioral phenotype for individuals with Down syndrome (Chapman, 2006; Fidler, 2005) has highlighted particular strengths and weaknesses related to communication repertoires that can inform the intervention strategies and skillsets addressed within an early intervention framework (Feeley et al., 2011). Drawing upon weaknesses, salient targets for communication development can be pinpointed while capitalizing on phenotypic strengths, such as social skill development, in the use of reinforcement contingencies (Fidler, 2005). Individuals with Down syndrome have relative weaknesses within communication that begin in infancy, such as delays in vocal imitation, requesting, first words, and vocabulary growth (Neil & Jones, 2016). Particularly, infants with Down syndrome tend to generate more nonspeech sounds and show delayed onset of canonical babbling (i.e., repeating consonant-vowel combinations) (Roberts et al., 2007). Down syndrome is identified at gestation or birth and allows for early intervention paradigms that can be taught to caregivers and implemented within the home to ensure developmental skills are acquired within a time frame that mirrors typical development.

The proposed study would replicate previous findings (Fiani et al., 2021; Neimy et al., 2020) on the success of operant conditioning with infants to increase infant vocalizations. It would further expand prior work to examine the bidirectional relationship between infant and caregiver interactions and to evaluate if the caregiver's use of contingent vocal imitation increases related to infant responses.

17th Annual Autism Conference Preview

CULTIVATING AN EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE

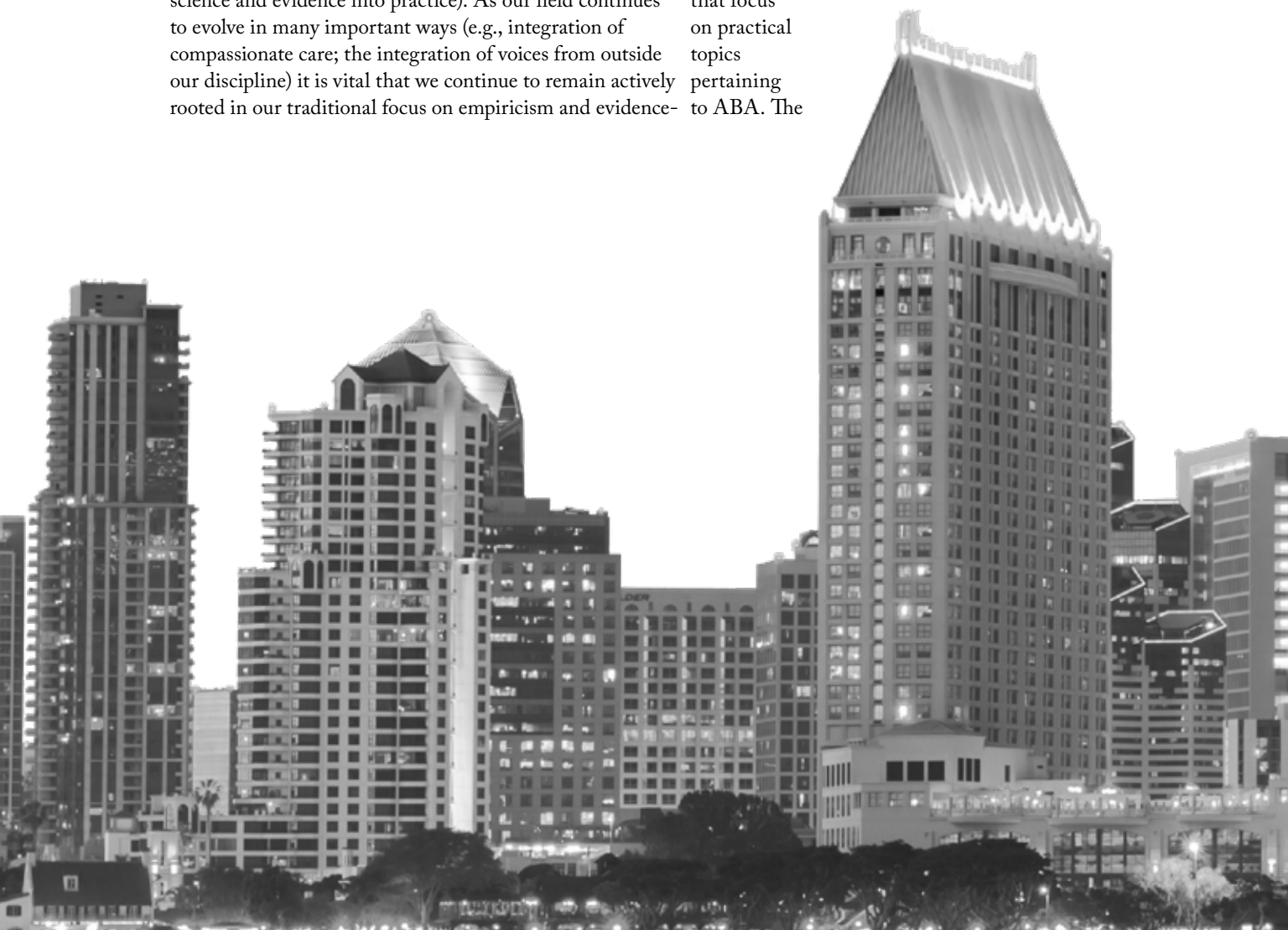
BY TERRY FALCOMATA AND RUTH ANNE REHFELDT

Historically, one of the elements of applied behavior analysis (ABA) that has set the field apart from other disciplines and fields is its focus on empiricism.

ABA's focus on empiricism has included an emphasis on the implementation of both (a) practices that have a grounding in scientific evidence demonstrated via a peer-reviewed literature and (b) analytic methods during the application of procedures by practitioners to gather evidence regarding the effectiveness of their procedures in "real time" as the data come in (i.e., the integration of science and evidence into practice). As our field continues to evolve in many important ways (e.g., integration of compassionate care; the integration of voices from outside our discipline) it is vital that we continue to remain actively rooted in our traditional focus on empiricism and evidence-

informed practice; both in terms of the practices we utilize and our on-going evaluation of their effects during clinical practice. This year's conference is intended to extend our knowledge of evidence-based approaches to the assessment and treatment of Autistics/individuals diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder (ASD). It is also imperative that we continue to expand our knowledge and continue to incorporate the findings of researchers and professionals from other empirical-based disciplines as well as the views of various stakeholders of ABA (clients; clients' care givers). The conference will take place February 19-21 in San Diego and will include a variety of topics presented by researchers and practitioners from our field, other disciplines pertinent to ABA, and individual stakeholders.

The first day of the conference will feature workshops that focus on practical topics pertaining to ABA. The



first workshop will be conducted by Dr. Joel Ringdahl (University of Georgia) and will focus on the assessment and treatment of problem behavior. Dr. Ringdahl will provide practical insight and guidance with an emphasis on applications in naturalistic settings. The second workshop, presented by Dr. Mary Jane Weiss (Endicott College), will focus on the important topic(s) of interpersonal relationships, professional collaboration, and compassionate care in the practice of ABA.

In the morning of day two of the conference, two presenters will discuss several important and timely topics regarding ABA practice as well as staff training. First, Dr. Valerie Volkert (Emory University and the Marcus Autism Center) will present on novel and state-of-the-art approaches to the assessment and treatment of feeding challenges exhibited by Autistics/individuals diagnosed with ASD. Next, Dr. Dennis Reid (Carolina Behavior Analysis and Support Center) will present innovative and practical information regarding evidence-based staff training. Later in the morning, a group of panelists that will include both professionals

and consumers of ABA engage in a conversation that is essential to the field regarding concerns with ABA-based interventions that exist among individuals focusing on autism rights, neurodiversity activists, and behavior analysts. The speakers on the panel will consist of Amy Gravino (The Child Mind Institute), Dr. Robert Ross (Beacon ABA services), Cole Fitzpatrick, and Dr. Justin Leaf (Autism Partnership Foundation); with Dr. Mary Jane Weiss chairing and moderating. The panelists will engage

Day two, in the afternoon, will see three presenters and one panel address an assortment of topics. First, Dr. Rajinder Koul (University of Texas at Austin) will discuss advanced assessment and intervention techniques for understanding, teaching, and promoting communication skills. Next, a group of panelists consisting of parents, advocates, and applied behavior analysts will discuss the vital topic of parent and caregiver perspectives on autism and ABA. The speakers on the panel will consist of Shannon Penrod (Autism Live), Dr. Missy Olive (Cultivate Behavioral Health & Education), Mike Wassmer (Council of Autism Service Providers), and Dr. Mrinali Gupta



(Retina Associates of Orange County); with Dr. Joe Cihon chairing and moderating. The panelists will engage in an open, candid, and constructive conversation about ABA with a focus on parent and caregiver perspectives. Third, Dr. Dorothea Lerman (University of Houston at Clear Lake) will present on the topic of utilization of telehealth formats and the application of ABA assessment and intervention practices. Finally, Dr. Wendy Machalicek (University of Oregon) will present on the topic of applications of single subject research design methodology to assessment and treatment practices pertaining to Autistics/individuals diagnosed with ASD.

Day 3 of the conference begins with a presentation that will cover the assessment and treatment of issues faced by Autistics/individuals diagnosed with Dr. SungWoo Kahng (Rutgers University) describing research he has been conducting in the important and understudied area of supports for Autistics/Adults diagnosed ASD.

Later in the morning, three presenters will discuss important and timely topics pertaining to Autistics/individuals diagnosed with ASD. Dr. Iser DeLeon (University of Florida) will present his most recent work with regard to assessment and treatment practices. Next, Dr. Thomas Frazier (John Carroll University) will present innovative work on research-informed tailoring and monitoring of early intensive behavioral interventions. Finally, the conference will conclude with a presentation provided by Dr. Tina Sidener (Caldwell University) that will advance our knowledge of methods for teaching development-matched play skills to Autistics/children diagnosed with ASD.

The aim of the conference is to expand attendees' knowledge regarding ABA practices for Autistics/individuals diagnosed with ASD with a particular focus on evidence-informed practices. We hope to see you in San Diego!

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Brett DiNovi
Nikia Dower
Erick Dubuque
Maira Estrella
Christopher Ewing
Yassamin Faraj
Rabia Fathima
Gretchen Flaugh
Carol Franceschini
David Gallaway
Melanie Giles
John Glass
Salome Gonzalez
Ezra Hall
Curtis Harris
Chris Holcomb
Shane Isley
Karen Kellum
Kimberly Krafft
Liz Kyonka
Susan Mason
Pete Molino
Tiffany Mrla
Jari Parkkisenniemi
Michelle Pellegrino
Jonathan Pinkston
Raymond Pitts
Ginger Raabe
Natasha Radnovich
Kara Reagon

Sarah Schmitz
Sherry Serdikoff
Rebecca Skillern
Thomas Szabo
Ju-chuan (Regina) Tai
Brenda Terzich-Garland
Lianette Texidor Basterrechea
Nicole Walton-Allen
Mary Jane Weiss
Vicki Wells
Criss Wilhite
Alyssa Wilson

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

Alabama ABA

BY PAIGE MCKERCHAR

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

This year, ALABA's Executive Committee was grateful to get back to one of its most valued tasks—planning an annual convention. The convention is well attended by behavior analysts and students in Alabama, which allows ALABA the opportunity to share important information about the field from behavior analysts across the nation as well as from active researchers and practitioners within Alabama and the region. The 2021 convention was held online with presenters and audience members joining synchronously via Zoom. Although this format detracted somewhat from ALABA's goal of facilitating networking, it still allowed professionals to earn continuing education credits in a high-quality learning environment. This year's invited speakers included Claudia Drossel, Alan Poling, Joel Ringdahl, Thomas Waltz, Jomella Watson-Thompson, and Benjamin Witts; and Dr. Sarah Richling presented her Presidential Address titled, "The Ethical Behavioral Activist: Balancing Intellectual Humility with the Obligation to Act."

Congratulations to ALABA's new president-elect: Mary-Kate Carey, Members-at-Large: Lauren Elliott and Corina Jimenez-Gomez, and Student Representatives: Aqyana Reynolds and Joshua Soto. The 2022 Executive Committee also includes John Rapp, Jennifer Bruzek, Makenzie Bayles, and Matthew Busick. Please visit them online at www.alabamaaba.com for more information and to become a member.

Alaska ABA

BY JULIENNE HEIMERL-LEE

The Alaska Association for Behavior Analysis (AKABA) was formed in January 2014 and became affiliated with ABAI in March 2016. Alaska Association for Behavior Analysis is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with a goal to promote the science and theory of behavior analysis through the support of research, education, and practice. Alaska Association for Behavior Analysis membership is

open to everyone interested in behavior analysis in Alaska. Membership benefits include low cost CEUs, discounted registration for the annual AKABA Conference, access to private members-only online forum, and updates on legislation and other events related to the practice and research of behavior analysis in Alaska. Please visit our website (www.alaskabehavior.org) for current events, news, and membership information. Limited local and state resources combined with the ongoing recession, global COVID-19 pandemic, national resource and labor shortages, and a tumultuous national political environment have all contributed to it being another complicated year for AKABA. Given these uncertainties, AKABA held no annual conference in 2021. The major theme of 2021 was continued advocacy to protect and promote the core mission of AKABA and support the greater Behavior Analytic community of professionals in providing high quality services in challenging situations.

Continued Advocacy

We narrowed our focus in 2021 as our members adapted to changes in practice due to frequently fluctuating guidance due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Our main direction for advocacy was to facilitate communication amongst members who are helping each other to work directly with the State of Alaska on correcting Medicaid billing issues that have affected providers in the state. AKABA has also worked with our state licensing agency to address the need to clarify and structure expectations for the LBA license to better align with BACB Certification criteria. Continued efforts toward AKABA designate a representative to the Department of Health and Human Services, the Governor's Council, and other advocacy groups to ensure that the field of behavior analysis is accurately and fairly represented will be strongly recommended.

Professional Development/CEUs

AKABA became a formal Authorized Continuing Education provider in late 2018 and with the support of members of our executive board, AKABA provided two direct member events in 2021 and supported two continuing education events through our professional partnerships. The number and amount of CE events has dramatically declined in the past three years due not holding an annual conference, limitations on in-person gathering, and limited available resources for presenters and audiences.

4th Annual Conference

Due to the ongoing global pandemic, the fourth annual AKABA Conference was not scheduled in 2021. The AKABA board worked to re-establish the Conference Planning Committee to host either one conference or

two mini-conferences in 2022 with a focus on virtual presentation with hopes that a hybrid in-person/virtual option may be available in the near future. It may be beneficial to continue to support virtual/in-person hybrid conference options in the future as this could be a way to support continued engagement with behavior analysts supporting rural communities.

Arizona ABA

BY JESSICA PAINTER

Like many associations this past year, AzABA was presented with considerable uncertainty. Now more than ever, AzABA's Board Members and leaders recognize the need to provide unique, relevant content and support to members. Over the last year, AzABA members demonstrated remarkable resiliency and dedication to personal growth, advancement of their practice, and to the science of behavior analysis. The AzABA's mission and values were borne out in its many achievements.

Be a community resource: AzABA will strive to present learning opportunities and professional development across a wide variety of interests and seeks to maintain a pulse on the needs of those it serves.

In 2021, AzABA recorded 381 full and 425 affiliate members and proudly offered 36 CEU opportunities. Most of these events were led by one of its five special interest groups (Feeding, ACT/RFT, Expanding the Scope, Coordination of Care, and ABA in Schools) or its five committees (Ethics, Program, Marketing & Outreach, EDI, and Public Policy and Programs). All groups continued to see strong member participation. AzABA also began efforts to revise its mission statement, reflecting the organization's commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusion for members and the community it serves. In the spirit of equitable access, the EDI Committee opened access to all, regardless of AzABA membership. The AzABA website was redesigned to allow members better accessibility to view upcoming events and resources. 2022 objectives include increasing accessibility to recorded content for its members. Finally, to ensure AzABA is a resource for all its members and to evaluate membership makeup, it added demographic information to membership registration.

Advance our ability to practice: AzABA will fight for the integrity of behavior analysis in political and legal doings within our state.

This year, AzABA created a historical account of its achievements related to influencing public policy and legislative engagement. Since its founding in 2011, the Arizona Association has made tremendous strides in these areas. This resource will serve to engage and educate new members on this important work to ensure advancement. The Public Policy Committee participated in a re-write of the AZ Administrative Code that outlines how the rights

of persons with developmental disabilities are protected and specifies the allowable methods for how challenging behaviors are managed. The Public Policy Committee engages in regular stakeholder meetings with representatives from government and state health plans to address barriers to care. The EDI committee successfully advocated for the addition of a cultural responsiveness CE requirements when renewing for licensure in AZ. The Equal Access to Services sub-committee launched a survey to gather data and information on baseline measure of access to care in AZ.

Purposeful governance: AzABA commits to process-driven, data-supported decision making and careful financial planning.

The organization maintained a strong financial position, due largely to stable membership, high conference attendance, and conference sponsorships. AzABA welcomed three new board members and developed scorecards for board members, officers, committee chairs, and SIG leaders. Board members continued to refine organizational processes, emphasizing the documentation of essential activities. In 2021, AzABA created two non-voting intern positions. The new RBT and Student interns provide representation at board meetings and strategic planning sessions. Throughout 2022, these individuals will lead efforts to increase collaboration with Arizona universities and provide additional content for RBTs and students of behavior analysis in Arizona.

Connection

AzABA works to create a place where the behavior analytic community can come together to connect with each other, other professionals and/or community stakeholders.

AzABA values the inclusion of its entire membership and the recognition of every voice. The necessity and demand for connection this past year was intensified against a backdrop of public health concern and civil unrest. AzABA demonstrated its commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion through its accomplishments. The EDI committee established formal partnerships with BABA and LABA and collaborated with multiple state associations to co-host culturally responsive events. A member of the Board assisted in the adoption of World Behavior Analysis Day. In response to health concerns, and after thoughtful consideration and deliberation, AzABA's Board of Directors made the decision to hold a hybrid conference in October 2021. AzABA hosted exceptional speakers from all over the country and more than 75% of invited speakers came from diverse backgrounds or historically marginalized populations (exceeding the targeted goal of 50%). The two-day event was well attended with 189 in-person and 155 virtual attendees. Conference attendees and volunteers reported high satisfaction and adherence to safety protocols. The next AzABA conference will be held on October 28–29, 2022.

Arkansas ABA

BY ALISON KARNES

A focus of ArkABA for the last few years has been building our community of behavior analysts across the state of Arkansas. Making behavior analysis and ArkABA events more accessible in the state remained a focus for the organization last year. In 2021, ArkABA celebrated over 30% growth of BCBA/BCBA-D certificants in the State and a 40% increase in membership for our organization.

Another focus of ArkABA for the 2021 was to facilitate continuing education events to members. ArkABA and its Events Committee hosted the Annual Conference: "Shaping Our Community: The Future of ABA," which provided CEU opportunities for registrants. This year's conference was hosted virtually due to COVID-19 related considerations. Three additional continuing education events were held throughout the year for members, and one event was held for our student members.

Many members contributed to projects assumed by our committees. The Practitioner Committee hosted two continuing education events. The Marketing and Membership Committee made several strides in the following areas: updated our website; increased our social media presence; and implemented a new merchandise platform. The Student Engagement Committee hosted two events last year and established a new scholarship program for students. The Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee also hosted an event last year and established a scholarship program. The Executive Board established committee budgets and began a digital handbook for board members.

Our members have expressed interest in legislative efforts such as state licensure and public policy; therefore, the Legislative and Ethics Committee is focusing its efforts on informing and including our members in state licensure and legislative projects in Arkansas. Our other primary focuses this year include our annual conference event and continuing education opportunities for our members. The Events Committee is planning an in-person conference on November 3–4, 2022. The committee is working to increase accessibility by having a virtual option and to increase attendance by selecting a centralized location for our members who would like to convene in person. Additional details are to be determined.

Behavior Analysis Association of Michigan

BY JAMES T. TODD

Due to the resurgence of COVID-19 late in 2021, the annual convention of the Behavior Analysis Association of Michigan (BAAM) was cancelled. It would not have

been possible to hold a credible and safe meeting under the circumstances. The only major BAAM event was changing our web hosting provider to a commercial service and making our previous "alternative" address, www.baam.org, into our main address. Expanded security requirements made it difficult for us to maintain the site on our own equipment.

BAAM plans hold an in-person convention on February 23–24, 2023, in the Student Center on the Easter Michigan University campus. BAAM intends to continue to offer a mix of basic, applied, and theoretical presentations and workshops. Online program submission and registration will again be available along with other new convention features. For more information, visit the BAAM website at www.baam.org.

Behavior Analysis Association of Mississippi

BY KAYLA BATES-BRANTLEY, HALLIE SMITH, & CHRIS FURLOW

Mission and History

The Behavior Analysis Association of Mississippi (BAAMS) is a non-profit corporation under the laws of the State of Mississippi, promoting ABAI's mission to contribute to the well-being of society by developing, enhancing, and supporting the growth and vitality of the science of behavior analysis through research, education, and practice. Our mission is to promote and support the practice, research, education, and dissemination of behavior analysis throughout the state of Mississippi. BAAMS serves as a scientific and professional reference group for all in the State of Mississippi who identify themselves as scientists or practitioners in disciplines which embrace the principles and practices of behavior analysis. BAAMS works to identify and promote the use of effective, humane, and ethical behavioral procedures in meeting the educational and habilitative needs of persons that are typically developing and persons with developmental disabilities within the State of Mississippi. Additionally, BAAMS advises political, legislative, and policy-making bodies with respect to all matters pertaining to behavior analysis in the State of Mississippi and organizes and sponsors an annual convention, which serves as a forum for presentation of scientific progress, technological advancements, and clinical practice, as well as discussion of the affairs of the organization. BAAMS was founded on February 7, 2015 and became an affiliate state chapter of ABAI in 2015.

Officers

BAAMS is governed by an Executive Committee comprised of a president, past president, president-elect,

treasurer, secretary, ABAI and APBA representatives, the ad hoc student representative, and four members of the duly designated regions of the State.

- **President:** Hallie Smith, Ph.D., BCBA-D
- **Past President:** Chris Furlow, Ph.D., BCBA-D, LBA
- **President Elect:** Garret Yeager, BCBA, LBA
- **Treasurer:** Robyn Brewer, BCBA, LBA
- **Secretary:** Hailey Ripple, Ph.D., BCBA-D
- **ABAI Representative:** Kayla Bates-Brantley, Ph.D., BCBA-D
- **APBA Representative:** Kayla Crook, Ph.D., BCBA-D
- **Region I Representative:** Lillie Taylor, BCBA, LBA
- **Region II Representative:** Laura Katherine Barker, BCBA, LBA
- **Region III Representative:** Madeline Potter, BCBA, LBA
- **Region IV Representative:** Greg Stanford, BCBA, LBA
- **Student Representative:** Rita Druffner, BCBA

Elections for all officers and representatives are conducted near the Annual BAAMS Conference each year, which occurs annually in November. Present, past president, president-elect and student representative serve terms lasting January-December for each year. Treasurer and secretary serve 2-year terms. While ABAI, APBA 3 and region representative serve 3-year terms.

Membership

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

- **Full Member** (including original Founding Member of BAAMS): Any individual holding (a) at least a bachelor's degree in behavior analysis, psychology, education, or related field, with training or professional experience in behavior analysis and whose full time professional commitment includes teaching, research, and/or practice in behavior analysis or (b) BACB certification (i.e., BCBA-D, BCBA, or BCaBA). Full members may vote and hold office.
- **Affiliate Member:** Any member evidencing interest in the discipline of behavior analysis, but lacking formal training therein, may apply for this class of membership. Affiliate members are entitled to all benefits except for (a) the right to vote on matters of interest to the organization, and (b) the right to hold office. Affiliate members may serve as members on BAAMS committees.
- **Student Member** (including original Founding Student Member of BAAMS): Any individual pursuing formal training in the discipline of behavior analysis, which may include programs in behavior analysis, psychology, education, or a related field but not yet gainfully employed therein on at least a half-time basis may apply for membership in this category. Such application must be accompanied by an endorsement on letterhead by

a program coordinator or program official certifying the applicant's student status. This application will be reviewed in a manner similar to the review of those candidates for Full Member status. Student members may neither vote nor hold office, though they may serve as members on BAAMS committees.

BAAMS has 59 active full members with 78 student members as of March 30, 2022. Member meetings occurred throughout the year at region meet-ups in addition to an annual meeting held at the BAAMS conference on November 14–15, 2022.

Meeting Activity

The 2021 Annual BAAMS Conference took place in-person at the Landers Centers in Southaven, Mississippi on November 4–5. Members could acquire 9 CEs, 2 Ethics CEs, and 1 Supervision CEs: totaling 12 available CEs for the conference. With 158 participants; speakers included:

- Zahra Hajiaghamohseni, Ph.D., BCBA (ABX Solutions), "Supervisory Volume: A Systematic Approach to Making Ethically Responsible Decisions About YOUR Supervision Capacity in Practice!"
- Dr. Jonathan Tarbox, BCBA-D (University of Southern California; FirstSteps for Kids), "On the Role of ACT to Address Diversity in Behavior Analytic Research"
- Dr. Jonathan Tarbox, BCBA-D (University of Southern California; FirstSteps for Kids), "Using Acceptance and Commitment Training to Enhance ABA Services for Families Living With Autism"
- Alice Shillingsburg, PhD, BCBA-D (May Institute, Inc.), "Putting Social Interaction at the Heart of Autism Interventions"
- Shane Spiker (Positive Behavior Supports, Corp.), "Reframing Dangerous Behavior: Avoiding Assumptions and Creative Problem Solving"
- Dr. Tyra Sellers, JD, BCBA-D (Behavior Analyst Certification Board) and Sarah Lichtenberger, Ph.D., BCBAD (Behavior Analyst Certification Board), "Ethics Update from the Behavior Analyst Certification Board"
- Student Research Symposium

The 2022 BAAMS Conference is currently scheduled for November 14–15 and will be held at The Mill in Starkville, Mississippi.

Other Activity

BAAMS Executive Committee for 2020–21 made it a priority to clarify the direction of the association by developing a formal mission statement. Our belief that a strong, concise mission statement gives our council and members purpose and improves engagement in our work.

"The mission of the Behavior Analysis Association of Mississippi is to promote and support the practice,

education, research, and dissemination of behavior analysis throughout the state of Mississippi.” Objectives and/or core values will be developed within the 2021–22 term to drive our mission.

The BAAMS Executive Committee for the 2021–22 year made it a priority to set goals and objectives that will be prioritized for the organization within the year:

- Goal #1: Increase membership of full members by 10% across the calendar year.
- Comparison points will be enrollment on February 7, 2022 and December 31, 2022.
- Goal #2: Increase member involvement throughout the year instead of just conference attendance.
- Goal #3: Complete new website renovation and change systems/platforms for membership enrollment and conference registration.
- Goal #4: Assist or participate in one advocacy project/initiative during the calendar year.
- Goal #5: Increase conference attendance of full members by 10%.

Contact Information

- Email: Hallie Smith: hms238@msstate.edu
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/BAAMS15/>
- Twitter: <https://twitter.com/baamsinfo>

Berkshire Association for Behavior Analysis

BY ALAN HARCHIK

BABAT is Massachusetts’ largest and longest-standing professional organization for behavior analysts. We celebrated our 42nd anniversary in 2021. We launched our updated website earlier this spring babat.org. BABAT’s mission is to advance behavior analysis in Massachusetts and beyond through professional advocacy, organization of continuing education and networking opportunities, professional recognition, and providing needed supports to our membership. The BABAT conference, held annually in October, continues to be a central focus of the board.

At BABAT, we have worked to bring the best of this annual conference to our members all year long: learning from our ABA heroes, accessing professional resources we need to succeed in our jobs, reviving our passion, learning how to apply our science in the most ethical and meaningful ways, being part of something bigger than ourselves, advancing change, and connecting with each other.

Annual Conference

The chapter’s 43rd annual conference will be held October 12–14, 2022, at the DCU Center in Worcester, MA.

Other Activities

In March 2022, BABAT held a webinar “Trauma-Informed ABA” and in April 2022 held the annual BABAT Social. BABAT continues to recognize the activities of our members with the annual B. F. Skinner Foundation Student Research, BABAT Student, Jerry Shook Practitioner, and the BABAT Behavior Change for a Sustainable World Research Awards.

Membership

Membership has continued to grow and stands at over 2,000 active members. Almost 80% of members identified as practicing behavior analysts.

Social Media

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

The New England Behavior Analyst

The New England Behavior Analyst (NEBA) is BABAT’s quarterly newsletter, led by Dr. Candice Colón and her editorial committee: Dr. Nicole Groskruetz, Dr. Rachel Cavalari, Daria Yudina, Helena Whitlow, and Dr. Stephanie Nostin. This group works to bring cutting-edge content, directs the reader’s attention to important updates in the field, and speaks directly to Massachusetts Behavior Analysts. *NEBA* is changing to an improved e-news format that will reach our members more frequently.

BABAT Leadership

Stacie Bancroft continues her term as president of BABAT. The Board of Directors meets regularly as do our various committees. BABAT and our community benefit from the hard work of more than 25 committee members.

California ABA

BY JOCELYN THOMPSON

The California Association for Behavior Analysis remains committed to actively serving our membership, community stakeholders, and consumers of ABA. As the largest state association representing over 2,000 certificants, CalABA continues to lead and support its members with ongoing education, various committees and special interest groups, and an active and diverse board of directors.

CalABA returned to an in-person conference for 2022 with over 1,400 attendees. Post live conference, CALABA will host several virtual events. This includes our student paper awards, various CEU events and town hall meetings for ongoing discussion about advancing the field of ABA.

In summer 2021, the CalABA membership elected our first Equity, Diversity and Inclusion chair. Over the last six months, the new committee has worked collaboratively with

other state associations on DEI initiatives. In addition, the committee developed a survey to solicit feedback and the results of the survey will help the committee and board to identify DEI goals, and initiatives for the coming year.

In the fall of 2021, CalABA formed an ad hoc committee consisting of board members and general members to address the anti-ABA sentiments appearing in the news, social media and other public outlets. This area of work is multifaceted and includes support for the neurodiversity movement as well as how to address criticism for ABA in the treatment of ASD. A new survey was designed to gather information from all CalABA members to better represent the views and values of our entire constituency. We will soon release a statement to be posted on our website and social media outlets and will use the survey results to inform us of our next steps, which may include town halls and live events to focus on continued education and discussion around this issue.

CalABA has continued to be actively involved in public policy matters related to the practice of ABA in CA. Over the last year, the public policy committee followed legislation that impacted behavior analysis in California and worked to support legislation that aligns with behavior analytic values. In addition, the public policy committee addressed inaccuracies in regulation or public statements about behavior analysis including the statement published by the National Council on Independent Living. Other notable public policy matters that CalABA addressed in 2021 include:

- Advocated for inclusion of the practice guidelines governing Applied Behavior Analysis maintained by the Council of Autism Service Providers in regulation for SB 855.
- Working to protect high quality behavior analytic services through opposing legislation such as SB 562 which would reduce qualifications of ABA providers.
- Provided response to All Plan Letters released by the CA Department of Health Care Services which provides guidance to Medi-Cal managed health care plans related to behavioral health treatment.
- Participated in workgroups and committees such as the BHCOE Standards Committee, Medi-Cal for Students, and CA's DS Task Force Safety Net Workgroup to share accurate information regarding behavior analysis and increase behavior analysts' role and input in critical conversations.
- Working for inclusion in the CA Child & Youth Behavioral Health Initiative (CYBHI) \$4.4 Billion CA is investing in Behavioral Health services for children over the next 5 years.

Licensure continues to be a priority for CalABA. We are in the process of forming a licensure committee and hope to have a bill presented before the CA State Legislator

in late 2022/early 2023. CalABA continues to meet with lobbyists and stakeholders to increase communication and collaboration around licensure for behavior analysts in CA.

Connecticut ABA

BY MELISSA S. SAUNDERS

The Connecticut ABA (CTABA) Board had a productive 2021. Our Continuing Education, Membership, Organizational Members/Sponsorship, Public Policy & Legislative Outreach (PPLO), Technology, Student and Early Career Support, Public Schools, Diversity, Inclusion and Social Justice and Professional Issues committees have remained active and have allowed for member participation across this past year, even with the continued struggles we've faced in our second year of navigating the pandemic. Our Board of Directors (BOD) has worked over the past year to refine policies and procedures with the goal of more effectively meeting our mission and vision.

The PPLO committee has continued to focus on legislative and regulatory areas of priority identified through its annual Legislative Needs Survey and organizational representation on the PPLO committee. Priorities for 2022 include increased equity between Medicaid ABA and commercially funded programs, DOE certification for behavior analysts with equivalent experiences in schools, Mental Health Parity within ABA services, and broader transition options for families who are exiting early intervention services. As such, the PPLO committee has met with the Office of the Healthcare Advocate, the Office of the Child Advocate, the Department of Social Services, and the Department of Education and Department of Insurance to advocate for systems which support quality provision of services across the state. The Professional Issues committee is in the early stages of establishing a directory to connect Behavior Analysts within the state with those who have specialized expertise or experience and are willing to establish mentorship relationships with early career behavior analysts. So far, the interest has been encouraging, we have several members who've volunteered to be listed on the directory as well as members who would like to connect with mentors. We are thrilled to offer this important resource to our membership. The Diversity, Equity, and Social Justice Committee (DESJ) has worked to build leadership within the committee this last year and in doing so, projects are underway. The committee is focusing on identifying the experiences of individuals within CT to establish a baseline of needs both within and outside of the CTABA community. Through this process the vision, mission, and work of the committee will be iteratively refined. The DESJ views diversity and equity as essential to CTABA's success and efficiency in meeting the organization's mission.

Between March 3-4, we held our 18th annual state conference virtually, maintaining the number of registrants

from the previous year. We had over 400 individuals registered including members and non-members. Our organizational members and sponsors represented over 20 organizations. We are greatly appreciative of our conference chair, Erin Costa, MS., BCBA (CT) and the committee members, who managed to put together an excellent and well-rounded conference. Our annual 2-day event included pre-conference workshops with Dr. Noor Syed, Dr. Mary Jane Wiess, Dr. Evelyn Gould, Stephen Wood and Dr. Missy Olive. On conference day we had a group of well-rounded presenters including a morning keynote by Dr. Noor Syed, followed by sessions with Dr. Christina Alligood, Stephen Wood, Dr. Laurie Sperry, Dr. Florence DiGennaro Reed, Dr. Adithyan (Dithu) Rajaraman, Dr. Ravit Stein, Dr. Rose Jaffery, Dr. Melissa Saunders, Dr. Justin Leaf, Dr. Steve Woolf, Kelly Bermingham and closing out the conference with an outstanding ending keynote delivered by Dr. Mary Jane Weiss. Since 2013, CT ABA recognizes an outstanding student in behavior analysis each year in memory of Rachel D'Avino, a Connecticut student of behavior analysis who was killed in the Newtown school shooting. This year Tara Woodruff, a student attending the University of Saint Joseph for a Master of Science in Applied Behavior Analysis, received the award. Congratulations Tara!

Our state continues to see dramatic growth in the numbers of BACB credentialed practitioners including 492 licensed behavior analysts registered with the CT Department of Public Health. 1110 Board Certified Behavior Analysts live in CT. 922 Registered Behavior Technicians reside in CT, all of whom must be supervised for 5% of their work in ABA. Our last membership reporting is 440. We also have 19 organizational members. CTABA continues to work to streamline its backend membership processes including database management.

Finally, we have added five new Board of directors to start their cycle in 2022. The Board has been able to broaden its representation to include individuals with differing cultural backgrounds and professional experience (e.g., history of working as an RBT and inner-city schools). We look forward to incorporating fresh ideas into the efforts we have underway and our continued role as the voice of behavior analysis in Connecticut. Please go to www.ctaba.org for a list of our current Board of Directors and other information regarding CT ABA.

District of Columbia ABA

BY DC ABA MEMBERS

District of Columbia ABA (DC ABA) has celebrated its fifth year. Although technically, the District of Columbia is actually quite small geographically, its metropolitan area extends to nearby states of Maryland and Virginia (aka, the DMV). Currently, there is no licensing of behavior analysts

in DC. As such, insurance companies that reimburse licensed behavior analysts will not credential behavior analysts in DC. ABA-based treatment providers must make individual agreements with insurance companies that state that they only credential behavior analysts who are licensed. Families of children with disabilities and persons with disabilities also lack the protection of quality of services that licensing of behavior analysts allows. The District of Columbia also has a different political structure than the sovereign 50 states. It has a city council and mayor but is under the exclusive jurisdiction of the U.S. Congress which may impact any licensure effort in the District. Our neighbor affiliate chapters (VABA and MABA) have graciously supported the establishment of a DC ABA to focus on the specific needs of families and ABA providers in the District and the surrounding Metropolitan area.

Mission

DC ABA's mission is to promote the professional practice, ethics, research, and dissemination of behavior analysis, and to provide its members with support and continuing education opportunities within the field of behavior analysis. DCABA commits to promoting diversity and inclusiveness in our organization and within the field of behavior analysis.

Executive Board

DC ABA is governed by an Executive Committee composed of the elected offices of President, Past-President, President-Elect/Vice President, and three At Large Representatives. The Committee is completed by the appointed positions of Secretary, Communication Officer, DEI (diversity, inclusion, and equity) coordinator, and Treasurer. The 2022 Executive Board consists of Sandra Bishop, BCBA, LBA (President), position not filled (President-Elect/Vice President), Lera Joyce Johnson, Ph.D., BCBA-D, LBA (VA & MD; Past-President/ At Large), position not filled (At Large), Mary Caruso-Anderson, Ph.D., BCBA-D, LBA (VA & MD; At Large), Colleen Williams, M.Ed, BCBA (Communication Officer), Gabrielle Torres, BCBA, LBA, IBA (DEI Coordinator). The Executive Board meets once per month.

Working Committees

In order to meet the goals and initiatives of the organization, DC ABA has working committees headed by a representative of the Executive Board. Other members of each working committee are drawn from the general membership. The Membership Committee focuses on supporting members of DC ABA (i.e., trainings, resources, socializing) and growing the number of members, which includes behavior analysts, other professionals, RBTs, parents, allies, etc. The Program/Conference Committee focuses on organizing any events (i.e., annual conference,

special events, etc.) for DC ABA. The Marketing/Publications Committee focuses on creating and maintaining all printed and online publications of DC ABA, including social media posts, blog, and resources for membership and public educational purposes. The Public Policy Committee focuses on furthering the regulated practice of behavior analysis in Washington, D.C., including research of licensure initiatives across the country, drafting ABA licensure laws for D.C. and working for their ratification. The Diversity and Inclusion Committee (D&I Committee) shall be led by the DEI Coordinator. The primary duty of the D&I Committee shall be to ensure that the events, actions and activities of the DC ABA Board and its Committees take into account, and promote, diversity, equity and inclusion.

Membership

DC ABA offers four categories of membership: Full Membership, Professional Membership, Affiliate Membership, and Student Membership. Full membership is available to any individual holding an active behavior analyst credential, for example BCBA or BCBA-Ds or other credentialed behavior analysts. Full members may vote on membership decisions of the chapter. Professional membership is available to any individual holding an active BCaBA or RBT credential. Affiliate membership is available to any individual who has evidenced interest in the discipline of behavior analysis. This membership category may include parents or family members of clients, community members, teachers, individuals in related services or providers of services to mutual clients of behavior analysts. Student membership is available to any individual pursuing formal training in the discipline of behavior analysis. Currently, benefits at each level include discounted CEUs and event registrations.

Currently, DC ABA has declined from 50 members in 2020 to 13 members as of September 2022. Of those, 9 hold Full memberships, 0 Professional, 2 Affiliate, and 2 Student memberships.

Events and Activities

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

In 2021, Executive Board members presented at ABAI:

- Caruso-Anderson, M., Johnson, L.J., Bishop, S., Torres, G., Escobar, C., Schock, K., Zaklis, E., Jackson, J.L., Williams, C., & Hoffman, F.D.A.L. (2021, May 30). ABA service provision and Medicaid in the District of

Columbia, In symposium: Lessons learned by behavior analysts from areas working on fully implementing an ABA Medicaid benefit. Presentation at the 47th Annual Convention of the Association for Behavior Analysis International, Virtual Conference, May 28-31, 2021

Our primary focus in 2022 will be to facilitate the submission of a licensing model act in the District of Columbia. Other goals include increasing resources for mentoring young professionals and parents, increased membership, including recruiting parent members.

Visit us online! DC ABA has established a social presence through its website (districtaba.org), Facebook (DC ABA), and Twitter (@districtaba).

Delaware ABA

BY KAORI NEPO

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

Governance

Current executive officers of Delaware ABA consist of president, Kaori Nepo; vice president, Melissa Martin; treasurer, Shannon Kazmerick; secretary, Sarah D'Amico; membership director, Regan Root; and members at large, Dilianna Henry and Nicole Gouge.

Membership

There are two categories for Delaware ABA membership:

- Full member: for individual holding a terminal degree in a discipline directly related to or involving behavior analysis, and whose full professional commitment includes teaching, research, and /or practice in behavior analysis (Licensed Behavior Analyst in any state, or certified as BCBA-D, BCBA, or BCaBA);
- Affiliate member: open to individuals with an interest or stake in the practice of behavior analysis. Affiliate members may include but are not limited to retired BCBAs, students who are enrolled in a training program, in behavior analysis, Registered Behavior Technicians (RBTs) or other Direct Care Staff, parents of children receiving ABA services, members of ABAI or APBA, or professionals involved in ABA services

(e.g., administrative staff). Affiliate members do not have voting right and annual fee for them is \$20.

Conferences

In May 2022, the representative attended the chapter training at ABAI annual convention. Delaware ABA will also present a poster in Expo at ABAI annual convention.

In March 2022, the representatives attended the chapter and licensure meetings at APBA.

In November 2021, Delaware ABA hosted the first CE event series.

In May 2021, the representatives attended the chapter training at ABAI annual convention. Delaware ABA also presented a poster at the convention in order to promote the chapter.

In March 2021, the representatives attended the chapter meeting at APBA annual convention to learn the process of securing licensure in Delaware.

Activities for 2021–2022

- Delaware ABA held the first virtual CE event in November 2021.
- Delaware ABA updated the website to make the membership application process and conference registration easier.
- The committee continues to explore effective ways to promote behavior analysis as well as improve the quality of such services in Delaware
- The executive committee discussed the necessary steps to establish behavior analyst licensure in the state of Delaware.
- The executive committee also discussed the ways to increase the number of members through social media, conferences, and workshops

Plan for 2022-2023

Delaware ABA will continue to hold a few events to offer CEUs for members and to educate the general public regarding the science of behavior analysis. We held a second virtual CE event in April 2022. Additionally, we continue to gain knowledge and work on tasks to develop behavior analyst licensure in the state of Delaware through attending the meetings and workshops at the ABAI and APBA conventions.

Four Corners ABA

BY NICOLE L. BANK

The mission of Four Corners ABA (4CABA) is to promote the science of behavior and evidence-based technologies derived from the basic science in the Four Corners region of the US (Utah, Arizona, Colorado, and New Mexico). Four Corners ABA provides behavior analysts in the Four Corners region with an intellectual home. For example, past president

Anne Denning BCBA (Consultants for Children) organized the 15th Annual Conference in Arizona April 8-9, 2022.

The annual spring conference was held at the beautiful Casino Del Sol in Tucson, Arizona. Invited speakers included John Umbreit (University of Arizona), Katherine Brown (Utah State University), Anne Kupfer (Arizona State University), Jeff Kupfer (University of Colorado-Denver), Sydney Rice (University of Arizona), Megan Kirby (University of South Florida), Brennan Armshaw (University of North Texas), Federico Sanabria (Arizona State University), and Rebecca Hartzell (University of Arizona). The post-conference workshop was provided by Andrew Gardner and Chelsea Carr (University of Arizona). For more information about conferences, go to 4caba.org/annual-conference.

An election for board member positions was held at the Annual Conference. All full members are invited to run for a leadership position and help the organization meet the mission. This spring a new president-elect, secretary, board member and student member were elected. Congratulations to all new Board Members!

Hoosier ABA

BY ANN DORLET

HABA had another successful year battling through COVID thanks to our Executive Board, Membership, and our affiliation with ABAI. One of our biggest accomplishments was getting the licensure billed past! This is a very exciting moment for Indiana, and we can't wait to join the other states in this wonderful endeavor. Throughout the year, we continued to provide our members with continuing education opportunities with our monthly Hoosier Happy Hour Events. These events allow our members access to various topics in the areas of behavior analysis. Topics include self-care for BCBA's, improving mental and physical health during stressful times, work-life balance, ethical considerations in the field of ABA, effective supervision, and staff training.

In October, we hosted our second virtual conference with the following line-up: Becca Tagg, Shannon Biagi, Molly Dubuque, AJ Rodrigue, Rob Pennington, Janine Shapiro, Kim Phan Wolff, and Jennifer and Vince LaMarca. The conference was a three-day event and was quite successful with almost 150 people in attendance. We even had a super fun virtual poster session where we delivered a \$500 scholarship for the best overall poster presentation. Our 4th Annual Bridget Harrison Award was presented to Jill Forte for her continued commitment to HABA's mission.

This past year was again a challenging one. However, the HABA board and its members continued adapt to the change and learn together in new ways.

2021 Strategic Plan Goals

- Obtain Licensure: As of April 19, 2021, our licensure bill has passed through the senate and the congress. We are waiting for the governor to sign by the end of this week.
- Provide Monthly Hoosier Happy Hour CE events: accomplished
- Hold an in-person conference
- Stabilize finances: accomplished but will remain a goal
- Simplify: accomplished but will remain a goal

2022 Strategic Plan Goals

- Finalize Licensure
- Provide Monthly Hoosier Happy Hour CE events
- Hold an in-person conference
- Stabilize finances
- Continue to organize and simplify

Executive Committee 2021

- Danyl MH Epperheimer, MS, BCBA, past-president
- Amber Badgett, MA, BCBA, president
- Ann Dorlet, MA, BCBA, vice-president
- Amanda Ahrens, MS, BCBA, treasurer
- Amanda Jones, MS, BCBA, secretary
- Tysha Rivich, MS, BCBA, member-at-large

Committee Chairs 2020

- Vacant Public Policy chair
- Maqenzi Furgason, MS, BCBA and Mel Shampo, MS, BCBA Conference chairs
- Vince LaMarca, MS, BCBA, Licensure chair

Executive Committee 2022

- Amber Badgett, BCBA, past-president
- Ann Dorlet, BCBA, president
- Amanda Jones, BCBA, vice-president
- Amanda Ahrens, BCBA, treasurer
- Brittany Hughes, BCBA, secretary
- Maria Loudermilk, BCBA, member-at-large

Illinois ABA

BY NASIAH CIRINCIONE-ULEZI

The Illinois Association for Behavior Analysis (ILABA) was established to provide a forum for behavior analysts in the state of Illinois to stay up to date on legislative issues as they apply to our field as well as to offer continuing education and advocacy for ABA practitioners throughout our state. The chapter promotes collaboration among behavior analysts in Illinois and fosters relations between practices and universities in Illinois.

In 2022, ILABA moved forward with a variety of initiatives via committees. The Academic Affairs Committee of ILABA serves to connect the behavior analytic academic community in Illinois, connecting students across

universities, and collaborating with VCS across the state for the dissemination and advancement of the science. Apart from fulfilling its routine duties in service of ILABA and its members, the academic affairs committee has undertaken a series of initiatives in 2021, in collaboration with VCS partners in Illinois, to facilitate the transition to the BACB's new fieldwork experience and certification requirements. The committee is also in the process of developing a research registry to connect researchers, practitioners, and students in both academic and applied settings.

The Legislative Affairs Committee of ILABA achieved several milestones. First, the committee expanded the scope to be more comprehensive in nature, specifically licensure of Behavior Analysts, Medicaid coverage of ABA, and related supportive legislation (e.g., adult and children services, etc.). In this expansion, the committee sought to become more knowledgeable about these efforts and share that information with the membership.

Second, the committee engaged in committed action around meeting and talking with stakeholders. These stakeholders included Early Intervention, other professional state associations (e.g., counseling, psychology, etc.), provider groups, and more. The goal of these meetings was to share information about ABA, ILABA, and find mutually beneficial priorities.

Finally, the Legislative Affairs Committee is spearheading House Bill 4769 Licensure for Behavior Analysts. The Bill is supported by various state and national stakeholders. At the time of this report, the Bill was passed out of the House unanimously. The Bill is scheduled to be heard in the Senate and we eagerly await the opportunity to talk to Illinois Senators about our profession and work.

The Practitioner Education Committee hosted a neurodiversity and ABA panel where members of the autistic community who are BCBA's and a social workers spoke about their views on ABA. This committee hosted webinars on cultural humility and anti-ableism.

The Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee facilitated a book study toward ILABA's values of inclusivity, service, learning and openness.

Kentucky Association for Behavior Analysis

BY MELISSA DIAZ & STEPHEN WOOD

Mission

The Kentucky Association for Behavior Analysis (KYABA) is an Affiliate Chapter of the Association for Behavior Analysis International (ABAI). It's mission is to advance awareness, development, and access to the science and practice of behavior analysis in the Commonwealth of Kentucky by (1) encouraging the understanding of

behavior analysis in academic, research, and the natural environments; (2) supporting the design and application of effective behavioral procedures to improve the quality of life of the citizens of Kentucky; (3) serving as a professional reference group for those who identify themselves as scientists or practitioners in disciplines that embrace the principles and practices of behavior analysis; (4) advising political, legislative, and policy-making bodies with respect to all matters pertaining to behavior analysis; (5) organizing colloquiums, symposiums, and conferences that shall serve as a forum for the presentation of scientific and technological achievements, clinical practice, as well as for discussion of the affairs of the organization; and (6) publishing and distributing information on behavior analysis.

Executive Committee

KYABA is governed by an Executive Committee comprised of a president, past president, president-elect, three representatives and one student representative. The 2022 Executive Committee is comprised of Melissa “Missie,” Diaz BCBA, LBA (president), Stephen Wood BCBA LBA (past president), Sally Shepley BCBA-D, LBA (president-elect), Amanda Chavez, BCBA, LBA (representative), Tammy Hammond-Natof BCBA-D, LBA (representative), Jessika Vance-Morgan, BCBA, LBA (representative) and Ashley Varney (student representative). The Executive Committee is assisted by a director of operations. The 2022 director of operations is Taylor Webb BCBA.

Committees and Task Forces

In effort to improve the services offered by the organization, KYABA has committees and task forces headed by a representative from the Executive Committee. Other committee members are drawn from the membership.

Membership Committee: Chaired by Melissa Diaz BCBA, LBA. The mission of the Membership Committee is to increase membership in the association, disseminate information about association activities and opportunities, and develop new initiatives that increase the value of membership in the association.

- **Events Committee:** Chaired by Melissa Diaz BCBA, LBA. The mission of the Events Committee is to assist in the planning and implementation of events sponsored by the association.
- **Social Media Committee:** Chair by Jessika Vance Morgan, BCBA, LBA. The mission of the KYABA Social Media Committee is to disseminate information relevant to the association’s events and initiatives.
- **Awards Committee:** Chaired by Sally Shepley, BCBA-D, LBA. The mission of the Awards Committee is to develop, plan and implement the nomination, selection, and presentation process for awards given by the association.

- **Outreach & Activism Committee:** Chaired by Amanda Chavez, BCBA, LBA. The mission of the Outreach Committee is to represent the association’s interests to external organizations that operate activities relevant to the association’s interests.

Membership

KYABA offers three categories of annual membership: Full Membership (\$50.00 Annually), Affiliate Membership (\$40 Annually), and Student Membership (\$25 Annually). Full membership status may be obtained by any individual who holds at least a master’s degree in a discipline that is explicitly related to behavior analysis with training or professional experience in behavior-analytic teaching, research, and/or clinical applications. Only Full Members of KYABA are allowed to vote on matters of interest to the organization and hold office. Affiliate membership status may be obtained by any individual who is interested in the field of behavior analysis but does not hold the required credentials for full membership. Affiliate members are non-voting and cannot hold office but are valued members of KYABA with access to all other benefits of membership. Examples of affiliate members include registered behavior technicians (RBT’s), parents and family members of individuals receiving ABA services, and students not enrolled in an ABA training program. Affiliate members enjoy all the benefits of voting membership, except for the right to vote on matters of interest to the organization and the right to hold office. Student membership status may be obtained by any individual enrolled at least half-time in a behavior-analytic or related degree program. There are multiple benefits to becoming a member of the organization. These benefits include, but are not limited to, reduced conference registration and CEU fees, notifications about continuing education opportunities, listing of the latest job opportunities in the field, eligibility for chapter adjunct membership in the Association for Behavior Analysis International, subscription to our professional listserv network, access to the latest news in behavior analysis, a vote on issues pertinent to the organization (Full Members only), and the opportunity to hold office in the organization (Full Members only).

Events

KYABA has actively hosted events in the state since 2012. For the last few years, the organization has held an annual conference and a workshop series. In response to the COVID-19 Pandemic, KYABA hosted a monthly virtual/online CEU opportunity for its members, “Behavior Analysis & Brews,” including speakers: Dr. Manny Rodriguez DBA, BCBA, Dr. Tyra Sellers BCBA-D, Dr. Youkie Kurumiya BCBA-D, Dr. Margo Uwayo BCBA-D, Dr. Shane Spiker BCBA-D, and Dr. Amanda Kelly

BCBA-D. A 1 Day in-person Annual Conference was held in November 2021, with presenters Dr. Amanda Kelly BCBA-D, Dr. Shane Spiker, BCBA-D, and Dr. Robert Pennington, BCBA-D.

Contact Us

More information about Kentucky Association for Behavior Analysis can be found on the organization's website: www.kentuckyaba.org.

Louisiana Behavior Analysis Association

BY SCOTT WILLIAMSON

Mission and History

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

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

Officers

LaBAA is governed by an Executive Committee comprised of a president, past president, president-elect, treasurer, and secretary. 2020–2022 officers are: Scott Williamson, BCBA, LBA, president; Tricia Clement, Ph.D., BCBA-D, LBA, president-elect; Megan Matherne Perkins, BCBA, LBA, treasurer; and Janice Huber, BCBA, LBA, past-president. The LaBAA Board of Directors is comprised of regional representatives from across the state, a parent representative, and a student representative. 2020–2022 regional representatives are Chad Favre, BCBA, LBA; Channing Langlinais, BCBA, LBA, Phyllis Rash, BCBA, LBA, Amber Myers, BCBA, LBA, and Julie Mendes, BCBA, LBA. Heidi Lester is the student representative and Shannon D'Aquila is the parent representative. Tara Freeman is the Secretary. The legislative chair is Grant Gautreaux, Ph.D., BCBA-D, LBA. Elections for all officers and representatives are conducted in May/June every other year.

Membership

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

- Professional representation: LaBAA is committed to

protecting the interests of Licensed Behavior Analysts in the Louisiana state legislature

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

LaBAA has grown from 370 members in the spring of 2020 to 370* members at the time of writing.

2021 Conference

In lieu of an in-person conference in the fall of 2021, LaBAA hosted a virtual one-day event. The Gulf Coast ABA Conference was hosted on October 16, 2021 where a series of online symposiums was conducted. The 2022 conference is tentatively being planned for the fall of 2022. Please check labaa.net for updates.

Other Activities and Initiatives

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

Current initiatives include advocacy for permanent telehealth coverage and expanded access to ABA in school settings.

Maryland ABA

BY CARRIE S. W. BORRERO

The Maryland Association for Behavior Analysis (MABA) held its 24th Annual Meeting on December 3–4, 2021. Our conference is devoted to the dissemination of behavior analysis, both basic and applied, to our members from the Mid-Atlantic area. This year we were able to hold our conference in person! We were fortunate to have solid attendance. We welcomed workshops presented by Tyra Sellers (BACB) and Anibal Gutierrez,

Jr. (University of Miami). Our conference included presentations from Nasiah Cirincione-Ulezi (ULEZI, LLC), Anna Pétursdóttir (Texas Christian University), Manish Vaidya (University of North Texas), Lindsay Mehrkam (Monmouth University), Jeanne Donaldson (Louisiana State University), and Bill Ahearn (New England Center for Children).

We had an expo and poster session for sponsors and poster presentations. Poster presenters included staff and students from organizations such as, UMBC, Kennedy Krieger Institute, and the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. We would like to thank our sponsors for continuing to support the efforts of MABA.

At the conclusion of the conference, Alison Kozlowski (Kennedy Krieger Institute) stepped down as president, Tamara Marder (Johns Hopkins University) assumed the office of president, and Aila Dommestrup (Kennedy Krieger Institute) was elected president-elect. Anlara McKenzie was elected member-at-large. We would like to thank our executive committee for their time and dedication.

Plans are currently underway for the 25th Annual Meeting, to be held December 1–2, 2022, in Baltimore. For more information about our upcoming conference, please go to www.mdaba.org.

Massachusetts ABA

BY SUSAN AINSLEIGH

Introduction

The Massachusetts Association for Applied Behavior Analysis (MassABA) was established in 2010 to support the science and practice of behavior analysis in Massachusetts. As the home of over 3000 BCBAs, 100 BCBA-Ds, and over 1400 BCaBAs and RBTs, Massachusetts boasts among the highest per capita concentration of certified behavior analysts in the world and an active behavior analytic community. The vision of MassABA is to serve as the trade organization for this community. MassABA has focused its efforts to fulfill this vision by:

- Supporting behavior analysts seeking licensure by assuring that licensure applications are processed in a timely manner;
- Supporting legislation that would strengthen the licensure process in Massachusetts with the creation of a separate licensing board for behavior analysts;
- Supporting the expansion of insurance coverage for ABA services;
- Advocating for timely reimbursement of ABA services by state funding sources;
- Expanding regional continuing education events for behavior analysis practitioners in more remote locations of the region;
- Expanding interaction and correspondence with

MassABA members via social media;

- Advocating for behavior analytic professionals practicing in public schools by organizing a monthly networking event and advocating for adequate supports for BCBAs in public schools;
- Hosting an annual conference that brings diverse behavior analytic voices and applications to our membership.

2021–22 Overview

In 2020, a global pandemic occurred which impacted all aspects of service delivery of applied behavior analysis in the Commonwealth of MA (as well as nationally and globally). This pandemic impacted MassABA operations significantly in 2020 (in terms of revenue loss) and continued to impact operations in 2021.

Annual Member Meeting

The Annual meeting of MassABA members occurred on June 6, 2021. Thirty-nine (39) members of MassABA attended. A CE Event was held concurrently; Dr. Mary Jane Weiss spoke to members at this event about Ethical Decision-Making. An election was held for two open seats on the MassABA Board of Directors.

MassABA completed a Strategic Planning Process in 2018 and has continued to steadily implement the strategic goals identified in this plan. Most of the strategic initiative are facilitated via committee work. A summary of each of the committee's initiatives and goals is included below.

Policy/ Procedures Committee

This committee of MassABA was created in 2021. It's first task was to draft a set of operating procedures for committees of MassABA. These were reviewed and accepted by the Board in June 2021.

The committee's first policy related action was to draft and disseminate a position statement titled, "Massachusetts Association for Applied Behavior Analysis (MassABA) Position Statement on the Use of Electric Shock as an Intervention in the Treatment of Individuals with Disabilities." This position statement was drafted by the committee and unanimously approved by the Board of Directors of MassABA on October 21, 2021. It was disseminated to all members of MassABA at that time. This position statement represents the opinion of the Board of Director of MassABA, and not the Association for Behavior Analysis, International (ABAI).

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging Committee

This committee of MassABA was created in spring 2021. Its mission statement was developed and published on the MassABA website in April 2021. Initiatives of this committee in 2021 have included revision of the MassABA Membership application to better able the Board of Directors in assessing diversity of membership,

development of a track for DEI Issues within the Annual Conference, creation of workgroups within the committee targeting mentorship/ scholarship, research, and CE Events. This committee meets monthly.

Legislative Committee Update

Over the past year MassABA has continued to work with state government leaders to keep them abreast of issues of importance to our membership, as well as to advocate for legislative change that would strengthen service delivery. This included continued support for a bill to create an independent licensing board to oversee LABA in Massachusetts. This bill refiled in 2021 after not having passed in 2020; it is currently being reviewed in Ways & Means Committee. Board Members Joe Vedora, Brian Liu-Constant, and Paulo Guilharhdi testified on behalf of MassABA and two MassABA Organizational Members.

Mid-American ABA

BY JULIE A. ACKERLUND BRANDT

The Mid-American Association for Behavior Analysis (MABA) is a regional affiliate of the Association for Behavior Analysis International. MABA is a membership organization devoted to promoting scholarly interchange in behavior analysis through its annual convention. The annual convention also allows for dissemination of the science of behavior analysis to the public and to professional behavior analysts residing in the Midwestern United States.

After taking a year off due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we were able to hold the 20th annual Mid-American Association for Behavior Analysis convention October 29-30 in Detroit, MI at the Fort Pontchartrain a Wyndham Hotel. On Thursday afternoon, we had our inaugural ethics workshop, "A Behavioral Systems Approach to Ethics Training and Supervision" presented by Dr. Matthew Brodhead (Michigan State University) for which we were able to offer 3 ethics specific CEUs. We are so grateful to Dr. Brodhead for agreeing to help us begin this annual workshop tradition.

The 2020-21 MABA president, Amanda Karsten (Grand Valley State University), began the conference welcoming attendees and introducing our first Keynote speaker, Dr. Bridget Taylor. Dr. Taylor (Alpine Learning) presented "Training and Treating Wholeheartedly: Identifying a Role for Compassion Practices in the Profession of Behavior Analysis." Our first symposium of invited speakers included Dr. Claudia Drossel (Eastern Michigan University) speaking on "Introduction to Behavior Therapies and Dual Diagnoses," and Dr. John Austin (Reaching Results) presenting "Leadership: Creating the Right Environment for Success" to end the morning sessions.

Following our lunch break, our second symposium of invited speakers began with our 2020 Forrest J. Files

Applied Award Winner, Dr. Alec Bernstein (Marcus Autism Center) who presented "Response Blocking to Identify Skill and Motivation Deficits for Inappropriate Self-Feeding," followed by Dr. Sacha Pence (Western Michigan University) whose talk was entitled, "Teaching Life Skills to Preschool Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder," and our 2020 Forrest J. Files Basic Award Winner, Ms. Fernanda Oda (University of Kansas) who spoke on "An Experimental Analysis of Gender-biased Verbal Behavior and Self-editing Using an Online Analog." Our final symposium on Friday included Dr. Jonathan Miller (University of Colorado, Denver) speaking on "The Weight of Our Choices: Understanding Obesity through Behavioral Economics" and Dr. Sarah Lechago (University of Houston, Clear Lake) speaking on "A Short Story About Cultural Competence in Practice."

Our Friday afternoon events were followed by a memorial for Dr. Jack Michael, who was also our 2021 Recipient of the Distinguished Contributions to Behavioral Science Award. The memorial included many touching stories about the various ways that Dr. Michael enhanced student's educations, comradery in the department, and showing us all up on the dance floor at ABAI socials. It was a truly touching ceremony for many of us in the Midwest who will greatly miss this wonderful man.

Saturday morning, Amanda Karsten (Grand Valley State University), opened the conference by welcoming attendees back for the second day by announcing and and congratulating our 2020 Recipient of the Distinguished Contributions to Behavioral Science Award, Dr. Alyce Dickinson. Then, she introduced our second Keynote speaker, Dr. Cynthia Pietras (Western Michigan University) who presented "Rule-governed Behavior and the Climate Crisis: Why do Climate Warnings Fail to Motivate Sufficient Action?" Followed by a symposium of invited speaker Dr. Jonathan Pinkston presenting "Working Hard for Nothing: Effects of Response Effort on Resistance to Extinction," and our 2021 Forrest J. Files Student Applied Award winner Andrea Peterson (Eastern Michigan University) presenting her paper, "Teaching Young Adults With Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities to Recognize and Respond to Coworker Victimization" to round out our morning.

After lunch, Dr. Jeff Stein (Fralin Biomedical Research Institute at Virginia Tech Carilion) presented Behavioral Economic Demand and Substitution in the Study of Health Behavior: Recent Advancements and the Road Ahead followed by Dr. Karen Toussaint (University of North Texas) who spoke on, "A Comparative Evaluation of Functional Analytic Methods." Our final symposium included Dr. Matthew Locey (University of Nevada, Reno) presenting "Discounting: Behavior or Behavioral Process?" and Dr. Steven Payne (California State University, Fresno) speaking on "Applying Behavior Analysis to the Animal Shelter."

To finish the conference, our 2022 president, Dr. Stephen Walker announced the upcoming 2022 convention, will be held October 21–22 in St. Louis, MO at Live! By Loews. The conference will again include addresses on both basic and applied behavior-analytic research and theory. Students and faculty are encouraged to present posters on their research or theoretical efforts, and we encourage students and recent graduates to submit papers for the Forrest J. Files student researcher award. More information about MABA 2022 including lodging accommodations, calls for awards, posters, and membership/registration information will be coming shortly! Make sure to visit our website (www.mid-aba.com) and join our email list or contacting the Operations Coordinator: Dr. Julie A. Ackerlund Brandt (The Chicago School of Professional Psychology) at jbrandt@thechicagoschool.edu. We look forward to seeing you all in St. Louis!

Minnesota Northland ABA

BY ANGELICA AGUIRRE

Hello from the Minnesota Northland Association for Behavior Analysis (MNABA)! We welcomed two new faces to our full board this year: Dr. Shelby Wolf as our communications chair and Danielle Curtis as our student liaison. We said “see you later, never goodbye” to our communications chair, Elizabeth Harri-Dennis, who was in the position for over 6 years. Below are a few 2021 highlights:

- Created an Instagram account: www.instagram.com/mnorthlandaba/; Current followers: 158
- Created a Communications Committee to streamline communication efforts between members, our website, and social media platforms.
- Developed a partnership with Minnesota Positive Behavior Supports Network to collaborate on dissemination of ABA/PBS initiatives: <https://mnpbsp.org/mnpbs/>
- Our legislative chair, Dr. Eric Larsson, BCBA-D, LP, recharged his BCBA licensing bill task force.

We hosted our largest attended conference from September 23–24, 2021! The conference was held virtually and provided attendees with up to 25 CE credits. Our keynote speaker was Gregory Hanley, PhD, BCBA-D. Additionally, we offered four 3-hour workshops, six breakout sessions (three autism and three non-autism tracks), and two panel events:

- “ABA and PBS in a Shared Context of Values and Ethical Practices”
- “Local Practitioners’ Perspective With Dealing With COVID-19 Pandemic”

This conference also featured a Data Blitz Event—six virtual poster presentations with a discussant and offering

free CEUs. There were 235 attendees for this event.

Below are our goals for 2022:

- Create tasklists for communications committee
- Host our annual conference in-person after 3 years
- Edit and finalize 2022–2027 strategic plan
- Redesign our website
- Continue initiatives as addressed in our “Dissemination of Compassionate ABA” statement
- Continue to support and contact local representatives to approve the BCBA licensing bill

We look forward to all that 2022 has to offer MNABA and its members, including our conference scheduled for September 22–23. Please check www.mnaba.org often for details on this event and everything else we have going on—we would love to see you in Minnesota!

Missouri ABA

BY ALI COOPER

The Missouri Association for Behavior Analysis (MOABA) is an organization founded to support and promote scientific research on basic principles of behavior and the effective and ethical application of those principles across the great state of Missouri.

This year we welcomed Madeline Burke (president-elect), and Andresa DeSouza (treasurer). Returning board members included Miin-An Hošić (secretary), Megan Boyle (member at large), John Guercio (member at large), Alan Lowe (student representative), Ali Cooper (president), and Jennifer Weyman (past-president). We thank Todd Streff (former treasurer), and Leanne Hopper (former past president) for their commitment to MOABA and the practice of behavior analysis in Missouri.

Last year we held our annual MOABA conference in St. Louis, Missouri in November 2021. To ensure the safety of our members, we provided the opportunity to attend in-person or virtually. We offered six presentations and four workshops. Our invited presenters included Nasiah Cirincione-Ulezi, Natalie Parks, SungWoo Kahng, Nicholas Green, Brett DiNovi, Paul “Paulie” Gavoni, Bobby Newman, Dorothea Lerman, Marta T. “Tiki” Fiol, Andresa De Souza, Coby Lund, and Janet Lund. We selected presentations to highlight the importance of culture and diversity in behavior analysis such as, “Advancing the Practices of Humble Behaviorism and Cultural Humility in Behavior Analysis” by Nasiah Cirincione-Ulezi and “Undoing the Institutional Racism in Policing” by Natalie Parks. In 2021, MOABA also held a summer workshop entitled, “Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion: Clinical Applications” by Sarah Bloom.

During the annual conference, the MOABA board added a student poster contest. This allowed for students to receive feedback on posters from our notable presenters and

two students were selected to receive free admission to the annual 2022 conference. MOABA will continue to provide opportunities to support student research in the future.

MOABA continues to be committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion. The board of directors will continue to include presentations related to culture and diversity during future workshops and conferences.

We are thankful for our members and their dedication to using behavior analysis to improve the lives of others. In the future, we will continue to support behavior analysts across Missouri.

Montana ABA

BY ANNA YOUNG

The MTABA organization continues to grow in scope of activities that it offers to its chapter members and to the community. Between September 2020 and September 2021, the MTABA executive board included Lorri Coulter, past president, Ania Young, president, Traci Shinabarger, president elect, Autum Koska, treasurer, Bradley Tiefenthaler, secretary, and three members at-large, Brett Gilleo, Shelley Burbank, and Karlyn Gibbs.

In 2021, members of the MTABA executive board focused their efforts on coordinating the annual fall conference with Dr. Greg Hanley as the key presenter. The COVID-19 complications made it challenging to decide about whether the conference should be conducted in-person or virtually, and the executive board conducted a survey to seek input from its members to decide about which option to select. Majority of the membership supported the in-person option. The executive board also coordinated a virtual option for the event as well as a recording of Dr. Hanley's presentation (available for limited number of days) for those who were not able to attend in person. The MTABA conference committee secured a beautiful venue in Bozeman, MT, to host the conference. The organization's budget made it possible to provide refreshments and coffee for the attendees during the event as well as lunch on one of the two days of the conference. Overall, the conference was a success as measured by post-conference survey of attendees who reported high satisfaction with quality of the speaker presentation, presentation content, venue, and overall comfort at the conference.

In 2021, MTABA's executive board has continued to provide a vital link to communication with the Montana Board of Psychologists (BOP), which licenses behavior analysts and board-certified assistant behavior analysts in their practice in the state of Montana. Board members attend the BOP's quarterly public-forum meetings, and with the former board member, Jackie Mohler as a representative of our profession on the BOP, the BOP has access to most up-to-date information about the behavior analytic practice, its code of ethics, and supervision

requirements. In the fall of 2021, BOP considered reduction of annual fee for license renewal; the formal change in the rule related to this will go into effect in the upcoming months once the BOP gives it final approval.

As part of the Society for the Advancement of Behavior Analysis, Public Dissemination \$2,500 grant that was awarded to MTABA in June 2020, the MTABA's Dissemination Committee members have collected a video footage of interviews with behavior analysts, families, educators, and school administrators to produce a dissemination video that could be shared with large audiences of relevant stakeholders, including teachers, families, and state legislators. The video was professionally generated and disseminated on social media as well as on the MTABA website in August 2021. The video continues to be available for usage in various dissemination contexts, including communication with families, school districts, and other stakeholders.

The executive members of MTABA Policy Committee followed and were highly involved in developing legislation related to ABA services in the latest Montana 2021 legislative year. The committee carefully considered bills proposed by legislators that related to provision of ABA services in settings including public schools. The committee worked extensively with one of the legislators to draft a bill (LC 1527) that called for an act requiring the superintendent of public instruction to develop model policies regarding the provision of ABA services to students with Individualized Education Plans or Section 504 Plans. The committee did eventually decide to hold off on moving the bill forward as it appeared prudent to gather more information, especially from ABA providers and advocates in other states and to study precedents set forth by bills passed in other states.

The 2021 year has not been free of challenges related to the global pandemic; however, it has been a very successful year. The members of the executive board enthusiastically look forward to their service to the behavior analytic community and to other ABA stakeholders in the months to come.

Nevada ABA

BY MEGAN MCGREW

NABA has continued to work on improvement via a series of key initiatives that were put in place by previous boards with a growing emphasis on providing additional resources for members. Nevada Association for Behavior Analysis (NABA) has continued to prioritize the growth of the organization with increased outreach throughout the state and throughout the profession (all levels of study or credential).

NABA continues to take an active role in matters of public policy that impact behavior analysts in our state.

Having previously (2017) supported approved legislation to remove the regulation of behavior analysis from the purview of the Board of Psychological Examiners and instantiate a Board of Applied Behavior Analysis housed within the state Aging and Disability Services Division, in 2021, NABA promoted legislation to establish the state ABA board as a fully independent and autonomous entity. This legislative effort was successful, largely due to the tireless work of NABA's public policy committee chair, Molly Halligan, MA, BCBA, LBA.

NABA has worked throughout 2021 and 2022 to increase membership and member engagement as well as inclusivity within the organization. An affiliate membership tier specifically for RBTs (Nevada's fastest growing segment of ABA practitioners) was added in 2022. Virtual town hall meetings (general, April 2022; public policy, June 2022) are also held periodically to create an open forum for discussion between board and committee members, NABA members, and other interested parties.

Additionally, NABA has made it a priority to offer learning opportunities throughout the year. In 2021, NABA organized a speaker showcase in the months leading up to the annual conference, featuring an exciting line-up of speakers with ties to Nevada. These talks were offered virtually and free continuing education credits were offered for members. In April 2022, the NABA outreach committee partnered with the LGBTQ+ Center as well as Opportunity Village, in Las Vegas Nevada, in order to offer a live Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion event ("Compassionate Care Within a DEI Framework"). The cost of attendance was free and the cost of optional continuing education credits was set low to minimize barriers to attendance.

NABA's practice committee has been very active in 2021 and 2022, reaching out to providers across the state to assess how NABA can best offer support. The practice committee has organized a series of free virtual Q&A sessions with experts on topics of interest. These include sessions on the BACB Ethics Code (July 2022) and best billing practices (September 2022). NABA is looking forward to returning to a live, in-person, annual conference in October 2022, after 2 years of virtual conferences. The conference will take place at the Whitney Peak Hotel, in Reno, NV from October 14–16, 2022.

None of this would be possible without the hard work of the NABA Board, NABA Committee Chairs, and NABA committee members. The NABA executive board changes over each year, in January and each executive board member serves an elect year prior to the start of their term. Current NABA leadership is listed below.

- President: Megan McGrew, PhD, BCBA, LBA
- President - Elect: Christina Lydon, PhD, BCBA-D, LBA
- Treasurer: Kimberly Henkle, MA, BCBA, LBA
- Treasurer-Elect: Natasha Hughes, MEd, BCBA, LBA

- Secretary: Tiffany Aninao, MS, BCBA, LBA
- Secretary - Elect: Kathleen Soyka, MA, BCBA, LBA
- At-Large Representative: Melissa Almanza, MEd, BCBA, LBA
- Student Representative: Will Fleming
- Student Representative-Elect: Angel DePriest, BCaBA NABA
- Committee Chairs: Molly Halligan, MA, BCBA, LBA (Public Policy) Jennifer Bonow, PhD, BCBA-D, LBA (Practice) Angel DePriest, BCaBA, LBA (Outreach)

New York State ABA

BY T. J. COTE

The New York State Association for Behavior Analysis (NYSABA) has had a great year, and we are excited to share our chapter update with ABAI for 2022. We have been busy with association projects, communicating with our membership, and advocating for the field of behavior analysis throughout New York State. With 2021 being another somewhat challenging year, NYSABA has been able to make progress in several areas this year. Most notably, we have hired a new executive director and we celebrated the passage of our scope bill on December 29, 2021!

On October 1, we hired Thomas J. (T. J.) Cote, MBA, CAE as our executive director. T. J. comes from the association world and has almost two decades of experience in organizational management, advocacy, working with licensed professions in NYS and member engagement.

T. J. is a Diversity Executive Leadership Program (DELP) Scholar with the American Society of Association Executives, and received the lifetime achievement award before turning 40. T. J. has already made strides reviewing our budget and finding areas for increased revenue, jumped right into our advocacy work on our scope bill and positioning NYSABA amongst other licensed professions. We are in great hands with T. J. and we look forward to our future with him at the helm.

We are very excited to report that our scope expansion bill that removes the restriction on the scope of practice of behavior analysts to only working with individuals with autism or related disorders with a prescription for ABA passed! While the bill doesn't go into effect until June 2023, we are working diligently on the regulatory roll out. This victory would not have been possible without our coalition partners, legislative champions, advocates and the countless members who shared our message with the NYS government.

NYSABA is pleased to see that ABA became a billable service under Medicaid in NYS over the Summer 2021, however, there are still some unresolved challenges to providing services to individuals diagnosed with autism/autistic individuals who are Medicaid enrollees. We have been working hard with various partners to resolve these

issues. NYSABA will continue to work actively on these issues and will keep our members updated.

NYSABA continues to be a voice for the behavior analytic community in New York. Although NYSABA membership continues to grow, we need to focus on increasing the number of members to push forward with important legislative issues happening in the state.

Unfortunately, the number of licensed and certified behavior analysts in the state significantly outnumber the number of members in NYSABA. All behavior analysts in the state are urged to join NYSABA so that our collective voice can be heard by the state legislature. If you are not a member of NYSABA, become one. If you are already a member of NYSABA, get a colleague to join. If you and your colleagues are already members, we thank you and encourage you to become active in the association.

New York State licensing laws governing the practice of behavior analysis have been in effect since 2014. NYSABA has been doing important work educating behavior analysts about the licensing process and how to practice legally in New York State. We provide regular updates on our website and social media pages, hold events at our annual conference, and disseminate information at various events in New York. NYSABA continues to stay up to date with information coming from the New York State Office of Professions so that we can update our members about any issues affecting the practice of behavior analysis.

In October, we held our 32nd annual conference in a hybrid model. We were honored to hear keynote addresses from Amy Gravino and Dr. Jennifer Zarcone. Additionally, we welcomed six invited speakers including, Deb Thivierge, Dr. Leonard Epstein, Adrienne Bradley, Dr. Krista Clancy, Dr. Andrew Craig, and Joy Johnson. Topics included measuring behavior effects of psychotropic medication on challenging behavior, sexuality and the spectrum, navigating transition services, reinforcement pathology and obesity, a panel discussion of DEI in the field of ABA, taking a values-based approach to parent training, everyday leadership, family as a culture, considering race and neurodiversity in ABA, and a panel discussion surrounding experiences and perspectives on ABA.

Board members this year included Tricia Moss-Lourenco (president), Nancy Dib (president-elect), Nicole DeRosa (past president and conference chair), Linda Matey (treasurer), Vicki Knapp (secretary and marketing co-chair), Vanessa Patrone (representative at large and marketing co-chair), Joshua Jessel (representative at large and student activities chair), Elizabeth Drago (representative at large), Kenneth Shamlian (representative at large and membership chair), Fernande Ikomb-Deguenon (finance chair), Noor Syed (education chair), Bobbi Rogers (consumer representative and chair of the Parent and Family Committee), and Deborah Napolitano

and Maureen O'Grady (legislative co-chairs). This year we also appointed Rachael Atherley as our Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) chair, and Melissa Jackson, as our conference co-chair. Finally, we elected two new representatives at large—Sally Izquierdo and Ellie Mellon.

We are now planning for our 33rd annual conference to be held in Albany on October 27-29, 2022 which will include a great keynote and invited speakers. We will be accepting presentation and poster submissions from members. Also, check out our NYSABA website, and take a look at the NYSABA "Parent & Family" section of our website at www.nysabaparent.org, which includes free resources for parents and family members of consumers of behavior analysis services. Wishing everyone a happy and healthy 2022 from New York!

North Carolina ABA

BY SARAH POPE

The North Carolina Association for Behavior Analysis held its 33rd annual conference virtually on February 24–25, 2022. The conference was a great success thanks to the leadership of Monique Baker, president (Effective Interventions), as well as the rest of our Executive Council including Callie Plattner, past president (Mosaic Pediatric Therapy); Shanun Kunnavatana, president elect (Easterseals UCP of NC and VA); Nina Deese, vice president (Easterseals UCP of NC and VA); Leigh Ann Strain, secretary (Effective Interventions); Nancy Poteet, treasurer (private consultant); Sarah Pope, member-at-large (Mosaic Pediatric Therapy); Jacqueline Hamilton, member-at-large (Easterseals UCP of NC and VA); Alaina Swick, student representative (University of North Carolina Charlotte), Jamie Clary, publications editor (Riddle Developmental Center); Fred Spooner, senior NCABA advisor (UNC-Charlotte); Duke Schell, senior NCABA advisor (Riddle Developmental Center); Ruth Hurst, NC Psychological Association (Murdoch Developmental Center); Sarah Pope, liaison to ABAI and ACE coordinator (Mosaic Pediatric Therapy), Selene Johnson, community liaison (ABC of NC) and a host of other NCABA volunteers.

As the conference took place virtually, only a single track of presentations was available composed entirely of invited speakers and workshops from across the state and country to present on a variety of topics in addition to the "Welcome and Award Presentation", the Annual Business Meeting, and a student symposium. The first day of the conference began with a workshop titled, "Adapting Our Applied and Ethical Practice to New Needs: A Post-Trauma Approach to Supporting Individuals Using Behavioral Tools in Diverse Settings" (Camille Kolu, PhD, BCBA-D, Cusp Emergence). This workshop was then followed by invited presentations focusing on the following topics:

- “Discourse in 2022: Some Observations from a Radical Behaviorist” (Carol Pilgrim, PhD, University of North Carolina Wilmington)
- “Feasibility Matters: Why Behavior Analysts Should Conduct Feasibility Research and How to Do It” (Cynthia Anderson, PhD, BCBA-D, May Institute)
- “Mind the Gap: Using Evidence-Based Practice to Assess Challenging Behavior” (Shanun Kunnavatana, PhD, BCBA-D, Easter Seals UCP of NC and VA)

The second day of the conference began with a workshop titled, “Promoting Quality Feedback Conversations in Supervision” (Nicole Gravina, PhD, BCBA-D, University of Florida). This workshop was then followed by invited presentations focusing on the following topics:

- “Programming for Generativity: Using Multiple Exemplar Instruction & Multiple Exemplar Training” (Danielle LaFrance, PhD, BCBA-D, West for Elemy)
- “Contingencies of Joy: Meaning, Ethics, and Methods” (Shahla Alai-Rosales, PhD, BCBA-D, LBA, University of North Texas)
- “Demystifying the Motivating Operation” (Caio Miguel, PhD, BCBA-D, California State University, Sacramento)

Our speakers did an outstanding job of delivering meaningful and important content to our attendees. This year, NCABA was able to offer both NCPA and BACB continuing education credits, including supervision and ethics credits. Up to 12 BACB credits were available to participants (inclusive of 4 ethics credits and 3 supervision credits) as well as up to 12 NCPA credits (inclusive of 4 ethics credits).

A total of 414 registrants participated in the 2022 conference. This was an increase of more than 100 additional participants than our 2021 virtual conference which included 311 registrants. NCABA was thrilled with the high level of participation and attendance given that the conference was being held virtually.

At the opening of the conference, Monique Baker welcomed all participants. Awards were given to several very deserving individuals during the opening remarks. Selene Johnson (ABC of NC) was awarded the NCABA “Do Things” Award; Mark Galizio (University of North Carolina Wilmington) was awarded the Fred Keller Excellence in Behavior Analysis Award; Carly Hodges (Little Steps, Big Leaps) received the Technical Utilization Award, and Sarah Teague (Complete ABA) received the Student Scholarship Award. Dr. Carol Pilgrim was also honored with a Lifetime Achievement Award.

The NCABA Student Representative, Alaina Swick (University of North Carolina Charlotte), organized an excellent student symposium for this year’s conference, including presentations by Sarah Hayes (East Carolina University), Amber Flannigan (East Carolina University),

Melissa Tapp (University of North Carolina Charlotte), Janet Sanchez Enriquez (University of North Carolina Charlotte), and Alanna Ferguson (University of North Carolina Wilmington).

No poster session was conducted due to the virtual nature of the conference.

Despite the virtual nature of this year’s conference, this year’s annual business meeting was exceptionally well-attended. The status of licensure for behavior analysts in North Carolina was discussed, with a presentation made by Selene Johnson, who chairs the North Carolina Licensure Board. The newly elected officers were announced and are listed on our website, along with a link that members can use to contact them by email. The Board welcomes Haja Jallow in the position of vice president, Janis Krempa in the position of member at large, and Elizabeth Thuman into the position of student representative. Leigh Ann Strain was re-elected into the position of secretary.

Deserving a special thank you and acknowledgement are Jamie Clary, Ruth Hurst, Fred Spooner, Duke Schell, Selene Johnson, and Sarah Pope who serve non-voting but essential functions for the NCABA Board. Jamie Clary serves as our NCABA web editor, Ruth Hurst serves as our liaison to NCPA, Sarah Pope serves as our ABAI liaison and ACE coordinator, Selene Johnson serve as our community liaison, and Fred Spooner and Duke Schell serve as senior NCABA Board advisors. We want to sincerely thank out-going board members Callie Plattner (past president) and Jacqueline Hamilton for all they have done to support and advance NCABA during their terms.

NCABA did not present a NCABA poster at the ABAI poster session Expo due to changes in conference attendance plans as a result of COVID-19. NCABA elected to reserve funds to provide partial financial assistance in order to send the president or another designated board member to the national conference and annual chapter leadership training in an upcoming year once COVID-19 concerns have abated. This opportunity for financial assistance for an NCABA officer to attend the ABAI convention is reviewed annually by the Executive Council.

Please visit our website at www.nc-aba.com and see additional information regarding past events, upcoming opportunities, and to find information on becoming an NCABA member. The NCABA website also provides information about our history since 1989, including the “25 Year History” slide show, links to newsletters, and information about the conference and upcoming events, including our NCABA summer Autism conference

Ohio ABA

BY JENNIFER SWEENEY

Mission and Objective

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

2021 Highlights

The 2021 Conference was held on February 26–27 virtually hosted by BehaviorLive. The 2021 conference was OHABA's 11th annual conference with approximately 253 attendees. Due to COVID, the Board hosted one in person board meeting in July of 2021 and all other meetings were held virtually. The Board created monthly virtual events, (Coffee Chat & Thirsty Thursday) to bring our members together to discuss topics and issues related to behavior analysis. In total, OHABA offered 16 CEUs to our members. Executive members meet on a monthly basis in addition to our meetings with the full board (collaboration meetings and quarterly board meetings). We hired a lobbyist to advocate for BCBAs to be recognized on the telehealth bill.

Oklahoma ABA

BY CHRISTINA THORNTON

OKABA will have an informed and engaged membership in order to build a collaborative network of behavior analysts in the state of Oklahoma. Our core values are ethical behavior, knowledgeable membership, collaborative leadership, resources for community members and non-behavioral professionals, and encouraging continued education and experience to help inform policy makers.

Oregon ABA

BY AMANDA JOHNSTONE

ORABA continued to experience growth in membership and BACB certificants in the state over the last year despite being in the midst of a pandemic. ORABA made steps to increase its membership as well as provide members with additional opportunities to serve and engage. In 2021, ORABA hosted its annual conference virtually and continued to provide continuing education to members across the state.

Oregon's growing population of practicing behavior analysts is continuing to grow. As of the beginning of 2022, there are 388 active Licensed Behavior Analysts, 19 active Licensed Assistant Behavior Analysts, and 1,521 active Registered Behavior Analysis Interventionists in Oregon. However, of these active practitioners, membership in ORABA is still quite small with 77 certified members and 16 Student/Behavior Technicians with active memberships. One of ORABA's goals for the next year is to continue to increase membership while continuing to provide resources to the community. ORABA has closely followed the activities of the Behavior Analyst Regulatory Board this year and is proud to have members serving on the board in 2020.

In 2021, ORABA created several new committees in order to better serve our members as well as to attract new membership. These new committees, DEI Committee, Fundraising Committee, Leadership Committee, join our existing committees, Ambassadors Committee, Conference Committee, Public Policy Committee, and Schools Committee. ORABA looks forward to the continued growth of these committees as well as the necessary resources and dissemination they will provide.

ORABA's annual conference, "ABA: A Field That Keeps on Givin': Pushing Past the Typical Boundaries of ABA and Expanding the Lens of Behavior Analysis", occurred in October. The conference was held virtually. ORABA's keynote speaker, Angela Capuano, Ph.D., BCBA-D presented to members on the topic of multiculturalism in Applied Behavior Analysis. Sandra Bishop, MS, BCBA discussed some of the concerns voiced over ABA in her keynote address, "There is no old ABA". Several of our local behavior analysts presented on a variety of topics.

Oregon's higher education system saw additional opportunities for students to engage in behavior analytic studies. Portland State University, University of Oregon, and Oregon Institute of Technology all provide course sequences for certification in applied behavior analysis.

Pennsylvania ABA

BY JAMES CHOK

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

Mission and Vision

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

History

PennABA was incorporated in 1998. Richard Foxx and William Helsel saw a need to support behavior analysis in the state of Pennsylvania. In 2000, Richard Kubina

chaired a meeting at the ABAI annual convention to help elect PennABA's first set of officers. With the creation of PennABA, service providers, teachers, students, and families in Pennsylvania gained a resource that fosters the application and growth of behavior analysis.

PennABA Updates

Nicole Mastromatto, MA, BCBA, is now the secretary for PennABA as Melinda Desmaris, MA, BCBA has transitioned out of this role. We thank Melinda for her years of service for PennABA, including all of the hard work she put into conference planning and making sure the event was a rewarding experience for all that attended.

Jonathan Ivy, Ph.D., BCBA-D, continues to lend his effort and talents to PennABA as the director of Planning and Development. Keith Williams, Ph.D., has now transitioned full-time into the Executive Director and Treasurer role for PennABA. Richard Foxx, Ph.D., retired from his position. Our Executive Council would like to thank Dr. Foxx for establishing PennABA and for all of his years of service to the organization and the field at-large. His graciousness welcoming new members to PennABA and hosting all of our guest speakers over the years will be remembered fondly. It will not be the same without him.

PennABA's operations were disrupted this past year by the Covid-19 pandemic. In lieu of holding an in-person conference, PennABA hosted 2 free webinars for our members and non-members who were interested in attending. These continuing education webinars were a big success with over 500 attendees at each meeting. PennABA plans to offer more free webinars in the upcoming year for CEUs.

PennABA is also planning a virtual Executive Council Meeting, followed by a meeting with our membership to discuss future initiatives. We are excited and supportive of the legislative efforts to license behavior analysts in the state of Pennsylvania. The licensing bill was recently approved by the Pennsylvania House of Representatives and the PA licensure committee, and will be reviewed next by the PA Senate, and governor for approval.

Closing

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

Philadelphia Metropolitan ABA

BY ART DOWDY, AMANDA GULD FISHER, BETH ROSENWASSER, & JESSICA KENDORSKI

The Philadelphia Metropolitan Association for Behavior Analysis (PMABA) is the regional chapter of the

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

The PMABA chapter seeks to better serve as a scientific and professional reference and networking group for its members. This past year we were fortunate to have expert speakers share their behavior analytic knowledge with PMABA. The phenomenal group of expert speakers included Drs. Holly Gover, Dithu Rajaraman, Joshua Jessel, Jennifer Wade, Yukiko Washio, Shea Lemley, and Rachel Cagliani. PMABA chapter is led by the following executive council members: Art Dowdy Ph.D., BCBA-D, president; Amanda Guld Fisher Ph.D., BCBA-D, past president; Beth Rosenwasser Ph.D., BCBA-D, information officer; and Jessica Kendorski, Secretary Ph.D., BCBA-D. We are always looking for members interested in getting involved in the organization by joining or, paraphs, taking on a leadership position. Please contact us using the email address provided above if you are interested.

Notably, PMABA is involved in supporting the ABA in PA initiative to support the proposed bill to license behavior analysts in Pennsylvania. PMABA has issued a formal letter of support for the bill, members of the board have advocated with legislators and helped to edit the bill language. We also held a joint CEU event between the ABA in PA initiative and PMABA about the licensure act and ethical issues.

Though Black Scorpion Society meetings, originally facilitated by Dr. Phil Hinehline has slowed some due to the pandemic. Our goal is to begin Black Scorpion meetings again in the upcoming year. These events consist of local behavior analysts who gather and discuss behavior science and journal articles at a local watering hole—only a few things in life are more fun! Most often a discussant leads the conversation who often selects an article which aimed to satisfy our cravings for fun and intellectual conceptual debates and discussions. Former discussant leaders have included Dr. Phil Hinehline, Dr. Don Hantula, and Dr. Saul Axelrod among others on a wide array of topics from consumer choice to the double agent robot procedure to deviancy training, and the future of behavior analysis.

PMABA (<http://pmabainfo.wixsite.com/pmaba>) acts as a resource for local behavior analysts providing membership information, local events, and other important information. We added an online payment option for membership and CEUs. We plan to hold a membership drive in the fall and are planning future CEU events as well.

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

Rhode Island ABA

BY ELIZABETH JANICK & EMMA GRAUERHOLZ-FISHER

This year, RIABA has continued to provide free virtual continuing education opportunities for its members. Members have indicated that they enjoy having the option to attend events virtually, and we will continue to offer a virtual option even as we return to in-person events. We have offered the following free continuing education events for our members:

- “Designing Effective Token Economies for School Settings”, with Dr. Stephanie Jones (2 CEUs)
- “Choosing the Right Chaining Method for Your Client”, with Dr. Emma Grauerholz-Fisher (1 CEU)
- “Toward an Understanding of Assent With Individuals With Communication Difficulties”, with Dr. Cody Morris (1 CEU)

We also welcomed Shanna Bahry, MS, as a temporary appointed member of the Executive Council. She has been charged with researching Medicaid reimbursement rates in Rhode Island to help evaluate the need for renegotiation.

South Carolina ABA

BY KATIE WOLFE

South Carolina ABA (SC ABA) had a successful 2021 especially considering the ongoing and unpredictable impact of the pandemic! Board members included president, Kerri Pakurar; president-elect, Katie Wolfe; secretary, Jessica Scibilia/Kim Snyder; treasurer, Anslie Patrick; and student representative, Tameeca Comer.

In 2021, we focused on setting up systems to provide ongoing CEs to our members throughout the year with quarterly journal club events and quarterly ethics events. With the infrastructure for these events now established, we look forward to continuing to provide high-quality, free CEs to SC ABA members. We also edited and revised our by-laws in 2021 to ensure consistency

throughout the document and to create a new at-large board member position, which will support the board in planning, organizing, and executing the conference. Dr. Katie Franke, Ph.D., BCBA, was elected to fill this position in October 2021. We continued our licensure efforts, detailed below, and initiated conversations around working towards diversity, equity, and inclusion in the organization that we look forward to continuing in the upcoming year. We managed to exceed fiscal and conference attendance goals in spite of the uncertainty of the year.

Legislative Affairs Committee: The chair of our legislative affairs committee is David Green. Committee members include Kerri Krauss, Zahra Haji, Scott Braud, and Anna Craft. In 2021, a bill for licensure of behavior analysts in the state of South Carolina was proposed in both the House and Senate. A hearing was held in May 2021, with testimony from David Green and Zahra Haji in support of the bill. The South Carolina Speech Language Hearing Association (SCSHA) testified against the bill and requested a number of amendments which could not be resolved. This resulted in the bill being tabled until the next legislative session in 2022. Members of SC ABA, including Anna Craft, Tara Gregori, and Katie Wolfe, met with SCSHA representatives in September 2021 in a good faith effort to compromise on the language included in the bill. Our lobbyist provided an update to members at our conference in October 2021, and the licensure committee worked on revising the language in the bill to prepare for the 2022 legislative session.

Social Committee

We had transitions in our social chair position in 2021 as Kimberly Snyder, who served as the social chair, was appointed secretary of SC ABA. We appointed a new social chair in May 2021, but unfortunately, she had to relocate out of state in October. We are currently working on appointing a new social chair and have several high-quality candidates. Despite the transitions and the ongoing pandemic concerns, we were able to host two social events in 2021.

Ethics Committee

In March 2021, Suzanne Moore was appointed to lead our Ethics Committee. We opened an ethics portal where members could submit ethical dilemmas for discussion at our virtual ethics CE events. Suzanne organized and held an ethics event via Zoom in August 2021 that was very well attended. We will continue to support membership in this way by offering ethics CEs quarterly. We had a few changes in leadership in 2021:

- Jessica Scibilia (secretary) transitioned off the board and Kim Snyder was appointed as our new secretary.
- Kim Snyder (social chair) transitioned to secretary and Tiffany Swiatek was appointed social chair.

- Katie Franke was elected to a new board position of member at-large.
- In addition to these efforts, SC ABA hosted the following presenters at our annual conference October 25–26, 2021, in Greenville SC. We were pleased to be able to offer a hybrid conference to our members to allow those to attend who were unable to travel to Greenville.
- Dr. Greg Hanley presented a workshop titled, “Towards a Practical Functional Assessment and Treatment Process Addressing Severe Problem Behavior”
- Dr. Greg Hanley presented a keynote titled, “Towards Trauma-Assumed Applied Behavior Analysis: Key Values and Global Measures”
- Ashley Rose presented, “Soft Skills are the Hard Skills”
- Dr. Becca Tagg presented “The End Is Just the Beginning: Supervision Past the 2,000 hours”
- Dr. Patrick McGreevy presented, “Behavioral Intervention or School Instruction for Children and Adults With Limited Skill Repertoires”

Attendees appreciated the hybrid option for our conference, and we received great feedback on the presentations from our members!

Our 2022 conference was held in Charleston, SC on October 24–25, 2022.

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

Southeastern ABA

BY CHRISTY ALLIGOOD & KATHRYN KESTNER

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

History

In 1984, Aaron Brownstein (UNC Greensboro) rallied a group of prominent behavior analysts in the Southeastern U.S. around the idea of a regional conference on the science and philosophy of behavior analysis. The Southeastern

U.S. contained a large number of strong but geographically scattered academic and research groups (e.g., Florida, North Carolina, West Virginia, Alabama, and others) and without a venue for scholarly interaction. For many, the Southeastern Psychological Association had served this purpose, but the content of that conference had become overwhelmingly professional rather than scientific (i.e., following the direction of APA). SEABA was founded to be that venue for behavior analysts. SEABA was structured specifically to foster high-level discourse on research and theory in behavior analysis. The organization's sole activity would be to conduct an annual conference. The conference format was developed specifically to replicate the environment of early behavioral conferences, and scientific specialty organizations (e.g., the Behavioral Pharmacological Society). To this end, the conference was to be a day and a half, single-track program so that all participants could conveniently attend all presentations establishing a common basis for discussion and interaction. Speakers were to be selected based on content and quality of their empirical and theoretical work, and to comprise a well-balanced program of basic, applied, conceptual and philosophical presentations. The fall was selected to complement the main ABAI convention held in the spring, and the first meeting was held in the fall of 1984 in Myrtle Beach, SC.

A Special Emphasis on the Future of Behavior Analysis

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

Mission for Behavior Analysis

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

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

The 38th annual SEABA conference was held October 20–22, 2022 in Columbia, SC. More information is available at www.SEABAonline.org.

Tennessee ABA

BY LINDSEY BRADY & KOMAL NOORDIN

The Tennessee Association for Behavior Analysis (TABA) was established in 1997 and continues to focus on providing quality continuing education opportunities to Behavior Analysts across the state, supporting various state ABA programs, and ensuring the availability of applied behavior analysis services throughout all three regions. Since the COVID-19 pandemic, TABA has continued coordinating online continuing education opportunities both within regional meetings and the annual conference to ensure members were able to access these benefits safely.

Currently, TABA has approximately 311 members. There is one annual state conference, and three regional meetings hosted each year. The annual conference is typically held in Middle Tennessee as regional meetings are held in each of the three grand regions of the state—West, Middle, and East. The annual conference provides a central forum to discuss all aspects of researching, planning, and delivering applied behavior analysis services that address the needs of behavior analysts across the state, while the regional meetings allow for those needs of local behavior analysts to be discussed. All regional meetings were conducted virtually.

The 24th Annual Conference was held virtually using the BehaviorLive platform on October 29–30. During this conference, approximately 257 Behavior Analysts attended to hear the following qualified invited speakers: Dr. Patrick Friman, who spoke about how all Behavior Analysts serve specific general functions and how we can improve our field, Dr. Ruth Anne Rehfeldt, who discussed using ACT principles to program for compassionate care, and Dr. Amanda Kelly, who discussed how to solve ethical dilemmas that occur when professionals disagree. Hana Jurgens, Dr. Karly Cordova and Dr. Yulema Cruz, who discussed how to provide supervision beyond the task list and ethically prepare our trainees for the “real world.” Additional speakers covered topics such as trauma informed care, using the Contextual Variable Analysis and Planning Tool to improve treatment outcomes, and using virtual behavior skills training to teach discrete trial procedures to public school staff. Although we couldn’t host Behavioral Olympics, poster sessions returned allowing our exceptional trainees to showcase their knowledge.

Our Executive Committee is made up of the following individuals: Komal Noordin as president, Nea Houchins-Juarez as president-elect, Donna Ross as West TN Regional representative, Brianna Duncan as Middle TN Regional representative, Michael Tonos as East TN Regional representative, Ebony Barnes as West TN student officer, Vandyck Adade-Yeboah as Middle TN student officer, and Star Washington as East TN student officer. Our committee chairs include Cady Branch and Michelle

Hopton (co-chairs, continuing education), Erin Szarka (publications), Logan York and Elizabeth West (co-chairs, social media), Clinton Smith (professional standards), and Zachary Stevens (membership), Pablo Juarez and James Meindl (Public Policy Committee co-chairs). Lindsey Brady continues as the director of operations. Collectively, this group is dedicated to advancing the presence of TABA across the state by finally offering a hybrid conference option, providing engaging opportunities for regional meetings, attempting to reconnect with members in-person as permitted, and working to identify current and possible new benefits for TABA members in the future. TABA is active on Facebook and Instagram.

Texas ABA

BY RACHEL KRAMER

TxABA Mission

The Texas Association for Behavior Analysis (TxABA) continues to be guided by the mission to advance the science of behavior analysis to improve the world in which we live by disseminating knowledge from the science and providing resources to the behavior analytic community and the public in Texas in an ethical and high-quality manner.

TxABA Membership

Membership in TxABA is a 365-day membership from the date of payment; individuals may join anytime during the year. Voting/affiliate membership is \$60 and student/RBT membership is \$30. Members receive discounts on conference registration as well as free registration and CEUs for the TxABA webinar speaker series. Members may serve on TxABA Committees to help shape behavior analysis in Texas and participate in TxABA SIGs.

TxABA Executive Council (EC)

The 2021-2022 Executive Council consisted of President Jeffrey Dillen, Past-President Kate Johnson-Patagoc, Council Member Dr. Karen Toussaint, Council Member Jennifer Hines, Council Member Dr. Summer Gainey, Council Member Dr. Berenice de la Cruz, Senior Student Representative Jared Armshaw, and Junior Student Representative Julie Hrabal. TxABA welcomed a new executive director this year, Rachel Kramer who was serving as secretary-treasurer. Former Executive Director Dr. Zachary Morford stayed with TxABA now serving as the secretary-treasurer. The TxABA Executive Council continued to meet monthly to discuss strategic plan progress, monitor the budget, and discuss upcoming events.

TxABA Strategic Plan

The TxABA Executive Council met in person in August 2021 to review progress on the TxABA Strategic Plan.

As the pandemic continues, TxABA has adjusted Short-Term Goals while retaining Long-Term Goals: 1) Develop the organizational infrastructure for committees, special interest groups (SIGs), the executive council, and administration; 2) Refine the relationship between TxABA and the TxABA Public Policy Group (TxABA PPG); 3) Support the quality and growth of the science and practice of behavior analysis through expansion of funding opportunities for science, practice, and research, and through the expansion of service offerings beyond the annual conference; 4) Increase the visibility and awareness of behavior analysis and TxABA among the public, and; 5) TxABA will engage in activities that promote diversity, inclusion, and equity as it pertains to its members, constituents, and conference attendees. To summarize TxABA's progress on Strategic Plan Goals and communicate with members, a biannual newsletter was started this year, <https://bit.ly/TxABANewsJan2022>.

TxABA Annual Conference and Awards

TxABA hosted its 37th Annual Conference in Dallas, TX on April 21–24, 2022. It was a hybrid conference with BehaviorLive live streaming the conference and providing asynchronous viewing for most presentations after the conference. TxABA expanded to include pre-conference workshops on Thursday. The conference consisted of eight tracks with invited presentations: two Neurodevelopmental Disorders tracks, a Professional Track, a General Track, an Education Track, a Social Issues Track, an Organization Behavior Management Track, and a Research Track. It was great to see everyone who was able to join us in person after two years online. Thank you to everyone who made the 2022 TxABA Conference a success! The 38th Annual Conference will be held at the Hyatt Regency San Antonio Riverwalk on April 27–30, 2023.

Two awards were presented this year at the TxABA 2022 Conference. Dr. Gordon Bourland was presented with the Distinguished Services to TxABA award for his many contributions to the organization over the years including serving as TxABA president twice, ACE Provider, Committees, and the first president of the Public Policy Group. Dr. Bourland's involvement has been such that he is synonymous with TxABA. Courtney Hoffman was presented with Public Service Contributions to Behavior Analysis in Texas for serving as the TxABA PPG lobbyist for several years. She was pivotal to getting licensure passed in Texas and securing Medicaid coverage for ABA therapy. TxABA was honored to thank these two individuals for their hard work and dedication.

Other Activities

TxABA launched a webinar series in 2021–2022 to increase dissemination beyond the annual conference. TxABA's first two webinar speakers were Dr. John Guercio in November

and Dr. Malika Pritchett in January. There are two webinars scheduled for this summer, Dr. Lina Slim-Topdjian in June and Dr. David Cox in July. TxABA has been expanding resources for practitioners on our website with the help of our committees. For information on committees and SIGs please follow the link above to the newsletter.

TxABA Public Policy Group

The TxABA PPG is the sister organization of TxABA that focuses on legislative issues and lobbying. The 2021–2022 TxABA PPG officers consisted of President Rany Thommen, Past-President Jeffrey Dillen, Treasurer Berenice de la Cruz, Secretary Anna Sciarillo, and Communications Mariel Cremonie-Fernandez. The past year the TxABA PPG focused on Medicaid funding in Texas for ABA therapy. For more information, please visit <https://behavioranalysispu.wixsite.com/txabappg>.

Utah ABA

BY AARON FISCHER

This year UtABA board and members focused on integrating diversity, equity, and inclusion into our committees—with the intention of infusing those working groups with a mindset to guide their practice and committee work. We included various diverse topics in our annual conference—many of which provided contemporary perspectives for behavior analysis research and practice. We continue to provide three free webinars to our members per year and recently kicked off a podcast on all things behavior analysis in Utah. We are grateful for our committed membership and their involvement across our many committees.

Vermont ABA

BY KRISTEN MIGLINAS

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

VtABA organized and hosted two recent events. On January 28, 2022, Dr. Allen Karsina presented on “Culturally Responsive Supervision” and “Ethical Issues in Supervision”. While we hoped to have this event in person, it was held online, and 80 attendees were still able to collect both Ethics and Supervisions CEUs. Visit our website to learn about our upcoming Annual Conference scheduled for April 29, 2022. One of the topics will be vocational planning and skill acquisition for individuals with ASD. It is planned as an in-person event and will take place by the shores of Lake Champlain in Downtown Burlington.

In the past year our subcommittees have been hard at work creating a new logo, streamlining our website and

member management platform, and sharing relevant and helpful information via email and social media. Thanks to some generous donations, members are now able to apply for a scholarship. The intent of the scholarship is to help advance the field of ABA here in the Green Mountain State. We are all very excited to be able to offer this opportunity to our current and future colleagues!

In addition to our April event, we will be planning more in-person learning opportunities. The lack of in-person networking has been felt nationwide, and we are ready to and excited to connect with you. We welcome and encourage professionals and students from other chapters to join our events. Sharing ideas, experiences, and interesting research is a wonderful way to grow as professionals.

This year, we are looking forward to the creation of a quarterly newsletter. We hope it will be interesting, informative, and help our members stay connected and current with our field. The first issue is expected to be sent out in March 2022. For more information on our chapter and what we're working on check out the following:

- Website: www.vtaba.org/
- Facebook: VT ABA (Nonprofit)
- Instagram: #vt_aba

Virginia ABA

BY CHRISTY EVANKO

The Virginia Association for Behavior Analysis (VABA) is the affiliate chapter of ABAI in Virginia. We represent behavior analysts in Virginia and ended 2021 with over 600 members! We had a slight increase over 2020 membership but are not back to our pre-COVID numbers of over 800 members. The Commonwealth of Virginia has the ninth largest certified BCBA-Ds, BCBAs, BCaBAs, and RBTs (combined) in the United States. The association has been in existence since 2003 and is a 501(c)(6) organization. VABA contracts with a lobbyist and has one paid contracted position, an administrative director.

Based on member survey data, we decided to update the strategic components of our goals:

- Goal 1 – Improve Viability and Sustainability of the Organization;
- Goal 2 – Provide Quality Service to Our Members;
- Goal 3 – Strengthen the Diversity and Cultural Competence within VABA and the Behavior Analysis Profession across the Commonwealth;
- Goal 4 – Advocate for the Science of Behavior Analysis in the Commonwealth. We are frequently monitoring our strategic plan to find better ways of serving our members. We are very excited to add Goal 3 this year.

This year, we can't wait to get back to our in-person conference in April. After two years of virtual conference, we are ready to see everyone again. Our new location-based

special interest groups in Central VA, Tidewater, Northern VA, Roanoke, and Southwest VA are offering additional professional development events to serve our members, and in February, we held an in-person billing workshop. Our Marketing & Membership; Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, Dissemination, and Public Policy Committees continue to meet and do the heavy lifting for our organization.

This year, with our lobbyist's help, we introduced a bill to add behavior analysts to the list of mandated reporters in the Virginia Code. We also secured a resolution to designate March 14–20 Behavior Analysis Week in the Commonwealth. Additionally, Virginia Medicaid adopted our Category 1 CPT codes late last year.

In 2021, VABA distributed four newsletters that were each opened by half of our membership or more. We published fifteen blog posts with information that affects practitioners in Virginia. We communicated to over 1,700 people via Facebook, over 1100 via Twitter, and over 300 people on our newer Instagram Account. We also began using LinkedIn to communicate. We publicized more than 40 jobs on our website. We made the decision to continue with a virtual conference in April 2021 and had almost 250 attendees and fourteen sponsors. We published an annual report on our website (www.virginiaaba.org/about/annual-reports/).

VABA Membership offers many benefits, including an annual conference, networking opportunities, quarterly newsletter, CEU offerings (including the conference and beyond), members-only resources including supervision resources and a search engine, lobbying and policy efforts, location-based special interest groups, and discounts on a variety of outside products. The VABA Board of Directors works diligently to make sure we are relevant to behavior analysts in Virginia. We meet at least quarterly and stay in continual contact to provide benefits that our members request and need. We are proud to represent behavior analysis in Virginia.

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

ABA Australia

BY ALEXANDRA BROWN

ABA Australia continues to grow and develop. Our membership base has increased to over 300, which is wonderful to see amidst the COVID-19 pandemic.

In 2021, for the first time ever, we offered a virtual conference. This went extremely well, although we are looking forward to a face-to-face conference in July 2022. For our upcoming conference in Sydney, we will be running pre-conference workshops and having up to six streams of presentations. Having multiple streams is a first for us! We are also looking forward to the social networking that we have missed over the past two years.

As always, our various committees have continued to work toward increased recognition of behaviour analytic services and BCBAs; however, our priorities have now shifted toward the development of an Australian Regulatory Board. We hope that this will be rolled out mid-2022. As a result of this huge change, we have hired our first paid employee. This has been an incredible help for our tireless volunteers.

ABA Australia had a poster at ABAI's second Virtual Expo in May 2022. As always, ABAI's support for international chapters at the Affiliate Chapter Training was also very much appreciated by our attending board members.

As we look forward to the next year, we will continue to work toward our ever-growing goals, with enthusiasm.

ABA Colombia

BY CAMILO HURTADO-PARRADO

ABA Colombia's 2021 strategic plan to continue growing and positioning in the region resulted in the establishment of four committees, which are aimed to develop the current areas of interest for the Chapter, namely: (a) dissemination and continuous-education events, (b) memberships and affiliations, (c) system for recognition of credentials and training of behavior analysts in Colombia, and (d) communications.

ABA Colombia hosted nine online, live, and free events during 2021. They included seminars: "The Situation of Applied Behavior Analysis in Latin America," by Sonia Calderon, Alessa Mauri, Maria Arizmendi, Carola Scolari, and Carlos Barbosa; "The Structure of Behavior and Its Implications for Applied Behavior Analysis," by Federico Sanabira; "Research and Interventions on Social Issues From a Behavior Analytic Perspective," by Mark Mattaini, Blanca Ballesteros, Wilson Lopez-Lopez, and Jose Ardila; "The Past, the Present, and the Future of Applied Behavior Analysis for Special Populations," by Benjamin Giraldo; "Contemporary Perspectives in Behavior Analysis

of Culture," by Jose Ardila; "The Establishment of an Elementary School Based on Experimental Analysis of Behavior," by Julio Varela; "From the Experimental Analysis of Behavior to Clinical Analysis of Behavior," by Claudia Caycedo; "Assessment of the Acceptance and Commitment Therapy in Applied Behavior Analysis," by Luisa Canon, Francisco Ruiz, and Carlos Rivera Villegas; and "Interbehaviorism and Applied Behavior Analysis," by Emilio Ribes Inesta. The guest speakers were recognized Latin American behavior analysts across a wide range of areas, and the success of the events is evident on comments, questions, and size of the live audience (average of 200 participants). All videos from previous and next events are freely available at the YouTube channel of ABA Colombia.

ABA Colombia updated its membership structure during 2021. The committee in charge of this process developed a new system, that includes categories, requirements, and benefits, and was cohesive with the efforts to develop a separate system for recognition of credentials and training of behavior analysts in Colombia. The new membership system will be launched during a special event in May 2022.

The committee involved in the development of the recognition system of credentials and training of behavior analysts reviewed the success of related systems in other countries (e.g., Brazil, United Kingdom, United States and Canada) and has been working on a first version of the operating manual that will guide such process (e.g., degrees and hours of supervised experience needed for each of the recognized categories, required supporting documentation, etcetera). Also, in collaboration with the National University of Colombia, the development of an exam is ongoing. Among the next steps is the inclusion of the relevant aspects of the recently released Tiered Model of Education by ABA International. The expected date of completion of this project is the first semester of 2023.

Lastly, the creation of a committee dedicated to ABA Colombia's communications responds to the need to continue increasing the chapter's presence on the Internet, including dissemination of the science and practice of Behavior Analysis. Important efforts of this committee were aimed at targeting different audiences across different platforms, including Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. Additional to promoting the different events that ABA Colombia periodically holds, the communications committee disseminates relevant information on behavior analysis. A especially successful initiative was the series of five interviews with Latin American students studying in behavior analytic programs abroad, which resulted in an important increase in engagement and subscriptions to the chapter's social networks.

ABA Germany

BY NICOLE CONDIT

The Association for Behavior Analysis Deutschland (ABA-D) is devoted to representing and communicating ABA to the German public as a socially, ethically viable and scientifically-based therapeutic intervention in various settings.

Our mission is to bring improved awareness of the internationally developed science of behavior analysis in both its experimental and applied forms to the German language and populace. We aim to protect the integrity of Behavior Analysis in all its forms and applications, while contributing to its development, enhancement, and growth. We strive to earn acceptance of ABA in Germany, as in much of the rest of the world, as its own scientific endeavor useful in addressing important social issues including the education and therapy of individuals in need. In doing so, we plan to ensure that ABA in Germany stays connected and responsible to the larger international behavior analysis community; help develop a standardized set of appropriate German-language translations for behavioral terminology in all its forms and applications; insist that criteria standards created in Germany for those allowed to use ABA meet standards of the international community; and promote educational opportunities in Germany.

This past year, 2021, marked the 10th anniversary of The Association for Behavior Analysis Deutschland (ABA-D) and we have been an Affiliate National Chapter of ABAI since 2013.

Looking forward, our focus is planning an ABA Conference in Germany. By doing so, we will be disseminating information even further, offering continuing education experiences, and providing a space for all interested parties to connect. This conference will be a meeting point for professionals from different fields who are interested in behavior analysis in Germany and our goal is to shed an even brighter light on this field.

The 2021 annual meeting was held online as we all continued to be faced with the worldwide pandemic. Beginning in 2022, we are offering additional online meeting opportunities for all members in order to encourage collaboration and connection.

We remain committed to our mission to spread knowledge of behavior analysis to professionals and parents, promote the science in Germany, and invite more members and professionals join us. For further information or to join the chapter please visit www.aba-d.de.

ABA Lebanon

BY ROLA ANNAN

Lebanon Today

Lebanon's crisis, a multi-layered socio-economic crisis, began few months before the world pandemic and continues after the biggest non-nuclear blast in history (Beirut August Blast).

According to Human Rights Watch, Beirut blast killed 218 people from different nationalities; Lebanon, Syria, Egypt, Ethiopia, Bangladesh, Philippines, Pakistan, Palestine, the Netherlands, Canada, Germany, France, Australia, United States. It has wounded 7,000 people and caused 150 disabilities with untold psychological harm for hundreds of people. It has damaged 77,000 apartments and displaced over 300,000 people. At least three children ages 2–15 lost their lives. Thirty-one children required hospitalization. One thousand children were injured and 80,000 children were left without a home.

The blast has destroyed 163 public and private schools and rendered half of Beirut's healthcare centers nonfunctional. It has impacted 56% of the private businesses in Beirut. There was extensive damage to infrastructure, including transport, energy, water supply and sanitation, and municipal services totaling US\$390–475 million in losses. According to the World Bank, the explosion caused an estimated \$3.8–4.6 billion in material damage.

While experts are having a hard time measuring how severe the crisis is, and while zero reforms have been introduced from the government, "82% of the population lives in multidimensional poverty, which takes into account factors other than income, such as access to health, education and public utilities" (UN, 2021).

Today Lebanon witnesses the biggest migration rate in history. In 2019, the rate increased to 89% from 2018. The BCBA body was also affected as many left the country. In the midst of all this and we refer to the objectives dictated in the bylaws to report on our activities. In its bylaws, ABAL aims to:

- Serve as a scientific and professional reference and networking group for its members.
 - a. ABAL continues to expand its social network and membership body to promote this objective in 2021.
 - i. Facebook followers increased from 300 to 1397
 - ii. Instagram followers increased from 200 to 464
 - iii. ABAL members increased to 77 members
- Disseminate information to promote its mission to a wider audience.
 - a. Organized online webinars last April, 2021 (Autism month).
- Organize an annual business meeting to provide a forum for discussion of the affairs of the chapter.
 - a. Members met monthly or more to check on members

- state in crisis, organize April webinar and discuss fund raising opportunities for the chapter.
- Protect ABA consumers and practitioners by promoting and maintaining high ethical and professional standards among behavior analysts in the fields of education, business, therapeutic and environmental services in Lebanon.

BCBAs in Lebanon have maintained a strong stand demonstrated by continuing to show commitment to ABAL, striving to keep ABAL alive with all the challenges, continuing to be with the people in the field or online. Following up with the ministries for registration is ongoing:

- Raise awareness about the importance of implementing evidence-based practices, and scientific interventions while avoiding pseudoscientific practices **aba.lebaneseassociation@gmail.com**
 - a. Organized online webinars last April (Autism month) attached in Appendix A.
 - b. The total number of attendees on the webinars ranged between 60 and 90 per webinar, totaling 600 from Lebanon, GCC, Middle East and the United States.
- Set standardized criteria for the practice of ABA.
 - a. As the crisis has affected our legal registration due to ministries changing boards and consequent freezing of related operations in the ministries, we await having a firm legal existence to set and announce criteria for standardization. Last follow up in February 2021 indicated that we got the approval from the Ministry of Health and now awaiting the last one: Ministry of Internal Affairs.
- Bring together a community of ABA therapists, educators, professionals, and all those interested in the field of behavioral analysis.
 - a. ABAL now has 77 members from different nationalities.

ABA Switzerland

BY SILJA WIRTH, CHARLOTTE ESCANÉ, & ERIKA GLAUS

This year, ABA Switzerland continued to offer webinars with CEUs opportunities. We welcomed Nicole Pfaller-Sadovky, she introduced her work with dogs and training of dog caregivers. Shane Spiker presented his work with adults. This presentation was followed by Kimberly Maich and Carmen Hall who also gave us an insight into their work with adults with autism. They showed many examples of their current practice. Kelsey Ruppel presented, “Balance Program: A Parent-Professional Collaborative Approach to Emerging Problem Behavior.” She introduced the participants to this great training model tailored for parents. We also welcomed Eric Larsson back for another webinar to present on the topic of cognitive behavior therapy for anxiety and depression.

Another area of focus this year has been to start building ABA Switzerland’s future approval of master’s course sequences in ABA. The chapter will replicate the ABAI course sequence approbation for now. At the same time, thanks to Neil Martin’s support, we helped in the creation of the first master program in ABA here in Switzerland. Courses will be given in French, by BCBAs working in the field of behavior analysis for more than five consecutive years.

We continued to seek our neighboring countries’ feedback, specifically the French community via ONPAC (Organisation Nationale des Professionnels en Analyse du Comportement). We also developed a stronger collaboration with the ABA chapters in Italy to establish a foundation for future joint projects.

ABA Switzerland joined EuroBa’s Advisory Group as the representative for Switzerland. There have been two meetings with representatives from many European countries. We discussed the situation in Europe and got the opportunity to give feedback to the EuroBa competence list for entry-level Behavior Technicians. The advisory group also developed a paper that describes the current situation in Europe which is in the process of submitting for publication.

As we all know, social media has become an important part of any organization’s communication. ABA Switzerland needs to evolve in that domain! For that matter, one volunteer offered to take care of our sleepy Facebook page. We hope to gain more audience in order to present our webinars, CEUs offers but also as a mean to disseminate behavior analysis to our colleagues, parents of potential people in need of services and other professionals.

Behavior Analysis is spreading in Switzerland. We are receiving an increasing number of emails asking about services as well as professionals seeking employment. The number of attendees at our webinars is increasing as well as the traffic on our website and facebook page. We are happy to see this development. The board of ABA Switzerland has been reaching out to big ABA providers in the country and trying to link everybody together within the chapter in order to reach a common standard for ABA in Switzerland in the future and in order to build a solid reputation and further disseminate quality ABA within the country.

This upcoming year, we will continue to focus on the dissemination of behavior analysis here in Switzerland. We will consider the development of the Swiss certification process for current BCBAs and BCaBAs and also of the future students from the recent masters. ABA Switzerland will have to think of its development as many of those tasks will need more human support than just our current board! 2022 will also be a year for a renewal in our board committee as our current treasurer and student representative won’t continue with us.

Association for the Advancement of Radical Behavior Analysis

BY CARLA LASAGNA DEL VAL

In 2021–22, AARBA has been actively involved in various initiatives, specifically regarding the ABA community and the growth and strengthening of our discipline in the educational, political, research and organizational fields. We are glad to share what we did to date, hoping to inspire other Chapters and to accomplish even more satisfactory results in the future.

Dissemination & ABA Community

The chapter participated in the ABAI 48th Annual Convention. After two years of pandemic restrictions, we were finally able to present and assist in person, in Boston. During this event, we had the opportunity to attend to several interesting symposia and panels, plus two events that involved us directly. On May 29, our president, Fabio Tosolin, presented the paper, “The Requirements for a Successful Behavior-Based Safety Process”. The presentation focused on the fundamental elements that need to be adopted to assure the growth of the BBS scientific discipline, using examples that could support the theory behind it. Dr. Tosolin also participated as the chair of one of the convention poster sessions on May 30.

This year, we were able to hold the 15th edition of our Scientific European Conference on Behavior-Based Safety (B-BS) and Performance Management (PM) and the 17th edition of our Scientific European Congress on Applied Behavior Analysis. As in the previous year, the event was formed by two sessions, one focusing on the application of behavior analysis in BBS and PM projects and the second on the application in relation to the clinical field. Due to the pandemic, we decided to organize the event entirely online, as we did in the previous year. Participants had the option to participate in specific workshops, symposiums, and a plenary session. Most of the audience came from OBM-related fields, with HSE managers, HR managers, consultants, and work psychologists, but also many clinical psychologists and therapists in the field of ABA. At the event we had the honor to host international guest speakers, such as Mike McCarthy (author, trainer and performance improvement consultant), Janis Allen (founder of Performance Leadership Consulting), Nicole Gravina (assistant professor of behavior analysis in the Department of Psychology at the University of Florida), Steve Roberts (co-founder and senior partner at Safety Performance Solutions), and Sigurdur Sigurdsson (full commissioner for the Behavior-Based Safety Accreditation Commission of the Cambridge Center for Behavioral Studies). These speakers provided high focus on the importance of developing safety culture and effective

communication to increase and maintain the adoption of BBS processes. Through the theoretical background provided by OBM and behavior analysis pioneers at this event, we were able to present the audience some real-life examples of BBS implementation.

Regarding behavior analysis applied to the clinical field, we had the honor to listen to both international and national professionals like Siri Ming (scientist/practitioner), Henry Schlinger (Professor of psychology and former director of the MS Program in Applied Behavior Analysis in the Department of Psychology at California State University), and other leaders in ABA. The speakers brought a massive contribution in relation to the recent developments in the field, through innovative and evidence-based strategies that could provide support to families and clients even during the lockdown period. The event ended with a presentation by Richard Malott (Ph.D., BCBA-D), titled, “Behavior-Based Safety, Autism, and the Mystery of Rule-Governed Behavior.” This conference was attended by more than 200 people with the unique aim to continue with the divulgation of the science of behavior analysis.

On December 1–3, 2021, we renewed our commitment to Ambiente-Lavoro, the biggest Italian fair about environment and safety at work. Representatives of the chapter had the opportunity to participate in person, by holding two presentations. The first presentation was held by one of the AARBA researchers, and gave an introduction and theoretical explanation on behavior analysis, specifically BBS protocol for increasing safety at work sites. The second presentation was conducted by our president, with the aim to inform the Italian scientific community about the fundamental ethical concerns that need to be considered when implementing a BBS protocol, or in any other area when adopting a process based on behavior analysis. Having the opportunity to participate in person this year helped us with the main aim of the association, to promote the divulgation of our science, specifically in Italy. Representatives manned a booth, where people were able to find information (articles, research, fliers on the courses we provide, and data) regarding the science of behavior analysis and specifically its application in the field of BBS.

The president of the association, for various years, has been collaborating with dentists in the application and creation of seminars and protocols focusing on the implementation of behavior analysis strategies in the dentistry field. These presentations and courses have focused on various arguments: patience compliance, motivation of the team, motivation to improve the quality of the treatment given to the patient, clinical risk reduction, support for people with specific diagnosis, developing a behavioral system analysis, and more. All of them implement the use and adoption of evidence proven systems that allows individuals to measure theirs and others’ behaviors.

Higher Education

During the last two years, we have been focusing providing education that individuals working in the field of behavior analysis often require. For this purpose, we have had the opportunity to start with two editions of the Verified Course Sequence of the Italy Associate Chapter of ABAI. With this effort, we hope to bring a change in Italy, not only in terms of the knowledge of ABA, but also on the correct and specific implementation that needs to be adopted—from everything to BBS processes to the ABA in schools and home environments and beyond. The project of the VCS is something AARBA is willing to continue working on, not only to support the people that need a behavior analytic treatment, but even for the behavior analysts itself.

During the months of September and November 2021, we held the 42nd and 43rd edition of our 80-hours B-BS post-graduate course, where we trained another class of students, safety, and operations professionals. During this course, individuals are not only trained on the theoretical background of behavior analysis and its implementation on the OBM field, but they are even exposed to the practical aspects (creating a checklist, presentation of data analysis, conducting safety meetings, etc.). Specifically with the 42nd edition, we had the opportunity to organize a course with the Italian railway organization and develop a course specifically for them. Through research and previous experiences, we designed the course to make specific references to work contingencies students are exposed to daily, using concrete examples students could relate to and during the practical parts of the course we focused on the development of their future BBS process.

Research Projects

As far as research is concerned, in collaboration with the Polytechnic of Milan, we collaborated again with some master's degree theses. In 2022, we are currently supporting two interns. The current project, which started during the month of February, will be focusing on the use of a BBS process in relation to the reporting of vehicle malfunctions and/or tools that are used in the daily activities of the workers. The research is being conducted in a construction site within the Italian railway system; specifically, contributing to the creation of railways that connect Milan with Genova. As research has shown, BBS processes reduce the number of injuries in a working organization, through the development of safe behaviors, but also through the creation of safety values, thus reducing barriers to safety. Therefore, through such research, the students will learn how BBS processes can be adopted to increase communication between all the levels within an organization—from the individual workers to the management team, creating a rigid, and possibly more stable, process.

Corporate Consulting

The chapter continues its commitment corporate consulting with interventions based on training and OBM. Throughout the year, our president has been invited as a guest speaker to two different events focusing on the application of OBM techniques in the dentistry field. The first event was held at the San Raffaele Hospital, in Milan, with a presentation focusing on the application of the science of behavior analysis to increase both patient and team compliance in a dental practice. Furthermore, from September until November, we had the opportunity to organize an online course for the Italian Association for Assistance. The course had the aim to inform assistance in relation to patient compliance, team motivation, motivation to improve the quality of the treatment given to the patient, clinical risk reduction, support for people with specific diagnoses, developing a behavioral system analysis, and more. The course was led by our president and with the collaboration of other chapter members.

As you can see, we are working hard on several fronts to promote applied behavior analysis knowledge and technologies in public and private institutions, with the hope of achieving even greater results. See you next year!

ABA Turkey

BY ELIF TEKIN IFTAR

A national conference was held in Mart WBAD 2021 online. There were almost 200 people attending this conference. We announced the start of World Behavior Analysis Day to the audience. We also founded a national association called the National Behavior Analysis Association (NBAA). We are planning to combine the activities and events of both this chapter and NBAA together. Our goal in 2022 is to increase membership. In addition, we are planning to hold a one-day conference to disseminate knowledge about behavior analysis.

Alberta ABA

BY RENAI STEVENSON

The Alberta Association for Behaviour Analysis (AltaABA) is in its sixth year as an affiliated chapter of ABAI. In March 2022, nominations for open Board member positions were put forth. These positions included the student member, a member-at-large, president-elect, treasurer, and PR officer.

The 2022 AGM was held virtually on April 30 and was paired with an invited speaker event discussing parent training and involvement in services from Dr. Amanda Kelly, and multiculturalism in ABA services from Shawn Capell. AltaABA's membership has decreased over the last year to a total of 49 members at the time of this report (February 2022), likely due to the lack of in-person

contact where many relationships are maintained and new connections are made. The current total number of active BACB certificants in Alberta also increased by 9 certificants this past year, to a current total of 2 BCBA-Ds, 55 BCBAs, 0 BCaBAs, and 6 RBTs province wide.

AltaABA's has kept in line with our first 3-year Strategic Plan which was released in December 2020. This plan has three long-term goal sections that originally consisted of 14 short term actions. The Board added a new goal and revised one of the existing goals this past year based on additional membership feedback and Board discussions. In 2021, the Board achieved 13 of 15 goals. In line with our mission and vision, the Board also created a regulation committee whose goal is to work towards the recognition and regulation/licensure of Behaviour Analysts in Alberta.

As outlined in AltaABA's strategic plan, the association is taking steps to further the use of technology and membership benefits for AltaABA members. As such, a membership directory and an active Job Board were added to our website. The Board also created two public and three members only infographics with Alberta specific behaviour analytic content as part of our dissemination efforts. Our social media/public relations committee established access to AltaABA branded merchandise available for online purchase, which is the first of its kind.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic restriction mandates, AltaABA did not hold any in person social events over the past year. However, online social events and a panel discussion for "new behaviour analysts" and individual's that work in private practice was held. A recording of the panel discussion was made available to our membership on our website. AltaABA's activity on social media platforms have continued to increase over the past year with the addition of trivia questions, consistent themed posts, and distribution of accurate information.

For further information, to view AltaABA's Strategic Plan, or to join the chapter, please visit www.altaaba.ca or follow us on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram.

Association Francaise Les Professionnels de l'Analyse du Comportement

BY THE AF-LPA TEAM

AFLPA/ABA-Online began the first online VCS in French in 2020. We have had 5 cohorts since of around 10-15 students each time. Our content includes readings in French, readings in English, Videos, live tutoring sessions, end-of-week Quizzes to test acquired knowledge as well as a final exam. Many books have been translated in French such as the one from Miltenberger and Bailey; and Cooper has been translated recently and is being

printed. AF-LPA has developed a project in collaboration with the local Counsel of Education.

We have managed to get a contract allowing us to train and supervise the shadow teachers that are accompanying students with ASD and other Neurodevelopmental delays in schools. It also allows us to co-select the shadow teacher which is a big advance for our region. AF-LPA and ABA Online are also planning a local event for 2023 and trying to develop the number of members.

Atlantic Provinces ABA

BY MONICA PETERS, MICHAEL PALMER, NICOLE ROBINSON, AMY LAYS, JESSIE MACNEIL, RACHEL PLATT, ASHLEY KINGSTON

The Atlantic Provinces Association for Behaviour Analysis has recently marked our seventh anniversary as an affiliated chapter of ABAAI. We are amazed by the growth in membership that we have experienced since our inception in 2014, from 44 members in our first year to a large increase in membership of 98 at the end of APABA's fiscal year (October). We have 82 full members, 15 student members, and 1 honorary member. Although the wide geographical region served by APABA poses some unique challenges, we also recognize the benefits and opportunities we are afforded by drawing together behaviour analysts, educators, interventionists, partner professionals, and others interested in behavioural science and its application in the four Atlantic Canadian provinces of New Brunswick, Newfoundland & Labrador, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island. We've also seen a continued increase in the number of members and partner professionals completing the requirements to become certified by the BACB since the inception of APABA.

While there were 16 Board Certified Behaviour Analysts or Board-Certified Assistant Behaviour Analysts in Atlantic Canada in 2014, and 26 in 2017, we now have 97 (NB=55; NL=7; NS=28; PEI=7; www.bacb.com).

Our biggest update for the 2021 year is the publication of our Statement on the Professional Practice of Behaviour Analysis in the Atlantic Provinces. This document outlines recommendations for the minimum standards of qualification for practicing applied behaviour analysis for the region. This was a product of our 2020–2022 strategic plan outlining APABA's goals and actions over those two years. Goals outlined in the strategic plan include: To increase the number of active members by 30%, to increase the yearly number of professional learning opportunities offered from five to nine, and to fulfill the needs of each committee with needed number of members. APABA committees include: Research & Advocacy, Education, and Engagement. Each committee has goals, expectations and priorities outlined based on the goals in the strategic plan. The statement was an outcome of the Research & Advocacy committee.

A primary goal of APABA is to promote and encourage the development and awareness of the science of behaviour analysis through research, education, and practice within our region. We also seek to facilitate networking and expand opportunities for professional connection and collaboration among and between our members and others in the field. To that end, APABA has participated in multiple ABAAI Annual Conventions, presenting posters at the conferences in San Antonio (2015), Chicago (2016), Denver (2017), San Diego (2018), Chicago (2019), and Washington (2020). Our members have also presented at ABAAI's international conferences, such as Puerto Rico and Paris. Our members are delivering training throughout and beyond the Atlantic Provinces and, at times, internationally, such as Switzerland and Paris. In order to support the professional learning needs of our members, three member benefits need mentioning:

- We dedicate a portion of our Annual General Meeting each fall to continuing education, focusing on areas of emerging need and interest among members. Past keynote presenters have included: Drs. Robyn Catagnus and Elizabeth Fong who shared their work on increasing cultural competence in behaviour analysts, supporting APABA members to engage in more culturally proficient professional practice, Drs. Kelly Schieltz, Matthew O'Briend, and Todd Kopelman, who trained attendees on the use of telehealth to train and coach interventionists supporting learners with ASD, Dr. Patrick McGreevy who trained attendees on how to select a curriculum for children with autism and children with developmental disabilities and Dr. Gregory Hanley who presented on the latest iteration of the practical functional assessment process (PFA) that allows for the development of skill based treatments (SBTs) capable of producing socially valid outcomes. Our 2021 AGM professional development was led by Dr. John Bailey who presented on the upcoming changes to the BACB Ethics Code.
- As a new professional learning initiative, started in July 2020, APABA also holds continuing education and professional development events approximately bi-monthly for its members. In February 2022 APABA hosted Brent Platt to discuss how to market oneself and your profession. In December 2021, APABA hosted Dr. Ellie Kazemi to discuss supervision and leadership. In June 2021, APABA hosted Dr. Robert Ross to discuss the behavioural indicators of effective ABA program implementation. In May 2021, APABA hosted Dr. Elizabeth Fong to discuss diversity, ABA, and looking inward. This event's proceeds went towards our BIPOC scholarship. In April 2021, APABA hosted Ryan O'Donnell to discuss using narrative in behaviour analysis.
- A third new professional learning initiative, APABA members are offered a 10% discount to the Atlantic Provinces Autism Conference held virtually in November.

Since APABA serves such a broad geographical region spanning Canada's four Atlantic Provinces, it is essential that we make effective and efficient use of electronic media and web based platforms as we seek to support current members and reach prospective new members. The Engagement committee releases a monthly newsletter to share information about recent and upcoming events. The APABA website (www.atlanticprovincesaba.com), which continues to evolve, is also an integral tool for communicating with members. Not only does it provide a central location for sharing information and resources, but it has also been expanded to allow for online registration and payment for APABA events (as well as online donations to our local awards) and to provide a gateway to APABA's social media presence through our Facebook page and Twitter account.

APABA continues to provide awards to its members, including the Verna O'Coin Memorial Bursary, the Marlene Breitenbach Award, and the William L Heward Behaviour Change Award for a Sustainable Future. A new scholarship was also established to support Black, Indigenous, People of Colour (BIPOC) students in the field of Applied Behaviour Analysis in the Atlantic Provinces. This scholarship will be awarded on a bi-annual basis to the successful applicants and has thus far been awarded to two applicants.

The Research and Advocacy committee has proven to be a key avenue towards dissemination of the science. First, it was pivotal in the development of the Statement on the Professional Practice of Behaviour Analysis in the Atlantic Provinces. But it has also created several other infographics that members can use to help promote the field, including an infographic describing what ABA is and infographic describing how behaviour plans should be unique to clients. Recently, the committee also completed a series of interviews with members across the Atlantic Provinces to highlight the various ways ABA is being used in our region.

Between 2018 and end of 2020, all of the goals outlined in the 2018-2020 strategic plan were met. A new strategic plan was developed by the executive in June 2020. Starting in December 2021, the executive made the decision to turn the strategic plan into a living document to be reviewed and updated at each executive meeting.

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

Looking Ahead

APABA has been the beneficiary of a host of gracious gestures and an abundance of support from behaviour analysts and partner professionals since we first set out on this journey four years ago. We continue to extend our sincere appreciation to all who have helped us along the way. As our membership continues to grow and as we extend our reach across Atlantic Canada, our goal is to continue and build upon the initiatives that we have begun

and to create new opportunities and pathways to share the value of behavioural science throughout our region.

As part of this movement, we have been encouraging social get-togethers in our varied geographic regions, even if they are virtual due to the ongoing pandemic. We also look forward to, and welcome, opportunities to connect with other ABAI-affiliated chapters across Canada and beyond to expand opportunities for professional learning, networking, and collaboration.

Australian Association for Cognitive Behaviour Therapy

BY PETER POHLMAN

The President of AACBT is Associate Professor Melissa Norberg, Deputy Director of the Centre for Emotional Health, and Director of the Behavioural Science Laboratory at Macquarie University.

The on-going impacts of COVID-19 have seen difficult years recently for our members and our organisation, and we continued to pursue our vision of improving the quality of practice of behavioural and cognitive therapies in Australasia, by providing high quality professional development in behavioural and cognitive therapies based on scientific evaluation.

We hosted a mixture of local and international presenters, with webinar recordings being made available for free to members, representing over 20 hours of high-quality content, plus associated readings, and materials. Examples of some of the topics covered include mental imagery, OCD, trauma & race, suicidality (including a special session on men's suicidality), social anxiety, grief, loneliness, social factors in CBT, and sleep disorders.

The on-line format for presenting CPD allowed us to embrace a wider diversity of speakers, with several domestic speakers gaining national exposure, rather than only in their home state. We have long-form workshops from international speakers, such as Roz Shafran, Martin Antony, David M Clark, Emily Holmes, and Mark Reinecke.

We are reviewing the options for the resumption of face-to-face programming in 2022, including our 42nd National Conference. The scientific program of our 41st National Conference in October 2021 was 100% on-line and resulted our largest contingent of delegates since we hosted the World CBT Congress in 2016. Highlights of our conference included two live sessions with Christine Padesky, six domestic invited speakers, four half-day workshops, and more than 100 other prerecorded speakers. The National Board thanks our Branch Chairs, and the National Workshops & National Conference Coordinators for their on-going efforts.

We continued to offer three awards in our National Award program, with each recipient recording their

presentation, highlighting their scientific output and contemporary research. The recordings are available in our catalogue. The 2021 award winners were: Dr Cele Richardson (early career), Associate Professor Genevieve Dingle (mid-career), and Professor Peter McEvoy (distinguished career).

Our 42nd conference took place 13–15 October, 2022 in Melbourne, and AACBT continued to offer our Early–Mid Career Travel Grants available to AACBT members to support travel (where possible) to the AACBT National Conference following acceptance of either an oral or poster presentation. AACBT also awarded complimentary scientific program registration, plus up to \$1,000 to help cover eligible travel expenses for the applicant to attend the conference. This on-going initiative invests in the CBT community of Australia and encourages on-going research into CBT. The Board thanks our National Conference Coordinator for their service in supervising our largest annual event.

Improvements to our web portal are continuing, and members enjoy access to exclusive areas of the website, which includes access to our annual reports, our journal (“Behaviour Change”), webinar recordings, and the growing e-library (with over 40 titles).

The Board recognises the outstanding efforts of our editor (Associate Professor Genevieve Dingle) and the expanded editorial board for our journal *Behaviour Change*. The Board has noted the growth and improvements for our journal in attracting a wider variety of contributors. AACBT would like to acknowledge our Fellows: Professor Peter Lovibond, Professor Michael Kyrios, Professor Matthew Sanders, Professor Colin MacLeod, Professor Tracey Wade, Professor Ross Young, Professor Mark Dadds, Professor Mark Creamer, Professor Kim Halford, Professor Nicole Lee, Associate Professor Sarah Egan, Professor Louise Sharpe, Associate Professor Neville King, and our most recent inductees Professor Leanne Hides and Professor Ross Menzies. We thank them for their continuing contributions to the CBT community in Australia and assisting AACBT throughout the year.

Bermuda ABA

BY THEA FURBERT & ERICA SMITH

2021 was the second year that Bermuda, as well as the rest of the world had to deal with the impacts of the global pandemic! COVID-19 continued to take its toll on the world and Bermuda was not spared, but through the challenges Behavior Analysts in Bermuda persevered, pivoted, and adapted all with the goal of finding a way to continue to provide the necessary services and therapy to clients and families who needed it.

Members of the Bermuda Association of Behavior Analysis (BABA) and generally the behavior analyst

profession in Bermuda proved how to still be effective in 2021! BABA continues to be comprised of Behavior Analysts, Verbal Behavior Therapists, Junior Therapists, Non-profit Leaders, and Parents. Its close partnership continues with Tomorrow's Voices – Bermuda Autism Early Intervention Centre, Bermuda's first and only autism early intervention center, and this enables the majority of its members to come through that relationship.

BABA's membership numbers contracted due to the impact of COVID-19 and former members focused on surviving through the pandemic and supporting clients. In spite of declining membership numbers, the growth in the awareness and use of ABA in Bermuda continues to be directly linked to the development and continued sustainability of Tomorrow's Voices Autism Centre.

The formation of BABA in fall 2011 was due mostly to the ongoing work by Tomorrow's Voices Autism Center and continues to be sustained through this synergistic partnership, as most of the professionals who practice ABA in Bermuda are employed with Tomorrow's Voices. In 2021, Tomorrow's Voices celebrated its 14th year of existence in Bermuda, validating the need for an international center providing services dedicated to those with autism spectrum disorders and developmental disabilities. Since its inception, the clinical center has hired and trained 55 professionals (Bermudian and Non-Bermudian) in the use of applied behavior analysis and verbal behavior, not to mention the thousands of parents, volunteers, students, educators, medical and allied health professionals trained and engaged through workshops, seminars, consultancies, internships, and work shadows.

Currently there are 11 active RBTs in Bermuda registered with BACB, of which 7 gained their certification through Tomorrow's Voices. Likewise, there are 4 active BCBAs in Bermuda registered with BACB and all 4 gained their certification through the partnership with Tomorrow's Voices. In spite of the global pandemic, compared to 2020, there was a growth of certified behavior analyst from 10 to 15 professionals, which bodes well for the growth of the profession in our Island. The partnership between Tomorrow's Voices and the Bermuda Association of Behavior Analysis has directly contributed to the ability of 73% of these professionals to gain the necessary professional development and skills required to become registered.

Although the Coronavirus Pandemic essentially shut Bermuda down for a substantial period of time in 2021, behavior analyst professionals pivoted to use Telehealth as a way to assist families when needed. Through the partnership with Tomorrow's Voices, the following seminars and training workshops on subjects related to ABA and special needs were presented by BABA members led by Tomorrow's Voices' senior verbal behavior therapist Jahnae Harvey, BCBA as follows:

- Training Institute – 99 attendees
 - February 17, 2021: What's on the Menu! Strategies for Managing Picky Eating!
 - June 16, 2021: Let's Shake Things Up and Down – A Workshop on Increasing Skill Acquisition While Reducing Unwanted Behaviors in the Classroom
 - September 15, 2021: Different But Not Less – A Workshop on the Assists in Blending Different Abilities Within A group Setting or Household
 - November 17, 2021: Motivation: What Are We Really Working For? A Workshop on Motivation
- First Annual Autism Awareness Conference – 73 attendees
 - April 10, 2022 - Different Not Less
 - 5 ½-hour, full-day conference

In 2021, a total of 172 persons attended the four virtual workshops and 1 full day virtual conference, consisting of parents, teachers, college students, health professionals, government officials, and others in the community resulting on 599.50 hours of professional development hours and increase of 107% in PD hours over 2020. Attendees of these workshops and of the conference received professional development certificates of attendance.

BABA members committed to their own professional development and growth in Behavior Analysis through participating virtually in many international seminars, workshops, and events some of which are as follows:

- Bachelor's Degree University Programs
- Master's Degree University Programs
- Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) Certification Training
- Registered Behavior Technicians (RBT) Certification Training
- Council of Autism Service Providers (CASP) Professional Development Training
- Central Reach ABA EMR Platform Training

BABA members are honored to continue to lead the way with regards to growing the ABA profession in Bermuda and are actively involved in national policy and legislative projects in Bermuda. Tomorrow's Voices Board Chair, Thea Furbert and Jahnae Harvey, both BABA members are part of the Bermuda Government's ASD Task Force, while Thea is also a member of the team working on the Bermuda National Intellectual Disability Plan. This involvement provides a behavior lens to addressing the issues facing our Island's students and adults with ASD and related disorders.

BABA is actively looking to expand its Executive Board with Behavior Analyst professionals and continues to work on growing its membership, but the past two years have been difficult with the impact of the global pandemic. In 2020 and 2021, it has been about survival and having resilience to persevere.

In 2022, our goal is to grow our outreach as such, we are actively seeking persons, especially those beyond Tomorrow's Voices, interested in the ABA field to join. Anyone interested in becoming a member of BABA or finding out more information should contact Erica Smith at bermudaaba@gmail.com.

British Columbia ABA

BY MIRIAM ELBERT

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

The BC-ABA board consists of 13 elected board members who meet 10 times per year to advance behaviour analysis in the province of British Columbia. We have a dedicated and active working board with diverse experiences and abilities. Our membership also represents a diverse group of behavior analytic practitioners providing services throughout the province.

Regulation of BCBA's and BCBA-Ds has continued to be an area of focus for BC-ABA. BC-ABA has been working with the College of Psychologists of British Columbia and in conjunction with the provincial government's Ministry of Health towards regulating the field of behaviour analysis in BC.

Due to recent developments, namely, the review by the provincial government of the Health Professions Act and subsequent overhaul of the BC regulatory framework, progress on this issue has been stalled; however, we hope to continue engaging with the government and stakeholders on this important issue, with the goal of eventually becoming a regulated profession in BC.

This past year the board underwent training in strategic planning, with the overall goal of increasing efficiency and effectiveness. The board participated in 3 sessions totaling 9 hours of strategic planning led by a local consultant and revised its vision, mission, and values to better reflect our priorities and objectives. Our vision is to support the members of BC-ABA to engage our diverse community through individualized, effective, and compassionate practice. The training also entailed setting specific short- and long-term goals such as developing an annotated agenda for board meetings, creating terms of reference for committees, and developing more standardized and comprehensive onboarding manuals for new members.

BC-ABA's annual conference will be held in April 2022; this year the conference will be held virtually for a second year due to the pandemic and restrictions on in-person gatherings. There will be two live keynote presentations, one by Dr. Ellie Kazemi on developing a culture of care in behavior analysis and the second by Dr. Jomella WatsonThompson on using a behavioral

community approach for social validation. The conference will also include pre-recorded "on-demand" presentations by local behavior analysts on a variety of topics including behavior analysts' experiences with diversity, equity, and inclusion; addressing procrastination in supervision; and collaborative school consultation. The call for papers for the 2023 conference will go out in by the end of this year. We welcome anyone to submit and look forward to expanding the variety of presentations we can offer.

Another important area of focus for BC-ABA has continued to be issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI). BC-ABA conducted a survey of its members about DEI issues and received valuable feedback and a number of suggestions on what we can do to ensure Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour (BIPOC) voices are heard and represented in our conferences, discussions, and communications. Based on feedback from the DEI survey, we expanded our training in an effort to provide more diverse continuing education opportunities. In spring 2021 the board and some of our members participated in a 16-hour anti-racism training with Dr. Alana Tappin, a clinical psychologist from Toronto. The board has decided that anti-racism training will be required training for the board each year. Based on another suggestion that came out of the DEI survey, BC-ABA asked for volunteer members to form a DEI committee which meets monthly and reports on their activities and identifies areas for additional input/work/collaboration at the board meetings. Discussions with the DEI committee and amongst board members during strategic planning led to the creation of an elected DEI position on the board. The newly elected DEI board position begins their two-year term in April 2022.

BC-ABA is unique in that we have a Student Alliance committee run by our elected student representatives. The committee is comprised of students enrolled in behavior analytic programs in BC. They work at advancing behavior analysis among the student population and host various events throughout the year to facilitate this goal. A particularly popular recurring event has been monthly Zoom chats with local behavior analytic practitioners and students about various issues (e.g., supporting adults in group home settings, exam preparation, feeding issues). BC-ABA's membership consists of approximately 200 members which includes full, student, and associate memberships. Benefits to being a BC-ABA member include continuing education opportunities (e.g., annual conference); access to presentation recordings and slides; access to board meeting minutes for up-to-date information regarding BC-ABA events and activities; current information, news, and job advertisements via our monthly newsletters; and networking opportunities with other BC-ABA members. All this for only \$30.00 CDN per year for a full membership! BC-ABA continues to be an active chapter affiliate of ABAI and is honoured to represent ABAI in the province of British Columbia.

Central China ABA

BY DEHUA GUO & KUEYI DENG

On December 30, 2019, the Behavior Analyst Certification Board (BACB) announced that starting 2023, they will no longer be providing an international professional qualification certification system to individuals who live outside of the U.S. and Canada. Therefore, Central China ABA (CCABA) established China's Applied Behavior Analysis Teacher certification system. The system puts standardized requirements on the professional knowledge and practical ability that Chinese front-line teaching professionals engaged in applied behavior analysis should possess. In line with China's educational development needs, establishing the teacher training program and certification standard is vital in building a team of qualified ABA professionals. Not only does the system focus on the learning of theoretical knowledge, but it emphasizes front-line teaching practice to train the "dual-qualified teachers" with a solid theoretical basis on the one hand and a perfect mastery of operational techniques on the other hand. Teachers certified under this system can truly solve problems for individuals in the front-line teaching environment, serving as a reference to parents looking for high-quality teachers. Approved by the China Association of Persons with Psychiatric Disability and their Relatives (CAPPDR) and supervised by CCABA, the certification system consists of three parts: certification training, qualification examination, and continuing education. Currently, we are actively communicating with ABAL, hoping that the certification system will be supported by ABAL and that the CNABA series of courses can become part of the VCS system. The certification training programs consist of a series of CNABA (China's Localized Applied Behavior Analysis Teacher) training programs authorized by CCABA. A CNABA certificate of completion will be issued to trainees who have completed the training modules. CNABA training programs consist of training of CNABA (level D), CNABA (level C), CNABA (level B), CNABA (level A), and SBT.

CNABA (Level D) Training

To meet the needs of the majority of institutions to quickly train talents specialized in the concrete practice with certain professional skills and to effectively serve parents and students, CNABA (level D) Training provides students, parents, and teachers without any teaching experience the skills training at "threshold" level to help them achieve the "entry" level in line with industry standards. The training can provide professional teaching supervision for the trainees' future main teaching tasks, such as individual training, group class, in-home therapy, and school-based therapy. The training period is about three months. There are no admission requirements. The trainees must complete theoretical training of 13 topics and

10 hours of supervised practical teaching experience. Those who have passed the assessment and obtained a certificate can apply for the CCaBA professional qualification exam.

CNABA (Level C) Training

To train front-line behavior analysis teachers with a wealth of practical experience, CNABA (level C) Training provides trainees systematic practice supervision in teaching and the assessment of language behavior, milieu teaching, and intervention for problem behavior. It will ensure that teachers' teaching skills can be generalized with students at different levels of ability and for all kinds of courses. This type of teacher will become the backbone of the teaching staff of the majority of institutions. The main future teaching task of the trainees of this training will be individual training. The training period is ten months to 1 year. To be enrolled, applicants must have at least a college degree. Their educational institutions are required to issue a certificate of employment and an attestation of supervision conditions. The trainees must complete theoretical training of 24 topics and no less than 34 hours of direct supervised practical teaching experience. Those who have passed the assessment and obtained the certificates (preliminary, intermediate, and advanced level) can apply for the CCBA professional qualification exam.

SBT Training

The industry needs a group of teachers with professional supervision skills, which will make it possible for the institutions to build their echelon of teachers and train up front-line teachers at some professional level internally.

SBT training focuses on using ABA in group classes, consulting and supervision skills, behavioral skills training (BST), systematic problem behavior intervention, curriculum design, and lecture skills. The main future work of the trainees of this training will be training and supervising subordinate teachers or parents. The training period is ten months. Those who have obtained certificates of CNABA (Level C) (preliminary, intermediate, and advanced level) can apply for admission. Their educational institutions are required to issue a certificate of employment and an attestation of supervision conditions. Applicants with CCBA qualification will be given priority for admission. The trainees must complete theoretical training of 6 topics and no less than 26 hours of direct supervised practical teaching experience. Those who have passed the assessment and obtained a certificate of SBT can apply for CCBSA professional qualification examination. CNABA (level B) and CNABA (level A) training include the content of SBT training.

CNABA (Level B) Training

To be in line with the training courses of Board Certified (assistant) Behavior Analyst, CNABA (Level B) training

serves as the equivalent training for Board Certified Assistant Behavior Analyst (BCaBA). From 2023, we will bring it into line with the VCS system of the Association for Behavior Analysis International (ABAI). CNABA (Level B) training aims to provide undergraduate-level professional training for front-line teachers in the Country. The training consists of credit courses with more in-depth theoretical learning, including professional ethics, basic introduction to applied behavior analysis, measurement and experiment, basic teaching methods of applied behavior analysis, and consulting and supervision skills. The main future work of the trainees of this training will be training and supervising subordinate teachers or parents. The training period is 1.5–1.8 years. To be enrolled, applicants must have at least a bachelor's degree with a certificate of employment and an attestation of supervision conditions issued by their educational institutions. Or they have a college degree and can apply for admission three years after completing the CNABA (level C) training. Part of the supervision hours obtained in CNABA (level C) and SBT training can be accumulated in this training, consisting of 5 courses, 36 topics, and more than 65 hours of direct practical teaching supervision.

CNABA (Level A) Training

To be in line with the training courses of Board Certified Behavior Analyst, CNABA (Level A) training serves as the equivalent training for Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA). From 2023, we will bring it into line with the VCS system of the Association for Behavior Analysis International (ABAI). CNABA (Level B) training aims to provide graduate-level professional training for front-line teachers in the Country. The training consists of credit courses with the most comprehensive theoretical learning, including professional ethics, basic introduction to applied behavior analysis, measurement and experiment, and basic teaching methods of applied behavior analysis, all-round consulting and supervision skills, cutting-edge theory and skills of contemporary applied behavior analysis, and comparative research of the methods and strategies in applied behavior analysis. Trainees of this training will mainly be professional team leaders in the future. The training period is 2–2.5 years. To be enrolled, applicants must have at least a master's degree with a certificate of employment and an attestation of supervision conditions issued by their educational institutions. Or they have a college degree and can apply for admission three years after completing the CNABA (level B) training. Part of the supervision hours obtained in CNABA (level B) training can be accumulated in this training, consisting of 7 courses, 48 topics, and more than 100 hours of direct practical teaching supervision.

Qualification Examination and Continuing Education

Having obtained the corresponding certificate of completion, the trainees can apply for the professional qualification examination. Those who have their professional qualification can get the right to be promoted and recommended by CCABA in the whole industry and across institutions. At the same time, to ensure that the practitioner maintains the professional skill level, qualified teachers must undergo supervision of professional ethics and continuing education provided by CCABA. There are three levels of the certification: CAPPDR Certified Assistant Behavior Analyst (CCaBA), CAPPDR Certified Behavior Analyst (CCBA), and CAPPDR Certified Behavior Supervision Analyst (CCBSA). Candidates can apply for the examination held four times per year- in March, June, September, or December- within two years from the date they obtained the certificate of completion. Trainees who have completed the CNABA (level B) or CNABA (level A) training will automatically be the CAPPDR Certified Behavior Supervision Analyst-Bachelor (CCBSA-B) or CAPPDR Certified Behavior Supervision Analyst-Master (CCBSA-M) upon the examination of CCABA. Continuing Education refers to the training that “qualified” teachers must undergo continuously, which helps them stay up-to-date on developments of theories and techniques in the profession to maintain professional competency. Professional teachers who complete continuing education are recertified every two years. Within each 2-year recertification cycle, CCaBAs must obtain 4 credits in theory and 24 hours of supervised practical experience, CCBAAs must obtain 8 credits in theory and 8 hours of supervised practical experience, and CCBSAs must obtain 12 credits in theory and attend 4 group supervision meetings. During the recertification cycle, practitioners who participate in higher-level certification training programs will automatically obtain professional qualifications.

Professional ethics

Qualified practitioners who violate professional ethics shall be subject to disclosure of information at the platform (the types of punishments include warning, suspension of license, revocation of license, and permanent revocation of license). For details, please refer to the CCABA Professional Code of Ethics.

Three-Year Plan for China's Behavior Analysis Certification and Membership Development

To meet the needs of China's behavior analysis development under the new situation, CCABA has created a three-year development plan 2021-2023 and accomplished the following tasks last year in 2021:

- Training Programs: CNABA training programs consist of training of CNABA (level D), CNABA (level C),

SBT, CNABA (level B), and CNABA (level A). At present, the number of students graduated from the training of CNABA (level D), CNABA (level C), SBT, CNABA (level B), and CNABA (level A) are respectively 50, 374, 21, 81, and 3.

- Establishment of CCABA Behavioral Analysis Professional Certification System: If they have passed their qualification exams, students graduated from the CNABA (level D) can obtain the CCaBA qualification, students graduated from the CNABA (level C) can obtain the CCBA qualification, students graduated from the SBT can obtain the CCBSA qualification, students graduated from the CNABA (level B) can obtain the CCBSA-B qualification, students graduated from the CNABA (level A) can obtain the CCBSA-M qualification. At present, there are 17 CCBA, 19 CCBSAs, 11 CCBSA-Bs, 3 CCBSA-Ms.
- CCABA has established a Professional Code of Ethics in line with the specific conditions of the nation, including regulations regarding punishment.
- CCABA has established a full-featured website and a WeChat official account for mobile terminals. At present, in addition to CCABA official website and its WeChat official account, internet users can also find relevant information on CAPPDR official website. Today, the number of CCABA members has grown to 301, and the membership fee is 200 RMB/person/year.
- Conferences/workshops: In 2021, due to the pandemic, CCABA did not organize the national annual convention but has held workshops (each attended by 30-50 persons) to promote ABA. The workshops have been held successively in Dalian, Liaoning Province, Xi'an, Shanxi Province, Chifeng, Inner Mongolia, Linyi and Qingdao, Shandong Province, Bengbu, Anhui Province, Jingmen, Hubei Province, and Huizhou, Guangdong Province. What we did has killed two birds with one stone: prevented the spread of COVID-19 and increased attendance (decreasing the absence at the annual convention held in one place due to geographical reasons in previous years).
- Academic Research: China's first university textbooks of ABA major have been published by Peking University Press in December 2021. The three textbooks are Basic Principles of Applied Behavior Analysis, Applied Behavior Analysis Strategies and Applications, and Applied Behavior Analysis Teaching Method. CCABA Secretary-General Dr. Guo Dehua is the editor-in-chief, and the deputy editors include CCABA Deputy Secretary-General Deng Xueyi (BCBA), Liu Linmei (BCBA), Zhang Jing (BCBA), Shen Mingcui (BCaBA), Xu Qinfang (BCaBA). The textbooks will be used in ABA courses offered by Guangxi College for Preschool Education and will be promoted in more university courses in the future.

In the next two years, from 2022–2023, CCABA's focus will be on the following areas:

- Developing continuing education courses that are carried out either as face-to-face workshops or live online courses and organized at least once a month
- Gradually authorizing qualified schools and institutions to carry out the CNABA series of training programs to promote behavior analysis in China and ensure that the number of students being trained and qualified professionals increases year by year
- Getting in touch with the majority of professionals such as BCBA and BCBA-Ds to carry out workshops: let a hundred schools of thought contend and a hundred flowers bloom
- Conducting university-backed research on behavior analysis related topics
- Accelerating membership development

Caribbean ABA

BY SLOANE PHARR

In the last year, our chapter has been quite inactive as a result of a re-organization following the resignation of our President and a Board Member. Our mission remains the same which is to promote the regulation and advancement of the discipline of behavior analysis. We continue to be committed to ensuring the ethical, effective, and humane use of behavior analysis; advocating for funding mandates and evidence-based interventions; providing opportunities for continuing education; disseminating applied and basic research; supporting the activities of ABAA; and supporting the expansion of certification options for those currently providing behavior analytic services and those who might do so in the future. Furthermore, the outlook of this chapter moving forward will be to further engage those across our region to join our mission. This has already begun following a recent presentation at the Virtual Autism Symposium hosted by Mico University College.

Chinese ABA

BY CHEUNG MIAO MIAO

In the previous year, the China Association for Behavior Analysis (CABA) has focused on promoting the science of behavior analysis in Mainland China by (a) providing online Applied Behavior Analysis Professional training course sequence for local therapists, (b) setting up the Behavior Analysis Practitioner Certification Committee, (c) published the Behavior analyst professional skill requirement guideline and Specification for applied behavior analysis services for children, and (d) organizing the eighth annual conference.

The year 2021 was for CABA. On March 4, the Behavior Analysis Practitioner Certification Committee

was set up to carry out the preparatory work for the professional skills certification of behavior analysis practitioners in China. On March 4, May 13, July 20, and September 14, 2021, 4 professional skills certification meetings for behavior analysis practitioners were held respectively. Chairman of the Rehabilitation Association Autism Rehabilitation Professional Committee, Applied Behavior Analysis Representatives of the professional committee, representatives of the China Association of Mental Disability and Relatives and Friends, the Office of the National Autism Rehabilitation Research Center and relevant personnel and experts from Huaxia Publishing House attended the meeting. Cao Yuejin, executive director, and secretary general of the Rehabilitation Association presided over the meeting. After repeated discussions, the participants reached a lot of consensuses. The progress of the relevant work is as follows: (1) Determining the name of the professional skills certification work progress of behavior analysis practitioners. To meet the requirements of national standards, the term “behavior analysis practitioners” will be uniformly used. (2) Established the “Behavior Analysis Professional Skills Certification Committee”, with Jia Meixiang, the chairman of the Autism Professional Committee of the Rehabilitation Association, as the chairman of the committee, and Cheung Miaomiao, the deputy director and secretary general of the Behavior Analysis Professional Committee, as the secretary general of the committee. (3) Determine the work direction of the committee: prepare for the professional skills certification of behavior analysis practitioners. (4) Determine the principles of work development: The establishment of the Professional Skills Certification Committee for Behavior Analysis Practitioners and the development of future work will adhere to the principles of openness, fairness, impartiality and non-profit, and emphasize the principles of professionalism and ethics. (5) Determine the framework and specific functions of the professional skills certification committee for behavior analysis practitioners: the important work at the moment can be set up as transactional work departments (such as finance, network) and educational work departments (including training, research, and ethics that have already started), and then gradually improve and enrich the organizational system and functions according to specific work needs. (6) Establish a “Promotion Committee for the Professional Skills Certification of Behavior Analysis Practitioners” to jointly carry out the promotion of the professional skills of behavior analysis practitioners in China. (7) Build a professional skills certification system service platform for behavior analysis practitioners.

On the 19 March, 2022, we held our seventh annual conference online. This year’s conference with support from the China Association of Rehabilitation of Disabled Persons,

Peking University Sixth Hospital. We have Mr. CAO Yuejin (Secretary of China Association of Rehabilitation of Disabled Persons) attend our opening ceremony.

Dr. Guo Yanqing from the Peking University of Sixth Hospital gave a presentation on radical behaviorism: keeping evils in silence, promoting the goods. Dr. Zhang Dorothy Xuan from Chicago School presented ABA and its future direction for application. Dr. Lin Fanyu gave her presentation, “Finding Mr./Mrs. Right: Choice Making in ABA.” Dr. Li Xue from the Peking University of Sixth Hospital presented Future directions for social skills interventions. Ms. Dianna Yip from P.L.A.I. Behavior consulting (Hong Kong) presented Beyond early intervention: Using ABA to improve management and Training/ Supervision in ABA intervention organizations. Dr. Wang Chongying from Nankai University presented Naturalistic developmental behavioral interventions and their evidence-based studies for autism spectrum disorders. Dr. Zhu Jing from Shanghai Beyond autism school presented When stereotypes meet TEACCH. Dr. Hu Lei from Qingdao Mengxiang Center for rehabilitation and special education gave his presentation on promote generative learning using verbal behavior approach. Ms. Zhen Tiantian from ALSOLIFE presented Exploring the important data. Ms. Huang Jingjing from Beijing modern wisdom inclusive kindergarten presented the application of behavior analysis in preschool inclusive education setting. Ms. Cheung Miaomiao from Star Sight child education and research center gave an in-depth presentation on the two guidelines published this year, the behavior analyst professional skill requirement guideline and specification for applied behavior analysis services for children.

In 2022, we will continue working actively towards the goal to provide high-quality and professional services to the Chinese public.

Notes

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

Hong Kong ABA

BY JEREMY H. GREENBERG

The Hong Kong Association for Behavior Analysis (HKABA) has maintained a low level of activity throughout the pandemic. Membership has suffered and the basic activities of the group have been minimal as well. We do, however, maintain our website and Facebook page with 275 likes/followers. Due to Hong Kong's 2–3-week mandatory quarantine upon return to the city for all persons entering the city, travel outside to conferences has been prohibitive.

Most members work in the area of special education and those services, we are happy to report have been maintained. Early in the pandemic we recognized the need for our services to continue status quo and that is what we have done. Many practitioners have never taken a day off over the last 1–2 years! There is an ethical responsibility and duty of care that behavior analysts across our region seem to hold in high regard. Families of children with special education needs have been immensely grateful for the continuation of services, even when the local and most international schools here are closed.

We look forward to the development of online CEU workshop opportunities, research, and travel abroad to professional conferences in the coming year.

Manitoba ABA

BY MARIA PONGOSKI

The Manitoba Association for Behaviour Analysis (MABA) is proud to be in its 17th year as an affiliated chapter of ABAI. We met several objectives during our 16th year, described below.

MABA held its Annual Conference in October 2021, hosting a variety of speakers. Our keynote speaker, Dr. Jon Bailey (Florida State University) delivered a presentation entitled “Beyond Basic Ethics: A Trip Into the Gray Zone of Professional ABA Practice.” The conference also featured presentations by our invited speakers, Dr. Marc Lanovaz (Université de Montréal), who presented on the potential uses of artificial intelligence in applied behaviour analysis; Shannon Biagi (Chief Motivating Officers), who shared her knowledge on leadership development and education; Dr. Lindsay Wishnowski (University of Manitoba), who presented on a behaviour analytic approach to performance enhancement in sport, and Shawn Capell (Covenant 15:16), shared a presentation on working towards cultural competency within applied behaviour analysis. To conclude the conference, a panel discussion consisting of Dr. Bailey, Dr. Lanovaz, Ms. Biagi, and Mr. Capell discussed the ethics of using technology in applied behaviour analysis. The panel was chaired by Dr. Lisa Hunter (St.Amant).

We are looking forward to our 17th Annual Conference, to be held in the fall of 2022, in a virtual format. Additional information can be found at maba.ca/conference.

In 2013, MABA became a CE provider, and in 2021 offered several events. CEUs were available for free to our members who are BCBA's and BCBA-Ds. These events included our conference and 1 webinar. In March 2021, Dr. Andrew Craig presented a webinar titled “Resurgence or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying About Treatment Relapse and Start Planning for It.”

In May 2021, MABA attended the virtual ABAI annual convention, and presented a poster at the Expo. We greatly enjoyed participating in the event, and the opportunity to virtually network with other affiliate chapters from Canada and around the World. MABA was excited to be part of the Expo at this year's ABAI online conference. It was great to once again connect with colleagues, old and new, in the online format!

For the upcoming year, we will continue to work on our new and ongoing objectives and goals. Our key objectives for 2022 include offering CE opportunities for our members, as well as exploring options to provide education for the general public. Furthermore, we will also explore opportunities to promote behaviour analysis in Manitoba through partnerships with local organizations and universities. As well, we would like to find new ways to support new students and innovative research in applied behaviour analysis through the development of new awards. Finally, we would like to continue to work on increasing our membership through various recruitment initiatives.

New Zealand ABA

BY ANNE MACASKILL

The New Zealand Association for Behaviour Analysis (NZABA) is a community of people working, teaching and researching in Behavior Analysis in, or with a connection to, Aotearoa New Zealand. About half of the registered members of NZABA are students, with the remainder working in research, teaching, and practice.

Our main event each year is the NZABA conference held in late August. In 2021, this was scheduled to be hosted at the UNITEC campus in Auckland. However, a pandemic lockdown in August prevented members travelling and so we held the conference online. While of course it was disappointing not to connect in person, it was great to share current research projects online, nevertheless.

We have come to expect a very high standard of student presentations, and this year was no exception. The online format allowed us to inaugurate a people's choice award voted on by audience poll. This went to Maria Chia (University of Waikato) for her talk entitled: Scent-detection dogs' performance with rapidly changing targets. The prize for the best paper on an experimental or translational topic was awarded to Annabelle Hammond (Victoria University of Wellington) for her talk entitled Why should we be impulsive at times when we would

be self-controlled? The best talk on an applied topic went to Caitlin Mann (University of Auckland) for her contribution to the session entitled Looking at the bigger picture: evaluating multiple outcomes and family-centred interventions in the treatment of paediatric feeding disorders. The prize for the best short presentation went to Jenna Enright (University of Waikato) for her presentation entitled: An investigation into the effects of a tootling intervention for compliant and on-task student behaviour in a New Zealand primary school.

During 2021, NZABA continued our work responding to the 2019 Behavior Analyst Certification Board decision to no longer offer the BCBA certification outside North America. Members and other interested ABA professionals have formed a group subsequently titled the Society of Behaviour Analysis Aotearoa New Zealand focused on professional practice issues. We held a special symposium at the NZABA 2021 conference to update members on the progress of the society and continue our discussions about how the two sister organisations will collaborate as developments progress. The key current goals for the society are registering as a charity, setting up a registry of behaviour analysis professionals, and developing a public-facing website presenting evidence-based, information customized to the New Zealand context for people interested in ABA or seeking ABA services.

In 2022, our conference was held at the University of Waikato Tauranga campus. Our website at <https://nzaba.wordpress.com/> provides information about this event along with the conference program. You can join NZABA via a form on our website; we do not charge a membership fee. Members automatically join our emailing list and will receive occasional updates and announcements. Our facebook group at facebook.com/newzealandaba for hosts more informal discussion and shares links to items of general interest to those working in the field of behavior analysis.

Ontario ABA

BY JAIME SANTANA & NANCY MARCHESE

2021 marked a historic year for the Ontario Association for Behaviour Analysis (ONTABA). On April 30 2021, Ontario's provincial government passed a bill to regulate Behaviour Analysts in Ontario. This came after decades of advocacy efforts related to regulation (otherwise known as licensure in the US) by the ONTABA board and community members. Notably, ONTABA took part in a Public Bill Hearing in support of this bill. ONTABA was also invited by the registrar of the College of Psychologists of Ontario (CPO) to join the professional regulation working group. The purpose of this working group is to map out details related to professional regulation. The details related to requirements for regulation continue to be determined, while ONTABA continues working closely

with CPO (to be renamed to the College of Psychologists and Behaviour Analysts of Ontario) and relevant ministries to accomplish this long-awaited goal. It should be noted that the provincial government and CPO have committed to and are very supportive of the autonomous practice of behaviour analysts. Over the past year, to prepare our members and the community for regulation, ONTABA hosted webinars covering ethics and jurisprudence. The webinars were also made available as self-paced online trainings, with built in measures for competency and material comprehension. These materials are still available today and can be found on our website.

As the world entered the second year of the COVID-19 pandemic, ONTABA was Unsure of how our membership would be impacted. However, ONTABA is proud to report a strong, growing, and active membership of 1,215 members, and continues to represent the largest professional association for behaviour analysis in Canada. The ONTABA membership is made up of practitioners, researchers, students, service recipients and community stakeholders across a variety of disciplines. ONTABA's social media platforms have been crucial in engaging and communicating with membership and the community at large. ONTABA's virtual presence spans across Twitter (@ONTABA1), Instagram (@ONTABA1), Facebook (ONTABA), and LinkedIn (The Ontario Association for Behaviour Analysis), with thousands of followers on each platform (with the exception of LinkedIn, our newest account). ONTABA has leveraged these social media platforms to share informative content (e.g., different applications of ABA in schools, explanation and examples of different ABA terminology), advocacy efforts, ABA success stories and information related to upcoming events.

Opportunities for members to expand their skills and collect BACB continuing education units (CEUs) were also made available in 2021. A series of webinars aimed towards newer practitioners were released, covering topics such as: how to have difficult conversations with families and supervisees, how to be an effective member of multidisciplinary teams, and what experienced clinicians wished they knew when they had just started in the field. Resources to support clinicians in their practice were also released, including a Telepractice ABA in Ontario resource, and the ABA in 2021: A current State of the Research document. ONTABA's yearly conference, ONTABACon, supported members and others within the behaviour analytic community to expand their knowledge of ABA and collect CEUs. The annual conference was comprised of 8 symposia, 6 paper presentations, 25 posters, and presentations by four keynote speakers (Dr. Nicole Gravina, Dr. Lina Slim, Dr. Bridget Taylor, and Dr. Alyssa Wilson). ONTABACon, delivered exclusively via a virtual platform, was attended by 650 people. For this year's annual ONTABA conference, innovative and novel ways

to reach professionals and the community at large within, and outside of the province of Ontario are being explored. For updates and more information related to upcoming events, it is recommended that you visit ONTABA's social media platforms.

Over the past year, ONTABA has worked tirelessly to meet the goals outlined in our strategic plan:

- Provide leadership and advocate for ethical, effective, and safe behavioural services in Ontario: Working towards finalising regulation and by publishing materials to help clinicians practice ethically, and began to release stories, shared by community members, about the impacts ABA has had in their life.
- Enhance services and supports for all ONTABA members, in all parts of the province: Webinars and training series have been made accessible to members in remote areas of the province by providing online access opportunities.
- Build capacity of ONTABA to achieve its missions and goals: ONTABA has secured the support of an administrative management company, as well as a website developer, social media expert, and graphic designer to ensure ONTABA's brand is developed in a strong and effective manner, while continuing to provide exposure to the association across social media platforms.

As ONTABA looks ahead toward 2022, there is optimism about the future of behaviour analytic practice in Ontario. Innovative ways to support and grow ONTABA's membership continue to be explored. Furthermore, with a provincial election nearing in Ontario, ONTABA will be engaging in continued non-partisan political advocacy efforts. These efforts will be focused on increasing accessibility for behaviour analytic services across communities and disciplines in Ontario. ONTABA will continue to disseminate behaviour analytic content via social media platforms, membership communications, webinars, and the annual conference. Further, the release of the podcast is planned this year. As ONTABA continues to expand its reach, maintaining our focus on our strategic plan goals is crucial in order to continue to provide the important support for membership and the community-at-large.

Philippines ABA

BY THE PABA BOARD

Philippine ABA for the year 2021 was still restricted in pursuing all its activities and programs due to the Philippines strict Community Enhanced Quarantine rule due to COVID-19 pandemic that placed the whole country under strict lockdown throughout the year 2021. Activities were limited to essential needs and majority of the population were restricted to work from their homes throughout the year.

The COVID-19 pandemic affected a lot of ABA practitioners in the country. Not everyone could shift to an on-line practice due to limited technical support and accessibility. PABA through its Affiliate members offered assistance to ABA practitioners interested in doing online practice. It extended limited online requests for ABA lectures and observations to medical facilities interested in ABA for their staff and associates.

Likewise, due to the COVID-19 restrictions, PABA was limited in pursuing its fund-raising campaign as well as the implementation of an ABA course of its pilot project with a local university. However, collaboration of a more comprehensive program with the assistance from a group Filipino American ABA practitioner in the USA is ongoing. These Filipino American ABA practitioners initiated a training program giving assistance to more local ABA practitioners a more affordable course to undertake. Local ABA practitioners who have limited financial capabilities will be able to access similar or equal training offered from different facilities outside of the Philippines.

Fortunately, PABA and some medical facilities were able to continue its ABA awareness collaboration program. More Medical professionals were encouraged to include PABA's awareness program under their COVID-19 Quarantine Health and Wellness Program. PABA successfully assisted participants in guiding their family clients in continuing their ABA programs off site.

PABA will be able to implement other activities and programs for 2021 once the country will start to ease its quarantine rules and allowing nonessential requirements to the greater population of the country in 2022.

Polish Association of Behavioral Therapy

BY EWA KULIGA

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

Currently, PABT has more than 44 registered members from every significant behavioral therapy center in Poland, as well as parents of persons undergoing behavioral therapy and other concerned experts (physicians, academics, and students). It cooperates with a number of Polish centers and institutions focused on providing effective help to persons with autism and publishes the informational periodical *Krok za krokiem (Step by Step)*, which contains articles by

world-renowned experts on teaching persons with autism.

PABT has promoted behavioral therapy by organizing specialist trainings for a wide range of attendees (mainly the teachers and parents of the emotionally and developmentally disabled). Over 1,000 participants attended such trainings in 2021.

In 2014, the association formed non-public schools "UMIEM" ("I can"). Two of them are located in Krakow, and one opened in September 2017 in Raciborz. In total, "UMIEM" schools provide education to 30 students with autism spectrum disorders and intellectual disabilities.

Since 2010, boards of two Polish Chapters of ABAI (i.e., PABT and Polish Society of Behavioral Psychology) have been working on a joint program—Polish License of Behavioral Therapist—to standardize formal requirements for behavioral therapists in Poland. The purpose of these activities is to consolidate and formalize professional training for behavioral therapists in Poland, and thus define the requirements for practicing therapists to make behavioral therapy clearly identifiable by the highest quality of therapeutic services. Polish License of Behavioral Therapist runs an integrated system of theoretical and practical training to enable trainees to gain the title of behavioral therapist. At present, 250 people in Poland have been granted the title of licensed behavioral therapist, 33 people have the title of behavioral supervisor and 4557 are in the process of acquiring qualifications.

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

- Route I (for practicing therapists) includes completion of a three-level course in behavioral therapy and at least five specialization courses, no less than 2 years of professional practice under supervision, completion of no less than 50 hours of internships at any of the collaborating centers and a positive reference from the head of the relevant therapy center.
- Route II includes completion of a three-level course in behavioral therapy and at least five specialization courses, completion of no less than 120 hours of internships at any of the collaborating centers, professional practice under supervision (a minimum of 50 hours of supervision), and a positive reference from the supervisor.
- Route III includes completion of the following courses from the Institute of Psychology at Jagiellonian University: "Analiza zachowania (Behavior Analysis)" and "Stosowana analiza zachowania (Applied Behavior Analysis)", completion of at least five specialization courses, no less than 100 hours of internships at any of the collaborating centers, professional practice under supervision, and a positive reference from the supervisor.
- Route IV includes completion of postgraduate studies in applied behavior analysis at the SWPS University of

Social Sciences and Humanities, completion of no less than 80 hours of internships at any of the collaborating centers, professional practice under supervision (a minimum of 50 hours of supervision per year), and a positive reference from the supervisor.

- Route V includes completing 2nd degree studies in the Faculty of Psychology of the SWPS University of Social Sciences and Humanities (also as a unified masters degree studies): "The Psychology of shaping and modifying behavior", masters degree studies in psychology in the SWPS University of Social Sciences and Humanities in Poznań, module: "Application of behavior therapy in education for children of normal and disordered development – an introduction", other relevant studies including a module covering Applied Behavior Analysis, lasting at least 60 didactic units; the coursework has to be presented to the Board of Polish License of Behavior Therapy system for official acceptance, at least five specialty courses, at least 100 hours of training in one of the collaborating facilities, including at least two training periods of minimum five consecutive days each (i.e. at least 20 hours each), work under a supervision of a current holder of a Supervisor's License (at least 50 hours of supervision)
- Route VI includes obtaining BCBA certificate.

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

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

- The Behavioral Therapy Clinic (BTC) in Cracow and a local branch of the BTC in Raciborz provides therapeutic support for the families of developmentally and emotionally challenged persons from all over Poland. The BTC's operations include diagnostic consultations for children with suspected developmental disorders (performed usually by a team consisting of a psychiatrist, a psychologist, a speech therapist, a special education teacher, and a rehabilitator) and conducting home therapy programs. Consultations are an opportunity to establish an individual therapeutic program and parents are instructed on its implementation; during subsequent visits, the program undergoes the necessary modifications and the parents' skills are being further improved. Currently PABT's BTC oversees home therapy for almost 3500 families throughout Poland.
- The Emergency Intervention Team (EIT) is a short-term (up to 2 weeks), intensive therapy for persons with developmental and behavioral disorders and their families facing material and other hardships.

In 2021, PSTB wasn't able to organize neither conference, nor therapeutic camp due to COVID-19. Majority of training courses took place online. PABT's Ambulance has been online form of help destined for people and families in need of assistance. In order to give professional help PABT's Ambulance has offered difficulties' diagnosis, analysis of video material and instruction of therapeutic skills.

Also in 2021, further works were carried out related to the adaptation of the SYSABA IT system (System of support for behavioral therapy centers working with people affected by developmental disorders).

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

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

At present, 78 therapeutic centers use SYSABA.

Polish Society for Behavioral Psychology

BY BARTLOMIEJ J. SWEBODZINSKI

During 2021, Society continuously worked on development of Polish certification system (license) for behavior analysts. Polish certification system was created and introduced in 2010 together with partner organization Polish Society for Behavioral Therapy (www.terapeutabehawioralny.pl). Its aim was to improve the quality of work of behavior analysts in Poland by establishing professional standards of good work and proper conduct for behavioral analysts. Two members of PSBP participate on regular basis in meetings of the executive committee of the system. The main responsibilities are:

- evaluating applications of candidates to the title of behavioral analyst according to standards of Polish certification system,
- developing standards for training programs and evaluating new training courses proposed by supervisors within the system,
- answering on-going questions concerning certification system and providing consistent interpretation of its rules,
- propagating knowledge about certification system and behavioral therapy in Poland as well.

Work is currently underway on changes to the Polish licensing system in the context of the termination of

certification of behavior analysts from outside the US and Canada by the BCBA.

Currently, work is underway on the Polish translation of B. F. Skinner's book, *Science and Human Behavior*. The scientific editing is done by the president of the association, Przemysław Bąbel.

In 2022, a Polish translation of the book by B.F. Skinner's *Science and Human Behavior*. Talks have also started with the Polish Association of Behavioral Therapy on the organization of a special behavioral convention due to the 20 years of activity of both associations.

Quebec ABA

BY MALENA ARGUMEDES

Last year, 2021, was a very unique year, with a global pandemic as a background for a second year. COVID-19 has turned our personal and professional lives upside down, but also the world of applied behavior analysis. We were able to hold our long-awaited 10th annual conference online. Other than that, few official activities are currently planned for our association, pending a return to normal from a health point of view. The board of directors continues to meet virtually, in particular to continue the planning of our yearly conference.

As mentioned, 2021 was also a quiet year for our association, but we still held our 11th Annual Conference online, with stellar international and local presenters. The original venue (University of Quebec in Montreal) is still reserved for our next live conference. Prior to the conference, our yearly newsletter was published on our website.

Our goals for 2022 are to renew our strategic plan and to begin assessing the possibility for our BCBAs in the province to join a professional order in Quebec (for example, the Order of Psychology or Psychoeducation).

Sociedad Mexicana de Analisis de la Conducta

BY ROSALINDA ARROYO

The Mexican Society for Behavior Analysis (MSBA) is a non-profit organization established in 1975 whose purposes were a) disseminating behavior analysis among psychologist and other disciplines; b) establishing links with similar associations in Mexico and foreign countries; c) advising institutions and associations regarding behavior analysis issues; d) publishing the Mexican Journal of Behavior Analysis; and e) organizing seminars, scientific events, and annual meetings, promoting communication among behavior analysts in Mexico.

Despite the fact that Mexico, like many other countries had strong COVID-19 restrictions, the MSBA was able to hold its annual conference. This conference went fully virtual and was the 30th edition, which means

that the MSBA celebrated 46 years of existence.

Even though this was the very first time ever that MSBA had a fully virtual conference, we are glad to report that was a very successful effort. The annual conference took place September 20–22 and included 11 speakers and gathered 152 activities (symposia, paper, and poster sessions). In this occasion, Juan José Irigoyen Morales was the recipient for the MSBA Applied Behavior Analysis Award, who sadly passed away recently.

On the other hand, the *Mexican Journal of Behavior Analysis (MJBA)*, which is edited by this Society, was able to overcome the challenges from the first year of the pandemic and published its two volumes with both conceptual and experimental papers (<http://rmac-mx.org>).

Happily, new board members have been appointed for the next two years: Rosalinda Arroyo (president), Felipe Patron (secretary) and Juan Carlos Romero (treasurer), who are looking to develop new initiatives in our Society such as the creation of its first ever Women's Special Group in Behavior Analysis (WSGBA), this group has as its main goal the promotion, development and dissemination of the knowledge and research carried out by mexican behavior analysts women as well as to make visible the role and leadership of women and serving as a link between women practitioners and students with a scientific interest.

In addition, they will work to increase our online presence as well as our participation with other associations, without excluding the celebration of our annual conference. The next conference is tentatively being planned for the fall of 2022. More information about these projects will be available in our web page www.smac.org.mx.

Swedish ABA

BY DAG STRÖMBERG

The Swedish Association for Behavior Analysis (SWABA) had 204 members at the end of 2021, which was 40 more than in 2020. Considering the COVID-19 pandemic, which to a large extent hindered physical reunions, this was an unexpected increase. The chapter continued its activity on social media; at the end of the year, 1403 people were following SWABA on Facebook, a 9% increase since 2020. The association also has accounts on Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube and Instagram, all with an increasing number of followers.

SWABA's 25th anniversary conference took place 25th September 2021, in Stockholm, as a hybrid event. At the same time, it was SWABA's 20th anniversary as an affiliated chapter of the ABAI. We enjoyed presentations by Magnus Johansson, Bud Mace, Eva Bertilsson, Hedvig Zetterberg, Maria Yttermyr, Stephanie Edlund and Emelie Johnson Vegh. Former SWABA presidents Kenneth Nilsson and Ulrika Lång, together with Dag Strömberg, participated in a panel discussion about the association's first 25 years. We were also happy to receive an online celebratory speech by Carol Pilgrim, president of the ABAI.

In March 2022, the annual meeting took place in Stockholm, again a hybrid event. The day included an OBM presentation by Kent Vikström, and another one about higher education and quality assurance for European behavior analysts by Lise Roll Pettersson and Dag Strömberg. A special international guest was Joe Layng who presented (online) about Nonlinear Contingency Analysis. Furthermore, the recipient of the



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third annual “SWABA-prize” was announced: Professor Lise Roll Pettersson, Stockholm University, was awarded the prize as a recognition of her important work to disseminate behavior analysis in Sweden, especially in the context of higher education.

During the year, a new network has been established, connecting six different Swedish associations for behavior analysis, contextual behavior science and/or various types of behavior therapy, as well as a newly started Swedish-speaking behavior therapy association in Finland. The aim is for the presidents to meet twice yearly to share the latest news of each association.

Following the BACB’s decision to change its certification requirements, SWABA is involved in a collaboration between representatives from the Nordic countries (Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden), discussing quality assurance of behavior analysis within a Nordic context. In 2021, SWABA became a national membership organisation of the European Association for Behaviour Analysis.

SWABA was represented at the 2022 ABAA Annual Convention. As usual, a poster was presented at the ABAA Expo, which took place between 2 AM and 4 AM Swedish time. A number of convention visitors joined us in the poster’s chat room.

Our association supports the formation of special interest groups, providing information about each group on the website. This year the Animals SIG, the Certified Behavior Analysts SIG, and the PBS SIG had meetings, while some of the other groups had contacts through social media.

SWABA would like to encourage anyone who plans to visit Sweden or other countries in Scandinavia to contact the board (info@swaba.se), to explore the possibility of meeting and/or lecturing. SWABA holds its annual meeting during the first quarter of each year and a fall meeting/conference in September or October. Our fall meeting of 2022 took place in October, in Stockholm. Please visit the SWABA website for information concerning the program.

Taiwan ABA

BY LI-TSUN WANG

During the last year, Taiwan Association for Behavior Analysis (TABA) kept on promoting behavior science to parents, special education teachers, private institutions, and so on. The activities held during this year included a VB-MAPP workshop, several lectures, and 2021 Annual TABA conference, and luckily most of them had funding by K-12 Education Administration, Ministry of Education in Taiwan. Most of the events had been held on-line because of Covid-19. And till the end of 2021, data about behavior analysts in Taiwan was obviously growing, there were a total 52 certificated analysts (including 7 BCBA-D, 27 BCBA, 18 BCaBA). In the future, after 2023, most

countries out of U.S.A will neither be certificated through BACB, so this will promote TABA to held more lectures or workshops to provide behavior analyst’s continue education credits, and more professional events to fulfill audience’s need in future, and will promote ABA services more diversity, ethical, professional in Taiwan, and hope through certificate behavior analysts’ and professors’ effort, the localization behavior analysts certificate system will be established. The following were events during 2021:

- TABA annual conference was on June 26, 2021, and focused on topic “Clinical Applications of ABA: Recent Research and Practice”, we invited Dr. James King, BCBA-D, who is program director, ABA Department in SEEK Inc., lectured “A Summary and Applied Utility of the Brief Reviews in the Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis (2010 – 2020): Strategies to Contact Scholarly Literature and Overcoming Barriers. And invited Dr. Chu, Szu-Yin, BCBA-D in Department of Special Education, National Tsing Hua University, lectured “Research on the Application of ABA in Practice: A Discussion on Teacher and Parent Training” and teacher Joelle Tsai, master for Department of Special Education, National Tsing Hua University, lectured the ABA training process and suggestion for the same topic. Total 38 people including different area workers, teachers of special education, therapists, and behavior analysts attended this event.
- During January to March 2021, we held VBMAPP workshop, through lecture, workshop to improve knowledge and practice, about 35 teachers and therapists joined this.
- During March to May, TABA held 3 lectures for parents, 28 parents attended, with topics about how to teach social skills and toilet training to kids with special needs.
- And during July to December 2021, TABA held lectures for therapists on-line, two of three provide behavior analyst continuing education credit. Include “Putting Ethics Code into Practice and Interactive Ethics Discussion” by Dr. Grace Chang (BCBA-D), “The frequent problems and better ways for transition of Special Children from Kindergarten to early elementary School Stage” by special education teacher Mr. Wang Yana. “Telehealth in Behavior Analysis: Ethical Considerations” by Dr. Grace Ho(BCBA-D), about the above events, 71 persons attended these workshops.
- From September 2021, to spread more certificate behavior analysts attached references about ABA, TABA started invited senior BCBA, to introduced and recommend by short summary in Chinese about news, literatures and review literatures about ABA research or practice every month, and very thank you for SEEK Inc provided much support, through this way encouraged people more easily to select and find papers, these will keep working in future.

In 2022, TABA will hold several training sessions, like lectures or workshops, and most will be on-line, but after the epidemic is gradually stabilizing, hope to have a chance to provide training face to face. We will keep on our mission to spread knowledge of behavior analysis to professionals and parents, promote the science in Taiwan, and invite more members and professionals to join us.

United Arab Emirates ABA

BY MICHELLE KELLY

The Association for Behavior Analysis – United Arab Emirates (ABA-UAE) was officially affiliated with the ABAI on November 18th, 2020. ABA-UAE registered with the Dubai Association Center (DAC) in September 2020 and was licensed on February 28, 2022.

ABA-UAE's Executive Committee includes: Dr. Michelle P. Kelly, BCBA-D (President), Ms. Sharifa Yateem, BCBA (President-Elect), Ms. Linda Bailey, BCBA (Secretary), Ms. Nipa Bhuptani, BCaBA (Treasurer), and Adel Wahdain (Student Representative). The Board consists of the Executive Committee and the following members: Dr. Ebrahim Alhajri (Chair), Ms. Khawla Barley (Vice-Chair), and our members-at-large, Mr. Nicholas Orland, BCBA, and Ms. Irene Trifyllis.

The chapter's activities include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Support a national licensing authority to test, license and renew licenses for behavior analysts in the UAE.
- Organize educational activities including seminars, workshops, presentations and conferences, either alone or jointly with other professional organizations.

- Organize networking opportunities for its members.
- Serve the professional needs of behavior analysts in the UAE by working with relevant bodies.
- Disseminate information to promote its mission to a wider audience by publishing bi-annual, bilingual, online newsletters.
- Disseminate information to promote its mission to a wider audience by creating a bilingual chapter website.
- Attend and present at conferences/events outside the field of behavior analysis with a mission to disseminate the science.
- Organize an annual business meeting to provide a forum for discussion of the affairs of the chapter.

ABA-UAE has been very active, aiming to achieve the goals outlined above. We would like to outline one of our biggest achievements to date this year which is the organization of online continuing education events for behavior analysts, in collaboration with Emirates College for Advanced Education (ECAE; www.ecae.ac.ae), a higher education institute which offers the only VCSs in the UAE. Since May 2021, ABA-UAE has hosted 12 events, in collaboration with ECAE.

To find and follow ABA-UAE on social media:

- Twitter: [@ABA_UAE](https://twitter.com/ABA_UAE)
- Instagram: www.instagram.com/aba_uae_association/



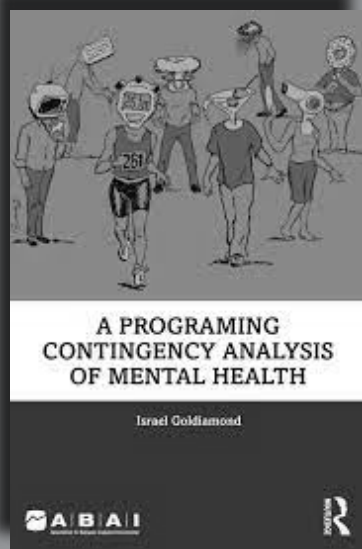
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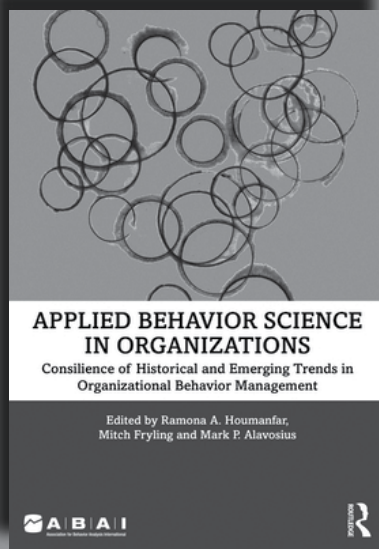
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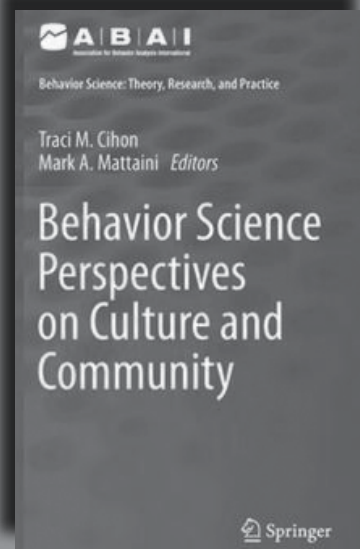
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