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Association for Behavior Analysis International

INSIDE BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS
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2009



4th Annual ABAI



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2010**

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Inside Behavior Analysis

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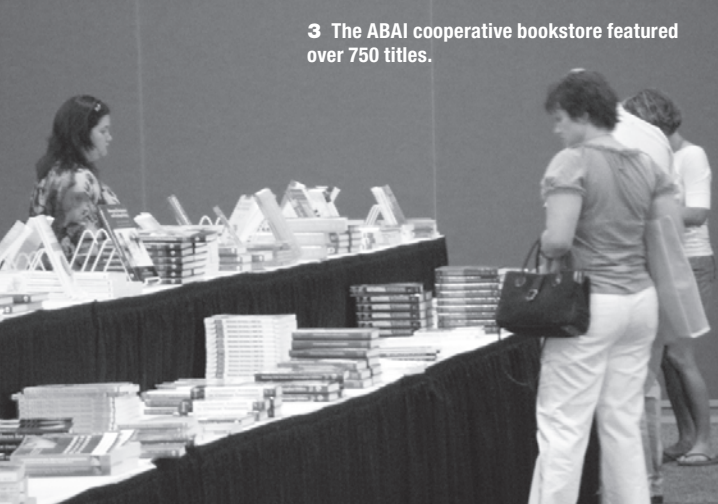
ON THE COVER: R. Wayne Fuqua, Janet S. Twyman, William L. Heward, and Maria E. Malott at the ABAI office ribbon cutting ceremony.
Photography: MARTIN C. BURCH

Table of Contents

ABAI Convention Success Continues in Phoenix	2
Calendar of Upcoming Conferences	5
2009 Fellows of ABAI	6
Presidential Scholar Essay: The Human Response to Climate Change and the Role of Behavior Analysis	10
ABAI Celebrates Grand Opening of New Building	12
Obituary: Sidney W. Bijou	17
Updates from ABAI Special Interest Groups	19
Updates from ABAI Boards and Committees	34
Updates from ABAI's Affiliated Chapters	46
Opportunities for Behavior Analysts	77



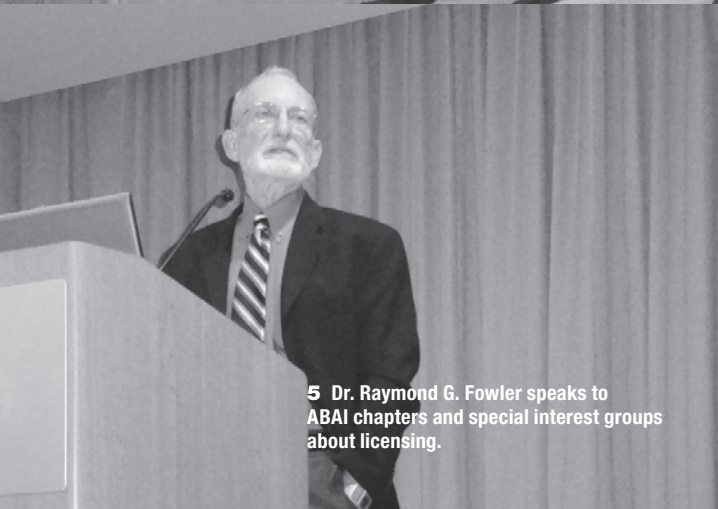
2 ABAI student staff in Phoenix.



3 The ABAI cooperative bookstore featured over 750 titles.



4 Guests attend a convention event.



5 Dr. Raymond G. Fowler speaks to ABAI chapters and special interest groups about licensing.

Convention Recap—2009

ABAI Convention Success Continues in Phoenix

BY DR. MARIA E. MALOTT

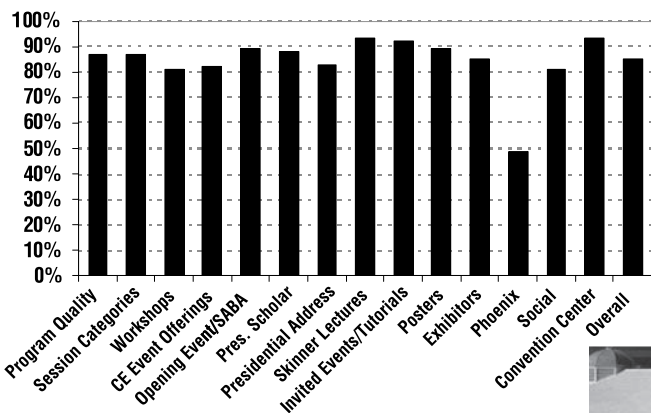
The Association for Behavior Analysis International experienced another success with the 35th Annual Convention in Phoenix, Arizona. This year we had nearly 4,200 registrants. Attendees

came from all over the world and represented 33 countries and 49 United States, plus the District of Columbia. Of 3,923 electronic surveys sent to attendees, 792 were returned: a 20% response rate. Figure 1 shows the percentage of respondents who evaluated various aspects of the convention as “excellent–very good.”

The new format for our annual convention was a delightful success. The Phoenix Convention Center was the event’s highest ranked aspect and 93% of surveys rated the space as “excellent–very good.” The building proved to be an adequate and comfortable facility for the needs of the annual convention.

The B. F. Skinner lecture series were also scored “excellent–very good” on 93% of returned surveys. Additionally, invited events and tutorials were well received (92% “excellent–very good”) as were posters and opening events (each 89%), to name just a few. Although almost all aspects were evaluated favorably, Phoenix, as a convention

Photography: JEAN HERBRANDSON



1 % of survey responses: Very good–Excellent.

city, did not score as well as previous locations. Approximately half of the attendees scored the city “excellent–very good,” though the majority found the city at least acceptable. We are pleased the careful planning and hard work that went into the annual convention continues to be appreciated by our convention registrants.

Thanks to the feedback from our registrants, we are able to continue the development and improvement of all areas of the ABAI Annual Convention. We will improve the 2010 convention based on the input received.

The success of the ABAI convention would not have been possible without the tireless efforts and dedication of so many individuals. The Program Committee did extraordinary work scheduling events and encouraging submissions for the many invited events and tutorials. Many thanks to Program Board Coordinator Dr. Raymond G. Miltenberger, Program Committee Senior Co-Chair Dr. Ramona Houmanfar, and Co-Chair Dr. William J. Palya (see Dr. Houmanfar’s Program Board update on page 45).

Also, thanks to the area coordinators William H. Ahearn and Jeffery H. Tiger (autism); Jesse Dallery and Karen G. Anderson (behavioral pharmacology); Ann D. Branstetter and Jonathan Kanter (clinical, family, and behavioral medicine); Maria Ruiz and Michael Weinberg (community interventions; social and ethical issues); Mark R. Dixon and Joel E. Ringdahl (developmental disabilities); James S. MacDonall and Robert W. Allan (experimental analysis of behavior); Ronnie Detrich and Cathy Watkins (education); Martha Pelaez and Gary Novak (human development); Alicia M. Alvero and Heather M. McGee (organizational behavior management); Denise E. Ross and Jessica Singer-Dudek (teaching behavior analysis); Sam Leigland and Ted Schoneberger (theoretical, philosophical, and conceptual issues); and Matthew Normand and Caio Miguel (verbal behavior). We are grateful for the hard work of Dr. Timothy Hackenberg, Science Board Coordinator. We also appreciate the work of Dr. Richard W. Malott for his work in CE coordination for the BACB.

This year’s convention featured events that were co-sponsored by the ABAI Science and Practice Boards.

Following the model of the 2008 Chicago Convention’s successful “State of the Science Lectures,” these keynote sessions were well received by attendees. The symposia presented in this series were entertaining and informative. “Behavioral Momentum” featured Dr. John A. Nevin (University of New Hampshire), Dr. F. Charles Mace (University of Southern Maine), and Dr. Jennifer J. McComas (University of Minnesota). “Stimulus Control in Autism” featured Dr. William J. McIlvane (University of Massachusetts Medical School), Dr. Mark L. Sundberg (Sundberg and Associates), and Dr. Robert L. Koegel (University of California, Santa Barbara). Feedback for these events was positive.

Special thanks to the Practice Board, then Chair Dr. Linda J. Hayes, Dr. Michael Dorsey (then chair of the Governmental Affairs Committee), Dr. Michael Weinberg (Chair of the Licensing Committee), and all other members of the board for their efforts. The Practice Board made important contributions to the convention events such as the Governmental Affairs Committee business meeting; the “State of Practice in Behavior Analysis” symposium; the “Legal Reform and Autism: How to Shape Public Policy” special event, which was co-sponsored by the Practice Board and the Autism SIG and featured guest speaker Lorri Unumb from Autism Speaks; the Practice Board Meeting; and the “Licensing of Behavior Analysis: Protecting the Profession and the Public” panel discussion.

Additional thanks to Dr. Raymond Fowler for his role as ABAI consultant on the topic of licensing behavior analysts. Dr. Fowler has served as President, as Executive Vice President, and, for 13 years, as Chief Executive Officer for the American Psychological Association (APA). Under

See PHOENIX on page 4



6 Old and New: The Convention Center stands adjacent to St. Mary's Basilica, the oldest Catholic Church in Phoenix.



7 Poster Sessions remained a popular attraction at this year's convention.

PHOENIX continued from page 3

his leadership, the APA organized its practice and science directorships and made significant strides toward licensing. We are grateful that Dr. Fowler assisted the ABAI Council, Practice Board, and leaders of the affiliated chapters and special interest groups with the understanding of what licensing means, its advantages and challenges, as well as the necessary steps to make behavior analysis a licensed discipline independent from psychology.

My sincere appreciation also goes to the ABAI staff members. Once again, our team was one of the highest-rated aspects of the convention in survey results. This year, 91% of the responses from our members indicated the staff provided excellent to very good services.

ABAI staff providing convention support included Aaron Barsy, Elisabeth Berthiaume, Martin c. Burch,

Melissa Carlson, Michael Cooper, Emily Drilich, Brandon Forth, Jim Harmon, Jennifer Hauglie, Jean Herbrandson, Jack Lingbeek, Tina Newman, Joseph Romeo, Majda Seuss, Laurie Smith, Eddie Soh, and Amanda Wright from the Association for Behavior Analysis International.

In addition, we are thankful to our 20 seasonal staff. Most of these staff members were students from various universities who gained practical experience from their work at our convention. Our student staff members were:

Kirstin Ashman, Jessica Grow, Claire Kimiri, Ryan Scharps, Joe Sonheim, Rachel Talen, Justin VanDenHeuvel, Christina Vander Weide, and Ellyn Zylstra from Calvin College; Patrick Baum, Nicole Casey, and Sara Cnossen from Grand Valley State University; and Amber Dickerson, Lauren Fritze, Kaitlin Gaymer, Heather Lentz, and Sarah McFee from Western Michigan University.

Planning is already underway for the 2010 Annual Convention in San Antonio, Texas. We are pleased with the layout of the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center and think that registrants will enjoy the location. The Convention Center is practically connected to the headquarter hotel, the Grand Hyatt. Adjacent to both, the Grand Hyatt and the Convention Center, is San Antonio's historic River Walk. Located one story below the street and following the San Antonio River in the central part of the city, the River Walk is one of the most popular places in Texas and offers abundant venues for eating, entertainment, and shopping. San Antonio has much to offer convention attendees.

Representatives from Texas ABA (TxABA)—including Dr. Gordon Bourland, President of the chapter, and Billy Edwards—flew to San Antonio in June during our planning session for the 2010 convention to discuss the best ways in which TxABA and ABAI can work together for the success of next year's convention. The planning session was also attended by TxABA representatives from the San Antonio area. TxABA is an exemplary affiliated chapter of ABAI. It was founded in 1986 and currently has approximately 450 members. We are encouraged and pleased with the enthusiasm and welcoming of ABAI in Texas.

Event details are included in the 2010 Annual Convention *Call for Papers*, which can be found at www.abainternational.org/NewCallForPapers/CFP_pages/index.asp. We encourage you to submit your work by October 14. In addition, ABAI is holding the fourth annual Autism Conference in Chicago, Illinois, during January 22–24, 2010. Registration for both events will open in September. We look forward to you joining us for our upcoming events. ❖


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Calendar of Upcoming Conferences

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

2009 September

Minnesota Northland ABA

September 25
St. Cloud, MN
St. Cloud State University
www.mnaba.org

Hawaii ABA

September 26
Waipahu, HI
New Hope Ministry Auditorium
www.hawaiiaba.org

Florida ABA

September 30–October 3
Daytona Beach, FL
Daytona Beach Hilton
<http://fabaworld.org>

October

Heartland ABA

October 1–2
Omaha, NE
Holiday Inn Central
www.hlaba.org

Mid-American ABA

October 9–10
Davenport, IA
Radisson Hotel
www.uwec.edu/maba

Berkshire Association for Behavior Analysis and Therapy

October 15–16
Amherst, MA
University of Massachusetts
www.babat.org

Hoosier ABA

October 15–17
Indianapolis, IN
Sheraton Indianapolis
City Centre Hotel

October (cont.)

Tennessee ABA

October 23–24
Nashville, TN
Scarritt Bennett
www.taba.org

Manitoba ABA

October 24
Winnipeg, MB
University of Manitoba
www.maba.ca

November

New York State ABA

November 5–6
Albany, NY
Albany Marriot
www.nysaba.org

Alabama ABA

November 5–7
Birmingham, AL
Double Tree Hotel
www.auburn.edu/alaba

Ontario ABA

November 19–21
Toronto, ON
Intercontinental Hotel
www.ontaba.org

December

Maryland ABA

December 4
Baltimore, MD
Treemont Grant
www.marylandaba.org

2010 January

Fourth ABA International Autism Conference

January 22–24
Chicago, IL
Hyatt Regency Chicago
www.abainternational.org

February

California ABA

February 18–20
Irvine, CA
Hyatt Regency
www.calaba.org

March

4th European Behavior-Based Safety Conference

March
Italy
www.aarba.it

Virginia ABA

March 27
Harrisonburg, VA
James Madison University
<http://psychweb.cisat.jmu.edu/serdiksl/vaba/vaba.htm>

May

36th Annual ABAI Convention

May 28–June 1
San Antonio, TX
Henry B. Gonzalez Convention
Center and Grand Hyatt San Antonio
www.abainternational.org

2009

ABAI is proud to announce the 2009 Fellows of
the Association for Behavioral Analysis International.

FELLOWS OF ABAI



Dr. Michael Cataldo

Dr. Michael F. Cataldo received his Ph.D. from the University of Kansas. His career has focused on creating and directing a clinical research program that combines clinical excellence with cutting edge research. During Dr. Cataldo's tenure at the Kennedy Krieger Institute, high quality clinical treatment for challenges such as self-injurious behavior, seizures, and feeding disorders has been provided to many thousands of individuals. In this same context, programs of applied and basic research have advanced understanding and treatment of a range of behavioral and medical problems and integrated neuroscience and behavior analysis research. This research has garnered millions of dollars and generated hundreds of publications.

While supporting this expansive and successful clinical and research enterprise, Dr. Cataldo has participated in training hundreds of pre and postdoctoral fellows in applied behavior analysis, including many leaders in the field today. Throughout these activities, Dr. Cataldo has served on numerous editorial boards and national policy committees that have shaped the direction of the field. Dr. Cataldo has served as president of the Society of Behavioral Medicine, the American Psychological Association's Division 25 (Experimental Analysis of Behavior), and Division 33 (Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities). Dr. Cataldo's decades long commitment to furthering the field of behavior analysis, combined with a strategic vision of how to achieve his clinical and research goals, have been the hallmark of his career.



Dr. Gina Green

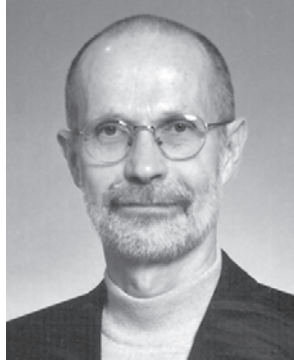
Dr. Gina Green received her Ph.D. from Utah State University. Her career and contributions have spanned basic and applied research and leadership in the professional practice of behavior analysis. Her basic research in areas such as stimulus equivalence, published in the *Journal of the Experimental Analysis of Behavior* and other leading journals, has both contributed to the basic literature and bridged the basic and applied divide. Dr. Green has also published

widely in the applied research literature, particularly in the *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, in areas pertaining to developmental disabilities and autism.

Her impact on professional practice in the field of behavior analysis has been sustained and substantive, ranging from advocacy for consumers and the issues which impact their services to championing the role of science in developing and evaluating clinical interventions. Her promotion of the science of human behavior and the contribution of behavior analysis to the understanding of human behavior has been world wide and encompassed countless presentations, publications and testimonies before courts and legislatures. She has been a major proponent for advancing behavior analysis through the establishment of certification and standards, and the development of legislation and policy on state, national and international levels. Her leadership role in numerous organizations, notably President of the Association for Behavior Analysis International (1999), has been invaluable in promoting the integration of science and treatment, to the benefit of professionals and consumers alike.

Dr. Richard W. Malott, with forty-plus years of experience at Western Michigan University, has used the principles of behavior to construct teaching models and behavioral systems that have been sustained over several decades. As a result, he has taught generations of students to use behavior analysis in their everyday lives as learners, teachers, practitioners, and citizens, and has provided the training grounds for many of the field's leaders in behavioral systems design.

Dick Malott is a prolific, creative, and engaging writer who has authored some of the field's most important and widely read publications, including *Elementary Principles of Behavior* (with Donald Whaley and then with Maria E. Malott and Elizabeth Trojan Suarez), which is in its sixth edition. His innovative use of multimedia has captivated audiences for decades.



Dr. Richard W. Malott

He helped found what would become the Association for Behavior Analysis International and has been instrumental to its survival, growth, and vitality. Dick's many contributions include establishing ABAI's Teaching Behavior Analysis Special Interest Group and Education Board.

His sense of humor, self-deprecating style, and willingness to push the envelope have made him an iconic figure in the behavior analytic community. Often irreverent but seldom irrelevant, Dick Malott is an outspoken and tireless ambassador for behavior analysis and how it can be used to make the world a better place.

Dr. James E. Mazur received his BA from Dartmouth College in 1973, and his Ph.D. from Harvard in 1977. He joined Southern Connecticut State University in 1988, where he is now a full Professor. In his research, he is best known for his extensive studies of choice between delayed and probabilistic reinforcers with different magnitudes—self-control—and his development of the titration procedure to measure indifference points in choice. For the wider audience, he is best known for his very successful teaching book *Learning and Behavior*, now in its sixth edition. This book has introduced incalculable numbers of students to the joys of behavior analysis. Jim has twice served on the board of editors of the *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Animal Behavior Processes*, on the board of editors for the *Journal of the Experimental Analysis of Behavior* five times, with one term as Associate Editor. He is currently Editor of this journal. He has also served as Associate Editor for *Learning and Behavior*. He has also served on the Board of the Society for the Experimental Analysis of Behavior, and of the Society for the Quantitative Analyses of Behavior.

Dr. Raymond G. Miltenberger received his Ph.D. from Western Michigan University and currently is Professor of Psychology and Director of the Applied Behavior Analysis



Dr. James E. Mazur

training program at the University of South Florida. He is the author of a highly regarded textbook on behavior modification, which is used at many universities across the country in both undergraduate and graduate courses. He is most well known for having conducted a longstanding and systematic series of studies on clinical (habit) disorders, prevention of abduction, and firearms safety. In particular, his research in the latter two areas has been characterized by the highly creative use of simulations and generalization testing, and by the careful development of task-analysis based instruction described as "behavioral skills training." In recognition of this work, he has received the Award for Distinguished Contributions to Applied Research from the American Psychological Association (Division 25) and, at the time of this writing, he is the President Elect of the Association for Behavior Analysis.

Dr. Cathleen C. Piazza received her Ph.D. from Tulane University. She is Professor of Pediatrics and Director of the Pediatric Feeding Disorders Program at the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha, and she previously directed similar programs at the Marcus Institute in Atlanta and at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in Baltimore. Dr. Piazza and her colleagues have examined various aspects of feeding behavior and have developed a series of interventions to address one of the most common health problems in children with disabilities. Her research in this area has been among the most systematic in the field and has firmly established behavioral approaches as preferred methods for assessment and treatment. In her roles as clinical, research, and training director, Dr. Piazza has mentored a large number of interns and fellows who have gone on to make significant contributions to the field. Highly regarded for her general expertise in research methodology, Dr. Piazza is currently Editor of the *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*.

See FELLOWS on PAGE 10



Dr. Raymond G. Miltenberger



Dr. Cathleen C. Piazza

2009 FELLOWS OF ABAI



Dr. Rick L. Shull

Continued from page 10

Dr. Rick L. Shull received his BA from Brown University in 1964 and his Ph.D. from Arizona State University in 1969. He obtained a position at University of North Carolina at Greensboro in 1969, and has remained there since, attaining the status of Emeritus Professor in 2006. He has a wide range of interests, making major systematic contributions to the literature on choice, resistance to change, and the understanding the structure of free-operant behavior. Rick served on the editorial board of the *Journal of the Experimental Analysis of Behavior* for six periods of three years, as Associate Editor from 1985 to 1988, and as Editor from 1995 to 1999. He has also twice served on the boards of *The Behavior Analyst* and the *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, as well as a number of other journals. He is also a Fellow of Divisions 3 and 25 of the American Psychological Association and a Fellow of the American Psychological Society.

Designation as Fellow of ABAI

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

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

March, 2010, Italy

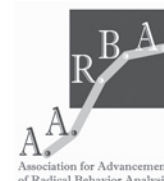
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The Human Response to Climate Change and the Role of Behavior Analysis

BY DR. MELISSA J. ALLMAN

At this year's Presidential Scholar Address at the annual meeting for the Association for Behavior Analysis International, Dr. Lonnie Thompson, Distinguished Professor of Earth Sciences and world renowned paleoclimatologist, discussed the human response to global climate change. Dr. Thompson's research has revealed that global warming and glacier retreat are occurring at unprecedented levels, a claim substantiated by his work reconstructing and compositing data obtained from drilled ice cores that provides a 5,000 year window into the past. The time to act is now, and the challenge is effect a positive human response. The science of behavior analysis, and in particular topics related to choice responding and behavioral economics, may be useful in understanding aspects of the human response to climate change and effecting positive behavioral change. In Dr. Thompson's words "as a society we have three options: 1) prevention, 2) adaptation, and 3) suffering." At face value, this may seem a clear choice; option 3 is least desirable and choice may be directed towards 1 and 2. However all options share

Photography: MARTIN C. BURCH

features which may account for why the “human response to this issue is unclear.”

A variety of health—and lifestyle—related behaviors have been studied by behavior analysts, and a common feature of many is they are governed by short- and long-term variables. Effecting behavior change in smokers is a useful metaphor to understanding the human response to climate change. Smokers for example, may favor the immediate positive consequences of smoking, and temporally discount the long-term negative consequences. Ironically, if the negative consequences of smoking behavior were more immediate, rates of abstinence (positive behavior change) would likely increase. These principles of behavior analysis likely underpin certain efforts to make the negative consequences of smoking more salient (e.g., increased cost; pictures of diseased lungs on cigarette packets in Europe), which are effective in reducing rates of target behaviors. Essentially, the human response to climate change is amenable to a similar type of short- and long-term analysis.

Short-term variables likely relate to everyday choices or response allocation towards ‘greener’ alternatives, which may involve both positive and negative consequences. For instance, these alternatives may be unfamiliar (and thus carry an unknown degree of risk), costly/effortful, and violate current behavioral habits (which are difficult to change). Social factors such as the desirability of the response (and any impact on social status), compliance with societal norms/trends, and individual morality may also influence response allocation. Perhaps one way to promote a positive response to climate change is to reduce the perceived costs (and effort) associated with selecting ‘greener’ alternatives. For example, in the state of California some cars are fuelled by liquid hydrogen; they are filled up at regular gas stations, fuel costs are equivalent to gas, and these vehicles look and perform like regular cars. It has been said of them, ‘they are the car of the future, because they are so much like the car of today’. Principles of behavioral economics predict that increasing the availability of low-effort/cost, highly substitutable ‘greener’ alternatives should shift response allocation towards these options (particularly if the relative cost of the current response increases). Matching law further dictates that more responding tends to be allocated towards options that result in higher rates of reinforcement, and increasing short-term positive consequences of selecting ‘greener’ alternatives may be beneficial.

Long-term variables, in addition to delay discounting, likely relate to the perceived consequences of global climate and environmental change. Dr. Thompson’s research demonstrates and further predicts loss of ice

cover, sea-level rise, changes in weather patterns, and catastrophic effects on a variety of species, including humans (his option 3). For most people, the notion of ‘polar ice-caps’ draws upon abstract, secondary experiences (e.g., from television, books) as does ‘imagining’ the global environmental consequences of climate change. Typically direct, rather than indirect, experience with an outcome better supports behavior. Although weather may be a ‘real-world’ observable marker of climate change, the extent to which people associate their (individual and collective) behavior with the weather is somewhat spurious. At the individual level, there may also be a perceived lack of contiguity between 1) current behavior and observable

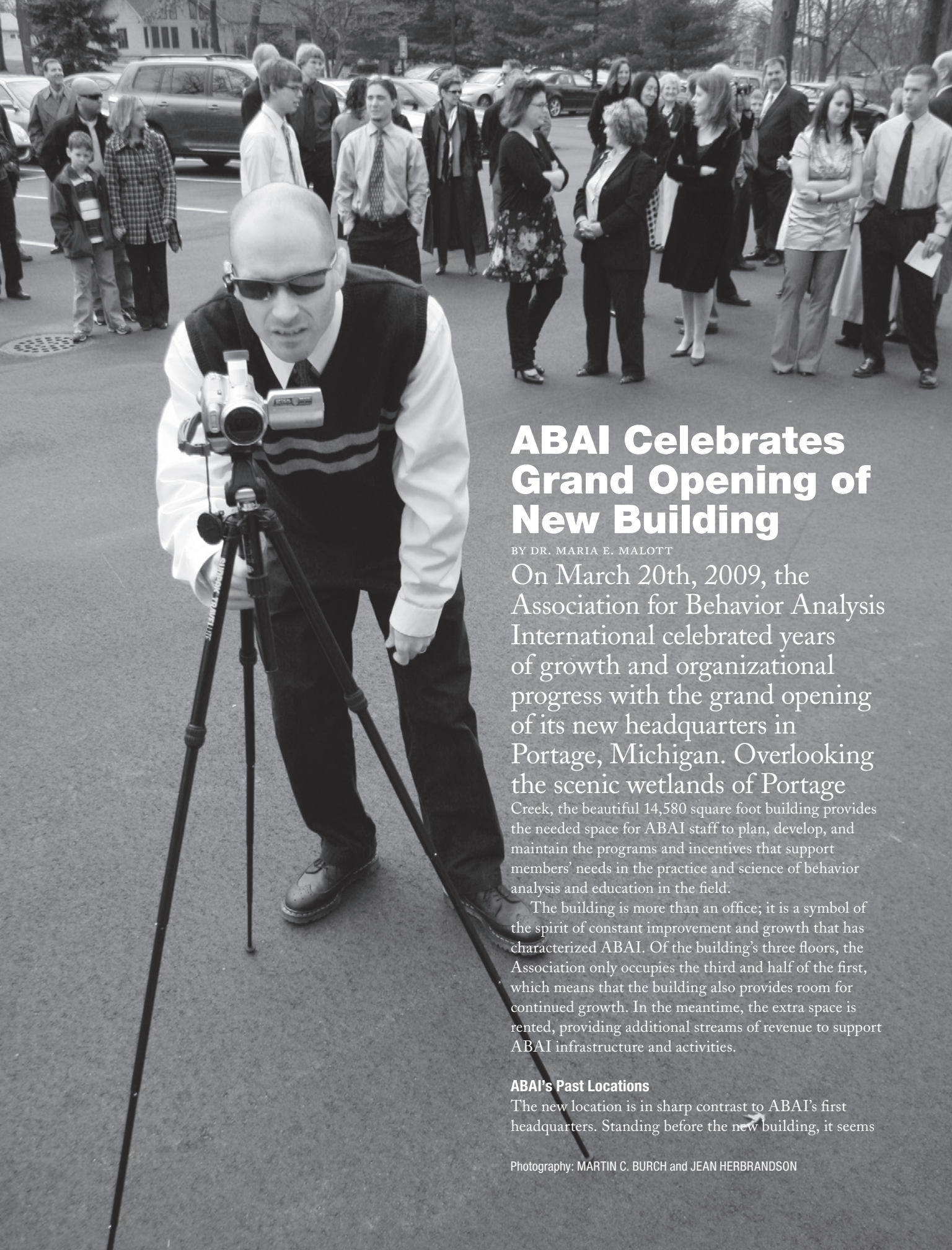
The time to act is now, and the challenge is effect a positive human response. ... In Dr. Thompson’s words “as a society we have three options: 1) prevention, 2) adaptation, and 3) suffering.” At face value, this may seem a clear choice.

‘real-world’ consequences to climate change; and 2) ‘greener’ alternatives and observable ‘real-world’ consequences (both positive, and the prevention of negative). This lack of contiguity is arguably one of the most fundamental factors which mediate the human response. The question then becomes, how can ‘greener’ alternative behaviors be maintained

when they produce few observable consequences (and are effectively, non-reinforced)?

Shifting the human response towards ‘greener’ alternatives and maintaining positive behavior change is a challenge for behavior analysis. Individual and societal motivation needs to be sustained; much like a smoker who has not yet experienced any adverse health consequences of their behavior, people may be less motivated to change to ‘greener’ alternatives if they have not perceived any negative consequences of their behavior in the past. One strategy may be to increase the salience of the long-term consequences of climate change by emphasizing those cues which are observable in the present; both positive (which we may lose) and negative (which may get worse). This type of effort was evidenced by the popular documentary film *An Inconvenient Truth*, for which Dr. Thompson was a consultant. Many of those in attendance at his Presidential Scholar Address most likely felt like a smoker who has been shocked into realizing they have a shadow on their lung: Dr. Thompson’s address stressed the extent of global climate change that can be witnessed today and the timely manner in which humans must modify their behavior, and for which the consequences of global climate change will be felt.

Dr. Thompson’s research has revealed the extent of current, and future, global climate change and this trend in dramatic warming and melting is due to factors attributable to our behavior. The challenge for behavior analysis is to better understand the factors which underlie the human response to climate change, and ultimately how this response may be shifted to significantly alter the trajectory of climate change in the future. ❖



ABAI Celebrates Grand Opening of New Building

BY DR. MARIA E. MALOTT

On March 20th, 2009, the Association for Behavior Analysis International celebrated years of growth and organizational progress with the grand opening of its new headquarters in Portage, Michigan. Overlooking the scenic wetlands of Portage

Creek, the beautiful 14,580 square foot building provides the needed space for ABAI staff to plan, develop, and maintain the programs and incentives that support members' needs in the practice and science of behavior analysis and education in the field.

The building is more than an office; it is a symbol of the spirit of constant improvement and growth that has characterized ABAI. Of the building's three floors, the Association only occupies the third and half of the first, which means that the building also provides room for continued growth. In the meantime, the extra space is rented, providing additional streams of revenue to support ABAI infrastructure and activities.

ABAI's Past Locations

The new location is in sharp contrast to ABAI's first headquarters. Standing before the new building, it seems

Photography: MARTIN C. BURCH and JEAN HERBRANDSON



1 Dr. Janet S. Twyman (left) and Dr. William L. Heward (center) and cut the ribbon at the new ABAI building as Dr. Maria E. Malott (right) and Dr. Alyce Dickinson (far-right) look on. **2** Leo Goddeyne (left) and Dr. Jack Michael (right) converse. **3** Dr. Jay Moore (left) and his wife (right) were among many guests attending the opening ceremonies.

incredible that ABAI began modestly as a single, small office housed within Western Michigan University's (WMU) Psychology Department, in Wood Hall.

ABAI relocated in 1995, when WMU remodeled Wood Hall; necessitating the organization's move to West Hall. While the new location was intended to be temporary, when the Wood Hall renovations were completed there was no longer space for ABAI.

With ABAI's services expanding, the organization inevitably needed to upgrade its facilities. This need prompted the purchase of ABAI's first building and, on October 5th, 2002, we held the official inauguration ceremony for the 1219 South Park Street office in Kalamazoo, Michigan. Finally, as a result of years of improvement and commitment to growth of services, ABAI was housed in its own building. With nearly 3,900 square feet available for office and meeting space, ABAI continued to thrive and evolve.

Growth in Services for ABAI's Members

Since 2002, the expansion and growth of ABAI has been significant. Registration for the annual convention alone has grown by over 80% since that time. Increased resources have allowed us to improve the value of the annual convention and add two additional conferences per year. The organization now conducts an annual autism conference that will reach its fourth year in 2010. Another example of a specialized ABAI event was a conference on education in 2008. Upcoming in 2011, we are organizing a science conference which we expect will greatly benefit the dissemination of behavioral science.

This expansion has also meant an increased global presence for the organization. ABAI has conducted conferences in Venice, Campinas (Brazil), Beijing,

See OPENING on page 14



4 Dr. David O. Lyon (left) and Dr. R. Wayne Fuqua (right) joke about the past. **5** Dr. Dick Malott encounters the prop novelty shears. **6** Dr. Linda Hayes tours ABAI's new headquarters. **7** John Austin (right) and Allison Downey (left) perform (opposite page).



OPENING continued from page 13

Sydney, and this year, Oslo. ABAI has also organized several international delegations to Russia, China, Bahrain, Jordan, and others. These conferences and delegations are just a few examples of how ABAI has been able to aid in the promotion and development of behavior analysis worldwide.

Behavior analysis continues to strengthen as evidenced by the growth of ABAI's affiliated chapters and special interest groups. In 2002, ABAI had 40 affiliated chapters (17 international and 23 US). Today, that number has grown to 70 chapters (32 international and 38 US). Our special interest groups have grown to 32 (up from 20 in 2002).

Another example of how services have expanded since 2002 is the creation of an organizational membership to specifically address the unique needs of organizations active in the field of behavior analysis. Currently ABAI has 11 organizations that benefit from the services we provide.

Our publications have also grown. Currently, ABAI has three journals—*The Behavior Analyst*, *Behavioral Analysis in Practice*, and *The Analysis of Verbal Behavior*. In addition, we have been able to revamp and improve our newsletter, which is now titled *Inside Behavior Analysis*—this being the first issue.

Our boards and committees have also increased in scope and activity. ABAI now has a Practice Board to support practitioner related issues. This board is providing valuable support for the field in the areas of licensure, legislative advocacy, continuing education, and research in practice. In addition, ABAI now has a Science Board working to

support the dissemination of the science of behavior analysis. The Education Board was formed to develop, improve, and disseminate best practices in recruitment, training, and professional development of behavior analysis. Our boards have also increased in complexity and include multiple committees aligned with each of their overall objectives. ABAI is very appreciative of the hard work, initiative, and tireless efforts of nearly 200 volunteer members within the boards, committees, task forces, and Executive Council.

ABAI continues to improve the types of services we can offer our members. Currently, we are restructuring our technology and infrastructure, which should allow the organization to increase the number of services we can provide. One of these new services is a professional liability insurance program, scheduled to launch in September of this year. In order to accommodate the growth of association membership and services, ABAI has also had to increase its staff in the central administrative offices. This team has grown from six full-time equivalents in 2002 to 19 in 2009. In the beginning, staff positions were first filled by students on a part-time basis. However, the job functions have grown significantly in scope since then; meriting new positions and roles. In addition to our regular staff, ABAI brings aboard approximately 20 students on a seasonal basis to work on the preparations for the convention. The organization also contracts additional on-site team members to manage the annual convention. The event now requires the use of a

convention center, four to five hotels, and 79 staff members working behind the scenes (including regular and seasonal staff, and on-site contracted team members).

Our current administrative office structure is constantly changing to adjust to the growth of our services and demands of our members. Currently, our Events Department coordinates the logistics and amenities that accompany conferences and conventions. Our Professional Issues Department oversees continuing education, publications, and support for our boards, committees, special interest groups, and affiliated chapters. The Membership Services Department includes receivables and member assistance and support. The Information Technology Department includes system architecture, network administration, programming, and project management. We are beginning to develop our Sales and Marketing area to handle promotional services, organizational memberships, and other specialized programs such as event-related bookstores. Our Finance area handles payables, investments, and property. Clearly, ABAI has grown considerably since its early beginnings.

The New Building

It did not take many years before the South Park building became insufficient to accommodate ABAI's growing services and staff. The process of finding new space began in May, 2007. All alternatives were considered, including expanding the South Park facility, the acquisition of adjacent property, buying a building elsewhere, or purchasing land and building to suit. In the fall of 2007, it was decided that the most strategic and cost-effective solution was to purchase new headquarters. On March 19, 2008, after a very careful negotiation and due diligence process, the building in Portage was acquired. Following some basic renovations, the organization moved to the new location on October 18, 2008.

A few days prior to our formal celebration; ABAI welcomed Dr. Linda Hayes as a special guest to tour the new facilities.

This brings us to March 20th, 2009, when we celebrated the grand opening of our new building and offices. The event was attended by about 50 esteemed guests, among them Past President Dr. Jay Moore and Past Secretary



Treasurer Dr. Richard Malott and Dr. David Lyon. The festivities began at 2:00 p.m. when then President Dr. William L. Heward cut the ribbon in the company of Dr. R. Wayne Fuqua, Dr. Janet S. Twyman, and Dr. Maria Malott. From there, we invited

our guests inside for a tour of the new building.

Members of the local community also contributed to the reception. Two local artists provided their work for display during the event. Classical piano music, played by accomplished local musician Susan Lawrence, entertained our guests as they mixed and mingled in our halls. The tour was concluded with a performance by Allison Downey and long time ABAI and WMU faculty member John Austin, who delighted guests with their "Midwestern Urban Folk" originals.

Then, Dr. Heward made a few remarks about ABAI. Dr. Twyman, President of SABA—which receives in kind space and labor from ABAI—highlighted the important role ABAI and SABA play in supporting the field of behavior analysis. Dr. Wayne Fuqua and Dr. David Lyon, reminded us of the organization's humble beginnings in Wood Hall, at WMU, as they reminisced on ABAI's progression through the years. Finally, Dr. Maria Malott, ABAI CEO, introduced the organization's staff. The afternoon concluded with a special presentation featuring slides of the past buildings and the opportunity for interaction and celebration.

We thank the ABAI membership for its contributions and support throughout the years. It is our plan to continue improving and developing membership services that support the activities of all ABAI constituencies in the years to come. ❖

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& FAMILY ASSOCIATES

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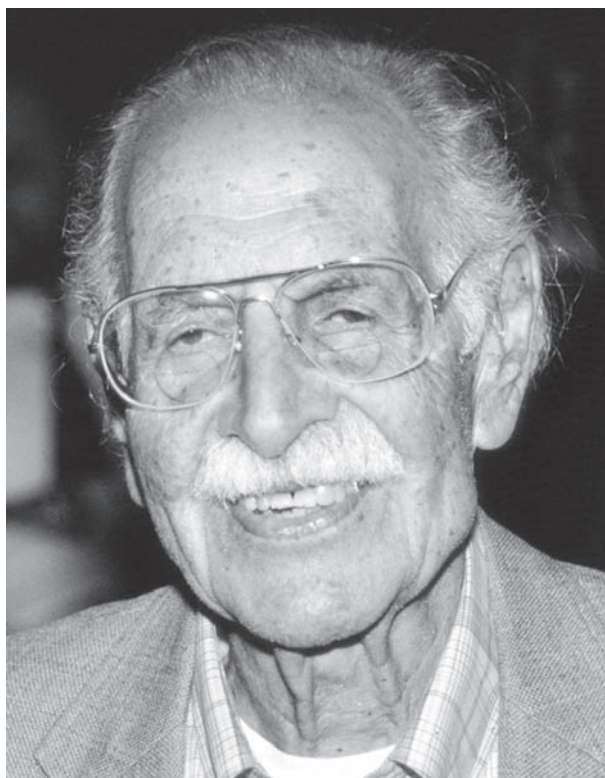
Sidney W. Bijou

NOVEMBER 12, 1908 TO JUNE 11, 2009

“A peaceful, natural death, as he was getting ready for another day. A life well lived to the very last moment,” wrote Bob and Jude Bijou of their father, Sidney W. Bijou, pioneer in behavioral and developmental psychology, early childhood education, and research administration. He passed away on June 11, 2009, at age 100 in Santa Barbara, CA.

Sid was born on November 12, 1908, in Arlington, MD, and, at age ten, moved with his family to Brooklyn, NY. After graduating from the University of Florida in 1933 in business administration, he returned to New York, where he married Janet Rose Tobias and entered Columbia University's Master's program in psychology, from which earned a degree with an emphasis in intellectual disabilities. In clinical work with Joseph Jastak in Delaware, they developed the acclaimed Wide Range Achievement Test. With an emerging interest in child development, Sid entered the doctoral program in psychology at the University of Iowa, but completed his degree in animal behavior with Kenneth W. Spence for research on the synthesis of neuroses in rats. He moved next to a clinical position at the Wayne County Training School (Northville, MI), but soon took a leave to serve in the Army Air Corps during World War II, where he directed its Convalescent Branch for the Surgeon General. In 1946, he was recruited by B. F. Skinner to Indiana University (Bloomington, IN) as an assistant professor of psychology and the department's director of clinical training.

Given an opportunity to direct the Institute for Child Development at the University of Washington (Seattle, WA), however, Sid joined that university's psychology department in 1948. Over the next dozen years, he developed a training program for basic research on typical



and atypical child behavior that was increasingly informed by Skinner's science of behavior and then funded by the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH). In the process, he founded a behavioral approach to development, writing seminal books with Donald M. Baer.

On sabbatical leave at Harvard for the 1961–1962 academic year, Sid surveyed the northeast's education and training programs for children with intellectual disabilities, but came away disappointed. He returned to Washington, vowing to do better. He did. He and Jay S. Birnbrauer established an experimental classroom at Washington's Rainier State School that was funded by the U.S. Office of Education. He and his colleagues conducted pioneering research on programmed instruction (e.g., the Edmark Reading Program), developed classroom token economies, and refined time-out procedures.

In preschool classrooms at the Institute, his colleague, Montrose M. Wolf, was the first to demonstrate systematically the power of teacher attention to improve children's motor, social, and emotional development. And, at a state psychiatric facility, Wolf, Todd R. Risley, and Hayden L. Mees applied Skinner's science (e.g., reinforcement, shaping) to the chronic aberrant behavior of a young boy with autism—"Dicky." Applications such as this became known as applied behavior analysis. Today, they are the best empirically supported treatments for autism.

As a research administrator for all the foregoing, Sid established Washington as a top-flight research center

See BIJOU on page 18

BIJOU continued from page 17

for the application of behavior analysis to a myriad of childhood problems. In 1965, he moved to the University of Illinois (Urbana-Champaign, IL) as a professor of psychology and of education, where he made similar contributions. He directed an NIMH-supported Child Behavior Laboratory for children with developmental disabilities and a training grant for graduate students from the National Institute of Child Health and Development. He refined and extended his work at Washington, especially in applied behavior analysis. Indeed, in 1968, his colleagues—Baer, Wolf, and Risley—founded the *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis* at the University of Kansas, establishing applied behavior analysis as a sub-discipline of the burgeoning field of behavior analysis. Sid continued to advance the field's research methods and apply behavior analysis to early childhood education and parent training, and then to higher education (i.e., personalized systems of instruction), as well as publish more texts on the behavior-analytic approach to child development.

In 1975, Sid retired from Illinois, but remained fully engaged in teaching, research, and service for the next quarter century: first in psychology and special education at the University of Arizona (1975–1993) and then at the University of Nevada—Reno (1993–2001), where he helped found the behavior analysis program in the psychology department.

Throughout his career, Sid was active in professional service, for instance, in committee and division work for the American Psychological Association (APA) and the Society for Research in Child Development. He was on the organizing committee of what would become the Association for Behavior Analysis International (ABAI, est. 1975), to which he was elected its third president. He was the first editor of the *Journal of Experimental Child Psychology*. He was highly regarded as a consultant by funding agencies (e.g., NIMH) and clinical programs (e.g., the Portage Project) and as a task force chairperson

and member (e.g., APA's 1974 Commission on Behavior Modification). And, he was renowned for his international dissemination of behavior analysis in Mexico and South America, continental Europe, and Japan (e.g., the Anne Sullivan Center, Lima, Peru). Sid and Janet made a substantial contribution in 1998 to the Society for the Advancement of Behavior Analysis (SABA), enabling annual fellowships for doctoral students doing research in child development from a behavior analysis perspective.

Sid earned many awards and honors throughout his career, among them research awards from the American Association on Mental Deficiency and the American Academy of Mental Retardation; the G. Stanley Hall, Edgar A. Doll, and Don Hake awards from three divisions of APA; ABAI's award for the International Development of Behavior Analysis; and the Distinguished Service to Behavior Analysis Award from the Society for the Advancement of Behavior Analysis. In 1974, his colleagues and students celebrated his lifetime contributions, to that point in his career, with festschrift.

After Janet passed away in 2000, Sid moved to Santa Barbara to live with Jude and be closer to Bob. He remained professionally influential to the end, however, corresponding with and receiving visits from colleagues and former students, historians of psychology, and scholars who sought out his sage advice. His was a long good life, well lived. ❖

Author's Note

This press release was prepared by Edward K. Morris, with the approval of Jude and Bob Bijou, the daughter and son of Sidney W. Bijou.

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Updates from ABAI Special Interest Groups

Applied Animal Behavior

BY JENNIFER SOBIE

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

The AAB SIG currently has 59 members. A new membership policy requires members to either 1) attend the conference, post on the AAB SIG Yahoo group, or otherwise keep contact through the year; or 2) have membership of any designation in ABAI. People interested in becoming members of the AAB SIG or in simply benefiting from SIG communications are encouraged to contact our Communication Liaison, Terri Bright, at terribright@comcast.net.

Research

A primary focus of the AAB SIG in the advancement the human/animal condition is research. Although animal behavior from an ethological perspective is a vast field with impressive research opportunity, support, and production, applied animal behavior falls far behind basic animal behavior in research. A recent meta-review of peer-reviewed treatment-efficacy publications in applied animal behavior identified under 100 publications between 1970 and 2005, found pharmacological intervention efficacy studies far out-distancing behavior modification treatments in recent years and found that of those behavior modification treatments analyzed, punishment was the number one treatment. These dismal numbers and projections are produced in an era where the number one reason for euthanasia of companion animals is behavior.

The AAB SIG is dedicated to the belief that research—in particular, student research—is the most productive means to both spur innovation and to provide empirically based treatment options. One avenue of support that we are proud to provide in advancement of student research is the Marian Breland Bailey Award (MBBA) for Student Research and Scholarship. This award recognizes student achievements in the field of AAB behavior analysis-based research, selecting award recipients from those presenting at the annual convention. MBBA candidates are selected based on the information submitted to ABAI during the annual call-for-papers. Authors of submissions meeting eligibility requirements—i.e., applied animal behavior content, data-based presentation, student as primary author—are contacted

and provided the award evaluation criteria. Upon the authors' acknowledgements, judges from the AAB SIG then attend the individual presentations. Winners are chosen based on a number of points, including topic; design including internal and external validity; methodology; the relevance of the study to behavior analysis; and the clarity of the presentation.

There were 13 Marian Breland Bailey Award candidate presentations at the 2008 conference in Chicago, IL, and we are pleased to announce the following award winners:

Terri Bright, Simmons College, awarded \$100.00 in the MBBA Oral Presentation category for her research as presented in her talk, "Find It! Generalized Matching to Sample in Dogs."

Carmen Buitrago, Central Washington University, awarded \$100.00 in the MBBA Poster Presentation category for her research as presented in her poster, "Change and Repeat: Demonstrating Control over Variable and Repetitive Behavior in Dog Training."

Angie Drake, University of North Texas, awarded \$50.00 in the MBBA Continuing Research in an Area category for her research as presented in her talk, "From Feral to Friendly: Shaping "Tameness" in Felines with Negative Reinforcement."

Please share in congratulating each of these three students on their fine work in the area of applied animal behavior research, and check the AAB SIG page for a list of 2009 recipients.

For additional information on the Marian Breland Bailey Award, its recipients and eligibility and evaluation criteria, please contact:

Jennifer Sobie, jennifer.l.sobie@wmich.edu or

Megan Maxwell, meganmaxwell@petbehaviorchange.com.

Autism

BY RUTH DONLIN

This was my first year as President of the Autism SIG and my fifth year working with these esteemed colleagues. Great support and guidance has been shared with me from previous Autism SIG presidents David Celiberti and Mary Jane Weiss, and I'm grateful for their continued input. I also want to thank the other volunteer members who donate their time and energy to the Autism SIG. Lori Bechner is the President-Elect and our additional core committee members include: Newsletter editor, David Fischer; Web site Master, Josh Milstein; Secretary/Treasurer, Suzannah Ferraioli; Membership Drive,

See AUTISM on page 20

AUTISM continued from page 19

Chigusa Haldeman; as well as Barbara Wells, Marianne Butler, Jenna Miller, and Bob Ross.

Membership

We have completed another successful membership drive, continuing to expand beyond our previous 750 members. The Autism SIG has been the largest special interest group within ABAI. The Autism SIG is a diverse group of individuals interested in autism and empirically-based research. All individuals are welcome to join the Autism SIG or one of its sub-committees. There are no fees required and membership information is kept confidential. For more information, e-mail sferraioli@gmail.com.

Accomplishments

The SIG published and electronically disseminated a quarterly newsletter with the following themes this year: Inclusion and Community Integration, International Efforts, The Adult Issue, Life after High School, and Alternative Treatments. We appreciate everyone's time and contributions to making the newsletter a helpful resource to parents, educators, and clinicians.

We are proud to sponsor an annual student research award. Our last student research winner was Sara Gershfeld. We greatly appreciate all research poster submissions, as well as our volunteer judges. We welcome all student poster research submissions. Guidelines are provided on our Web site, www.autismsig.org.

A new handbook of our policies and procedures was developed to streamline and make clear the Autism SIG election procedures, membership roles and positions, privacy disclaimer guidelines, guidelines for submitting research, and all related activities for the Autism SIG. This document serves as a type of by-laws where policies employed to facilitate and operate the SIG, such as the annual business meeting, are recorded for continuity and consistency.

An annual Autism SIG calendar was also established to assist current and future members as to which materials are needed for certain events and how and when to prepare for these events. The calendar includes information such as steps in planning and organization for conferences, business meetings, voting timelines, newsletter timelines, and related events.

In response to numerous requests for us to distribute information to our membership, a privacy policy disclaimer was developed and can be found on the Autism SIG Web site. Although we recognize that we could be a vehicle for distributing information to our extensive membership, we have a promise and a commitment to the Autism SIG members to protect their confidentiality and maintain minimal level e-mailing. The membership will be given the opportunity to vote on the future of the

privacy policy and to determine if there is information our membership would choose to receive.

Our Web site now includes a list of Autism related Web sites and previous student research award winners. Lists of recent book reviews and recent article summaries were provided to make it easier for readers to find information more quickly rather than go through each on-line newsletter to find a particular article or review. A brief survey was sent out to the membership to gain feedback about how helpful members find the newsletter and Web site to be and how to improve its effectiveness or usability. This information will be reviewed by the core members of the committee to help shape the direction of new developments for both these endeavors.

Goals for Next Year

We plan to continue to expand our membership to help publicize important information related to the field of working with individuals and families with children with an ASD. Ongoing development of the Web site and newsletters will be a focal point of the committee. We plan to work collaboratively with other organizations to address practitioner issues and provide our membership with current information and supports available.

Behavior Analysis Online SIG

BY PAUL MALANGA

Behavior analysis is without question one of the most dynamic professions with significant impact in behavioral medicine, mental health, health, sports and fitness, developmental disabilities, school wide positive behavioral support, special education, organizational dynamics, criminology, offender rehabilitation, and education today. The emphasis on prevention, early intervention, accurate comprehensive functional behavioral assessment, collaboration, and problem solving demands that behavior analysts be creative thinkers who command a tremendous range of evidence-based procedures based on principles of the science of human behavior. Keeping up with best practices is critical to ensuring that the client's right to effective behavioral intervention is ensured. The Behavior Analyst Online organization is dedicated to helping behavior analysts keep up with current research and methodology in this rapidly progressing field.

The **Behavior Analyst Online.org** will develop and deploy new resources making them available on the internet free of charge to the public. These resources will be dedicated to educating the public about behavior analysis as well as serving as a resource for professionals involved in research and/or application of principles of behavior analysis.

The **Behavior Analyst Online.org** will be responsible to its membership to develop resources that the membership will find useful in everyday research, education, and application of the science of behavior.

The **Behavior Analyst Online.org** will be operated under the guidance of its Senior Membership Board.

This site provides behavior analysts with:

- Theory, basic and applied research, model development based on behavioral principles, behavioral development, and behavioral practice;
- Expectations and roles of the behavior analyst;
- Collaboration and communication with other stakeholders;
- Assessment strategies including functional assessment and analysis, curriculum based measurement, direct and analogue assessment;
- Behavioral Interventions;
- Laws, funding, and public policy;
- Organizational Behaviors Management level strategies and interventions for mental health, developmental disabilities, educational interventions, and systems for intervening;
- Training and professional standards.

Objective

The objective of **Behavior Analyst Online.org** is to develop specific resources including, but not limited to:

- On-line eJournals
- On-line referral services
- Professional Placement Services
- Behavior Analysis Web Boards
- Document Shares
- E-mail Newsletters
- On-line Behavior Analysis Storefronts

Subscribe

See <http://www.behavior-analyst-online.org/Mailing.html> for directions to subscribe to specific journal mailing lists.

Obituary

The BAO mourns the loss of one of its most dedicated members: **Craig Thomas**. The movie *Blade Runner* has a classic quote, "the candle that burns twice as bright lasts half as long." Craig burned very bright. He was an inspiration. He built a world-wide consulting network and he developed a clinic in Mississippi for children and adults with the most challenging conditions. To BAO, he was a critical player in building all seven journals; he will be deeply missed. Craig was a straight-forward person who worked hard for BAO to keep the site running. He was a person who always had a smile and a solution to some of the worst problems the team faced. Craig was always dedicated to behavior analysis, but more importantly, to

his clients. BAO has received many letters of support in his passing. Craig will be missed by all of us at BAO. At ABAI's SIG meeting was a memorial service and several papers on Craig's contribution to the field will be presented at next year's conference.

Behavior Analysis and Selectionist Approaches to Robotics

BY JOSEPH CAUTILLI

Clearly this is the special interest group of the future. It expands the base of ABAI into the area of research and development and to artificial systems. However, none of the core topics of reinforcement learning, neural networks, stacked neural networks, matching models of reinforcement, motor learning, building of relational frames, acquisition of communication skills, and personality in robots from behavior analytic models is new to ABAI. Indeed, in many ways it is surprising that ABAI has not had a special interest group devoted to this subject until now.

The Robotic's SIG is focused on how behavior analysis can improve research and development in building intelligent machines. The SIG is uniquely focused on research and development in helping robots learn by consequences. Over the years focus on reinforcement learning has permeated the field of robots (i.e., Boyan, & Moore, 1995; Mahadevan, & Connell, 1992; Mataric, 1997; Sutton, & Barto, 1998; Sutton, Precup, & Singh, 1999). Work in this area continues on formulating reinforcement learning for noisy and dynamic domains. In addition, robots offer a new way to assess how basic principles of learning combine to select complex behavior (e.g., Hutchison, 1998; Stephens and Hutchison, 1992). This is particularly important in the study of phenomena that may have ethical issues in researching. For example, in the language area it would be unethical to manipulate the amount of language input or feedback a child receives, but this would not be a problem for robotics. Finally, robotics can be used to test theories of underlying structures (e.g. Daw & Touretzky, 2000).

The SIG sees its role as making ABAI more friendly and compatible for research and development in these areas. The SIG has a listserve (<http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/behavioranalysisandrobotics>) and all are welcome to join. The SIG is also engaged in activities to continue to bring researchers from all areas, including engineering, to ABAI to discuss recent advances and to share advances in the basic process of human learning for robotics researchers to incorporate.

See ROBOTICS on page 22

ROBOTICS continued from page 21

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Behavioral Coaching and Counseling

BY HALINA DZIEWOLSKA

Behaviorism revolutionized the field of counseling in the 1960s and 1970s (Krumboltz & Thoresen, 1969; Hosford, 1969). As a philosophy, behaviorism brought a method of inquiry that moved counselors from speculation of processes for change to research-based analysis of change processes. As a science, behavioral counseling brought the power of principles discovered by the experimental analysis of behavior to solving real world, real people problems. This methodological shift brought a counseling science to the forefront, which was immediately productive in developing a series of research articles on counseling process and outcome (i.e., Ince, 1968; Hansen, Niland, and Zani, 1969; Kramer, 1968; Krumboltz & Thoresen, 1964; Krumboltz, Varenhorst & Thoresen, 1967; Thoresen & Krumboltz, 1967; Thoresen & Krumboltz, 1968; Williams & Blanton, 1968). The evidence base developed from these early counseling studies of reinforcement in the therapeutic relationship have been wide and serves as one element of the core research base of clinical treatments such as Kohelnberg and Tsai's (1991) *Functional Analytic Psychotherapy Approach*.

Behaviorism not only affected individual counseling, but also the study of couples. From the earliest applications to operant and social learning principles to assessing couples much has been learned (Birchler, Weiss, Vincent, 1975; Vincent, Weiss, Birchler, 1975; Wegener, Revenstorf, Hahlweg, Schindler, 1979; Williams, 1979; Willls, Weiss, Patterson, 1974) and interventions emerged for treatment of those couples (e.g., Stuart, 1969). As a line of thinking, conceptualizing, and intervening for couples problems, behaviorism continues today (Cordova, 2003; Cordova, 2001; Cordova, Cautilli, Simon, Axelrod-

Sabag, 2006; Cordova & Scott, 2001; Jacobson & Christensen, 1998; Jacobson & Follette, 1985; Jacobson, Follette, & Pagel, 1986).

This special interest group exists to preserve and further define the above legacy. In addition, this special interest group will focus on another field that is quickly emerging: behavioral coaching. While coaching as an intervention has long been studied in behavioral research, it is only recently that attempts have been made to define and professionalize the field. This SIG sees defining behavioral coaching from a behavior analytic perspective as one of its major goals.

At this year's convention, we had elections and chose the leadership for the SIG. We spent time reaffirming the SIG's basic interests and political focus. As counselors pursue Medicare insurance, we believe behavioral counselors should support these attempts and highlight the need to separate those who practice with research-based techniques and those who do not. This is particularly important for working with the elderly.

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Behavioral Technology

BY CHRISTINA WHALEN

The Technology SIG was created to bring together companies, researchers, service providers, and consumers who are interested in the use of technology for conducting research or providing ABA services. The primary goals of the Technology SIG are: 1) To share ideas and educate others about how technology can be used to promote ABA practices; 2) To support consumers of technology products by developing a set of best practices; 3) To set a path for research in technology for ABA; and 4) To promote ABA and exchange information through technology.

As more and more consumers look for the services of ABA providers, technology is becoming a great resource for filling in some of the gaps to reach more consumers. This rapidly growing approach to ABA is not new to the field, even B. F. Skinner utilized technology in his research, and since then, the potential for using technology has become even greater with the immense resources now available with video, computers, mobile devices, etc. This SIG aims to provide and share cutting-edge ideas to those who study, teach, use, or need ABA.

Membership is open to researchers, practitioners, technology developers, academicians, administrators, and consumers. This group welcomes anyone who has an interest in technology and how it can be used in ABA.

The Behavioral Technology SIG has a handful of members at this time and is planning for a big year of growth in the upcoming year. Following the ABA International Conference, members will work toward creating an interactive Web site and blog for the dissemination of technologies with a behavioral focus, and for sharing research on technology-related studies. Members will be able to share information on this site and as the membership numbers and Web site grow, members will look into creating an on-line journal. The Behavioral Technology SIG also hopes to increase dissemination to the public about ABA by utilizing technology (Web site, blog, etc.). In the future, the SIG would like to host a Technology-specific conference. In addition, plans are being made to present a Technology Panel at the 2010 ABA Conference. Those who are interested in helping to grow this important new SIG, please contact us.

Behaviorists for Social Responsibility

BY JOHN GLASS, STEVE WONG, AND PAT WILLIAMS

Behaviorists for Social Responsibility emphasized three efforts in the past year. First, we organized and encouraged a series of presentations related to climate change for the 2009 ABAI convention, including encouraging the selection of Lonnie Thompson as Presidential Scholar; an invited address by Frederic Wagner followed by a "Special Event" response panel; and an invited tutorial by Scott Geller on actively caring with related content. Such integrated attention to important justice, human rights, and environmental issues at the convention may be one way to increase the level of behavior analytic and cultural analytic work done in these areas.

Second, considerable attention went into further strengthening the journal *Behavior and Social Issues*, of which BFSR is one sponsor. Rising costs for the print edition, rapidly expanding accesses to the on-line edition, and the value of rapid publication led us to determine that beginning with the 2009 volume, the journal will do immediate on-line publication of articles once accepted, and will then aggregate all articles published during the year into a single hard copy volume at the end of the year. In the meantime, the number and quality of articles submitted has continued to increase.

Finally, after more years than we can track with the current SIG leadership, a new leadership team consisting of Pat Williams, Web/listserv coordination; Steve Wong, professional relations (ABA coordination, BSI liaison); and John Glass, membership/public relations/outreach; was elected. This team will take over at the SIG annual meeting at the 2009 ABAI convention in Phoenix, at which time Rich Rakos and Mark Mattaini will be quite relieved to be relieved.

Behaviorists Interested in Gambling

BY SIMON DYMOND

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

Towards this end, members of the BIG SIG regularly present their work at the ABAI annual convention. The BIG SIG publishes the journal, *Analysis of Gambling Behavior*. Originally published online, *Analysis of Gambling Behavior* is now housed at the University of North Dakota.

See BIG SIG on page 24

BIG SIG continued from page 23

UND will print the journal (two issues per year) and share ownership with Dr. Jeff Weatherly. Back issues will soon be available online.

Volume II Issue 2 of *Analysis of Gambling Behavior* contains a special section on delay discounting and pathological gambling, which brings together a theoretical account of problem gambling from Fantino and Stolarz-Fantino as well as fourteen commentaries from an impressive list of authors (Catania, Potenza, Dymond, Weatherly, Derevensky, DeLeon, Madden, Hantula, Lyons, Hayes, Ghezzi, Borrero, Arntzen, and Ninness).

Efforts are underway to have *Analysis of Gambling Behavior* included in PsychInfo, which will help raise the profile of behavior-analytic research on gambling. Authors are encouraged to consider the journal as an outlet for their work.

To subscribe to *Analysis of Gambling Behavior* (\$40: Professionals & Institutions; \$20: Students), contact:

Dr. Jeff Weatherly (jeffrey_weatherly@und.nodak.edu), Department of Psychology, University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, ND 58202-8380.

To find out more about the BIG SIG, send an e-mail to BIGSIG-subscribe@yahoogroups.com or visit: <http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/BIGSIG>

Clinical Behavior Analysis

BY TOM WALTZ

The Clinical Special Interest Group of ABAI is dedicated to facilitating collaboration of researchers and clinicians in further development and application of applied behavior analysis in clinical populations. This group seeks to promote Clinical Behavior Analysis (CBA) in ABAI and is interested in maintaining the longstanding relationship between basic research and clinical application.

At the 2009 convention, the Clinical SIG discussed how to better utilize the ABAI annual convention to meet the training and continuing education needs of clinical behavior analysts. SIG members are working to increase the opportunities for students and professionals to learn about how BA is used in a wide variety of clinical settings and increase interest in this area. The annual convention has the possibility for being a major recruitment tool for clinicians who used to consider ABAI their professional home.

The Clinical SIG members are also collaborating with the Dissemination of Behavior Analysis SIG, lending their expertise to the accurate promotion of specific CBA treatments and practices on the World Wide Web.

If you would like to join the Clinical-SIG, please contact us using the link at: www.abainternational.org/Special_Interests/clinical.asp.

Crime and Delinquency

BY JOSEPH CAUTILLI

The behavioral approach to adults and juveniles in the justice system has humble origins. In 1964, Schwitzgebel and Kolb worked with adolescents. They had them earn object rewards, money, and social recognition for speaking into a tape recorder. Reward bonuses were given for discussing feelings and experiences in detail and with affect. The subjects were followed up for three years after the study. The subjects receiving the treatment showed significant reduction in re-arrests and amount of jail time compared to the control subjects. This was one of the earliest studies that showed that operant procedures could reduce recidivism rates. Schwitzgebel (1967) conducted another study in which verbal statements of male delinquents received both positive reinforcement and social disapproval based on verbal behavior in four response classes: Hostile statements, positive statements, prompt arrival at work, and behavior targets as indicative of employability. The study showed a rise in the response classes subject to the positive reinforcement. Also, in 1967, Bryan and Kapche showed that counselor verbal statements and approval could be used to condition the use of "I" statements (first person pronoun responses) by male sociopaths. Collectively these studies show the early beginnings of behavioral interventions as they moved out of the laboratory and into the justice system. By 1971, a comprehensive behavioral model for prison work was emerging (see Cohen & Filipczak, 1971). This early model showed a 9% reduction in recidivism compared to treatment as usual (Jesness, 1975) and showed ability to build skills (Bassett, Blanchard, & Koshland, 1975). Much has improved since then with recent meta-analytic work showing that behavioral interventions (contingency management) lead to a 13-20% reduction in recidivism (Redondo-Illescas, Sanchez-Meca, & Garrido-Genovaes, 2001). Even operant programs used in biofeedback formats showed the ability to reduce recidivism with those receiving more conditioning showing better outcomes (Quirk, 1995).

Today, behavioral interventions have even shown strong success in improving the overall management of prisons. A recent meta-analysis by French and Gendreau (2006) show behavioral interventions (defined in the study as radical behavioral, social learning, and cognitive behavioral) are the most effective interventions for the treatment and reduction of prison misconduct. These interventions had 2.5 times the effect size of non-behavioral interventions (psychodynamic), educational interventions, and vocational interventions. This meta-analysis did not find any difference between any of the three behavioral types, which is particularly interesting because recent studies have found that purely cognitive based therapies show no effect in treating prisoners (e.g., Lambert, Hogan, Barton,

& Stevenson, 2007) and even those outside of prison with similar conduct problems (e.g., Cirillo, Pruitt, Colwell, Kingery, Hurley & Ballard, 1998). Prison misconduct refers to many behaviors which have been empirically evidenced to be associated with recidivism (Langan, Camp, & Saylor, 2004) and many behaviors that lead to problems for other prisoners. Behavioral interventions continue to be refined to improve prison culture and management (e.g., Wells, Roman, & Houmanfar, 2006).

The Crime, Delinquency, and Forensic Behavior Analysis SIG exists to continue to educate the public in the matters outlined above. Currently, several ABAI members (Joseph Cautilli, Truidi Gaines, and Leasha Barry) are sitting on a workgroup from the Attention Deficit Disorder Association working on creating guidelines for those in prison with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder. In addition, the SIG also has members sitting on a workgroup for the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges to help design and ensure the implementation of evidenced based guidelines such as contingency management for juvenile drug courts. These model court guidelines have been well researched even with adult drug courts (e.g., Marlowe & Wong, 2008; Marlowe & Kirby, 1999). Part of our recommendations to the courts will include the need for the hiring of in house behavioral consultants to the courts to help consult on difficult cases. We believe that this will increase the fidelity and effectiveness of the use of court-based rewards and sanctions. We are suggesting that the courts hire-in the role people who are either board certified in behavior analysis, licensed behavior analysts, or psychologists who have a diploma in Behavioral Psychology.

In addition to the above, the *Journal of Behavior Analysis in Offender and Victim: Treatment and Prevention*, our combined effort with the Behavior Analyst Online organization (<http://www.behavior-analyst-online.org/>) finished its first year (2008). The year has been very successful. The reason for the success has been the undying hard work of Kirk Newring, Matt Tincaini, Paul Malanga, and the editorial board which has generously donated its time and energy to keep this project going. In this upcoming year, we will be pursuing indexing in areas that other BAO journals are indexed including EBSCO, PSYCHINFO, and PUBMED.

What the SIG is missing is your presence. Join us at the convention and be part of a group, which is quickly bringing the evidence base of behavior analysis to the justice system.

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Dissemination of Behavior Analysis SIG

BY JOSH PRITCHARD

The Dissemination SIG is continuing its first year in existence. It has developed an active listserv and a Web site, responded to multiple misrepresentations of behavior analysis, and has collaborated with various other SIGS and task forces. Over 40 different articles relevant to behavior on Wikipedia were monitored and updated throughout the year as well. All in all, the SIG appears to be exhibiting healthy growth and benefitting from support of many members of our field. It is, of course, looking to always increase its active membership, and has been responsive to suggestions, requests, and recommendations for activities.

For the ABAI convention the DBA SIG organized a twitter feed in which members of the DBA and behavior analysts alike could utilize a code (#ABAIPHX) in Twitters and anyone that wanted up-to-date news on conference events could subscribe to a feed and follow this with ease. It was a successful idea that will be replicated for future conferences. The DBA Twitter Username ended with 23 different followers, and there were a myriad of posts with the ABAIPHX hashtag. For more information, anyone can visit: <http://www.aboutbehavior.com/twitter> In addition, a DBA member created a blog and the DBA provided a group of bloggers that provided summaries of some events they attended at ABAI.

The DBA has also continued to add to its Web site and hope to see a complete revamp of the site in the upcoming year to include a much more user-friendly interface that attracts internet browsers.

Membership has grown steadily and at ABAI the count

See DISSEMINATION on page 26

DISSEMINATION continued from page 25

reached 104 members! We have members from various nations as well as professions.

At the annual business meeting this year, the group had become large and active enough that it was felt that formal structure should be created, so a bylaw committee was created, a draft written, and membership feedback provided via the Web site. Currently, the bylaws are being voted on to put in place.

Future directions of the DBA-SIG will include a members-only Web site in which plans, activities, and shared resources for dissemination will be housed. A dynamic listing of conferences and events at which DBA members can present to non-behavioral audiences to help dissemination are also being prepared and will be on the Web site. There are several interested parties who are going to be creating and uploading 'viral-type' videos to sites such as youtube, teachertube, and other similar venues.

The DBA membership in attendance was extremely excited at the annual business meeting, full of ideas, and the plans to fulfill them by 2010 have begun! If you feel that the science of behavior should be spread, feel free to join now!

Developmental Behavior Analysis SIG

BY MARTHA PELAEZ

Our Purpose

The Developmental Behavior-Analysis SIG focuses upon behavior-analytic functional relations and where those relations are examined across at least two points or segments in development. Our emphasis is on the functional analyses of environmental-behavior interactions, in basic science as well as applied contexts, at particular developmental periods and across sequences or combinations of developmental periods. A range of species may be explored and species-specific variables can be significant contributors to a functional account.

Emphasis on demographic independent variables (e.g., culture, group, gender) is not typical, except when they can facilitate uncovering underlying behavioral processes. Occasionally, the environment-behavior interactions in developmental are grouped under superordinate concepts such as "attachment," "depression," "learned helplessness," "generalized imitation," "observational learning," and "social referencing" to allow the behavior-analytic description/explanation to be evaluated against alternative accounts. In this light, SIG presentations often examine how different theoretical positions, within and outside behavior analysis, approach identical questions. Historical and conceptual aspects of behaviorism, evolutionary biology, and behavior analysis as a basic and applied science are also common themes.

The Developmental SIG routinely produces a full program for each ABAI annual meeting, in which symposia, papers, invited addresses, tutorials, and panel discussions covering the range of interests noted above are represented. At the coming Phoenix conference, we have added to our program applied behavior analysis symposia focusing on developmental issues.

Our Journal

The SIG also publishes a journal, *Behavior Development Bulletin (BDB)*, featuring refereed articles on theory and research in behavioral development. Initiated and edited by Martha Pelaez, the mission of this journal is to provide behavior analysts with peer-reviewed scientific information including research in cognitive development, child emotional development, developmental theory, and socialization. Since its inception, by Martha Pelaez (Editor), the *BDB* has published more than 100 articles of an inter- and multidisciplinary nature including areas of socio-biology, moral and language development, and behavioral methodology. *BDB* is listed among the Behavior Analyst Online journals. Its papers are especially relevant to behavior analysts who study the developmental processes responsible for behavior changes and their progressive organization. *BDB* seeks to provide enlightenment on these issues by exploring the biological and environmental factors that affect behavioral development, while maintaining a primarily interest in the role of environmental contingencies in behavior change. You may access current and past issues of this journal at:

<http://www.behavioraldevelopmentbulletin.com>

Our Convention Program

Last year DEV SIG contributed substantially to the richness and variety of the ABAI annual convention program in Chicago. More than 20 presentations were delivered by well-known scientists. Among the highlights of our program was Howard Rachlin's invited presentation "Self-Control and Social Cooperation." Rachlin showed that patterns of behavior that maximize reward distributed over wide temporal or social distances may be selected by reinforcement and evolve over the lifetimes of individuals by a process akin to group selection in biological evolution. Peter Killeen's discussion of evo-devo concepts raised provocative questions such as: "Does the efficiency of evolution, crafting endless forms most beautiful from a meager number of genes, suggest mechanisms for the blossoming of creative behavior in *Homo sapiens*?"

The 2009 DEV SIG program highlights excellent invited speakers including Paul Andronis, Celia Moore, and Dave Moore as presenters and Susan Schneider as discussant in Skinner's Lecture and Invited Symposium on: The Bigger Picture from Infancy to Evolution: Genes, Development, and Behavior Analysis. This symposium

emphasizes that with rapid physical, behavioral, emotional, sexual, and social development; hormonal and neurophysiologic changes; genetic differences; immediate-early-genes being turned on and off; as well as learning's accelerating trajectory; understanding development presents a blooming, buzzing scientific challenge. The symposium participants will focus on illuminating the starring role behavior analysis can play in the next frontier of nature and nurture.

Other participants in the 2009 program include Hank Schlinger, Jack Marr, Martha Pelaez, and Hayne Reese. Finally, in a special symposium, the SIG will recognize the life and contributions of Peter Harzem, our esteemed colleague and friend who passed away this year.

The Developmental Behavior Analysis SIG welcomes new members from those working in basic and/or in applied behavior analysis. Dues are \$15 per year and include a subscription to the SIG journal *Behavior Development Bulletin*. For subscriptions and submissions contact: Martha Pelaez, Ph.D. College of Education, FIU, Miami FL, 33199, USA. <http://www.behavioraldevelopmentbulletin.com>. Members are encouraged to submit articles for publication in the journal and papers, symposia, panel debates, and the like, for inclusion on the SIG program of the annual ABA Conference to: Gary Novak, Department of Psychology, California State University, Stanislaus, 801 Monte Vista Ave, Turlock, CA 95382.

Experimental Analysis of Human Behavior

BY CYNTHIA PIETRAS AND ERIC JACOBS

The Experimental Analysis of Human Behavior (EAHB) SIG is designed to promote basic experimental and translational research with human participants. To help accomplish these goals, the SIG sponsors *The Experimental Analysis of Human Behavior Bulletin*, an annual Student Paper Competition, and an annual Distinguished Career Award. *The Experimental Analysis of Human Behavior Bulletin* (www.EAHB.org) is an online, ongoing journal for empirical articles, research in progress, technical information, and other articles and activities related to human operant research. The yearly Student Paper Competition is designed to promote and recognize scholarly activity in the experimental analysis of human behavior. The Distinguished Career Award aims to recognize and honor an individual who has made outstanding contributions to the experimental analysis of human behavior. We also meet each year at the ABAI conference.

In 2008, the EAHB-SIG held its annual meeting at ABAI in Chicago. The SIG congratulated and gave

awards to the 2007-2008 Student Paper Winners: Daniel Fienup (Illinois State University) and sponsor Thomas S. Critchfield (Illinois State University) for the paper, "Establishing Concepts of Inferential Statistics and Hypothesis Decision Making Through Contextually-Controlled Equivalence Classes" and Yusuke Hayashi (West Virginia University) and sponsor Manish Vaidya (University of North Texas) for the paper, "Effects of Stimulus Discriminability on the Acquisition of Conditional Discriminations in Adult Humans." The SIG is indebted to Manish Vaidya for coordinating the event and to all participants and reviewers who made the event possible. The SIG was also excited to present its 2008 Distinguished Career Award to Dr. Charles Catania who gave an address titled, "The Origins and Consequences of Fictional Verbal Entities." Lastly, at ABAI the SIG sponsored a symposium titled, "The Experimental Analysis of Human Social Behavior: Symposium in Honor of David R. Schmitt." The symposium, which was a great success, was designed to recognize the contributions of Dr. Schmitt to the field.

This year the SIG will hold its annual meeting at ABAI Phoenix, Saturday, May 23, 7:30 PM – 8:20 PM, North 222C, where we will present awards to our 2009 student paper winner (congratulations to Jason E. Boye of UNC-Wilmington!); discuss nominations for next year's Student Paper Award Coordinator, the *EAHB Bulletin*, nominations for next year's award recipients, membership, and other business. The meeting is open to everyone interested in attending. This year, we are happy to honor Dr. Joseph E. Spradlin as our distinguished career award recipient. He will give an award address Saturday, May 23, 4:00 – 4:50 PM, North 226 AB. Dr. Kate Saunders will serve as the chair. Please join us in honoring Dr. Spradlin at this event.

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

Health, Sport, & Fitness

BY MARIANNE JACKSON

The purpose of this SIG is to bring together behavior analysts with personal and/or professional interests in the areas of health, sport, and fitness. Activities of the SIG are aimed at highlighting, developing, and encouraging such interests. To this end, the SIG held its annual business meeting at the ABAI Conference in Phoenix. We also presented a poster at the EXPO highlighting current

See ABAI SIGs on page 28

ABAI SIGs continued from page 27

and future SIG activities and notified members of all presentations, posters, and other conference events related to the areas of health, sport, and fitness. In addition, the SIG sponsored a yoga class and a cardio-kickboxing class that occurred at the conference and were open to all conference attendees.

This year has seen some changes in the SIG Committee with a new chair, conference coordinator, and treasurer. We have implemented some changes in our Web site, communication methods, and membership information. Specifically the current Web site will soon be replaced with a new Web site that will be hosted by California State University and will be accessible through the ABAI Web site. It is hoped that the Web site will provide information on SIG committee members, current SIG related issues, member research projects, and upcoming events. It is expected that the new Web site will be completed by the end of summer 2009 and we will update the ABAI main Web site with this information as soon as it is available.

As of April 2009 the Health, Sport, and Fitness SIG has a Facebook fan site. To join, current Facebook users should go to the search box on the upper right of the page and type in "ABAI Health, Sport & Fitness SIG." This will provide you with access to the fan site where you too can join and be a fan! For individuals who are not currently Facebook users, it is free, easy, fast to sign up, and if you only use it to access the fan site, you do not need to provide any personal information, other than name, e-mail, gender, and birth date. Information and photos can be added to the fan site page by sending them to the chair (information listed below). Specifically the fan site provides information about SIG events, a discussion forum where topics and responses can be posted, and a method for communicating with other fans either openly via the site, public wall postings, or individually and privately via the messaging system.

Upcoming projects include a survey to acquire more information about our members, their specific interests, and activities that they would like to see the SIG embrace. The SIG will also be re-introducing the student award for research related to the areas of health, sport, and fitness, which offers a cash prize to the winner. More information about this will follow as the time for submissions approaches. Proposed future conference activities include an open forum for presentation and discussion of current and future research areas and applications in this area.

All ABAI members may join the SIG by contacting the chair: Marianne Jackson, PhD, BCBA, at majackson@csufresno.edu or via our Facebook page.

Neuroscience

BY SIMON DYMOND

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

Membership is open to all ABA members, as well as academics, researchers, administrators, and clinicians from other organizations and consumers. We welcome anyone with an interest in the intersection of behavior analysis and neuroscience. For more information, go to:

http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/ABAI_NeuroSIG/ or send an e-mail to:

ABAI_NeuroSIG-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

Neuro-SIG members have presentations accepted for the forthcoming ABAI annual convention, so look out for us!

Organizational Behavior Management Network

BY JOHN AUSTIN

The OBM Network, founded in 1982, exists in order to develop, enhance, and support the growth and vitality of Organizational Behavior Management through research, education, practice, and collaboration.

Since 2002, I have been Director of the OBM Network, and now it is time for me to step down and hand the organization over to Dr. Heather McGee, who will serve as the new Director. We have seen great change in the organization since 2002, mostly thanks to the OBMN officers (mostly graduate students and faculty) who have volunteered their time to help the organization to grow.

The membership year of the OBM Network begins and ends on January 1. Year-to-date in 2009, the Network has approximately 200 members. In 2008, we had approximately 300 members.

In 2006, the OBM Network adopted a graduated cost membership plan, similar to that of ABA, based on the GDP of the potential member's home country as relative to the US-GDP. More information on membership and how to join can be found at www.obmnetwork.com

(Membership Coordinator: Sarah VanStelle).

The OBM Network has been working at improving the dialogue between academics, consultants, and business professionals. In this regard, we held our first annual OBM Network conference in Cocoa Beach, FL, in February, 2009. 150 people attended the conference, which featured speakers such as Leslie Braksick, Aubrey Daniels, Howard Lees, Scott Geller, Bruce Faulkner, Terry McSween, Jon Bailey, Bill Abernathy, Nicole Gravina, Manny Rodriguez, and Steve Roberts. Feedback from the conference was quite positive, indicating that attendees really appreciated the event and found it worthwhile.

The OBM Network Web site (Webmaster: Doug Johnson) has consistently grown in size and number of visits over the past years to between 50 and 60,000 hits per year.

Some highlights from the Web site include a new look to be unveiled by summer 2009; on the newest version of the Web site, there will be site search capability; a *Journal of Organizational Behavior Management* information page; and a store/donations page. There are numerous free resources on the Web site about OBM and more are added every month. Finally, our Google discussion group—established in 2006—on which all members of the OBM Network can post messages and anyone from the public can read dialogues; now has approximately 500 members.

Three issues of the online newsletter (Newsletter Editor: Krystyna Orizondo) are sent to members each year. Many articles published were contributed by leaders in the field including: Tim Ludwig, Dave Wilder, Manny Rodriguez, Bill Redmon, and others. Most newsletter articles are viewed hundreds of times within six months of being posted in the articles section on the Web site. In addition, through a cooperative agreement with Taylor & Francis, all OBM Network members receive four hard copy and electronic (online access) issues of the *Journal of Organizational Behavior Management* each year.

Parent Professional Partnership

BY DAVID CELIBERTI AND BARBARA WELLS

The Parent-Professional Partnership Special Interest Group (PPP SIG) is now in its eighth year and was originally developed to help address the needs of the growing numbers of parents within the ABA community and more specifically, attending the annual ABAI convention. The PPP SIG provides information, networking, and resources for these parents. Although the bulk of our efforts center around autism spectrum disorders, parents of children with other disorders and disabilities may be interested in our SIG's activities or our Web site.

Current SIG objectives include:

- 1) **Helping parents of newly diagnosed children**, as well as parents whose children are already involved in applied behavior analytic (ABA) services, become more familiar with ABA through the information, resources, and links of our Web site, www.pppsig.org. More specifically, we are:
 - Expanding upon the scope of our SIG's Web site;
 - Developing an extensive frequently asked questions (FAQ) section on the Web site;
 - Helping parents access accurate information from other existing resources via links or summaries;
 - Creating new resources to help parents become more familiar with ABA intervention and services, how to better advocate for such services, and how to promote accountability;
 - Increasing awareness within the professional and parent communities about the Web site; and
 - Collaborating with ABAI in developing more consumer friendly content on its Web site, www.abainternational.org
- 2) **Helping parents benefit more significantly from the annual ABAI convention** as well as other Autism-focused conferences. More specifically, we are:
 - Providing information to parent attendees prior to the Convention;
 - Sponsoring an orientation meeting for parents;
 - Supporting conference events relevant to parents directly and indirectly by publicizing the efforts of others;
 - Creating opportunities for networking; and
 - Providing a forum for discussion of objectives at our annual business meeting.

All interested parents and professionals are encouraged to join the Parent-Professional Partnership SIG. To join, send your name, mailing address, and e-mail address to Marianne Clancy at marianne@autism-aims.com

Current Officers (2009-2010):

Co-President: David Celiberti, Ph.D., BCBA

Co-President: Barbara Wells, Parent

Secretary-Treasurer: Marianne Clancy, Parent

Consumer Liaisons: Kerry Ann Conde, BA; Lynn

Faerber, B.A.; Jenna Glennon, MAT, BCBA; Pamela H. Gorski, MPA, BCBA; Peggy Halliday, B.A., BCABA; Randy Horowitz, M.S.Ed., SAS; Germaine Ibrahim, M.Ed.; Audrey Meissner, M.Ed., BCBA (Canada); Cynthia Singleton, Parent; Kim Williamson, MAED/SPE, BCBA, Parent

All of our officers and consumer liaisons serve on one or more committees. Currently, the PPP SIG carries out its mission and initiatives through the work of three standing committees: Web sites, convention, and public relations.

See PPP SIG on page 30

PPP SIG continued from page 29

Web site Committee

Objectives

1. Develop the Web site for the PPP SIG;
2. Expand and update content on www.PPPSIG.org;
3. Work closely with the Autism SIG.

Members:

David Celiberti, Ph.D., BCBA (Chair)
 Marianne Clancy, Parent Member
 Kerry Ann Conde, BA
 Peggy Halliday, BA, BCBA
 Audrey Meissner, M.Ed., BCBA
 Cynthia Singleton, Parent Member
 Barbara Wells, Parent Member
 Kim Williamson, MAED/SPE, BCBA, Parent
 Josh Milstein, M.S. (Webmaster)

Convention Committee

Objectives:

1. Develop and distribute materials for parents attending the ABAI convention;
2. Organize networking opportunities for parents and professionals at the convention;
3. Inform SIG members about upcoming conference experiences;
4. Coordinate our activities with the Association for Behavior Analysis International.

Members:

Barbara Wells, Parent Member (Chair)
 Kerry Ann Conde, BA
 Pamela H. Gorski, MPA, BCBA
 Randy Horowitz, M.S.Ed., SAS
 Germaine Ibrahim, M.Ed.

Public Relations Committee

Objectives:

1. Support ABAI in reaching out to the local and adjoining communities of the region hosting each annual ABAI convention, but more extensively the Autism specific conferences;
2. Forge alliances with organizations that have compatible goals with the PPP SIG;
3. Support the public awareness of the Web sites for the PPP SIG and the Autism SIG by sharing our link with other organizations and distributing information about the SIG.

Members:

Jenna Glennon, MAT, BCBA (chair)
 Marianne Clancy, Parent Member
 Lynn Faerber, BA
 Germaine Ibrahim, M.Ed.

Update on Web Site

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

Want to become involved with the PPP SIG?

1. If you would like to join the Parent Professional Partnership SIG or discuss ways to become more involved, send your name, mailing address, and e-mail address to Marianne Clancy at marianne@autism-aims.com
2. If you have suggestions for resources and links for our Web site (www.PPPSIG.org), please contact David Celiberti at dacnys@aol.com
3. If you have a suggestion for a consumer friendly, behavior analytic conference that can be added to our conference listing, please contact Barbara Wells at bwells@autismnj.org.

Positive Behavior Support

BY BOB PUTNAM

The Positive Behavior Support Special Interest Group (PBS-SIG) is dedicated to promoting research-based strategies that combine applied behavior analysis and biomedical science with person-centered values and systems change to increase quality of life and decrease problem behaviors. The overall goal of the PBS SIG to promote the use of positive behavior support interventions in schools, communities, agencies, and in homes and support practitioners in its use. The PBS SIG addresses members of ABA engaged in experimental and applied analyses of behavior who are interested in positive behavior support. Established in 2005, the goals of the SIG are to promote and disseminate positive behavior support within ABA.

The PBS SIG held its annual business meeting on May 24, 2009, at the Annual Conference of the Association for Behavior Analysis International meeting. The PBS SIG currently has over 50 members, including Officers Bob Putnam, Ben Smith, and Patricia Egan.

The group reviewed the goals of the PBS-SIG and discussed ways to:

- Increase the number and visibility of PBS presentations

at the ABA Conference.

- Disseminate accurate information about PBS to ABA's membership.
- Promote methodologically sound, data-based PBS research.
- Encourage open dialogue among behavior analysts and proponents of PBS.

There was a discussion of a number of topics related to the goals of the PBS-SIG. A review of presentations at the 2009 ABAI indicated that although there are a large number of presentations that are presented by members of Association of Positive Behavior Support (APBS) the presentations are not identified as a positive behavior support presentations. A discussion of how to increase the number of presentations at ABAI that are identified as positive behavior support presentation was engaged in.

A discussion of how to increase membership of the SIG by current members of ABAI was conducted. There are many members of ABAI who are also members of APBS. A survey was suggested to determine how many of the current PBS-SIG members are members of APBS and how many of APBS members are member of ABAI.

Another suggested goal was to further develop relationships with the APBS, which now has over 1200 members, and to provide information to its membership to encourage APBS members to join the ABAI.

It was suggested that a newsletter be reestablished and distributed on a semi-annual basis to increase visibility and increase interest in positive behavior support interventions and practices. Members of the PBS-SIG were encouraged to submit manuscripts on positive behavior support interventions for a special edition of the *Journal of Behavioral Assessment and Treatment for Children* that will focus on positive behavior support interventions to be edited by Bob Putnam.

Anyone who is interested in behavior analysis or positive behavior support is welcomed to join the SIG. To become involved, you can e-mail Bob Putnam at bputnam@mayinstitute.org.

Practitioner Issues in Behavior Analysis

BY MICHAEL WEINBERG

Because of many fast-moving legislative and organizational developments during the year, members of the PIBA SIG primarily networked to alert and educate one another on introduced bills and relevant new sources of information—such as the ABA Practice Board and Governmental Affairs Committee—in the interest of skill-building in advocacy and participation in the legislative process for practice matters such as reimbursement, inclusion of

behavior analysis as treatment modalities, and licensure. The SIG also followed developments within Congress, the new administration, APA, and Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee (IACC); and collated policy newsletters and Web sites as a service and educational resource to its members.

Members of the PIBA-SIG collaborated on an article published in the *Journal of Early and Intensive Behavioral Interventions*, describing the premises for the SIG's prototype draft of the BAMLA Model licensing act and exploring the role of licensing boards in consumer protection and professional identity.

A temporary Web page was set up of relevant Web sites for those interested in the current legislation of autism insurance mandates and prior associated statutes and other federal and state legislation that could affect practitioner interests, especially relating to licensure. This information is being transferred to the SIG Web site and an associated blog is in placeholder mode. A listing for the courtesy of the members was made of those events at the ABA annual conference of special interest to those with policy and practice matters.

Our goals for the coming year is to refine the work already accomplished, recruit members, review and work towards completion of the current task list, and explore collaborative relations with other SIGs who may have complementing interests such as the Evidence-Based Practice, Clinical Practice, Autism, Organizational Behavior Management, Parent-Professional Partnership, and Behaviorists for Social Change SIGs; as well as stand ready as a source of assistance to the Practice Board.

The PIBA-SIG is currently preparing for elections at the annual conference to fill officer positions for the upcoming year. Inquiries and nominations can be sent to the current SIG President at mweinberg2007@att.net.

Rehabilitation and Independent Living SIG

BY MIKE MOZZONI

The Rehabilitation and Community Reentry Special Interest Group continues to grow from just three in 2006 attendees to 14 in 2008. Student interest is growing as awareness of the needs of soldiers returning from Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) and Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) continue to be highlighted in the media. The April 16, 2009, article in the *New England Journal of Medicine* (NEJM 360:16 pp 1588-1591) has created a firestorm within the TBI community concerning the misinformation contained within the piece. Questions of mTBI (mild traumatic brain injury) diagnosis and measurement cry out for our methodological contribution. The "Gold Standard"

See REHABILITATION on page 32

REHABILITATION continued from page 31

of diagnosis for mTBI in returning soldiers is still the self-report questionnaire. NIDRR (National Institute for Disability Research and Rehabilitation) has changed its ABI (Acquired Brain Injury) focus from research and diagnosis to vocational rehabilitation, which may offer behavior analysts a ripe opportunity for research grants related to return to work issues for persons with ABI, especially soldiers separated from the military (DoD). The Rehabilitation and Community Reentry Special Interest Group offers behavior analysts an alternative to our dominate client population (Autism) at this time. Although the SIG could easily meet about community reentry of any population, currently TBI and military issues are under discussion. Far too few behavior analysts are involved in serving people with brain injuries within the rehabilitation community and the VA/DoD systems, which is to our detriment. ABA offers a robust and powerful methodology which can have a profound impact upon training methods, time required in rehabilitation, cost, and ultimately quality of life for persons living with the effects of brain injuries. Discussions on how to “sell” behavior analysis to treatment programs has been fruitful. How to survive as a behavior analyst within a traditional ABI program has also been useful to attendees who learn that “having the data” is not the only criterion needed to function successfully within a mixed discipline program. Participants in the SIG can network with professionals serving in the top neurobehavioral programs in the country yielding job, research, and internship opportunities.

Sex Therapy and Educational Programming

BY BOBBY NEWMAN

The Sex Therapy and Educational Programming Special Interest Group of ABA was formed to help disseminate empirically-verified information regarding sex education and sex therapy. Members are professionals, teachers, direct service providers, parents, and consumers who are concerned with issues of sex therapy and sex education.

The SIG was founded in 2007 and has been providing an annual symposium at ABAI since its inception date. Past topics have included sex education for students with developmental disabilities, as well as scientific descriptions of basic processes in the formation of sexual behavior.

At the 2009 ABA conference, the various facets of SIG interests were demonstrated through the symposium. The creation of behavioral repertoires in the area of paraphernalia was discussed and a behavioral model presented to aid in the understanding of the development of

such repertoires. This paper was followed by a description of internet material describing BDSM activities, and this was followed by the presentation of data describing a treatment package to address socially inappropriate self-touching and the illegal touching of others on the part of some teenagers diagnosed with autism.

As we now move into our third year of existence, we are looking to expand SIG activities. Our goal is to have our annual newsletter appear twice during the year and to hold two symposia at the 2010 ABA conference. It is also our goal to have a symposium from our ABA SIG present its data at the annual conventions of professional organizations specifically concerned with sex education and therapy. The SIG has an active yahoo group, URL <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/stepsigaba/>. All who are interested in participating are welcome to log in and join.

Speech Pathology SIG

BY BARBARA E. ESCH

Speech Pathology (SPABA) SIG Barbara E. Esch, Ph.D., BCBA-D, CCC-SLP The mission of the Speech Pathology-Applied Behavior Analysis (SPABA) SIG is to promote dissemination of behaviorally oriented speech and language research/application of evidence-based practices to speech and language professionals. Our members have been active during the past year in activities both in the US and internationally to further this mission.

Our members report the following activities for 2008–2009 in venues accessed by speech and language professionals (SLP):

Manuscripts (published or in press) included 13 empirical papers and 13 discussion papers, books, or book chapters. This compares favorably to our 2008 contributions of 11 empirical papers and seven discussion papers or book chapters.

Conference presentations consisted of papers, posters, seminars, short courses, and workshops. There were 15 such presentations at ABAI 2009, the same reported for ABAI 2008. For the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association's 2008 convention, one SIG member submitted two proposals; both proposals were accepted and presented at ASHA's November meeting. At international, state, and regional conferences attended by speech/language professionals, SIG members made 21 presentations, compared to 18 presented last year. SIG members also conducted 145 non-conference workshops during the year for U.S. and international audiences of SLPs, occupational and physical therapists, teachers, program administrators, paraprofessionals, and parents or other caregivers.

Other Activities

SPABA SIG extends congratulations to SIG member Lori

Frost, recipient of the 2009 Distinguished Professional Service Award from the New Jersey Speech-Language Hearing Association. Ms. Frost is co-founder of Pyramid Educational Consultants, Inc. and is co-author of the Picture Exchange Communication System (PECS; www.pecs.com). We also are honored to report that another SIG member, Dr. Jim Carr, currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Behavior Analyst Certification Board, Inc. (BACB®; www.bacb.com) and the Society for the Experimental Analysis of Behavior (SEAB; <http://seab.envmed.rochester.edu/society/>) and is a member of the Autism Task Force of the Association of Professional Behavior Analysts (APBA; www.apbahome.net). Dr. Carr is associate professor of psychology at Auburn University (<http://www.auburn.edu/~jec0018/>).

Last year, we established a student representative position and Julie Ray, SIG member from Texas, served as our first student representative. Julie provided us with a comprehensive database of behavioral organizations in the US and Canada. We look forward to her continued contributions as we seek to offer opportunities for students to become involved in the SIG and in ABAI more broadly. SPABA SIG goals for 2009-10 will be aimed at increasing our dissemination activities in the areas listed above and continuing to promote professional collaboration between speech pathologists and behavior analysts.

We invite interested individuals to learn more about the Speech Pathology SIG at www.behavioralspeech.com or through our e-mail at SPABASIG@yahoo.com.

For other information, please contact us:

- Chair: Barbara Esch, besch1@mac.com
- Secretary: Mareile Koenig, mareilekoenig@comcast.net
- Membership: Jamie Severtson, jamie.severtson@hotmail.com
- Treasurer: Tracie Lindblad, tracie@cdco.com

NEW ABAI ORGANIZATIONS

ABAI WELCOMES A NEW 2009 SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP:

Behavior Analysis and Selectionist Robotics SIG

ABAI ALSO WELCOMES THE NEW 2009 AFFILIATED CHAPTERS:

Association Française de l'ABA

French ABA

Long Star ABA

www.abainternational.org/Special_Interests/si.asp

www.abainternational.org/chapters.asp

Verbal Behavior

BY BILL POTTER

The VB SIG has been active this year, supporting VB research and collaboration as well as sponsoring several projects. Under the direction of Dr. Judah Axe (judah.axe@simmons.edu), the SIG awarded the following students for exemplary research. The awards were given at the annual meeting at IABA:

- 1st Place: Sarah A. Lechago
- 2nd Place: Danielle LaFrance
- 3rd Place: Raquel Alo
- 3rd Place: Jenny L. Fischer

In addition, the SIG also provided research grants to several students, up to a maximum of \$500. Dr. Caio Miguel was the VB Grant Coordinator last year, and this year the coordinator is Dr. Anna Petursdottir. She can be reached at a.petursdottir@tcu.edu. Both sets of awards will be given out this year at the Annual meeting of the SIG at IABA. The meeting is scheduled for 5/25 (Monday) at 7:30 PM - 8:20 PM in North 126. All are invited to the meeting. We will discuss the SIG's business and arrange for projects that support the area of Verbal Behavior, as well as support the journal, *The Analysis of Verbal Behavior*. For more information about the journal or to subscribe or submit an article, please visit:

<http://www.abainternational.org/TAVB.asp>.

The VB Web site can be viewed at www.vbsig.org. If you would like to contribute your presentations, or papers to be available on the SIG site, e-mail Bill Potter at wpotter@csustan.edu. Please include in your e-mail a letter giving the SIG permission to post the presentation. The SIG reserves the right to limit the number and type of presentations that will be placed on the site—we are primarily interested in articles related to Skinner's analysis of VB, as well as extensions of that analysis.

If you need to pay your dues, or would like to contribute to the efforts of the VB SIG, please send your contribution to our treasurer, David Reitman at:

Center for Psychological Studies

Nova Southeastern University

Fort Lauderdale, FL 33314

Dave's e-mail is reitmand@nova.edu. Dues for full members are \$10 for one year and \$5 for students.

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

Updates from ABAI Boards and Committees

Publication Board Update

BY MARC BRANCH

2008 was a significant year for ABAI in that it marked the publication of the inaugural volume of *Behavior Analysis in Practice (BAP)*, a new outlet and the third journal for the association. Under the able guidance of editor Dorothea Lerman, the journal appears to be off to a good start. The journal has an editorial staff of nine associate editors and 46 editorial board members. Those numbers may be compared to the editorial staff for *The Behavior Analyst (TBA)*, which consists of two associate editors and 24 board members and that of *The Analysis of Verbal Behavior (TAVB)*, which has three AEs and 31 board members. A discussion of the roles and functions of associate editors and editorial board members may be beneficial for streamlining the editorial process of *BAP*.

Another development concerns the “flagship” journal of the association, *TBA*. Submissions to the journal have decreased the past two years. During the span from 2001–2006, about 35 to 40 manuscripts were submitted per year, but only 22 were received in 2007. That number increased to 31 in 2008, but that increase was accompanied by an acceptance rate of 23%, compared to an average of about 50% for the preceding decade. As he notes in his annual report, the editor, Michael Dougher, reports six manuscripts had been received through April of calendar 2009, fewer than half as many as had been received by this time in 2008. Finally, the page totals for the past two volumes are 201 and 227 pages, compared to the preceding several-year average of about 280. The local trend is therefore fewer high-quality submissions with the result of fewer pages published. The situation will be monitored to determine if some sort of action needs to be taken. The inclusion of *TBA* in the PubMed Central database could help spur increased quality submissions. The full archive of *TBA* (and *TAVB*) journals are currently at PubMed being scanned for inclusion in the database. Expected posting is late August.

Under the new leadership of Editor Caio Miguel, *The Analysis of Verbal Behavior (TAVB)* is taking steps to increase visibility and availability. The experiment with establishing a Facebook presence is an interesting one and worth following.

The Behavior Analyst

BY MICHAEL DOUGHER

The Behavior Analyst (TBA) contains general interest articles on theoretical, experimental, and applied topics in behavior analysis. Articles on the past, present, and future of behavior analysis, as well as its relation to other fields,

are particularly appropriate for the journal. *The Behavior Analyst* also publishes literature reviews, discussions of previously published work, reinterpretations of published data, and articles on behaviorism as a philosophy that are suitable to the general readership of the journal.

This report covers activities of *The Behavior Analyst* for the calendar year 2008. The current journal editor (Michael Dougher) and associate editors (Kate Saunders and Hank Schlinger) began service in August, 2007, replacing editor, Marc Branch, and associate editors, Michael Dougher and Greg Hanley. All terms will end July 31, 2010.

Papers published during 2008

Volume 31 of *TBA* contained 14 papers (compared to 18 in 2007). Eight were featured articles (compared to 14 in 2007), four were special articles (compared to 0 in 2007), one was an introduction to the special section on the state of the science, and one was “On Books” (compared to 1 in 2007). Volume 31 contained 201 content pages. Table 1 shows that the total number of pages and number of featured articles were less than previous years. In fact, it was difficult obtaining a sufficient number of papers to fill the 2008, spring issue, which ended up with only five featured articles and no other types of papers. As a result, greater efforts were made since the last issue to recruit papers for the journal. These efforts paid off in that the spring 2009 issue will be quite large, but it is clear going forward that the editor and associate editors will need to actively recruit papers to fill the pages of future issues. Given the decreasing trend in numbers of submissions, there is clearly no need to consider increasing the number of issues per year at this time.

TABLE 1
Number of pages and content breakdown for *The Behavior Analyst*.

Year	Pages	Featured Articles	On Terms	In Response	On Books	On Media	Special Papers
2001	281	14	2	2	3		0
2002	259	15	0	4	5		0
2003	310	16	2	2	1		5
2004	289	17	2	4	1		0
2005	257	9	0	4	0		1
2006	287	10	0	10	2		3
2007	227	14	1	1	1	1	0
2008	201	8	0	0	1	0	5

Processing of Manuscripts Submitted in 2008

Between January 1, 2008, and December 31, 2008, 31 new manuscripts were submitted (versus 22 for 2007). An additional four manuscripts were invited for a special “State of the Science” series guest edited by Tim

Hackenberg. At the time this report was prepared (mid-April, 2009), only six manuscripts had been received in 2009. This is in contrast to 14 submissions between January 1 and mid April 2008, and, as stated above, raises concern about submission numbers going forward.

TABLE 2
Mean processing times

Year	#MSs	% Accept	Rcpt-Decis (mo*)			AE Decis (days*)	
			M	Med	Range	M2	Range
2003	36	56	1.9	2	1.0-4	19	0-38
2004	43	58	2	2	0.25-5	9	0-35
2005	39	54	1.1	2	0-4	19	0-60
2006	37	54	2.2	2.5	0-4	19	0-61
2007	22	46	2	1.25	.1-4	24	1-90
2008	31	23	1.85	1.75	.25-4	14	1-35

The percentage of papers accepted in 2008 (23) was substantially lower than the previous five years. Assuming similar reviewing and editorial standards, it appears that the quality of submissions is declining along with the number. As shown in Table 2, the mean processing time for articles in 2008 was two months, which was in the range of the past several years. Mean processing time (Rcpt- Decis) is defined here as the number of months between the date a paper was received by the editor and the date the editor or associate editor informed the author of the initial decision. The longest time was four months. Action-editor time, the time from the receipt of the last review to when a decision letter went out, decreased by 42% relative to 2007, and was well within the range of the previous five years. Relative to past years, processing times have continued to be reasonable, and are within the range of most major journals. Rapid turn-around for authors remains an important goal for *TBA*, and timely processing by reviewers and AEs will be emphasized again in 2009.

TABLE 3
TBA's Board of Editors

2006-2009	2007-2010	2008-2011
Alyce Dickinson	Yvonne Barnes-Holmes	Marc Branch
Patrick Friman	Timothy Hackenberg	M. Carmen Luciano
Jonathan Kanter	Gregory Hanley	Deisy G. de Souza
Edward Morris	Eric Jacobs	Matthew Normand
Oliver Mudford	Sam Leigland	Jonathan Pinkston
Bryan Roche	Maria Ruiz	
Alexandra Rutherford	Timothy Shahan	
Kathryn Saunders	David Wacker	
Richard Shull	Diana Walker	
Dean Williams		
Douglas Woods		

Board of Editors

The Board of Editors at the time of this report is shown in Table 3. Board members listed for 2006–2009 rotated off in May 2009. The members listed for 2008–2011 began their term with the spring issue of Volume 31 and will serve through May 2011. In addition, 29 individuals served as ad hoc or guest reviewers for one or more manuscripts in 2008.

Other Accomplishments

Kate Saunders and Hank Schlinger are to be commended for their service as associate editors. Kathy Hill continues her invaluable contribution as managing editor.

The conversion to electronic submission is complete. The last adjustment was to change the instructions for authors that are printed in the journal. Now both the print version and the Web site indicate that electronic submissions are preferred. All papers for the 2008 year were handled electronically, thus eliminating the need for, cost of, and delay caused by, standard mailing. Both issues of Volume 31 were processed on schedule.

Through the energies and hard work of the ABAI office, *TBA* continues to enjoy a sophisticated Web presence.

Additional Projects

Increasing the number of quality *TBA* submissions remains an important goal. I continue to invite manuscripts on a range of topics, and have had some success in this regard, but there is significant lag time. The annual convention continues to be a good source of possibilities.

Volume 30 of *TBA* was the first volume to be listed on PubMed Central. This will allow *TBA* articles to be listed in various citation indices and should increase their accessibility and impact. One concern is the limited availability of *TBA* articles on PubMed and the slow progress in expanding this availability. Currently, the table of contents and articles for only the past two years are available. This seriously limits the general availability and professional impact of the journal's content. The editor and associate editors would urge the Publication Board and ABAI Council to explore ways to facilitate the process of making *TBA* articles widely and easily available on the Web.

Finances

Because electronic copies were available of all papers for Volume 29, no expenses were incurred by the editor's office. All of the papers for the spring 2008 issue also were in electronic form, so, again, no expenses have occurred. Only if it becomes necessary to send papers to Kathy Hill will there be any expenses this year, and given recent experience, that seems unlikely.

PUBLICATIONS continued from page 35**Behavior Analysis in Practice**

BY DOROTHEA LERMAN

Journal Mission

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

This second annual report covers the activities of *Behavior Analysis in Practice (BAP)* from the close-out of its first issue in March 2008 to the close-out of the current issue in March 2009. The current journal Editor (Dorothea Lerman) and Associate Editors (Greg Hanley, Stephanie Peterson, Tim Vollmer, Dave Wacker, Doug Woods, Denny Reid, John Austin, George Noell, and Ray Miltenberger) began service in December 2006. Currently, the editorial board consists of 46 reviewers. All terms will end December 31, 2009.

TABLE 1
Journal Content: Volume 1 (Issues 1 and 2)

Year	Pages	Empirical Reports	Discussion/ Review Papers	Book/Product Reviews	Technical Articles	Tutorials
2008	120	9	7	0	0	0

Papers published in 2008 (Volume 1, issues 1 and 2)

The first issue contained seven papers, three of which were invited by the Editor (Iwata & Dozier, Miltenberger, Shook & Favell). The total number of pages (48) was the maximum designated by the ABAI Council. The second issue, which was increased to 72 pages, contained nine papers, two of which was invited by the Editor (Vollmer, Sloman, & St Peter Pipkin; Normand). A special section called "The Skeptics Corner" was launched in this issue. Table 1 shows the content analysis of Volume 1.

Upcoming Issue (Volume 2, 1)

The first issue in 2009 will contain 10 articles, including two invited commentaries on the topic of licensure. The 72-page issue will consist of three empirical reports, five review/discussion papers, and two books reviews.

Processing of Manuscripts Submitted in 2008

Between January 1, 2008 and December 31, 2008, 29 new manuscripts were submitted. Nine manuscripts had been received in 2009 at the time this report was prepared (mid-April, 2008). The percentage of papers accepted in 2008 (41%) was somewhat higher than that reported last year (31%). This increase was expected as prospective authors became more familiar with the types of papers that are appropriate for the journal. As shown in Table 2, the mean processing time for articles in 2008 was 2.3 months. Mean processing time (Rcpt- Decis) is defined here as the number of months between the date a paper was received by the editor and the date the editor or associate editor informed the author of the initial decision. The longest time was 4.5 months. Action-editor time, the time from the receipt of the last review to when a decision letter went out, averaged 19.3 days.

TABLE 2
Mean Processing Times

			Rcpt-Decis (mo*)	AE Decis (days*)			
Year	#MSs	% Acpt	M	Med	Range	M	Range
2008	29	41%	2.3	2.0	1.5-4.5	19.3	3-70

Board of Editors

All board members were selected for a two-year term. I plan to establish a rotating three-year schedule for the editorial board prior to December, 2009. During 2008, one individual served as a guest editor (Tim Vollmer handled a paper submitted by the current editor), 16 individuals served as guest associate editors and 19 individuals served as guest reviewers for one or more manuscripts.

2007-2009

- Scott Ardoyn, Ph.D.—University of South Carolina
- Jennifer L. Austin, Ph.D., BCBA—University of Houston, Clear Lake
- Jon S. Bailey, Ph.D., BCBA—Florida State University
- John C. Borrero, Ph.D., BCBA—University of Maryland, Baltimore County
- Vincent J. Carbone, Ph.D., BCBA—The Carbone Clinic
- James E. Carr, Ph.D., BCBA—Western Michigan University
- Marjorie H. Charlop-Christy, Ph.D.—Claremont McKenna College
- Linda Cooper-Brown, Ph.D.—University of Iowa
- Mark R. Dixon, Ph.D., BCBA—Southern Illinois University
- Glen Dunlap, Ph.D.—University of South Florida
- Judith E. Favell, Ph.D., BCBA—Advoserv
- Wayne W. Fisher, Ph.D., Munroe-Meyer Institute
- Patrick Friman, Ph.D.—Father Flanagan's Boys Home and University of Nebraska School of Medicine
- Louis Hagopian, Ph.D.—Kennedy Krieger Institute

- William L. Heward, Ed.D., BCBA—The Ohio State University
- Thomas S. Higbee, Ph.D., BCBA—Utah State University
- Michael B. Himle—University of North Dakota
- Rob H. Horner, Ph.D.—University of Oregon
- Brian A. Iwata, Ph.D., BCBA—University of Florida
- Kent Johnson, Ph.D.—Morningside Academy
- Deb Kamps, Ph.D.—University of Kansas
- Linda A. LeBlanc, Ph.D.—Auburn University
- Ethan S. Long, Ph.D., BCBA—The Bay School
- Nancy E. Marchand-Martella, Ph.D.—Eastern Washington University
- R. Mark Mathews, Ph.D.—University of Sydney
- Jen McComas, Ph.D.—University of Minnesota
- Nancy A. Neef, Ph.D.—The Ohio State University
- Matthew Normand, Ph.D., BCBA—University of the Pacific
- Mark F. O'Reilly, Ph.D., BCBA—University of Texas at Austin
- Gary Pace, Ph.D., BCBA—May Institute
- Marsha B. Parsons, M.A.—J. Iverson Riddle Developmental Center
- James W. Partington, Ph.D., BCBA—Behavior Analysts, Inc.
- John T. Rapp, Ph.D., BCBA—St. Cloud State University
- Hank Roane, Ph.D., BCBA—Munroe-Meyer Institute, University of Nebraska Medical Ctr.
- Joel E. Ringdahl, Ph.D.—University of Iowa
- Maureen Schepis, Ph.D., BCBA—Applied Behavioral Consulting
- Gerald L. Shook, Ph.D., BCBA—Behavior Analyst Certification Board
- Sigurdur Oli Sigurdsson, Ph.D.—University of Maryland, Baltimore County
- Richard Smith, Ph.D., BCBA—University of North Texas
- Bridget Taylor, Psy.D., BCBA—Alpine Learning Group
- Rachel Thompson, Ph.D., BCBA—New England Center for Children
- Bruce Thyer, Ph.D.—Florida State University
- Frans van Haaren, Ph.D., BCBA—Autism Early Intervention Clinics
- Ron Van Houten, Ph.D.—Western Michigan University
- David Wilder, Ph.D., BCBA—Florida Institute of Technology
- April Worsdell, Ph.D., BCBA—Coyne and Associates

Additional Acknowledgements

Keith Van Norman continued to serve as the managing editor. Emily Bellaci began serving as editorial assistant in December, 2008. She assists with final editing and proofreading. Bill Heward continued to provide assistance and support.

The Analysis of Verbal Behavior

BY CAIO MIGUEL

This report covers activities of *TAVB* for the calendar year of 2008–2009 (Vol. 25).

Journal Mission

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

Processing of Manuscripts Submitted in 2008–2009
During 2008–2009, eighteen (18) manuscripts were submitted for publication in *TAVB*. The mean processing time for manuscripts considered for publication in Vol. 25 was two months (range, 1–5 months). The rejection rate for Vol. 25 was 33%. Several papers are currently under review for Vol. 26.

A process map that describes *TAVB*'s editorial process was created and specific disconnects pertaining to this process were identified and remedied.

Volume 25 was published in July 2009. It contains 11 manuscripts: four full research articles, two brief reports, two reviews, and three conceptual papers.

TAVB Vol. 25, 2009 Table of Contents

Caio Miguel, *California State University, Sacramento*.
Editorial: The Verbal Behavior Approach.

Murray Sidman, *Sarasota, FL*. Equivalence Relations and Behavior: An Introductory Tutorial.

Danielle LaFrance, David A. Wilder, Matthew P. Normand & James L. Squires, *Florida Institute of Technology*. Extending the assessment of functions of vocalizations in children with limited verbal repertoires.
Richard M. Kubina Jr., Pamela Wolfe, *The Pennsylvania State University* & Douglas E. Kostewicz, *University of Pittsburgh*. General outcome measures for verbal operants.
Erik Arntzen, Lill-Beathe Halstadro, & Monica Halstadro. *Akershus University College, St. Olavs Hospital/Trondsløtten Habilitation Services, and Byasen High School Norway*. The “silent dog” method: A procedure for analyzing the impact of self-generated rules when teaching different computer chains to two boys with autism.

See *TAVB* on page 38

TAVB continued from page 37

Bobby Newman, Dana Reinecke and Marissa Ramos, Room to Grow. Is a reasonable attempt reasonable? Shaping versus reinforcing verbal attempts of preschoolers diagnosed with autism.

John W. Esch and Barbara E. Esch, *Esch Behavior Consultants, Inc.* & Jessa R. Love, *Western Michigan University*. Increasing Vocal Variability in Children Diagnosed With Autism Using a Lag Schedule of Reinforcement.

Joseph Vedora and Laura Meunier, *BEACON Services & Harry Mackay, Northeastern University and Praxis Inc.* Teaching Intra-verbal Behavior to Children with Autism: A Comparison of Textual and Echoic Prompts.

Amy C. Gross & Eric J. Fox. *Western Michigan University*. Relational Frame Theory: An Overview of the Controversy.

Terry J. Knapp, *University of Nevada, Las Vegas*. The Hefferline Notes: B. F. Skinner's First Public Exposition of his Analysis of Verbal Behavior.

Anna Ingeborg Petursdottir, Sean P. Peterson, *Texas Christian University* & Anja C. Peters, *University of Freiburg and Texas Christian University*. A Quarter Century of The Analysis of Verbal Behavior: An Analysis of Impact.

Allyne Marcon-Dawson, Sara M. Vicars, & Caio F. Miguel, *California State University, Sacramento*. Publication Trends in The Analysis of Verbal Behavior: 1999–2008

Board of Editors

TAVB's editorial board has not substantially changed in many years. As the new editor, I assembled a group of outstanding associate editors, each of whom has impressive credentials. The associate editors are Dr. David Palmer, who is mostly responsible for editing conceptual papers; Dr. Anna Petursdottir, who assists with experimental studies; and Dr. Mark Sundberg, who focuses on editing both empirical and conceptual studies with an emphasis on application. Danielle LaFrance is serving as *TAVB's* new editorial assistant, assisting me in the processing of papers submitted to the journal. *TAVB's* editorial board members will now serve on the board for either two or three year terms. These terms are renewable given the member's interest and past contributions as a reviewer and author. Many editorial board members have been rotated off. I would like to express my gratitude to all those who have ever served on the board and thank the new board members for accepting the invitation. The new members were nominated by the associate editors based on specific contributions to the journal and to the field.

Current Editorial Board (Vol. 25)**Editor**

Caio Miguel, California State University, Sacramento

Associate Editors

David Palmer, Smith College

Anna I. Petursdottir, Texas Christian University

Mark Sundberg, Sundberg and Associates

Editorial Board

William H. Ahearn, The New England Center for Children

James E. Carr, Auburn University

Philip N. Chase, Cambridge Center for Behavior Studies

Thomas S. Critchfield, Illinois State University

Michael J. Dougher, University of New Mexico

Barbara E. Esch, Esch Behavior Consultants, Inc.

John W. Esch, Esch Behavior Consultants, Inc.

A. Celso Goyos, Universidade Federal de Sao Carlos, Brazil

Douglas Greer, Teachers College, Columbia University

Genae Hall, Behavior Analysis and Intervention Services

Bruce E. Hesse, California State University, Stanislaus

Michael D. Hixson, Central Michigan University

Sam Leigland, Gonzaga University

Barry Lowenkron, California State University, Los Angeles

Carmen Luciano, Universidad de Almeria, Spain

John Mabry, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

Richard W. Malott, Western Michigan University

Jack Michael, Western Michigan University

Jay Moore, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee

Matthew P. Normand, University of the Pacific

Cynthia Pietras, Western Michigan University

Bill Potter, California State University, Stanislaus

Ruth Anne Rehfeldt, Southern Illinois University

Kurt Salzinger, Hofstra University

Henry D. Schlinger, California State University, Los Angeles

Ted Schoneberger, Stanislaus County Office of Education

David Sidener, The Garden Academy

Jonathan Tarbox, Center for Autism and Related

Disorders, Inc.

Janet S. Twyman, Headsprout, Inc.

Julie S. Vargas, West Virginia University

Margaret Vaughan, Salem State College

Editorial Assistant

Danielle LaFrance, Therapeutic Pathways, Inc.

Submission Guidelines

New guidelines for manuscript submission were created to encourage authors to consider *TAVB* as a publication outlet for their research. The new submission categories are as follows: Research articles, brief reports, conceptual/review articles and book reviews. It is my hope that the "brief

report” category will encourage submissions of replication studies, innovative pilot work and case/clinical studies, brief conceptual and didactic papers, as well as responses to previously published manuscripts. Brief reports require less detailed descriptions of background, methodology, or findings than research articles and may encourage submission. Two brief reports will appear in Vol. 25.

New submission categories

Research Articles. Empirical studies relevant to a behavioral analysis of verbal behavior using either single-case or group designs may be submitted as research articles. Studies based on clinical interventions will be considered under this category if high levels of experimental control have been achieved (otherwise see “Brief Reports”).

Brief Reports. Innovative pilot work and case/clinical studies relevant to the application of behavior analysis to language acquisition should be submitted as brief reports. Brief reports require less detailed descriptions of background, methodology, or findings than research articles and must not exceed 200 typed lines excluding abstract, references, table(s) and/or figure(s). Brief conceptual and didactic papers, as well as responses to previously published manuscripts may be considered under this category.

Conceptual/Review Articles. Manuscripts surveying, summarizing or evaluating particular areas of research in verbal behavior may be accepted as conceptual/review articles.

Book Reviews. Anyone wishing to prepare a short review of a particular book should write to the Editor in advance indicating the book title and why he or she would be a particularly qualified reviewer. Reviews will be judged by the Editor in conjunction with one Associate Editor.

Advertising

After consulting with ABAI’s executive director, a page dedicated to *TAVB* was created on the social network Facebook. Immediately after the creation of *TAVB*’s page, the journals *Behavior Analysis and Practice* and *The Psychological Record* have also made themselves present on the network. *TAVB* currently has 302 facebook members who receive updates about the journal, as well as information about verbal behavior related events in their Facebook mailboxes. The page also has a space dedicated to online discussions.

The Psychological Record (TPR) has agreed to publish an advertisement about *TAVB* in their next issue. In exchange, an ad for TPR will appear in the next issue of *TAVB*.

Accessibility

Accessibility and periodicity are key variables affecting the impact factor of scientific publications. A recent article to be published in *The Psychological Record* (Dymond & Alonso-Alvarez, in press) suggest that “...the impact factors of journals devoted to behavior analytic research, such as research on verbal behavior, are low enough to be a cause for concern, but perhaps more significantly, some journals are not even listed in literature databases...*The Analysis of Verbal Behavior* (TAVB), is not included in databases such as Web of Knowledge (<http://wok.mimas.ac.uk/>) and PubMed (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/>) and, accordingly, does not have an impact factor. This indicates that the prominence of one of the field’s leading behavioral journals for research on verbal behavior is likely obscured by difficulties readers might have accessing it’s articles.”

According to Petursdottir, Peterson and Peters (in press) *TAVB*’s estimated impact factor from 2003 to 2007 ranged from .267 to .600. An impact factor of 1 or below is considered very low. To increase *TAVB*’s impact factor, it is necessary to increase citations to recent articles published in a journal. However, since *TAVB*’s library subscriptions are low and the articles are not available online, researchers do not have easy access to the content of the journal and are thus less likely to cite it. According to Petursdottir, et al., data indicates that electronic publication may serve to increase journal impact factors not only because it decreases the response effort associated with obtaining copies (downloading versus physically retrieving from libraries), but also because it increases institutional subscriptions, as it appears that many libraries will no longer consider subscribing to new journals unless they are published in electronic format (which is the case with the California State University Library system).

As suggested earlier, a journal that is published electronically is likely to be available to more researchers and consumers. I urge ABAI’s executive council to not only speed up the process of indexing its journals on PubMed, but also consider on-line subscriptions. I will be glad to work with ABAI’s publication board to accomplish this. I would also like to discuss with the board the possibility of publishing two issues of *TAVB* per year.

Publication Timeline

Although a great majority of accepted articles were ready to be processed for publication by ABAI’s stipulated deadline of February 1st, the managing editor could not start working on *TAVB*’s issue until after completing the work for *TBA*. This may delay the publication of Vol. 25. If ABAI wants to use the same managing editor for both *TBA* and *TAVB*, and have both journal issues available at the annual convention, then publication timelines would need to be re-evaluated.

See TAVB on page 40

TAVB continued from page 39**References**

Dymond, S., Alonso-Alvarez, B. (in press). The selective impact of Skinner's Verbal Behavior on empirical research: A reply to Schlinger (2008). *The Psychological Record*.

Petursdottir, A. I., Peterson, S. P., & Peters, A. C. (in press). A Quarter Century of The Analysis of Verbal Behavior: An Analysis of Impact. *The Analysis of Verbal Behavior*.

Education Board Report

BY DR. CHARLES MERBITZ

The mission of the Education Board is to develop, improve, and disseminate best practices in the recruitment, training, and professional development of behavior analysis.

Summary of Activities, 2008–2009

This year was extremely busy for the Education Board. The majority of activity revolved around development of new accreditation standards. A meeting was held during December in Chicago to develop a draft document for circulation and further refinement. Representatives of the ABAI Science, Practice, Membership, and Education Boards (Michael J. Dougher, Linda J. Parrott Hayes, Philip N. Heline, Chuck Merbitz, Jay Moore, Maria Malott, and Edward K. Morris) met to align the goals of these Boards and, more specifically, to set direction for developments of the Education Board. Additional teleconferences and document drafts were circulated, resulting in the current draft. It should be noted that Dr. Malott played a strong leadership role in its development and refinement. The document is intended to support the Model Licensing Act draft, and both are intended to provide strong basis upon which to develop behavior analysis as a viable profession and scientific discipline. Going forward, it is anticipated that substantial efforts in this arena will continue.

The Board also has made progress in several other proposals that were forwarded last year from the Accreditation Board. First, National Accreditation will be pursued by a separate task force under Dr. Libby Street. Additional meetings were held in Phoenix to develop goals and strategies for next year. Second, accreditation for undergraduate programs will be pursued; while candidates to lead this activity have been identified, none have accepted to date.

Accreditation Board

The Accreditation Board, Chaired by John Borrero (University of the Pacific), was also very active in 2008–2009. Dr. Borrero will be stepping down and Dr. Pat Ghezzi will be taking over the Accreditation Board. We thank Dr. Borrero for a fine job on this vital effort and look forward to its continuing under Dr. Ghezzi.

Student Subcommittees Student subcommittee priorities were updating the Syllabi Bank and the Graduate Training Directory. However, with graduations and changes in student plans, the goals from last year

were not achieved. Student subcommittee members Fawna Stockwell, Ann Sturtz, Kerin Weingarten, and Erika Wilhelm will reform the student efforts for 2010. The ABAI Student Member Retention, Employment Placement, and Internship Site Identification and the Student Vita/START projects have been deferred until the priority project can be completed. Two sets of requests for updated syllabi were sent out, but very few institutions responded with new syllabi. The student committees will be reformed for 2009–2010 and a new effort to collect updated syllabi will be made.

Suggested Student Subcommittee Goals for 2009–2010

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

Track and increase number of student vita in ABAI's Job Placement Services. This goal will be moved to 2009–2010. Previously, a mass e-mail was sent to all student members, which was followed by an increase in student postings. For 2009–2010, a goal will be to replicate this intervention, first by initiating a monthly count of student postings, and second by issuing another e-mail appeal.

Update Graduate Training Directory (Graduate Training Directory Subcommittee). A goal is to have the GTD sub-committee of the Education Board prompt programs to update their profiles on the GTD with an annual deadline of October 1, so that prospective students can be informed about graduate programs before application deadlines in December and January. However, it is also recommended that the ABAI office contact ABAI Accredited graduate programs about updating their entries on the GTD by the ABAI conference each year as this is a requirement for maintaining accreditation. Once work on the priority goals is well underway, we will resume sending questionnaires to student members of ABAI as well as professors asking about their experiences with the GTD and their recommendations for improvement. We will identify graduate programs that are eligible for the GTD and recruit them to participate.

Science Board Update

BY DR. TIMOTHY HACKENBERG

The Science Board was constituted in May 2008 to promote behavior science. Current members include Randy Grace, Greg Hanley, Amy Odum, Tom Critchfield, Greg Madden, and Ray Pitts. The specific goals of the Science Board are organized into three broad categories: Research Support, Research Dissemination, and Scientific Education.

Research Support

One of the primary goals falling under research support is to work with other organizations to reduce burdensome research-related regulations. To that end, we established (thanks to Council approval and funding) a Task Force to study and make recommendations to the latest revision of the *Guide to the Care and Use of Animals in Laboratory Research* by the Institute of Laboratory Animal Resources (ILAR). The Task force was composed of Steve Dworkin (Chair), Marc Branch, Chris Newland, Karen Anderson, Ray Pitts, and myself. We met in Atlanta in late October 2008, just prior to the SEABA meeting, to discuss and draft a set of recommendations. Working in conjunction with several other groups, including AAALAC (the main accreditation organization in laboratory animal research), FASEB (Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology), and APS (American Physiological Society), we submitted our recommendations in January, 2009.

Dissemination of Scientific Knowledge

The Science Board established a special track on Translational Science for the 2009 ABAI Convention. The objective was to highlight cutting-edge translational research, providing generally accessible overviews of specific research domains that span the continuum from science to application. Sessions were organized on choice, behavioral economics, relational learning in instructional contexts, delay discounting, complex stimulus control and equivalence, and token reinforcement. The keynote event in this track was a pair of sessions, jointly sponsored by the Science and Practice Boards, on behavioral momentum (with presentations by Tony Nevin, Bud Mace, and Jennifer McComas) and stimulus control in autism (presentations by Bill McIlvane, Mark Sundberg, and Robert Koegel). The presenters from these two sessions have been invited to submit written versions of their talks for publication in *The Behavior Analyst*.

The Science Board has also been organizing a Science-based mini-conference series, patterned on the model of the annual Autism conference. The broad theme of the series is Behavioral Research and Translation, with a more specific focused theme for each conference. The first such conference is planned for March, 2011, in Chicago with a behavioral economics theme.

Scientific Education

The Science Board, in conjunction with the ABAI Student Committee and the Society for the Quantitative Analysis of Behavior (SQAB) organized a practicum on quantitative methods for the upcoming ABAI Convention. Led by Randy Grace, the purpose of the session was to provide hands-on instruction in exploratory data analysis and curve fitting. The session was held on the first evening of the convention and attracted approximately 30 participants.

The Science Board also submitted a preliminary proposal to organize a summer research internship for students interested in pursuing careers in behavior science. This is still in the discussion and planning stage, with a tentative launch date of summer 2011.

Practice Board Report

BY LINDA J. HAYES

The ABAI Practice Board was established by the ABAI Council at its May 2008 meeting. Linda Hayes was appointed Coordinator of the Practice Board. Recommendations for membership on the Practice Board were submitted to the Council shortly thereafter, the approved slate including: Mike Dorsey, Doug Greer, Travis Thompson, and Mike Weinberg. In addition to these members, the Council appointed Mike Dougher as its Liaison to the Practice Board.

The Practice Board held its first meeting in Phoenix in August, 2009. At this meeting, the circumstances giving rise to the establishment of the Practice Board were discussed, along with its aims and objectives. The Board prepared a report to the Council in which it proposed that ABAI pursue licensure for behavior analysts at the Master's and doctoral levels. It further proposed that the academic requirements for licensure at these levels be aligned with those required for ABAI Accreditation of Master's and doctoral programs, and that the accreditation standards at both levels be expanded to include more training in the basic and theoretical domains. The Board also proposed the formation of a number of sub-committees to support this initiative. These committees and their chairs included: Governmental Affairs, chaired by Mike Dorsey; Licensure, chaired by Mike Weinberg; Continuing Education, chaired by Doug Greer; and Research and Analysis, co-chaired by Travis Thompson and Mike Dougher. The ABAI Council reviewed and approved the aims and objectives of the Practice Board at its November 2008 meeting in Phoenix, after which the sub-committees of the Practice Board were appointed.

In December, 2008, the Council's Liaison to the Practice Board and the Board's Coordinator met with the Coordinator of the Education Board and the Chairs of its sub-committees to review the recommendations of the Practice Board with respect to aligning accreditation standards for Master's and doctoral level programs with those proposed for licensure eligibility at these levels. The outcome of this meeting is contained in the Education Board's report to the Council.

The outcomes of the work of the Practice Board and its sub-committees are contained in the following materials. In brief: ABAI members were surveyed as to their need for and/or views on licensure of behavior analysts; a Model

See PRACTICE on page 42

PRACTICE continued from page 41

Licensing Act was developed for review by the Council, and subsequently sent out to the full members for comment; support for legislative efforts was provided as circumstances arose; consultation to the ABAI Council with respect to alternative proposals and comments was provided; and a number of individual members of the Board participated in information sessions at regional conferences.

Membership Board Update

BY PHILIP N. HINELINE

The Committees under the Membership Board are the Organizational Review Committee, Chaired by Jay Moore; the Application Review Committee, Chaired by Ed Morris; the Fellows Selection Committee, Chaired by Michael C. Davison; the Recruitment and Retention Committee, Chaired by Amanda Adams; and the Student Committee, Chaired by Erick M. Dubuque. Detailed updates on the Organizational and Applications Review Committees follow.

Organizational Review Committee Update

BY JAY MOORE

The Organizational Review Committee consists of three persons: Jay Moore (chair), Dave Wilder, and Jenn Austin. The Committee carries out two functions. The first is to review applications for organizational membership to ABAI and make recommendations to the ABAI Executive Council regarding the applications. The second is to review applications for exhibitor and advertising at ABAI conventions, including the main convention in May and other focused conventions (e.g., on autism).

As the functions of the Committee are relatively new, we have encountered some process issues, but seem to have them resolved. Much of the material we review is made available on the ABAI Web site, and most communication is done electronically. This is working well.

Regarding organizational membership, most applications come from service providers in the area of DDA. The ABAI criteria ask for BACB certification of at least one member of the staff, status as ABAI full member or at least one member of the staff, and consistency with ABAI mission. Applications come in with accompanying verbal material and reference to a Web site. In some cases, difficulties arise when the material is incomplete, particularly regarding certification and full member status, but we have managed to resolve this one way or another.

Many of the same issues are relevant to applications

for exhibitor and advertising. Many applications come from agencies delivering custodial or rehabilitative services or organizations that provide material or support services. A recent development concerns Web sites that charge subscription fees for various services, such as access to literature (reports, descriptions of intervention protocols), data base services, or on-line implementation of intervention protocols.

We try to be accommodating when we review the applications. For example, it is not necessary that the agency or organization be 100% behavior analytic. It is only necessary that at least one staff member satisfy the criteria. However, organizational members, exhibitors, and advertisers cannot indicate in their promotional material that by virtue of their status their services or programs have been “endorsed” by ABAI.

In light of the importance of professional services based on behavior analytic principles and the likelihood of reaching important consumers, prospective exhibitors or advertisers seem to be placing great significance on approval. Unfortunately, in many cases the information submitted is only fragmentary. Often, an agency or service refers us to their Web site, but the Web site is incomplete. In those cases, we really have no basis for a review. We don’t believe we should approve some applicants based on a promise that even though the ad or exhibit says all the right things and uses all the right words, their service or agency is not currently functional, but will be up and running in the near future. In our opinion, it would be premature to approve such applicants. We believe that potential consumers would be upset if they go to a Web site we have approved to advertise and exhibit only to find that the Web site is not yet functional. The negative publicity would ultimately be troublesome for us, as it might damage our credibility as a source of information. Accordingly, we disapprove or reject such organizations. We do try to communicate our concerns in these cases. Again, we do not try to be gatekeepers. Rather, we try to look at things from the point of view of potential consumers. To be sure, we do have to be wary of cases of outright fraud or snake-oil sales, but so far as I know, we have not yet encountered any of these cases.

Applications Review Committee Update

BY E.K. MORRIS

The Applications Review Committee (ARC) is comprised of Adam Derenne (University of North Dakota), Edward K. Morris, Chair (University of Kansas), and Ruth Anne Rehfeldt (Southern Illinois University). This is the committee’s second annual report. During the committee’s first half-year of its newly reconstituted

existence (January–May, 2008), we reviewed a variety of documents that described the ABAI full member requirements and their required documentation (e.g., the ABAI By-laws, membership application form). We clarified them, prepared a document describing them in full, and submitted the document last May as our annual report to the ABAI Membership Board and ABAI Executive Council. Concurrently, we processed full member applications, but not as easily or as reliably as we would have liked because the documentation was often so poor. After Council reviewed and approved this document in May, ABAI's Chief Operating Officer (CEO), Maria Malott, and senior staff member, Majda Seuss, began preparing a revised "Full Member Application Requirements and Checklist" form based on it. Last October, they replaced the old Full Member Application Requirements and Checklist with it at ABAI's Web site and in the *ABAI Newsletter* for ABAI's 2009 membership renewal and drive.

Unfortunately, the clarification of the requirements and documentation did not substantially improve the applicants' documentation, making ARC's task still difficult and our reliability still less than satisfactory, even though we were using a standard checklist. To assist us, ABAI substantially improved the ABAI Portal through which we process the applications. ABAI also had staff members begin prescreening the applications for the documentation requirements and request further documentation where needed; it was needed for a large percent of the applicants. If the further documentation was not provided within 30 days, the applicants were awarded affiliate member status. ABAI's contributions here lessened the committee's workload, which is to apply the full member requirements to the applications, not to request documentation, but it increased ABAI's workload. Even then, the documentation was prepared in so many different formats in the applicants' vitas that the relevant information was often difficult to find. Our task remained difficult and our reliability less than satisfactory.

ABAI made still further improvements in the Portal to facilitate our work, but the ARC members remain dissatisfied with the review process. Let us be clear, though: We are not dissatisfied with ABAI. Maria Malott and Majda Seuss have done everything we asked and more, and faced difficulties of their own in information technology. The problem is, in part, the failure of the Full Member Application Requirements and Checklist to prompt the submission of fully documented applications. To solve this, the committee proposes to develop a membership form to be submitted along with the applicant's vitas. The form will require complete documentation of the full member requirements and will be specific and detailed enough that the ARC can easily detect where the documentation is incomplete. This should obviate any need for ABAI to prescreen applications, make

the committee members' work easier, and increase our reliability. With the approval of the ABAI Membership Board and ABAI Executive Council, we will develop a form over the summer and test it at our respective universities. When it reliably prompts fully documented applications, we will request that ABAI replace the current Full Member Application Requirements and Checklist with it, both on the Web site and in the ABAI Newsletter, for next October's 2010 membership renewal and drive.

The ARC members are honored to serve ABAI in the application review process and to work with the ABAI CEO and her capable staff members. When our term is completed, we trust that the review process and its forms and information technology will be refined to the point that it is easily replicable by the ARC members who follow us.

Annual Convention Program Committee Report

BY DR. RAMONA HOUMANFAR

We experienced another successful convention at ABAI 2009. As always, our accomplishment was a product of the contribution and support provided by the Program Committee, ABAI administration staff, and ABAI council. The following is an overview of some changes in the ABAI Program Committee structure, and a data based outline of the ABAI 2009 program.

Program Growth

As shown in Table 1 and Figure 1, the total number of submissions was approximately 1,637, which is comparable to 2008. Posters continued to account for the majority of submissions (52%), followed by individual papers (20%), and panels & symposia (20%), and invited presentations (2%). In addition, AUT (29%), EDC (15%), EAB (14%), and DDA (12%) continued to be the largest areas and together accounted for 70% of all submissions. BPH, CBM, CSE, DDA, DEV, EAB, OBM, OTH, TBA, and VRB experienced a decrease in the number of submissions from 2008.

The B. F. Skinner Lecture series include a record number of 12 non-ABAI invited presenters (a 33% increase from 2008 & 2007). The following is a list of the ABAI 2009 B. F. Skinner Lecturers:

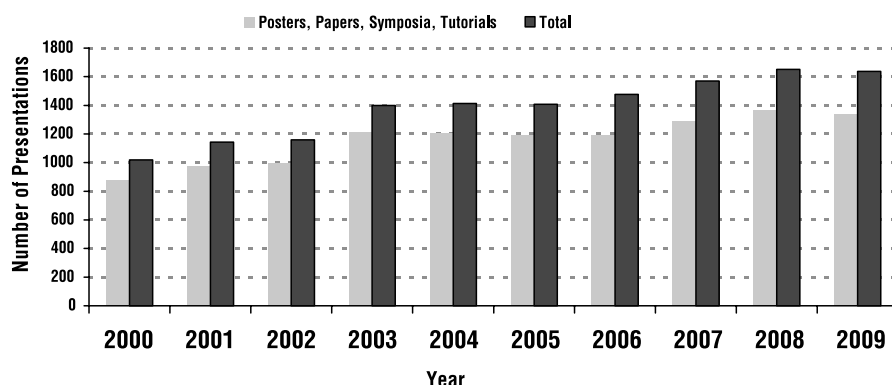
Area Coordinators

The updated list of co-coordinators for program areas will be included in the Call for Papers for ABAI 2010. The successful recruitment of the new co-coordinators for these areas would not be possible without the help and

See PROGRAM on page 44

TABLE 1 Total Number of Submissions by Category (1990 – 2009)											
Type of Presentation	% Change from 08-09	2009	08	07	06	05	04	03	02	01	00
Posters	1.1%	765	757	725	683	711	708	715	630	609	535
Panels & Symp.	-2.6%	295	298	253	250	231	235	261	184	196	198
Papers	-12.3%	236	273	273	217	215	230	208	157	147	125
Invited Addresses	0%	26	26	26	26	22	21	22	21	19	17
Meetings	25.5%	64	51	53	60	41	33	47	38	43	35
Workshops	-1.1%	93	94	101	92	86	78	62	40	45	41
TOTAL		1,479	1,499	1,433	1,328	1,306	1,305	1,315	1,070	1,059	951
Reunions	35.7%	19	14	17	14	14	14	13	10	13	10
Special Events (w/o tutorials)	7.7%	14	13	13	12	12	25	21	23	20	15
Invited Tutorials	-7.7%	12	13	13	12	11	12	6	5	6	
ABAI Expo	0.9%	113	112	101	111	65	57	51	56	52	42
GRAND TOTAL		1,637	1,651	1,575	1,477	1,408	1,413	1,400	1,159	1,144	1,018

Figure 1 Number of Presentations by Year



- Theoretical, Philosophical, Conceptual Issues: Sam Leigland (2006-2009)

New Development

The Applied Animal Behavior (AAB) SIG submitted a well documented proposal for the development of a new program area for AAB. The ABAI Council reviewed and approved the inclusion of the AAB as a new program

area. This new category will be included in the Call for Papers for ABAI 2010. We congratulate the AAB SIG for this great accomplishment.

PROGRAM continued from page 43

support of their senior co-coordinators. So, we are grateful to these colleagues for their contribution to the vitality of the ABA Program.

The following Senior Co-Coordinator's terms ended at the conclusion of the 2009 convention:

- Autism: William Ahearn (2006-2009)
- AUT: G. Bradley Schaefer
- BPH: Richard W. Foltin
- CBM: Robert B. Cialdini
- CBM: William Miller
- CSE: Frederic H. Wagner
- DEV: Celia L. Moore
- Clinical; Family; Behavioral Medicine: Ann Branstetter (2006-2009)
- Community Interventions; Social and Ethical Issues: Maria Ruiz (2004-2009)
- Developmental Disabilities: Mark Dixon (2006-2009)
- Human Development; Gerontology: Martha Pelaez (1998-2009)
- Education: Ronnie Detrich (2006-2009)
- EAB: David Stephens
- EDC: Bruce Chorpita
- EDC: Daniel J. Reschly
- TBA: Betina Jean-Louis
- TPC: J. A. Scott Kelso
- VRB: Fiona Cowie

Program Quality

The following is a list of rejected submissions by area and type:

- Autism (AUT): 2 papers and 1 symposium
- Organizational Behavior Management (OBM): 1 poster; 2 papers
- VRB: 1 poster
- CSE: 1 paper

Comments by Senior Co-Chair

I would like to thank my co-chair, Bill Palya, for his valuable collaboration, and all of the Program Coordinators and other members of the Program Committee for their outstanding efforts this year. In addition, on behalf of the ABAI program committee, I would like to thank Maria Malott and her exemplary staff members for their support and guidance. ❖



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Affiliated Chapters Board Report

BY PAMELA G. OSNES

ABAI's affiliated chapters are membership organizations defined by a geographical boundary (i.e., a state, region, or country) that are interested in the dissemination and growth of behavior analysis. Affiliated chapters hold conferences, sponsor lectures, and offer continuing education opportunities. Members receive reduced membership and convention fees. In the U.S., there are 36 affiliated chapters of ABAI with 6,170 members; outside of the U.S., there are 28 chapters with 8,278 members. There has been a steady increase in the number of chapters and members since 1980, when the first affiliated chapters were formed. This year, the Affiliated Chapters Board welcomed three new members: Lone Star ABA, France Association for Behavior Analysis, and L'Association Francaise de l'ABA.

At ABAI 2009 in Phoenix, the Affiliated Chapters Board hosted a well-attended leadership training session on Friday evening, May 22. Chapters were well-represented, with 48 members in attendance. Dr. Raymond Fuller, Past President and CEO of the American Psychological Association, provided an informative presentation on the opportunities and challenges associated with the licensing of behavior analysts. Dr. Fowler described the benefits of licensure, including the identification of qualified providers, the exclusion of unqualified providers, legal enforcement of standards, and recognition by third-party payers. This instructive session was followed by an open discussion among the attendees, Dr. Fowler, and the ABAI Executive Council. Dr. Michael Dorsey, Chair of ABAI's Practice Board's Governmental Affairs Committee, provided advocacy tips for behavior analysts when they are communicating with policy makers. Closing this useful session was a presentation by Dr. Maria Malott on new services for the Affiliated Chapters. An upcoming service that will be provided to members will be a complimentary training on January 22, prior to the fourth Annual ABAI Autism Conference at the Hyatt Regency Chicago. In addition to this complimentary training, attendees will receive reduced registration for the conference. The ABAI 2009 leadership training presentations of Drs. Fuller, Dorsey, and Malott can be found on the ABAI Web site at <http://www.abainternational.org/BA/practice.asp>.

This is my first report as the Coordinator of the Affiliated Chapters Board. I look forward to becoming familiar with the members of the Board's chapters throughout the next years. I hope to have frequent communication with the chapters to learn their goals and

objectives, and to assist the chapters in whatever ways possible as they work toward achieving them.

ABA of Brazil

BY MARTHA HÜBNER AND PATRÍCIA PIAZZON

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

ABPMC, the Brazilian ABA chapter, currently has 4,000 names registered in its mailing list. Each year for the past five years, 1,800 people have attended its convention, which typically occurs in the month of September. In 2004, ABPMC had the honor to organize the second international meeting of ABA, which 2,420 people attended. Today, ABPMC has 1,800 members.

The ABPMC's members come from all over Brazil, from north to south of the country. Many regional meetings have been held over the past six years, with around 400 people attending each one. We have the Center-West Region meeting and meetings in the State of São Paulo (city of Campinas and São Carlos), São Luis State, Goiania, Bauru, Rio Verde, Vitoria, and Salvador, among others.

For the years of 2008 and 2009, the ABPMC central office is located in Campinas, São Paulo. According to its bylaws, every two years the chapter's directory board has to be changed. The ABPMC central office has already been located in the cities of Campinas (SP), Rio de Janeiro, Brasília, and Londrina. If we consider the annual meeting and the regional meeting, we have 3500 behavior analysts meeting each other every year.

Since 1999, ABPMC also publishes a regular journal called *Revista Brasileira de Terapia Comportamental e Cognitiva (Brazilian Journal of Behavior and Cognitive Therapy)*, which is nationally recognized and very well received by the academic community. In 2007 the Brazilian ABA chapter published an article in this journal describing the relationship among scientific associations in Brazil, which included the history of ABPMC and ABA, as well as the foundation of our chapter. Congruent with this initiative, behavior analysts have been discussing better ways of political representation for the field within government institutions, so as to increase the power and the inclusion of the field in the mainstream of the decisions that support the development of research and the diffusion of the knowledge produced by behavior analysis. In the beginning of 2009, ABPMC played an important role in the defense of the behavioral analytic approach to autism,

which was attacked by psychoanalysis, in reaction against a Rio de Janeiro's government decision that institutionalized behavioral treatment to autism.

ABPMC also publishes a book series, named *Sobre Comportamento e Cognição (About Behavior and Cognition)*, which has already published 19 volumes in applied and basic research areas. From 2009 on the main objective of the collection will be publishing articles that can be used as teaching material in BA.

Since its foundation, ABPMC has organized an annual meeting where members and interested people present papers and promote the most important advances in many areas of Behavior Analysis. In 2008, for the XVII Annual Meeting 1,800 people came to the national conference that was held in Campinas, São Paulo, from the 25th to 28th of August.

This year, the XVIII annual meeting of ABPMC will be from the 24th to 26th of August, in Campinas, São Paulo. ABPMC is going to celebrate 18 years since its foundation and many celebrative events are programmed. The president of the association is Martha Hübner and the president of the annual meeting is Patrícia Piazzon Queiroz. To submit papers to the convention or to get more information about it, go to www.abpmc.org.br.

ABA Colombia

BY WILSON LOPEZ-LOPEZ, MARÍA CONSTANZA, AGUILAR BUSTAMANTE, LUIS MANUEL SILVA, AND CAMILO HURTADO

This year, ABA Colombia has worked on developing projects associated to the Iberoamerican Federation of Psychology Faculties (FIAP), including the consolidation of the PSICOREDALYC Psychology Journal Network, consisting of more than 40 Ibero-American Psychology Journals (its Web site is <http://redalyc.uaemex.mx/portales/areas/indices/psicologia/IndexPsicologia.jsp>). Most of them have their articles in full text available. Other goals include the development of new tools to identify uses of information and the dynamics of the communities' communications and relationships. These new tools will enable researchers and research managers to assess a part of the research activity and to promote decisions that improve research management. On the other hand, we've worked with the Spanish College of Psychologists in the development of FOCAD, a free internet-based learning tool that has performed well in its first tests in Spain. In its version designed for FIAP, first-level professors from Latin America, Spain, and Portugal will participate, and it will be hosted in FIAP's Web site. The President of ABA Colombia was designated as Secretary General of the FIAP, with the challenge of accompanying the forthcoming Ibero-American Congress of Psychology which will take place in Oviedo, Spain, in

2011. He also intends to carry out the aforementioned projects and promote new goals.

ABA Colombia has also undertaken a permanent accompaniment of autism-related work. In this capacity, and together with the Faculty of Psychology at the Santo Tomas University, ABA's President organized a course entitled "The Use of ABA Methodology for the Treatment of Autism and Other Development Disorders" (<http://www.abacolombia.org.co/postnuke/modules.php?op=modload&name=News&file=article&sid=394&mode=thread&order=0&thold=0>). This course was coordinated by María Constanza Aguilar and instructed by three professors: Psychologist Benjamin Giraldo, the head of ABA Colombia's autism and special population division and who is trained in Special Education and has worked with Melmark—a private school—since 2001; Professor Hermencia García; and Professor Claudia Liliana Valencia. The course was a success, attended by more than 60 people from different places in Colombia and even from neighboring countries. An alliance with the University was proposed in order to develop further courses in this line.

The main challenge is to look for routes that let us strengthen the education and certification in the use of ABA methodology in Colombia for working with populations with special needs. This is emphasized by the fact that there is a growing need in Colombia for ensuring quality of attention to this population. ABA Colombia is trying to find support to consolidate education in ABA methodology so that appropriate certification can be extended to work with this methodology. We're currently working in the development of protocols designed to verify whether an organization or individual (upon request) are rigorous users of the methodology. We hope to get the support of ABAI in carrying out these two activities.

ABA India

BY SMITA AWASTHI

In January–February 2009, due to the lack of functioning, the last body of ABA India was dissolved by a vote of the 20 full/founding members. The votes were 14 to nil, of which 14 members voted for dissolution.

The reason such a drastic step was taken was because the founding and executive council members had active organizations of their own dedicated to the cause of autism. This created a situation of most people being extremely busy and unable to play a constructive role in taking ABA India forward. There was little time for meetings and active planning.

Once the last body was dissolved, a new non-government, non-profit organization was formed. The structure of the new organization ensures that ABA India

See INDIA on page 48

INDIA continued from page 47

is a better functioning body with clearly defined roles. The new ABA India is a body in which ABA professionals, certified professionals, or those studying for certification will play an active role.

Working under ABA India patrons and executive council, three regional vice presidents have been identified so far. The position of President and regional Vice Presidents will be occupied by BCBA's / BCaBA's / or by those on the way to professional certification.

Other working committees are also in the process of being formed. Some people have already sent their nomination in writing. Formal letters with role definitions and signatures are being drafted.

Thus, the reorganization of the body has generated a lot of enthusiasm among people to work for the cause of ABA in India in the field of mainstream education, autism, and OBM. As 2008–2009 has been a year of reorganization, I on behalf of ABA India request you to give us a month's time, during which the new patrons will register themselves with ABA International. We are in the process of transitioning and of positive changes.

As the roles are still in the process of being finalized and our memberships for the year 2009–10 are yet to open, we would like to inform you our inability to submit a Chapter report due to changes taking place in ABA India.

We hope to very soon give you a detailed organization structure. ABA India will be as active, dynamic, and purposeful as envisioned.

We hope to have your full support in this reorganization of ABA India.

ABA of Italy (IESCUM)

BY PAOLO MODERATO

A new spring for Behavior Analysis is flowering in Italy; many fruits have blossomed from the seeds of the main tree of IESCUM, the Italian Chapter of ABAI. IESCUM was established to translate into specific actions a vision of science in Italy, both on the experimental and on the applied side. Since its constitution, IESCUM has been committed to promote the full scope of BA scientific and humanistic potential.

In the mission of IESCUM, the commitment to alleviate human suffering is clearly stated. Why fly away from the clinical field and leave all this to cognitive psychology and therapy?

From this premises IESCUM committed to the training, development, and evaluation of behavior analysis in clinical settings in the various forms recently developed. Experiential trainings in ACT, BA in clinical settings, and FAP with S. Hayes, K. Wilson, P. Sturmey, and recently, R. Kohlenberg, M. Tsai, and JT Blackledge, have been offered in Italy through IESCUM. BA of

development has been addressed as well thanks to contribution of G. Novak and M. Pelaez.

The dissemination of a sound culture in applied behavior analysis has been carried out institutionally through a two year post-graduate BACB credited courseware, which is now starting its 3rd edition. The growing request of ABA interventions for children with a diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder has set the modus operandi for a strong demand in ABA training. Thanks to collaboration with New England Children's Center, Treehouse, Cambridge Centre for Behavioral Studies, and contributions from P.N. Chase, N. Martin, D. Gould, and P.B. Cannon, the students of IESCUM courseware get in touch with high standards and reinforcing contingencies of learning. The course is addressing this request for Autism and it is not limiting its educational contents and purposes to this strong, but limited field of application.

IESCUM looks at its BACB accredited course as an opportunity to spread behavior analysis beyond the boundaries of autism treatment. From those initial experiences based on solid collaboration with BACB, IESCUM has taken an active role in the development of the internationalization of BA certification working jointly with other credited courses in Europe.

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

One of the aims of IESCUM is to show the potential of a science of behavior to address relevant social problems. Within this vision a joint project with the University of Bangor (UK) was carried out in collaboration with Fergus Lowe and Pauline Horne. An extension of the Food Dudes programme was implemented in Italy to address the obesity epidemic among young children. Originally developed in UK and then extended to Ireland, this is the first implementation of the Food Dudes programme in a

non-English speaking country. The pilot research project involved more than 2,000 kids attending the elementary schools in five cities of Sicily and was supported by the regional department of Agriculture.

The Food Dudes programme implements on large scales well known and effective behavioral principles, thus demonstrating how the same principles applied at the level of a single individual may also work when applied in the context of large groups. While waiting for the long term results of the programme, it is a fact that the mid-term results are really encouraging. The Food Dudes programme was able to change the eating behaviors of the students promoting a healthy life style. Strong support and positive comments were received by teachers and families after seeing the changes in the behavior of their children. The initiative received good coverage by Italian national and local press and TVs, too. IESCUM is working hard to expand the programme in other areas of Italy.

All these actions have been developed under and with the supervision of IESCUM working as an umbrella organization. All these actions are detailed and visible at www.iescum.org. Even this year a relevant number of researchers and students of IESCUM—the Italian Chapter of ABAI—attended the ABAI conference in Phoenix and are going to attend the International ABAI Conference in Oslo, Norway; presenting basic, applied, and theoretical contributions.

IESCUM Contributions at ABAI Annual Convention, Phoenix, May 2009:

Panel Discussion:

- Professional Development Series: Behavior Analysis Around the World. PAOLO MODERATO (IULM University ITALY)

Papers:

- “Odi et Amo: Teaching Manding to Drive Attention and to Manage Aversive Situation in Autistic Children.” GIOVAMBATTISTA PRESTI (IULM University, Milan / IESCUM, ABA Italian Chapter), Cristina Copelli (IESCUM, ABA Italian Chapter), Lorenzo Todone (IESCUM, ABA Italian Chapter), Rita Nasi (IESCUM, ABA Italian Chapter), Raffaella Giannattasio (IESCUM, ABA Italia)
- MIPIA—Early Intensive Intervention for Autistic Children: the Italian Way. PAOLO MODERATO (IULM University ITALY), Giovambattista Presti (IULM University, Milan / IESCUM, ABA Italian Chapter), Cristina Copelli (IESCUM, ABA Italian Chapter)

Posters:

- A new spring for Behavior Analysis in Italy.
- Smash the Mirror: Promoting Behavior Analysis in Italy. MODERATO, Giovambattista Presti, Cristina Copelli, Giovanni Miselli, Francesco Pozzi

Symposium:

- A Bridge Between Europe and USA. PAOLO MODERATO (IULM University ITALY)

Alabama ABA

BY JENNIFER GILLIS

The Alabama Association for Behavior Analysis (ALABA) is a membership organization dedicated to disseminating behavior analysis to professionals and consumers in the state of Alabama. ALABA aims to promote research that will advance the understanding of behavior and to identify and promote the use of effective and humane behavioral procedures that meet the educational and habilitative needs of individuals.

ALABA holds a convention annually as an opportunity for members and other professionals to earn Continuing Education (CE) credits. The 17th Annual Convention was hosted in Auburn, Alabama, in October, 2008. ALABA members had the opportunity to earn up to 17 CE credits for BCBAs and 16 for Licensed Psychologists. Invited speakers included Gina Green, Ph.D., BCBA and Raymond G. Romanczyk, Ph.D., BCBA. As in past years, there were two knowledge levels for registrants: Basic/Intermediate and Intermediate/Advanced. The convention was successful with attendance rates being consistent with past years. Some of the topics of the convention included: Behavioral Pharmacology, Direct Instruction, Issues in Aging, Issues in Autism, Toilet Training, Verbal Behavior, and Issues in Ethics, among others.

ALABA is currently planning its 18th Annual Convention in Birmingham, Alabama at the Double Tree Hotel. Our goal is to develop a diverse program to include topics and speakers that appeal to behavior analysts practicing in many areas of the field. We are pleased to announce Dr. Joanne Gerenser, CCC-SLP as the Invited Speaker for the 2009 Convention in November. Dr. Gerenser is the Executive Director of the Eden II programs, a set of programs serving children and adults with autism throughout New York City and Long Island. The Executive Committee is currently working to further develop the program for the 18th Annual Convention to include topics that appeal to educators, speech pathologists, counselors, and social workers, among other professionals.

ALABA has recently renovated its Web site and is now offering its quarterly publication, *ALABA Quarterly*, on line as well. The ALABA Web site is constantly being updated with information for consumers and professionals in the state of Alabama. Currently, the Web site offers information about the organization's ongoing activities, membership information, convention information, links to employment opportunities in the region, as well as links

See ALABA on page 50

ALABA continued from page 49

to other organizations and agencies that could prove useful to members and other individuals interested in behavior analysis.

ALABA believes dissemination of behavior analysis is an important part of being a professional in the field and strives to reach out to other professions in the state of Alabama. Our goal is to disseminate responsibly to our communities about best practices in behavior analysis. As a small step toward achieving this goal, representatives of ALABA recently attended Alabama's fourth Annual Pre-K Conference, a meeting for educators in the state. In 2008, ALABA marketed its Annual Convention to the Alabama State Departments of Education, Human Resources, Mental Health and Mental Retardation, as well as other agencies that could benefit from the science of behavior analysis. This year, ALABA will expand the outreach effort in hopes to bring in many professionals and parents that are interested in our field. For more information about the ALABA, please visit us online at www.auburn.edu/alaba.

Association for the Advancement of Radical Behavior—Italy

BY MARIA GATTI

AARBA spent an extraordinary 2008. Everything started on the 22nd of January, with the presentation of the new edition of the first book published by our association: *Scienza e Sicurezza sul Lavoro: Costruire Comportamenti per Ottenere Risultati* (*Science and Job Safety: Building Behaviors to Get Results*). It is a translation of *The Value-Based Safety Process*, written by Terry McSween and published by John Wiley & Sons. The Italian version was translated by AARBA's staff. Currently, more than 400 copies have been sold.

As most of behavior analysts know, human error is the main cause of accidents and injuries at workplaces (>80%). For this reason, behavior analysis researchers invented and tested the behavior-based safety technology to control at-risk actions and to create a safety culture with the power of positive reinforcement. AARBA started spreading this technology during 2006 in Italy with the aid of the first B-BS European Congress. On the 25th of November, 2008, AARBA organized the third edition of this congress. Terry McSween, Dwight Harshbarger, Howard Lees, Bruce Faulkner, and John Austin participated as speakers. The Congress, organized in collaboration with the Cambridge Center for Behavioral Studies, had more than 200 attendants and partnerships of many Italian institutions, including the President of the Republic.

Among them was ISPEL: the very important Government Institute for Prevention and Safety on Job,

with which AARBA signed a collaboration program during March, 2008. In this program, ISPEL and AARBA promoted B-BS and behavioral safety in workplaces; conducted experimental research on B-BS applications; participated in research programs financed by Italian Ministries to the European Union; defined guidelines for safety training and consultancy on B-BS. Moreover, AARBA is now teaching ISPEL staff how B-BS works and how to evaluate a behavioral safety process implemented in the Italian plants. It is the first time that an Italian government institution accepts to adopt behavior analysis principles to guide its work and to establish law standard. Essentially, AARBA has ensured that the behavior analysis approach is now the standard in industrial safety for Italian technicians and institutions.

AARBA has continued to spread behavior analysis thanks to its scientific magazine, the *Journal of Applied Radical Behavior Analysis (JARBA)*, which is a free Web publication with about 2,000 articles downloaded in 2008. *JARBA* contains articles on the scientific research conducted by prominent Italian behavior analysts, like Ettore Caracciolo, Silvia Perini, Roberto Truzoli, and Rosalba Larcana, who are especially interested in developmental disabilities, autism, precision teaching, behavioral economics, et al. In the last 2008 issue, *JARBA* also edited the translation of a past experiment published by *Journal of Organizational Behavior Management (JOBM)* thanks to a deal with The Haworth Press.

One of AARBA's main goals is to study and to experiment on learning principles and technology. In order to do this, in 2008 AARBA staff taught AugustaWestland helicopter pilots their cabin layouts with the use of precision teaching technology. They learned commands with accuracy and fluency before entering the cabin and data about this experiment was published in *JARBA* (1/2009). This was another step toward the development of the *Learning Machine* and *Programmed Instruction*, ideated by B. F. Skinner during the 1970's.

2009 Challenges

AARBA has joined ManuVAR, one of the biggest research projects of the 7th Framework program financed by the European Commission. The aim of this project, which starts on the 23rd of May, is to enable the bi-directional flow of information, models, and reused models throughout the project's lifecycle; covering all aspects of the manual work such as ergonomics, comfort, and work assistance. AARBA is the leader of the Italian cluster, due to its expertise in governing human factors and learning technologies. AARBA cluster includes ALENIA Spazio, the main Italian Aerospace company. Among project partners, there is also Trinity College of Dublin, Technical Research Centre of Finland, and Tampere University of Technology.

With the objective of developing a behavioral approach

to industrial safety, AARBA sponsored a post graduate course in behavior-based safety in 2008 and taught B-BS fundamentals to more than 100 people. In 2009, AARBA holds four of these Master's courses, in collaboration with the Italian Association of Safety Technicians (AIAS), ISPEL, Regione Veneto, and Polytechnic of Bari. AARBA also plans to organize events with each one of these institutions during following months.

On the 24th of April, AARBA presented its results in training AgustaWestland pilots to Didamatica 2009 (University of Trento), the main Italian congress for communication technology applied to learning.

On the 8th of May in Riva del Garda, president Fabio Tosolin presented the evidence-based safety and ways to define standard safety laws starting from scientific discovery in behavior to the AIAS Congress.

On the 14th, 15th, and 16th of October the fourth edition of the European B-BS Congress takes place in Bari, hosted by Polytechnic. B-BS international stars are expected. After this, AARBA and its members fly to Dusseldorf to present B-BS solutions in the A+A fair, the most important event in Europe for safety, security, and health at work.

Behavior Analysis Association of Michigan

BY JAMES T. TODD

The 23rd annual convention of the Behavior Analysis Association of Michigan (BAAM) was held on February 19–20, 2009, at the Student Center on the Campus of Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti, Michigan.

Approximately 225 people representing more than a dozen universities and colleges from half a dozen states and the province of Ontario attended the BAAM convention. Many local and regional agencies sent staff and administrators. Attendance suffered a little due to the early date and budget issues in the state. BAAM scheduled all regular sessions in meeting rooms overlooking Eastern's Lake House area. As always, the BAAM staff, including Jennifer Kowalkoski, Tamara Pawich, Zina Eluri, and Nicole Henriksen, did a great job organizing and running the convention. BAAM extends special thanks to the staff of the Eastern Michigan Events Planning Office, especially Linda Panzica, Catering, and to all the workers in the Student Center for their contributions to making BAAM run smoothly.

The 2009 Keynote Address was delivered by Howard Shane, Director of the Center for Communication Enhancement at the Children's Hospital Boston and Associate Professor of Otolaryngology at Harvard Medical School. Shane's address, "Using Technology to Educate Persons with Autism Spectrum Disorders: Do

Professionals Get a Passing Grade?" spoke to several important issues in the application and misapplication of augmentative and assistive communication technology. Shane participated in a special showing of the PBS Frontline exposé of facilitated communication, "Prisoners of Silence," in which he was featured. BAAM supplemented the theme of communication integrity with a special presentation by Kamala London of the University of Toledo on "Children's Testimonial Competence and Adults' Abilities to Detect True and False Reports." Although such work is usually considered to be in the domain of "memory," BAAM presented it as an excellent analysis of how verbal behavior contingencies can distort the accuracy of verbal reports. In his paper, "The Legal Hazards of Facilitated Communication," Attorney Christopher Hurley (Hurley McKenna & Mertz, P.C., Chicago) presented some of the details of a recent \$1,000,000 malpractice settlement won for a family against a Chicago psychiatrist who prescribed the discredited intervention facilitated communication rather than effective treatments for their child's autism. Material on facilitated communication available on the BAAM Web site was helpful in this case.

Other convention highlights included workshops on remediating eating problems in children by Krista M. Kennedy of the Detroit Medical Center, establishing ABA programs in public school settings by Barbara Esch (Esch Behavior Consultants, Inc.) and colleagues, and the State-wide Autism Resources and Training Project (START) by Amy Matthews of Grand Valley State. Among the many excellent regular sessions were papers and symposia on "Implementing Weight-Loss Strategies for Intensive In-Home Treatment of Pediatric Obesity" by Lisa M. Manthey (Wayne State University School of Medicine), "Some Effects of Procedural Variables on the Dynamics of Operant Choice" by Jay Moore (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee), "Some Books Behavior Analysts Should Be Reading But Probably Aren't" by James T. Todd (Eastern Michigan University), "Alcohol Self-Administration: Persistence and Choice" by Corina Jimenez-Gomez (University of Michigan), "A Rose by Any Other Name: Deconstructing the Major Parent Management Training Programs" by Amy K. Drayton and Michelle Byrd (Eastern Michigan University), and "Autism Insurance in Michigan: A Status Update" by Ann Breznai (Michigan Advocacy Chair, Autism Speaks) and State Representative John Espinoza—District 83. A wide variety of topics were represented in over 40 posters. BAAM regular J. Silva conducted a mini-workshop on behavioral strategies for improving personal effectiveness. BAAM is especially pleased to acknowledge the continuing contributions of Western Michigan students and faculty to the BAAM poster session. A full copy of the schedule is available on the BAAM Web site.

BAAM will hold its 24th annual convention on

See BAAM on page 52

BAAM continued from page 51

February 25–26, 2010, in the Student Center on the campus of Eastern Michigan University. BAAM intends to continue to offer a mix of basic, applied, and theoretical presentations and workshops. Online program submission and registration will again be available, and we look forward to an expanded book fair, more refreshments, and other new convention features. For more information, visit the BAAM Web site at: www.baam.emich.edu.

Berkshire Association for Behavior Analysis and Therapy

BY ALAN HARCHIK

The Berkshire Association for Behavior Analysis and Therapy held its annual conference in October, 2008, at the University of Massachusetts. It was the conference's 29th year and this year's attendance again surpassed last year's with over 650 attendees. The program included a variety of invited and keynote addresses, symposia, paper presentations, workshops, and posters. Presenters included Keith Allen, Mark Dixon, Wayne Fischer, Phil Hinline, Linda LeBlanc, Sam Leigland, M. Jackson Marr, Jay Moore, Jack Michael, Caio Miguel, David Palmer, Dennis Reid, Gerald Shook, Peter Sturmey, Bridget Taylor, Stuart Vyse, and David Wacker. We look forward to our 30th anniversary conference this coming October 15–16. The call for papers is available at our Web site www.babat.org.

British Columbia ABA

BY ELIZABETH SPARLING

The British Columbia Association for Behaviour Analysis (BC-ABA) had an exciting inaugural year. We became incorporated as a society within our province in March 2008, and at our first general election the following members: Elizabeth Sparling, Richard Stock, Cristin Johnston, Emily Keats, Miriam Elfert, Sara White, Anna Matcheneva, Theresa Tournemille, Sharon Baxter, Marecel Cleto, Alexia Stack, and Jan Palmer were chosen to represent the membership as the Board of Directors. In addition, BC-ABA became an affiliated chapter of ABAI in May 2008 and grew to a membership of over 100 people, representing behaviour analysts, educators, and autism behaviour interventionists from all around the province!

British Columbia continues to be one of the only provinces in Canada that provides early intensive autism intervention to families through direct funding. Although there are three provincial programs in BC, they are woefully too small to meet the capacity in their own cities, let alone within the province. As a result, the provincial government continues to make \$20,000/year available

to families of children with ASD under the age of six to help with the expenses of treatment. As a result, British Columbia has an exciting developing ABA community with many opportunities for education and employment supporting children with ASD.

Our chapter hosted its first annual conference at the University of British Columbia in March 2009, offering a variety of workshops and research presented by faculty, graduate students, practitioners, and other members of the community to over 250 attendees. Our keynote speaker was Dr. Ilene Schwartz from the University of Washington. She provided an outstanding keynote address on the compatibility and importance of both ABA and inclusion in school programs. Moreover, she encouraged educators and behaviour analysts to work more closely to insure appropriate programming for the children we support. We are looking forward to our second conference in 2010. In the meantime, we will be co-sponsoring a number of applied behaviour analytic conferences in our community.

We are developing a number of sub-committees that are working on a number of issues important to behaviour analysts in our province: local and regional conferences and seminars that provide opportunities for CEUs, BCBA/BCABA Supervision, and recognition of certification of providers on the RASP list. Our goal is to keep the behavior analytic community in British Columbia united locally as well as connected to ABA International.

In addition, our first newsletter is due out in early June and our Web page is evolving and we are hoping to make it a useful tool for ABA practitioners in British Columbia. We would like our members to be able to go to the Web site and quickly find information and links to conferences and events that will support their practice. Thank you to the BC-ABA Board and to our membership who have supported our first year!

California ABA

BY HANK SCHLINGER

The California Association for Behavior Analysis (CalABA) is dedicated to the science of behavior analysis and is committed to promoting research, education, and practice based on the principles of behavior analysis.

CalABA sponsors the top regional conference on behavior analysis in the United States, regularly features well-known researchers and clinicians from throughout the United States, and is the primary clearinghouse for research and training in behavior analysis in the Western United States. At our 2009 conference in Burlingame, CA (outside San Francisco), the featured presenters included Keith Allen, Jon Bailly, Richard Foxx, Sigrid Glenn, Jim Johnston, Allen Neuringer, Ron Van Houten, and David Wacker, among others.

The 2010 conference will be held at the Hyatt Regency in Irvine, CA. from February 18–20, 2010.

CalABA was formed in 1998 when The Northern California Association for Behavior Analysis (NCABA) and the Association for Behavior Analysis and Therapy/Southern California (ABAT/SC) joined together.

This year, CalABA passed two important milestones: both membership and conference registrants topped the 1,000 mark for the first time. Following the 2008 annual conference, CalABA boasted 946 members, but the membership increased to 1044 following the most recent conference in 2009. The total membership increased by 98; student membership increased by 69; certified membership increased by 61; and other categories decreased slightly or stayed the same. The annual CalABA conference continues to grow in popularity, with more than 1050 paid registrants at our most recent conference in 2009 (an increase of about 10% from the previous year).

CalABA also enjoys collaborative relationships with several other organizations. These include The B.F. Skinner Foundation which holds an auction of Skinner memorabilia at the CalABA annual conference, and recently began co-sponsoring a graduate research scholarship with CalABA; the Berkshire Association for Behavior Analysis and Therapy which sent a delegate to our 2009 conference to learn about how CalABA manages its organization and conference; and the Florida Association for Behavior Analysis which has contracted to use some of CalABA's online conference submission and reviewing systems. Finally, CalABA co-conferenced with the Association of Professional Behavior Analysts at the 2009 conference.

CalABA is also dedicated to promoting the development of undergraduate and graduate students in behavior analysis. We accomplish this in a number of ways, including subsidizing membership and conference fees for students. In addition, Dr. Julie Vargas and the B. F. Skinner Foundation created the Julie Vargas Award to promote research by students in behavior analysis. This competitive award of \$250 is presented to a CalABA member who has conducted original research in behavior analysis while enrolled as a student and who is not more than one calendar year past graduation. The award is given at our annual conference, and an abstract of the research is printed in the CalABA newsletter. The B. F. Skinner Foundation also sponsors a \$500 scholarship to assist in funding graduate student-driven research. The award is given at our annual conference.

CalABA regularly has a poster at the ABAI Expo to inform others about CalABA and its upcoming conference.

Charter ABA

BY CHARLES MERBETZ

In April of 2009 the Charter Association for Behavior Analysis (formerly the Chicago Association) held its first conference under its new name. Four speakers presented talks related to the topic of using ABA to create positive change in the urban community. Approximately 30 people attended.

Dr. Francis Mechner presented “Behavioral Contingency Analysis: Applications in Education, Economics, Public Affairs, Business Management, and Research.” In this talk he described his system for the description and analysis of contingencies, and showed how simply describing contingencies with it revealed unexpected relationships and analyses of human relations.

Dr. Denise Ross discussed the “Garfield Park Preparatory Academy” (GPPA), a public elementary school opening in fall, 2009. GPPA will use the AIL model pioneered by Doug Greer from Columbia. Dr. Ross is on the faculty of The Chicago School in the Department of Applied Behavior Analysis and will become the principal of the new school.

Dr. Mark Mattaini presented a talk entitled “Cultural Analytic Science and Social Justice” and reviewed the state of the science in this area. He discussed some unresolved issues which lead to potential areas of research that could be helpful.

Mr. Matt Hancock presented a talk titled “Science of Behavior and Sustainable Economic Development.” Mr. Hancock is Executive Director of the Center for Polytechnical Education, an agency that is opening an ABA high school in Chicago in fall, 2009. The school will use the Morningside Model of Generative Instruction and Precision Teaching to prepare its graduates for either college or high-technology/internet careers. The school is an element in the development of a sustainable economy and jobs in the urban environment by systematic application of ABA technologies toward solving some basic urban issues.

The program ended with a panel discussion moderated by Dr. John Eshleman in which all speakers participated. Panelists answered questions from the audience and discussed the use of ABA in creating a sustainable society, among other topics.

The 2010 CABA conference is planned for April, 2010. A business meeting is also held each year at the annual ABAI conference. Results of elections and future plans will be announced. CABA wishes to thank the leadership of the Chicago Students for Behavior Analysis and the student organizers of the CABA Conference, Mr. Samuel Yoffe and Ms. Debrah Kite.

See CHAPTERS on page 54

Chinese ABA

BY YANQING GUO

The ABAI Chinese Chapter is still alive and is making an effort to build a behavioral environment for her members and candidate members. We have been planning to hold an annual conference and set up some workshops on ABA and its application to autism, but are still in the brainstorming stages. We hope to have an event in September. We have seven members who have basic theory and practical experiences of applied behavior analysis and have a regular out-patient consultant clinic in the sixth hospital of Peking University. The president of the Chinese chapter also has his own students interested in behavior analysis. We are thinking of sending some of the best students to go abroad to study behavior analysis systematically and become certified. If any chapters are interested in sponsoring students and are qualified and have funding to do so, please contact with Chinese ABA chapter by e-mail stoneg1201@yahoo.cn

Connecticut ABA

BY JOHN MOLTENI

The Connecticut Association for Behavior Analysis's mission is to develop and advance the field of behavior analysis within the state of Connecticut through research, education, and dissemination of information. CTABA is dedicated to promoting the theoretical, experimental, and applied analysis of behavior across a wide array of applications and audiences.

In 2008–2009, the Chapter continued to focus on increasing active membership and development. To meet these goals, CTABA held its fifth Annual Conference in April, 2009. We had our most successful conference to date with over 130 attendees, an almost 100% increase from the previous year's attendance. Drs. Richard Foxx, Tony Nevin, Vincent Carbone, Michael Dorsey, and Greg Hanley provided an exceptional core of presentations with multiple workshops, panel discussions, paper sessions, and workshops available for attendees. Additionally, free CEUs and lunch were provided for all participants.

In 2009–2010, CTABA will continue to focus on increasing active membership and expanding the annual conference. We also will begin to develop our efforts to support and promote opportunities for behavior analysts provided via legislation within the state.

To learn more about CTABA please visit our Web site at www.ctaba.org.

Delaware Valley ABA

BY DR. JAMES E. CONNELL AND MELANIE PELLECCIA

The mission of the Delaware Valley Association for Behavior Analysis (DVABA) has changed little over

the years. Our primary goal is to provide informational training opportunities for new and established regional behavior analysts in a casual setting. Additionally, DVABA is committed to increasing the cohesiveness of the local community of behavior analysts by providing opportunities to discuss the ever changing world in which we practice, and offering opportunities for behavior analysts to discuss career opportunities by means of an e-mail list.

DVABA typically offers two to four presentations per academic year. This past year, Dr. Matt Tincani (recently appointed to the Special Education program at Temple University) presented on integrating positive behavior support and behavior analysis using a data-based perspective. Dr. David Mandell from the University of Pennsylvania and Children's Hospital of Philadelphia's Center for Autism Research described a current research study, Philly AIMS (Autism Instructional Methodologies Study), evaluating the effectiveness of an ABA curriculum designed for children diagnosed with autism and the dissemination of this curriculum within the School District of Philadelphia. Our third and final presenter for the year will be Dr. Steven Luce, Vice President of Clinical Programming, Training, and Research at Melmark. Dr. Luce will open a discussion on the recent PA law that licenses "Behavior Specialists" and to consider how that may affect the practice of BCBAs and BCABAs, behavior analysts, and all those working in the field with individuals diagnosed with autism. To begin our series next year, Dr. Richard Fox will present on the characteristics of PBIS and the relationship to ABA.

Dr. Paul Newman has stepped aside after many years of coordinating DVABA. We are grateful for his service and commitment to the community of behavior analysts in the Delaware Valley region.

Experimental Analysis of Behaviour Group UK and Europe

BY J. CARL HUGHES AND MICHAEL BEVERLEY

The Experimental Analysis of Behaviour Group (EABG) held its biennial meeting in University College London on 6th–8th April, 2009. The meeting was a great success and the biggest attendance in the EABG history with just over 200 delegates in attendance over the three days; academics, MSc and postgraduate students, and applied researchers came from across Europe, North America, and further afield. Reassuringly for the future of behaviour analysis in Europe, there were significant increases in the numbers of student presenters and an increase in the number of delegates who are not employed in an academic

setting, but work in the field as applied behaviour analysts. For the first time there were student presentations of dissertation research emanating from the Master's courses around Europe, and an entire symposium of student Master's research from Bangor's MSc in ABA.

We had a number of very distinguished invited addresses at the conference. It was our pleasure to welcome Professor Lanny Fields from Queens College of the City University of New York to talk on categorization, Professor Per Holth, from Oslo, Norway, to talk about Joint Attention, and Professor Jack Marr from Atlanta, USA, to talk on natural selection and behaviour analysis. It was also our pleasure to welcome back to EABG after some years away, Mark O'Reilly, working out of the University of Texas in Austin to give our EABG 2009 Keynote Address on the influence of motivating operations in the assessment and support of children with autism spectrum disorders.

We also welcomed Dr. Jerry Shook back to EABG. As many of you will know Dr. Shook is Chief Executive Officer of the Behavior Analyst Certification Board, Inc.; the BACB continues to be a major catalyst in the development of training programmes and certification of behaviour analyst internationally. During his visit Dr. Shook made some significant contributions to our goal of increasing training initiatives and expanding the move towards certification of those working as behaviour analysts in Europe. In addition to our invited speakers, we hosted over 60 other high quality talks and posters on both applied and basic issues. We were also pleased to hold a workshop on incidental training and a one-day workshop on implementing precision teaching and fluency based procedures in autism programmes.

As we have come to expect, the attendance at the conferences over the last few years has included an ever-increasing number of BCBA and BCABA delegates looking to gain their Continuing Education Units (CEUs) at the conference. We hosted 17 events, consisting of symposia, invited addresses, panel discussions, and workshops, offering a total of 23 CEUs. We also continued the trend we began at the 2007 meeting to include the cost of obtaining CEUs in the registration payment for the conference. Our aim was to remove one of the barriers to obtaining CEUs: the feedback from the delegates, especially those who do not have financial backing to attend such events, was very positive. We are now in the situation in the UK and Europe where we are able to provide a good proportion of the CEUs for certified behaviour analysts; we believe this is one of the crucial developments in maintaining the long-term expansion of behaviour analysis in Europe.

Please visit the EABG Web page to view the programme of events and for information on future events offering CEUs throughout the year: (<http://eabg.bangor.ac.uk>).

We are pleased to announce that the *European Journal of Behaviour Analysis (EJOBA)* will be printing another Special EABG edition of the journal to be published in December, 2009. We piloted this relationship in 2007 and this resulted in a high quality volume of papers from the conference. The second special edition will include papers submitted by the EABG keynote and invited speakers, and other delegates, plus the entire conference proceedings. For more information visit the *EJOBA* Web page (www.ejoba.org) or contact the *EJOBA* editor and current European Association for Behaviour Analysis (EABA) president Erik Arntzen (erik.arntzen@equivalence.net).

This is an exciting time for behaviour analysis in Europe. In the past few years we have witnessed a continuing increase in the number of European behaviour analysts gaining BCBA / BCABA certification. Things have also improved markedly in the last few years in the training provisions available to behaviour analysts and those wishing to develop their knowledge of the area; there are now 16 BACB / BCABA course sequences approved across several universities in Europe: Wales, Norway, Ireland, England, Sweden, Spain, Italy, and Portugal.

Please also make a note that the fifth meeting of the European Association for Behaviour Analysis (EABA V) will be held in Crete, September 21st–24th, 2010. If you have not previously attended or given a paper at a European meeting, now is the time to consider spending time next year in discussion with European colleagues on this wonderful Greek Island. If you would like further information about the EABA V meeting visit the official EABA Web site (<http://www.europeanaba.org/>)

During the past year, the EABG organization has maintained its commitment to continued education of the European public and professionals about behaviour analysis. Our aims for the following year are to continue our support for EABA and the Crete meeting and to continue to support behaviour analysis through BCBA and BCABA training and promotional events. In this regard EABG has recently organized, in collaboration with the Wales Centre for Behaviour Analysis (<http://wcba.bangor.ac.uk>), several CEU events in the UK. We hope to organise a number of other CEU events across the UK over the next year.

EABG wishes to thank all the delegates and presenters who attended the 2009 conference and to our invited speakers who gave some wonderful and authoritative talks in their area of expertise. Special thanks to the MSc in ABA students from Bangor University, Wales: Vera Costa, Pagona Tzanakaki, Rubab Nasir, Sofie Wang, Sarah Denison, Hannah Bailey, Rachel Fletcher, Julie Maynard, Marleen Adema, and Gillian Carter for their hard work in helping to make the event run so smooth. As always, special thanks also to John Draper at University College

See EABG on page 56

EABG continued from page 55

London for assisting and hosting the event yet again.

In brief, the evidence from the EABG 2009 meeting suggests that behaviour analysis in the UK and Europe is vibrant and continues to grow. The EABG continues to provide a forum for the dissemination and discussion of high quality behaviour analytic research and training. The European Association for Behaviour Analysis, and the *European Journal of Behaviour Analysis*, mark important endeavours in the continuing development of behaviour analysis across Europe. The next meeting of the Experimental Analysis of Behaviour Group is scheduled for Easter 2011. Before then, please join the European contingent in Crete, September 2010.

Florida ABA

BY H. ALLEN MURPHY

FABA's 28th annual conference was held September 17–20, 2008, at the Hyatt Regency Coconut Point Resort and Spa in Bonita Springs. This was our first venture to southwest Florida with its wealth of native species. Attendees were able to view dolphins swimming in the adjacent lagoon from the hotel or take a guided boat ride through the mangroves. The natural beauty of this relatively unspoiled bit of Florida was the inspiration for the 2008 logo, “Why are we not acting to save the world?” an obvious reference to one of Skinner's papers. To go along with this theme, reusable cloth shopping bags printed with the logo were provided to all conference attendees.

The 2008 conference featured 11 pre-conference workshops on Wednesday plus four post-conference Saturday workshops. In between, there were 78 sessions, 19 posters, and lots of dancing at the Thursday evening Cocktail Party. Among the presenters were Jon Bailey, John Lutzker, Jim Partington, Brian Iwata, Dave Wilder, Cathleen Piazza, Jack Michael, Ray Miltenberger, Tim Vollmer, and Jim Johnston. For the first time, three presentations were co-sponsored by the Association of Professional Behavior Analysts.

Amy Sutherland's Keynote Address “What Shamu Taught Me about Life, Love and Marriage” was well received as was Tony Gelabert's Presidential Address “How Not to Start a Career, but Still End Up Where You Belong” in which he guided the audience through those fortunate, and some not so fortunate, circumstances resulting in a lifetime vocation of serving those with developmental disabilities. A moving tribute titled “Todd R. Risley (1937–2007): A Giant with His Arms Around Us” was organized by John Lutzker with Nate Azrin, Jon Bailey, Judy Favell, Jack Michael, Jerry Shook, Beth Sulzer-Azaroff, and Cheryl Risley as the speakers.

The current economic downturn was felt by FABA when, two days before the conference, a travel freeze

for all state employees was announced. This seems to have taken its toll as the number of conference attendees decreased to slightly fewer than 900, almost 150 less than in recent years. Financial difficulties have dominated the 2009 legislative season with FABA and its members actively involved in attempting to stave off further cuts to services for those with disabilities and higher education. At this point, the differences between the House and Senate budgets may not be resolved until late June. On a brighter note, one bill that did pass proclaimed the week of September 28 to October 3, 2009, as the second annual Florida Behavior Analysis Week.

Perhaps not surprisingly, the 2009 FABA Conference is scheduled for September 30–October 2. We will be returning to the popular Hilton Daytona Beach Ocean Walk Village located right on the Atlantic Ocean. The timely 2009 Keynote Address, “How to Win Friends and Influence Legislators” will be provided by Lorri Unumb. An exciting slate of events is in the works for 2009. Keep posted by visiting www.FABAWorld.org where you can shop online at the FABA Store or stay in touch with your behavioral friends via FABA net.

Four Corners ABA

BY DR. JEFF KUPFER

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

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

Our Second Annual Meeting

On April 6 and 7, 4 CABA held its second annual meeting

in Sedona, Arizona. Approximately 60 persons attended the conference.

Invited speakers from the four corner states area and elsewhere included: William Baum, Richard Foxx, Sigrid Glenn, Richard Smith, Daniel Openden, Bryan Davey, and Federico Sanabria. In recognition of the Four Corners mission statement, annual meetings included invited speakers from outside of mainstream behavior analysis, but whose research bears directly on conceptualizations in behavior analysis. We were fortunate to have Stephen Suomi (Eunice Kennedy, NIH) present his research on Risk, Resilience, and Gene x Environment Interactions in Rhesus Monkeys; and Stephen Helms Tillery (Ariz. State Univ.) speak on Muscle-free Behavior: Analysis of Neuroprosthetic Control. Our poster sessions included more presenters and drew presenters from the four states and from Idaho.

Other activities included an Open Forum on Practicing Applied Behavior Analysis in the Four Corner Region lead by Michael Dougher and Jeff Kupfer. Topics discussed included licensing practices in states, insurance reimbursement for ABA services for persons with autism, and legislative initiatives in the four state regions.

We will continue rotating locations for future annual meetings. The proposed location for the third annual meeting is Park City, Utah. Further details will be provided in our September newsletter.

Election Results:

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

- President-Elect: Erin Rasmussen
(Idaho State University)
- Board of Directors: Peter Killeen
(Arizona State University)

Four Corners ABA Web site

4 CABA has a revised the Web site. The Web site can be reached at: www.4CABA.org. Travis Blevins monitors the site and maintains its content. We will continue to expand the site so increase the flow of information in the four states regarding behavior analysis.

CEU Provider

4 CABA is an approved ACE CEU provider. Full and Supporting Members attending the Four Corners ABA conference continue to earn CEUs for attended presentations at no additional charge.

e-Newsletter

4 CABA publishes an annual e-newsletter that is sent to all members in September. The newsletter contains pages devoted to each of the four states regarding behavior analysis opportunities, events, and general topics of interest.

Georgia ABA

BY JESSICA PUGH

The Georgia Association for Behavior Analysis (GABA) was founded in 2002. At that time, there were not many behavior analysts in Georgia. In fact, there were only 3 BCBA's in the entire state. However, there was a very loose-knit community of professionals and academics. Our beginnings were informal, largely consisting of social gatherings with some discussion about the state of behavior analysis in Georgia and whether an affiliated chapter would be beneficial. In the early 90's, there had actually been a state chapter, but interest had waned, members had moved away, and the chapter had dissolved within a few years.

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

During the year since then, one of GABA's successes has been recruiting membership. At this time, there are over 79 members. While this is certainly a modest membership, we continue to grow and hope to increase membership substantially in the coming year. Certification in GA has also grown from three BCBA's in 2001 to 73 today (some of whom are BCABA's).

We are currently planning a one-day conference for August 29, 2009, in Atlanta, Georgia. GABA has a team of members who are working hard to create a beneficial, rewarding, and informative environment in which behavior analysts in Georgia and surrounding states can come away feeling rejuvenated, equipped with new tools, and new connections to make a difference with the populations we serve. We have confirmed keynote speakers of Jon Bailey (Florida State University) and James Carr (Auburn University). There will be several other speakers as well as a poster session. All who are interested are welcome to attend.

Thus far, the main role of GABA in the development of behavior analysis in Georgia has largely been related to education and networking. Not surprisingly, some members are located at universities. Informing and involving students in behavior analysis has been very beneficial. We are working to include more students in our meetings and membership. Additionally, the professional network that

See GABA on page 58

GABA continued from page 57

GABA provides to behavior analysts has allowed many of us to discover that we are not as isolated in Georgia as we may have thought.

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

Hawaii ABA

BY JESSIE MITCHELL

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

This past year we have focused on growth and professional development. In 2003, a small group of people interested in the field of behavior analysis met to discuss the formation of HABA. There were 15 people at that meeting and maybe three people in the state that were board certified. All in attendance were living on the island of O'ahu. At the end of 2008, there were 20 people at the business meeting and a head count of 21 BCBA/BCABAs in the state was established (representing three islands).

Being an island state is one of our greatest challenges. The state of Hawai'i includes eight islands: O'ahu, Maui, Hawai'i, Kauai, Moloka'i, Lana'i, Kaho'olawe, and Ni'ihau. The state of Hawai'i is part of the Hawaiian Archipelago, which includes 137 named islands of which only twelve islands are known to be inhabited. It is often said the further a person or issue is from Honolulu, the less the world cares about that person or issue; while we hope it is an exaggeration, there is some truth to the matter, the further away from the city the less support and fewer professional contacts a person may have. The challenge to any organization in Hawai'i is to include members statewide/archipelago wide. While not all of the islands in the archipelago are legally part of the State of Hawai'i, we would like to assure all inhabitants of our archipelago have access to ABA knowledge. To meet this need we are exploring the use of our list serve to provide structured professional development discussions about

professional topics. We started with an on-line discussion of a professional article, which stirred conversation between participants.

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

Heartland ABA

BY STEVEN TAYLOR

The past year has been a very successful year for the Heartland Association for Behavior Analysis. Our conferences continue to grow each year and have attracted speakers from around the world. Last year, we began a Poster Contest for student research; the poster representing the best empirical dataset will receive an award of \$200 applied to the ABAI annual convention. We've started a Speaker of the Month Series focusing on research around the Heartland Area. Our Web site at www.hlaba.org continues to improve to attract more members and advocates to our membership.

Our 2009 Executive Board includes Dr. Henry Roane as our immediate past president, Tami McDowell as the current President, Dr. Valerie Volkert as our vice president, Anney Fahrenholz as our secretary/treasurer, Dr. Lera Joyce Johnson as our representative at large, and Andrea Clements as our student representative. Dr. Steve Taylor and Elizabeth Gawley both served on the 2008 Executive Board and continue to offer great insights. HLABA has been setting its sights on the future of behavior analysis in the Heartland Region and how HLABA can facilitate those changes. In January, 2009, the HLABA Executive Board met and created a five-year strategic plan for the future of our great organization. Three key areas were identified as our focus: membership support, community connection, and student activation.

The third annual conference of the Heartland Association for Behavior Analysis was held in October, 2008, and played host to some of the brightest minds in

behavior analysis including Brian Iwata, Jon Bailey, and Edward Daily. Other presentations highlighted research efforts from University of Nebraska Medical Center, Children's Care Hospital and School, University of Nebraska—Lincoln, Munroe-Meyer Institute, University of Nebraska Medical Center, University of Iowa, University of Kansas Lifespan Institute, and Western Michigan University.

The Speaker of the Month series presents the newest advancement in behavior analysis research. Attendees are able to earn Continuing Educational Credits while networking with other behavior analysts in the area. Dr. Henry Roane spoke on recent advances in the treatment of severe problem behaviors. Dr. Terry Falcomata spoke on recent advances in Functional Communication Training. Dr. Tiffany Kodak spoke on Early Intervention and Autism. Plans for future presentations will look into broader audiences through teleconferencing technologies.

The fourth annual HLABA conference is to be held on October 1–2, 2009. The upcoming conference promises more opportunities to learn about advances in the field of behavior analysis as well as network with other professionals. F. Charles (Bud) Mace, Ph.D., is Professor of Psychology and Director of Research for the Psychology Program at the University of Southern Maine. He is also Director of the ACHIEVE laboratory school for children with emotional disabilities. Dr. Mace has published over 100 articles and chapters and is most well known for his research on the functional analysis of severe behavior disorders, behavioral momentum, and the Matching Law. David Wacker, Ph.D., is a Professor of Pediatrics and Special Education at The University of Iowa. He directs two outpatient clinic services for children and adults with disabilities who engage in severe problem behavior. He is the Principal Investigator on an NICHD-funded research project evaluating the long-term effectiveness of functional communication training in home settings. Meeta Patel, Ph.D., serves as the Executive Director of Clinic 4 Kidz, which is primarily a home-based pediatric feeding disorders program located in Novato, California. She provides these services to children all over the country. Her research and clinical interests focus on treating feeding problems in children with medical complications (e.g., prematurity, failure to thrive [FTT], tube dependence, gastresophageal reflux [GER], food allergies, etc.).

Hoosier ABA

BY KEN WEADICK

The Hoosier Association for Behavior Analysis (HABA) is now beginning its third year as a state chapter of the Association for Behavior Analysis International®. We have grown rapidly from the 20 who initially showed interest back in early 2007, to over 70 active members and growing.

The purpose of HABA remains true to its original intent of encouraging the understanding and application of applied behavior analysis in academics, research, and natural environments, as well as creating a sense of community for behavior analysts within our state. As a professional organization we also support and promote the Behavior Analyst Certification Board as the appropriate credentialing body for practitioners of applied behavior analysis in the state of Indiana. HABA also strives to serve the professional community as a reference group for other practitioners working in disciplines that embrace the principles and practices of applied behavior analysis, encouraging the understanding and application of applied behavior analysis in academic, research, and natural environments.

The last few years have been an exciting time for behavior analysts in Indiana. Since the creation of our state chapter the number of certificants listed on the BACB registry has nearly tripled. Legislation was signed into law on March of 2008 providing that an individual commits a Class B misdemeanor if the individual professes to be a certified behavior analyst and the individual does not hold and maintain the certified behavior analyst credentials administered by the Behavior Analyst Certification Board, Inc. In general there is increasing recognition of behavior analysis as a separate profession at state level.

As an organization, we hold quarterly meetings which incorporate an educational component. We have been privileged to have many nationally recognized speakers in behavior analysis as presenters at our local meetings. We have established a committee to look into offering BACB and other relevant professional continuing education credit for these quarterly meetings as well as our upcoming conference.

Our current focus is on putting together our inaugural conference which will be held October 15–17, 2009, at the Sheraton Indianapolis City Centre Hotel. This conference will offer workshops and presentations on a variety of topics relevant to parents and professionals interested in applied behavior analysis. Invited speakers thus far include Ernie Vargas, Mark Sundberg, Julie Vargas, and Patrick McGreevy. We encourage those outside of Indiana to participate and/or attend.

Icelandic Association for Behavior Analysis

BY KRISTIN GUDMUNDSDOTTIR

This year, 2009, the Icelandic Association for Behavior Analysis (ICEABA) celebrates its fifth year anniversary. ICEABA was founded on August 15, 2004 with the mission of being a forum for people interested in the growth and development of behavior analysis in Iceland

See ICEABA on page 60

ICEABA continued from page 59

and to disseminate and promote behavior analysis as a tool for enhancing quality of life and well-being. A new board of ICEABA was elected last spring with Kristín Guðmundsdóttir, MS, BCBA as president; Thórhalla Guðmundsdóttir special education consultant as treasurer; and Atli F. Magnússon, MS, BCBA as secretary. ICEABA currently has approximately 30 members and includes a diverse community of students, teachers and professors, social facilitators, psychologists, parents, and behavior analysts. Some of these members are located outside of Iceland, studying and working in USA and Norway.

The backbone of the association for the past five years, is the e-mail discussion board ÍSABAR, where ICEABA members and others interested in behavior analysis, engage in lively discussion about behavior analytic issues. ÍSABAR also celebrates a 10 year anniversary this year on October 12 and has, since its foundation, generated over 5000 posts. This year, ICEABA has been working on extending the discussion board to a Web community with a wider function. In this community ICEABA members will be able to work on team projects by sharing documents and communicating through chat and e-mail. ICEABA is also updating its public Web site, www.atferli.is where members will also be able to log on to the ICEABA Web community.

ICEABA members have met regularly this winter discussing Icelandic research in behavior analysis as well as ethical and scientific issues regarding early intervention for children with autism. Much discussion was among ICEABA members regarding these issues in connection with an Icelandic documentary on autism intervention that premiered in Icelandic movie theaters last January. In December we also had a refreshing meeting with a couple of Icelandic students in behavior analysis, currently studying at Akershus University College in Norway and Northeastern University/NECC in Boston.

A glossary of behavior analytic terms in Icelandic is almost complete. A group of ICEABA members, under the leadership of Guðríður Adda Ragnarsdóttir, has continued working on translations of behavior analytic terms. This work is extremely important for the dissemination of behavior analysis in Iceland. The glossary will be published on the ICEABA Web site later this year, in cooperation with Iceland's leading on-line dictionary, www.snara.is. The glossary will also be published in the on-line dictionary of the Icelandic Language Institute. The same group has organized a symposium at the ABAI Fifth International Conference in Oslo this year: Translating Behavioral Terminology: Accomplishments and Challenges, with Dr. Mickey Keenan as chair and Dr. Phil Chase as discussant. The Icelandic translations project will be presented along with similar projects from Italy and Poland.

An Icelandic on-line journal in behavior analysis,

Atferli, is also being prepared this winter with Jón Grétar Sigurjónsson, a doctoral student at NUI Galway, as editor. Currently, the first articles are being reviewed and prepared. The journal will be published on the ICEABA Web site later this year.

Finally, in May we presented our poster on ICEABA at the ABAI Expo in Phoenix, informing our friends about behavior analysis in Iceland. Kristín and Atli also represented ICEABA at the ABAI leadership training workshop.

Next year, 2009–2010, we will continue working on building a strong chapter in Iceland by continuing current activities. Furthermore, the first convention of ICEABA will be held this fall in Reykjavík on November 20, 2009, with a focus on current issues in behavior analytic research and practice in Iceland. All convention activities will be free of charge to ICEABA members and we will use the same opportunity to celebrate the five year anniversary. Next year we also plan to start working on mediating reliable information about behavior analysis and evidence-based behavior interventions to the public, parents, professionals, institutions, and government agencies in Iceland serving children and adults.

Iowa ABA

BY JOHN POKRZYWINSKI

In June of this year the Association for Behavior Analysis International approved the Iowa Association for Behavior Analysis (Iowa ABA) as an Affiliated Chapter.

After meeting briefly with Susan Smith and John Pokrzywinski; Mary Hodapp, MSW, Director of Social Services at Woodward Resource Center, provided information to the Iowa Money Follows the Person Partnership Group regarding the role of Board Certified Behavior Analysts. As a result, BCBA's became approved providers for the MFP program.

John Pokrzywinski developed the Iowa ABA Web site.

Some of Iowa ABA members attended the HLABA conference in Omaha in October. Susan Smith and John Pokrzywinski participated with Wayne Fischer in a Roundtable Discussion on Licensure and Certification Issues for Behavior Analysts, which was chaired by Jon Bailey.

Susan Smith and John Pokrzywinski attended an invited workshop at ABAI in Chicago in 2008 where the importance of family involvement recognizing behavior analysis as a profession, and the need to have it funded.

A bill was introduced into the Iowa General Assembly to mandate insurance coverage for children with autism. Several Iowa ABA members met at The Homestead in Pleasant Hill, Iowa, to review the bill. Several suggestions were made regarding the inclusion of Board Certified Behavior Analysts as providers. These suggestions were adopted into an amendment by Senator Daryl Beall, sponsor of the bill. Several Iowa ABA members attended

a subcommittee hearing in a packed hearing room. Susan Smith was one of five speakers providing testimony in favor of the bill. Unfortunately, The bill did not make it out of the subcommittee. We will keep active in this and other related legislation.

Jim Prickett and Susan Smith were two of six staff members from Woodward Resource Center to complete the Ten-day Intensive Training Course in Dialectical Behavior Therapy provided by Behavioral Tech, LLC on April 24, 2009.

A formal business meeting was conducted at the ABAI conference in Phoenix, 2009.

John Pokrzywinski, Jeff Luke, and Kelly Vinquist hosted the Iowa ABA presentation at the ABA International Expo in Phoenix 2009, which is a special poster session for presentations of graduate training programs, internship and employment opportunities, special interest groups (SIGs), affiliated chapters, ABA International boards and committees, and behavioral associations around the world.

Israel ABA

BY DR. EITAN ELДАР, DR. ORIT HETZRONI,
AND DR. MICHAEL BEN ZVI

IABA was established in 2003, held its first conference shortly afterwards, and has conducted the sixth conference this spring. IABA consists of more than 50 Behavior Analysts, half of which are Board approved BCBA & BCABA. All of the IABA members actively support ABA in various academic and clinical fields and more than 100 additional professionals participate in IABA activities. Approximately 100 students are currently enrolled in two BACB approved programs. These programs are offered at Tel-Aviv University, led by Prof. Amos Rolider, and at the Zinman College, led by Dr. Eitan Eldar.

IABA organizes opportunities for CE credits for the certified behavior analysts, who participate as well as present in conferences held in both institutes throughout the year. IABA also published the Hebrew version of ABA terms and ethical principles. Notably, most of the students who have graduated from the above programs were employed in a variety of educational and clinical agencies.

IABA goals are to:

- Promote ABA as a leading science in human behavior.
- Gain recognition of the discipline as a distinct and unique profession by the Ministries of Health and Education.
- Have more members and friends join the IABA.
- Establish an ABA journal in Hebrew.
- Establish additional approved ABA programs in other universities and graduate programs in ABA.
- Promote both experimental and applied ABA research in Israel.

- Strengthen our ties with the BACB and ABA International, and encourage more Israelis to take part in their activities.

The recent year has been very fruitful. The two programs introduced ABA to a variety of professionals who were eager to acquire the appropriate knowledge and skills. Several professional meetings were held, discussing various issues such as "Induction to ABA in the education system—suggestions for behavior analysts who are making their first steps in collaboration with teachers and principals."

The 2009 spring conference, held at the Zinman College, dealt with behavioral strategies that support learning. The main notion offered to shift some resources and effort away from "fighting violence", directing it instead towards increasing motivation and success in learning. Functional analysis was presented as a way to identify students' difficulties and a variety of ABA-based teaching strategies were demonstrated. All of these strategies are being successfully implemented by behavior analysts at the ABA center as well as in various schools. Concepts such as momentum, motivational operations, fluency, and more were explained and related to the various strategies.

The conference was held in collaboration with the Special Education Department in the Ministry of Education. Such joint effort is a breakthrough, as it demonstrates a shift in the attitude of the "education system" in favor of ABA. Furthermore, a new position was nominated in the Ministry of Education: Applied Behavior Analysis Consultant. The role of this professional is to promote ABA among different regions and schools in Israel.

We still have to face many challenges related to certifying behavior analysts in Israel and disseminating ABA in various governmental offices and institutions. We shall do our best to achieve these goals as soon as possible.

Japanese ABA

BY NAKO SUGIYAMA

The Japanese Association for Behavior Analysis (Japanese-ABA) was created under the name of the Society for the Study of Behavior Analysis in 1979 and changed its name to the Japanese Association for Behavior Analysis in 1983, when its first annual convention was held at Keio University. The main goal of Japanese-ABA is to promote the experimental, theoretical, and applied analysis of behavior, which B. F. Skinner originated. Since its establishment, it has made great strides and is now one of the most successful international chapters of ABAI. The number of its members has reached 849 in 2008 and they come from a wide variety of professions including researchers, school teachers, counselors, social workers,

See JAPANESE on page 62

JAPANESE continued from page 61

nurses, animal trainers, and business people.

The Japanese-ABA organizes an annual convention, publishes the *Japanese Journal of Behavior Analysis* twice a year, distributes a newsletter (*J-ABA News*) four times a year, operates a Web site (<http://www.j-aba.jp>), and gives workshops/symposium for not only its members, but also open to everyone interested in behavior analysis and its applications. All this is in keeping with our goal of disseminating behavior analysis throughout Japan. We have also been actively collaborating with other academic societies in Japan and promoting international exchanges. Thirty to forty members including students attend ABAI meetings every year.

In 2008, Japanese-ABA elected new board members for 2009–2012 and Professor Kenichi Fuji at Ritsumeikan University was reelected as the President. On April 1st in 2009, it has moved to a new office located in Osaka.

The Japanese-ABA recently started two new programs to encourage young students living in USA as well as in Japan. One is financial support for two students from Japan to attend ABAI annual meetings. The other program is donating books to young Japanese behavior analysts who are studying or working in USA so that they have information about the current status of behavior analysis in Japan.

In 2009, we will hold the 27th annual convention on from July 10th to 12th on campus at University of Tsukuba. The conference planning committee is actively working on the meeting.

Kansas ABA

BY EDWARD K. MORRIS

The mission of the Kansas Association for Behavior Analysis (KansABA) is to provide a forum for (a) disseminating information about the science and practice of behavior analysis, and about education and training therein; (b) addressing issues relevant to the science and practice of behavior analysis; (c) maintaining disciplinary, professional, and ethical standards in the science and practice of behavior analysis; and (d) recruiting and enhancing interest in behavior analysis throughout the State of Kansas and in the Kansas City metropolitan area (i.e., Clay, Jackson, and Platte Counties in Missouri). In particular, KansABA serves the citizens of Kansas and the Kansas City Metropolitan area through advocacy and support in advancing and disseminating information about behavior analysis, whether for individual and local needs (e.g., assessment, intervention) or systemic and statewide interests (e.g., legislation, education, training).

Our Executive Council consists of a president (Ed Morris), a full member representative (Linda Heitzman-Powell), an affiliate representative (Ron

Johnson), and student co-representatives (Adam Brewer, Brooke Jones). The Council also has two secretaries (Jessica Royer, Nan Perrin) and a treasurer (Linda Heitzman-Powell). In addition, KansABA has a Legislative Affairs Committee (Nan Perrin, chair), a Membership Committee (Anna Neises, chair), an Information Technology Committee (Adam Brewer, chair), and a BACB Certification Committee (Claudia Dozier, chair).

Our primary activity this year was to support the State of Kansas and the Kansas City metropolitan area autism communities (e.g., Johnson County Autism Society, the Missouri FEAT, Kansas City Autism Training Center). We supported their advocacy for insurance coverage for children with autism—the Accessing Autism Services Bill (“Kate’s Law”)—in the Kansas State Legislature. Professor James A. Sherman (University of Kansas) testified on behalf of the bill. Linda Heitzman-Powell and Nan Perrin served on the Best Practices Subcommittee of the Kansas Legislative Task Force, which published “Best Practices for Autism Treatment in Kansas.” They also participated in the development of the Kansas income waiver policy and procedures for accessing evidence-based treatments for autism and are active members in the Autism steering committee, a group that provides guidance to the State for implementation of the waiver. In addition, both Nan and Linda are involved in the only approved State mandated training program for providers of autism. This training focuses on the implementation of applied behavior-analytic techniques and consists of both knowledge and skill acquisition.

KansABA also co-sponsored two related University of Kansas Department of Applied Behavioral Science (ABS) colloquia and provided BACB CEUs for them. One was Ron Leaf and Mitch Taubman’s (Autism Partners, Seal Beach, CA) “Variations in the Treatment of Autism”; the other was Pat Krantz and Lynn McClannahan’s (Princeton Child Development Institute) “Attracting a Proof.” The latter was on the occasion of their receiving ABS Alumni Distinguished Achievement Awards. Finally, Ed Morris prepared a review and defense of applied behavior analysis in autism—“A Case Study in the Misrepresentation of Applied Behavior Analysis in Autism: The Gernsbacher Lectures”—which was published in the Spring issue of *The Behavior Analyst*.

KansABA also advanced the science and education of behavior analysis by co-sponsoring and providing BACB CEUs for other ABS colloquia. These were presented by Jennifer Zarcone (University of Rochester Medical Center), “Challenging Behavior and Psychotropic Medication: Evidence-Based Practices”; Hank Schlinger (California State University-Los Angeles), “A Behavior-Analytic View of Consciousness and Its Implications for Theory of Mind”; Len Green (Washington University), “Delay Discounting”; and Kate Hine and Sarah Major

(KU, Life Span Institute, Parsons, KS), "Southeast Kansas Foster Care Treatment: Oasis for Applied Research." In addition, we provided CEUs for formal ABS discussion groups on contemporary basic and applied behavior-analytic research.

In addition to maintaining our current activities, next year we plan to re-establish our Web site, pursue an Internal Revenue Service tax-exempts status as 501c6 organization (as opposed to a 501c3 organization), and increase our membership so that we can become more proactive in pursuing our mission.

Korean Association of Child & Adolescent Behavior Therapy

BY JUNG YEON CHO

The Korean Association of Child & Adolescent Behavior Therapy held an annual convention and symposium in the spring of 2009 in Seoul, Korea. We had an Assessment Tool Workshop from Feb. 20th to Feb. 26th, 2009, and hosted the International Symposium on March 14th with a workshop: Evidence-based Support Focusing on Life Independency of Children Adolescents with Autism by Dr. Luke Tsai on March 14th, 2009.

As an international affiliate chapter, the Korean Association of Child & Adolescent Behavior Therapy has been highly motivated to work cooperatively with ABA chapters in different regions to advance scientific and practical application of applied behavior analysis in Korean society.

Louisiana ABA

BY TIFFANI CARLIN

The LouABA chapter of ABAI was initiated in June of 2008. Since then, we have hosted two professional workshops with Ellen Brocato, BCBA; and Dr. Gordon Bourland, Ph.D., BCBA; as presenters. Dr. Jon Bailey and Dr. Mary Burch will conduct a workshop in June, 2009, on ethics for practicing BCBAs. LouABA also organized a public service training program on the legal rights of parents of children affected by autism and other developmental disorders during April of 2009. This training was conducted by a representative from the Louisiana Advocacy Center and an estate planning attorney. LouABA has recently launched its Web site, www.mcneese.edu/louaba, which is updated monthly. We are currently exploring the possibility of state licensure for the practice of board certified behavior analysts in Louisiana and are working to ensure that our members have the opportunity to participate in law-making policy

in the state. We plan to monitor current insurance laws that impact the practice of applied behavior analysis.

Manitoba ABA

BY KIRSTEN WIRTH

The Manitoba Association for Behaviour Analysis (MABA) is in its fourth official year of affiliate status with ABAI.

Over the past year we have met several goals—we provided two outstanding newsletters to our membership and to individuals outside our field, and were able to use it to recruit new members. Our newsletters now include information that are useful for expert and novice behaviour analysts. We presented a poster at the ABAI conference in Chicago, held a conference with Drs. Linda Parrott-Hayes and Maurice Feldman as our guest speakers, and held booths at several conferences in Manitoba. As our organization is growing we developed several committees to increase our effectiveness. The committee areas are comprised of: Public Relations, Newsletter, Conference, Membership, and Grants. Our 2009 goals are to strengthen what we have built over the last four years and expand on that. Specifically, we would like to actively work towards achieving our mission of promoting behaviour analysis in our province through each committee. We have a very strong behaviour analytic membership base, and we would like to increase our membership to include further members outside of our area. We are working towards making our Web site a resource for individuals looking for information about behaviour analysis in Manitoba and in general, as well as what to watch for in regards to pseudoscience and other treatments in the media. Planning is underway for our fourth annual conference in October 24th, and we look forward to this year's guest speaker, Dr. Jennifer McComas, and our invited speaker, Dr. John Rapp. We are aiding the growth of behaviour analysis in Manitoba by providing advocacy support to the University of Manitoba's ABA faculty for increasing academic positions in the area. Our PR committee has also provided letters in response to organizations or articles that correct misinformation or misconceptions about behaviour analysis. MABA would also like to support the BACB and ABAI's practice initiative by making it possible to certify as many qualified behaviour analysts in Manitoba as possible. As we all know, behaviour analysis as a field has demonstrated solid procedures for changing countless behaviours over numerous years of research. Unfortunately, those who appreciate that the most are behaviour analysts. All too often other approaches claim effectiveness with little to no empirical support. The unfortunate outcome is that the general public tends to accept these dramatic claims that have no evidence, while rejecting ours, often the only approach that is based on good science. The success of system-wide application of behaviour analysis is going to rest largely on translational research,

See MABA on page 64

MABA continued from page 63

good education, and effective marketing, which is currently lacking. Local affiliate ABAI Chapters have an obligation to reach their public and teach society. The Manitoba Association for Behaviour Analysis is still young, but we are committed to working towards dissemination to society in our province. We have often thought to focus on ways to disseminate to the general public, but we have difficulties in our own academic backyard. We need to work harder within our own discipline of psychology to disseminate that behaviour analysis is a confirmed science—not theory—and that we can produce behaviour change across species and groups. We need to work with government to provide better services to the public, and with education systems to enhance learning tools for our children. Through this kind of translational work we can make real change.

Maryland ABA

BY SUNGWOO KAHNG

The Maryland Association for Behavior Analysis (MABA) continues to be strong. When MABA was originally founded, it consisted primarily of individuals from the State of Maryland. Since its inception, MABA has grown to well over 200 members and has brought together behavior analysts from the Mid-Atlantic region (e.g., Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and New Jersey). Members include individuals from a variety of professional backgrounds (e.g., direct care personnel, students, researchers, faculty, and psychologists), all of whom are interested in the advancement of behavior analysis in this area. Our annual meeting has provided an opportunity for behavior analysts in the region to hear talks from distinguished behavior analysts covering a wide range of topics (applied, basic, and conceptual). We were honored to have William Dube (Eunice Kennedy Shriver Center), John A. “Tony” Nevin (University of New Hampshire), Kenneth Silverman (The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine), Richard Smith (University of North Texas), and David Wacker (University of Iowa) as our distinguished speakers this past year. The annual meeting also provides members within the region an opportunity to present posters on a variety of topics. This year, we had over 35 posters from institutions throughout the Mid-Atlantic area such as Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University; Kennedy Krieger Institute; The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine; Millersville University; University of Maryland, Baltimore County; Bancroft Neurohealth; Ivymount Autism Program; Caldwell College; Westchester Institute for Human Development; and James Madison University. We welcome all posters relevant to behavior analysts and look forward to the continued participation of our MABA members.

At the end of last year’s conference, Peter Gerhardt

(Organization for Autism Research) stepped down as President Jennifer Crockett (Kennedy Krieger Institute) and has assumed the role of current President. John Borrero (University of Maryland, Baltimore County) was elected President Elect and Carrie Borrero (Kennedy Krieger Institute) joins Peter Girolami (Kennedy Krieger Institute) as Member-at-Large. Finally, Michelle Frank (University of Maryland, Baltimore County) was elected Student Representative. We thank the continued support of the Kennedy Krieger Institute and the other behavior analytic institutions in the Mid-Atlantic area. Furthermore, we are grateful to the student volunteers from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County.

The 2009 Annual Meeting is scheduled for Friday, December 4, in Baltimore, Maryland. Our speakers for this year’s conference are Phil Heline (Temple University), Jesse Dallery (University of Florida), Tom Critchfield (Illinois State), Tim Vollmer (University of Florida), and Rachel Thompson (New England Center for Children). We anticipate another highly successful meeting. For more information, please go to <http://www.marylandaba.org>.

Mid-American ABA

BY ADAM DERENNE

The Mid-American Association for Behavior Analysis (MABA), a regional affiliate of the Association for Behavior Analysis, is a membership organization devoted to promoting scholarly interchange in behavior analysis through its annual convention. The ninth annual Mid-American Association for Behavior Analysis (MABA) convention was held October 3rd–4th in Champaign, Illinois. More than 150 people attended the convention, with graduate and undergraduate students comprising the majority of attendees. The convention began when Dr. Nicole Heal (Southern Illinois University) reviewed social validity assessments of behavior-change procedures and Dr. John Rapp (St. Cloud State University) described factors affecting stereotypes. Later, Dr. Maria Valdovinos (Drake University) spoke about why behavior analysts cannot ignore genetics and neuroscience, and Dr. Christine Hughes (University of North Carolina Wilmington) discussed the role of contingencies in drug tolerance. During the afternoon of the first day, Dr. Jeffery Buchanan (Minnesota State University, Mankato) spoke about how best to achieve compliance among nursing home residents, Dr. Lisa Baker (Western Michigan University) presented new research on the behavioral effects of an opioid agonist, Dr. Dean Williams (University of Kansas) shared insights into translational research, and Dr. Nicole Gravina (Roosevelt University) addressed behavioral safety in the office. The first day ended with poster presentations by students and faculty.

The second day of the convention began when Dr.

Mark Dixon (Southern Illinois University) discussed behavioral safety on the farm, Dr. Manish Vaidya (University of North Texas) considered the role of shared stimulus functions in equivalence, and Dr. Thomas Critchfield (Illinois State University) spoke about instruction based on stimulus equivalence. The final talks were by Nicholas Mui Ker Lik (Southern Illinois University), winner of the MABA student paper contest, who presented research on delay discounting with real and hypothetical money, and outgoing president Dr. James Carr (Auburn University), who spoke about understudied interventions for treating autism.

The 2009 convention will be held October 9th–10th in Davenport, Iowa, at the Radisson Hotel. The conference will again include addresses on both basic and applied behavior-analytic research.

MABA holds a business meeting at the annual convention and again at the ABA convention. Persons interested in this organization are welcome to attend either meeting. Current president of MABA is Dr. Kevin Klatt (University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire). President-Elect is Dr. Mark Dixon (Southern Illinois University). More information about MABA and the annual convention can be found at the organization Web site: <http://www.uwec.edu/maba/> or by contacting Adam Derenne at adam.derenne@und.edu.

Minnesota Northland ABA

BY TIMOTHY MOORE

In 2007, a small group of people joined forces in an effort to “rejuvenate” Minnesota Northland ABA (MNABA). At that time, we set some measurable goals.

Our first goal was to enroll a minimum of 75 members. We are excited to report that we currently have 118 members. In line with that goal, we set out to obtain involvement from across Minnesota, South Dakota, and North Dakota. Currently, our members stretch from Mahanomen to Rochester to Moorhead to the Twin Cities. We also have members from Winnipeg, Madison, Cambridge, Windom, Brainerd, St. Cloud, and Faribault. I think it is safe to say that our existence in the northland is widespread.

Those interested in joining MNABA as a full, affiliate, or student member may fill out the application form found at <http://www.mnaba.org/application.htm>.

Our second goal was to establish leadership and committees. Voting has occurred and we now have 15 members appointed to various positions comprising the executive board.

In addition to that goal, we wanted to have a “functional board” that set goals and met them. We felt strongly that our first task was to arrange a time for all members, and

those interested, to gather together to learn, collaborate, and network. Our first annual MNABA conference was held in October of 2008 at St. Cloud State University.

The regional conference resulted in more than 110 registrations. The conference attendees consisted primarily of professionals working in behavior analytic setting, but it was also attended by graduate and undergraduate students, teachers, and parents of individuals diagnosed with developmental disabilities.

The range of presentation topics was as varied as the conference registrants. Dr. John Rapp served as the keynote speaker and provided a timely lecture from a behavior analytic perspective on excess fuel consumption and strategies to conserve the ever-depleting supply of gasoline. Other topics included behavioral strategies for assessing and treating behavioral problems associated with Traumatic Brain Injury and Autism Spectrum Disorders, parent training, and biobehavioral perspectives on self injury, among others.

Planning for the 2009 conference is underway and we have set the date for September 25th, 2009 at St. Cloud State University. The keynote speaker is Dr. Jeff Weatherly from the University of North Dakota. CEU's will be available for BCBAs and BCABAs.

We are very happy to announce that MNABA is up and running, once again! We look forward to meeting other goals that align with the mission of MNABA.

Minnesota has such a rich history in ABA. We are proud of where we have come from and excited about the possibilities that lie ahead. It is an exciting time in our profession, as so many opportunities are arising. On behalf of MNABA, we look forward to the support of ABAI in networking, collaborating, and promoting behavior analysis in the Northland.

Missouri ABA

BY TODD STREFF

The number of behavior analysts and knowledge of behavior analysis principles and practices continues to expand in the state of Missouri. Currently, there are 76 BCBAs and BCABAs, in the state with many more needed to meet the emerging demands. Missouri legislators, families, behavior analysts, and countless others are currently pushing legislation through for insurance coverage of ABA services. As a state chapter, the Missouri Association for Behavior Analysis (MOABA) has some specific objectives, including:

- Organization providing an annual state ABA conference;
- A provider of continuing education for professionals in Missouri;
- Organization to promote the ethical and effective use of behavior analysis;

See MISSOURI on page 66

MISSOURI continued from page 65

- A professional network and resource for behavior analysts;
- A resource for those seeking ABA services in Missouri.

Objectives for the next year are to increase membership; outreach and collaboration with other organizations; and to continue to provide a high quality state level conference. Following our conference this year a new group of officers were elected and some new members joined the officer ranks.

- President: Todd Streff
- Vice President: Tami Galensky-Pentz
- Treasurer: John Guercio
- Secretary: Jeanne Marshall
- Members at Large: Jenny Frisbee and Jennifer Nowak

Additional membership, meeting, and conference information can be found on our Web site. If you would like to join MOABA, membership applications can be downloaded from our Web site at www.moaba.org.

Nevada ABA

BY MARK ALAVOSIUS

The association hosted a conference in Reno in October 2008 co-sponsored by the AAIDD (American Association for Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities). This two-day conference featured talks and workshops relating to behavior analysis and the developmental disabilities.

The NABA conference planned for 2009 will be a scholarly meeting focusing on theoretical, experimental and applied issues in behavior analysis. Tentative plans are to hold this event at UNR in November, 2009.

The looming issues in Nevada are threats to education, science, and human services raised by the economic downturn. NABA efforts focus on educating the Nevada population about the value of evidence-based practices and the importance of sustaining education and training systems.

Information about NABA can be found at NevadaABA.org. Brevity is the soul of reporting.

New Jersey ABA

BY LORI BECHNER

NJABA was founded in 2004 to promote the discipline of behavior analysis in New Jersey. Over the past year, NJABA has continued to work toward the goals of dissemination of research and provision of informational resources throughout the state.

NJABA is committed to providing continuing education opportunities for professionals as well as others interested in the field of behavior analysis, including graduate students, consumers, and parents. In March, we were pleased to host our annual spring workshop at Caldwell College. This year,

Dr. Brian Iwata presented on the topic of functional analysis and treatment of problem behavior. Dr. Iwata was very well received, with over 140 people in attendance! Plans are now under way for our annual summer conference, which will be held July 17–18, 2009 at Rutgers University. Friday's program will include data-based symposia and invited presentations. We are honored to have Dr. Patricia Krantz and Dr. Lynn McClannahan present the keynote address. On Saturday, we are happy to announce that Dr. Murray Sidman will present a full day workshop: "Errorless Learning and Programmed Instruction: The Myth of the Learning Curve".

We distribute an online newsletter, *Current Dimensions*, twice each year. This newsletter features interviews, book and article reviews, and information regarding current events. Past editions of the newsletter can be viewed on our Web site.

NJABA has recently formed a Public Relations Committee. We are currently working on developing a series of press releases on autism and applied behavior analysis, in efforts to inform the larger community about effective treatment. In addition, our Government Affairs Committee continues to explore options for state recognition of credentialed behavior analysts for the purpose of consumer protection.

As the year comes to a close, we would like to thank our current officers and appointed board members:

- Secretary: Dr. Patrick Progar
- Treasurer: Dr. Tina Sidener
- Representative-At-Large/Chair, Publications: Dr. Ken Reeve
- Representative-At-Large: Dr. John Brown
- Representative-At-Large: Dr. Linda Meyer
- Consumer Representative: Dr. Mary Beth Walsh
- Chair, Membership: Dr. Sharon Reeve
- Chair, Government Affairs: Dr. Suzanne Buchanan
- Chair, Public Relations: Dr. Kathy McCabe-Odri

We thank our Past-President, Dr. Marlene Cohen, for her dedication and service to NJABA, and are happy to welcome our incoming President, Dr. Greg MacDuff.

Please visit our Web site at www.njaba.org for more information and updates on future events!

New Zealand ABA

BY KATRINA PHILLIPS AND NATHALIE BOUTROS

Currently the New Zealand ABA chapter (NZABA, formerly NZBAG) has 113 names on its list. Membership primarily consists of staff and students from the seven major universities in New Zealand. The strong academic presence within NZABA is apparent at our annual conference with high numbers of quality student presentations year after year. In 2008 our conference was hosted by The University of Otago in Dunedin with Dr.

Louis Leland (The University of Otago) as chair. 13 of the 22 presentations were given by student members. A wide variety of research interests were presented including the experimental analysis of choice behavior, stimulus control, conditioned reinforcement, memory research, behavioral pharmacology, timing, the experimental analysis of human operant behavior, behavioral dynamics, applied behavior analysis, teaching adolescent job skills, evidence based practice, and animal welfare. Along with a strong academic representation a number of talks were given by non-academics with interests in behavior analysis. Non-academic members presented on such diverse topics as horse training, behavioral therapy, and business consultation. We hope that this wide variety of topics continues at the sixth Annual conference, which will be hosted by the Department of Psychology at The University of Auckland from the 28th–30th of August, 2009. The call for presentations and posters is currently open until mid July. Those interested should contact either Nathalie Boutros (n.boutros@auckland.ac.nz) or Katrina Phillips (kj.phillips@auckland.ac.nz) for more information.

At the 2008 conference Katrina Phillips and Nathalie Boutros (The University of Auckland) were appointed joint-chairs of NZABA for the 2008–2009 period. Douglas Elliffe (The University of Auckland) is now treasurer and Celia Lie (University of Otago) was appointed Secretary.

NZABA would also like to acknowledge recent awards that have been given to its members. We are proud to have the work of a number of our current and former members recognized with The University of Auckland's Experimental Analysis of Behaviour Research Unit receiving the award for Enduring Programmatic Contributions in Behavior Analysis from the Society for the Advancement of Behavior Analysis (SABA) at this year's ABA convention. In the last 40 years this lab has produced nearly 40 Ph.D.s, a number of Master's and honors dissertations, and nearly 150 well-cited publications. We look forward to more presentations and posters from the staff and students currently in this lab as well as the lab's many alumni still active within NZABA at our conference in August. We would also like to acknowledge that one of our long-time NZABA members Prof. Geoff White from The University of Otago, was made an officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit (ONZM) in the New Year's honours list.

People interested in joining NZABA should note that there is no formal application process or fee. Active membership is achieved by attending the annual conference and paying any necessary fees (note that there is no fee for student presenters). Once again, any interested individuals should contact Nathalie Boutros or Katrina Phillips to be put on our e-mail list.

We currently have eight BCBAs in New Zealand. In

2008, in addition to attending conferences, there was one special event organized for BCBAs to receive CEUs. The University of Auckland hosted presentations by Dr. Wayne Fisher and Dr. Cathleen Piazza over two days. These presentations on internationally accepted best practice included talks on ABA, functional analysis, function-based treatment, effective service delivery, early intervention in autism, and feeding. BCBAs were able to earn up to 12 CEUs from these presentations

North Carolina ABA

BY R. M. DUKE SCHELL

NCABA Celebrates 20th Anniversary Conference in 2009!

The first NCABA conference was held on March 1st, 1990, in Charlotte, North Carolina. During that inaugural gathering of about 50 people, Dr. Fred Keller, Professor Emeritus at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, was honored with an award for his significant long term contributions to the field of behavior analysis. He told the eager audience, "I feel that you are destined for success—that you will continue to provide for many years an annual meeting for behavior analysts with common interests and similar problems. I hope, however, that you won't become too formal, too expensive, or too large, as sometimes happens." The one-day conference featured eight presentations and a poster session, plus countless conversations by attendees about their experiences at the first official gathering of behavior analysts in the state. Dr. Carolyn Greene, one of the initial founders of NCABA, noted in the first NCABA Newsletter published in July, 1990, that, "I felt as though I had a professional reference group here in North Carolina that I could rely on to assist me in promoting effective behavior change in the agency where I work. I felt enthusiastic that our group would continue to develop and communicate."

Fast forward 20 years. The 2009 NCABA conference was held February 18th–20th in Wrightsville Beach. Over 170 participants enjoyed eight workshops, 10 invited addresses and symposia, nine presentations and a poster session. Dr. Murray Sidman gave us an inspiring opening address on "The Analysis of Behavior: Why We Do It?" He began by saying, "I find this one (conference) especially refreshing because there is something here that I have never seen at any other one. There is a kind of personal warmth, mutual affection, quite lovely that's here, that I had not seen at any other conference. It's very pleasant to be in the middle of it." Dr. Bill Heward followed Dr. Sidman and noted, "What a thrill to sit here and listen to Murray Sidman tell us about the science of behavior and what it means, not only (its) potential for the world, helping make the world a better place, but what it can mean for the players: the scientists, the teachers of

See NCABA on page 68

NCABA continued from page 67

behavior analysis, and the practitioners.” Dr. Judy Favell later remarked, “What a proud tradition NCABA has had and I very much agree with Murray when he said it’s the warmest, most wonderful gathering of behavior analysts.”

Highlights from the conference, coordinated by Dr. Ruth Hurst of UNC-Wilmington, included outstanding presentations by Murray Sidman, Bill Heward, Judy Favell, Dennis Russo, Andy Bondy, and our NC talent including Carol Pilgrim, Denny Reid, Julie Grimes, Ya-yu Lo, Maureen Schepis, Martin Ivancic, Jeannie Golden, and Fred Spooner. After the student symposium, which is a highlighted event each year at our conference, a special panel of past NCABA Presidents capped the end of the first day of the conference. It was a true walk down memory lane as they described many fond memories during their leadership years with the group. As Denny Reid remarked at the beginning of his invited address, NCABA now includes children and grandchildren of some of the original members either in presenters’ slides or in person. In addition to the daytime offerings the conference also included an evening poster session with awards for best undergraduate, graduate, and professional posters. Of course, the annual conference would not be complete without the presentation of awards to honor people who have promoted behavior analysis in applied research and everyday practice. Dr. Jim Bodfish received the Fred S. Keller Excellence in Behavior Analysis Award, Dr. Fred Spooner received the “Do Things” Award, Jason Cone received the Student Scholarship Award, and Rossana Lecaros received the Technical Utilization Award.

For the past several years with NCABA as both a BACB credentialed ACE Provider and NC Psychological Association approved provider, we have offered both behavior analyst and NC psychologist continuing education opportunities at the conference. Attendees received up to 17 CEs of Type II behavior analyst credits—11 of which were available for only \$30. 45 of our conference participants sought behavior analyst CEs and 114 participants attended conference workshops for behavior analyst and/or psychologist CEs.

Please visit our Web site at www.nc-aba.com and see additional highlights from the 20th anniversary NCABA conference including links to pictures. At the Web site you can also see descriptions of our awards and our newly elected officers and find information on becoming an NCABA member. The Board is already planning the 21st annual conference so please come join us in North Carolina!

Ohio ABA

BY SHEILA ALBER-MORGAN

We were excited about our first formal membership meeting at the 35th Annual ABAI conference in sunny Phoenix, Arizona. Prior to this, our initial meeting, the Interim Board received no interested inquiries regarding running for one of the elected offices, so interim leaders graciously agreed to serve another term, until elections in 2010. Ohio ABA members interested in serving in a leadership capacity for the state chapter of this wonderful international organization should contact any one of the board members listed at the end of this bulletin.

We still look forward to membership participation as we strive to expand our ability to disseminate information relevant to applied behavior analysis to both members and non-affiliates by establishing a Web site and conducting a brief conference for BCBA continuing education credits. Membership is open to faculty, students, parents, clinicians, teachers, administrators, and anyone interested in applied behavior analysis. Ohio ABA employs a tri-level membership system: full, student, and affiliate. Individuals interested in becoming members of Ohio ABA can contact any one of the board members listed below. Once your contact information is received, eligible individuals will be invited to join the Google group, where application and membership information can be accessed.

The Interim Board met four times since the 2008 inception of the chapter and our accomplishments included starting a Google group site for members, beginning our membership drive, updating and amending our bylaws and Mission/Objectives, and planning and implementing the first chapter meeting in Phoenix. Two committee chairs, as well as a student representative position, were created to assist with the missions and objectives of our organization. To that end, the Board recruited and appointed Dr. Mort Haugland as the BCBA Committee Interim Chair of Ohio ABA. The education chair and student representative positions will be filled on an interim basis within the next few months.

OH ABA’s interim leadership is as follows:

- Sheila Alber-Morgan, Interim President
- Terri Hessler, Interim President-Elect
- Laurice Joseph, Interim Secretary
- Helen Malone, Interim Treasurer
- Moira Konrad, Interim Membership Chair
- Mort Haugland, Interim BCBA Committee Chair
- Unfilled, Interim Education Chair
- Unfilled, Student Representative

Ontario Association for Behaviour Analysis

PETER WYNGAARDEN, B.A.SC., M.SC.

PRESIDENT, ONTARIO ASSOCIATION FOR

BEHAVIOUR ANALYSIS

Continuing to serve a growing community of professionals interested and involved in behaviour analysis in Ontario, the Ontario Association for Behaviour Analysis (ONTABA) had a 2008 membership of over 360 persons reflecting a variety of professional areas, such as education, nursing, health care and psychology. ONTABA also has members from at least four other provinces.

This past November saw ONTABA celebrate its 15th Annual General Meeting and Conference. Invited addresses from Dr. Vincent Carbone (A behavioural Analysis of Eye Contact as a Language pragmatic skill and how to teach it in children with Autism as well as The development of Complex Linguistic Structure in Children with Autism) and Dr. Robert Stromer (Stimulus Class Research and its relevance in Teaching Verbal Behaviour) contributed to this successful event. Additional talks, concurrent sessions, as well as a poster session represented a variety of issues and topics relating to behaviour analysis. It was another great conference: wonderful presenters, a great venue, and a fantastic time.

It was also great to celebrate the 15th AGM of ONTABA and, to mark this milestone, introduce ONTABA's new, official logo. It figures prominently in our newly redesigned Web site, new ONTABA brochures, new letterhead as well as t-shirts, which were offered for sale at the conference.

The ONTABA conference also saw the second presentation of the ONTABA award excellence in the field of Behaviour Analysis Education. The recipient was Dr. Andrew McNamara of St. Lawrence College in Kingston, Ontario. His work with students and commitment to education in behaviour analysis were commended in his nomination. ONTABA also solicits nominations for deserving candidates who have made outstanding contributions to Research in Behaviour Analysis or to the Clinical Practice in Behaviour Analysis.

In April of this year ONTABA was pleased to sponsor, with St. Lawrence College in Kingston, Ontario, a poster gala and speaker presentation entitled "Catch the Behavioural Wave". ONTABA continues to pursue creative ways to provide educational and professional development opportunities for professionals as well as encouraging students who are pursuing education in the field of behaviour analysis.

As ONTABA enters its 16th year as an organization, the board continues to work hard to make the organization serve the needs of its members. Multi-year membership renewals are now available, membership applications and re-

newals are now online, and the board, at members request, has actively pursued liability insurance for the membership.

This year ONTABA is undertaking several new initiatives. ONTABA continues to enhance its capacity for on-line registration and payment of membership and conference fees and to move toward paperless systems and to make communication to the membership greener and more convenient through the use of electronic means. *The ONTABA Analyst*—ONTABA's newsletter for information sharing, opinion pieces, research articles, and articles on clinical work, is being prepared for online publication.

However, much also needs to be done if ONTABA is to continue with its mission as effectively as possible. The board recognizes a need for some changes, updating and clarification of ONTABA's bylaws/policies/practices. Some committee roles and mandates require revisiting. The board is also working hard to enhance response rates for Board and Award nominations as well as facilitate transitions as new volunteers move into roles previously held for long terms (e.g., Conference, Membership). ONTABA's board and committees also continue to be active in areas of public policy and awareness of behaviour analysis.

Certification continues to be a major interest to ONTABA membership. Work continues to be done by ONTABA's Transitional Certification Committee for a formalized system of certification once the Alternative Pathways to BACB® certification have expired. In addition, ONTABA continues to investigate models and methods of certification for practitioners of behaviour analysis who provide direct, hands-on ABA-based services.

Oregon ABA

BY SARAH SHAEFER

The Oregon Association for Behavior Analysis was officially recognized as a state affiliated chapter in November, 2008 and official membership began early this year. Meetings have been consistently conducted on a monthly basis to develop a strong foundation for future growth. OR-ABA has had the privilege of welcoming experts including Dr. Allan Neuringer and Kelly Ferris as presenters at chapter meetings. OR-ABA currently has 10 full members and is actively disseminating chapter information statewide with the hopes of obtaining additional support. The goals of OR-ABA in 2009–2010 include applying to be an approved CE provider, filing for tax exempt status, continuing to promote the field of behavior analysis through community outreach, participating in legislative efforts to recognize behavior analysis as an empirically based treatment, establishing a state university program in behavior analysis, and soliciting qualified behavior analysts to practice in the beautiful state of Oregon.

See CHAPTERS on page 70

CHAPTERS continued from page 69

Pennsylvania ABA

BY KEITH WILLIAMS

On March 26–27, 2009, we again had our annual two-day conference at the Hershey Lodge. On the first day of the conference, we had four half-day workshops: Suzanne Letso, M.A., BCBA, CEO of the Connecticut Center for Child Development conducted a workshop on legal and ethical issues; James Mulick, Ph.D., Professor of Psychology at the Ohio State University conducted a workshop on recognizing fads in autism services; Ray Romanczyk, Ph.D., BCBA, Director of the Institute for Child Development and Emily Huber Callahan, M.S. of the Institute for Child Development conducted a workshop on policy and practice with individuals with autism spectrum disorders; and Dennis Russo, Ph.D., Chief Clinical Officer of the May Institute conducted a workshop on the use of ABA in the treatment of brain injury. These workshops were attended by 79 individuals. A social hour and poster presentation were held after the conclusion of the workshops. On the second day of our conference, our workshop speakers were joined by Jim Johnston, Ph.D., BCBA, for a speakers' series. The speakers' series was attended by 95 individuals. Rich Miller, the Business Manager for PennABA, was presented with a highly deserved award from the organization for his tireless efforts in making our conferences a success.

PennABA will continue to offer continuing education for the growing number of behavior analysts within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as well as for individuals with an interest in the field of behavior analysis. Our 2010 conference is currently in the planning stages and will again be held at the Hershey Lodge in Hershey, PA.

PennABA maintains a comprehensive Web site that contains information about membership, our annual conference, local job opportunities for behavior analysts, the organization's officers, and links to our electronic newsletter.

Our Web site is found at: www.pennaba1.org.

Philippine Association for Behavior Analysis, Inc.

BY MA. TERESA COJUANGCO

As in the previous years, 2008 was not an easy year for the association. We are continuously faced with obstacles that make it more challenging to continue the work we have started. However, it is through the determination of our officers and the inspiration from our children that the association continues to thrive. The past year was difficult, but through the generous support of our consultant Dr. Joseph Morrow of the ABC School in Sacramento, CA we were able to invite Dr. Linda Copeland to come to the Philippines in 2008. PABA was able to mount a two-day lecture

entitled: Autism, ABA and Evidence-Based Practices: A Developmental Pediatrician's Perspective. Dr. Copeland is a Developmental Pediatrician and a Board Certified Behavior Analyst from Kaiser Developmental Pediatrics at Rancho Cordova, California. Dr. Copeland came in August 2008 and generously shared her time and resources to the association through her lectures. She discussed The Evidence on Complementary and Alternative Medical Interventions for Autism. She also talked about differential diagnosis in her lecture "The Withdrawn Child: Is it Autism?" and a very informative talk on ABA and evidenced-based practices. We were also very fortunate to have been able to invite two local speakers to participate in this event. We thank Ms. Maria Rosario Joaquin who shared with us The Pyramid Approach to Teaching Children with Autism. Ms. Joaquin is Special Education teacher and is the Directress of Shine Intervention Center, a PABA accredited SPED facility and ABA provider. She is also the current Secretary of PABA. We were also very fortunate that Ms. Anna Lichaoco agreed to join us in that event. She is also a Special Education teacher and the current Program Director of A Child Can Foundation, also an PABA accredited ABA provider. Ms. Lichaoco talked about The BIG PICTURE: Creating a Clear Picture of the Future where she discussed with the audience ways to prepare children with autism and their families for the future.

We had a great turn out for this event where attendees were mostly teachers and parents and based on the feedback we got from the audience we know that they learned a lot from all our speakers. Many continue to request for more lectures of this kind with more focus on ABA training.

For 2009, we look forward to having more lectures and trainings on ABA for our teachers and therapists in the Philippines. We stay committed to making continuing education particularly in the field ABA, accessible and affordable to all individuals working with children with autism and their families. We also look forward to continuously working with Dr. Morrow and the ABC School. It is through their generosity and commitment to ABA that PABA has been able to provide lectures on ABA on a yearly basis since we were organized in 2006. Without their assistance we would not have been able to provide lectures to our members and everyone who have an interest in Behavior Analysis.

We also hope and look forward to accrediting more ABA providers for 2009 to finally achieve our goal to professionalize the practice of ABA in our country.

Polish Behavioral Therapy Association

BY EWA KULIGA-MUSIO

The Polish Behavioral Therapy Association (Polskie Stowarzyszenie Terapii Behawioralnej or PTBA) is a

country-wide non-profit organization, consociating active practitioners of behavioral therapy. The PBTA's mission is providing multidirectional, comprehensive, and professional help to the disabled—in particular, to persons suffering from emotional and intellectual disabilities—and to their families. Another vital purpose of PTBA is promoting behavioral therapy among therapists and academics.

Currently, the Polish Behavioral Therapy Association:

- has 140 registered members from every significant behavioral therapy center in Poland, as well as the parents of persons undergoing behavioral therapy and other concerned experts (physicians, academics, students);
- provides substantial patronage for and co-operates with a number of Polish centers and institutions (in Krakow, Gdansk, Kielce, Lublin, Bydgoszcz, and Warsaw, among others) oriented on providing effective help to persons with autism;
- publishes the informational periodical *Krok za krokiem* (*Step by Step*) with articles by world-renowned experts on teaching persons with autism.

In 2008 the PTBA focused its activities on:

1. Promoting behavioral therapy through:

- organizing specialist trainings for a wide range of attendees (mainly the teachers and parents of the emotionally and developmentally disabled). Over 700 participants attended such trainings in 2008.
- conducting practical trainings (training and observational internships) for pedagogy (The Pedagogical University of Cracow, the Jagiellonian University) and psychology (the Jagiellonian University) students and tutors from other educational institutions,
- endorsing the supervision system,
- promotional actions (publishing brochures and flyers, propagating information via Web sites);

2. Fulfilling statutory activities in forms focused on helping the disabled through:

- Operating the Behavioral Therapy Clinic (Ambulatorium Terapii Behawioralnej or BTC), where we provide therapeutic support for the families of developmentally and emotionally challenged persons from all over Poland. The BTC's operations include: diagnostic consultations for children with suspected developmental disorders (performed usually by a committee consisting of a psychiatrist, a psychologist, a speech therapist, a special education teacher, and a rehabilitator) and conducting home therapy programs (the consultations are an opportunity to establish a program for the therapy and the parents are instructed on its implementation; during subsequent visits such a program undergoes the necessary modifications and the parents' skills are further improved). Currently PBTA's BTC oversees home therapy for 400 families

throughout Poland.

- Operating the Emergency Intervention Team (Zespół Interwencji Kryzysowej or EIT)—a short-term (up to two weeks), intensive therapy for persons with developmental and behavioral disorders and for their families, facing material and other hardships. In 2008, around 25 families from all over Poland used this form of therapy.
3. Obtaining resources allowing further development of the organization and branching out through introducing new statutory activities (including research programs).
 4. Opening a local branch of the BTC in Wroclaw, which commenced its activity early in 2009.
 5. One of the more important events of 2008 was organizing a behavioral rehabilitation camp. 11 families from the whole country participated in the event; the camp involved intensive therapy work, aimed first and foremost at instructing and supervising the work of the parents and guardians of persons with developmental and emotional disorders under the care of the BTC. The camp also included theoretical trainings for the participants, the purpose of which was to broaden and deepen the scope of the parents' and guardians' knowledge on applied behavioral analysis.
 6. The other key event organized by the PBTA in 2008 was the "Czas na dialog" (Time To Talk) conference for special education teachers. The participants included 500 special education teachers and psychologists from all over the country, professionally helping persons with a wide range of disorders, and employing various methods of therapy. The key points of the conference were discussions on:
 - the aims and priorities of therapy of persons with developmental, emotional, and behavioral disorders,
 - problem issues in cooperation with parents,
 - adult life of the disabled.

The goals of the conference for 2009 are to include a post-conference book, which is to collect the lectures and records of the discussions conducted during the conference.

This year the PBTA intends to continue its work with the BTC and the EIT. Considering the enormous demand and the popularity of last year's rehabilitation camp, the PBTA plans to repeat a behavioral rehabilitation camp this summer. As in the previous year, the purpose of this camp shall be to aid the families of persons with emotional disorders from all over Poland, in particular the families of the patients of the behavioral therapy centers supervised by the PBTA, as well as the patients of the BTC and EIT.

See CHAPTERS on page 72

CHAPTERS continued from page 71

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

BY DR. CARLOS FLORES, DR. ÓSCAR GARCÍA,
AND DRA. NORA RANGEL

The Mexican Society of Behavior Analysis (MSBA) publishes the *Mexican Journal of Behavior Analysis (MJBA)* and organizes the Mexican Congress of Behavior Analysis, which seeks to disseminate behavior analysis in Mexico. The 19th installment of the congress took place on March 23–25, 2009, in Aguascalientes. The convention gathered about 500 attendees from 18 states of the country, representing 48 different public and private universities. The program included 279 presentations given by

faculty, students, and professional psychologists. There were also 22 invited national conferences (E. Ribes, J. Burgos, V. Alcaraz, C. Bruner, J. Nieto, C. Ibáñez, L. Acuña, S. Cruz, J. Irigoyen, G. Bachá, R. Ávila, A. Torres, C. Santoyo, R. Cabrera, J. Vila, P. Arriaga, A. López-Espinoza, A. Bazán, K. Martínez, R. Hernández-Pozo, A. Zárate, and V. Corral), and five international keynote addresses (C. Saldaña, R. Pellón, T. Peña, W. López, and C. Miguez). Additionally, the program featured 15 symposia with 64 speakers; 17 paper sessions with 77 presenters; 100 posters; three tutorials on philosophy; and six workshops on reading skills, learning models, assessment in elementary school, and guidelines for writing research reports.

Figure 1 shows a comparison between the 19th and the 18th congress, held in November 2007 in Xalapa.

The 19th congress attracted about the same number of attendees and presentations. However, the 19th congress surpassed the previous one in other respects. State representation increased from 16 to 18 states, university representation from 35 to 48 universities, the number of authors and coauthors from 384 to 412, the number of invited conferences from nine to 22, and we enjoyed the

participation of five international speakers. Although symposia and its respective speakers increased from 13 (with 52 presenters) to 15 (with 64 presenters), paper sessions decreased from 27 (with 102 presenters) to 17 (with 77 speakers). Most notably, posters increased from 50 to 100. While the tutorials decreased from six to three, the workshops remained the same (six).

With regard to the balance of papers on applied and basic behavior analysis and theory, the former clearly exceeded the latter, replicating the same balance of our 2007 convention. With regard to the type of subject used for research, the papers (symposia and paper sessions) were 57 with animals and 175 with humans.

The graphic shows not only that the 19th congress was a success, but also that behavior analysis in Mexico remains very active. This result supports Carlos Bruner's (Past-president of MSBA) claim in previous articles of the ABA Newsletter (Bruner, 2006, 2008) that Mexican behavior analysts are well-versed on a variety of themes, both in the breadth and depth of their knowledge and in their coverage of topics, both traditional and in vogue. In addition, such coverage is wide enough to contribute significantly to the development of our discipline, both in Mexico and internationally. The presence of members of the international community at the convention shows this kind of international collaboration.

South Carolina ABA

BY PAT MCCARTHY

For a couple of years, a group of professionals and parents from South Carolina who were involved with applied behavior analysis discussed the need for an organization to advocate for quality ABA-related services. They often sought information and guidance through their welcoming neighbors involved in NCABA. After a few bumps and false starts, the South Carolina Chapter of the Association for Behavior Analysis was formed in February, 2008, during the NCABA conference at Wrightsville Beach. The group of South Carolina behavior analysts initiating the application to submit to ABA International were seeking an avenue for statewide sharing of ideas and a way to promote quality ABA-based programming in South Carolina at a time when funding was becoming increasingly available to families, yet qualified providers were still scarce.

The first step taken by the founding officers (Pat McCarthy, President; Angie Slice-Jones, Vice President; and May Baird, Secretary/Treasurer) was to develop a mission statement which supported the needs that had been identified by those seeking a formal organization. The adopted mission statement is to promote the awareness and use of the principles and practices of applied behavior analysis in the delivery of treatment and

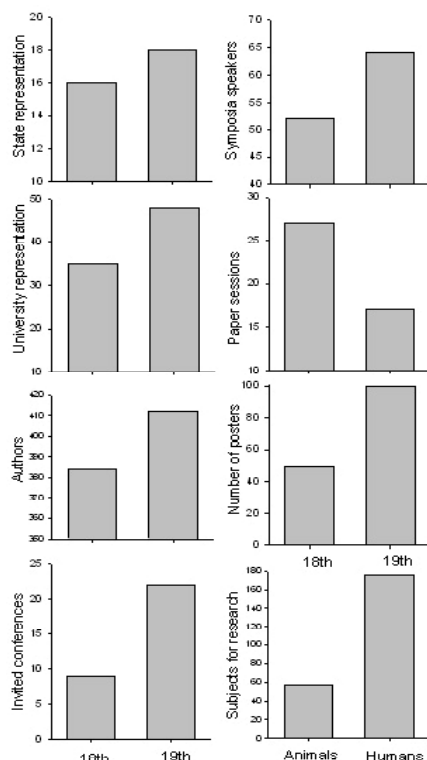


Figure 1:
Comparison between the 19th and the 18th congress

psychological support services in natural environments. In carrying out this mission, SCABA hopes to (a) provide a framework for sharing of information and ideas amongst those who are involved or would like to become involved in effective, ethical ABA-based programming; (b) support the partnership between parents and providers involved in ABA-based service delivery; (c) encourage quality ABA-based research within the state; and (d) promote socially validated and evidence-based interventions which maintain the dignity of the individuals involved.

SCABA plans to meet quarterly with a typical agenda lasting four hours, including a business meeting plus one or more members presenting current ABA-based research and/or programs currently in South Carolina or our neighboring states. After three full membership meetings, SCABA has 38 registered members.

The first meeting was held in October, 2008, in conjunction with the South Carolina Autism Society's annual conference. Only a business meeting over lunch was conducted since many members were attending the conference. The program consisted a review of the history of the SCABA formation, an inspection of the mission and by-laws, and a brainstorming session on the future format of meetings.

The second quarterly meeting was held in January, 2009. As spelled out in the Bylaws, nominations for a new Vice President were taken, so that the membership would be allowed to vote for an officer within the first year, followed by voting for the other two officers the second year. Angie Slice Jones had agreed to serve as SCABA's start-up Vice President until this first election. Following this election, she was replaced by Christian Martin for the 2009 calendar year. He will advance to President in January 2010, then to Past President in 2011. The program for this second meeting consisted of two presenters. Secretary/Treasurer May Baird presented the research project that she had presented at the ABAI Conference in Chicago. She was followed by Christian Martin, who led the group in a lively discussion surrounding the current literature/research involving ABA.

The third meeting of SCABA was held in April 2009. At this meeting, Chairpersons for two new committees were introduced. Stacey Sherman was introduced as the Chair of the Legislative Update Committee and Barbara Agnello was announced as the Chair of the BACB Update Committee. Following the business meeting, SCABA member Barbara Agnello presented the research from UNC- Charlotte involving the Access to General Education Curriculum for Students with Significant Cognitive Impairments funded by a partnership between NAAC and Project Mastery. A second presentation was conducted by SCABA member Jay Cole. He discussed the evolution of his clinic to serve children ages six and under who have a diagnosis of autism and their ABA-based interventions and success.

The next quarterly meeting will be held in July, 2009,

and will highlight member Hugh Wilson's dissertation research being conducted in ABA-based classrooms. In the afternoon, SCABA is hosting an ethics workshop for behavior analysts, taught by Duke Schell, Past President of NCABA. Plans are being made for this workshop to provide the opportunity for BACB CEUs.

Since SCABA is in its infancy, our role and possibilities are still evolving. All the SCABA officers attended the ABAI Convention in Phoenix, along with several other members. Information gathered from the national office and other states has helped SCABA form ways to carry out its mission. The group will once again hold the October meeting in conjunction with the South Carolina Autism Society conference. We also hope to develop a Web site and brochure sometime within the year. Additionally, plans have been discussed for the development of a list of SCABA members and the type of ABA-based services that they provide to be shared with families and agencies seeking assistance.

SCABA welcomes new members. Membership is open to anyone within the state of South Carolina who is interested in the application of the principles and procedures of behavior analysis. If you are interested in hearing more about SCABA, being placed on the mailing list for announcements of meetings and events, and/or would like to receive a membership application, please send an e-mail to patmccarthy@sc.rr.com.

Swedish ABA

BY KENNETH NILSSON

Swedish ABA (SWABA) is approaching 200 members, the largest number since the organization was founded in 1996. The interest for behavior analysis in Sweden has risen as over the last few years, with increasing demands for applied behavior analysis from among parents and others, mainly in the areas of autism and developmental disorders.

The interest for Organizational Behavior Management has over the last year attracted consultants working in several areas, e.g., health care, industry, banking, and governmental services. There are now several opportunities to learn OBM in Sweden, such as workshops with visiting behavior analysts from the US and the UK.

SWABA was represented at ABAI 2009 in Phoenix, Arizona. During the convention, SWABA presented a poster at the International Expo. Also, bids were accepted for a unique SWABA t-shirt, proceeds of which were donated to the ABA International Development Fund.

SWABA maintains a Web forum for its members, which can be reached from the organization's Web site (www.swaba.org). The Web site will go through major changes during the year, and should be up and running by September, 2009.

See SWABA on page 74

SWABA continued from page 73

SWABA would like to encourage anyone who plans to visit Sweden or Scandinavia to contact Kenneth Nilsson (kenneth.nilsson@beteendeanalys.com), the current president, to arrange a meeting. SWABA will arrange its annual meeting in Stockholm in the late fall of 2009.

Taiwan ABA

BY HUA FENG

During the past year, Taiwan ABA accomplished quite a lot. First of all, SEEK Education and TABA collaborated with Wu-han Women's and Children's Hospital held an international conference in Wu-han, China during April 10–12, 2008. Two honors scholars, Dr. William Heward and Dr. Gerald Shook, three board members in TABA, and two behavioral consultants in Seek Education were invited to lecture at the international conference. The topics included ABA principles, intervention strategies, ABA and theory-of-mind, respond cards, functional behavior assessment and positive behavioral support, BACB overview, etc. More than 200 people from around China's provinces attended the conference and made great impacts on the treatment of children with autism in China. With continued professional support from SEEK Education, Wu-han Women's and Children's Hospital has established an intensive treatment program for children with autism soon after the conference. More than 100 children are involved in the ABA program and making great improvements. In addition, three workshops lasting at least two days were held in north, central, and south Taiwan, and attracted more than 200 participants. A six-day advanced workshop for professionals was held in Taipei with 40 participants, and a four-day workshop for parents was held in Taichung and Taipei, and drew about 45 participants.

The Graduate Institute of Rehabilitation Counseling, National Changhua University of Education, continues to offer BCBA course sequences through the on-campus Master's degree program and the number of students enrolled in this program has grown from three to eight. The backgrounds of the students are very diverse from special educators, PT, OT, ST, and clinic psychologists. SEEK Education also continues the satellite program offered by University of Nevada, Reno, and is trying to offer other options for professionals interested in pursuing BCBA accreditation in Taiwan. TABA also tries to encourage other universities which are interested in establishing the certified program in Northern or Southern Taiwan.

Plans for the upcoming year will include different programs and activities. First of all, an international two-day conference and the third annual convention will be held together in Taipei. The major theme of the conference is to promote evidence-based intervention and accountability of the ABA service. In the conference, posters and paper

presentations will display evidence-based research from around Taiwan and other countries. The president of the ABAA, Dr. William Heward will be the keynote speaker for the conference. Three other professors from America and a director and BC from SEEK Education will be invited to lecture at the conference. TABA will continue to provide applied behavior analysis training programs of beginning, intermediate, and advanced levels to parents, teachers, and professionals in Taiwan. An educational broadcast station in Chang-hua, enables TABA to share the development and mission of our association. A sequence of interviews in the broadcasts will plan to share the ideals and mission of TABA. At least one issue of the TABA journal will be published and TABA will maintain a Web site (<http://www.taiwanaba.org.tw>) where one can find conference announcements, membership directory, parents' sharing, and links to other behavior analysis sites, including ABAA.

Tennessee ABA

BY JASON OTTO

The Tennessee Association for Behavior Analysis (TABA) is an affiliate chapter of the Association for Behavior Analysis International officially formed in 1997. TABA's mission is to advance awareness, development, and access to the practice of behavior analysis in the State of Tennessee. Our membership currently consists primarily of clinicians in the area of Applied Behavior Analysis. However, we have a growing contingent of researchers, students, consumers, and other professionals. TABA offers several events during the year for ongoing education and CEUs for behavior analysts. The Annual TABA Conference provides an opportunity for state and regional behavior analysts to come together to learn about new research and practices, as well as providing a venue for local Behavior Analysts to present their own work. TABA provides opportunities for its members to network and communicate regarding issues that directly pertain to their practice in Behavior Analysis within the state and nationally. TABA has three different membership categories: Full Membership, Affiliate Membership, and Student Membership. More information regarding membership can be found at: www.taba.org.

TABA had its 11th annual conference November 7–9, 2008, at the Opryland Hotel; Nashville, TN. TABA was able to provide attendees the opportunity to receive 18 CEU's. We had great invited presenters, as well as many great local presenters. The conference was a great success with attendees ranging from Applied Behavior Analysts, to students and parents.

Our Continuing Education Committee is hard at work planning our 12th annual conference! The 2009 conference will be October 23–24, 2009, at the Scarritt-Bennett Center, Nashville, TN. We will have great invited presenters, including: Jerry Shook, Linda Hayes,

Sigrid Glenn, Joey Reyes, and Jim Carr. We are also currently accepting submission for presentations. The submission deadline is July 15, 2009. The early registration deadline is September 15, 2009. You can register on site after September 15, 2009. To find out more information regarding membership, registration, and presentation submissions please check out our Web site at: www.taba.org.

TABA has several goals for the 2009–2010 year. One will be to continue to offer members opportunities for education and CEU's through the planning of our annual conference. Our second major goal is to obtain non-profit status to secure TABA's financial stability in the future. Progress has been made on this goal through the efforts of our Director of Operations and a nonprofit consulting group hired to assist in the non-profit application process. A third goal is to educate our membership on current legislative issues, such as licensure. This is a concern both statewide and nationally for our members. Our Professional Standards Committee has gathered information from The Association for Professional Behavior Analysts (APBA), as well as The Association for Behavior Analysis (ABAI) Practice Board regarding legislation and licensure. There has been no determination as to what Tennessee Behavior Analysts feel is the appropriate actions regarding legislation in our state at this time. However, from the discussions with these two national organizations, it is clear that one thing TABA needs to do immediately is form closer relationships with other groups affiliated with or that use behavior analysis. In Tennessee, as with most states, there is not a large number of Behavior Analysts; therefore we must foster relationships with those groups who will be able to support behavior analysis legislation should there be a need. This is a topic of much concern for Tennessee behavior analysts and will be discussed during TABA's annual business meeting during the 2009 Annual Conference.

Vermont ABA

BY MEG MCGEE

The Vermont Association for Behavior Analysis (VABA) dedicated much its board's time and energy to two significant initiatives this year.

The first is the pursuit of state licensure for Board Certified Behavior Analysts and Board Certified Associate Behavior Analysts in Vermont. The VABA Legislative Committee, led by Vice-Chair Melinda Neff, submitted the Sunrise Application to the Vermont Secretary of State Office of Professional Regulation in June 2008. Upon review of the application a call for testimony was initiated and heard by this same office in January 2009. VABA's Board received unyielding support and expertise from Joe Cautilli, PhD, BCBA, Michael Weinberg, PhD, BCBA (ABAI-Practice Board) and Michael Dorsey, PhD, BCBA (ABAI-Practice Board) with their testimony in support of

Vermont's initiative. In addition to Drs. Cautilli, Weinberg and Dorsey's testimony, the Office of Professional Regulation heard from VABA board members, parents, professionals and consumers across the state with letters, phone calls and live testimony. The Office of Professional Regulation is currently developing a report to be reviewed by the Vermont Legislature next session.

The second major initiative of our chapter was the dissemination of accurate information about Applied Behavior Analysis and its application in the state to the general public. The board voted to pursue this initiative through the development of a new Web page. Given the rural nature of our state and the localized expertise in Applied Behavior Analysis, utilizing the World Wide Web was deemed the most efficient, effective and costly means to achieve this initiative. Working with Eternity Web of Eternity Marketing of Burlington, VT, the Technology Committee has designed a new interactive Web page and hopes to reveal it at the VABA Annual Meeting being held on June 24th, 2009 at 3:30 PM at the Double Tree Hotel in South Burlington, VT.

As we approach a significant change in the board this June, membership recruitment, increasing the organization's financial holdings, and establishing an annual Vermont Association for Behavior Analysis conference are prioritized tasks to take them into the next year.

Virginia ABA

BY SHERRY SERDIKOFF

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

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

On March 28, 2009 we held our fifth annual conference. The invited addresses featured behavior analysts specializing in a wide range of areas: Chris Correia (Auburn University), Lisa Winborn-Kemmerer (West Virginia University), Carl Lejuez (University of Maryland), and Jessica Irons (James Madison University). Additionally, there was a poster session that featured primarily student research. We intend to hold our sixth annual conference on March 27, 2010. Please visit our Web site at www.v-aba.org. ♦

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NECC is a recipient of the 2005 SABA Award for Enduring Contributions to Behavior Analysis and the National Award for Model Professional Development from the US Department of Education.

To learn more about NECC visit our Web site at www.NECC.org.

The Institute of Professional Practice

The Institute of Professional Practice has extensive experience providing evidenced-based, effective treatments to people of all ages with a variety of disabilities. Our

breadth of services and expertise in ABA allows us to offer many opportunities for those seeking professional experience and advancement in clinical work with children and adults. We are currently seeking motivated and qualified candidates to join our clinical teams in NH, MA, CT, and MD in the following programs: children's foster care, school consultation, early intervention, family supports, and adult services. Must have a Master's degree and BCBA or be qualified for the same.

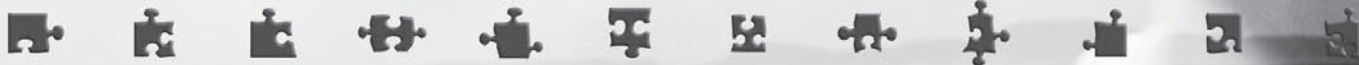
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Vice President, Clinical Services
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This conference exposed providers of home and school-based behavior analysis services, parents and family members, caregivers, researchers, teacher trainers, and students to the most current, scientifically validated information about behavior analysis in autism treatment. The single-track conference featured 11 invited presentations and question and answer sessions by prominent researchers and authorities on the treatment of autism.

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Society for the Advancement of Behavior Analysis

Sidney W. and Janet R. Bijou Fellowship

Application Deadline: September 18, 2009

Origin

In December 1996, Dr. Sidney W. and Janet R. Bijou donated a substantial amount of money to SABA to establish the Sidney W. and Janet R. Bijou Fellowship Program. In 2003, Dr. Bijou made a second donation to increase the number of Fellowships offered annually to two.

Fellowship Objective

The objective of the Sidney W. and Janet R. Bijou Fellowship Program is to enable doctoral students to study child development from a behavior-analytic perspective.

The Fellowship provides grants for two students per year in a doctoral program in psychology or education, in which it is possible to conduct research in behavioral child development. For each academic year the Fellowship will provide two \$5,000 grants.

Criteria for Applicants

Letters of Recommendation

Applicants must obtain letters of recommendation in support of their application. Letters of recommendation are limited to two; further letters will not be reviewed. Additionally, the applicant's advisor must send a letter verifying that the applicant has a minimum of two full years in the program remaining after the date of the award.

Professional Commitment

The primary criterion for the Sidney W. and Janet R. Bijou Fellowship is the applicant's commitment to the study and research of child development from a behavior-analytic perspective.

Academic Level

Applicants must be enrolled or have been accepted as a student in a doctoral program in a department of psychology or education, in which there are a sufficient number of behaviorally oriented faculty members to sponsor and supervise research in child development. As well, the student must have at least two full years in the program remaining after the date of the award.

Nationality of the Student and Location of the Program

There are no constraints on the recipient's nationality or on the country in which the university is located.

Applicants may not apply for the Bijou Fellowship and the SABA Experimental Fellowship in the same year.

Selection Procedure

The SABA Board of Directors constitutes the Fellowship Selection Committee. The SABA Board consists of the full members of the ABA Executive Council and SABA's Secretary-Treasurer. The Fellowship Selection Committee selects applicants at the Fall Board Meeting. The Fellowship recipients are announced during the SABA Awards Ceremony in the opening event of ABA's annual convention and the recipients' names are published in the ABAI Newsletter.

Application Procedure

Those students interested in applying for the Sidney W. and Janet R. Bijou Fellowship Program should submit the following documents to the SABA office, in the given order:

1. A two-page, typed description of the applicant's research interests, as they relate to child development from a behavior-analytic perspective (approximately 1,000 words).
2. A short résumé or curriculum vitae (2 page maximum)
3. Two letters of recommendation.
4. Letter from Advisor verifying place (year of total number of years) in degree program.

Deadline for Submissions

Applications must be received at the SABA office by September 18, 2009

For More Information Contact

Experimental Analysis of Behavior Fellowship Program
Sidney W. and Janet R. Bijou Fellowship Program
550 West Centre Avenue; Suite 1
Portage, MI 49024-5364
Phone: (269) 492-9310
Fax: (269) 492-9316
E-mail: Mail@abainternational.org



MAY 28 – JUNE 1, 2010

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