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Inside Behavior Analysis

Newsletter of the Association for Behavior Analysis International

Issue Date: August 2010

Issue Number: Vol. 2, No. 2

Frequency of Publication: The newsletter is published three times annually. Subscriptions are provided with ABAI membership; others may subscribe from the ABAI website: www.abainternational.org

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ON THE COVER: A mariachi dancer at the ABAI Annual Convention in San Antonio.
Photography: GOEN SOUTH PHOTOGRAPHY & VIDEO

The President's Column

BY PATRICK C. FRIMAN

The conventional purpose of the president's column is to share some of the major developments in the Association and decisions of the Executive Council (EC). In doing so, the presidential column usually starts out with comments on exciting times, new developments, growth, and success. However, what remains in my mind from the recent annual convention is conflict.

This is not to say that the times are not exciting or that nothing new has developed or that we have not grown in positive and important directions. Quite the contrary, as perusal of this newsletter will quickly reveal, the times they are exciting, new developments abound, growth could be our middle name, and success is in the air. But for good or for ill, conflict is in our midst. The reason for the apparent digression above is to let interested readers know what to expect of a president during these interesting times. Very simply, expect mediation and compromise. When I do marriage counseling, I inform both partners that the marriage is my primary client. As president of ABAI, I see the organization as my client, not particular factions, parties, or positions. So what is this big conflict that leads

Photography: PAUL FISHER

me to promote my role as mediator, you may ask yourself? Here is a hint: it rhymes with cactus—and, if events at the annual convention in San Antonio are any indication, it can function like one (i.e., grabbing it incautiously quickly produces pain). I speak, of course, of practice.

Two major events have brought behavior analytic practice to center stage. The first is the ground-breaking paper on behavior analytic treatment of autism published by the late and great Ivar Løvaas in 1987 and the second is the widespread acceptance of functional analysis and assessment technologies, especially, but not only, by the educational community in the United States. Behavior analytic practice was always a possibility. With the success of applied behavior analysis in general, and the *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis* in particular, it became a probability. And with the two events I mentioned above, it became an actuality. Although some prescient members may have envisioned the growth in practice we have witnessed in the past decade or so, I number myself among the many taken by surprise by the size and rapidity of that growth. The size is reflected by the amount of practice-based activity at the recent annual convention. ABAI activities on behalf of the practice of behavior analysis dominated the conversations EC members had with ABAI members during the entire convention. Practice-related conversations emerged on the River Walk, in the bar, foyer, ad hoc meetings, SIG meetings, Practice Board events, and at numerous other events. For EC members, the convention was suffused with all things practice, and then more practice, and then even more practice. As one particularly illuminating example, I went to a meeting on the role of science in ABAI and, smack me in the forehead and ask me why it slopes, if talk there didn't turn to practice, too. Throughout the convention, practice-minded members regularly approached EC members as they wandered through the site (presumably in search of a practice-free moment) and shared with them their thoughts and opinions about ABAI's role in supporting practice.

Perhaps because I work with adolescents so often, I tend to employ adolescent metaphors and analogies to understand and explain my world. Adolescence is a period of rapid growth and development, some, and often much, of which is painful and awkward. There are many goals in adolescence, but two dominate—the quest for identity and independence. In those respects, the mounting dynamics in the practice dimension of ABAI is not unlike adolescence. The field is experiencing enormous growth, and this has been accompanied by painful awkward moments. The myriad practice-related events at the convention and beyond are good examples.

Parents are almost always unprepared for the changes that accompany adolescence, especially in their first-born. There are similarities here, too. For example, parents marvel at the rapidity and size of the growth that occurs in their children as they develop into adolescents. As president of our parent organization, I too marvel at the rapidity, size in the growth, and change in practice. I hope it does not shake your confidence in the EC unduly when I say we were not fully prepared for it. Central to the growth that our field is experiencing is the desire by practice-minded members to establish their own identities and obtain increased independence from the

As one particularly illuminating example, I went to a meeting on the role of science in ABAI and, smack me in the forehead and ask me why it slopes, if talk there didn't turn to practice, too.

parent organization. The EC, along with the Practice Board, Education, and Science Boards, has been trying to provide support and guidance to practice-minded members across the organization. There has not been much objection to the support, to the extent that it has been provided.

In fact, some have asserted that more support is needed and wanted. But, apparently, the guidance has caused upset, most notably with regard to ABAI's Model Licensing Act.

ABAI, as an organization, has formally supported licensure for behavior analysts. This support is consistent with the long-term goals of practice-minded members—licensure maximizes professional identity and independence. Unfortunately licensure can be difficult to achieve. One of my most treasured professional moments was the receipt of my license as a clinical psychologist in 1988. But obtaining that license was unlike a day at the beach, there were several requirements that were expensive for the state of Nebraska to establish and difficult for me to meet. In some states licensing may be nearly impossible, at least in the short term, because budgetary constraints have temporarily eliminated options for licensure of new professions (licensing new professions is an expensive state enterprise). The bottom line is that if licensure were the only option, some professional behavior analysts would not be able to practice. Fortunately, there is another option, certification. Certification is much easier to obtain and it supplies some of what practice-minded members want, identity and independence. Perhaps not as much as would be supplied by licensure, but enough to keep members who seek it happy.

Unfortunately, the presence of the certification option establishes a potential conflict between advocates for it and advocates for licensure. Some relevant major goals of the EC are promotion of the identity and independence of practitioners and protection of the values and standards of the organization. As an example, eight states (Arizona, Connecticut, Kentucky, Missouri, Nevada,

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Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin) have enacted licensure legislation, and that number will continue to grow. In other words, the licensure movement does have viability and momentum. Consistent with the EC goal of promoting the identity and independence of practitioners, we support that movement. But, consistent with the concerns about certification versus licensure mentioned above, there are some states in which that movement, at least temporarily, is not viable. In those states the EC supports certification—until the possibility of licensure is established by the state. In other words, licensure and certification can comfortably co-exist with certification as a needed target and licensure as an ultimate endpoint.

So, there does not appear to be a fundamental basis for conflict here. However, there is another source of conflict and, although it has been perceived as intractable, it now appears to be readily resolvable. By the time you are reading this, it could actually be resolved. I refer specifically to dueling model licensure acts, one from ABAI and one from the Behavior Analysis Certification Board (BACB). You may think of these as dueling pistols. I prefer to think of them as dueling pianos. And, just as the dueling pianos at the recent convention played together in a way that promoted fun for all participants, I believe ABAI and BACB can work together to promote practice for all. The major difference between the ABAI and BACB model licensing acts is in the educational standards each promotes for licensure. The EC along with the Practice, Education, and Membership Boards have advocated for the educational standards defined by the ABAI Accreditation Program. The BACB, on the other hand, has advocated for the standards to be defined by certification requirements through their task analyses and gradual, progressive increases in educational requirements. In a recent council meeting, the EC concluded that the ABAI accreditation standards for education and for state-level licensure were related but distinct domains of concern. As a result of that conclusion, the EC voted to excise the requirement that licensees must matriculate at an ABAI accredited school from its Model Licensing Act. Furthermore, the EC voted to have its representatives (CEO and current and past president) work jointly with the leadership of the BACB (Jerry Shook and Judy Favell) on a common model licensing act, the completion of which should readily allow for a united behavior analytic front to state legislators considering licensure (or certification) of behavior analysts.

There is another dimension to this already complex situation, specifically science. ABAI started out as a scientific organization and succeeded as one. In other words, it has shown it can succeed independent of practice. But could ABAI function, not to mention succeed, as a strictly practice-based organization? This has not been

shown to be the case, nor could it, in my view. Science and scientists are critical, not just to the intellectual scope and quality of the organization, but ultimately to the credibility of behavior analytic practice—a type of practice that prides itself not only on a scientifically supported approach to behavior change but on one that is actually defined by scientific support. As indicated above, one of the two fundamental reasons for the rapid growth of behavior analytic practice is the scientific demonstration that behavior analytic methods can have an ameliorative effect on symptoms of autism. Yet, the role of science in ABAI is increasingly the subject of debate, reflected by convention activities such as couch level caucuses, bar table debates, and the symposium on the role of science in ABAI alluded to above. As I write these words, I am hesitant because it feels as if I am giving voice to something that seems almost unspeakable, unthinkable even—the possibility of a non-scientific ABAI. Could it happen? Let's just say the possibility has been raised. But should it happen? Here I can be much clearer: not now, not ever. Speaking as just one individual, I am a practitioner first and foremost, but I come to ABAI mostly for the science. It fuels my thinking and feeds my work—and I need a lot of fuel and food. If I may be so bold, so do we all.

How can we safeguard the role of science at ABAI? There are several options, four of which I will mention here. These, it should be noted, are supported by the EC. The first is to provide a substantial amount of precious time for scientific presentations at the annual convention, something the program committee now does, and the EC will explore the possibility of providing even more. The second is to assure the quality of presentations at the annual convention. To that end, the EC has resolved that, beginning in 2011, all data-based submissions to the program include data in either graphical or tabular form. Data-based submissions without actual data will be subject to review and rejection by the Program Committee. Third, the EC has asked the Science Board to create and convene a task force to study ways in which ABAI can further support its science base. Task force members will represent the broad array of basic and applied scientists that form the backbone of ABAI. The fourth is less straightforward but no less important. It involves exploring ways to ensure that science is a fundamental part of the education of all professional behavior analysts. Doing this creates a powerful motivating operation for the conduct, teaching, and learning of science. Although it seems self-evident, perhaps it bears saying that requiring science to be part of the educational curriculum better prepares professional behavior analysts to incorporate scientific concepts and findings into their practices and to critically appraise the practice-related promises often made by professionals outside the behavior analytic community. Although it may not be readily apparent, one of the primary reasons ABAI is so actively involved in accrediting

education programs for behavior analysts and in the licensure movement is because both safeguard the role of science education for professional behavior analysts in training.

As intimated above, science and education are handmaidens to each other, and both serve and shape practice. The EC has agreed that it is premature to require that the education of behavior analytic licensees meets the standards of ABAI accreditation. Before this requirement is feasible, there must be accredited programs, sufficient in number, to educate all of our licensees. To that end, the ABAI Council has approved the creation of undergraduate accreditation and the revision of accreditation standards at the master's and doctoral level. The Education Board is strategizing to increase the demand for accreditation so that, over the long term, future generations of behavior analysts will be educated consistent with the science and theory of behavior analysis. Slow but steady progress is being made here. For example, both the M.A. program in Behavior Analysis from Simmons College and the Ph.D. and M.A. programs in Behavior Analysis from the University of Nevada, Reno, have recently been reaccredited. Additionally, the M.A. program in Behavior Analysis at the University of Houston-Clear Lake has been newly accredited. Altogether there are 23 accredited programs at 17 universities and, in order to support behavior analytic scientists and practitioners over the long term, ABAI plans to increase these numbers.

As I review my comments, it looks as if all roads lead

to practice—a virtually perfect match for my convention experience this year. But perhaps that is as it should be. Skinner's vision for behavior analysis was that it could be harnessed to make the world a better place. Merely substitute the word "applied" for "harnessed" and think of behavior analytic practice as applying behavior analytic principles and findings to socially significant problems and the reason all roads lead here is no surprise. In well-trained professional behavior analysts, one finds a fusion of core behavior-analytic values. The raw materials for these values are supplied by the conceptual, applied, and basic science of behavior analysis and the crucible for their development is behavior analytic education. Providing that education, expanding opportunities for practice following its completion, and supplying a steady stream of scientifically derived assessments, treatments, and concepts are goals that are entirely consistent with the mission of ABAI. True, there has been conflict but not over these goals. The conflict has rather been over some details that pertain to the pursuit of these goals and their optimal means of expression in the world—and they have arisen mostly as a result of the extraordinarily large and rapid growth in ABAI. A bone is always stronger at the point of fracture after healing than it was before. I may be a bit of a Pollyanna, but I think something similar can also occur at the points of conflict in the organization. Once these are resolved, and I believe they will be, ABAI will be stronger at the points of conflict than it was before. ❖

UPCOMING ABAI EVENTS

2011

Autism Conference

January 28–30

Washington, DC

Grand Hyatt Washington, DC

Behavioral Research

& Translation:

Behavioral Economics

March 25–27

Chicago, IL

Hyatt Regency Chicago

37th Annual Convention

May 27–31

Denver, CO

Colorado Convention Center

International Conference

Date TBD

Spain (city TBD)

Hotel TBD

2012

38th Annual Convention

May 25–29

Seattle, WA

Washington State Convention

and Trade Center

Convention Recap—2010



Everything's Bigger in Texas, Including ABAI's 2010 Annual Convention

BY MARIA E. MALOTT

After all these many years of planning the ABAI Annual Convention, you would think we would no longer be surprised at the actual sight of so many members gathering in one place, eager to share their research and professional experience.

We need only to look back on past conventions to realize how supportive our members have been and anticipate your tremendous response once again. Those most closely involved in the programming and logistical arrangements for the event have just concluded a full year of preparation—reviewing submissions; scheduling presentations; and examining data to assign rooms to tracks, plan poster space, organize audiovisual equipment, and on and on. But believe it or not, all of us involved in the critical planning arrive on site in late May and are awed by the size and the complexity of this amazing event, this 21st century manifestation of our 36th Annual Convention.

This year's convention in San Antonio was a record breaker! We had our highest attendance ever, with 4,675 of you gathered from 33 countries and 49 United States.

1 Pat Friman delivers his Presidential Address. **2** Smita Awasthi receives her International Development Grant. **3** Steven Hayes accepts his 2010 SABA Award for International Dissemination of Behavior Analysis. **4** Monika Suchowierska accepts her SABA International Development Grant from William Heward. **5, 6** Leslie Burkett and Gordon Bourland of Texas ABA welcome attendees to San Antonio.



We were enriched by so many opportunities to share diverse experiences and perspectives. ABAI membership in 2010, at 5,793, surpassed all previous years, another record. As well, exhibitors increased 50% from 2009—74 behavioral organizations occupied 78 booths. The annual convention is alive and well.

We were delighted with the amount of feedback we received and know you care about the convention. We received close to 1,200 completed surveys from attendees this year; that's 25% of you who took the time to let us know what you thought about your experience in San Antonio. We also sent surveys to exhibitors, publishers, employers and job seekers, and all of the staff we hire to provide support on site. Thanks to all who provided input and suggestions for improvement. We read your responses and, I assure you, we took them seriously.

We received particularly high scores on the quality of invited presentations, tutorials, and B. F. Skinner lectures; over 92% of respondents identified these events as excellent or very good. Attendees also liked the location of the convention in beautiful San Antonio and the layout of the main exhibit hall that housed the bookstore, registration, exhibits, posters, and cybercafé. Many other events also received very positive feedback, including the Society for the Advancement of Behavior Analysis (SABA) Award Ceremony; Pat Friman's unforgettable Presidential Address; and the Presidential Scholar, Michael Shermer, Founding Publisher of *Skeptic* magazine, who drew over 2,100 people

to the ballroom with an amusing and thought provoking address. ABAI's newly established Affiliated Chapter and Special Interest Group (SIG) Leadership Training sessions again drew lively attendance. Over 90% of survey respondents who took advantage of these events reported that the topics discussed were relevant to the needs and issues of their organizations. Thanks are due to the chapter and SIG leaders who volunteered their time and presented to their peers.

Of course members always seem to enjoy the social events, including the SABA donor reception, dueling pianos, and ABAI Social. This year for the first time we made a specific effort to schedule all of the reunions in close proximity, so attendees could hop from one place to another and catch up with old friends. The International Welcome Reception had the highest attendance to date, with over 600 people attending. Two recipients of the SABA International Development Grant were present to receive their awards: Smita Awasthi was recognized for establishing India's first university-based course in applied behavior analysis at Sri Ramchandra University and Monika Suchiweirska for the publication in Poland of the book, *Behavior Analysis From A to Z*. Venita Dimitrova was also awarded a grant for the

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development of two behavioral library and resource centers at major universities in Bulgaria.

The success of the ABAI convention depends on the efforts and dedication of so many individuals. The Program Committee did extraordinary work scheduling sessions and encouraging submissions for the many invited events and tutorials. Much gratitude is owed to Program Board Coordinator Patrick C. Friman, Program Committee Senior Co-chair Ramona Houmanfar, and Co-chair Raymond C. Pitts. Also, thanks are due to the area coordinators, without whom the review and scheduling of events would not be possible: Kennon A. Lattal and Jennifer Sobie (applied animal behavior); Dorothea C. Lerman and Jeffrey H. Tiger (autism); Karen Anderson and Jesse Dallery (behavioral pharmacology); Jonathan Kanter and Thomas J. Waltz (clinical, family, behavioral medicine); Patricia Bach and Michael Weinberg (community interventions, social, and ethical issues); Jennifer M. Asmus and Joel E. Ringdahl (developmental disabilities); Gary Novak and Hayne W. Reese (human development); Robert W. Allan and James S. MacDonall (experimental analysis of behavior); Jennifer L. Austin and Cathy Watkins (education); Alicia Alvero and Heather McGee (organizational behavior management); Denise Ross and Jessica Singer-Dudek (teaching behavior analysis); Per Holth and Ted Schoneberger (theoretical, philosophical, and conceptual issues); and Caio Miguel and Matthew Normand (verbal behavior). We also appreciate the work of Richard W. Malott, for his efforts in BACB continuing education (CE) coordination.

Members of Texas ABA welcomed us with warmth, enthusiasm, and a great deal of practical and logistical support. We thank them for everything, and most especially for sponsoring the mariachi band and dancing the evening of the Expo. Gordon Bourland, Texas ABA President, and chapter members Heather Barahona, Leslie Burkett, Lupe Castenada, Billy Edwards, Jessi Harkins, Duy Le, Anna Petursdottir, and Lori Russo, spent long hours at their exhibit booth, welcoming attendees to their great state and to the lovely city of San Antonio.

My sincere appreciation also goes to ABAI staff members. Once again, the services provided by our team were some of the highest-rated aspects of the convention. This year, 95% of the responses from our members indicated the staff provided excellent or very good services. ABAI staff providing convention support included Aaron Barsy, Elisabeth Berthiaume, Martin Burch, Michael Cooper, Zachary Florian, Brandon Forth, Jean Herbrandson, Nikole Kennedy, Jack Lingbeek, Tina Newman, Joseph Romeo, Majda Seuss, Lori Smoker Young, Eddie Soh, Betty Soltész, and Ashley Walsh. In addition, we are thankful to our 12 student interns, who gained practical experience from their work at our convention. These students came from programs at Central Michigan University, Grand Valley State University, and Western Michigan University.

Attendee feedback and survey responses also helped us to identify areas where we can improve your convention experience. As mentioned in the president's column, many of you would like to see more attention paid to the quality of data-driven presentations. Beginning in 2011, proposals for data-based presentations and posters will be required to include a graphic or tabular summary of the supporting data. Although the graph need not contain your complete data set, it must establish that the project is well underway.





Data-based proposals submitted without a supporting graph or table will not be accepted. Of course, there is plenty of room for theoretical and other non-data based presentations at the convention.

Another change you requested had to do with the hours of ABAI services. Beginning next year, the registration and CE desks as well as the bookstore will open at 7 or 8 a.m. and will remain open until sessions conclude in the early evening. The bookstore will also stay open during the ABAI Expo.

Attendees have let us know that, as the convention grows, our meeting space has become too spread out, and using both the convention center and the headquarters hotel for meetings has not worked well for you. Next year we will work to consolidate space, schedule invited events in smaller, more audience-appropriate rooms (another request), and keep presentations of similar topics closer to one another. Planning is already underway for the 37th Annual Convention in Denver, Colorado, to be held May 27–30,

2011. The event will take place in the Colorado Convention Center; we think registrants will enjoy the location. Details will be included in the 2011 Annual Convention *Call for Papers*, which is being offered entirely online this year. The deadline for submissions for the 2011 convention is October 13, 2010. Also, planning is underway for the 2012 Annual Convention in Seattle, Washington. The convention will be held from May 25–29, at the Washington State Convention and Trade Center; the Sheraton Seattle Hotel will serve as the headquarter hotel.

Next year from January 28–30, the 2011 Autism Conference will take place in Washington D.C. at the Grand Hyatt, followed by Behavioral Research and Translation: Behavioral Economics from March 25–27 at the Hyatt Regency Chicago. Finally, we will end our year in the fall with our international conference in Spain—details soon to be announced. Please watch the website for details about these upcoming events and continue to check your e-mail for event announcements and other ABAI news. We look forward to your attendance and participation! ❖

7 L to R: Mark Alavosius, Ramona Houmanfar, Ray Miltenberger, Pat Friman, Pat Ghezzi, Larry Williams, Linda Hayes, Bill Heward, Charlie Catania, and Bill McIlvane. **8** L to R: Hayne Reese, Marc Branch, Mike Dougher, and M. Jackson Marr at the SABA Reception. **9** L to R: Friends from Spain, Javier Virués, Celia Nogales, and Luis A. Pérez González. **10** Past Presidents L to R: Fran McSweeney, Jay Moore, and Sigrid Glenn. **11** Students and others visit ABAI accredited program posters at the Expo.



Debunking Magic: What Behavior Analysts Can Learn From a Skeptic

BY ERICA FEUERBACHER

Dr. Michael Shermer is a self-described skeptic, preferring this summary label to any other (2005b). The *Oxford English Dictionary* provides one definition of skeptic as, “seeker of truth.” This definition seems to especially capture the position of Shermer who has assiduously lobbied for scientific thought to displace magical thinking and for scientific evidence to be the guiding framework for society. Indeed, it is his skepticism that makes him such a fitting Presidential Scholar for ABAT’s national conference. In Shermer’s oeuvre, behavior analysts can relish an artful exposition of our basic scientific tenets, including inductive empiricism and determinism.

Shermer’s accomplishments include authoring over 10 popular books, writing regular columns for *Scientific American*, founding *Skeptic* magazine, directing the Skeptics Society, serving as adjunct professor at Claremont Graduate University, and hosting the Skeptics Distinguished Science Lecture Series at Caltech—without doubt an impressive and commanding resumé. However, it is not only the impressive volume of work that makes Shermer such an important contributor to contemporary society; it is his willingness to take on the biggest of issues in contemporary society using scientific explanations, and a determined activism to improve the condition of the world and its inhabitants through critical and scientific analyses, all of which parallel behavior analysis’ ultimate goals.

Behavior analysis is a science founded on empiricism: objective observations and measurements of natural phenomena. Moreover, behavior analysis’ empiricism is inductive; that is, it is a science built through repeated

Photography: MARTIN BURCH

observations upon which a theory can be formed, requiring a close interaction with the empirical evidence. Skepticism similarly requires a close interaction with evidence and a priori theories can interfere with the skeptic's objective assessment of the data. Ultimately, a good scientist is a skeptic. Indeed, in Shermer's own conversion from skeptic to activist for climate change provides an illustrative example (2008a). The skeptic's approach required that he personally engage the scientific evidence concerning global warming. Because he did not subscribe blindly to one worldview, he was able to change from skeptic to activist when enough evidence had accumulated. Being a skeptic does not imply doubting everything; instead, it suggests critically evaluating all the data at hand. As behavior analysts, we should likewise aspire to be sufficiently open to what our data tell us as to change perspectives completely when the data so dictate.

Another tenet of behavior analysis is determinism, a rejection of supernatural forces or other-world explanations for this-world phenomena. One of the last bastions for a fair amount of supernatural explanations is human behavior. However, in line with behavior analysis, Shermer takes a hard line in eschewing any explanations of that rely on supernatural phenomena. For example, he described debunking psychics (2002), demonstrating that cold reading was just human behavior produced through shaping and reinforcement, and that human behavior clearly falls under the domain of environmental determinism. In addition, Shermer devoted an entire book to the flip side of this phenomenon: behavior of the psychic's observers and other instances when "people believe weird things" (2002). Again, using the scientific evidence from fields such as behavior analysis, Shermer clearly laid human behavior at the table of scientific explanation. He even addressed the prickly topic of free will, reaching a very behavior analytic conclusion, "Since no set of causes we select as the determiners of human action can be complete, the feeling of freedom arises out of this ignorance of causes" (Shermer, 2005a).

While it is always thrilling to encounter scientists who hail from other fields and adhere as tightly as our own field to these tenets, it is even more thrilling to find one who adeptly and persistently addresses society's most challenging issues using these tenets and does so in a way that is accessible to the general populace. Along with the topics mentioned earlier, Shermer has also addressed irrational behavior in humans, human beliefs, and political issues. In all of these, Shermer has referenced the converging environmental and evolutionary variables producing those behaviors. In addressing irrational behavior, Shermer used behavioral economics to explain why humans do not always act in their own best interest, a framework that identifies the controlling

contingencies (2008b). Likewise, in discussing human beliefs, Shermer pointed to humans' apparent tendency to identify orderliness (2010), as well as the role of the verbal community and social (2002). Additionally, Shermer has made his perspective readily available to the nonscientist, writing in an engaging, accessible manner, and appearing on popular television shows such as *Oprah*. This demanding enterprise is one that behavior analysis should actively emulate: introducing and explaining our principles to nonscientists in such a way that such critical thinking more completely permeates the general populace.

Running throughout the works of Shermer is a tone of commitment to improving the human condition. Much like B. F. Skinner (1953), Shermer has identified the potential of clearly understanding behavior and what variables control it to improve human and nonhuman life. While pseudoscientific explanations, such as astrology or mentalism, may offer short-term comfort, they are ultimately empty and leave the promise of meaningful change in one's life unfulfilled. In his dedication to help people, Shermer has recognized the need to debunk sham explanations and provide people with the tools to understand and control their own behavior, tools that can only come from a scientific understanding of behavior. As Skinner suggested, behavior analysis is a science of prediction and control (1953) and only through understanding can we gain control.

Clearly, Shermer's scientific underpinnings fall directly in line with behavior analysis. Moreover, he has promulgated this view by addressing some of society's most daunting issues, all the while making his work accessible to the nonscientist, a necessary step if our science is to have the large-scale effects on society that many of us hope it will. Furthermore, as scientists and members of society, we should all take to heart the skeptic's advice that Shermer gave his daughter, "It matters less to me what your specific beliefs are than that you have carefully arrived at your beliefs through reason and evidence and thoughtful reflection" (2007). ❖

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2010

ABAI is proud to announce the 2010 Fellows of
the Association for Behavior Analysis International.

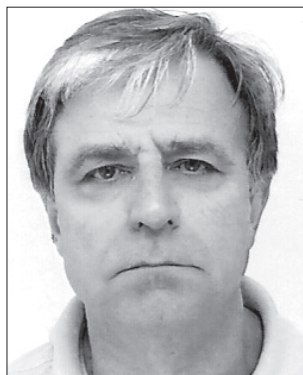
FELLOWS OF ABAI



Carlos A. Bruner

Dr. Carlos A. Bruner is Professor of Psychology at the National University of Mexico (UNAM). He completed his Ph.D. in 1981 at the Queens College of the City University of New York under the mentorship of W. N. Schoenfeld, one of the inspirational founders of the field of behavior analysis. Dr. Bruner has an impressive record of published research on a wide range of topics in behavior analysis, including the influence of temporal context on the effects of delayed reinforcement on operant behavior and schedule-induced drinking. Dr. Bruner has contributed outstanding service in the interests of developing behavior analysis in Mexico. He has twice served as the President of the Mexican Society for Behavior Analysis and as Editor of the *Mexican Journal of Behavior Analysis*. Dr. Bruner has also made a major contribution to the growth of behavior analysis in Mexico through mentorship of his students, many of whom now hold academic positions at universities in Mexico. In the last decade he has held a distinguished National Researcher Award from the Mexican Government, and has been honored by UNAM with a PRIDE Award for academic excellence in teaching, research, and dissemination of knowledge.

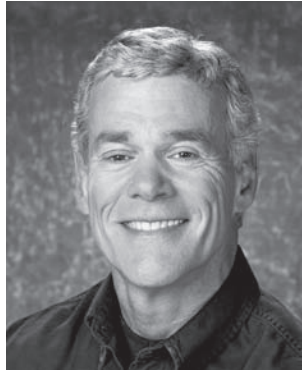
Dr. Jean-Claude Darcheville is Professor of Psychology at Université Charles de Gaulle, which is a part of the University of Lille in France. Professor Darcheville received his Ph.D. in developmental psychology from that same university. He has remained on the faculty at Lille throughout his academic career, where he conducts research with infants and children in—among other areas—perception, schedule performance, timing, self-control, number conservation, imitation, and complex stimulus control. He also has an active research program in behavioral neuroscience, exploring the relation between reinforcement contingencies and brain function, and is a pioneer researcher in the area of nonlinear dynamic systems. This latter research, conducted in collaboration



Jean-Claude Darcheville

with mathematicians, computer scientists, and neurobiologists, involves not only conceptual analyses of the relevance of such an approach to problems of development and behavioral control, but also the conduct of experiments demonstrating the value of such an analysis. He has published extensively in all of these areas. Professor Darcheville established the only doctoral graduate program in behavior analysis in France and, in collaboration with his fellow professor and former student Vinca Rivière, he was instrumental in establishing the only such master's program in applied behavior analysis. Graduates of the latter provide heretofore unavailable behavioral services to children, parents, and other health care providers in France. As such, his direct impact on the well-being of French children is immeasurable. Professor Darcheville was for a number of years the sole voice of behavior analysis in France, a circumstance he rectified through the aforementioned programs that have trained not only practitioners, but also a number of internationally prominent behavior analysts teaching and conducting research at universities in several countries. The programs he has developed at Lille are a mainstay of the international development of behavior analysis.

Dr. E. Scott Geller has over 45 years of experience in the field as a preeminent researcher and professor. He is presently Alumni Distinguished Professor and Director of the Center for Applied Behavior Systems at Virginia Polytechnic Institute (VT) and Virginia State University. Dr. Geller has authored 31 books, 43 book chapters, 38 training manuals, 203 magazine articles, and over 350 research articles. He has published in *Accident Analysis and Prevention*, *International Journal of Medical Informatics*, *Journal of Safety Research*, *Environment and Behavior*, *Behavior and Social Issues*, and the *Journal of Organizational Behavior Management*. Dr. Geller has served as Editor of the *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis* and is

**E. Scott Geller**

currently Associate Editor of *Environment and Behavior* and Consulting Editor for *Behavior and Social Issues*, *Behavior Analyst Digest*, *Journal of Organizational Behavior Management*, and *Journal of Safety Research*.

When one thinks of behavioral safety, one thinks of Dr. Geller. He paved the way for behavior analysts to explore and tackle issues of public and personal safety. He is perhaps most noted for his work in evaluating attempts at reducing alcohol consumption in college students. Yet, his focus on safety behavior inspired him to tackle a number of challenging issues. His work has been in settings as diverse as safety-belt use, at-risk behavior on primetime television, electronic prescriptions in hospital settings, and the prevention of injury.

Dr. Geller is the recipient of the Gold Medal Award for Life Achievement in Psychology in the Public Interest from the American Psychological Foundation and the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Organizational Behavior Management Network, and the Outstanding Applied Research Award from the American Psychological Association. He has been elected Fellow of the American Psychological Association Divisions 9, 25, 27, and 34, and the World Academy of Productivity and Quality Sciences. He is also a charter Fellow of the Association for Psychological Science (formerly the American Psychological Society).

Dr. Joseph E. Spradlin currently holds several positions including Senior Scientist Emeritus at the Institute for Life Span Studies and Professor Emeritus at the Department of Human Development and Family Life at the University of Kansas. With over 50 years of experience in the field, his career has spanned the foundational period of applied behavior analysis research. Dr. Spradlin's research techniques and advancements in quality controls set the bar high for those who would follow. During the 1950s and 1960s, Dr. Spradlin pioneered research on various features of operant performance (schedule-

**Joseph E. Spradlin**

control, extinction, and discrimination) and the use of token reinforcement; he also emphasized discrimination learning. Dr. Spradlin also stands out as a leader in program administration. His work as a Senior Scientist at the Institute for Life Span Studies spanned nearly two decades. He has also served as a Director at Parsons Research Center. His work reflects care and compassion toward his participants, clients, and colleagues. His honors and recognitions include Fellowship in the American Psychological Association and the American Psychological Society, the Shriver Center Prize for Research and Service to People with Mental Retardation, American Psychological Association Division 25, The Don Hake Award, and The Academy on Mental Retardation Career Scientist Award.

Dr. Timothy R. Vollmer is Professor of Psychology at the University of Florida, where he has a joint appointment with the Department of Psychiatry. He has more than 100 publications and is well known for his research on functional assessment and treatment of severe behavior problems. His work on noncontingent reinforcer delivery has been particularly influential. Most recently, Dr. Vollmer has extended behavior analytic methods to relatively novel populations and problems such as sexual offenders with developmental disabilities and children in foster care. His research has been recognized with awards from Division 25 of the American Psychological Association and the Florida Association of Exceptional School Administrators. In addition, Dr. Vollmer is an accomplished mentor whose students have often been award recipients. ❖

**Timothy R. Vollmer**

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.

Updates from ABAI Boards and Committees

Education Board Report

BY 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.

This year was extremely busy for the Education Board. Major activities again centered on issues of accreditation and licensure. Given the tremendous growth in clinical applications of behavior analysis, the need is acute to ensure that applied behavior analysis (ABA) training in colleges and universities is of the highest quality, so that consumers of our technologies receive the services that they deserve. The development of an accreditation system that supports quality training for service delivery on a large scale is a new and welcome goal for ABAI, and while we have made significant strides, this will be a continuing effort for decades to come. ABAI has significantly enhanced and systematized the requirements for accreditation and analyzed the extent to which currently accredited programs meet the new standards.

While these tasks were underway, the Graduate Accreditation Committee under Patrick Ghezzi continued to visit and assess colleges and universities and to provide reports and recommendations to Council. The Education Board also has continued the work on several other proposals that are critical to the development of the field. First, national accreditation for the ABAI process is being pursued by a separate task force under the direction of Libby Street. The Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) is a nonprofit organization of accrediting agencies, colleges, and universities; it serves as the national advocate for voluntary self-regulation through accreditation. Recognition by CHEA is a critical goal of ABAI, as it provides nationally recognized legitimacy to our accreditation system. Second, Michael Cameron of Simmons College has agreed to serve as Chair for Accreditation for Undergraduate Programs. Development of the undergraduate system is a huge and welcome step for the field.

ABAI Events

The Education Board participated in several events at the ABAI Annual Convention in San Antonio. The first was a meeting for the Directors of all accredited programs and members of the Council and the Education Board. This meeting provided an opportunity for educators responsible for ABA curricula to discuss the revised accreditation standards and other issues that will affect the training of competent professionals.

The second event was a panel discussion that included Linda Hayes from the Council of Accredited Programs, Libby Street from the Task Force on National Recognition, Pat Ghezzi from the Graduate Accreditation Committee, and Michael Cameron from the Undergraduate Accreditation Committee. Charles Merbitz chaired the event.

Graduate Accreditation Committee

The Graduate Accreditation Committee was very active in 2009–2010. Pat Ghezzi took over the Committee in 2009 and continued the efforts to encourage more programs to become accredited. Dr. Ghezzi recruited new members (approved by the Council in the fall) John Rapp, Claudia Dozier, and Manish Vaidya to join Jenn Austin and Libby Street. Reports and recommendations for two institutions were submitted last year, and another is in progress. At the May meeting the ABAI Council approved the recommendations of the Graduate Accreditation Committee and narrated the acceptance of two reaccredited and one accredited program. Training for site visitors is a major goal and will help with institutional accreditation for ABAI. Another major accomplishment was a report by Sarah Dunkel-Jackson comparing proposed requirements across accredited institutions.

Undergraduate Accreditation

In 2009, Michael Cameron was appointed Chair of a new Undergraduate Accreditation Committee, aptly assisted by Erick Dubuque. This year they made great progress in developing a system for undergraduate accreditation. As first steps, they accomplished the following, as quoted from Dr. Cameron's report:

- Reviewed ABAI's history of accreditation activity.
- Interviewed colleagues from ABAI accredited graduate programs.
- Interviewed stakeholders in the field of behavior analysis.
- Reviewed the standards of the Behavior Analyst Certification Board.
- Crafted a proposal for undergraduate program accreditation.

Dr. Cameron's report to the Council (April 29, 2010) indicated that ABAI's "new accreditation system includes two levels of accreditation for programs training undergraduates in behavior analysis. An entry-level bachelor's program requires 9 credit hours (135 classroom contact hours) of instruction in behavior analysis plus 6 additional credit hours of supervised practical training. The second level of accreditation recognizes more fully developed bachelor's programs and requires 16 credit hours (240 classroom contact hours) of instruction plus

6 additional credit hours of supervised practical training. The rationale for two levels of undergraduate program accreditation is to support the development of mature programs that, over time, can prepare students for graduate training.”

Council of Graduate Training Programs in Behavior Analysis

BY LINDA HAYES

Over the past couple of years, the Education Board, in conjunction with the Practice and Science Boards, has been charged with the task of upgrading the accreditation standards for master's and doctoral level training programs in behavior analysis, as well as developing standards for bachelor's level programs. The accreditation standards have not been revised since their introduction in 1993. Accordingly, a new set of standards has been approved by the Council for full implementation over the next 5 years. Among other changes, the new standards reflect the Council's view that a greater emphasis on the basic science of behavior, including its interpretive domain and underlying philosophy, was needed to assure the continued growth and development of behavior analysis.

The Education Board has further been charged with the task of facilitating the implementation of the new standards in currently accredited programs. A meeting of Directors of ABAI's accredited programs was held during the convention to initiate this process, address concerns, and solve problems.

In addition to working with the accredited programs in this regard, the Education Board is prepared to provide consultation and assistance to programs seeking accreditation at the master's and doctoral levels, as well as to foster the implementation of the newly developed accreditation process at the bachelor's level.

Membership Board Update

BY PHILIP HINELINE

The individual Applications Review Committee (E. K. Morris, Chair) and the Organizational Membership Review Committee (Jay Moore, Chair) provide the substance of activities occurring under the purview of the Membership Board. Over the past year, the Application Review Committee received 294 applicants for full membership: 145 of these were approved, 45 were rejected and 104 were in review at the time of update. The Individual Applications Review Committee is working with procedures that have been substantially reconfigured over the past two years, finding that their clarity and efficiency have been much improved, while identifying a few needs for fine-tuning.

There have been four new applications in 2010 for organization membership, of which two have been approved, and two are pending receipt of adequate documentation before being forwarded to the Committee. In addition, there were 17 new applications for advertising, all of which were approved.

Practice Board Report

BY MICHAEL DORSEY, MICHAEL DOUGER, DOREEN GRANPEESHEH, R. DOUGLAS GREER, JOHN GUERCIO, TRAVIS THOMPSON, MICHAEL WEINBERG, AND JENNIFER ZARCONI

The ABAI Practice Board kept an active agenda in 2009 and early 2010. Most notable during this period was progress developing an application to recognize Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) codes for third party insurance billing for applied behavior analysis (ABA) services for children diagnosed with autism—see Travis Thompson's article, below, for details on the efforts of the Insurance Billing Code Committee. Members of the Practice Board organized several events for the annual conventional that were very well received, including symposia on medical insurance funding and reimbursement for parents and professionals and an Invited Presentation by Massachusetts State Representative John Scibak, whose made a presentation titled, “Utilizing Behavior Change to Achieve Political Change.” Practice Board sponsored events have been codified into a formal Practice track beginning in 2011. The Practice track is designed for presentations that pertain to professional issues of practicing behavior analysts related to credentialing (i.e., certification and licensing), insurance coverage, program evaluation, systems level analysis, and ethical issues. Of particular interest are presentations that address the gap between research and practice. The track will be open for submissions and will be organized by the ABAI Practice Board and under the leadership of Drs. Jennifer Zarcone and Ronnie Detrich.

Additionally, The ABAI Hotline continues to be a popular destination for members and other interested parties to submit questions related to various topics concerning ABA, particularly ethical issues in practice.

Behavior analyst licensing laws that passed in 2009 go into effect on various dates during 2010 in Arizona, Nevada, Oklahoma, and Pennsylvania. Also, a bill in Kentucky was passed in April, 2010. Furthermore, in five states, licensure will be required for practitioners to bill insurance companies for behavior analysis services. These licensing bills have been combined with autism insurance funding legislation that has been developed by Autism Speaks. One exception is in Nevada, where the insurance

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PRACTICE continued from page 15

bill—submitted by Autism Speaks and requiring BCBA or BCaBA certification to be qualified to provide behavior analytic services for children or adolescents with autism and bill insurance companies—was amended prior to passage. The Nevada legislature believed that practitioners, as well as front line workers, must be licensed to be considered a provider by health care insurance providers and to bill for services.

The ABAI Executive Council and Practice Board have been engaged in ongoing deliberations with the BACB Board of Directors to come to a unified position for a Model Licensure Act. The BACB has increased its course requirements and our two associations are very close to a resolution and looking forward to years of future collaboration.

Members of the Practice Board also hosted ABAI booths around the country and presented at ABAI chapter and other conferences to increase awareness among chapter members of the activities of the Board, including at Autism New Jersey, Behavior Analysis Association of Michigan, The Berkshire Association for Behavior Analysis, California ABA, Florida ABA, Four Corners ABA, Kentucky ABA, Massachusetts ABA, Minnesota Northland ABA, Missouri ABA, Nebraska (chapter pending), New Jersey ABA, Oklahoma (chapter pending), Pennsylvania ABA, Tennessee ABA, Texas ABA, and Vermont ABA. Practice Board members have also been central to the new ABAI Affiliated Chapter and SIG Leadership Training sessions. Board members have made presentations and provided information about licensure, legislative advocacy, and state efforts to pursue legislation that protects the field and its stakeholders. Leadership presentations have been well received by state chapter and SIG representatives.

This trend is being seen in other states where insurance companies are leading licensure efforts, including Blue Cross/Blue Shield (BC/BS) in Missouri and Connecticut. This is particularly relevant in Connecticut, which already has an autism insurance funding bill in place as of January 1, 2010. However, BC/BS Anthem has stated it will not accept non-licensed BCBAs or BCaBAs on its provider panels nor pay this group for services billed at the same rate as licensed applied behavior analysts. There is also a trend of insurance companies refusing to include BACB certificants on their provider panels as “in-network” providers; healthcare provider companies such as AETNA and SIGNA are identifying BACB certificants as out-of-network providers and pay at a rate that is approximately half or lower than the rate paid to licensed and in-network providers. The Practice Board will continue to advocate with insurance companies that BACB certificants be reimbursed at the same level as licensed professionals and “in-network” providers.

The Practice Board will continue its efforts to communicate first with chapters where they exist, to understand chapter positions on pending legislation, and to work with chapters and other ABAI constituents within specific states. The Board will also continue to seek the support of stakeholders in their respective states.

Publication Board Update

BY MARC BRANCH

In 2009, ABAI continued to publish three journals, *The Behavior Analyst*, *The Analysis of Verbal Behavior*, and the recently inaugurated *Behavior Analysis and Practice*. What follows here is a brief overview of the state of the scientific publications released by ABAI, based on the annual reports submitted by the Editors of each journal.

To begin, gratitude is due the three Editors: Michael Dougher, Greg Hanley, and Caio Miguel. All have shown dedication to their missions and displayed good organizational skills in getting the journals edited and published. We have a strong group of Editors.

The flagship journal, *The Behavior Analyst*, had an improved year, thanks in large measure to the proactive stance taken by the Editor, Michael Dougher. The number of pages published increased by 70% over the 2008 total, and the number of papers almost doubled. Despite those numbers, however, there is reason for concern about the journal, due to the decline in the number and quality of submissions. That trend is continuing, with only six unsolicited submissions by April of this year. It is not clear what the origin of the decline is, but it is a concern that—despite substantial growth in ABAI membership—submissions and quality are down. One explanation seems likely: New members of the organization are not contributing proportionally to the core issues in behavior analysis as represented by the content of TBA. Associated with the diminished manuscript flow has been a modest decrease in the size of the Editorial Board, a reduction that appears appropriate given the current circumstances.

A more positive situation, in contrast, exists with the new journal, *Behavior Analysis and Practice* (BAP). There, manuscript flow increased by 17% over the previous year, and appears to be increasing again this year. Another positive development is that the journal has been selected for indexing by PsychINFO. One issue of possible concern is the editing model that has emerged for this journal. During 2009, the journal had 9 Associate Editors, plus 20 Guest Associate Editors, for a total of 29 action editors.

The Analysis of Verbal Behavior (TAVB) had what has become a normal year for it. Of the 20 manuscripts that were submitted, 10 were published in this year's issue. The journal serves a valuable, albeit still small,

role in the understanding of language development and in the generation and study of techniques to improve language skills in those deficient in them. Specifically, the journal remains the only outlet in which research and interpretations based on the conceptual analyses offered by B. F. Skinner about verbal behavior are welcome. Perhaps my glasses are too rose-colored, but I remain hopeful—now that the nativist wave seems to have passed—that there will eventually be a place at the table among researchers of language development for those who see basic learning processes as playing a role. If my hope becomes reality, ABAI will be able to note proudly that it helped keep an important research enterprise viable.

The Behavior Analyst

BY MICHAEL DOUGHER

Journal Mission

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 of 2009. Current Editor Michael Dougher and Associate Editors Kate Saunders and Hank Schlinger began service in August of 2007, replacing Editor Marc Branch and Associate Editors Michael Dougher and Greg Hanley. All terms will end July 31, 2010.

Papers Published During 2009

Volume 32 of TBA contained 342 content pages (compared to 201 in 2008) and 27 papers (compared to 14 in 2008). Of these papers, 6 were featured articles (compared to 8 in 2008) and 15 were special articles (compared to 4 in 2000), including 2 introductions: one to the special section on clinical behavior analysis, and one to the special section on translational science. There was 1 “On Books” article (the same as in 2008), 3 “In Response” articles (as compared to none in 2008), and 2 “In Memoriam” articles, which are included in the “Special Papers” column of Table 1.

The substantial increase in the number of content pages in volume 32 was the result of greater efforts to recruit manuscripts and the inclusion of two special sections. The special section on clinical behavior analysis, edited by Jonathan Kanter and Doug Woods, contained eight papers, and the special section on translational research, edited by Tim Hackenberg and Travis Thompson, contained five papers. 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 clearly is 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
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
2009	342	6	0	3	1	0	17

Processing of Manuscripts Submitted in 2009

Between January 1, 2009 and December 31, 2009, 18 new manuscripts were submitted (as compared to 31 for 2008). As of mid-April 2010, only six unsolicited papers had been submitted to the journal since the beginning of the calendar year, exactly the same number that had been submitted last year at this time. This trend raises concern about submission numbers going forward.

The percentage of unsolicited papers accepted in 2009 (28) was roughly the same as last year, yet substantially lower than the previous 5 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 2009 was 1.98 months, which was in the range of the past several years.

TABLE 2
Mean processing times for *The Behavior Analyst*.

Year	#MSs	% Acpt	Rcpt-Decis (mo*)			AE Decis (days*)	
			M	Med	Range	M2	Range
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
2009	18	28	1.98	2.0	.25-3.25	11	1-30

Mean processing time 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 3.25 months. Action-Editor time, the time from the receipt of the last review to when a decision letter went out, was 11

See PUBLICATIONS on page 18

PUBLICATIONS continued from page 17

days, which is well within the range of the previous 5 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 action editors will be emphasized again in 2010.

Board of Editors

The Board of Editors at the time of this report is shown in the table below. Board members listed for 2007–2010 rotated off in May, 2010. The members listed for 2008–2011 began their term with the spring issue of volume 31 and will serve through May, 2011.

TABLE 3
TBA's Board of Editors.

2007–2010	2008–2011	2009–2012
Yvonne Barnes-Holmes	Marc Branch	Cynthia Anderson
Timothy Hackenberg	M. Carmen Luciano	Simon Dymond
Gregory Hanley	Deisy G. de Souza	Barbara Kohlenberg
Eric Jacobs	Matthew Normand	Caio Miguel
Sam Leigland	Jonathan Pinkston	Anna Petursdottir
Maria Ruiz		Ian Stewart
Timothy Shahan		Manish Vaidya
David Wacker		
Diana Walker		

In addition, 27 individuals served as ad hoc or guest reviewers for one or more manuscripts during 2009.

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. Michael Dougher, Kate Saunders, and Hank Schlinger all ended their terms in May, 2010. Hank Schlinger has replaced Michael Dougher as Editor and Matthew Normand has stepped into one of the Associate Editor positions.

The conversion to an electronic submission process 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 website indicate that electronic submissions are preferred. All papers for the 2009 year were handled electronically, thus eliminating the need for, cost of, and delay caused by standard mailing. Both issues of volume 32 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. Editors will continue to

invite manuscripts on a range of topics. There has been some success in this regard, but there is significant lag time. The annual convention continues to be a good source of potential manuscripts.

Behavior Analysis in Practice

BY GREGORY P. HANLEY

This annual report covers the activities of *Behavior Analysis in Practice* (BAP) in 2009 and in the first quarter of 2010.

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.

Editorial Board Activity

The past journal Editor, Dorothea Lerman, ended her term in October of 2009 and the current Editor began service in the same month. The initial Editorial Board members completed their service in January, 2010. Three of the original Associate Editors—Timothy Vollmer, Dennis Reid, and Stephanie Peterson—agreed to serve for one more year. Six new Associate Editors agreed to serve for 2-year terms. Five were all exceptional members of the original Editorial Board (Jennifer Austin, James Carr, Michael Himle, Matthew Normand, and Henry Roane) and one was recruited based on a solid reputation and stellar performance as a Guest Associate Editor. Three of these six will be asked to serve a third year; in this way, we will always have six veteran and three new Associate Editors each year. The Editorial Board will be developed in a similar manner; 15 members (about one-third) from the original board were asked and 14 members agreed to remain on the board. Nominations for new board members were recruited from the Associate Editors; the nominations were then ranked by Associate Editors. The top 30 people were asked to serve on the board, and 26 agreed to do so. Currently, the board has 40 members. The current Editorial Board is as follows:

Editor

Gregory P. Hanley, Western New England College

Associate Editors

Jennifer L. Austin, University of Glamorgan

John C. Borrero, University of Maryland,
Baltimore County

James E. Carr, Auburn University

Michael B. Himle, University of Utah

Matthew P. Normand, The University of the Pacific

Stephanie M. Peterson, Western Michigan University

Dennis H. Reid, Carolina Behavior Analysis and
Support Center

Hank Roane, State University of New York,
Upstate Medical University

Timothy R. Vollmer, University of Florida

Editorial Board

Scott Ardoyn, The University of Georgia

Judah B. Axe, Simmons College

Carrie S. W. Borrero, The Johns Hopkins University
School of Medicine

Nathan A. Call, The Marcus Autism Center

Vincent J. Carbone, The Carbone Clinic

Stephanie Contrucci Kuhn, Westchester Institute for
Human Development

Linda Cooper-Brown, University of Iowa

Florence D. DiGennaro Reed, Melmark New England

Simon Dymond, Swansea University

Wayne W. Fisher, Munroe-Meyer Institute

Patrick Friman, Boys Town

Peter F. Gerhardt, Organization for Autism Research

Gina Green, Association of Professional Behavior Analysts

Hannah Hoch, Rethink Autism

Rob H. Horner, University of Oregon

J. Carl Hughes, Bangor University

Einar Ingvarsson, Jane Justin Child Study Center

Brian A. Iwata, University of Florida

Kent Johnson, Morningside Academy

Amanda M. Karsten, Western New England College

Jonathan W. Kimball, Woodfords Family Services

Susan Langer, New England Center for Children

Linda A. LeBlanc, Auburn University

Dorothea Lerman, University of Houston, Clear Lake

Suzanne Letso, Connecticut Center for Child Development

Stephen C. Luce

Kristen Maglieri, University of Dublin, Trinity College

Erik A. Mayville, Institute for Educational Planning

Paige McKerchar, Jacksonville State University

Pamela L. Neidert, University of Kansas

Anna Ingeborg Petursdottir, Texas Christian University

Jorge R. Reyes, Westfield State College

Joseph Ricciardi, Seven Hills Clinical Associates

Joel E. Ringdahl, University of Iowa

Tina M. Sidener, Caldwell College

Sigurdur Oli Sigurdsson, University of Maryland,
Baltimore County

Jonathan Tarbox, Center for Autism and Related Disorders

Bridget Taylor, Alpine Learning Group

Jeffrey H. Tiger, Louisiana State University

Susan M. Wilczynski, National Autism Center

Processing of Manuscripts Submitted in 2009

Between January 1, 2009 and December 31, 2009, 34 new manuscripts were submitted, up from 29 in 2008. In the first quarter of 2010, 13 manuscripts have been submitted; if this quarterly pace continues, we will be on track to receive the highest number of submissions to date in 2010.

The percentage of papers accepted in 2009 was 27%, which is somewhat lower than that reported last year (2008; 41%) and the year prior (2007; 31%). There is a 40% acceptance rate thus far in 2010.

As shown in Table 1, the mean processing time for articles in 2009 was 2.5 months (up from 2.3 months in 2008). Mean processing time (Receipt-Decision) is defined here as the number of days/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.

TABLE 1
Mean processing times for BAP.

Year	#MSs	% Acpt	Rcpt-Decis (days*)		
			M	Med	Range
2008	29	41%	69	60	45-135
2009	34	27%	75	67	27-150
2010	8	40%	35	39	1-68

Page Totals and Types of Papers Published

The data regarding journal content is below in Table 2. "The Skeptics Corner" has continued since its inception in 2008. Diversity in article type, as categorized below, has increased from 2008 to 2009. The overall number of published articles has also increased between 2008 and 2009. The number of publishable articles is down for the first issue of 2010. In order to fill the second issue in 2010 with quality articles (i.e., have a 72 page journal), the Editor has recruited and received commitments from over 20 authors for papers (mainly review/discussion papers); several are currently under review.

See PUBLICATIONS on page 20

PUBLICATIONS continued from page 19**TABLE 2**
BAP publication totals by category.

Year (vol.)	Pages	Empirical Reports	Discussion/ Review Papers	Book/ Product Reviews	Technical/ Tutorials	Commentaries/ Tributes	Total Articles
2008 (1.1)	120	2	4	0	0	0	6
2008 (1.2)	72	6	3	0	0	0	9
2009 (2.1)	72	5	3	0	0	2	10
2009 (2.2)	72	3	2	3	1	1	10
2010 (3.1)	56	0	5	0	0	0	5
2010 (3.2)	72	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Totals		16	17	3	1	3	40

Miscellaneous

PsycINFO has accepted the journal for indexing into their database. Thanks are due to ABAl's staff for assistance with this process. Once the journal data appear on PsycINFO, we will make this information available on the ABAl journal webpage and in the introduction to volume 3, issue 2. We also will be looking into ensuring the journal is acknowledged in other social science databases in the near future.

Additional Acknowledgements

Keith Van Norman continues to serve effectively as the Managing Editor. Dorothy Lerman, in addition to agreeing to remain on the Editorial Board, has provided assistance and support during and after her transition.

The Analysis of Verbal Behavior

BY CAIO MIGUEL

This report covers activities of *The Analysis of Verbal Behavior* (TAVB) for the calendar year of 2009–2010.

Journal Mission

TAVB 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 2009–2010, 20 manuscripts were submitted for publication in TAVB. The mean processing time (from submission to final decision) for manuscripts considered for publication in volume 26 was 3 months (range, 2–7 months). The rejection rate for volume 25 was 50%. Several papers are currently under review for volume 27.

Papers Published in Volume 26

Volume 26 was published in May, 2010. It contains 10 manuscripts: 4 full research articles, 3 brief reports, 2 conceptual papers, and 1 book review. Below is the table of contents for volume 26:

Esch, J. W., Esch, B. E., McCart, J. D., & Petursdottir, A. I.

An assessment of self-echoic behavior in young children.

Sidener, T. M., Carr, J. E., Karsten, A. M., Severtson, J. M., Cornelius, C. E., & Heinicke, M. R. Effects of single and multiple verbal operant arrangements for teaching mands and tacts.

Emmick, J. R., Cihon, T. M., & Eshleman, J. The effects of textual prompting and reading fluency on the acquisition of intraverbals with individuals with developmental disabilities.

Bradley, K. P., & Poling, A. Defining delayed consequences as reinforcers: Some do, some don't, and nothing changes.

Perez, W. F., & de Rose, J. C. Recombinative generalization: An exploratory study in musical reading.

Stewart, K., Hayashi, Y., & Saunders, K. Enhancing vowel discrimination using constructed spelling.

Ribeiro, D. M., Elias, N. C., Goyos, C., & Miguel, C. F. The effects of listener training on the emergence of tact and mand signs by individuals with intellectual disabilities.

Greer, R. D., & Longano, J. A rose by naming: How we may learn how to do it.

Schoneberger, T. Three myths from the language acquisition literature.

Critchfield, T. S. Crucial issues in the applied analysis of verbal behavior: A review of crucial conversations: Tools for talking when the stakes are high.

Board of Editors

David Palmer, Mark Sundberg, and Anna Petursdottir continued serving as Associate Editors for the journal. This year, Matt Normand was added as the fourth Associate Editor. Dr. Normand has been on the Board of Editors for TAVB since 2003, and has served as a Guest Associate Editor several times. Dr. Normand's expertise in both research and conceptual issues in the analysis of verbal behavior makes him a perfect candidate for the job. Danielle LaFrance continued to serve as TAVB's Editorial Assistant, providing much needed help in processing papers and establishing deadlines. This year, some members have been rotated off, and others invited to serve on the Board of Editors. The new members were nominated by the Associate Editors based on specific contributions to the journal and to the field. I would like to express my gratitude to all those who have ever served on TAVB's board and thank the new members for accepting the invitation. Listed below is the current Board of Editors:

Editor

Caio Miguel, California State University, Sacramento

Associate Editors

Matt Normand, University of the Pacific
David Palmer, Smith College
Anna I. Petursdottir, Texas Christian University
Mark Sundberg, Sundberg and Associates

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Kurt Salzinger, Hofstra University
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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

Editorial Assistant

Danielle LaFrance, B.E.S.T. Consulting, Inc.

Submission Guidelines

The new guidelines for brief reports have attracted many submissions. Brief reports require less detailed descriptions of background, methodology, or findings than research articles. Three brief reports appear in volume 26.

Advertising

TAVB has continued to have a strong presence on the social network Facebook. TAVB's page currently has 658 members, almost twice as many members as the *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis* or the *Journal of the Experimental*

Analysis of Behavior pages. Members receive updates about the journal, as well as information about verbal behavior related events. The page also has a space dedicated to on-line discussions.

Moreover, *The Psychological Record* (TPR) has agreed to publish an advertisement about TAVB in their next issue. In exchange, an ad for TPR appears in volume 26 of TAVB.

Accessibility

An important step towards improving the visibility of TAVB was its on-line accessibility. As most of you already know, full issues of TAVB are now available through PubMed Central at www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/journals/609. PubMed Central is a free digital archive of biomedical and life sciences journal literature at the U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH) developed and managed by NIH's National Center for Biotechnology Information in the National Library of Medicine. Full access to TAVB content will be available 24 months from its original publication. Thanks to the ABAI Council and staff for making TAVB's on-line access possible.

Publication Timeline

Since TAVB is published yearly, most submissions tend to be received closer to the end of the year. As a matter of fact, there have been many inquiries regarding a specific deadline for submissions. While there is no set deadline, articles received after October 1st, if accepted, may not necessarily be ready for publication for the upcoming issue. Unfortunately, during 2009–2010, many submissions were received on or after October 1st, delaying somewhat the preparation of volume 26. To prevent this problem for future volumes, submissions will be solicited during the summer months and October 1st will be set as the deadline.

Overall, it has been a pleasure and a privilege to serve as TAVB's Editor. I am looking forward to another year in the position.

Science Board Update

BY TIMOTHY HACKENBERG

The Science Board was constituted in May 2008 to promote behavior science. The specific goals of the Science Board are organized into four broad categories: research support, research dissemination, scientific education, and public relations. I will discuss the Science Board activities in relation to these four goals.

Research Support

One of the primary goals falling under research support is to work with other organizations to promote research funding of behavior science. To this end, we continue our affiliation with the Federation of Behavioral and

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Brain Sciences (FABBS), a coalition of behavior science societies that works closely with federal funding agencies and with elected representatives to increase the visibility of and funding for behavior science. Tom Critchfield represented ABAI and the Science Board at the annual FABBS meeting in December of 2009, which focused on discussions of research priorities at federal funding agencies. Tom's letter also includes suggestions for improving the likelihood of research funding for ABAI members and for outreach to other like-minded organizations. The Science Board fully endorses these recommendations, and we hope to follow-up with concrete proposals in the coming months.

In addition, acting on behalf of ABAI, I signed a letter sent to the President's Committee on Science and Technology, strongly urging greater emphasis on the behavioral and brain sciences in the emerging initiatives related to science, technology, engineering, and math education.

Dissemination of Scientific Knowledge

The Science Board has spent a good deal of time this year planning the upcoming conference on behavioral research and translation, scheduled for March, 2011 in Chicago. The theme of this inaugural Science Board meeting is behavioral economics; the conference has dual objectives of building on our own strengths in this domain and facilitating productive interdisciplinary dialogue. We have followed a two-stage invitation strategy, with initial invitations going out to those with a close affiliation to behavior analysis, and follow-up invitations going out to others outside the normal behavioral channels. At the time of printing, we have secured commitments from Warren Bickel, Leonard Epstein, Leonard Green, Steven Hursh, James MacKillop, Samuel McClure, Michael Platt, and Howard Rachlin. To help promote this event at the ABAI Annual Convention, we organized a special track on behavioral economics, highlighted by an invited address by Steve Hursh and a tutorial by Greg Madden.

As mentioned in a previous report, the Science Board sponsored a special track on translational science for the 2009 convention. The keynote event in this track was a pair of sessions, jointly sponsored by the Science and Practice Boards, on behavioral momentum and stimulus control in autism. The papers from these two sessions were published in the fall 2009 issue of *The Behavior Analyst*.

Scientific Education

The Science Board also recently became involved in National Lab Day (NLD), a grassroots program aimed at scientific education for K-12 students. The program is designed to foster interest in science and technology by providing hands-on learning experiences for the next generation of scientists. The first annual National Lab

Day is scheduled for May 12, 2010, although the hope is that activities of this day will carry over into productive collaborations between scientists, students, and teachers throughout the year. To date, the program focuses almost entirely on traditional "hard" sciences, with little if any representation from the behavioral sciences. Joining together with other behavioral science organizations, such as FABBS, we are hoping with our involvement in this program to bring visibility to our field while, at the same time, teaching kids about science. We set up an ABAI link off the main NLD web page, and the response thus far has been quite good: 184 visits to the page and 21 signups. This means 21 ABAI members have signed up to offer their time and expertise to science education. I have urged those who have signed up to keep me informed of their activities, on which I will report in the future.

The Science Board, in conjunction with the ABAI Student Committee and the Society for Quantitative Analyses of Behavior, also organized a practicum on quantitative methods for the ABAI Annual Convention. Co-led by Jesse Dallery and Paul Soto, the purpose of the session was to provide hands-on instruction in exploratory data analysis and curve fitting. The session, held during the second evening of the convention, received a good turnout.

Public Relations

I have continued to represent the Science Board on the Public Relations (PR) Committee. The PR efforts to date have been predominantly reactive (mainly reactions to media accounts of autism, insurance coverage, etc). We have recently begun discussing ways to develop different, more proactive, strategies to promote science. During the ABAI Annual Convention, we focused mainly on the behavioral economics sessions to promote the Science Board conference.

Board Membership

Current members include Greg Hanley, Amy Odum, Greg Madden, Ray Pitts, and I. Tom Critchfield's term ended in May, and on behalf of the Science Board, I want to express my sincere gratitude for Tom's service during this critical time. Tom's willingness to serve the organization and the field is especially noteworthy given that he had just completed 6 consecutive years on the ABAI Council (3 years as Experimental Representative, and 3 years as President-Elect, President, and Past-President, respectively). This speaks volumes to Tom's commitment to the organization and to the discipline of behavior analysis, and we have all benefited from his experience, his energy, and his sage counsel during this critical juncture.

In addition to Tom, three other members of the Science Board will complete 3-year terms in May 2011: Greg Hanley, Amy Odum, and I. In addition, Greg Madden will be leaving the Board for his new position on the ABAI Council. There is a pressing need, therefore, to appoint

at least four new members to the Board. For the sake of continuity, appointments were made quickly so that new members could begin working with the Board over the next year. The ABAI Council approved the appointment of Karen Anderson, John Borrero, Jesse Dallery, and Chris Newland to the Science Board for the 2010–2013 term. All are established scientists with a record of ABAI service. Karen and Chris served on the Science Board Task Force that made recommendations to the committee on revisions to the animal care and use guidelines. John has served as Chair of the ABAI Accreditation Committee. Jesse has served as an ABAI Program Coordinator and has organized a practicum on quantitative analysis for students at the 2010 ABAI Convention. We welcome Karen, Chris, John, and Jesse to the Science Board.

Federation of Associations in Behavioral and Brain Sciences

BY THOMAS S. CRITCHFIELD

Background

The Federation of Associations in Behavioral and Brain Sciences (FABBS) “is a dues-supported coalition of member organizations, academic affiliates (including university departments and regional psychological associations), and corporate affiliates. We represent the interests of scientists who conduct research in the mind, brain, and behavior sciences, focusing our efforts on advocacy, education, and the communication of information to scientists” (Federation of Associations in Behavioral and Brain Sciences, 2010). Member associations are:

- American Educational Research Association
- American Psychological Association
- Association for Applied Psychophysiology and Biofeedback
- Association for Behavior Analysis International
- Behavior Genetics Association
- Cognitive Science Society
- Human Factors and Ergonomics Society
- International Society for Developmental Psychobiology
- Massachusetts Neuropsychological Society
- National Academy of Neuropsychology
- Psychonomic Society
- Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology
- Society for Computers in Psychology
- Society of Experimental Social Psychology
- Society for Industrial and Organizational Psychology
- Society for Judgment and Decision Making
- Society for Mathematical Psychology
- Society of Multivariate Experimental Psychology
- Society for Personality Assessment
- Society for Personality and Social Psychology
- Society for Psychophysiological Research
- Society for Research in Psychopathology

Update on FABBS

The FABBS name is new, along with the name of its affiliated charitable [501(c)(3)] body, the Foundation for Advancement of Behavioral and Brain Sciences (hereafter referred to as the “Foundation”). FABBS has been heavily involved in the last year with informing key legislators and policy makers about the value and needs of the behavioral and social sciences. (Please note here that “behavioral” is used in the most generic way, to distinguish it from “wet” investigations, e.g., involving imaging, genetics, etc.; FABBS does not typically work on behalf of the peculiar emphases of its member organizations.) As with all legislative advocacy, effectiveness is hard to measure, but FABBS seems to be good at getting the ear of influential people.

FABBS also is working with publishers to try to establish a new journal about the intersection of science and policy.

The Foundation’s mission is to communicate to and educate the public about research in the behavioral and social sciences. Noteworthy initiatives include:

- Publication of a book, *Psychology in the Real World*, which includes essays on how behavioral and social research is relevant to important human problems. The book’s topics are keyed to typical topics in introductory psychology courses; thus, the hope is that large numbers of students (i.e., future voters) can be reached if this publication is adopted for college and high-school classroom use.
- Attempt to establish an “X Prize” (www.xprize.org) in psychology. Discussions about this are ongoing and no specific focus has been determined for any prize that might be established.
- Efforts to make FABBS part of a large scale Science Festival that will take place in Washington, DC in September, 2010.

News About Science Funding

What follows, here and below, is digested from a series of informational presentations by representatives of various research-funding agencies.

Good news about general funding levels. The best news regarding research funding is that budgets of the primary agencies, the National Institute of Health (NIH) and the National Science Foundation (NSF), are expected to increase during 2010 and 2011, despite a poor economy. Estimates are for the NIH budget to increase by 1% to 3% annually, and for the NSF budget to increase somewhat more. Mission-oriented agencies that are tied to current government priorities, such as the Office of Naval Research and the Department of Homeland Security, also expect to see increases.

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Modestly good news about basic science funding. Because of a sense that basic research has been ignored recently, NIH is launching a new initiative designed to place renewed emphasis on basic science. This is called the Basic Behavioral and Social Science opportunity Network (OPPNET). OPPNET calls for \$120 million to be directed, over the next 5 years, into basic research. For 2010, the funding is \$10 million in stimulus money; thereafter regular NIH funds will be applied with the annual amount growing to \$30 million for 2012–2014. The first Forwarding Opportunity Announcements (FOAs, i.e., call for proposals) were scheduled for distribution in December 2009. Details may be found at oppnet.nih.gov.

There are two reasons why this is only modestly good news. First, the initiative cuts across all of NIH's many institutes, meaning that initially there might be enough money for one or two new grants per institute at most. Second, the extent to which basic behavior analysis researchers can profit from this initiative is constrained by general trends in NIH funding priorities.

Discouraging news about research funding priorities.

Some of the agencies that were represented at the FABBS meeting are thoroughly mission-driven (e.g., Office of Naval Research, Department of Homeland Security) and offer few initiatives that are likely to intersect with the current interests of ABAI members. This is not to say that behavior analytic expertise could not advance existing missions, only that there are few existing behavior analytic research programs that would be well suited to this.

The primary funding sources of interest to ABAI members (NIH, NSF) are constrained by priorities established by the Obama administration, which has placed primary emphasis on these four areas: economic growth, climate change, national security, and biomedical and information-technology advances. Again, while it is conceivable that behavior analytic research could address these topics, few existing behavior analytic research programs are well suited to this.

It should be noted as well that new leaders have recently been appointed for NIH and for NSF's Social/Behavioral/Economic Sciences Division. In both cases, leadership appears to especially value projects that are interdisciplinary and involve multiple research teams, typically at multiple locations. Such an emphasis does not favor basic or applied behavioral research as it has been conducted traditionally.

Observations and Recommendations

I left the meeting with these thoughts:

How skilled is the typical behavior analyst in the processes of seeking extramural funding? Competition for limited extramural dollars is increasingly acute. There is no indication that this will get significantly better in the

foreseeable future. To compete for research dollars, behavior analysts will have to be very good at requesting them, and to obtain and keep the most prominent academic jobs, behavior analysts will need to have extramural funding.

A related question concerns the extent to which behavior analysts are equipped to participate in an interdisciplinary world. Do we know how to speak clearly to non-behaviorists without letting jargon get in the way? Do we understand the kinds of large-scale research designs that may be needed? Do we know enough about biology, neuroscience, economics, and so on to have credibility as interdisciplinary collaborators? I worry that behavior analysis is increasingly in danger of being excluded from the funding game. The Science Board might study this issue by polling doctoral programs to determine the extent to which students are exposed to the relevant scientific fields and to the variety of research approaches that interdisciplinary collaborators might wish to employ.

What can ABAI and the Science Board do to help people who are no longer students? The Science Board should explore mechanisms for retraining scholars to prepare them for the current realities of the extramural funding game. A one-time gesture was made when ABAI sponsored a conference on grantsmanship some years back. An ongoing series of events might be needed. Not much has happened since then.

One approach might be to establish workshops during the preconvention period. These could be sponsored in such a way that they would be offered at no cost to participants—the field benefits if these individuals obtain extramural funding—and admission might be offered by application only (limited seating to allow for an intensive experience). Workshops could have a tutorial flavor and could focus on both disciplines of potential collaborative value (e.g., neuroscience) and methods that have not been a focus in most behavior analysis training (e.g., multivariate analysis).

Can ABAI increase its influence within FABBS by recruiting the participation of like-minded groups?

Inter-group hostility does not seem to exist within FABBS, but the reality is that “behavioral” science is promoted in the most generic form (i.e., “behavioral” essentially means not chemistry, biology, genetics, etc.). Should it ever become necessary to form alliances within FABBS to influence the FABBS agenda, it is not clear who the allies might be. ABAI could improve upon the status quo by encouraging groups with shared scientific interests to become FABBS members. Examples include Society for Quantitative Analyses of Behavior, Association for Positive Behavioral Support, Comparative Cognition Society, Division 25 of APA, Division 28 of APA, and possibly some of the larger domestic regional affiliates of ABAI.

Importantly, a larger FABBS benefits ABAI directly, too, because more members equal more resources to use in advocating for science. The ABAI Council has agreed

to co-author a letter from the Science Board to relevant groups explaining the importance of FABBS, asking that they consider joining.

References

Federation of Associations in Behavioral and Brain Sciences. (2006). Retrieved May 1, 2010, from <http://www.thefederationonline.org/>.

Annual Convention Program Committee

BY RAMONA HOUMANFAR

The Program Co-chairs and Area Coordinators held a business meeting during the annual convention to discuss issues associated with the program. The process included the identification of strengths and weaknesses of our current procedures and a discussion of ways to improve the quality of the program. The following are some of the topics that were reviewed at our meeting.

Program Growth

As shown in the Annual Convention Program Support Data report and Figure 1, the total number of submissions for 2010 was approximately 1,570, which was comparable to 2007 data. 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 2009.

The overall number of invited events (including the B. F. Skinner Lecture Series) and tutorials reached its record number of 43 (approximately 12% increase from 2009 and 2008). One of the contributing factors to this increase was the inclusion of our new program area, applied animal behavior, which allowed for an additional three invited slots.

The B. F. Skinner Lecture Series included 10 non-ABAI invited presenters. The following is a list of the 2010 B. F. Skinner Lecturers:

- AAB (2): Katherine Houpt and Sofia Yin
- CBM (1): Robert Meyers
- CSE (1): Patrick Corrigan
- DEV (1): David Wilson
- EDC (1): Barbara Foorman
- TBA (1): Josh Edelman
- TPC (2): Stuart Silvers and Jan Smedslund
- VRB (1): Daniel Everett

Area Coordinators

The updated list of co-coordinators for program areas will be included in the *Call for Papers* for ABAI 2011. The successful recruitment of the new co-coordinators for these areas would not be possible without the help and support of their senior co-coordinators. So, we are grateful to these colleagues for their contribution to the vitality of the ABAI Program.

The following Senior Co-coordinators' terms ended at the conclusion of the 2010 convention:

- Behavioral Pharmacology: Jesse Dallery
- Experimental Analysis of Behavior: James S. MacDonall
- Organizational Behavior Management: Alicia Alvero
- Teaching Behavior Analysis: Denise Ross
- Verbal Behavior: Matthew Normand

As in the past, we have invited the contribution of the current co-coordinators of the above mentioned areas to the recruitment process.

Program Quality

By area, the Program Committee rejected three autism submissions; one clinical, family, behavioral medicine submission; four developmental disabilities submissions; four education submissions; and six organizational behavior management submissions. By type, the Committee rejected seven papers, 10 posters, and one symposium.

Finally, I would like to thank my Co-chair, Ray Pitts, 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. ❖

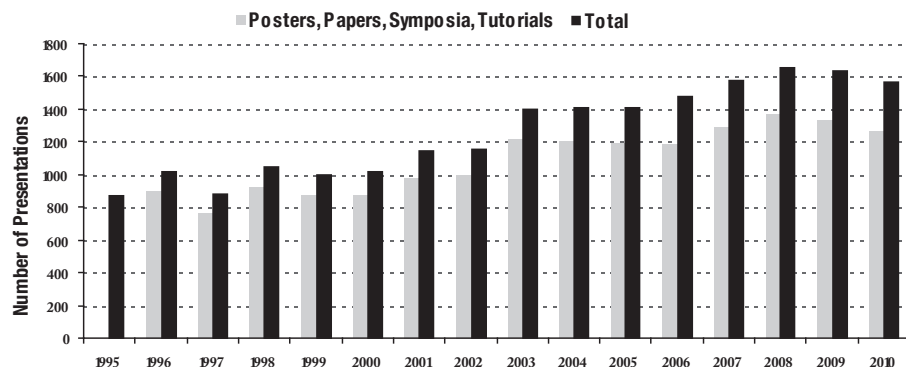


Figure 1. Number of presentations by year.



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Updates from ABAI's Affiliated Chapters

Affiliated Chapters Board Report

BY GORDON BOURLAND

The past year has been one of transition for the ABAI Affiliated Chapters Board. A new Coordinator, Gordon Bourland (Trinity Behavioral Associates) was appointed at the end of 2009. He followed Pamela Osnes, whose work in the position is gratefully acknowledged. Additionally, six new chapters have been organized and approved by the ABAI Council. The newest ABAI affiliated chapters are Association Francaise de l'ABA, in France; French Association for Behavior Analysis; Hong Kong Association for Behavior Analysis; Kentucky Association for Behavior Analysis; Lone Star Association for Behavior Analysis, which represents the Houston area of Texas; and Utah Association for Behavior Analysis.

As a result of activities over the past year, ABAI now has 71 affiliated chapters, 39 in the United States and 32 in other countries. This is an increase from 37 chapters in the United States and 31 non-U.S. chapters the previous year. The chapters reported a total membership of over 13,000 in 2010. Chapters currently are located in 30 U.S. states and in 23 other countries. Each affiliated chapter includes members of ABAI and additionally persons interested in behavior analysis who are not members of ABAI (typically as affiliate members and student members). At present, the majority of the chapters represent behavior analysts in the United States, though clearly not every state where behavior analysts live has an affiliated chapter. Some chapters in the United States represent regions encompassing several states (e.g., Four Corners ABA, Southeastern ABA) or portions of a state. A strong evidence of the international development of behavior analysis is that at least 26 chapters are national in scope. A few international chapters incorporate members from several different countries (e.g., Asociacion Latinoamericana de Analisis y Modificacion del Comportamiento). Interestingly, within the next couple of years, the number of international affiliated chapters could outnumber those in the United States.

The affiliated chapters report having engaged in a number of activities during the past year. Most sponsored conferences and other training activities. Other frequently occurring chapter activities included maintaining websites, addressing legal and regulatory issues (e.g., licensure of behavior analysts, insurance coverage of applied behavior analysis services), and also producing newsletters and other publications. Some affiliated chapters also incorporate special interests groups (e.g., Texas has two autism special interest groups).

The Affiliated Chapters Board of ABAI organized three major training activities this year. The first was a training meeting in Chicago in January, 2010, that was held in conjunction with the ABAI Autism Conference. The training addressed strategies for development and effective operation of chapters. Twenty-two representatives from a number of affiliated chapters, including two international chapters, participated in the meeting. Participants reported very positive evaluations of the training. Presenters and presentations included William Heward's "Overview of ABAI Chapters"; Leo Goddeyne's (counsel to ABAI) "Legal and Governance Issues for ABAI Affiliated Chapters"; Maria Malott's "Planning a Successful Conference"; Gordon Bourland's "Tips for Successfully Developing Chapter Memberships"; Michael Weinberg's "Addressing Licensure Issues at the State Level"; Michael Dorsey's "Advocacy: Developing a Legislative Advocacy Toolkit—Putting Your Plan Into Action"; Tom Zane's "Legislation Updates: Review of Actions, Challenges, and Successes in Various States"; and Doreen Granpeesheh's "Insurance Coverage for Behavior Analysts."

Two major events were provided for affiliated chapters during the ABAI Annual Convention in San Antonio. Friday evening, May 28, featured training to assist persons interested in establishing new affiliated chapters. The Affiliated Chapter Coordinator and ABAI staff provided assistance regarding preparation of the necessary application and establishing chapter policies and operations. This is the first time this type of assistance has been provided at the convention. A second major affiliated chapters event held during the convention occurred on Saturday morning, May 29. This event provided training for chapter leaders on issues indicated by attendees of previous chapter trainings as of major importance. Particular emphasis was placed on development and management as well as on policy making and advocacy. Invited presentations and presenters included "Overview of ABAI Affiliated Chapters" by Gordon Bourland, ABAI Affiliated Chapters Coordinator; "Influencing Policy Making in the U.S." by John W. Scibak, Massachusetts State Representative; and "ABAI Direction and Developments" by Raymond G. Miltenberger, ABAI President. "Managing Affiliated Chapters" featured speakers from three ABAI affiliated chapters who shared their experiences as well as growth and management strategies. New, mid-sized, and large chapters were represented, as was an international chapter. Talks presented in this section of the training were "Starting From Scratch: Critical Tips for Managing Small Chapters" by David Pyles (Charter ABA); "Strategies for Positive Growth and Maintenance of Vibrant, Mid-Sized Chapters" by Jim Todd (Behavior Analysis Association of Michigan);

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and “Organizational Strategies for Large Chapters and How to Disseminate Behavior Analysis” by Shigeki Sonoyama (Japanese ABA). Also, a policy making work session was included. During this session participants were divided into groups by chapter size and region and given an opportunity to get hands-on experience advocating on behalf of important regional policy issues.

Throughout the past year, a couple of other activities pertaining to ABAI’s affiliated chapters have occurred. One activity involves the ABAI Council and staff working to clarify the criteria for local, regional, state, and national chapters. Clarification of these criteria is especially necessary in states that are represented by multiple affiliated chapters. Such multiple representations potentially engender confusion over official statements regarding behavior analysis and inadvertently undermine efforts to promote the field. Another activity has begun, in part reflecting the issue just mentioned, revision of the *Affiliated Chapters Handbook*.

During the coming year, further transitions are anticipated. We hope to facilitate the establishment of new affiliated chapters in a number of states and in numerous other countries where none currently exist. Supporting and strengthening relatively new and small international chapters, as well as facilitating development of new ones, is of particular interest. Additionally, we hope to assist all existing chapters in enhancing their effectiveness and visibility in representing behavior analysis. This assistance is expected to include developing new support materials and procedures for new and small chapters as well as linking chapters with sources of valuable information. A completed revision of the *Affiliated Chapters Handbook* is expected soon. Information and training will be provided regarding the changes. As always, every reasonable effort will be made to keep the affiliated chapters’ information on the ABAI website up to date.

ABA Colombia

BY WILSON LÓPEZ-LÓPEZ, MARÍA CONSTANZA AGUILAR, AND CAMILO HURTADO Y LUIS MANUEL SILVA

Changes in social and institutional systems in Colombia are having a huge impact on the nation’s social issues. Autism in Colombia is an example; this disorder afflicts thousands of Colombian families, most of which are not able to afford professional, responsible care. These families have started to demand adequate treatments from private healthcare institutions, and judges have requested that applied behavior analysis (ABA) methodologies meet these demands. Several institutions have responded by stating that they already use ABA methods, a claim which begs several questions: How is ABA training being conducted? Who conducts ABA training? How can the public know

that a professional or an institution implements ABA? How can the public verify that institutions or persons who claim to be using ABA are really doing so?

The Association for Behavior Analysis of Colombia (ABA Colombia) is faced with the need to work on education and certification in ABA methods. In order to do this, ABA Colombia has started to create a postgraduate education proposal with the Faculty of Psychology at the Santo Tomás University, which has shown interest in developing this proposal. This program will be supported by a qualified team of ABA-trained psychologists such as Maria Constanza Aguilar, Benjamin Giraldo, Claudia Gamboa, Claudia Valencia, and Hermencia Garcia. We expect that this project will lead ABA Colombia, an affiliated chapter of ABA International, to be able to work together with other Faculties of Psychology in order to create new licensing standards that will enable us to certify training in ABA methods. This is a critical process that will require the support of ABA International, since some institutions claim to have taken ABA courses in the United States and then “train” so-called experts in ABA methods in less than 2 weeks. This also necessitates the need for creating protocols which enable us to assess institutions and persons who claim to work with ABA methods.

Private healthcare institutions are about to join together in lobbying Congress for medication-based treatments of autism spectrum disorders. These institutions are claiming that such treatments will last just a few weeks and will solve autism-related problems. The subject is, of course, economically important for private healthcare institutions that pay for autism treatments, as a medication-based approach enables them to keep costs low. These institutions place money over social responsibility, and it is clear that this is a critical problem.

ABA Colombia has held many meetings with healthcare providers, families of children with autism, and other institutions, in order to discuss these challenges. Nevertheless, it is clear that international support is important if we want our voice to be heard—a voice which presents empirically derived interventions. Such support should make judges and healthcare institutions make decisions that pay for ABA methods, as well as clarify what ABA is and what it is not. Finally, this should avoid economically profitable, but socially irresponsible, treatments.

ABA Colombia also worked with victims of violence, following its tradition of being interested in relevant social problems. Together with Santo Tomás University, we held the First International Seminar on Victims and Aggressors, which included the participation of several professionals who worked with victim accompaniment processes from a behavioral perspective. The conference was attended by approximately 100 people interested in the subject.

We are sure that this event will be very important to the Colombian social agenda within the next few years. The contents of this event can be found at www.abacolombia.org.co/temp/victimas_abacol_usta_2009.pdf.

We also supported Chile and Haiti, two nations stricken by earthquakes this past year, and created a special space on our website to provide documents and protocols for psychological assessment and treatment in disaster situations (www.abacolombia.org.co/postnuke/modules.php?op=modload&name=News&file=article&sid=404&mode=nested&order=0&thold=0). We want to thank Colombian psychologist Luis Hernando Aguilar from the United Nations for this initiative. We also received the support of the Spanish Official College of Psychologists, its disaster situations support group, and Merry Bullock, head of International Relations at APA. They are looking for other ways of supporting education processes. It is clear that Latin America will always be exposed to catastrophes and humanitarian crises, which demand permanent education in psychological attention. ABA Colombia is willing to offer alternatives in this matter.

We are also working with the Spanish College of Psychologists and the Iberoamerican Federation of Psychological Associations (FIAP) in organizing the Sixth Iberoamerican Congress of Psychology (www.fiap2010.com), which will feature over 1,900 presentations. The success of this congress, we expect, will continue to contribute to the success of FIAP's Iberoamerican projects, and will enhance our influence on the Iberoamerican context.

Last, but not least, ABA Colombia has recorded 27,648 registered users of its website and over 400 unique daily visitors (www.abacolombia.org.co). This information commits us to improve and enrich our portal. We would appreciate the collaboration of ABA International in order to do so.

ABA España

BY JAVIER VIRUÉS ORTEGA, TOMÁS J. CARRASCO GIMÉNEZ, ARQUÍMEDES FERNÁNDEZ VALDÉS, MARÍA XESÚS FROJÁN PARGA, BRISA REINA MARÍN, AND VÍCTOR RODRÍGUEZ GARCÍA

ABA España continues to expand and develop numerous activities for promoting and developing behavior analysis in Spain and elsewhere. Just recently the first of our students obtained the BCBA credential: Aikaterini Dounavi. We expect that over 30 students will take the exam as soon as it is made available in Spanish, a process that will start soon with the joint efforts of the Behavior Analysis Certification Board and ABA España.

We have recently completed an election process that has renewed the Executive Board of ABA España, now composed by Fernández Valdés (Universidad de la Laguna & Ilusiones para el Autismo Foundation, Canary Islands); María Xesús Froján (Universidad Autónoma

de Madrid); Tomás Carrasco (Universidad de Granada); Víctor Rodríguez García (Planeta Imaginario Foundation, Barcelona); Brisa Reina-Marín (Asociación Aragonesa del Trastorno por Déficit de Atención), and Javier Virués Ortega (Nodo Instituto de Salud Carlos III, CIBERNED, Madrid) as President. The new board is excited to work intensively in favor of behavior analysis and our members.

We continue with activities that are now well established in our organization including our BACB-approved course and several annual workshops. We are now in the process of expanding the distance-learning opportunities offered through our website. We have recently launched a new website with features that will be useful to both professionals and potential users of behavior-analytic services (www.aba-elearning.com). Our website has a search engine for job opportunities in behavior analysis that aims to be a reference for behavior analysts looking for jobs in Spain. We are also introducing a professional registry, where users and potential clients can look for information about behavior analysts in their area. Our e-learning system has been recently launched as well (www.aba-elearning.com/moodle). This system has already provided training opportunities in behavior analysis to over 100 students in Argentina, Peru, Colombia, Costa Rica, Puerto Rico, Mexico, France, Ireland, and of course, Spain.

We continue to establish professional relationships with institutions and individuals throughout the world to expand our educational offerings, provide support to our members, and disseminate behavior analysis at large. Renowned professionals have worked with us over the years, including Brian Iwata (University of Florida), Dick Malott (Western Michigan University), Martha Pelaez (Florida International University), Emma Hawkins (Jigsaw CABAS School), Carl Hughes (Bangor University), and others. We have established partnerships with almost every applied program in the field in Spain in order to offer practicum opportunities to our students, and we have a few international alliances. Specifically, we have worked together with the New England Center for Children over the past 3 years and we are working to establish agreements with leading institutions within Europe.

ABA España is also supportive of research initiatives. The board is willing to enhance activity in this area in the future. We have recently established an agreement with Antam, Ltd. (London, UK), to help ABA España members get their research published in English. Antam will provide editing services by personnel specialized in behavior analysis. We have also supported research papers conducted in the interest of the field. As part of that aim, we have recently published a paper on the field of behavior analysis with the support of the Behavior Analysis Certification Board and the European Association for

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Behaviour Analysis in *Papeles del Psicólogo*, the most widely distributed psychology journal in Spain (the article is accessible free of charge both in English and Spanish at www.papelesdelpsicologo.es). We have also supported a landmark study on the effectiveness of ABA intervention in developmental disabilities recently published by the *Clinical Psychology Review*, the world highest impact factor journal in clinical psychology.

As a national organization in behavior analysis we are supportive of several initiatives related to the field in Europe and Spain. We are especially supportive of the conference of the European Association for Behaviour Analysis that will take place in Crete during September, 2010, and of the ABAI International Conference to be held in Spain in 2011. While our preferences for the location of the international conference are set on Barcelona, Madrid, and particularly, Granada, we will be supportive of whatever decision ABAI makes on the matter.

There are several developments that have taken place recently in our country that are indicative of the good health of the field. Three new applied programs in ABA intervention for developmental disabilities have been created recently and a few more will be launched in the near future. One of them is particularly remarkable: the program managed by the Ilusiones para el Autismo Foundation and chaired by our delegate in applied behavior analysis for developmental disabilities, Fernández-Valdés. This program is the first to be co-funded by the government in our country and could therefore become a precedent for others to follow in the future.

ABA India

BY SMITA AWASTHI

The Association for Behavior Analysis India (ABA India) is a nonprofit, nongovernment organization and an affiliate chapter of ABA International. Its mission is to advance the science of behavior analysis, advocate ethical practice, and provide leadership in the practice of the science in diverse fields in India. Since its inception, cognizance of applied behavior analysis (ABA) in the country has grown considerably. In 2009, ABA India's Executive Council was formed entirely of ABA professionals who were either BACB certified or studying and mentoring for certification under BACB guidelines. In 2009, we have seen at least 15 Indians studying ABA through on-line courses from universities abroad. This is a significant advancement, considering that most students are self-financed and have no additional economic support. ABA India facilitated the process by providing guidance for selecting universities and mentors to future behavior analysts. Some professionals are making alternative career choices; we have a medical doctor, a speech therapist,

and a chartered accountant studying behavior analysis. ABA India offers full, affiliate, student, and supporting memberships and currently has 40 members. Members include parents; practicing behavior analysts; professionals from varied fields like psychologists, occupational and speech therapists, special educators, and organizational behavior management trainers; and supporters of behavior analysis in India.

The years of 2009–2010 were pivotal in establishing ABA India on the path of achieving its objectives. Our website was formally launched and became a vehicle for receiving a constant stream of queries from professionals. This created an opportunity to advocate and guide parents, professionals, and mentees on behavior analysis services and service providers in India. ABA India's Executive Council has, for the first time, regional Vice Presidents who are ABA professionals actively involved in networking in their regions. Due to the paucity of applied behavior analysis as a subject in India, ABA India forged the first collaboration between Brock University in Ontario, Canada and Sri Ramchandra Medical University in Chennai, India to begin the first ABA course in the country. The memorandum of understanding was signed by both universities in 2009. ABA India subsequently sponsored a visit by Maurice Feldman and Rebecca Ward of Brock University for a 5-day faculty training program during December of 2009. The faculty, comprising of doctorate-level clinical psychologists, established a training regime which included video and in vivo mentoring. The faculty training continues to this day. ABA India started its quarterly e-newsletter, which is available for on-line readers. The first two issues of the newsletter are available at the website; the aim is to provide scientific articles on various topics of immediate relevance for the layperson. Its objective is to advocate evidence-based practice to parents of children, educate professionals on behavior analysis as a career choice, and provoke the reader to use behavior analysis principles for behavior modification. Evidence-based articles and research papers written in layperson-friendly language are welcome. The newsletter has no subscription fee.

The parent and professional community working with children with autism had many opportunities for attending workshops organized by behavior analysts across the country. ABA India forged collaborations with Amrit Memorial Center, Kolkata; SOCH, Gurgaon; and Dr. Veena Kalra's Child Center, Delhi, to organize workshops using ABA principles. The chapter also organized independent workshops at Bangalore, Delhi, Mumbai, Jaipur, Hyderabad, Kolkata, and more on teaching children with autism using evidence-based practice. William Heward and Jill Dardig were present in Chennai for a conference on mainstreaming and inclusion organized by Sankalp during March, 2010. Attendance

at workshops suggests a growing interest among occupational therapists and speech therapists in the subject of behavior analysis, in addition to special educators and psychologists. The ABA India President was invited to the Maharashtra Speech and Hearing Association Conference in September, 2009 at Pune, for a 3-hour introductory workshop about applied behavior analysis and verbal behavior. The changing trend in understanding applied behavior analysis with alacrity denotes the first few steps in meeting ABA India's objectives.

ABA India gets enquiries from various organizations for providing BCBA and BCaBA's for short- and long-term projects in India related to staff training in behavior analysis for special schools. ABA India coordinates with professionals interested in visiting India and provides support and guidance. Continuing with its objectives, ABA India will hold the First South East Asian Conference titled, "Applications of ABA in Autism, Behavior Disorders, and Education" at Bengaluru, India on December 11–12, 2010. This is the first event of its kind in India; the goal of the conference is to advocate the need for applied behavior analysis and its myriad implications for behavior change in individuals. Behavior analysts are encouraged to participate in the event and present empirical research.

The Board of Directors of the Society for the Advancement of Behavior Analysis chose ABA India founder and President Smita Awasthi as a candidate to receive a 2009 International Development Grant. She was one of three international recipients and was selected for her strong commitment to disseminating behavior analysis internationally. The awarded grant will be used for activities related to ABA India. The 36th ABA International Annual Convention at San Antonio was attended by four participants representing ABA India for the first time. Each participant was self-sponsored. One paper and two posters were presented. A networking business meeting was organized to develop collaborations for advancing the objectives of ABA India.

The genesis of behavior analysis in India has been positive. It is noteworthy that there are those working to ensure that behavior analysis will be recognized as a profession in India. The concept of mentoring under a qualified professional needs immediate attention. Advancing the science and creating systems in a country with 26 languages, while informing the political system of urgent needs, remains a challenge. Fund raising for various ABA India projects include long-term training projects, writing multi-lingual booklets, and providing support and sponsorships, to name just a few.

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 18th Annual Convention was hosted in Birmingham, AL during October of 2009. There were 2 days of paper presentations and 1 day of workshops. A poster session showcasing members' research and clinical work occurred on the second day of the convention. Over 170 individuals attended the 2009 convention! ALABA members had the opportunity to earn up to 19 CE's between talks and workshops. Our keynote speaker was Mike Mozzoni, who presented on traumatic brain injury. Invited speakers Lisa Britton and Amy Crye presented on functional assessment methodology and special education classrooms and services. Other topics presented were wide ranging, from ethical behavior, policy development issues, and staff training to behavioral economics, verbal behavior, traumatic brain injury, and video modeling, among others. ALABA is currently planning its 19th Annual Convention in Birmingham, AL at the Double Tree Hotel. We are pleased to announce that Janet Twyman, Patrick Friman, and David Wilder will be our Invited Speakers. We look forward to exciting presentations from our members and other behavior analysts in the region. We take pride in each convention, offering a diversity of topics and speakers as well as maintaining CE credits (\$5/credit) and registration rates at low costs. For more information about ALABA, please visit us online at www.auburn.edu/alaba.

An important goal of ALABA is the dissemination of applied behavior analysis to other professions in order to facilitate and enhance collaborative relationships for assessment, treatment, and research with the ultimate goal of improved outcomes for consumers. This year we were successful in providing informative talks and workshops on both traumatic brain injury and evaluation of applied behavior analysis in classrooms for a variety of professionals in these important areas. This year we added a Student Member to our Executive Committee, as well as a Public Policy Committee under the leadership of Jim Carr. ALABA holds an open business meeting for all members interested in increasing their participation in our organization during the last day of the ABAI Annual Convention. Please see the website for details.

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Associação Brasileira de Psicoterapia e Medicina Comportamental

BY MARIA MARTHA COSTA HÜBNER

AND DENIS ZAMIGNANI

Associação Brasileira de Psicoterapia e Medicina Comportamental or the Brazilian Association of Psychotherapy and Behavioral Medicine (ABPMC) was founded on November 4th, 1991. Its objective is to congregate psychologists, researchers, professors, and students that are interested in the scientific and technological development of behavior analysis. ABPMC, the Brazilian chapter of ABAI, currently has 11,000 names registered in its mailing list. Each year—for the past 6 years—1,800 people have attended its convention, which typically occurs during the month of September. In 2004, ABPMC had the honor to organize the second international meeting of ABAI, to which 2,420 people attended. Today, ABPMC has 1,900 members. The ABPMC's members come from all over Brazil. Many regional meetings have been held over the past 6 years, with approximately 400 people attending each one. Between the annual meeting and the regional meetings, we have 4,000 behavior analysts gathered each year for scientific meetings.

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, Teresina, and Salvador, among others. For 2009 and 2010, the ABPMC central office will be located in 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, Rio de Janeiro, Brasília, and Londrina.

Since 1999, ABPMC has published the periodical *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 chapter published an article in this journal describing the relationship among scientific associations in Brazil, including the history of ABPMC and ABAI, as well as the foundation of our chapter. Behavior analysts have been working to increase and improve political representation within government institutions, so as to increase their influence and include the field in the mainstream of decisions that support the development of research initiatives and the dissemination of knowledge generated by behavior analysis.

In the beginning of 2009, ABPMC played an important role in defending the behavioral analytic approach to autism, which was attacked by psychoanalysts, in reaction to a Rio de Janeiro's governmental decision that institutionalized behavioral treatment for autism.

In 2010 and 2011, ABPMC is undertaking larger projects directed at the community. One such project launched by the chapter is called "You Can Manage It," and is geared toward people with psychiatric disabilities. This initiative includes planning courses in behavior analysis for professionals in the city of Foz do Iguaçu. The next national community project is devoted to learning disabilities and is called, "Ten in your life and at school." ABPMC also publishes a book series, *Sobre Comportamento e Cognição* (*About Behavior and Cognition*), which has already published 24 volumes in applied and basic research areas. From 2009 on, the main objective of the series will be publishing articles that can be used as teaching materials in behavior analysis.

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 2009, for the XVIII Annual Meeting, 1,850 people came to the national conference that was held at Campinas, São Paulo, from August 25-28. This year, the XIX Annual Meeting of ABPMC will be from September 23-26 at Campos de Jordão, a beautiful mountain region city in the state of São Paulo. Martha Hübner is the President of the ABPMC and the President of the annual meeting is Denis Zamignani. To submit papers to the convention or for additional information, go to www.abpmc.org.br. ABPMC is currently working on organizing a 2011 event titled, "Latin American Meeting on Behavior Analysis."

Association for the Advancement of Radical Behavior

BY MARIA GATTI

During 2009, the Association for the Advancement of Radical Behavior Analysis (AARBA) worked hard on three issues: behavior-based safety (B-BS), organizational behavior management, and learning.

Behavior-Based Safety

We are now back from the Fourth European B-BS Congress (April 14-16, 2010), a 3-day event held in Venice with 450 participants, five symposia, three workshops, and two plenary sessions featuring five prominent speakers from the United States and the United Kingdom. This year, we had the honor of organizing the main Behavioral

Safety Event at the Safety Now Conference in the United States. Judi Komaki, Don Nielsen, Dominic Cooper, Howard Lees, Bruce Faulkner spoke at the congress, which is dedicated to linking behavioral safety to productive performance.

The congress was organized together with Istituto Nazionale Assicurazione contro gli Infortuni sul Lavoro (INAIL), the Workers' Compensation Authority, and with L'Istituto Superiore per la Prevenzione e la Sicurezza del Lavoro (ISPESL), the governmental institute responsible for occupational safety, health, and prevention, with which AARBA signed a collaboration program in March, 2008. According to this program, ISPESL and AARBA promote B-BS and behavioral safety in the workplace, conduct experimental research on B-BS applications, participate in research programs financed by Italian ministries and the European Union, and define guidelines for safety training and consultancy on B-BS.

In June of 2009, AARBA organized a conference at the Ambiente and Lavoro Fair in Bologna about the accreditation of a behavioral safety process. AARBA, together with ISPESL, demonstrated how the Cambridge Center for Behavioral Studies grants certification that allows companies to get discounts from insurance premiums. Ambiente and Lavoro is the main safety fair in Italy and AARBA hopes to return to promote behavioral safety in our country. The event had more than 200 attendees and representatives from many Italian institutions, including the office of the President of the Republic.

AARBA, along with Renato Rota of Polytechnics of Milan, followed the first experiment of a B-BS process implemented in an Italian glass container plant. Results of this experiment will be presented to the International Occupational Hygiene Association in September, 2010.

The postgraduate course in behavior-based safety entered its ninth edition and AARBA taught B-BS fundamentals to more than 200 people. In 2009, AARBA held four of these courses at Masters ISPESL, Regione Veneto, Polytechnic of Bari, and Ravenna SME Association.

AARBA is leading an experiment of three B-BS processes implemented by two companies and a hospital in Lombardy. The study is conducted by AARBA, INAIL, and a local health insurance company called ASL. The study will take place from 2010–2012. Results will be presented to the Lombardy regional government that will determine best practices in work safety to promote in this area. It is the first such study conducted by both private and public institutions in our country.

AARBA presented B-BS protocol to the Flight Safety National Congress, thanks to the interest shown by the Italian Flight Safety Committee about the behavioral protocol.

Organizational Behavior Management

AARBA has been working since May of 2009 for ManuVAR, one of the biggest research projects of the Seventh Framework Programme financed by the European Commission. The aim of this project is to build virtual reality and augmented reality technologies to help European industries facing worldwide competition. AARBA is the leader of the Italian cluster, due to its expertise in governing human factors and in learning technologies. We work together with the best industrial engineers and IT developers of European companies; they are applying what behavior analysis discovered in managing human factors to an organizational context. It has been a challenging experience. AARBA leads a cluster including ALENIA Spazio, the main Italian aerospace company. Additional project partners include Trinity College of Dublin, Technical Research Centre of Finland, and Tampere University of Technology.

Learning

Fabiola Casarini is a new collaborator of ours and she is working hard to design the first Italian postgraduate course to get BACB approval. We plan to develop this program by 2012 with the school office at Pordenone. We are collaborating with Fondazione Bambini Autismo, Pordenone Universities Consortium, Western Michigan University, and Columbia University to achieve this goal.

AARBA continues to disseminate behavior analysis, thanks to its scientific magazine the *Journal of Applied Radical Behavior Analysis* (JARBA), which is a free web publication with about 4,000 articles downloaded in 2009. JARBA contains articles on the scientific research conducted by prominent Italian behavior analysts such as Ettore Caracciolo, Silvia Perini, Roberto Truzoli, and Rosalba Larcán. Their research interests are in developmental disabilities, autism, precision teaching, and behavioral economics, among others. JARBA also edited the translation of a past study published by the *Journal of Organizational Behavior Management*.

Association Française de l'ABA

BY DIANE LYNCH FRASER

Newly affiliated by ABAI just after the 2009 Annual Convention in Phoenix, the Association Française de l'ABA (AF-ABA) experienced an exciting first year. The chapter saw many major developments, including the opening of our research institute and school in Carros (Nice)—which serves 20 children and adolescents (ages 6–18 years) with autism and other developmental disabilities—and our home-based early intervention program serving 27

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families with young children (2–6 years) with autism spectrum disorders. Funded entirely by the French social security system, these programs are all cost-free to families. Diane Fraser, our President, continues her project “ABA Formation,” an initiative to train professionals in France in basic applied behavior analysis (ABA) principles and practice. AF-ABA now offers three separate 9-day workshops in both Nice and Paris: two sections of “ABA 1” and one section of “ABA 2.” Professionals are reimbursed by their employers for their attendance at these workshops and the employers are then reimbursed by various wings of the French social security system.

January saw Dr. Fraser and Anne Guennoun, our Secretary, in Chicago for the Annual ABAI Autism Conference; they presented a poster titled, “Boosting the Effectiveness of Functional Communication Training Using an Abolishing Operation to Diminish the Value of Maladaptive Behavior.” In March, Mark Sundberg headlined our 2010 conference with his 3-day workshop titled, “Identifying the Language and Social Needs of a Child With Autism Using the VB-MAPP and Designing an Individualized Curriculum.” The conference had nearly 200 participants from eight different countries seated in the glorious Hôpital Lenval, located on the coast of the Mediterranean Sea. Future plans include the chapter’s submission for a symposium to the European Association for Behavior Analysis discussing our research in communication behavior for young children with autism and, of course, our annual conference in 2011, “Autism: Development, Play, and Language” which is to be held from March 17–19, 2011 in Nice. Invited speakers include Travis Thompson, Mark O’Reilly, and Barbara Esch.

Behavior Analysis Association of Michigan

BY JAMES T. TODD

The Behavior Analysis Association of Michigan’s (BAAM) work this year continued to revolve around its annual convention. Approximately 250 people representing more than a dozen universities and colleges from over 10 states and Ontario attended the BAAM convention held February 25–26, 2010 at the Eastern Michigan University Student Center. Terrible weather and the scheduling of spring breaks at regional universities held attendance down a bit. Many Michigan agencies sent staff and administrators. The BAAM book fair featured over 30 behavior analytic book titles.

On the technical front, BAAM has provided its schedule as an on-line subscription calendar which will automatically synchronize with electronic calendars on computers, iPhones, iPods, and other devices. Changes,

corrections, and updates made to the on-line calendar automatically appear on all subscribed devices. We hope to similarly automate the administration of BACB continuing education units with an electronic registration and identification system.

The BAAM staff, including convention managers Jennifer Kowalkowski, Tamara Perry, and Zina Eluri, did an outstanding job organizing and running the convention. BAAM extends special thanks to the staff of the Eastern Michigan Events Planning Office, Catering, and the new Student Center for their contributions to making BAAM run smoothly in the new facility. The theme of 2010 convention was “Scientific and Professional Ethics.” Consistent with this theme, the Keynote Address was given by Jon S. Bailey of Florida State University. Dr. Bailey spoke on the “Five Pillars of Professionalism: Infrastructure, Evidence, Ethics, Excellence, and Esprit de Corps.” Other convention highlights related to ethics included a special panel discussion on ethical issues moderated by James Todd (Eastern Michigan University) and featuring Jon Bailey, Flora Hoodin (Eastern Michigan University), R. Wayne Fuqua (Western Michigan University), and Krista M. Kennedy (Detroit Medical Center); a well-received workshop on ethics by Wayne Fuqua; and an expert symposium on ethics chaired by Flora Hoodin with presentations by Dr. Hoodin, Tamara Perry, Erin Gallagher, Ellen Koch, and Karen Stanley-Kime (all of Eastern Michigan University). Dennis Delprato (Eastern Michigan University) gave “How It is Possible to be a Humanist and Scientist at the Same Time.” Conceptual and theoretical issues were well covered; Jay Moore (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee) gave a paper on verbal behavior, “Some Thoughts on the Relation Between Derived Relational Responding and Verbal Behavior,” and on relationships between cognitive psychology and radical behaviorism, “Cognitive Psychology From the Standpoint of a Radical Behaviorist.” Moore’s annual contributions are much appreciated by BAAM and his talks were well attended. James Todd added another in his series on important, but sometimes forgotten books, “Even More Books Behavior Analysts Should be Reading but Probably Aren’t.” Basic research, including animal models of human psychopathology, was represented in papers by Mark Reilly, Christopher A. Podlesnik, Corina Jimenez-Gomez, James H. Woods, James Todd, and Janet Pietrowski. BAAM was pleased to have these presentations, and hopes to expand its coverage of basic research. A variety of clinical and clinical research issues were addressed. Scott Gaynor’s group presented a symposium on “Patterns and Processes of Change in Behavior Therapy for Depressive Symptoms.” BAAM this year had two presentations on behavioral pediatrics. One of these was presented by Carl Johnson and Sharon Bradley Johnson, “Behavioral Pediatrics: Where are the Behavior Analysts?” A second was given by Lisa M.

Todd and Sharon Yacker (Wayne State University School of Medicine), "Behavioral Economics of Pediatric Adherence." Jennifer Kowalkowski continued to explore various areas of behavioral gerontology with "What Do We Know About Acceptance and Commitment Therapy With Older Adults?" Zina A. Eluri and James T. Todd gave "Barriers to Applied Research in Behavior Analysis and Potential Strategies for Change." Presentations on autism and developmental disabilities included "Modality Specificity in Learning and Memory in Children With Autism" by Laszlo Erdodi and Renee Lajiness-O'Neill (Eastern Michigan University); a symposium by Dick Malott and his students, "Saving The World With Behavior Analysis, One Autistic Child at a Time"; and a well-attended workshop by Jamie McGillvary and Lori Warner (Beaumont Hospital), "Teaching Play Skills to Children With Developmental Disabilities." Barriers to research were addressed by Zina A. Eluri with "Barriers to Applied Research in Behavior Analysis and Potential Strategies for Change." Alyssa Warshay, Robin Kuhn, Renee Bancroft, and Michael Hixson (Central Michigan University) presented "Remedial Mathematics Assessment and Intervention," while the technical side of applied work was informed by "Enhancing Behavioral Assessment and Interventions With iPod Touch/iPhone Applications," by Paul G. Chrastowski, Glen Konopaskie, and Christian Marcillo (Future Help Designs).

Special thanks are due to guest speaker Carol (Keti) Freedman-Doan, Head of the Eastern Michigan University Psychology Department, for her talk, "What Behavior Analysts Should and Need to Know About Standard Psychological Tests." Alissa Huth-Bocks and Jennifer Kowalkowski (Eastern Michigan University) again did a very nice job with their presentation, "On How to Get Into Graduate School," while the BAAM job and practicum fair was once again a success. Additional appreciation is extended to J. Silva Goncalves of the Eastern Michigan Students with Disabilities Office for his presentations, including "Accommodating People With Disabilities: Benefits, Harms, and How to Make Good Things Better." BAAM is committed to keeping behavior analysts well-informed, not just in behavior analysis, but in those areas of scientific research, application, and professional practice that intersect with and directly impact the work of behavior analysts. A wide variety of topics were represented in over 30 posters. Karen Carney and her students (Eastern Michigan University) were again present, along with about 50 other poster authors from several institutions. BAAM wants to extend its deepest appreciation to the students and faculty of Western Michigan University for their continuing contributions to the BAAM poster sessions.

BAAM will hold its 2011 Annual Convention from February 26–27 in the Student Center on the campus of Eastern Michigan University. BAAM intends to continue to offer a mix of basic, applied, and theoretical

presentations and workshops. On-line program submission and registration will again be available, and we look forward to an expanded book fair, more refreshments, and other new convention features. For more information, visit the BAAM website at www.baam.emich.edu. The Behavior Analysis Association of Michigan has been organized to support and promote scientific research on the basic principles of behavior and the extension of those principles to create demonstrably effective and humane outcome-based therapies with the primary goal of establishing and enhancing functional independent living skills.

Behaviour Analysis in Ireland

BY JULIAN LESLIE

Behavior Analysis in Ireland (BAI) was formed in 1975 by Leo Baker and Julian Leslie. Traditionally, BAI was university-based, comprising of academics and students interested in the dissemination of behavior analytic research. The group hosted regular conferences for its members. More recently, there has been rapid growth in the field of behavior analysis in Ireland. Behavioral methods are extensively used in health care, therapeutic, and educational settings. Additionally, several schools using applied behavior analysis for the treatment of autism have been set up throughout the country. Graduate programmes in applied behavior analysis are now provided in four universities: National University of Ireland, Maynooth; National University of Ireland, Galway; Trinity College Dublin; and University of Ulster, Coleraine. These courses are certified by the Behavior Analyst Certification Board. These developments created a momentum within BAI to progress our group to full division status within the Psychological Society of Ireland, the national professional body in Ireland that includes both professionals and academics. This organizational change occurred in 2006, and after 31 years, BAI became the Division of Behaviour Analysis of the Psychological Society of Ireland. Our aim in this endeavor is to further develop behavior analysis as a profession and a science; to promote good professional training and practice; to uphold high ethical and professional standards; to encourage research and the dissemination of knowledge of behavior analysis to other professionals and interested bodies; to develop public awareness of the nature, aims, and practical application of behavior analysis; and to liaise with the Psychological Society of Ireland in the pursuit of these aims. The highlight of the past year was our annual conference, which was attended by students, academics, and professionals. Bill Ahearn delivered the keynote address and a workshop on "Behavioral

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Assessment and Treatment of Paediatric Disorders.” Our 2010 conference will take place on the 25th of June at the National University of Ireland, Galway and our keynote speaker will be Gina Green. BAI looks forward to our continued association with ABAI. We would like to express our appreciation for the support we have received from ABAI in the past and anticipate future cooperation and development.

Berkshire Association for Behavior Analysis and Therapy

BY ALAN HARCHIK

The Berkshire Association for Behavior Analysis and Therapy (BABAT) held its annual conference in October, 2009, at the University of Massachusetts. It was the conference’s 30th year and attendance once again surpassed the year before with over 700 attendees. The program included a variety of invited and keynote addresses, symposia, paper presentations, workshops, and posters. Presenters included James Carr, Iser DeLeon, John Donahoe, Richard Foxx, Patrick Friman, Gina Green, Greg Hanley, Linda Hayes, Brian Iwata, Lee Kern, Suzanne Letso, Brian Martens, John Northup, Beth Sulzer-Azaroff, Jeff Tiger, and David Wilder. Planning is underway for the 2010 conference, which will again be held at the University of Massachusetts on Thursday and Friday, October 14–15. On the legislative front, Bill Ahearn, BABAT Chair of Professional Practice, testified in 2009 in the Massachusetts legislature in opposition to a proposed Massachusetts bill regarding licensing behavior analysts. Dr. Ahearn’s testimony represented the BABAT Board of Directors’ unanimous opinion that we would support the bill if it was modified to align with the BACB’s model act.

British Columbia ABA

BY ELIZABETH SPARLING

British Columbia ABA (BC-ABA) is just completing its second year as a chapter and have been focused on developing procedures, roles, and responsibilities to ease the workings of our group. We hosted our second conference in June, 2010, at Vancouver. We have been fortunate to be able to offer continuing education credits within our province for a variety of different events, which has helped our membership. Behaviour analysis in British Columbia is still a growing field and as such there is much room for development. Funding of applied behavior analysis (ABA) services for children with autism

within the province remains somewhat tenuous. BC-ABA continues to be a voice for ABA and the importance of providing appropriate intervention. Our chapter has been focused on creating position statements on a variety of topics related to service provision and funding of autism services within the province. The position statements can be found on our website. The purpose of the position statements is to provide clear guidance to our members and to stakeholders within the province with regard to our point-of-view on the topic.

California ABA

BY HANK SCHLINGER

California ABA (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 nation, and is the primary clearinghouse for research and training in behavior analysis in the Western United States. Our 2010 conference in Garden Grove, CA boasted record attendance and featured presentations by Tony Nevin (who was awarded the 2010 Outstanding Contributor Award), Ed Morris, Howard Goldstein, Mike Mozzoni, Rick Smith, Brian Iwata, Patrick Friman, Judy Agnew, James Johnston, Jerry Shook, Thomas Higbee, David Palmer, and Jesus Rosales-Ruiz. There were also over 125 addresses, panel discussions, posters, symposia, and workshops available to attendees. In addition, \$3,000 was raised via a silent auction for the B. F. Skinner Foundation and CalABA.

The 29th Annual Western Regional Conference will be held February 17th–19th, 2011, at the Hyatt Regency San Francisco Airport, Burlingame, CA.

CalABA was formed in 1998 when the Northern California Association for Behavior Analysis and the Association for Behavior Analysis and Therapy/Southern California joined together.

In 2009, 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 membership increased to 1,044 following the 2009 conference. Despite the bad economy in California, this trend continued in 2010; following the CalABA conference in February, CalABA’s total membership increased to 1,152 members.

The annual CalABA conference also continued to grow in popularity, with more than 1,050 paid registrants at the 2009 conference—an increase of about 10% from the previous year. The 2010 conference saw an increase to around 1,200.

CalABA enjoys collaborative relationships with several other organizations, in particular, 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. For the past couple of years, CalABA has collaborated with the Association of Professional Behavior Analysts to hold dual conferences.

CalABA is 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, 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 also regularly presents a poster at the ABAI Expo to inform others about CalABA's mission, membership, and its annual conference. Benefits of CalABA membership include:

- Being part of a large community of behavior analysts;
- Reduced CalABA conference fees;
- Continuing education opportunities;
- Experiencing a diverse, high-quality conference;
- Twice-yearly newsletter;
- Networking opportunities in the Western United States;
- Participation in awards and recognitions at the annual conference.

Chinese ABA

BY YANQING GUO

In 2009, Chinese ABA still focused its attention on helping children with autism and their families. In this year, we held three workshops for training parents on applied behavior analysis (ABA) techniques. These workshops included three parts: ABA principles and their applications in daily life, teaching models that are usually used in special education for children with autism, and how to teach children within a family or social setting. We also visited some of the special institutes and schools that provide education and training programs for children with autism. The purpose of these visits was to share our understanding of the application of ABA, but also to exchange ideas with the schools about their methods and rationale. We are in the second year of ABA courses

at Peking University; more and more students select and show interest in the program, which is a general introduction to the application of behavioral principles. However, Chinese ABA membership did not increase, in part because we canceled the expected First Chinese ABA Conference due to lack of financial support. We hope to hold this event in 2010.

In the future, we hope ABAI will support memberships to young scholars who come from countries like China, for although it is experiencing amazing economic growth, the nation is still far behind the rest of the world in acceptance and use of applied behavior analysis. What is most troubling is the fact that few people understand ABA and are concerned about this lack of knowledge.

Delaware Valley ABA

BY JAMES E. CONNELL

This past year has been very exciting at Delaware Valley ABA (DVABA). To begin our fall 2009 lecture series, Etan Eldar, Director of the Applied Behavior Analysis Center at Zinman College in Israel, presented on the "little secrets" of discrete trial. Dr. Eldar's presentation was a very informative and interesting variation of discrete trial format in play-based settings that capitalized on subject-specific motivating operations. Through his research, Dr. Eldar has demonstrated that capitalizing on student-specific motivating operations could produce significant expressive language gains in children that previously uttered very little oral language. In late fall, distinguished professor Richard Foxx—noted author, scholar, and the recent recipient of the Murray Sidman Award—presented "The State of the Art: The Treatment of Aggressive/Destructive Behavior Since the 1989 NIH Consensus Conference." As expected, the DVABA community was captivated by Dr. Foxx's experience and command of effective behavior analytic treatments for individuals with severe aggressive and destructive behavior. The DVABA community is very appreciative to both Drs. Eldar and Foxx for taking the time to present to our constituency. Spring of 2010 started with a presentation about the ethical treatment of individuals diagnosed with developmental disabilities in the public court system. Paul Spangler, Director of Clinical and Forensic Services at the Philadelphia County Department of Mental Retardation Services, frequently serves as an expert witness in the public court system where he hears cases concerned with the ethical treatment and civil rights abuses of individuals with developmental disabilities. We were excited to have Dr. Spangler present on a very important topic, as many of our constituents work with individuals with developmental disabilities. Our last presentation this spring was two-fold: James E. Connell gave a short presentation on how to establish a

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business, either as a sole proprietor or as a Limited Liability Corporation, and how to acquire a federal Employee Identification Number for federal and state tax purposes. There was also a short presentation from a local insurance agency representative. The goal of this final 2009–2010 DVABA lecture series presentation was to prepare members of our local community, including students graduating from the local ABA training programs, to take advantage of the Pennsylvania Autism Insurance Act that covers ABA treatment by behavior specialists. Coming in the summer of 2010 is the Second Annual Temple University Autism Conference. Last year's conference was a wonderful success with presentations by Philip Heline, Saul Axelrod, Matt Tincani, Amanda Guld, Kelly McElrath, John Barnard, and James Connell. Many caregivers, parents and local agencies attended the workshops on functional analysis, verbal behavior, curriculum programming, and behavior supports for individuals diagnosed with autism. Please visit the Temple University Applied Behavior Analysis Program website (www.temple.edu/education/programs/masters/aba_ma.html) for more information on the 2010 conference. So, many good things are happening in Delaware Valley and there are many more to come. If you are interested in joining DVABA, please contact James E. Connell, at jconnell@temple.edu.

Experimental Analysis of Behaviour Group

BY J. CARL HUGHES AND MICHAEL BEVERLEY

The Experimental Analysis of Behaviour Group (EABG) held its biennial meeting at the University College London on the 6th–8th of April, 2009. The meeting was a great success and had the biggest attendance in EABG history with just over 200 delegates in attendance over 3 days; academics, M.Sc. and postgraduate students, and applied researchers came from across Europe, North America, and further afield. Reassuring 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 masters' courses around Europe, and an entire symposium of student master's research from Bangor's M.Sc. in Applied Behavior Analysis.

The 2009 Programme

We had a number of very distinguished invited addresses at the conference. It was our pleasure to welcome Lanny Fields from Queens College of the City University of New York to talk on categorization; Per Holth from Oslo,

Norway to talk about joint attention; and Jack Marr from Atlanta, USA to talk on natural selection and behaviour analysis. It was also our pleasure to welcome back Mark O'Reilly—working out of the University of Texas at Austin—to give the 2009 Keynote Address on the influence of motivating operations in the assessment and support of children with autism spectrum disorders.

We also welcomed Jerry Shook back to EABG. As many of you will know Dr. Shook is Chief Executive Officer of the Behavior Analyst Certification Board (BACB); the BACB continues to be a major catalyst in the development of training programmes and certification of behaviour analysts 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 (CEU) at the conference. We hosted 17 events, consisting of symposia, invited addresses, panel discussions, and workshops that offered 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 portion 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) published another special EABG edition of the journal 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 includes 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 and 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 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 21–24, 2010. If you have not previously attended or given a paper at a European meeting, now is the time to consider spending a few days 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 website (www.europeanaba.org).

During the past year, the EABG organisation 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 areas of expertise. Special thanks to the M.Sc. 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 smoothly. As always, special thanks also to John Draper at University College London for once again assisting and hosting the event. 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.

French ABA

BY JOËLLE M. L. NUCHADEE

French ABA, an ABAI affiliated chapter in France, held its first annual conference on December 10–11, in Lille. The conference program included a variety of topics on behavior analysis and developmental disabilities, addressing both basic and applied behavior analytic research. The convention began with Maria Malott presenting the use of behavior analysis to meet organizational challenges. Later, Andy Bondy spoke about picture exchange communication systems, and Andy Lattal discussed the functional relations between past events and present behavior. During the second half of this first day, Linda Copeland reviewed the importance of developmental pediatric screening with evidence based assessment tools to make the diagnosis of children with autism spectrum disorders. It was followed by Ernest Vargas' fascinating speech on verbal behavior. We then seized the opportunity to celebrate the achievement of our 2009 master's students, by hosting their graduation ceremony.

This first day ended with a poster session. A total of 14 posters were presented, covering topics including the development of applied behavior analysis (ABA) in France by a team of professionals, and of more basic behavior analysis, namely the research work of the students from Lille's University and the work of a team from the National University of Ireland Galway.

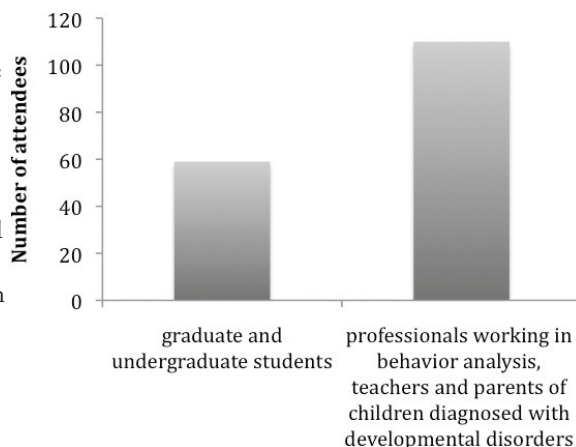


FIGURE 1. Proportion of different conference attendees.

The second day of the convention began with Joseph Morrow presenting the origins of behavior analysis and its contrast to traditional psychology. Mark Sundberg presented an overview of Skinner's verbal behavior and discussed the importance of identifying language intervention priorities for children with autism. William Heward considered the role of applied behavior analysis in the classroom setting, and William Dube spoke about

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transitional research in developmental disabilities. The final talks were by Julie Vargas on Skinner's early engineering endeavors and the present day use of conditioned reinforcers and shaping procedures and by Timothy Shahan on behavioral momentum and quantitative analyses of relapse.

The conference resulted in more than 150 registrations. Attendees included mainly professionals working in behavior analysis, teachers and parents of children diagnosed with developmental disabilities, and graduate and undergraduate students. Based on the feedback we got from the audience we know that they appreciated all the speakers and learned a lot from them, though the applied behavior analytic research was evaluated more favorably.

We hope our attendees, as well as our speakers, had a nice time in Lille and enjoyed the conference as much as we did. It was really a wonderful opportunity and a terrific learning experience! We are grateful to the student volunteers from the University of Lille and to the staff members from the Maison Européenne des Sciences de l'Homme et de la Société.



FIGURE 2. Our student volunteers surrounded by the speakers.

ABA is a new field in France. We are excited about the possibilities that lie ahead. We are working hard to disseminate behavior analysis in the academic field, to increase public awareness of the challenges that autism spectrum disorder underlies, and to advocate for appropriate services for the people with autism spectrum disorders. We are proud to open a joint master's next year with Andy Lattal's team from the University of West Virginia on both experimental and applied behavior analysis. Check our website at <http://france-aba.com> for more information and updates on future events.

Florida ABA

BY KEVIN MURDOCK AND H. ALLEN MURPHY

The Florida Association for Behavior Analysis (FABA) returned to beautiful Daytona Beach for its 29th Annual Meeting from September 30 to October 3, 2009. The conference featured 53 sessions, 19 pre- or post-conference workshops, plus 18 posters. A short list of the presenters

included Jon Bailey, Judy Favell, Pat Friman, Jeannie Golden, Gina Green, Jim Johnston, Ray Miltenberger, Kenneth Silverman, Tim Vollmer, Mary Jane Weiss, and David Wilder. A special tribute honored Jack Michael for his significant contributions to the field and many individuals. Lorri Unumb presented the keynote address which summarized her experience as a Senior Policy Analyst and Counsel for Autism Speaks. Based on her work on autism insurance legislation, she offered many excellent recommendations for behavior analysts who seek to influence policy change. Mary Riordan's Presidential Address reviewed the powerful lessons she has learned during three decades of work as a behavioral consultant. Her words and pictorial history reminded many of the early days of Florida behavior analysis, Mary's important groundbreaking work, and current contributions as one of FABA's best Presidents. The Florida Legislature is in session as this update is being written. FABA's Executive Committee and Political Action Committee (PAC) have the good fortune of being guided by the superb lobbyist Eric Prutsman. The PAC and Eric have been extra busy this past year addressing behavioral assessments and interventions for students with behavior challenges, restraint and seclusion use in schools, behavior analytic services for foster children who may be prescribed psychotropic medications, Medicaid funding for behavior analytic services, and insurance coverage for behavior analytic treatment for children with autism or other developmental disabilities. Some related bills are still active so the PAC and Eric remain hard at work. The Florida legislature officially proclaimed September 6–10, 2010 as "Florida Behavior Analysis Week." A few weeks later, FABA will have a big anniversary celebration at its 30th Annual Meeting from October 6–9, 2010 at the Hilton in the Walt Disney World Resort. An outstanding conference has been planned and will kick off with a full day of workshops on Wednesday, followed by the traditional Hospitality Suite. Two full days of sessions will occur on Thursday and Friday. The keynote speaker will be Scott Geller of Virginia Tech. Other Invited Presentations will be provided by Keith Allen, Greg Madden, Tristram Smith, and Clive Wynne. Many other excellent speakers will address a wide range of topics including scientific research, developmental disabilities, education, organizational behavior management, and animal training and welfare. The conference will wrap up with additional workshops on Saturday morning. New events are planned throughout the conference to make it enjoyable, informative, and productive for participants. In addition, the Hilton offers easy access and discount admission tickets to all Disney theme parks. The Hilton is also close to many other theme parks and attractions and just a short drive to miles of beaches and Cape Canaveral. As always, the FABA Store will feature a full array of custom behavioral clothing, literature, and gift items.

Four Corners ABA

BY ANNE KUPFER

The mission of the Four Corners Association for Behavior Analysis (4C-ABA) is to promote the science of behavior and evidence-based technologies derived from the basic science. Our objectives include:

- serving as a scientific and professional reference group for all in the states of Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, and Utah who identify themselves as scientists or practitioners in disciplines and activities that utilize the principles and practices of behavior analysis;
- promoting basic and applied research that will advance understanding of human and other animal behavior;
- identifying and promoting 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;
- promoting the development and expansion of education, training, and employment in the field of behavior analysis; and
- supporting efforts of allied organizations in providing evidence-based behavior analytic services.

Our members reside, teach, conduct research, and practice primarily in Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico and Utah although our borders appear to be expanding! We welcomed a number of members from Idaho at last year's convention. Members of 4C-ABA receive inclusive convention registration, Type 2 continuing education units for Board Certified Behavior Analysts, and the *4C-ABA Electronic Newsletter*. We have four membership categories: supporting full member, full member, affiliate member, and student member. Member dues help support our annual conference which is held in April and to support 4C-ABA capacity to offer BCBA and BCaBA CEUs at no cost to practitioners, thereby promoting the competency of practitioners of behavior analysis. The Third Annual 4C-ABA Conference was held in the lovely resort town of Park City, Utah on April 16–17, 2010. We had another outstanding slate of invited speakers including Greg Madden, David Hatfield, Allen Neuringer, Michael Twohig, Charles Shimp, Linda Hayes, Stephanie Petersen, Scott Robinson, and Tim Slocum. We also had a fabulous poster session. Great data and great people—who could ask for more? Our congratulations to our newly elected officers:

- Steven Lawyer, President-Elect
- Michelle Bishop, Secretary
- Nicole Bank, Treasurer
- Andrew Gardner, Director
- Ehren Werntz, Student Director

Georgia ABA

BY CLINT TRUSTY

The Georgia Association for Behavior Analysis (GABA) was founded in 2001 at a time when there were few behavior analysts in Georgia. GABA began as a loose-knit community of professionals and academics as there were only three BCBAs in the state at the time. In those days meetings 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. Since that time, the number of BCBAs in the state has grown to around 100, which has helped in creating a larger organization and has allowed for more resources to serve not only behavior analysts, but also others interested in the field of applied behavior analysis (ABA). The focus of the organization has since expanded to better meet some of the objectives that were identified upon its conception:

- Provide a professional network and resource for behavior analysts in Georgia.
- Provide a forum for members to collaborate, disseminate recent research, share ideas, and discuss needs.
- Promote the ethical and effective use of behavior analysis.
- Serve as a resource for those seeking ABA services in Georgia.
- Organize an annual conference.
- Be a provider of continuing education for professionals in Georgia.

These objectives have continued to be the mission of the organization. We are continuing to seek new methods and use new technology to achieve these objectives. In fact, the organization formed focus groups for each objective to develop action items and goals for the following year. The ideas and goals generated from some of these groups have included identifying ways that members from across the state could easily participate in more frequent networking and educational opportunities throughout the year. Additionally, we have identified ways to improve our website and make it more useful, along with generating a monthly newsletter to keep members abreast of relevant events, news, and developments that relate to ABA and its practice in Georgia. We have begun to form relationships with other organizations to include advocacy groups and state government—among others—that either support or impact the delivery of behavior analytic services. To that end, we have begun to reach out to universities in an attempt to assist in developing graduate training programs and increase student membership. All of these initiatives are part of an effort promote and protect the ethical and effective use of behavior analysis.

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Perhaps one of the most salient objectives of the organization is to provide an annual conference which allows extensive networking and continuing education opportunities. Last year's conference was one of the most successful yet with excellent attendance by a range of different professionals and some rather notable speakers that included Richard Foxx, James Carr, and Jon Bailey among others. A team of members has been working diligently to put together yet another successful conference this year that will take place at Atlanta during the late summer to early fall. We look forward to attracting the attendance of not only behavior analysts, but also students, advocates, educators, and anyone else who may be interested by creating a riveting program and other fun opportunities.

As we continue to grow we encourage you to visit our website to learn more about GABA and the exciting things that we offer. By becoming a member you can not only advance the development and promote the use of applied behavior analysis in the state, but also will receive many other benefits. Some of those benefits include discounted registration at the annual conference and other events, opportunities for continuing education and networking throughout the year, receipt of the monthly newsletter, advertising options on the website, and much more.

Hawaii ABA

BY TODD ADDLESON

New members were elected to Hawaii ABA's Board (HABA) in March of this year. A number of last year's board members remained in their same positions. The current board consists of Todd Addleson, President; Catherine Wilson, President-Elect; Yuri Hasegawa, Treasurer; Cher Tamura, Secretary; Rachel Huckfeldt, Conference Chair; and Justin Kyriannis, Webmaster. Past-President Jessie Mitchell has assumed a new pilot position overseeing legal affairs and policy. HABA held its fifth annual conference on the island of Oahu in September of 2009. Morningside Academy presented on "The Morningside Model of Generative Learning." This was an all day event that awarded continuing education units. We had a strong turnout of 80 people. Many were attending a HABA event for the first time, and several travelled from Maui to attend. The BCBAs and BCaBAs in Hawaii continue to grow at a steady pace with over 30 at present count. The outer islands now have nine BCBAs: five on Maui; two BCBAs and one BCaBA reside on The Big Island, as well as one board eligible individual sitting for the exam this year; and one BCBA on Kauai. The University of Hawaii has a Master's Degree in Autism that has added to the growing interest in applied behavior analysis, and we will be partnering with the University to help promote the HABA organization and potentially

help deliver applied behavior analysis (ABA) content to the students in the program. While Hawaii does not offer any strong options locally for graduate studies in ABA, many individuals are either taking or have recently finished course work through the Florida Institute of Technology and St. Cloud's University. Plans for the upcoming year include presentations to local organizations about HABA. These are to include, but not limited to, the University of Hawaii's Autism Program, Autism Speaks, Talk About Curing Autism, the Department of Education, and contracted agencies. The mission of the presentations is to educate others about BCBAs and HABA. Other agendas of the presentations are to present ABA in a positive light. We are also looking to expand our outreach to the various islands of Hawaii. Our organization, based on Oahu, is presented with the unique challenge of supporting and representing behavior analysts on four islands. This year marks the first that our President lives on an island other than Oahu (Maui), while our President-Elect resides on Kauai. This month we held our first multi-island board meeting with members on Oahu and Maui, and we hope to expand this into regular video/computer based interaction. Additionally we hope to either bring in the Big Island behavior analysts and/or hold a separate small HABA meeting on the Big Island to discuss our mission and encourage membership. This year's conference plans include a 3-day event with multiple workshops. Topic areas may include graphing, transitions to adulthood, and other subjects to be determined by polling different communities we hope to involve (parents, educators, university students, etc.). Discussion has begun to have board meeting aside from HABA meetings, so that non-board members do not have to sit through lengthy discussions about policy and procedures. This will free up HABA meetings for sharing of current information and knowledge in the field.

Heartland ABA

BY VALERIE M. VOLKERT

The past year was another successful one for Heartland ABA (HLABA). HLABA held its Fourth Annual Conference during October 1-2 in Omaha, NE. We again offered two pre-conference workshops: "Conducting Functional Analysis and Functional Communication Training in Home Settings With Children With Disabilities Who Display Destructive Behavior," led by David Wacker, and "Special Features of Combined Schedules of Reinforcement," led by F. Charles Mace. The conference started with a tribute to Sidney Bijou and Ted Carr by John Pokrzywinski. This was followed by an invited presentation from our first international presenter, Oliver Mudford, on evidence-based practices and applied behavior analysis. This was followed by the description of a home-based approach to the treatment of pediatric feeding disorders by Meeta Patel. A poster session took place over

the lunch hour and a student poster competition was held for the second straight year. The winning poster was titled "Decreasing Packing and Negative Vocalizations Using a Flipped Spoon in Combination With a Pacifier" by Sarah M. Stegman. The afternoon session included a talk on the generalization of play scripts by Nancy Champlin, as well as two symposia presented by staff from the Munroe-Meyer Institute. Once again, Glenwood Resource Center, a BACB-approved continuing education provider, sponsored the Type 2 continuing education credits. Seventy-three individuals from the region attended this year's conference. Despite the success of the conference, attendance was down from the previous year. We recognize that a number of ABAI regional chapters schedule conferences around the time of year. To avoid conflict with these groups, we have selected a new month to schedule our conference, which will hopefully lead to greater attendance. The Fifth Annual Conference will be held in March of 2011. In the interim, we hope to collaborate with behavior analysts in Iowa to hold a mini-conference in the summer of 2010.

The 2010 Executive Board includes Tami McDowell as our Immediate Past President, Valerie Volkert as our current President, Tiffany Kodak as our Vice President, Anney Fahrenholz as our Secretary-Treasurer, Krista Gabriau as our Representative-at-Large, and Andrea Clements as our Student Representative. Steve Taylor also continues to be an integral part of HLABA and the advancement of behavior analysis in the region. Steve and Anney have been instrumental in the application process to incorporate HLABA as a public benefit corporation. We anticipate this process to be completed in the spring of 2010. We amended our bylaws to include a second Representative-at-Large in October of 2009. The second Representative-at-Large will be appointed during the fifth annual conference and the term for this position will be staggered with the term for the other Representative-at-Large. The addition of the second Representative-at-Large will allow us to further expand HLABA activities to individuals practicing behavior analysis in more rural communities.

We are continuing to advance and support behavior analytic practices in the heartland area. For instance, we host a monthly speaker series in which free continuing education units are offered for BCBAs. Although the presentations take place in Omaha, NE, individuals in surrounding states have been able to participate via teleconference. On January 27th, Alison Betz presented "The Effects of Script-Fading and Extinction Procedures on the Response Variability of Mand Frames Used by Young Children With Autism." On February 24th, Brian McKevitt spoke on "Teachers' Beliefs About Behavior Management: Common Conceptualizations and Implications for Applied Behavior Analysis Practitioners." Upcoming topics will include selected case studies on the assessment and treatment of severe behavior disorders, which will be

presented by staff from the Glenwood Resource Center as well as a two-part series related to the ethical practice of behavior analysis. The HLABA Executive Board is also supporting an initiative to establish licensed credentialing for behavior analysts in the state of Nebraska. Licensure for master's- and doctoral-level behavior analysts will ensure that only qualified individuals practice behavior analysis and protect the public, especially vulnerable populations, from harm. To date, five states (Arizona, Massachusetts, Nevada, Oklahoma, and Pennsylvania) have passed licensing laws for behavior analysis. A public hearing on the licensing application for behavior analysts was held in May, 2010.

Hoosier ABA

BY CARL SUNDBERG

The Hoosier Association for Behavior Analysis (HABA) is now beginning its fourth year as a state chapter of the Association for Behavior Analysis International. We have grown from the 20 who attended our first meeting back in 2007 to 95 members. As an organization, we still hold quarterly meetings which incorporate an educational component and we offer Type 2 continuing education credits to BCBAs and BCaBAs for attending these presentations. We have been privileged to have many nationally recognized speakers in behavior analysis as presenters at our local meetings. This year we have begun a process of clinical case peer reviews at our quarterly meetings. Our case reviews along with our educational component allow us to outline and educate HABA members and other service providers in Indiana on the best practices and standards of care in our field. Our proudest accomplishment in 2009 was the debut of our conference, which was held at the Sheraton Indianapolis City Center Hotel during October 15–17. We had over 200 guests in attendance as well as an outstanding representation of nationally recognized behavior analysts as presenters. Our list of speakers included Ernie and Julie Vargas, Sigrid Glenn, Hank Schlenger, Dick Malott, Mark Sundberg, Vince Carbone, Wayne Fuqua, Pat McGreevy, John and Barbra Esch, and Jerome Ulman. Our 2010 conference will be held September 23–25 in Indianapolis.

Icelandic Association for Behavior Analysis

BY KRISTIN GUDMUNDSDOTTIR

The Icelandic Association for Behavior Analysis (ICE-ABA) is a small but growing association with a diverse group of members, including students, teachers and professors, social facilitators, psychologists, parents, and behavior analysts. This past winter has been eventful, as

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we celebrated a couple of accomplishments. On November 6, 2009 ICE-ABA held its first conference in behavior analysis and celebrated its fifth anniversary at the same time. This day, the majority of behavior analysts located in Iceland—such as Icelandic pioneers in behavior analysis, ICE-ABA members, students, and others interested in the science and profession—gathered at the University of Iceland in Reykjavík. Presentations covered a range of topics in practice and research conducted in Iceland and by Icelandic behavior analysts and others working in the field. These included applications in autism intervention, reading instruction with methods of precision teaching, positive behavior support at the preschool and elementary school level, clinical work with the elderly, and severe behavior problems with disabled adults as well as basic research in stimulus control and measurement issues on children's play behavior. Magnús Kristjánsson at the University of Iceland, who first introduced and taught behavior analysis to Icelandic students 35 years ago, discussed the initial years of the field in our country in a very informative presentation. Two of his former students, Guðriður Adda Ragnarsdóttir and Ragnar S. Ragnarsson, followed with an entertaining description of student life in the first Icelandic rat lab and the impact of behavior analysis on teaching instruction and parenting in Iceland during that time. In the closing presentation, Kristján Guðmundsson spoke about his research with a talk titled, "The Surprising Origins of B. F. Skinner's Theory of the Operant: 1928-1938," and played for us an audio recording of an interview that Kristján took of Skinner in the early 80's about this topic. Lively discussion about the future of behavior analysis in Iceland and a dinner party that night marked the end of a great day in the history of behavior analysis in Iceland. The ICE-ABA conference will be a regular event in the future. Another important event took place in March, 2010 when the first Icelandic journal in behavior analysis, *Atferli*, was published. The journal is a peer-reviewed electronic journal that publishes papers on research, practice, and conceptual issues in behavior analysis in Icelandic. It is located on ICE-ABA's website, www.atferli.is, with an open access and wiki to promote discussion about the papers, ongoing research, and behavior analysis in general. The Editorial Committee of *Atferli* includes Jón Grétar Sigurjónsson, doctoral student at National University of Ireland, Galway as Editor; Zuilma Gabriela Sigurðardóttir, Associate Professor at the University of Iceland; and Valdimar Sigurðsson, Principal Research Fellow at the University of Reykjavík. ICE-ABA also continued its regular activities this winter, such as our monthly coffee discussions on behavior analysis and other discussions on our electronic mailing list, Ísabar. Our website was renewed this spring and work on the Icelandic lexicon of behavior analytic terms is progressing. Adda and

her colleagues on the editorial board presented the work on the lexicon *To Whisper a Prompt* at the ABAI International Conference in Oslo last August. The last batch of terms was being reviewed this spring and hopefully we can make the lexicon available on our website sometime this year. Finally, the three Icelandic BCBAs that are located in Iceland have been monitoring the discussion on legislative issues of the field in the US and discussing our possibilities here in Iceland. This May, a new ICE-ABA Board was elected. They will continue working on ICE-ABA's regular activities, as well as leading the chapter in promoting the science and profession of behavior analysis among the general public and other professions in Iceland.

Iowa ABA

BY JOHN POKRZYWINSKI

A business meeting was held on April 23, 2010 at The Homestead in Pleasant Holl, Iowa. It was attended by John Pokrzywinski, Evelyn Horton, Heidi Hill, Josh Cobbs (via phone), Maria G. Valdovinos., Lindsay Ward, and Rose Vetsch. Officers were named and committees were formed for the coming year. The current by-laws were approved, and a meeting was held 30 days later to review and revise them as necessary. A short business meeting was held during the ABAI Annual Convention in San Antonio this year. Iowa ABA members also participated in the ABAI Expo at the convention.

Israel ABA

BY EITAN ELДАР

Israel ABA (IABA) was established in 2003, held its first conference shortly afterwards, and has been offering a yearly conference and workshops ever since. IABA is growing consistently, reaching 90 members in 2010. All of the IABA members actively support applied behavior analysis (ABA) in various academic and clinical fields and more than 200 additional professionals participate in IABA's activities every year. More than 100 students are studying yearly in two BACB approved programs. These programs are offered at Tel-Aviv University, led by Amos Rolider, and at the Zinman College, led by Eitan Eldar. IABA organizes opportunities for CE credits for certified behavior analysts, who participate in and present at conferences held in both institutes throughout the year. IABA also published a Hebrew version of ABA terms and ethical principles and is now preparing some further guidelines specifically applicable in Israel. Notably, most of the students who have graduated from the above programs are now employed in a variety of educational and clinical agencies in Israel. Some are already holding key positions in the education system and in other organizations. IABA has the following goals:

- 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 newsletter or journal in Hebrew.
- Establish additional approved ABA programs in other universities and initiating the first full graduate program in ABA.
- Promote both experimental and applied research in Israel.
- Strengthen our ties with the BACB and ABAI.
- Encourage more Israelis to take part in IABA activities.

Recent years are marked with a significant shift in IABA's goals and strategy. ABA is not a "new kid in the block" anymore. While there is a remarkable demand for ABA specialists in Israel, the challenge now is guaranteeing the quality of service provided. The recent IABA conference dealt with emotional difficulties. A leading psychiatrist in the Israeli health system (Mike Stawski) provided psychiatric definitions of emotional difficulties while emphasizing behavioral aspects. This talk was followed by a session in which a psychologist (Efrat Elran) provided behavioral definitions and optional interventions for emotional challenges. A discussion was held among participants who represented different disciplines, all facing a notable increase in the emotional difficulties among youth and adolescents.

A significant collaboration with the Special Education Department in the Ministry of Education continues. This is a breakthrough, as it demonstrates a shift in the attitude of the "education system" in favor of ABA. More regions are now hiring behavior analysts in their special education and inclusion programs.

IABA is about to launch its new website and logo. The website will become the major form of communication with behavior analysts and other professionals. The website's language will be Hebrew, with an English option. The ABAI logo will be presented along side the IABA logo. 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.

Istituto Europeo per lo Studio del Comportamento Umano

BY PAOLO MODERATO

The Istituto Europeo per lo Studio del Comportamento Umano (IESCUM) is the Italian chapter of ABAI and

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 range of behaviour analytic scientific and humanistic potential. From this premise IESCUM committed to the training, development, and evaluation of behavior analysis in clinical settings in the various forms recently developed. Experiential trainings in clinical behavior analysis, in acceptance and commitment therapy, and in functional assessment procedures with scholars and professionals like K. Wilson, P. Sturmey, R. Kohlenberg, M. Tsai, and J. T. Blackledge, have been offered in Italy in the last year through IESCUM. The dissemination of a sound culture in applied behavior analysis (ABA) has been carried out institutionally through a 2-year postgraduate BACB accredited coursework, which is now in its fourth edition, along with as many as 150-hours of BACB accredited courses targeting operators whose aim is to become assistant behavior analysts. 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 The New England Center for Children, Treehouse, Cambridge Center for Behavioral Studies, and contributions from P. N. Chase, N. Martin, D. Gould, and P. B. Cannon, the students of the IESCUM coursework get in touch with high standards and reinforcing contingencies of learning. These courses are addressing this request for autism training, but are not limiting the educational contents and purposes to this strong, yet limited, field of application. IESCUM looks at its BACB accredited coursework 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 behavior analysis certification, working jointly with other accredited courses in Europe. IESCUM has favored the development of an integrated model of intervention called the Italian Model of Early and Intensive Intervention for Autism (MIPIA). MIPIA is characterized by individual (tailor made), early, intensive, integrated, inclusive, 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 a homogeneous environment both for clinical and research goals. Though we may speak of a "virtual" structure, in the absence of a specific building in a specific location, the model of the project and the association behind it may represent a feasible way to spread ABA intervention procedures and models in a wide territory, while maintaining a high quality of service within the spirit of BACB standards of quality. This model includes designing and delivering ABA interventions to children and

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their families, but also uses clinical behavior analysis to train and support tutors and consultants, 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 was carried out in collaboration with Fergus Lowe and Pauline Horne. An extension of the Food Dudes program was implemented in Italy to address the obesity epidemic among young children. Originally developed in the UK and then extended to Ireland, this is the first implementation of the Food Dudes program in a non-English speaking country. The pilot research project involved more than 2,000 kids attending elementary schools in five cities of Sicily and was supported by the regional Department of Agriculture. The Food Dudes program 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 program, it is a fact that the mid-term results are very encouraging. The Food Dudes program 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 media, too. IESCUM is working hard to expand the program in other areas of Italy. A relevant number of researchers and students of IESCUM have attended the European Analysis of Behavior Group Conference in London (2009); ABAI Annual Convention in Phoenix (2009); the ABAI International Conference in Oslo, Norway (2009); and the ABAI Annual Convention in San Antonio (2010) where they have delivered basic, applied, and theoretical presentations. A number of researchers and students of IESCUM are also going to attend the European Association for Behavior Analysis Convention in Crete (2010). All of these actions have been developed under and with the supervision of IESCUM, working as an umbrella organization, and are detailed and visible at www.iescum.org.

Japanese ABA

BY SHIGEKI SONOYAMA

The Japanese Association for Behavior Analysis (J-ABA) was originally formed as 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 J-ABA is to promote the experimental, theoretical, and applied analysis of behavior, originated by

B. F. Skinner. Since its establishment, it has made great strides and is now one of the most successful international chapters of ABAI. The 833 members in 2009 coming from a wide variety of professions, including researchers, school teachers, counselors, social workers, nurses, animal trainers, and business people, J-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 website (www.j-aba.jp), and hosts workshops and symposia for its members and anyone else 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. The 2010 conference will be held at the Kobe Shinwa Women's University in Kobe, Hyogo from October 9–10, 2010. In 2008, J-ABA elected new board members for 2009–2012, and Kenichi Fuji of Ritsumeikan University was re-elected as President. J-ABA recently started two new programs to encourage young students living in the US as well as in Japan. The first is financial support for two students from Japan to attend ABAI events. The other program is donating books to young Japanese behavior analysts who are studying or working in the US.

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 education and training therein; (B) addressing issues relevant to the science and practice; (C) maintaining disciplinary, professional, and ethical standards; 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).

Governance

KansABA is governed by an Executive Council that consists of a President (Ed Morris), a Full Member Representative (Linda Heitzman-Powell), an Affiliate Representative (Jessica Royer), and a Student Representative (Brooke Jones). The Council is assisted by a Secretary (Jessica Royer, again) and a Treasurer (Linda Heitzman-Powell, again). In addition, KansABA has a Legislative Affairs Committee (Nan Perrin, Chair); a Membership Committee (Jill Koertner, Chair); an Information Technology Committee (Adam Brewer, Chair); and a BACB Certification Committee (Claudia Dozier, Chair).

Membership

KansABA has membership categories for Full Members—members who meet the requirements for full membership in ABAI (\$35 membership fee); Student Members—students who meet the requirements for student membership in ABAI (\$15); Affiliate Members—citizens of the State of Kansas and Kansas City metropolitan area who express an interest in the science and practice of behavior analysis (\$25); and Adjunct Members—citizens in other states and countries who also express an interest in the science and practice of behavior analysis (\$15).

Conference

Our main activity this year was an April 10, 2010 conference. The theme and topic of the event was “From Research to Practice in Kansas: Autism and Other Developmental Disabilities.” Unlike other state conferences, we did not develop a program patterned after ABAI’s annual convention (e.g., inviting notable behavior analysts from outside the state). Instead, we built a program around research, training, and practice in Kansas. The theme of research-to-practice (and practice-to-research) informed the organization of our sessions, the presentations within them, and the content of some of the presentations. For instance, the earlier sessions placed relatively greater emphasis on basic research, the middle ones placed relatively greater emphasis on applied research, and the later ones placed relatively greater emphasis on practice. Within each session, the order of the presentations reflected the same continuum. The Kansas sites and speakers were as follows:

- University of Kansas Life Span Institute at Parsons, KS: Dean Williams, “Science and Practice: Why the Crevasse and Who Should Build the Bridges for Whom?”; Kate Saunders, “Research-Based Discrete-Trial Teaching Procedures”; and Jerry Rea, “From the Clinic to the Natural Environment: The Development of a Generalization Assessment Methodology for the Treatment of Sex Offenders With Intellectual Disabilities.”
- University of Kansas Medical Center: Kathy Ellerbeck, “Oxytocin and Autism: Research to Practice”; Rene Jamison, “The Effects of Parent-Child Interaction Therapy on Disruptive Behaviors in Three Children With Autistic Disorder”; and Matt Reese, “Using Telemedicine for Diagnosing Autism: From Research to Practice.”
- University of Kansas Life Span Institute’s Juniper Gardens Children’s Project: Deb Kamps, “Peer Network Interventions for Children With Autism”; Lisa Rusinko, “Online and Applied System for Intervention Skills for Parents of Children With Autism in Geographically Remote Areas”; and Jill Koertner, “Online and Applied System for Intervention Skills (OASIS): State-Wide Training for Autism Waiver Service Providers.”

- University of Kansas-Lawrence: Nancy Brady and Kathy Thiemann-Bourque, “Augmentative and Alternative Communication for Young Children With Autism”; Justin Leaf and Wes Dotson, “Promoting Generalization of Meaningful Outcomes: Social Skills Instruction for Children and Adolescents With Autism”; and Rachel Freeman and Nan Perrin, “Designing Data-Based Decision-Making Systems to Evaluate the Effectiveness of a Training System for Behavior Specialists.”
- Associated treatment programs: Claudia Dozier and Pam Neidert (Little Steps, Lawrence, KS), “Designing Early Childhood Education Environments: Lessons Learned” and Tanya Baynham, Tracie Mann, and Jennifer Smith (Kansas City Autism Treatment Center, Prairie Village, KS), “Collaboration Between an Autism Intervention Center and an Inclusive Preschool: Successes, Challenges, and Future Directions.”

Student posters were presented concurrently, as well as in a stand-alone afternoon session. An award was given for the best poster, “Assessment and Treatment of Aggression Maintained by Tangible Reinforcement: Stimulus Control, Schedule Thinning, Maintenance, and Generalization,” by Matthew Newquist, Kimberley Zonneveld, Claudia Dozier, and Pam Neidert. Certifications of attendance were available, as well as BACB continuing education units (CEUs).

KansABA Website

In other KansABA activity this year, Adam Brewer (Chair, Technology Committee) moved our website from Post Rock to Blue Host (www.bluehost.com), created a new logo, and rebuilt the site at www.kansaba.org. Typing “KansABA” into Google’s search engine will generate the chapter website as the first listing. If you wish to become a member, you may remit through Pay Pal at our site.

Science and Education Activities

KansABA also advanced the science and education of behavior analysis this year by co-sponsoring and providing BACB CEUs for an October 23, 2009 University of Kansas Department of Applied Behavioral Science (ABS) colloquium presented by Brian Iwata (University of Florida) and titled “Escape Extinction: Can We Do Without It?” In addition, we provided CEUs for formal ABS discussion groups on contemporary issues in basic and applied behavior-analytic research. Finally, Ed Morris delivered a keynote address at the California Association for Behavior Analysis conference, titled “The Gernsbacher Lectures: Cut-Aways, Out-Takes, Bloopers, and Essentialism.”

Autism Insurance Legislation

Through the efforts of many Kansans and KansABA members—Linda Heitzman-Powell and Nan Perrin,

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in particular—the State of Kansas will be mandating insurance for autism treatment. Heitzman-Powell and Perrin are on the Governor’s Committee on Autism. According to Heitzman-Powell, “The Kansas Senate recently voted on House Bill 2160, which mandates that insurance providers ‘test-track’ coverage for autism treatments to children. This means that a pilot project will be implemented in which employees enrolled in a state health plan will have coverage for autism assessment, diagnosis, and treatment. Under this bill, insurers would be required to provide autism coverage to anyone younger than 19 who is covered by the state’s insurance plan beginning January 1, 2011. Coverage is capped at \$36,000 for children up through the age of 6 and at \$27,000 for children age 7 through 19. This bill specifically targets the use of evidence-based practices, applied behavior analysis in particular. ‘Applied behavior analysis’ means the design, implementation and evaluation of environmental modifications, using behavioral stimuli and consequences, to produce socially significant improvement in human behavior, including the use of direct observation, measurement, and functional analysis of the relationship between environment and behavior (S. Sub. for HB 2160, p. 2, 2010). The next move is to have insurance mandated for all citizens of Kansas.”

Plans for 2010–2011

In addition to maintaining our current activities, we plan to upgrade our website further, pursue an Internal Revenue Service tax-exempts status as a 501(c)(3) organization (as opposed to a 501(c)(6) organization), and increase our membership so that we can become more proactive in pursuing our mission.

Korean ABA

BY JEONGIL KIM

With approximately 900 participants, the Korean ABA has held an annual convention and symposium in the spring and fall of every year in Korea, with usual annual activities included the Korean ABA summer and winter professional training programs. Based on its certification regulations, the Korean ABA grants a Certificate of Behavior Therapist to individuals who complete 2-year training courses and pass the certification examination. The training program, designed primarily for new professionals, includes some classes of on-line programs in ABA theories and an onsite training program. Our May 2010 spring symposium and summer professional training in August 2010 have been scheduled in Daegu. In November 2010, we will collaborate with the Korean Association for Individuals with Emotional and Behavior Disorders (established by Sang Bok Lee) and the Korean Association of Practical Expressive Therapies

(established by Jeongil Kim) to hold an anniversary symposium with invited speakers from the USA and India.

We have published a quarterly journal that has been ranked by the Ministry of Education as one of the best publications for 20 years. The journal, *Journal of Emotional & Behavioral Disorders*, is in Korean and targets the education and general welfare of children and youth with emotional and/or behavioral disorders. In 2010, we published the spring issue of the journal; the fall and winter journals will be published accordingly. As an international affiliate chapter, the Korean ABA has been highly motivated to work cooperatively with ABAI chapters in different regions to advance scientific and practical application of applied behavior analysis in Korean society.

Korean Association of Child and Adolescent Behavior Therapy

BY JUNG YEON CHO

We, in the Korean Association of Child and Adolescent Behavior Therapy, have tried to get licensure for domestic behavior analysts through professional supervision and practical training. First, we had evaluation of development diagnosis training over two separate 5-day periods (June 2009 and January 2010). We also established monthly assemblies for studying behavior treatment in Seoul, Busan, Daegu, and Kwang-Ju. As a result of these meetings, we were able to collaborate with each other to overcome challenges in the field. In October 2009, a workshop dealing with therapy approaches for children with attack behavior was held at Daegu University. Parents of children with attack behavior, teachers, and experts from all corners of the nation attended the workshop. In December 2009, we had a discussion about various approach methods and presented each of our cases. A scholarship seminar for behavior improvement of adaption was held in May at Seoul. We will soon have a website for our chapter’s scholarship activity; the web address is <http://kacb.kr>.

Lone Star ABA

BY GERALD HARRIS

Lone Star ABA was formed by a group of behavior analysts practicing in a variety of work fields in the Houston, Texas area. The Lone Star ABA is a local chapter formed to support the local behavior analysts and represent the field of applied behavior analysis (ABA) to our community more directly. Just like ABAI, this local chapter has members interested in many different applications of ABA. Members are encouraged to join interest committees and meet outside of the scheduled general meetings. Current interest

committees include: Legislative, Insurance, National and Local Events, Membership and Public Relations, Texas Education Agency, and Continuing and Community Education. The full group has general meetings every other month, which focus on updating the full membership for networking and for continuing education activities. The committees meet according to a schedule agreed upon by the members of the committee.

Lone Star ABA is off to a very strong start with over 20 members, all of whom are devoted to presenting comprehensive scientific ideas of ABA to our community. Lone Star ABA works closely with the local Families for Effective Autism Treatment (FEAT) group, with a representative serving on the FEAT council and providing speakers for many FEAT activities. Lone Star ABA works to educate the community that behavior analysis is a professional field of study by having information tables at local conferences and resource fairs. The first organizational planning meeting was held in October 2009. Lone Star ABA is supportive of the state chapter of Texas ABA, as well as the national chapter of ABAI.

Louisiana ABA

BY TIFFANI CARLIN

The Louisiana ABA (LouABA) chapter of ABAI has been operating for 2 full years. During the last year, LouABA has worked hard to strengthen its structure, membership enrollment, and provide an accurate and compelling information resource pertaining to all areas of behavior analysis. Over the past year, LouABA has gained status as a BACB Accredited Continuing Education Provider and hosted a 6-hour continuing education ethics workshop for applied behavior analysis (ABA). We now publish a semiannual newsletter that is mailed to members and available to all through the LouABA website at www.mcneese.edu/louaba. LouABA representatives attended the ABAI 2009 Annual Convention Affiliated Leadership Training and participated in the ABAI Expo. We have collaborated with Shawn Fleming, our state's officer of the Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council, in response to applied behavior analysis (ABA) insurance billing issues experienced by several state BCBA's. As a result, an example billing code spread sheet, courtesy of the Autism Learning Center, has been included on our website to provide assistance with billing procedures, codes, and service fees. In keeping with our goal to expand and fortify opportunities within our state, we are collaborating with the Lake Charles Southwest Louisiana Convention and Visitors Bureau to plan a first annual ABA state conference. Furthermore, we are working with the New Orleans Convention and Visitors Bureau to facilitate the return of ABAI's annual convention to New Orleans. From April–March 2010, LouABA co-hosted

a mini-series of 12 workshops aimed at providing basic, ABA training for parents, or caregivers, of children with developmental delays. The workshops served to facilitate educational resources and equip parents with the skills needed for successful potty training, doctor and dentist visits, and challenging behaviors. The series also included workshops for promoting language, social skills, and food acceptance. LouABA has expanded its membership benefits and services. We offer BCBA members the option to have their contact information and practicing location displayed on our website at no charge; this enables parents and others to easily locate BCBA's within their vicinity. We also provide graduating master's-level students a free 1-year membership at the professional level. Current students still receive discounted registration fees at all LouABA sponsored events. LouABA posts appropriate ABA-related events information to our website at no charge for nonprofit organizations.

Manitoba ABA

BY KERRI WALTERS

The Manitoba Association for Behaviour Analysis (MABA) is in its fifth official year of affiliate status with ABAI. During our fourth year, we accomplished a number of goals including increasing awareness of our organization on local, provincial, and national levels; maintaining membership numbers; increasing the number of, and content areas within, our organization's newsletter; partnering with local organizations in organizing a training opportunity for a group of behaviour analysts; and hosting a highly successful fourth annual conference. To promote awareness of MABA, we presented a poster at the 2009 ABAI Expo during the annual convention in Phoenix, AZ and at the St. Amant annual conference in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Members of our Executive Committee attended the Minnesota Northland ABA conference held at St. Cloud State University and met individuals from their local chapter and to learn more about applied behaviour analysis (ABA) in their state.

The Membership committee attended local conferences, delivered presentations to psychology classes at the University of Manitoba, developed merchandise to sell both online and at conferences, and created posters and pamphlets which they distributed to three universities in Manitoba. The Membership Committee has improved the renewal reminder process and has developed an on-line membership renewal function to improve the ease in which current members can renew their membership and new members can join our organization. During the 2010 year, our Membership committee will continue to recruit new members by sending out recruitment letters

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to parents receiving ABA services for their children with autism spectrum disorders, and to staff providing clinical behavioural services within our community. They are also committed to working with our Public Relations Committee to organize a meet-and-greet between behaviour analysts and students in order to facilitate networking opportunities for our members.

Our Newsletter Committee published two newsletters during the 2009 year (May and December). Some highlights of those newsletters include interviews with John Rapp (St. Cloud State University) and Lorraine DeWiele, a behavioural clinical psychologist in Manitoba; an article looking at the application of ABA principles outside of autism and developmental disabilities; an interview of parents of a child with autism; and a research submission on detecting functional control using interval recording methods. Since 2009, our newsletter has sent solely e-copies to all members and is only distributing hard copies to MABA donors and newsletter contributors. For the upcoming year, the Newsletter Committee plans to generate two newsletters and is exploring an on-line newsletter posting, which would extend our objectives for “going green.” MABA was successful in partnering with the St. Amant Applied Behaviour Analysis Program in having Jennifer McComas (University of Minnesota) deliver a workshop on functional analysis to a number of behavioural clinicians. We plan to partner with the University of Manitoba Department of Psychology colloquium series to have David Wacker (University of Iowa) deliver a research presentation during the 2010–2011 academic year. We also hope to partner with the St. Amant Applied Behaviour Analysis Program by co-hosting an event during 2010. Our 2009 annual conference featured presentations by Jennifer McComas and John Rapp (St. Cloud State University) and was attended by 60 individuals. Our conference was funded by a number of sources at the University of Manitoba. Our 2010 conference will feature presentations by our Guest Speaker, David Wacker and our Invited Speaker, John Walker (University of Manitoba). Dr. Wacker will present on his findings from a 5-year project funded by the National Institute of Health, in which parents of children with disabilities who displayed destructive behaviours received coaching to conduct functional analysis and functional communication training in their home settings. Dr. Walker will present on how knowledge translation can be used to improve the information available to the public concerning behavioural approaches to common developmental and psychological problems. Our Grant Coordinator will continue to work to secure funding for our 2010 conference.

Some new objectives that MABA will begin working on during the 2010 year include further enhancing the features

and functions of our website, improving BACB certification opportunities in Manitoba, and addressing licensing and registration challenges faced by some behaviour analysts in our province. We are working towards developing an on-line referral directory consisting of behaviour analysts and behavioural psychologists in Manitoba who provide clinical services to individuals within the community. We have contacted local organizations to discuss exchanging information to post on one another's websites about clinical behavioural services provided in the province of Manitoba, as well as about local, national, and international events related to behaviour analysis. We are also currently developing an on-line publication forum for students conducting research in behaviour analysis at the University of Manitoba to provide research reports for access by the general public. MABA will be working with ABA faculty members at the University of Manitoba to develop a proposal for the BACB to address the challenges faced with certification in Manitoba.

Currently, we have three BCBA's in our province, only one of which holds a Ph.D. In order to ensure the ongoing integrity of our field, we are working with the BACB and University of Manitoba to increase opportunities to acquire the experience requirements outlined by the BACB as we work towards increasing the number of BCBA's in our province. At present, some behaviour analysts are having difficulty registering with the Psychological Association of Manitoba as a result of a slightly different coursework sequence between the Clinical Psychology and the ABA programs at the University of Manitoba. We are working with local service providers, the University of Manitoba, and the local psychological association to reach a solution regarding this matter.

In closing, in addition to extending upon our 2009 achievements, key goals for the 2010 year include increasing our dissemination strategies to promote the awareness of behaviour analysis in Manitoba, enhancing the features and functions of our website, and addressing BACB certification and Psychological Association registration and licensing issues for behaviour analysts in our province. We also plan to register MABA as a nonprofit organization with Revenue Canada. Finally, as a way of recognizing the outstanding contributions made to the field of applied behaviour analysis in the province of Manitoba, MABA developed an Outstanding Contributions to the Field of Applied Behaviour Analysis Award in 2009 which was awarded to Joseph Pear of the University of Manitoba. MABA will continue to recognize individuals in the province of Manitoba who have made significant contributions to the field and our hope is that we can expand these awards to recognize outstanding student contributions to the ABA field in the province of Manitoba.

Maryland ABA

BY SUNGWOO KAHNG

The 12th Annual Meeting of the Maryland Association for Behavior Analysis (MABA) was held in Baltimore, Maryland on December 4, 2009. Approximately 250 members from Maryland, Virginia, Washington DC, Delaware, Pennsylvania, New York, and New Jersey heard presentations from Tom Critchfield (Illinois State University), Jesse Dallery (University of Florida), Phil Hineline (Temple University), Rachel Thompson (Western New England College), and Tim Vollmer (University of Florida). Topics included variations in our technical language, examining the “need for sameness” in children with autism, teaching generatively with instruction based on stimulus equivalence, technological innovations in smoking cessation research, and a discussion of punishment. We also held a student paper competition in which four students each received a \$150 award and were invited to present in the MABA Student Paper Symposium. The recipients of the 2009 awards were David Jarmolowicz (West Virginia University); Amber E. Mendres (University of Maryland, Baltimore County); Yanerys Leon (University of Maryland, Baltimore County); and Allison S. Tetreault (West Virginia University). Our poster session was also a success. We had over 25 posters from organizations such as the Kennedy Krieger Institute; University of Maryland, Baltimore County; The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine; AdvoServ of New Jersey; West Virginia University; West Virginia University Institute of Technology; McDaniel College; the Delaware Autism Program; and Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. Finally, we want to thank our sponsors, Melmark, Behavioral Directions, and the Kennedy Krieger Institute for their support.

We want to thank Peter Gerhardt (Organization for Autism Research), who has completed his term on the MABA Executive Committee, for his support. Additionally, we want to thank Jennifer Crockett (Kennedy Krieger Institute) who has completed her term as President. Welcome to John Borrero (University of Maryland, Baltimore County) as our current President. We would also like to congratulate Greg Lieving (West Virginia University Institute of Technology, President Elect); Christina Vorndran (Bancroft NeuroHealth, Member-at-Large); and Abbey Carreau (University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Student Representative) who were voted onto the MABA Executive Committee. We also thank Carrie Borrero (Kennedy Krieger Institute) for her continued role as Member-At-Large as well as the Co-directors of the MABA, SungWoo Kahng (Kennedy Krieger Institute) and Lisa M. Toole (Kennedy Krieger Institute). Currently, plans are underway for our

13th Annual Meeting to be held on Friday, December 3, 2010. This year, we will be changing the venue to the Intercontinental Harbor Court Hotel—one of Baltimore’s premier hotels—located on the Inner Harbor. Confirmed speakers are Marc Branch (University of Florida); Jim Carr (Auburn University); and A. Charles Catania (University of Maryland, Baltimore County). We anticipate adding additional speakers as well as introducing a pre-conference workshop and holding our Student Paper Symposium again. For more information about this year’s meeting as well as information on how to become a member of the MABA, please go to our website at www.marylandaba.org. Also, please join us on Facebook and Yahoo Groups (search “Maryland Association for Behavior Analysis”).

Mid-American ABA

BY JONATHAN BAKER

The Mid-American Association for Behavior Analysis (MABA), a regional affiliate of the Association for Behavior Analysis International, is a membership organization devoted to promoting scholarly interchange in behavior analysis through its annual convention. The 10th Annual MABA Convention was held from October 9–10 in Davenport, Iowa. More than 150 people attended the convention, with graduate and undergraduate students comprising the majority of attendees. The convention began when John Borrero (University of Maryland Baltimore County) described laboratory explorations of response classes and extinction. Dan Holt (University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire) presented discounting of money and other outcomes. Jennifer Perry (Minneapolis Medical Research Foundation) described delay discounting and psychostimulants in rats. After, Joel Ringdahl (University of Iowa) discussed variables affecting response allocation among mand topographies, and Leonard Green (Washington University) elaborated on the impact of species in delay discounting research. During the afternoon of the first day, Brian Iwata (University of Florida) presented a talk on gain and pain in the Prader-Willi Syndrome and Edward Morris (University of Kansas) shared insights on John B. Watson’s childrearing advice. Later in the afternoon, Peter Urcioli (Purdue University) presented on emergent relations of equivalence and a theory of pigeons’ equivalence-class formation, Kate Saunders (University of Kansas) considered the role of abstraction in the development of early reading skills, and Iser DeLeon (Kennedy Krieger Institute) addressed the effects of effort on subsequent reinforcer value. The first day ended with poster presentations by students and faculty.

The second day of the convention began when Henry Roane (Munroe-Meyer Institute) discussed extensions of delay fading during differential reinforcement programs.

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Cynthia Pietras (Western Michigan University) considered the role of evolutionary ecology in human risky choice. Tiffany Kodak (Munroe-Meyer Institute) spoke on linking assessment and treatment related to learning. During the final session, Mark Reilly (Central Michigan University) elaborated on coupling and its role in response-reinforcer relations; Claire St. Peter-Pipkin (West Virginia University) discussed the role of resurgence for applied research and practice; Edward Wasserman (University of Iowa) presented on relational matching-to-sample behavior in pigeons, baboons, and people; and John Northup (University of Iowa) shared insights on the role of behavioral pharmacology in behavior analysis.

The 2010 convention will be held October 22–23 in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin at the Grand Geneva Resort and Spa. The conference will again include addresses on both basic and applied behavior-analytic research. MABA holds a business meeting during its annual convention and again during the ABAI annual convention. Persons interested in this organization are welcome to attend either meeting. The current President of MABA is Mark Dixon (Southern Illinois University); the President-Elect is Cynthia Pietras (Western Michigan University). More information about MABA and the annual convention can be found at the organization's website: www.uwec.edu/maba or by contacting Jonathan Baker at jonathan.c.baker@siu.edu.

Minnesota Northland ABA

BY TIMOTHY MOORE

The Minnesota Northland Association for Behavior Analysis (MNABA) was founded in 2005 to provide (1) a professional network and resource for behavior analysts in the Northland; (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 applied behavior analysis (ABA) services in the Northland; (5) the organization of an annual regional ABA conference; and (6) continuing education for professionals in the Northland. Membership consists of practicing and teaching behavior analysts, undergraduate and graduate students in behavior analysis, and others expressing an interest in the field of behavior analysis in Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin, Iowa, and Manitoba. The MNABA council and members spent the last year diligently working on a number of initiatives that will keep us busy into the coming year. One such initiative is to engage other groups and agencies with which we may develop mutually reinforcing relationships. This includes or will include agencies and professionals providing diagnostic

and therapeutic services to individuals displaying a variety of problem behaviors. Efforts are also underway to increase service to the community. A community involvement task force has formed and is in the process of 1) identifying groups, agencies, and individuals in need of behavioral services or training therein; 2) determining an operating budget; and 3) developing a protocol for providing training or consultative services. A primary goal of this initiative is to provide an ABA perspective to the treatment planning process for schools, agencies, and individuals, as well as provide limited consultative services to those in need that would not otherwise have access to services. The MNABA Executive Council engaged in considerable effort increasing membership awareness of the issue of licensure for behavior analysts. Local experts collaborated with the Council to inform the membership and then to develop an initial chapter position. A final position statement on licensure for behavior analysts in our region is expected soon. Like many other states and regions, a bill mandating insurance coverage of behavior analytic services has been brought before the Minnesota state legislature. Our Legislative Chair has kept our members informed of the progress and many council members have taken part in advocating for the passage of the bill. In September, MNABA hosted its second annual conference at St. Cloud State University. The conference was one-and-a-half tracks and consisted of invited presentations and a poster session. Presenters were Jeffrey Weatherly, University of North Dakota; Kevin Klatt, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire; Daniel Holt, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire; Adam Derenne, University of North Dakota; Travis Thompson, University of Minnesota; Jeffrey Buchanan, Minnesota State University-Mankato; Joel Ringdahl, University of Iowa; Brady Phelps, South Dakota State University; Eric Larsson, Lovaas Institute Midwest; and Gail Peterson, University of Minnesota. Student poster presentation winners were Aaron Nystedt, "Using Noncontingent Reinforcement to Increase Compliance With Wearing Prescription Prostheses," and Tasha Rieck, "The Effects of Noncontingent Reinforcement in the Treatment of Rumination." MNABA's Third Annual Regional Conference will be held on September 24, 2010 at the University of Minnesota Radisson. The conference will again be one-and-a-half tracks and include a poster session. We are also excited to announce a Thursday evening social prior to the start of the conference to enhance networking opportunities. MNABA membership dues and continuing education fees are included in the regional conference registration costs; however, interested parties are encouraged to submit applications for membership at any time during the year. Benefits of membership include access to professional networking opportunities and continuing education units. For more information, please visit www.mnaba.org or e-mail info@mnaba.org.

Missouri ABA

BY TODD STREFF

The Missouri Association for Behavior Analysis (MOABA) has been very active this year in the legislative process as the push for insurance coverage for applied behavior analysis (ABA) services continues its course through the House and Senate. MOABA has been an active partner with the St. Louis Autism Speaks chapter in shaping the language of both the insurance coverage of ABA services and proposed licensure of behavior analysts. MOABA has been given a lot of support from ABAI and APBA through this process, benefiting from the experience both parties have had with their involvement in other states. MOABA's annual convention was well attended and the diversity of those attending continues to grow and expand across the state and surrounding states. As a state chapter, MOABA continues to have some specific objectives, including providing an annual state ABA conference with continuing education opportunities, promoting the ethical and effective use of behavior analysis, serving as a professional network and resource for behavior analysts, and serving as a resource for those seeking ABA services in Missouri. MOABA continues to actively expand its membership, outreach, and collaboration with other organizations, and to provide a high quality state-level conference. Additional membership, meeting, and conference information can be found on our website. If you would like to join MOABA, membership applications can be downloaded from our website at www.moaba.org.

Autism Mandate in Missouri: Autism Insurance Law and Licensure for Behavior Analysts in Missouri

BY JOHN M. GUERCIO

The state of Missouri now has much needed autism insurance coverage for individuals with autism spectrum disorders. The bill was signed into law by Governor Jay Nixon on June 10, 2010. This law was the result of a great deal of hard work by Autism Speaks, the Missouri Association for Behavior Analysis (MOABA), and countless family advocates from across the state. HB 1311 was passed by the Senate in a vote of 27 to 6. The bill passed out of the house with a vote of 144-16. The licensure of applied behavior analysts was a provision of this bill. It will require all behavior analysts that provide services for individuals with autism to be licensed in order to receive insurance reimbursement for their services. The law will provide for a \$40,000 per year price cap and coverage continues until the age of 18. The final parameters of the bill were the result of input and feedback from a number of sources throughout the legislative process.

Representative Dwight Scharnhorst was the champion of the autism bill in the state of Missouri. He had direct experience with autism as a result of having a grandson with the disorder. His continued efforts to raise awareness and to work tirelessly with members of both the House of Representatives and the Senate have resulted in autism insurance reform law in our state. MOABA was extremely active in the formulation of the licensure language that ultimately made its way into the autism insurance coverage bill. The final language was crafted as a result of numerous hours of meetings related to the most responsible and effective manner in which to provide key consumer protection to families that utilize applied behavior analysis (ABA) services. MOABA had a voice in this legislative process.

The members of the MOABA were extremely active in the legislative process well before the licensure language had been added to the law. The board members of MOABA were involved in conversations with key legislators, sharing crucial information about the impact of our science on individuals with autism. These efforts ranged from participation in conference calls with Autism Speaks, to perfecting the language that would ultimately define the parameters of what licensure for our profession would look like in the state of Missouri. Throughout the course of the legislative process, MOABA actively sought the opinions of leaders in our field to offer guidance related to our law. Gina Green was very helpful in reviewing a number of the drafts that were proposed for licensure language. Michael Dorsey was invited to talk at our yearly MOABA convention related to behavior analysis and the insurance and licensure process. All of the information that was sought was extremely helpful in the ultimate draft of the language in the bill that we have before us now. Autism law in Missouri was the result of powerful collaborations and feedback. This was a great example of how our field can work together for the best interest of the individuals that we serve as well as the behavior analysts delivering the service. Partnerships were the crucial ingredient to our success. I feel that such cooperation can serve as a model for other states as we move forward in demonstrating the social and clinical efficacy of our approach.

Nevada ABA

BY JONATHAN TARBOX

The Nevada Association for Behavior Analysis hosted a conference in Reno in November 2009. This 2-day conference featured talks, workshops, and a poster session, with presentations relating to basic, applied, and conceptual research in behavior analysis, as well as applications to a large range of service settings. The conference benefited from speaking appearances by distinguished guest speakers

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from around the country. Old friendships were rekindled, new partnerships were made, and a good time was had by all. In the past year, NABA has been busy making modifications to bylaws and is currently conducting a facelift of the website, www.nevadaaba.org. A new version is expected to be finished soon.

One of the themes of NABA's focus for 2010 is an emphasis on outreach activities targeted at community-building and forging relationships and collaborations with stakeholders outside the traditional behavioral community. To this end, community events are being planned that will bring families of individuals with developmental disabilities, as well as teachers and other members of the community, together for opportunities to interact and play in a casual, family-friendly environment. We believe a stronger relationship between behavior analysts and the greater Nevada community can only serve to benefit the interests of all involved. In addition, with the recent passage of the bill relating to medical insurance coverage for behavioral services and the licensing of behavior analysts in the state of Nevada, change is on the horizon. The passage of this legislation represents an exciting opportunity for behavior analysts in the state but much is still unknown. NABA has been actively liaising with Nevada officials who are involved in the roll-out of the legislation in order to keep the voice of Nevada's behavior analysts heard.

The NABA conference for 2010 is tentatively planned for November and is slated to have a highly applied focus. Presentations and workshops will emphasize practical skills that are in high demand by educators and practitioners in the community. Topics will be diverse, including strategies for addressing challenging behaviors and educational interventions for individuals with and without developmental disabilities, across a variety of school, home, and community settings. For more information on the conference, check the newly updated NABA website.

New Jersey ABA

BY GREG MACDUFF

New Jersey ABA (NJABA) has continued to work closely with the New Jersey State Department of Banking and Insurance to establish the credentials for behavior analysts that would constitute their competence to bill insurance companies for services. In January 2010, the Department of Banking and Insurance issued a bulletin regarding the autism insurance law. Many of the items included were advocated by NJABA. These include defining autism as a spectrum disorder, clarifying ABA techniques to improve communication between providers and carriers, and describing the importance of services provided by certified behavior analysts. NJABA also continues to address the benefits of

licensing versus certification. The Board of Directors has received information from advocates of both options and continues to discuss which of the option might best serve behavior analysts in our state.

New York State ABA

BY DENNIS MOZINGO

The New York State Association for Behavior Analysis (NYSABA) continues to be guided by a key element of its vision: the advancement of behavior analysis recognition and the right to practice of professional behavior analysts in New York. In addition, NYSABA remains committed to providing an annual conference that addresses the needs of behavior analysts working in university labs and clinical positions, schools and other educational settings, family homes, and treatment and rehabilitation settings. In the legislative and policy realm, NYSABA has worked closely with the Bureau of Early Intervention of the New York State Department of Health, guiding development of the revision of the Bureau's regulations. Specifically, NYSABA has played a significant role in the development of experience, training, and supervision guidelines for professionals and paraprofessionals providing applied behavior analysis services. NYSABA also contributed the development of rules around the use of aversive interventions.

Finally, NYSABA continues to aggressively lobby the Bureau to include Board Certified Behavior Analysts and Board Certified Assistant Behavior Analysts as approved providers in the new regulations. At the time of this writing, inclusion is pending. NYSABA continues to seek language in the state budget to continue an exemption from the Psychology Practice Act of master's-level professionals working in settings overseen by the Office of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities and the Office of Mental Health. The chapter continues to work with sponsors of pending autism insurance legislation and Autism Speaks on language in the bill that will affect behavior analysts and consumers of behavior analysis services. Plans are underway for our 21st Anniversary Conference to be held at the Gideon Putnam Resort in Saratoga Springs, New York, during November 10-12, 2010. The conference will feature Gina Green and Cathleen Piazza as keynote speakers and will include the state's finest behavior analysts and friends of behavior analysis. As always, NYSABA's annual conference will offer the most continuing education units for BCBAs during a single event in New York. Pre-conference workshops will be offered by New York's premiere behavior analysts as well as those recognized on a national level.

In closing, NYSABA encourages membership and conference participation of behavior analysts and friends of behavior analysts from all areas of the practice including,

but not limited to, the experimental analysis of behavior, developmental disabilities and autism, business and industry, and rehabilitation and behavioral medicine. Visit NYSABA's website at www.nysaba.org for the latest on upcoming events, employment opportunities, and organization activities.

New Zealand ABA

BY ANTHONY MCLEAN AND CELIA LIE

The New Zealand ABA chapter presently has 153 members. Our membership continues to be primarily staff and students from seven of New Zealand's universities, two of which run postgraduate programmes in applied behaviour analysis. As in the past, this year's major activity has been our annual conference which was hosted by the University of Auckland, the presentations had a focus on either experimental analysis of behavior or applied behavior analysis (ABA). We are particularly pleased with the large number of student presenters and the constructive feedback they gained from the audience. Additionally, the number of contributors appears to be on an increasing trend; this year there were 41 presentations over the 2 days of the conference, with representatives from many New Zealand universities. We were also pleased to have contributions from two visitors to New Zealand: Takayuki Sakagami (Keio University, Japan), who was on sabbatical leave at the University of Canterbury, and Steve Provost (Southern Cross University, Australia). The event also featured several contributions from people interested in implementing the behaviour-analytic approach in their work. Two prizes were awarded for the best student presentations at the conference, one for work in experimental analysis (Nathalie Boutros' paper on conditioned reinforcement) and the other in applied behaviour analysis (Rebecca Sharp's paper on verbal behaviour). The abstracts for these and other presentations at the conference can be found on the NZABA website (<http://nzaba.org>). Two informal prizes, of an ornamental spear (originally awarded for "thrusting anthropomorphism") and an ornamental hatchet (originally awarded for "indecisive chairpersonship") have their origin in the years before NZABA became a chapter of ABAI and were awarded to Lindsay Matthews and Douglas Elliffe, respectively. Anthony McLean, Celia Lie, and Douglas Elliffe were elected Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer, respectively, for the 2009–2010 year.

Continuing Education

We currently have 10 BCBAs in New Zealand; the number varies depending on the temporary goings and comings (emigration and immigration) of New Zealand-trained and overseas-trained behaviour analysts. In 2009, in addition to attending conferences, there was one

special event organized for BCBAs to receive continuing education units (CEU). The University of Auckland hosted presentations by Carolyn W. Green and Dennis H. Reid that spanned 2 days. These presentations, titled "Evidence-Based Practices for Promoting Independence and Enjoyment Among People With Severe Intellectual Disabilities," included talks on providing choices and preferences, identifying and increasing indices of happiness, teaching meaningful and functional skills, preference-based teaching, and programmes to facilitate the training, supervision and motivation of support staff. BCBAs were able to earn up to 12 CEUs from these presentations. We felt very privileged that Reid and Green came all the way from North Carolina to give 2 days of presentations. Feedback includes their influence in improving the lives of people with severe disabilities. Any other ABA chapter would do well to obtain presentations from Dennis Reid and his colleagues if they wish to boost the positive profile of ABA in their region. Those interested in joining NZABA should note that this is achieved by attending the annual conference and—with the exception of students—paying the conference registration fee. The 2010 conference will be hosted by the University of Canterbury. Please contact Celia Lie to be placed on our e-mail list.

North Carolina ABA

BY R. M. DUKE SCHELL

The North Carolina Association for Behavior Analysis (NCABA) held its 21st Anniversary Conference on February 17–19, 2010 in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Following a wonderful 20th Anniversary Conference in 2009, we looked forward to starting another 20-year run. This year's conference was equally successful due to the leadership of Jennifer Deacon, our President. Other NCABA board members for the 2009–2010 year included Past President Ruth Hurst, President Elect Ya-yu Lo, Vice President Mark Stafford, Secretary Beth Schmitt, Treasurer Nancy Poteet, Member-at-Large Kelly Sutton, Member-at-Large Vicki Harper, Student Representative Jason Boye, Publications Editor Jamie Clary, Senior Advisor Fred Spooner, and Liaison to ABAI Duke Schell. Each year we open our conference with the presentation of awards to honor people who have promoted behavior analysis in applied research and everyday practice. This year's recipients were Jeff Holden for the Fred S. Keller Excellence in Behavior Analysis Award, April Mustian for the Student Scholarship Award, Sarah Geiger for the Technical Utilization Award, and Martin Ivancic for the "Do Things" Award. Some of our outstanding invited speakers included Gerald Shook, Martin Ivancic, Ray Miltenberger, Denny Reid, Marsha Parsons, Wendy

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Fitch, Jim Bodfish, Tim Ludwig, and Tim Vollmer. Over 25 other speakers participated in concurrent sessions, the highlighted student symposium, and other symposia. In addition, we hosted an excellent evening poster session the first day of the conference and a wonderful social with a live band on the last night. In all, we had more than 170 conference participants with more than 150 attending our six workshops. For the past several years, NCABA has been both a BACB Accredited Continuing Education provider and a North Carolina Psychological Association approved provider. During the conference, 56 certified behavior analysts from North Carolina, Virginia, and South Carolina earned 700 continuing education credits; 83 North Carolina psychologists earned 249 continuing education (CE) credits. The NCABA conference continues to provide a wide range of topics and speakers that have received excellent feedback for attendees seeking professional continuing education. We believe that part of our success is due to keeping our costs reasonable, particularly during more trying economic times. For example, for \$200, a professional in North Carolina received a year of membership to NCABA (\$20), registration for the full conference (\$60), registration to two 3-hour workshops (\$90), 17 behavior analyst CEs, and six psychologist CEs (\$30 CE fee).

For the past several years NCABA has hosted an informational poster at the ABAI Expo; additionally, we were in San Antonio handing out “virtual” memberships to interested visitors. The new friends we made at the ABAI convention and other events are encouraged to please visit our website at www.nc-aba.com to review additional highlights from the 21st Anniversary NCABA Conference, including links to pictures, descriptions of our awards, names of our newly elected officers, and information on becoming an NCABA member. The NCABA website also provides information about our history since 1989, links to newsletters, and information about our most recent conference and upcoming events—including NCABA sponsored mid-conference workshops and planning for the 2011 conference to be held during February 16–18, likely in Charlotte. Come join us; NCABA has been promoting behavior analysis in North Carolina since 1989!

Northwestern ABA

BY RYAN ZAYAC

The Northwestern Association for Behavior Analysis (NWABA) is excited to announce Peter Gerhardt and Gina Green as the keynote speakers for the 2010 regional conference. The conference will be held on the campus of Gonzaga University in Spokane, WA on October 8–9, 2010. Discounted rooms (\$104 per night) are available

at the Holiday Inn Express–Spokane Downtown. Reservations can be made by calling 509-328-8505 or by following the link on the NWABA conference homepage. We would also like to take this opportunity to announce a call for papers. Program proposals are now invited from NWABA members, students, and others interested in experimental and applied behavior analysis. The NWABA conference is a time for everyone interested in behavior analysis in the Pacific Northwest to hear from some of the leading figures in our field and share activities of the last year with each other. A successful and interesting conference depends on presentations and participation by our members, so let us know how you can contribute.

Submissions can be made online at the NWABA website (www.cwu.edu/~zayacr/nwaba). The deadline for all submissions is September 1, 2010. We are also pleased to report that NWABA is now an Approved Continuing Education provider. We anticipate being able to offer up to 11 continuing education units (CEU) for BCBAs and BCaBAs at the regional conference. The organization is also looking into providing continuing education/clock hours for licensed psychologists, social workers, counselors, and teachers. Please check the NWABA website for more information on CEU availability in early fall. If you are interested in becoming a member or registering for the 2010 conference, please visit our new website and send us your contact information. We are always looking for new members who are dedicated to the acquisition, evaluation, and dissemination of information regarding behavior analysis.

Ontario Association for Behaviour Analysis

BY DARRYL NURSE

The past year has been an active and exciting one for the Ontario Association for Behavior Analysis (ONTABA). In an effort to follow our mission of demonstrating leadership, knowledge, and innovation in education, training, and the promotion of the science of behavior analysis, the board has taken on new initiatives and directions in an attempt to better serve the membership. In the past year, we have worked on and implemented several initiatives to bring ONTABA into 2010. We have adopted a green policy in an effort to ensure environmentally conscious actions at the board level. We have introduced a fiscal policy related to investments and financial responsibility and sustainability. We have incorporated our new logo into web publications and print media, increased web-based services, and moved our newsletter, the *ONTABA Analyst*, to an on-line publication. In addition, we have attempted to offer additional services for our membership. We have explored the possibility of liability insurance, responded

to many questions about certification, sponsored a satellite conference, and established detailed criteria for ONTABA's awards for excellence in behavior analysis.

Our annual conference, held November 19–21 at the InterContinental Toronto, was a huge success with respect to both content and venue. Feedback has been very positive, and we look forward to incorporating comments and suggestions into next year's event. We were very happy to be able to offer continuing education (CE) credits for the first time and hope to expand on this opportunity in the future as we are now a recognized CE provider. We had a wide variety of speakers across the 3 days and it was a great opportunity to interact and network with behavior analysts from across the province. We have already commenced planning this year's conference and look forward to seeing you all again in the fall. In the meantime, the board is hard at work on numerous initiatives and ventures, such as:

- Offering "Member Emeritus" status to any full or sustaining member of the association 65 years of age or older.
- Ensuring fiscal responsibility, accountability, and sustainability for the future through responsible budget planning and financial review.
- Increasing membership by 5% through innovative recruitment initiatives.
- Exploring errors and omissions liability insurance for professionals in the field.
- Expanding co-sponsorship of events or satellite conferences.
- Increasing and enhancing web-based services.
- Raising ONTABA's profile with relevant Ministries and provincial initiatives.
- Evaluating and establishing the strategic direction for a new committee to move forward in the pursuit of licensure or a college of behavior analysis.

I am looking forward to working with the new board on these and other projects. It is an exciting time for the field of behavior analysis in Ontario, and we have a highly motivated and dedicated group to help lead us into the years ahead. In closing, I would like to thank all outgoing board members for their time and dedication, with special thanks to our past President Peter Wyngaarden. We will strive to continue meeting the standard he has set.

Oregon ABA

BY SARAH SHAEFER

The Oregon Association for Behavior Analysis (ORABA) was officially formed in November 2008. ORABA remains a small chapter but continues its progress and growth with the help of dedicated members and outside supporters. As of April 15, 2010 ORABA had two

Affiliate Members and 13 Full Members, compared to one Affiliate and 10 Full members at the same time in 2009. ORABA is currently completing its application to become a nonprofit organization and anticipates completion by the end of the 2010. ORABA's meeting schedule for 2010 transitioned from monthly to quarterly meetings. The ORABA Executive Board continues to meet every month to work towards the chapter's goals between quarterly meetings. ORABA's first quarterly meeting of the year was hosted by Maria Lynn Kessler at the Oregon Institute of Technology in Klamath Falls, Oregon. This meeting was well attended by over 20 psychology students interested in learning more about behavior analysis and the state affiliated chapter. The second quarterly meeting was held in April and ORABA was excited to have Jerry Shook present on the Behavior Analysis Certification Board. This was the largest meeting since ORABA's conception. ORABA is excited for Cynthia Anderson to present at the July quarterly meeting, hosted by the University of Oregon. Finally, ORABA has formed an annual convention planning committee and is in the process of planning the first annual conference tentatively scheduled for a weekend in October. ORABA plans on continuing to work on their established mission:

- Encourage the understanding of all aspects of behavior analysis (e.g., the experimental analysis of behavior, applied behavior analysis, and radical behaviorism) in universities, schools, and community settings by encouraging competent practice, providing a forum for behavior analysts to gather and share information, and disseminating information on behavior analysis to the community.
- Support the design and application of evidence-based practices to improve the quality of life of the citizens of Oregon.
- Serve as a professional reference group for those who identify themselves as scientists or practitioners in disciplines that embrace the principles and practices of behavior analysis.
- Advise political, legislative, and policy-making bodies with respect to all matters pertaining to behavior analysis.
- Promote the Behavior Analyst Certification Board as the appropriate body for credentialing practitioners of applied behavior analysis in the state of Oregon.
- Maintain a website containing information about the organization as well as resources pertaining to behavior analysis.

Some of ORABA's specific goals include establishing and maintaining involvement with the Oregon Commission on Autism Spectrum Disorders, which was formed to address the needs of individuals with autism across

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their lifespan. ORABA is also continuing the pursuit of establishing an educational program in behavior analysis and/or certification in Oregon.

Pennsylvania ABA

BY KEITH WILLIAMS

On March 25–27, Pennsylvania ABA held its annual conference at the Hershey Lodge in Hershey, PA. On March 25, four workshops were provided. Our presenters were Jon Bailey and Mary Burch, Naomi Swiezy, Jeannie Golden, and Steve Anderson. Our workshops were followed by a speaker's series on March 26. The speakers included Jon Bailey, Jeannie Golden, Steve Anderson, Naomi Swiezy, Helen Hendy, and Keith Williams. Also on March 26, a final workshop was presented by Keith Williams. This year, 137 people from seven states attended our conference.

Philippines ABA

BY MA. TERESA COJUANGCO

2009 was a very difficult year for the Philippine chapter. Due to very limited funding and a lot of members unable to sustain their memberships, we were not able to organize our yearly accreditation or mount any continuing education conference, which we have been doing at least once a year since 2006. Recently, we staged a fundraiser in which we tapped corporations to help us through monetary donations to organize a major conference for this year, hopefully in the next 6 months. We look forward to a better year for the chapter and we hope that more people will join us in our advocacy to professionalize the field of applied behavior analysis in our country for the benefit of the children we serve.

Polskie Stowarzyszenie Terapii Behawioralnej

BY EWA KULIGA-MUSIOL AND NINA ZAWIDNIAK

Polskie Stowarzyszenie Terapii Behawioralnej, or the Polish Behavioral Therapy Association (PBTA), is a country-wide nonprofit 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 the PBTA is promoting behavioral therapy among therapists and academics. Currently, the PBTA has 140 registered members from every significant behavioral therapy center in Poland, as well as the parents of persons undergoing behavioral therapy and other concerned experts (physicians, academics, and students). It provides substantial patronage

for and cooperates with a number of Polish centers and institutions (in Bydgoszcz, Gdansk, Kielce, Krakow, Lublin, and Warsaw, among others) focused on providing effective help to persons with autism and publishes the informational periodical *Krok za krokiem (Step by Step)* with articles by world-renowned experts on teaching persons with autism. In 2009, the PBTA promoted:

- 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 2009.
- 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.
- Publishing the book *Czas na dialog! Materiały informacyjne z I, Ogólnopolskiej Konferencji Nauczycieli Szkolnictwa Specjalnego (Time to Talk! Informational Material from the First Polish Conference of Special Education Teachers)* and publishing the third issue of the *Step by Step* periodical, which features, among others, transcripts of the lectures given at the First International Science Conference, "Children and Adults with Autism—How to Help Them Efficiently."
- Fulfilling statutory activities in forms focused on helping the disabled through:
 - Operating the Behavioral Therapy Clinic (BTC) in Cracow and a local branch of the BTC in Wrocław, 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 450 families throughout Poland.
 - Operating the Emergency Intervention Team (EIT), a short-term (up to 2 weeks), intensive therapy for persons with developmental and behavioral disorders and for their families, facing material and other hardships. In 2009, around 15 families from all over Poland used this form of therapy.
 - Operating the Integration Classes (IC) aimed at younger children with disabilities identified as belonging to the spectrum of autism, but possessing basic group-work skills. The classes are conducted on

the basis of preschool teaching methodology and the principles of applied behavioral analysis. The objectives of the classes are to integrate the children with a group and develop their social competence. There are currently 10 children participating in the classes.

- Operating the Social Skills Training (SST). These classes are conducted in small groups and intended to develop positive social behaviors. The classes are aimed at older children with emotional disorders, Asperger's syndrome, and high functioning children with autism. The classes are currently attended by eight students.
- Obtaining resources allowing further development of the organization and branching out through introducing new statutory activities (including research programs).

One of the PBTA's members, Nana Zawidniak, participated in the Fourth ABAI Autism Conference in Chicago in January 22–24, 2010, and took a 3-week internship at the New York Child Learning Institute for children with autism.

Past standards were renewed and new standards were developed for the future behavioral therapist certification program in Poland. The new system was developed by a team of experts from the PBTA and the Polish Society for Behavioral Psychology. It was decided that the best choice would be to adopt the idea of patriarchy in therapy and draft a list of behavioral therapists actively working in Poland, prior to the first session of granting titles and certificates under the developed standards.

One of the more important events of 2009 was organizing a behavioral rehabilitation camp. Twenty families from across Poland participated in the event. Among the guests of the camp were Joseph Cautilli and Halina Dzielowska of Philadelphia, who supervised the behavioral activities conducted during the camp. Moreover, Joe Cautilli gave a lecture entitled "Verbal Behavior" for the PBTA members. 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 behavior analysis.

The PBTA also organized the conference "Czas na dialog! Porozmawiajmy, więc o Rodzicach" (Time to Talk! Let's Talk About the Parents) for special education teachers. The participants included 450 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 goals of the conference for 2010 were 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, EIT, IC, and SST. 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.

Sociedad Mexicana de Análisis de la Conducta

BY CARLOS SANTOYO VELASCO

The aim of this article is to highlight the main 2010 goals of Sociedad Mexicana de Análisis de la Conducta—or The Mexican Society of Behavior Analysis (MSBA)—and some of the most important outcomes of the *Mexican Journal of Behavior Analysis* (MJBA). The dissemination of behavior analysis in México and other countries is one of the key objectives of MSBA. Currently, some of the activities aimed at achieving this objective are the publication of MJBA and running a biennial convention. After 2010, the Mexican Convention of Behavior Analysis will be held annually instead of biennially, and we will have new programs for the dissemination of behavior analysis such as a colloquium for undergraduate students who participate in behavioral research. The first Colloquium for Undergraduate Students will be held at the National Autonomous University of Mexico during May of this year. The principal idea of this program is to disseminate behavior analysis among future Mexican psychologists and to induce them to participate in postgraduate programs focused on behavior analysis. We think that it is necessary to promote more participation of youths in scientifically focused programs.

This is a special year for the chapter because 2010 marks the 35th anniversary of MSBA. Also, the 20th Mexican Convention of Behavior Analysis will be held in August of this year. Over the past 35 years, MSBA has had 13 Presidents and has published 35 annual volumes of the MJBA. Without a doubt, we are one of the more unified scientific societies of behavior analysis among Iberian-American countries, but we need to extend our influence to involve more members of different countries in our events and to strengthen the educational programs of behavior analysis in Mexico.

Running MSBA effectively requires cooperative work from some of the most productive Mexican behavior

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analysts. Currently, General Secretary Raúl Ávila Santibáñez and Treasurer Gustavo Bachá Méndez are working on the main activities and funds of MSBA. General Editor of MJBA Rocio Hernandez-Pozo is now conducting our program of research dissemination for the journal. MJBA is now a member of the Mega Project of Scientific Journals in the Catalogue of the National Autonomous University of Mexico, hosted at www.journals.unam.mx. This technological support from the major public university in Mexico should increase the international visibility of the journal, as well as facilitate its management (Hernández-Pozo, 2009). Finally the 20th Convention of MSBA will be held at Oaxtepec Morelos during August 25–27, 2010. The call for presentations program is open and can be found at www.smac-rmac.org.mx—MSBA's website. Dr. Avila will be the President of the Convention.

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South Carolina ABA

BY CHRISTIAN MARTIN

The South Carolina Association for Behavior Analysis (SC ABA) has had an exciting year in 2009. Our efforts began with developing the SC ABA website, creating mailing addresses, and procuring an office location in Columbia with the support of the South Carolina Autism Society (SCAS). Concurrently, chapter officers attended the ABAI Annual Convention in Phoenix, along with several other members who were present at the chapter meeting and poster session. Information gathered from the convention was provided to attending members at our following quarterly business meeting. Later, we were excited to sponsor our July 2009 workshop, “Ethical Issues in the Assessment and Treatment of Behavioral Disorders.” The workshop was presented by Duke Schell, a founding member of our sister chapter North Carolina ABA. The workshop was BACB-approved for continuing education credits and approximately 20 members were in attendance.

Following Duke's presentation, SC ABA members collaboratively discussed the role of the Professional Ethics Task Force. Vi Hendly, who generated a position paper proposal titled, “Professional Ethics and the Responsible Use of Applied Behavior Analysis in South Carolina,” chaired the task force. Since the finalization of the Ethics Committee, other members have explored potential strategies to address both professional ethics and the responsible use of applied behavior analysis when providing ABA-based interventions across environments that include, but are not limited to, school settings. Subsequent committee movements have

included strategies for maintaining ethical treatment and establishing high quality standards for ABA-based providers in South Carolina.

In January 2010, Christian A. Martin began his term as President of SC ABA. Additionally, we held our first election for a new Vice President, which was accepted by Barbara Agnello. Barbara previously served as our chapter's Chair of the BACB Update Committee. After our election, the development of the South Carolina Department of Education (DOE) Liaison Committee was established and is chaired by Bruce Braswell. The purpose of the committee has been to facilitate a collaborative relationship between members of SC ABA and staff at the DOE. Objectives of the DOE Committee have included (a) educating and communicating the comprehensive benefits of ABA practices in schools, (b) facilitating the establishment of BCBA positions in school systems, and (c) supporting teacher certification (i.e., board certification) with SC ABA and DOE incentives.

Later, in March 2010, we were also pleased to co-sponsor a 6-day workshop along with SCAS and Winston's Wish Foundation. The workshop, “Positive Practices in Behavioral Support Through Nonlinear Applied Behavior Analysis,” was presented by Gary LaVigna at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center in Columbia, SC. The approximately 69 attendees included parents, teachers, school administrators, psychologists, Medicaid waiver providers, and current and future BCBAs.

SC ABA continues to be shaped by national movements in the field of ABA and the needs of individuals in South Carolina. Therefore, our roles and efforts have evolved during the past 2 years. Similar to previous years, we will once again hold our October chapter meeting in conjunction with the annual SCAS conference. Although we have discussed developing an independent strand of ABA workshops at the 2010 SCAS conference, our plans have not been finalized. However, our efforts may serve as a pilot for developing an independent conference in 2011. SC ABA membership is open to anyone who is interested in the application of the principles and procedures of behavior analysis. Currently SC ABA has active members who include, but are not limited to, BCBAs, parents, support providers, teachers, and psychologists from many counties across the state. If you are interested in becoming a member of SC ABA or would like more information about our chapter, feel free to visit our website www.sc-aba.com or contact us by e-mail at southcarolinaaba@gmail.com.

Svenska Föreningen för Beteendeanalys

BY ULRIKA LÅNGH

Svenska Föreningen för Beteendeanalys, or the Swedish ABA (SWABA), has over 200 members, the largest number since the organization was founded in 1996. The interest for behavior analysis in Sweden has been rising, with increasing demands for applied behavior analysis from parent and support groups for autism and developmental disorders. The interest among professionals is rising as well. During the spring of 2010, SWABA arranged its annual meeting, a 1-day conference in Stockholm. Empirical studies, reviews, and philosophical issues were presented and discussed. The role of Chairperson changed from psychologist Kenneth Nilsson to psychologist Ulrika Lång. The organization also voted to increase the size of its board. The members also voted—for the first time since SWABA was founded—to collect membership fees in order to have a more stable financial situation that would make it possible to provide enhanced services and be less dependent on financial sponsors. SWABA was represented at the 2010 ABAI Annual Convention in San Antonio, TX. During the convention, SWABA presented a poster at the ABAI Expo. Also, bids were accepted for a unique SWABA t-shirt, the proceeds of which were donated to the SABA International Development Fund. SWABA maintains a web forum for its members that can be reached from the organizations website (www.swaba.org). SWABA would like to encourage anyone who plans to visit Sweden or Scandinavia to contact Ulrika Lång (ulrika.lang@sil.se), the current President, to arrange a meeting. SWABA will arrange its next annual meeting in early spring of 2011.

Taiwan ABA

BY HUA FENG

During the past year, Taiwan ABA has accomplished quite a lot. Perhaps the most significant accomplishment was BACB approval of our BCaBA course sequence. This development provides people in Taiwan and China yet another option for acquiring BACB certification. 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 and the group includes special educators, physical therapists, occupational therapists, speech therapists, and clinical psychologists. SEEK Education also continues the satellite program offered by the University of Nevada, Reno, and is

trying to increase the options for professionals interested in pursuing BCBA certification in Taiwan. Taiwan ABA also tries to encourage other universities that are interested in establishing certified programs in Northern or Southern Taiwan. Several universities have requested application information and samples for BCaBA and BCBA.

Last September, a 2-day international conference and the third annual convention were held together in Taipei. The major theme of this conference was "Toward Accountability of Educational Services: Evidence-Based Practice in Special and General Education." There were about 200 attendees at the conference. The event incorporated both posters and paper presentations displaying evidence-based research from around Taiwan and other countries. William Heward served as the keynote speaker for the conference. Three other professors—Jill Dardig, Gwendolyn Cartledge, and Ya-yu Lo—along with one director and two behavioral clinicians from SEEK Education were also invited to lecture during the conference. The feedback from the attendees showed that this conference was enjoyed and admired very much. The government also showed appreciation for Taiwan ABA's efforts in promoting applied behavior analysis in the country.

In addition to this international conference, Taiwan ABA continued to provide applied behavior analysis training programs of beginning, intermediate, and advanced levels to parents, teachers, and professionals in Taiwan.

Taiwan ABA maintains a website (www.taiwanaba.org.tw), where one can find conference announcements, a membership directory, and links to other behavior analysis sites—including the ABAI homepage. The chapter newsletter now circulates via e-mail and we will continue to refine the content throughout this coming year.

Tennessee ABA

BY JASON OTTO

The Tennessee Association for Behavior Analysis (TABA) is an affiliate chapter of the Association for Behavior Analysis International and 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 continuing education units (CEU) for behavior analysts. Every spring, TABA representatives in the East, Middle, and West regions of the state have a meeting. This spring, the Middle region partnered with Belmont University and DynaVox on April 7 and provided five Type 3 CEUs for behavior analysts. The annual TABA conference provides an opportunity for state and regional behavior

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analysts to come together and learn about new research and practices. The conference also serves as 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 both nationally and within the state. 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 12th annual conference during October 23–24, 2009, at the Scarritt-Bennett Center; Nashville, TN. TABA was able to provide attendees the opportunity to receive 15 CEUs. We had fantastic invited presenters, as well as many wonderful 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 13th annual conference! The 2010 conference will be held during October 22–23, 2010, at the Scarritt-Bennett Center, Nashville, TN. We will have great invited presenters, including Richard Malott and Vince Carbone. The early registration deadline is September 15, 2010. You can register on-site after September 15, 2010. To find out more information regarding membership, registration, and presentation submissions please check out our website.

Following advice from ABAI's affiliate chapter training, this year TABA has acquired liability insurance for its Executive Committee and volunteers, and has engaged The Stephens Group in Memphis for attorney services. To further awareness of behavior analysis in our state government, TABA hosted an exhibit at the Disability Days on the Hill, which is sponsored by the Tennessee Disability Coalition.

TABA has several goals for the 2010–2011 year: Our first goal will be to continue to offer members opportunities for education and CEUs through the planning of our annual conference. Our second major goal is to obtain nonprofit status to secure TABA's financial stability in the future. The nonprofit application is in the final technical writing phase through the efforts of our Director of Operations and a nonprofit consulting group hired to assist in the 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, as well as the ABAI Practice Board, regarding legislation and licensure. With the leadership of the Professional Standards Committee, TABA will determine what Tennessee behavior analysts feel are the appropriate actions regarding legislation in our state at this time. 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.

Texas ABA

BY GORDON BOURLAND

The past year has been one a busy one for the Texas Association for Behavior Analysis (TxABA).

TxABA's activities are overseen by the TxABA Council. Jim Kopp left the Council last May after completing a three year term; new to the Council was Duy Le. Other Council members are Anna Petursdottir, Lori Russo, Traci Lepper (Student Representative), Manish Vaidya (Past President), and Gordon Bourland, (President). Vital support to the Council is provided by Leslie Burkett (Treasurer) and Heather Barahonna (Administrative Coordinator). The growth of TxABA membership and activities resulted in the Secretary Treasurer position becoming too much for one volunteer to do. Consequently, TxABA members approved separating the duties. Now, the Treasurer duties are performed by a volunteer and other administrative duties are performed by a part-time paid employee, the Administrative Coordinator.

Enhanced communication with members and others interested in TxABA was a major emphasis this year. The TxABA newsletter was reinitiated, this time in electronic form rather than the expensive, paper version discontinued several years ago. TxABA established a Facebook fan page on which information can be disseminated very rapidly. Additionally, the information provided on the TxABA website (www.txaba.org) was expanded.

Several committees have been established to distribute the work in addressing several important issues. This year three new committees joined the previously established TxABA Legislative Committee. The Legislative Committee is chaired by Billy Edwards. Through committee member Kelle Wood-Rich, TxABA's Legislative Liaison, TxABA has provided comment and recommendations regarding publicly funded services primarily through the Early Childhood Intervention Services for children from ages birth to 3 years old. Jeff Enzinna has continued providing valuable assistance in this work. With the Texas Legislature reconvening this next January, the activities of the Legislative Committee are expected to increase during coming months. A second committee, one first established this year, is the Non-English Behavior Analysis Materials Committee, chaired by Lori Russo. This group is identifying and

reviewing Spanish-language materials regarding behavior analysis. The information will be made available on the website. A second new TxABA committee is the Task Force on Licensure of Behavior Analysts, chaired by Don Williams. This group is reviewing information related to licensing behavior analysts as especially germane to Texas. The results of the group's work will be a report with recommendations for the TxABA Council. The final new TxABA committee organized this year is the TxABA-ABAI Convention Planning and Coordination Committee chaired by Gordon Bourland. This group worked with ABAI staff in planning the coordination and cooperation between the two groups related to the 2010 ABAI Annual Convention in San Antonio.

TxABA's annual conference was held in Galveston, Texas, this year, for the first time. Conference events occurred over 2 days at the spacious and beautiful Galveston Convention Center. The conference was well attended (approximately 400 people registered) and post-conference feedback was overwhelming positive regarding the conference program, facilities, and location. As is now typical for TxABA conferences, presentations on Friday occurred in three tracks: autism (Mary Jane Weiss, Rutgers University and Douglass Developmental Center, presented a 6-hour workshop, "Applied Behavior Analysis: Understanding Principles, Strategies, and Applications"); general (a 3-hour workshop each by William Ahearn, New England Center for Children, "Feeding Problems in Children With Developmental Disabilities and Autism: From Useful Assessment to Effective Treatment," and by Dennis Reid, Carolina Behavior Analysis and Support Center, "Evidence-Based Means of Training, Supervising, and Motivating Human Service Staff"); and basic and applied research (1-hour presentations from each of five research groups throughout Texas). Two presentation tracks were held on Saturday. The autism track presentations on Saturday included Mary Jane Weiss, "Fluency: Evaluating the Quality of Evidence and its Clinical Utility for Learners on the Autism Spectrum"; Joyce Elizabeth Mauk, Fort Worth Child Study Center, "What's New in Medicine That Behavior Analysts Need to Know?"; Mark O'Reilly, University of Texas, Austin, "Exploring the Role of Motivating Operations in the Assessment and Support of Children With Autism Spectrum Disorders"; and a panel discussion, "Reflections on Licensure of Behavior Analysts" by Michael Dorsey of Endicott College and Thomas Evans of the Oklahoma Department of Human Services, with discussion by Sigrid Glenn of the University of North Texas. General track presentations on Saturday included William Ahearn, "There is No Easy Answer to Stereotypy: A Comprehensive Approach to Promote Functional Skills"; Jesus Rosales-Ruiz, University of North Texas, "From Fierce or Fearful to

Friendly: A Program for Dogs, Cats and Beyond"; Dennis Reid, "Promoting Independence Among Adults With Severe Disabilities: Rapid Teaching Strategies"; and Ron Van Houten, Western Michigan University, "How to Get Society to Adopt Behavior Analysis Solutions."

During the year, TxABA's special interest group (SIG) operations were revised. Subsequently, the applications to establish SIGs of two groups were approved. Both groups, the Central and South Texas Autism SIG (Lupe Castaneda, Chair) and the DFW Area Autism SIG (Carla Edwards, Chair) have been quite active in providing professional education and social opportunities for persons interested in behavior analytic interventions for persons with autism spectrum disorder.

Of special significance to many longtime TxABA members is that the organization now has entered its 25th consecutive year of promoting behavior analysis. During the current year special events will occur to promote this survival milestone. The climax of the celebration will be special events at the 2011 conference. Robin Rumph, one of the founding members of TxABA, will chair the group planning these events.

The coming year is expected to be another busy one for TxABA. Virtually all the previously mentioned activities will be continued. Establishment of a publicity/membership committee is planned. Additionally, the TxABA Council is planning several activities to make behavior analysis well and positively known in Texas as well as to promote support for behavior analysis by both public and private sector entities.

Vermont ABA

BY K. J. TRAVIS

The Vermont Association for Behavior Analysis (VtABA) is benefiting from the new energy and fresh perspective offered by six new members who were elected to the board in June 2009. This is the first time the board has experienced a change of this magnitude, however, the effective collaboration of all board members has resulted in VtABA surging ahead with several of its initiatives. VtABA has focused on being an accessible community presence and resource. Although in a consistent state of refinement, VtABA launched its new website (www.vtaba.com), changed its logo from VABA to VtABA so as to distinguish itself within the applied behavior analysis community, and completed its first version of a brochure for public distribution. After years of planning and consideration, VtABA will host its First Annual Conference on Thursday, October 21, 2010 in South Burlington, VT at the Sheraton Burlington Hotel and Conference Center with Gregory Hanley as the keynote speaker. Dr. Hanley is an Associate

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Professor and Director of the Behavior Analysis Ph.D. Program at Western New England College in Springfield, MA. VtABA looks forward to this opportunity to educate the community about applied behavior analysis, its diverse utility, and to facilitate meaningful collaboration between service disciplines and providers for the betterment of all Vermonters. As with many other ABAI affiliate chapters, VtABA continues to be involved in legislative initiatives within the state. Over the last several months behavior analysts have testified to legislative committees about autism insurance reimbursement. Additionally, testimony was offered to the Vermont Office of Professional Regulation in 2009 to introduce the licensure of BCBA's and BCaBA's within the state. Given the time that has passed and the changes within the field around licensure, VtABA will continue to research, educate, and advocate on behalf of Board Certified Behavior Analysts, Board Certified Assistant Behavior Analysts, and consumers of behavior analytic services across the state. VtABA is always considering ways to recruit new members to the organization and to develop additional benefits of their membership. This will be a focus of the next year utilizing technology, public forums, and the organization's conference.

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 website 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, and promoting cooperation between behavior analytic organizations in other countries, regions, states, and localities. On March 27, 2010, we held our sixth annual conference. The invited addresses featured behavior

analysts specializing in a wide range of areas: John Borrero (University of Maryland, Baltimore County), Philip Chase (Cambridge Center for Behavioral Studies), Jeannie Golden (Eastern Carolina University), Trevor Stokes (James Madison University), Kennon A. Lattal (West Virginia University), and Sharon A. Reeve (Caldwell College). Additionally, there was a poster session that featured primarily student research. We intend to hold our seventh annual conference in March, 2011. Please visit our website at www.v-aba.org.

Wisconsin ABA

BY MATT ANDRZEJEWSKI

The Wisconsin Association for Behavior Analysis (WisABA) was founded in 2004 as a local chapter of ABAI with the mission of promoting an evidence-based understanding of human behavior and helping the people of Wisconsin to improve their lives and the lives of those around them. Last year was successful for WisABA. We had a half-day data-blitz social event at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire in the spring. Students, professors, practitioners, and researchers traded ideas and established new collaborations and friendships. We had our second annual conference during August 24–25, 2009 at the Monona Terrace Convention Center in Madison. Attendees heard from local and nationally recognized speakers on a variety of topics. Workshops focusing on pragmatic skills were also available and well-attended. We wish to thank all those who presented and attended. This year presents some new challenges and opportunities for WisABA. Our membership continues to grow. Our third conference is scheduled for August 16–18, 2010 at the Memorial Union Terrace at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Once again, we have an impressive line-up of presenters from around Wisconsin and the United States. All are welcome.

On the advocacy front, we continue to work toward having our state government recognize behavior analysts as uniquely qualified professionals and hope that our many efforts will come to fruition. Here's to a great year and we hope to raise a glass with you at the Monona Terrace Convention Center at our next conference. ❖

NEW ABAI CHAPTERS

ABAI WELCOMES THE NEW 2010 AFFILIATED CHAPTERS:

Hong Kong ABA

Kentucky ABA

Utah ABA

www.abainternational.org/chapters.asp

Also, be sure to check out the ABAI Special Interest Groups at www.abainternational.org/Special_Interests/si.asp

Updates from ABAI Special Interest Groups

Applied Animal Behavior

BY JENNIFER SOBIE

The Applied Animal Behavior (AAB) SIG 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 AAB SIG changed its name in 2007 to reflect the overriding interest of its membership: the application of behavior analysis to the improvement of the lives of people and their pets and of animals living in captivity. The current AAB SIG membership policy requires members to attend the annual business meeting, post on the AAB SIG Yahoo Group, or otherwise maintain contact through the year. Business meeting attendance is required for participation in SIG governance. People interested in becoming members of the AAB SIG or simply in benefitting from the group's 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 of 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 fewer than 100 publications between 1970 and 2005; it found that pharmacological intervention efficacy studies far out-number behavior modification treatments in recent years. 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 the advancement of student research is the Marian Breland Bailey Award for Student Research and Scholarship. This award recognizes student achievements in the field of applied animal behavior analysis research; recipients are selected from presenters at ABAI's annual convention. For additional information on the Marian Breland Bailey Award, its recipients, and eligibility and evaluation criteria, please contact Christy A. Alligood at Christina.Alligood@disney.com.

Autism

BY RUTH DONLIN

This is my final year as President of the Autism SIG and my sixth year working with my esteemed colleagues. I greatly value the leadership of our SIG who continually volunteer their time and efforts to keep the Autism SIG an active and ongoing resource available to educators, parents, and clinicians. Lori Bechner assumed the role of President in May at the ABAI Annual Convention in San Antonio. Our additional members include Newsletter Editor David Fischer, Website Master Josh Milstein, Secretary/Treasurer Suzannah Ferraioli, Membership Drive Coordinator Chigusa Haldeman, as well as Barbara Wells, Marianne Butler, and Bob Ross.

Membership

Our membership drive was very successful once again, and we now have over 1,000 members. The Autism SIG is 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 subcommittees. There are no fees required and membership information is kept confidential. For more information, e-mail sferraioli@gmail.com.

Accomplishments

This year, the SIG published and electronically disseminated three newsletters with the following themes: Asperger's syndrome, social skills, and practitioner issues. We appreciate all the time and contributions made by everyone to make the newsletter a helpful resource to parents, educators, and clinicians. Our website will undergo new changes in the upcoming year. Features will be included that are relevant to issues regarding individuals with autism and related disabilities. The topics will vary. We will also post our newsletter features within the website; therefore, we will not be limiting our features to a specific theme, as we have in the past. This will also help address feedback we received from our membership survey about the newsletter. For example, it was noted that the newsletters were lengthy. This year the Autism SIG had to increase its communication with the Executive Council of ABAI to address various subjects related to practitioner issues, as this is a growing concern for our membership. For years, our behavior analysts have approached us with questions about insurance reimbursement and other practitioner issues that are beyond the scope of this committee's expertise. This area continues to be challenging as there are several differences of opinion in

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how to proceed with practitioner issues and the actions required to promote well-trained behavior analysts. We are proud to sponsor an annual Student Research Award. This year's winner is Sarah M. Dunkel-Jackson, a board certified behavior analyst and doctoral student enrolled in the Rehabilitation-Behavior Analysis and Therapy Program at Southern Illinois University. Her poster is titled, "Investigating the Role of Illusory Control on the Choice-Making of Students With Autism and Related Disorders." We greatly appreciate all research poster submissions, as well as our volunteer judges. We regularly welcome all student poster research submissions. Guidelines are provided on our website, www.autismsig.org.

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 autism spectrum disorder. Ongoing development of the website 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 support when available.

Behavior Analysis and Selectionist Robotics

BY TODD A. WARD AND JOSEPH CAUTILLI

Since the 1990s, attempts have been made to develop robots with the capacity to learn about their surroundings based on behavior analytic principles. In the area of machine learning, reinforcement learning is concerned with software systems that learn to behave through interaction with their environment. Their behavior is changed and maintained by only the received feedback from the environment on the quality of their current behavior instead of a set of correct (and possibly incorrect) learning examples (Barto & Mahadevan, 2003). Some areas of growing interest are reinforcement learning in grasping (Fagg, 2009) and movement and vision (Asada, Noda, Tawaratsumida, & Hosoda, 1996). Areas such as generalization are also explored in this field (i.e., Boyan and Moore, 1995). Often this is referred to as a selectionist approach to robotics, which forms the primary focus of the Behavior Analysts and Selectionist Robotics (BASR) SIG. Topics covered include reinforcement learning, neural networks, motor learning, relational framing, communication, and personality development in robots based on behavior analytic models. This group hopes to further an interdisciplinary relationship between behavior analysts and robotics engineers. If you want to

discuss what behavior analysis can contribute to lasers with the ability to discriminate between cancer cells and healthy cells or how to create a robot that can find and rescue a human in a fire, then this is the group for you. In addition, robots offer a new way to assess how basic principles of learning combine to select complex behavior, as Dave Palmer stated in describing a book by Betsy Constantine and William Hutchenson: "Owing to ethical constraints on researchers, the scientific study of human behavior has nearly exhausted the veins that can be explored by its experimental procedures. Breakthroughs in our understanding of human behavior will come, ironically, from our simulations of it. We understand much about fundamental principles of behavior, but these principles are like the elements in atomic theory. How complex behavior emerges from the action of these principles as humans interact with the relentless blizzard of environmental events cannot be understood without the aid of computers in simulations of the sort discussion."

Over the past year, BASR has developed a 50-member strong listserv, which averages approximately 24 messages per month. BASR is necessarily interdisciplinary in nature, comprised of individuals from areas as diverse as behavior analysis, cognitive psychology, computer programming, and engineering. In addition BASR now has a Facebook page to further the visibility of the group. BASR has accumulated approximately 20 articles in its files related to selectionist robotics and we welcome additional member contributions. BASR seeks to make the ABAI convention more open to those interested in selectionist robotics and its implications for behavior analysis, including those related to basic and applied research, service-delivery, and theoretical and philosophical issues related to the proper role of behavior analysis within this interdisciplinary domain. For more information, please visit us on Yahoo (<http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/behavioranalysisandrobotics/>) and Facebook (www.facebook.com/pages/Behavior-Analysis-and-Selectionist-Robotics/203462914195).

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Behavior Analysis Online

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. 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 (BAO) SIG is dedicated to helping behavior analysts keep up with current research and methodology in this rapidly progressing field. BAO SIG 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 serve as a resource for professionals involved in research and/or application of principles of behavior analysis. BAO SIG will be responsible to its membership to develop resources they will find useful in everyday research, education, and application of the science of behavior. BAO SIG 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 behavior management level strategies and interventions for mental health, developmental disabilities, educational interventions, and systems for intervening;
- Training and professional standards.

The objective of BAO SIG is to develop specific resources including, but not limited to:

- On-line e-journals,
- On-line referral services,
- Professional placement services,
- Behavior analysis web boards,

- Document shares,
- E-mail newsletters,
- On-line behavior analysis storefronts.

Subscribe

See <http://baojournal.com/subscribe.html> for directions to subscribe to specific journal mailing lists.

Behavioral Gerontology

BY LINDA LEBLANC

Behavioral gerontology is the application of behavior analysis to aging and age-related issues (LeBlanc, Raetz, & Feliciano, in press). By the year 2030, nearly 20% of the American population will be over the age of 65 and our society will face increasing challenges in providing adequate and affordable supports to the growing number of older adults who need them. The Behavioral Gerontology SIG (BGSIG) has the mission of fostering interest among behavior analysts in addressing and researching aging-related issues. Even as we grow the number of potential providers in this area, we face the barrier that most existing care agencies for seniors are unaware of the potential benefits of incorporating behavior analysis into their practices. Thus, there are many opportunities for behavior analysts to make a powerful social impact, but those opportunities come with the challenge of convincing non-behavioral consumers of the value of our craft. The BGSIG holds a meeting during ABAA's annual convention every year and also honors a student presenter each year. In addition to ongoing business activities, this meeting typically includes a discussion of challenges involved in working in multidisciplinary service settings and brainstorming of ideas for research studies to foster future student participation. A newsletter is distributed twice per year and the spring issue always includes a list of the aging-related presentations at the upcoming convention.

Behavioral Medicine

BY JOSEPH CAUTILLI

From Bernard Brucker's operant biofeedback to improve motor functioning in children with cerebral palsy and adults with spinal injuries to Richard Stuart's Weight Watchers program to Fordyce's operant treatment of chronic pain, behavior analysts and behavioral psychologists have greatly contributed to the area of behavioral medicine. This tradition continues today from the treatment of self-injury and feeding disorders in children with autism to the treatment of head injury in military veterans to the treatment of inconstancy through biofeedback and bedwetting by the bell and pad; behavior analysis shines. These are just a few areas that behavior analysis has created evidence-based treatments. Join this special interest group

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and learn about the proud history and wonderful future of behavioral medicine. Behavior analysis has had considerable impact on the development of the field of behavioral medicine. This impact has most importantly affected the study of self-injury, feeding disorders, sleep problems, obesity, pain, and smoking reduction. Behavioral research continues in many areas, including vocal distress (Warnes & Allen, 2005) and epilepsy (Wyler, Robbins, Dodrill, 1979). Most insurance companies cover the costs of operant behavioral intervention such as biofeedback for pain. In addition, many behavior analysts currently work in the hospital setting with clinically ill populations.

This has been a rebuilding year for the SIG. After the sudden death of the SIG Chair Craig Thomas in April of 2009, a temporary Chair was appointed—Duane Luvenderwald. Recently, Alyssa Wilson has accepted the position as SIG Chair. Alyssa Wilson is a student of Mark Dixon and brings a lot of enthusiasm to the position. Presently, the SIG has 31 active members. We moved our list serve to Subscribe: ABA-B-Med-SIG-subscribe@yahoogroups.com; all ABAI members are welcome to join. In addition to running its listserv, the SIG also maintains major interest in the *Journal of Behavior Analysis of Health, Sports, Fitness and Behavioral Medicine* which changed its name to *Behavioral Health and Medicine*. The first issue with the new title appeared in February of this year at www.baojournal.com and the second issue is due for imminent release at the time of this writing. This journal is also available in print, if the reader is interested, and can be sent to libraries. We believe the new publishing options will allow for the community to have greater access to the work done in these areas. The journal currently has a call for papers out. Please send manuscripts to Mark Dixon via e-mail.

The SIG generated much interest in the conference this year. In addition to our annual meeting, we generated several workshops, including “EEG Neurofeedback: A Safe, Efficacious Non-Drug Operant Training Method for Children With ADHD” by Lynda Kirk and Joseph Cautilli, Gary Ames, and Richard Weissman’s workshop titled “Operant-Based EMG Biofeedback for the Treatment of Cerebral Palsy and Spinal Cord Injuries.” Multiple other SIG related events were discussed on the listserv including topics of childhood obesity and pediatric pain. Several of our SIG members also remain committed to the topic of self-injury and feeding disorder, especially in children with developmental disabilities. Now is the time to join the SIG. We hope that this year we will begin to see growth and renewed interest.

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Behaviorists for Social Responsibility

BY STEPHEN E. WONG

The mission of Behaviorists for Social Responsibility (BFSR) is to expand applications of behavior analysis and cultural analysis to address important social issues, particularly those related to social justice, human rights, and the environment. BFSR co-sponsors a peer-reviewed, interdisciplinary journal: *Behavior and Social Issues* (BSI), edited by Mark Mattaini. In 2009, BSI published articles on a wide range of topics, including behavioral analysis of cultural practices, acceptance and commitment therapy, experimental analysis of meta-contingencies, shaping the behavior of Nelson Mandela, piracy in Somalia, and parents caring for adult sons and daughters with disabilities. BSI began its new format of immediate on-line publication of accepted articles and hard copy publication of articles in a single volume at the end of the year. The journal welcomes the submission of scholarly papers that advance the analysis of human social behavior concerning, but not limited to, issues of social justice and human rights. This year BFSR started its own Facebook page, which highlights social issues of interest to its members and provides a forum for discussion and organized social action. John Glass manages the Facebook page, which now sports a new BFSR logo and at last count had 813 fans. Some of these fans are members of ABAI, but many are not, so the page serves to introduce BFSR and ABAI to people outside the usual sphere of behavior analysis. In addition to the Facebook page, BFSR has continued its operation of a listserv, overseen by Pat Williams. BFSR members are currently discussing the development of a new web page that in the future might combine several of the SIG’s web-based communication and resource functions. ABAI members are encouraged to visit the BFSR Facebook page and to participate in or open new discussions at the site. Those interested in joining this SIG or learning more about it should contact John Glass at JGlass@CCCCD.EDU or Stephen Wong at wongse@fiu.edu.

Behaviorists Interested in Gambling

BY JONATHAN C. BAKER

The mission of the Behaviorists Interested in Gambling SIG (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 largely been silent in the literature on gambling. In the past year, the BIG-SIG has continued to publish two issues a year of the journal *Analysis of Gambling Behavior*, a print journal with back issues soon

available online. The first promising steps have been taken to develop a journal website and to arrange for electronic access via PubMed and PsychInfo, which will help raise the profile of behavior-analytic research on gambling. Authors are encouraged to consider *Analysis of Gambling Behavior* as an outlet for their work. Recent issues have included a special section of delay discounting (with accompanying commentaries) and cutting-edge research on multiple potential of slot machines, the role of alcohol in maintaining gambling behavior, and effects of stopping devices and win rates on preferences in slot machine gamblers. The University of North Dakota and Jeff Weatherly publish *Analysis of Gambling Behavior* and potential subscribers should contact Dr. Weatherly:

Jeff Weatherly

Department of Psychology, University of North Dakota
Grand Forks, ND 58202-8380

jeffrey.weatherly@und.nodak.edu

Subscription rates are \$40 for professionals and institutions, and \$20 for students. Mark Dixon's term as the first Editor of *Analysis of Gambling Behavior* has come to an end. The BIG-SIG wishes to thank Dr. Dixon for the considerable time and effort he has devoted to establishing the first peer-reviewed outlet for behaviorally based research on gambling. Without his dedication and expertise, research on gambling behavior would not have made such great strides. The BIG-SIG welcomes Jeff Weatherly, who has now assumed the role of Editor.

In March of 2010, the BIG-SIG held its annual convention on "The Future of Gambling Research" at the University of Nevada, Reno. Speakers included Jonathan C. Baker (Southern Illinois University), Tom Critchfield (Illinois State University), Mark Dixon (Southern Illinois University), Simon Dymond (Swansea University), Patrick M. Ghezzi (University of Nevada, Reno), Linda Parrott-Hayes (University of Nevada, Reno), Becky Nastally (Southern Illinois University), and Jeff Weatherly (University of North Dakota). The convention proceedings will soon form the contents of a special issue of *Analysis of Gambling Behavior*. We would like to thank Pat Ghezzi and colleagues and students at the University of Nevada, Reno for making the convention such a huge success, and to all who attended the exciting presentations on the future of behavior analytic gambling research.

In May of 2010, BIG-SIG members presented their research in several symposia at the ABAI Annual Convention in San Antonio, as well as at several international conferences. Finally, the BIG-SIG would like to take this opportunity to welcome Jonathan Baker as incoming Chair and wave au revoir to outgoing Chair, Simon Dymond. To find out more about how you can get involved with the BIG-SIG, send an e-mail to BIGSIG-subscribe@yahoo.com or visit <http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/BIGSIG>.

Clinical Behavior Analysis

BY TOM WALTZ

Clinical behavior analysis (CBA) involves the application of behavior analytic principles to the full range of human problems, many of which have traditionally been considered "mental health" issues. CBA clinicians work with the relationship between thoughts, feelings, and other behavior to help people move beyond their problems and toward living more fulfilling lives. The Clinical SIG of ABAI is for those who have an interest in clinical applications of behavior analysis. Clinical behavior analysts work in both research and applied settings. A sample of clinical domains in which CBA clinicians work includes:

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

The Clinical SIG is dedicated to facilitating collaboration between researchers and clinicians to further the field's ability to apply clinical populations. This group seeks to promote CBA at ABAI's annual convention and is interested in maintaining the longstanding relationship between basic research and clinical application. At San Antonio, 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 also discussed membership needs related to understanding, promoting, and contributing to translational research efforts within behavior analysis. If you would like to join the Clinical SIG, please contact us using the link at www.abainternational.org/Special_Interests/clinical.asp.

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Crime, Delinquency, and Forensic Behavior Analysis

BY LONNY WEBB AND JOSEPH CAUTILLI

One of the core issues that faces any society is how to keep its citizens safe. Crime threatens that safety. This has been a very active year for the Crime, Delinquency, and Forensic Behavior Analysis SIG. We have been involved in several legislative initiatives including funding for the Mentally Ill Treatment and Crime Reduction Program. We have been in the process of working with several other advocacy groups including Citizens United for the Rehabilitation of Errant's Chapter for Veterans to introduce a bill that will allow for behavioral consultation in prisons for offenders and will provide greater access to behavior therapies—such as exposure therapy—for veterans with posttraumatic stress disorder. We also are strongly advocating for the use of community reinforcement approach in the prison setting to treat offenders with addictions. In addition, Joseph Cautilli worked with the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges to create guidelines for adolescent drug courts. Drug courts are an interesting model of evidence-based justice practices that involve the courts using both rewards and sanctions to decrease recidivism and reduce relapse on our overburdened court system. In addition, several SIG members—including Joseph Cautilli, Trudi Gaines, and Leesha Barry—are continuing to work with the Association for Attention Deficit Disorder to develop guidelines for treatment of offenders with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder in both prison and release settings such as parole and probation.

Our SIG continues to run its listserv. Currently the listserv has 37 members. Our membership is interdisciplinary and includes behavior analysts, criminal justice professionals, psychologists, and sociologists. In addition, we continue to work with the Behavior Analyst Online SIG (www.baojournal.com) to ensure that the *Journal of Behavior Analysis of Offender and Victim: Treatment and Prevention* continues to be published four times a year. In the spring, the journal released two issues: one on adults and one on juveniles. We continue to seek cutting edge articles in the area of behavior analysis' intersection with the criminal justice profession. Kirk Newing was appointed this year to co-lead the journal with Joseph Cautilli. Finally, the SIG sponsors and recruits a number of symposia for the ABAI Annual Convention.

Direct Instruction

BY WENDY KOZMA AND PATTY POLSTER

The number of children diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) has increased significantly during the past decade and with this trend comes the obligation to provide behavioral science-based interventions. The significance of evidence-based instructional practices is inherent in this development and numerous studies support direct instruction as an effective practice within this domain. Direct instruction is a system of teaching in which instructional variables are controlled through the use of carefully designed instructional materials, instructional sequences, and teaching strategies to ensure students will master content at a reasonable rate. In conjunction with a conference entitled, "Effective Programs for Learners With Autism Spectrum Disorders," the Association for Direct Instruction (ADI) will host an invitation-only half-day forum for practitioners with considerable expertise in utilizing direct instruction programs with learners diagnosed with ASD. The forum will take place Sunday, August 15, at Columbus, Ohio, and will be followed by the 2-day conference from August 16–18. ADI is a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting and supporting the use of direct instruction programs. ADI hosts direct instruction conferences, provides on-line networking and assistance, and publishes the *Direct Instruction News* and *The Journal of Direct Instruction*. For more information on the ADI, please visit www.adihome.org. Several members of the Direct Instruction SIG have been invited to participate in the forum. The event is an important opportunity to advance the use of direct instruction with learners with ASD. The August forum will have two key purposes: The first is to initiate a process of systematically developing guidelines for best practices in using direct instruction program with children with ASD. The experienced practitioners will be asked to share systems, practices, strategies, and other ideas that they have developed. The second goal of the summit will be to develop a network of professionals who will be enlisted to provide continuing and reciprocal support for advancing direct instruction practices for children with ASD. ADI anticipates a group of approximately 20 professionals will participate in this invitational meeting. This year at the ABAI Annual Convention in San Antonio, Direct Instruction SIG members attending the annual business meeting addressed an agenda which included establishing specific goals for 2010–2011. Members attending the business meeting were also asked to propose issues of relevance and to provide input regarding best practices in the implementation of direct instruction based on their personal experience as it relates to the education of children with ASD and other developmental disabilities. The ideas and suggestions

generated at the business meeting will be represented by the Direct Instruction SIG members attending the ADI forum in Columbus.

Dissemination of Behavior Analysis

BY MARTHA PELAEZ

On review of the past year since the 2009 ABAI Convention in Phoenix, the Dissemination of Behavior Analysis (DBA) SIG has had continued healthy growth and development. While its total number of members has remained the same (and as we have created new categories, the number of Full Members decreased some), the number of active and participating members has grown. Due to the efforts of so many, 2009 was a very productive year. At the business meeting in Phoenix, we made plans to formalize the SIG structure and we have made much headway in this direction. DBA SIG of ABAI is pleased to announce that as of December of 2009, it is incorporated as an official nonprofit organization! DBA SIG is currently exploring options of possibly obtaining a 501 status to allow it to become the recipient of tax-deductable donations.

Nominations were held, and officer elections conducted at the 2010 business meeting. Other important features of the DBA SIG in 2009–10 include the development of a new journalism award, a group of writing advisers, and a very active listserv. This year we created and launched the first annual B. F. Skinner Journalism Award (www.abainternational.org/Special_Interests/BFSAward2010.pdf). The B. F. Skinner Journalism Award aims to recruit journalists to cover and submit work done on behavior analysis by a non-behaviorist. For the first year, we raised \$500 for cash prizes and have sent the above e-mail fliers to media outlets which will hopefully generate media interest in the reporting of behavior analytic work. We're hoping to get some nominations in time to judge and present the first award at the 2011 ABAI Annual Convention in Denver.

Our listserv sported over 880 posts this past year, many of which were calls to action for responses to news articles and commentary on internet sites and blogs. The listserv membership has been responsive to many of these requests and good information was shared for public consumption. In addition, we began a Writer's Advisory Group to support behaviorists wishing to write to media members in the form of letters to the Editor and other similar endeavors. We hope to see more people start to use it to assist them in their dissemination efforts.

Finally, we became a dues-paying organization, and settled on a values-based dues system. To join, one only has to pay what they feel the value of membership to be. Initially several fee levels were considered, but we eventually decided upon a values-based system. To date, not a single person has valued membership below any of the

fee levels that were being discussed, and several have paid significantly higher dues. This is exciting and heartening, as it indicates that there is some value to membership in the DBA SIG. All in all, the past year was a huge success for the DBA SIG as it is becoming a strong force in the fight against misinformation and in attempting to provide awareness of the science of behavior. In the upcoming year, members can expect more exciting happenings. If you're not a member now, we encourage you to support us in our endeavors to bring the science to the public. Please visit www.aboutbehavior.com/join.php to learn more.

Evidence-Based Practice

BY TERI LEWIS

The purpose of the Evidence-Based Practice (EBP) SIG is to promote socially important behavior by facilitating effective and sustainable practices in real world settings. Our goal is to develop a SIG that reflects member input and focuses on a select number of activities that can be completed within the year. There are several activities that the EBP SIG could undertake. However, it is important that we focus our efforts on those activities that are meaningful and achievable. The SIG has established by-laws, produces a quarterly newsletter, and is working on developing a website. Additionally, Mark Harvey is taking over as President of the EBP SIG. If you have any questions or comments regarding EBP SIG activities or would like more information please contact Teri Lewis at tlewispalmer@gmail.com. We look forward to seeing you this spring and working together over the next year.

Experimental Analysis of Human Behavior

BY ERIC JACOBS & MANISH VAIDYA

The mission of the Experimental Analysis of Human Behavior (EAHB) SIG is to promote basic experimental and translational research with human participants. The EAHB SIG works toward this mission by:

1. Sponsoring an annual Student Paper Competition.

The goal of the paper competition is to encourage basic experimental and translational research by recognizing the best exemplars from the work of students. Student submissions receive journal-style reviews from established researchers in the field. Finally, the winners are recognized at the annual meeting of the EAHB SIG, where students are asked to present their experiments to the audience.

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2. Sponsoring an annual Distinguished Career Award.
The goal of this award is to recognize the contributions of behavioral scientists whose work has helped to define experimental analysis of human behavior (EAHB) as an interesting and viable area of study. Prior recipients have included Alan Baron, Joe Brady, A. Charles Catania, Murray Sidman, and Joe Spradlin.
3. Sponsoring the *Experimental Analysis of Human Behavior Bulletin* (EAHB Bulletin). The EAHB Bulletin is an on-line, ongoing journal (www.eahb.org) dedicated to the publication of original, peer-reviewed empirical articles, notes on research in progress, technical notes, and descriptions of other activities related to human operant research. Thanks to the efforts of Richard Serna and Jennifer O'Donnell, the bulletin now is registered with the library of congress (ISSN 1938-7237).
4. Sponsoring an annual meeting for interested parties at the annual ABAI convention. The goal of these meetings is to discuss the business of the EAHB SIG, the EAHB Bulletin, and the general state of affairs in SIG, the experimental analysis of behavior, behavior analysis, and the world in general. The meeting is also used to recognize our Student Paper Competition winners and to deliberate and decide upon the next recipient of the EAHB Distinguished Career Award.

Report of 2009–2010 Activities

The EAHB SIG held its annual meeting at the ABAI Annual Convention in Phoenix. The SIG recognized the winner of the Student Paper Competition, Jason E. Boye (University of North Carolina, Wilmington) for his paper titled "Can Simple Discrimination Training Produce Emergent Conditional Discriminations and Equivalence Class Formation in Young Children?" (The paper was sponsored by Carol Pilgrim of UNC, Wilmington.) The SIG is indebted to Manish Vaidya for coordinating the event and to all participants and reviewers who made the event possible.

The SIG also experienced a shift in leadership as Cynthia Pietras decided to leave the position of SIG Co-chair. The SIG is deeply indebted to Cynthia Pietras for her service in various capacities and looks forward to her continued involvement in the SIG and its activities. Manish Vaidya is now serving as Co-chair along with Eric Jacobs. In addition, Chata Dickson has graciously agreed to take on the role of coordinating the Student Paper Competition.

Finally, the SIG was excited to present its 2009 Distinguished Career Award to Joseph Spradlin (University of Kansas) who gave an address titled "The Making of a Behavior Analyst" on Saturday, May 23, 2009.

Upcoming Plans for 2010–2011

Plans for the upcoming year will continue to remain focused on our three primary goals: promoting the experimental analysis of human behavior and basic behavioral research by encouraging student research and scholarship in the experimental analysis of human behavior, recognizing outstanding career-long contributions to the field, and maintaining an outlet for publishing human operant research.

Progress toward these goals will be made by recognizing two young scholars at our meeting in San Antonio. These two students' contributions were selected out of several submissions because of the quality of their work and because of their potential to contribute to our understanding of the determinants of human behavior. The SIG would like to thank Chata Dickson, first-time student paper competition coordinator, for a fantastic job in 'beating the bushes' to increase submissions and her hard work in securing reviews for the submissions.

We are happy to present the EAHB SIG Distinguished Career Award to Travis Thompson. Dr. Thompson gave an award address titled, "Can We All Get Along? A Case for Blended Autism Interventions." The address was delivered on Tuesday, June 1, and was chaired by Timothy D. Hackenberg.

The EAHB SIG continues to increase the size of its membership (currently 30 ABAI members) by presenting a poster at the ABA Expo, promoting the annual Distinguished Career Award address, and increasing the visibility of the EAHB Bulletin.

During this year's meeting, we will also discuss business related to the EAHB Bulletin including election and term limits of bulletin's Editorial Board, the possibility of making archives of the bulletin available online, and strategies for increasing the number of submissions to the journal. We will also discuss possible nominees for next year's Distinguished Career Award.

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 ABAI Expo. Those interested in the student paper competition should consult the website 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

Over the past year the Health, Sport, and Fitness (HSF) SIG has focused on increasing membership and creating a lasting structure for our financial affairs. We have continued to update our Facebook page and now have 92 fans. We have utilized it to provide members with

information on all HSF related events at the ABAI Annual Convention and to provide other SIG related updates. Previously stated plans to develop our own website have been suspended for the immediate future as we are able to provide many of a website's functions through Facebook and we do not currently have members with the necessary skills to develop and maintain a website (or the financial resources to pay for such services). We currently have 43 people on our e-mail contact list and also provide information on upcoming SIG events through this list. In addition, we distributed a survey to all members on our e-mail list. The survey asked for information on ABAI membership status, education level, affiliation, specific interests and activities within the SIG, and suggestions for future directions. Approximately 20% of members responded to the survey. Our treasurer, Jeffery Jacobs, has been tirelessly interacting with the IRS in order to obtain our own Federal Tax ID number. This is required for us to establish an official bank account for the SIG. This is the initial step in our efforts to provide a firm financial basis for the SIG that will fund future events and initiatives. In addition, the business meeting at the ABAI Annual Convention involved discussion of SIG income. We discussed issues of membership fees: whether we should have them, make them mandatory or voluntary, and how much they should be. In addition, we solicited other fund raising ideas from members. We reestablished the SIG's student research award this year. The winner was Lindsey Mayberry who presented her study on delayed discounting and disordered eating in college women. Lindsey not only presented her research during the ABAI Annual Convention, but also attended the SIG business meeting to discuss it with members. At this meeting she was presented with a check for \$100. The SIG will continue to offer this award next year and will announce it through the ABAI Student Committee. SIG members again offered the consistently popular morning classes and class at the ABAI Annual Convention. We would like to express our thanks to Kim Lucker who taught the yoga/Pilates class and Jill Basso who led the class on tai chi for health and relaxation. As always these events were well attended and enjoyed by all. We are also considering organizing some new additional events for members at the 2011 ABAI Annual Convention. Suggestions have included kickboxing and organized jogging or running groups. To further the goals of increasing membership, providing a stable financial structure, and continuing the growth of the SIG, the chair attended a special interest group leadership training provided by ABAI. Issues discussed and resulting ideas for development of the SIG were shared with members at the business meeting and will be followed-up on throughout the year. The HSF SIG continues to grow and encourage interested parties or new members to contact us. The chair, Marianne Jackson, can be contacted by e-mail for further information at majackson@csufresno.edu. Information may

be found on the Facebook page listed as "ABAI Health, Sport, & Fitness SIG" or through the ABAI website under the "Special Interest Groups" section. On behalf of the HSF SIG I would like to thank all those who contributed their time and efforts throughout the year.

Neuroscience

BY SIMON DYMOND

Over the past year, Neuroscience SIG members have been actively publishing articles in high-impact neuroscience journals, submitting and obtaining external grants, and presenting their work at international conferences. The Neuroscience SIG maintains an active e-mail listserv. For more details, e-mail ABAI_NeuroSIG-subscribe@yahoo.com or visit http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/ABAI_NeuroSIG/.

Publications

- Fletcher, L. B., Schoendorff, B., & Hayes, S. C. (2010). Searching for mindfulness in the brain: A process-oriented approach to examining the neural correlates of mindfulness. *Mindfulness*, 1, 41-63.
- Hinton, E. C., Dymond, S., von Hecker, U., & C. J. Evans. (in press). Neural correlates of relational reasoning and the symbolic distance effect: Involvement of parietal cortex. *Neuroscience*.
- Hoehn-Saric R., Schlund M. W., Verduzco, G., Cataldo M. F. (in press). Activation patterns associated with major depression and generalized anxiety disorder. *Psychiatry Research: Neuroimaging*.
- Schlund, M. W. & Cataldo, M. F. (in press) Amygdala contributions to human avoidance, escape and approach behavior. *NeuroImage*.
- Schlund, M. W., Cataldao, M. F., Siegle, G. J., Ladouceur, C. D., Silk, J. S., Forbes, E. E., et al. (In preparation). Pediatric compliance with functional neuroimaging: A conceptual framework and tactics to improve compliance.
- Schlund, M. W. & Magee, S. (In preparation). Experience-dependent changes in brain activation during human approach and avoidance learning.
- Schlund M. W. & Ortu D (2010). Experience-dependent changes in human brain activation during contingency learning. *Neuroscience*, 165(1), 151-158.
- Schlund, M. W., Siegle, G. J., Ladouceur, C. D., Silk, J. S., Cataldo, M. F., Forbes, E. E., et al. (In press). Nothing to fear? Neural systems supporting avoidance behavior in healthy youths. *NeuroImage*.

Grants Obtained

- Dymond, S. *ERP correlates of relational learning II: Testing a behavioural model of visual-visual and auditory-visual priming*. Bial Foundation (€38,768.37).

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Dymond, S., Lawrence, N., Hinton, E., Cox, W. M., Yuen, K., Ihssen, N., et al. *Neural correlates of problem gambling: A combined MEG and fMRI investigation*. Wales Institute for Cognitive Neuroscience—Program Grant Scheme (WBCS047; £37,342.50).

Grants Submitted

Dymond, S., Schlund, M., Roche, B., Caseras, X., & Wise, R. G. *Neural correlates of avoidance: Direct, instructed and derived pathways*. The Wellcome Trust (£124,572.00).

Dymond, S., von Hecker, U., & Wise, R. G. *'Trying hard to think straight': The neural correlates of relational reasoning in subclinical depression*. Economic & Social Research Council (£115,098.03).

Presentations

Donahoe, J. W. (2009, March). *Invited address: Reinforcement theory: Implications for complex human behavior*. Eastern Psychological Association, Pittsburg, PA.

Donahoe, J. W. (2009, May). *Discussant: Electrophysiology and learning*. Association for Behavior Analysis International, Phoenix, AZ.

Donahoe, J. W. (2010, February). *Invited address: It's selection—not turtles—all the way down*. Darwin Festival, Salem, MA.

Dymond, S., Hinton, E., von Hecker, U., & Munnelly, A. (2009, April) *Putting RFT in the scanner: fMRI study of relational reasoning with derived comparative relations*. Presented at the Annual Conference of the Experimental Analysis of Behaviour Group, London, UK.

Dymond, S., Hinton, E., von Hecker, U., & Munnelly, A. (2009, May). *fMRI study of relational reasoning with derived comparative relations*. Presented at the Annual Convention of the Association for Behavior Analysis International, Phoenix, AZ.

Organizational Behavior Management Network

BY HEATHER MCGEE, SARAH VANSTELLE, MICHELLE VANWAGNER, KRISTYNA RILEY, LORI H. DIENER, CHUCK CROWELL, KRISTYNA RILEY, AND JEANA KOERBER

2009 and 2010 have been productive and exciting years for the Organizational Behavior Management (OBM) Network. This past year, the Network became a nonprofit 501(c)(6) organization. We are busy planning a two-track conference (OBM and OBM in health and human services) for spring of 2011. Additionally, we are redesigning our website and logo. The following are updates from the various functions of the OBM Network.

Membership

Membership in the OBM Network has been lower in the past couple of years, following a peak in 2007; we are working hard to get the numbers back up again this year. Our goal is to have 300 members in the OBM Network in 2010! As part of the plan to achieve this goal, we have been trying to actively involve our own members in recruitment and also to recruit individuals from the health and human services field in anticipation of our upcoming conference. We try to make signing up for membership as easy as possible; the majority of our members (89%) are using PayPal to pay dues. As an additional note of interest, 68% of our members rejoin because of the renewal notices that are sent out, 12% join because of a suggestion from an instructor, and 6% join because of another OBM Network member.

We started off 2010 with a bang! We had 105 members in January, which was the highest of any January. As a comparison, we had 80 members in January of 2009. The majority of our members continue to be students; in 2009, 50% of our members were students, and to date in 2010, 51% of our members are students. Additionally, the majority of our members are repeat members; this is good because we are successfully retaining our current members, but we still have much to expand upon. We continue to maintain a wide variety of representation from universities and companies; so far in 2010 there are 42 different universities and 43 different companies represented! Lastly, we continue to have a fairly high level of international members; in 2010 so far, 18% of our members are international members and 12 different countries are represented by these international members.

Please consider joining the OBM Network and learn how organizational behavior management can help improve performance in your organization! Join at www.obmnetwork.com.

Website and Logo

The Network utilized feedback received from its membership to design and launch a new website and a new logo. The website features more end-user interactivity and “members only” content that we hope will provide value to our membership and encourage continued involvement and growth. Please visit our new site at www.obmnetwork.com. The OBM Network would like to thank Graphic Designer Sam Gross and Web Designer Brian Betts for their work and their patience.

Awards

The OBM Network received two nominations for the Lifetime Achievement Award and six nominations for Outstanding Contribution. A panel of seven reviewers looked-over the nominations and an announcement of the winners was made at the annual business meeting

of the OBM Network at the ABAI Annual Convention at San Antonio.

Chris Anderson Research Fund Grants

Two grants were awarded this year: James Squires, Western Michigan University (advisor: John Austin) was awarded \$700 for his proposed project entitled, "Factorial Analysis of the Effects of Rule Specificity and Contingency Delivery Follow-Through on a Performance of an Analog Office Task" and Byron Wine, Temple University (advisor: Don Hantula) was awarded \$325 for his proposed project entitled, "An Evaluation of Preference Assessment Methodology in Organizational Behavior Management." The winners received their awards at the annual business meeting of the OBM Network at the ABAI Annual Convention in San Antonio.

Newsletter

The staff worked very hard to release three 2009 newsletters. Additionally, we plan to publish three issues in 2010. As always, we encourage submissions to the newsletter. Please see the website for more details, or contact the newsletter Editor, Krystyna Riley at krystyna.a.riley@gmail.com.

Treasury

The OBM Network is in good financial health. The OBM Network funds currently total \$20,290.51 from membership; most of these funds cover costs related to the journal (*Journal of Organizational Behavior Management*), which comes as a member benefit; website and software costs; marketing and copy costs; conference costs; and costs from the business meeting at the annual convention. The Chris Anderson Research Award Fund currently totals \$3,831.04 and the General Donations Fund totals \$19,649.25, a result of the generous donations from the 2009 OBM Network Conference in Cocoa Beach, FL. Donations can be submitted to:

The OBM Network
c/o Dr. Heather M. McGee
Western Michigan University
Department of Psychology
Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5439

Please make checks payable to OBM Network and specify the purposes you wish the money to be used for (e.g., Chris Anderson Research Fund; General Donation Fund; other). If you prefer, you can join, pay for membership, and donate (through a secure system) online at www.obmnetwork.com.

OBM Network Conference 2011

The next OBM Network conference will be held from March 31 to April 1, 2011 in Tampa, FL, at the Sheraton Suites Hotel.

In 2011, the OBM Network is featuring two tracks: The first track will focus on traditional implementations of OBM and the second track will emphasize the impact of OBM in health and human services. We are excited to be able to offer a two-track conference and hope to attract many individuals from both OBM and health and human services!

We will open registration up on July 1, 2010. Be sure to register before December 31, 2010, in order to get the early bird discount!

We will keep the membership posted as decisions are made and as conference planning progresses. Check out our website for details as they become available!

Parent Professional Partnership

BY DAVID CELIBERTI AND BARBARA WELLS

The Parent-Professional Partnership (PPP) SIG is now in its 10th year and was originally developed to help address the needs of the growing numbers of parents within the applied behavior analysis (ABA) community. The PPP SIG is quite different than other SIGs within ABAI. Aside from educating parents about behavior analysis, our SIG's other primary initiative is helping parent attendees get the most out of ABAI and its conferences. 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 website. More specifically, our ongoing initiatives include:

- Helping parents involved in ABA services become more familiar with ABA through information, resources, and links;
- Providing parents with access to accurate information from other existing resources via links or summaries;
- Sharing information with parent attendees prior to the ABAI events;
- Hosting an orientation for parent newcomers at the start of ABAI annual conventions;
- Sponsoring formal conference events that target issues of significance to parents;
- Creating opportunities for networking;
- Providing a forum for discussion of objectives at our annual business meeting.

We are currently in the process of:

- Broadening the scope of our website;
- Expanding upon our website's existing FAQ section;
- Encouraging ABAI to develop more consumer friendly content on its website;

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- Creating new resources to help parents become more familiar with behavior analytic interventions and services, how to better advocate for services, and how to promote accountability;
- Identifying new ways to reach out to parent attendees at ABAI's events.

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 David Celiberti at dacnys@aol.com.

Current Officers (2009-2010)

- Co-President: David Celiberti
- Co-President: Barbara Wells (Parent Member)
- Secretary-Treasurer: Pamela H. Gorski

Consumer Liaisons:

- Sara Gershfeld Cohen
- Kerry Ann Conde
- Lynn Faerber
- Jenna Glennon
- Denise Grosberg
- Peggy Halliday
- Jennifer Hiemling (International Member)
- Germaine Ibrahim
- Kelly McDonough
- Audrey Meissner (International Member)
- Cynthia Singleton (Parent Member)

Officers and Consumer Liaisons serve on a number of committees to better serve the SIG. Currently the PPP SIG carries out its mission and initiatives through the work of three standing committees: Website, Convention, and Public Relations.

Website Committee Objectives

- Develop the website for the PPP SIG;
- Expand and update content on www.pppsigsig.org;
- Work closely with the Autism SIG regarding mutual website efforts.

Convention Committee Objectives

- Develop and distribute materials for parents attending ABAI's annual convention;
- Organize networking opportunities for parents and professionals at the convention;
- Inform SIG members about upcoming conference experiences;
- Provide an orientation for parent newcomers at ABAI's annual convention;
- Coordinate our activities with the ABAI.

Public Relations Committee Objectives

- Forge alliances with organizations that have compatible goals with the PPP SIG;
- Support the public awareness of the websites for the PPP SIG and the Autism SIG by sharing our resources with other organizations and distributing information about the SIG;
- If requested, 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.

Update on PPSIG.org

Unfortunately, we have not been able to update our website for the last several months and the information that we post prior to each convention was not uploaded this year. The website currently 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 are grateful to Josh Milstein from Rutgers University who has provided significant support in maintaining and improving upon our website through the fall of 2009. Along with the Autism SIG, we are in the process of making arrangements with another agency to host our site. We look forward to expanding and improving upon our website later this year.

Want to become involved with the PPP SIG?

- 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 Pam Gorski at RPforAutism@aol.com.
- If you have suggestions for resources and links for our website (www.PPPSIG.org), please contact Kerry Ann Conde at kconde11@gmail.com.
- If you have a suggestion for a consumer friendly, behavior analytic conference that can be added to our conference listing, please also contact Kerry Ann Conde.

Positive Behavior Support

BY BOB PUTNAM

The Positive Behavior Support (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 ABAI 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 ABAI. The PBS SIG held its annual business meeting at the 2009 ABAI Annual Convention. The PBS SIG currently has over 50 members, including officers Bob Putnam, Ben Smith, and Patricia Egan. There will be vacancies in the President and Secretary and Treasurer positions this year. Potential interested applicants will be encouraged to apply for elections at next year's meeting. Tom Zane—Associate Professor of Education Center for Applied Behavior Analysis, Sage College and former Chair of ABAI's Governmental Affairs Committee—presented on ABAI's position on licensure for applied behavior analyst practitioners. The Governmental Affairs Committee has reviewed how other professions have obtained licensure and its impact on ensuring the future needs of the field and the profession. Licensure would also be useful for the public for ensuring quality of services and protection and third party payment for behavior analysis services. Dr. Zane reported that this initiative is important if we are to continue as a unified field and have one voice for behavior analysis—that voice being ABAI's—that supports the efforts and needs of practitioners, researchers, and academicians alike. Seeking licensure for applied behavior analysts will promote credibility of the field, increase efforts to seek funding for research, create and maintain academic positions, and to provide for the needs of practitioners and the public using behavior analysis services. Licensure bills for "behavior specialists" have already been passed in several states and are being considered in several others.

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 the Association for Positive Behavior Support (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 also members of ABAI. Another suggested goal was to further develop relationships with the APBS and to provide information to its membership and to encourage APBS members to join ABAI. It was suggested that a newsletter be reestablished and distributed on a semiannual basis to increase visibility and increase interest in positive behavior support interventions and practices. 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 JOSEPH CAUTILLI AND HALINA DZIEWOLSKA

The Practitioner Issues in Behavior Analysis (PIBA) SIG is the leading special interest group with a focus on behavior

analytic practitioners. Within the first year as a group, we developed the first model licensing act for behavior analysts. We developed this act after then-Chair of the SIG, Joseph Cautilli, had communication with several psychology boards from around the country. Several issues emerged from these meetings, the primary being that it is unethical for a licensed psychologist to refer a patient to an unlicensed professional. The reasoning was that unlicensed professionals should not practice. Thus, SIG members recognized early that the choice for behavior analysts was either to continue illegal and unethical practice or reform our ways and start the process of licensing. Other licensing documents, such as the BACB's model act, drew heavily from our act and are in many ways less stringent in the requirements we set forth. While the SIG has taken down its original model act so as not to compete with ABAI's new model act, it is important to recognize two things:

- Entry costs into a profession play into insurance reimbursement (the low entry costs—just a master's degree and a few courses, for example, 30 credits—currently have rated behavior analysts at two-thirds the insurance reimbursement of counselors).
- Low access to reimbursement coupled with limited populations negatively effects future student draw.

These are issues over which the PIBA SIG plans to continue active communication with the Practice Board. After the creation of the model act and the survey of our personnel on the Behavior Analysis and Public Policy Yahoo listserv that the SIG was using, the PIBA SIG immediately took to the road and started promoting the act (Cautilli & Dzewolska, 2008) among nonmembers (Hassert, Kelly, Pritchard, & Cautilli, 2008). At this point, PIBA members have testified and offered guidance to a number of states including Pennsylvania, Connecticut, Vermont, and Delaware on the need for behavior analytic licensure.

PIBA has not limited itself to the adoption of licensure. In 2009 and 2010, we undertook our boldest initiative: trying to seek a place for licensed behavior analysts in the Health Care Reform Bill. The enactment of health care reform legislation was a crowning achievement for the Obama administration. The legislation was in many ways as frightening to the American public and lent itself to the same level of mischaracterization as the adoption of the Social Security Act in 1935 and Medicare legislation in 1965. Our goal was to attempt to get licensed behavior analysts included into the bill for both Medicare reimbursement and professional training and development (things like loan forgiveness, etc.). These were all factors that other professions, like psychologists and professional counselors, were perusing for their practitioners. The SIG started late into the cycle with several of the nonmembers questioning why we should pursue such a goal. We formally started

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our push while the House was passing its version. The SIG members actively met with a number of present and former staffers for representatives and senators. Given the millions of dollars of reimbursement at stake for behavior analysts, as well as the potentially game-changing nature for our profession to develop, SIG members privately paid for lobbying help in the matter. The SIG—at the suggestion of member Corrine Donnelly, Regina Frey, and Joseph Cautilli—started a petition for inclusion of behavior analysts online. Unfortunately, when the first House bill passed, we were just starting the process of an active pursuit. The Senate bill took a very different tone than the House bill and in the end, all was not enough on Thursday, March 18, when the House passed the Senate version of the reform bill and unveiled a package of changes. Due to the need to reduce the budget deficit with each change (a requirement for a reconciliation bill) behavior analysis was not included. Many provisions by other professional groups and wanted by health care advocates were also not included or were jettisoned from the legislation. The field of counseling immediately began to pursue other options, asking members to create a new bill—HR 1693 and S. 671. As a group, PIBA SIG members decided to take time to regroup and discuss at the ABAI Annual Convention.

Also in 2010, we have moved to our own Yahoo Group. We currently support 34 active members. PIBA plans to meet at the convention and discuss an upcoming legislative agenda. We are interested in both local legislation and national legislation. We are currently in the process of soliciting SIG members interested in developing a white paper on behavior analysis in education for the upcoming changes to the No Child Left Behind Act. We believe that since education is largely a supervised endeavor from the school system with no independent practice endorsement, simple certification will be sufficient for those regulations. Finally, the SIG plans to release a newsletter this year and held elections at the ABAI Annual Convention. Only SIG members were welcomed to attend our meeting during the convention.

References

- Cautilli, J. D. & Dziewolska, H. (2008). Editorial on analytic licensure: General historical issues of why people oppose licensing and the common replies. *International Journal of Behavioral Consultation and Therapy*, 4(1), 1–13.
- Hassert, D. L., Kelly, A. N., Pritchard, J. K., Cautilli, J. D., Behavior Analysis and Therapy Partners, & Cynwd, B. (2008). The licensing of behavior analysts: protecting the profession and the public. *Journal of Early and Intensive Behavior Intervention*, 5(2), 8–19.

Sex Therapy and Educational Programming

BY FAWNA STOCKWELL

The Sex Therapy and Educational Programming SIG was formed to help disseminate empirically verified information regarding sex education and therapy. Currently, it also supports basic and applied research on the emergence and maintenance of sexual behaviors. 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's annual convention since its inception date. Past topics have included sex education for students with developmental disabilities, the ethical treatment of inappropriate sexual behavior, and scientific descriptions of basic processes involved in the formation of sexual behavior. At the 2010 ABAI Annual Convention, the various facets of SIG interests were demonstrated through the symposium. The impact of significant life events on daily erotic material use and orgasm frequency was discussed, and the relationship between erotic material use and romantic satisfaction was also examined. Another paper assessed participant responding on the implicit relational assessment procedure, a time-based computer task, and investigated whether negative attitudes toward alternative sexual terms predicted inferior treatment of an individual labeled as practicing an alternative sexual lifestyle. The final paper reviewed different sex education certifications available for those providing behavioral services to determine which might be the most appropriate and useful for those in the field of behavior analysis. In the upcoming year, we are looking to expand the number of SIG presentations and other related activities. Our goals include holding two symposia at the 2011 ABAI Annual Convention and having SIG members present symposia at the annual conventions of professional organizations specifically concerned with sex research, education, and therapy. Such organizations include the Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality; the American Association of Sexuality Educators, Counselors, and Therapists; and the Community-Academic Consortium for Research on Alternative Sexualities. The SIG has an active yahoo group—<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/stepsigaba/>. All who are interested in participating are welcome to log in and join.

Speech Pathology

BY BARBARA E. ESCH

The mission of the Speech Pathology Applied Behavior Analysis (SPABA) SIG is to promote dissemination of behaviorally oriented speech and language research/

application of evidence-based practices to speech and language professionals. Our members have been active during the past year in activities both in the United States and internationally to further this mission.

SPABA SIG members report the following activities for 2009–10 in venues accessed by speech and language professionals (SLP):

- Manuscripts (published or in press) included 14 empirical papers and seven discussion papers, books, or book chapters. Last year (2008–09), SIG members published 13 empirical papers and 13 discussion papers or book chapters.
- Conference presentations consisted of papers, posters, seminars, short courses, and workshops. There were 13 such presentations at the 2010 ABAI Annual Convention, compared to 15 at the 2009 convention. For the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association's (ASHA) 2009 Convention, one SIG member submitted a proposal that was accepted and presented at ASHA's November meeting. At international, state, and regional conferences attended by SLPs, SIG members made 45 presentations, compared to 21 last year.

Other Member Activities

We extend congratulations to SIG member Jim Carr, newly appointed Associate Editor of *Behavior Analysis in Practice* (BAP). BAP is a peer-reviewed journal that provides science-based information on best practice in behavior analysis. The journal focuses on application of behavior analysis in real-life service delivery settings. Its articles would be of professional interest to any speech pathologists concerned with providing empirically supported behavioral treatments. You can access BAP through the ABAI website (www.abainternational.org; see "Journals").

International SIG member Liz Watson recently appeared on a leading television program, *Australian Story*, which presents documentaries of the lives of Australians. The hour-long program featured interviews with Liz as the applied behavior analyst/speech pathologist for Jack, a boy diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder. Jack is the son of well-known Australian radio personality Ian Rogerson and his wife Nicole, who is the founder of Autism Awareness ("our foremost advocacy organisation") and the largest private Early Intervention Centre for applied behavior analysis (ABA) in Australia.

Liz: "The program created enormous interest, had a very high viewing rate, and was replayed during a segment of 'the best of *Australian Story*.' One result of this was that the *Australian Speech Path Journal* has asked myself and Jack's Mum to write an article for speech pathologists about management of high profile parents, ABA, speech path..."

You can see photos of Jack, his family, and Liz Watson; you can read a transcript of "My Name is Jack" at www.abc.net.au/austory/specials/mynamejack/default.htm.

We congratulate several other SIG members on their accomplishments and activities during the past year. Amy Bergen served as Program Chair of the 2010 New York State Speech Language and Hearing Association Convention, held April 8–10 in Saratoga, New York. Julie Ray received an International Research Travel Award to attend the ASHA-sponsored symposium "The Global Solutions in Research and Clinical Practice in Communication Sciences and Disorders Conference" at the 28th World Congress of the International Association of Logopedics and Phoniatrics in Athens, Greece held in August, 2010. Two SIG members are currently completing their dissertation research: Dana Battaglia's work is on the topic of word association with individuals with autism spectrum disorders; Jamie Severtson is finishing her research analyzing behavior skills training to teach new instructors to implement discrete trial training skills. Kudos is due to Dana and Jamie for all their hard work; the SIG looks forward to presentations of their research at a future ABAI event.

Looking ahead to 2011, the SIG is in the process of establishing a monetary student research award that will be presented at the SIG's business meeting during ABAI's annual convention. Student members of ABAI may contact Tracie at SPABASIG@yahoo.com for information about submitting research proposals for this award for 2011.

SPABA SIG is also creating a Student Task Force consisting of graduate-level lab members from various university-based research labs in speech pathology and behavior analysis. These student volunteers will have an opportunity to work on projects to further the dissemination of behavioral speech-language treatments. Several initial projects are in process. These include participating in writing and managing a "Research Corner" on the SPABA website, establishing a must-read list of relevant behavioral articles for students and new professionals in the field of speech pathology, and working on the production of a document that identifies clinical issues encountered by SLPs and that provides references for behavioral solutions that may be relevant to those concerns. Finally, the SIG is working on ways to encourage more of its members to pursue the BCBA or BCaBA credential. Information about this process can be found at the website for the Behavior Analyst Certification Board (www.bacb.com).

If you're interested in learning more about the Speech Pathology SIG, please visit us at www.behavioralspeech.com or e-mail us at SPABASIG@yahoo.com.

SIGs continued from page 79

Standard Celeration Society

BY WILLIAM J. HELSEL

About the Standard Celeration Society 2010

Since 1990, the Standard Celeration Society (SCS) has comprised a collegial organization for all persons who use standard celeration charts to monitor and change human behavior frequencies. The society's heritage lies greatly in precision teaching (PT) and its founder, Ogden R. Lindsley, who in 1972 coined the name "precision teaching" because "what was really new in our procedure was precision, we decided to use that as an adjective in front of whatever it was one was doing; hence in our case, 'precision teaching.'" Lindsley (1971) hoped that the standard recording and charting system would be used throughout the behavioral fields as precision school psychology, precision social work (Green & Morrow, 1972), precision speech therapy (Johnson, 1972), and so on. The field experts would keep their name as the noun and use the adjective "precision" to describe the method standard to all. Dr. Lindsley's greatest contribution, as written in tribute by T. V. Joe Layng, was his showing "that bringing frequency to the people revealed not only his heart, but the heart that resides in the science of human behavior as well."

The Society encourages the development and growth of a science of human behavior and learning, and promotes using the standard celeration chart to further that objective. The Society's nearly 300 members come from a diverse background. They apply the chart to all levels of education, including preschool, elementary and middle school, high school, and college, as well as to all types of special education. Additionally, members have used the chart in human services organizations, business and industrial applications, performance management and improvement consulting, parenting and child rearing, self-management projects, and general scientific analysis of national and world economic and social problems. Moreover, the Society seeks research to create data-based functional applications derived from the science of behavior and learning. Ultimately, we have a society to create a more loving, less fearful world.

Mission Statement

The basic mission of the Standard Celeration Society is to promote standard measurement and monitoring of behavior frequencies and their celerations. A society's mission is best expressed by celebrating the accomplishments of its members. In 2009, at the annual International Precision Teaching Conference (IPTC) "Precision Teaching and Science: Candles in the Dark," (hosted by Rick Kubina at Pennsylvania State University, Nittany

Lion Inn, and sponsored by the Standard Celeration Society) the society's greatest honor was awarded to Owen Roberts White. Professor White, who has been a faculty member of Special Education at the University of Washington since 1981, was praised for many admirable qualities: his academic scholarship, attention to scientific rigor and precision, unabated scientific curiosity, a generosity of spirit to wholeheartedly share his intellectual gifts with the precision teaching community, his wry sense of humor, and a raconteur's gift as a teacher and lecturer (for the entire text of this presentation please go to www.celeration.org). Starting 40 years ago in 1969 with the monograph, Alper, T., & White, O. R. (1969) "Precision Teaching: A tool for the school counselor and teacher," Owen White's written work has enriched both the PT field and the knowledge base of those seeking effective, efficient, and data-based instruction to the benefit of students. For all these reasons, it is with affection, gratitude, and respect—in honor of a career well-spent in support of teachers, students, and those with special challenges—that the Standard Celeration Society is privileged to present Owen Roberts White with the Lifetime Contributions to Precision Teaching and Standard Charting Achievement Award

To learn about the society's accomplishments and its next SCS Lifetime Achievement Award winner, you can attend the 23rd Annual International Precision Teaching Conference November 4–6, 2010, hosted by Morningside Academy (www.morningsideacademy.org), Organization for Research and Learning (www.o4rl.com), and FEAT of Washington (www.featawa.org). The conference theme is "Out of the Closet and Into the World of Education," and will be held at the Holiday Inn Seattle in Seattle, WA.

The 2010 IPTC will be comparable to the 2009 IPTC. During that event, Rick Kubina of Penn State University and SCS Conference Committee provided three workshops, 12 symposia and papers, three demonstration/showcase sessions, a poster session, and two invited addresses. The Keynote was given by Todd Sowers and entitled, "How Do We know Greenhouse Gas Fluctuations are Tied to Climate? Global Climate Records on 10-106 Timescales." Dr. Sowers, from the Penn State Earth and Environmental Systems Institute holding with the theme of the conference, shed light on the climate variability over the "last few million years" with volumes of data showing that "the warming we have experienced over the last century is indeed anomalous and very likely to be the result of greenhouse warming." Continuing with the theme of PT and science, Owen White discussed the "Evolution of Scientific Tools for the Study of Learning Along With the Contemporary Impetus for a Science of Education—'Evidence-Based Practices' and 'Response to Intervention Systems.' Examples of PT Tools Leading to Scientifically Sound Practices." For further detail about the 22nd IPTC 2009, you can go to www.celeration.org.

Another major effort of the Society is the publication of its *Journal of Precision Teaching and Celeration* (JPTC), which is now available online. Members can access links to all JPTC issues, starting with its inaugural issue in 1980 to its most recent volumes. The purpose of the JPTC is to act as the official journal of the Standard Celeration Society, dedicated to a science of human behavior founded on a technology of direct, continuous, and standard measurement. This measurement technology includes: a standard unit of behavior measurement-frequency, a standard measure of change in behavior frequency-celeration, a standard measure of variability of behavior frequencies-bounce, and a standard celeration chart to display frequency, celeration, and bounce data. The standard celeration chart enables chart-based statistical procedures to determine changes in frequency-frequency jumps, changes in celeration-celeration turns, and changes in bounce-bounce verge. Hardcopies of the journal will also be made available with a separate subscription rate.

To become a member of the SCS and the legacy of Dr. Lindsley and the likes of Dr. White, simply go to www.celeration.org and click on the first newflash heading on "how to become a member." The society has three membership types: sustaining member, regular member, and student member. Membership benefits include access to all on-line issues of the JPTC, e-mail news informing members about current and future happenings regarding PT and standard celeration charting, notification of annual PT conferences. Perhaps more importantly, your membership supports organizational efforts to support and expand both research and scholarship in PT and standard celeration charting. In addition, dues support upgrades to the website to help disseminate and communicate important national and international developments in PT and standard celeration charting and information on a network of resources for PT in the United States and abroad.

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Teaching

BY PAT WILLIAMS AND CHRISTINE BARTHOLD

Thanks to all of the participants in the Teaching Behavior Analysis (TBA) SIG. We are a growing group with very active members. Hopefully, you stopped by our booth during

the ABAI Expo at San Antonio. Christine Barthold of the University of Delaware and Pat Williams of the University of Houston-Downtown continue to Co-chair the SIG. New members are always welcome, and we appreciate any and all ideas from members that help to improve the organization.

Membership

Most of our members are participants on the e-mail listserv (TBA-L). The TBA-L continues to be our most popular mode of communication. We have just fewer than 400 subscribers to the listserv. Many of our participants joined TBA-L during our membership drive during the ABAI Expo at Phoenix. Discussions have been lively and addressed such topics as functional analysis, teaching children with developmental disabilities, addressing teaching challenges in higher education, and preparing professional behavior analysts. Our listserv is unique in its diversity. Contributors to discussions range from parents to veteran behavior analysts. There are also many more people who benefit from reading posts, but may not directly contribute to the discussion. We continued the tradition of organizing symposia and panel discussions on the TBA-L this year at San Antonio. Given that anyone can participate in the listserv, it is not the most accurate means of determining membership in our SIG. Christine is currently attempting to get an accurate count of membership and those interested in membership. If you are an active, or not-so-active, member of the TBA SIG please complete a membership form at www.teachbehavioranalysis.com/node/8. We promise no spam and as always, membership is free.

Many people may shy away from the TBA SIG because they don't teach at a university or don't have a Ph.D. Please, don't let that dissuade you from considering membership. We believe this SIG is unique because it is the only one that is appropriate for every ABAI member. If you teach someone or something how to change behavior, then this SIG is for you.

Website Updates

Our website, www.teachbehavioranalysis.com, continues to be a work in progress. Kristin Lafferty, an undergraduate student at the University of Delaware, has agreed to be our "Webmaster." She will be assisting Christine in getting additional resources for members on the website. Please feel free to send any teaching or other behavioral resources to Kristin@teachbehavioranalysis.com. At present, we have 54 registered users of our website, and we would love to have more! In response to the requests by members at the 2009 ABAI Annual Convention, we added other on-line networking options. Our Ning social networking site (<http://teachingba.ning.com>) has about 25 members and our Facebook page has 129 members.

See TEACHING on page 82

TEACHING continued from page 81**Goals for 2010**

In 2010, we would like to see our SIG increase its membership and profile within ABAI. Members have expressed interest in additional networking opportunities, invited events, and professional development series. Christine and Pat continue to work closely with the SIG members and ABAI to make this a reality. If you have any questions about the SIG or would like more information, please e-mail Christine Barthold at chrisbarthold@bartholdautism.com. We are looking forward to a prosperous 2010!

Verbal Behavior

BY TRACI CIHON

The Verbal Behavior (VB) SIG Council has experienced a tremendous amount of turnover this year. As the new Chair, I have been fortunate enough to work with some amazing Council members. Through their dedication and productivity, we have made great strides in advancing the visibility and utility of the VB SIG for its members. We welcome any input from our current members and have set up a new e-mail account for this purpose. Please feel free to e-mail us with any questions, comments, or suggestions at thevbsig@gmail.com.

One of our first tasks was to make the operations of the VB SIG more efficient. Season Almason, Treasurer, has taken over the responsibility of the VB SIG's funds and is maintaining excellent records of our transactions. Kerry Conde, Secretary, is maintaining records of the Council's meetings, tasks, and accomplishments. In addition, we have drafted a set of bylaws to define the internal actions of the VB SIG. The bylaws have gone through a rigorous editing process and have been approved by the VB SIG Council. They will be posted on our new SIG website soon!

Our second task was to improve the visibility of the SIG and to recruit additional members and support. Sarah Lechago, Website Coordinator and Student Grant Competition Coordinator, has been collaborating with Gestalt, Inc. to give the SIG a new level of visibility. Our

plans for the new website include features such as on-line membership applications, frequent updates regarding SIG activities, and news and associated links consistent with the VB SIG's purpose: supporting a behavioral approach to the study of language, especially as explored by B. F. Skinner. Moreover, Ashlie Grill, Student Representative and Interim Membership Coordinator, has created a VB SIG expo poster. The poster has already been displayed at several regional conferences and was shown at the 2010 ABAI Annual Convention. It is our hope that the poster will foster more recognition of the SIG and help us to recruit additional members. Judah Axe, Student Research Competition Coordinator, and Dr. Lechago drafted and mailed a letter to VB SIG supporters to recruit donations to support the VB SIG's ongoing activities and future plans. Furthermore, Danielle LaFrance, Newsletter Editor, will focus her efforts on creating and disseminating biannual issues of *VB NEWS*, the official publication of the VB SIG.

The Council's third goal was to maintain the success of existing VB SIG activities. Drs. Lechago and Axe have and will continue to ensure the success of our competitions to fund student research: the Student Research Competition and the Student Grant Competition. We look forward to large numbers of quality submissions from students interested in advancing the understanding of verbal behavior and application of behavior analytic principles for improving verbal repertoires. The VB SIG Council looks forward to working together with the VB SIG members on the following goals:

- Support and encourage research efforts to improve our understanding of verbal behavior,
- Support practice-based issues in utilizing the analysis of verbal behavior,
- Support undergraduate and graduate instruction of Skinner's verbal behavior,
- Communicate with other organizations making use of Skinner's verbal behavior,
- Disseminate information regarding a behavioral approach to studying language. ❖

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Opportunities for Behavior Analysts



The Institute of Professional Practice

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For more information, you may contact:

Craig Barry, Recruitment Specialist
41 Pacella Park Drive
Randolph, MA 02368
Email: abajobs@mayinstitute.org

Calendar of Upcoming Conferences

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

2010

August

Mexican Congress of Behavior Analysis

August 25–27
Oaxtepec, Morelos
IMSS Convention Center
www.smac-rmac.org.mx

September

New Zealand ABA

September 4–5
Christchurch, New Zealand
University of Canterbury
www.nzaba.org

Brazil ABA

September 23–26
São Paulo, Brazil
Campos de Jordão
www.abpmc.org.br

Georgia ABA

September 24
Atlanta, GA
Crowne Plaza Perimeter Hotel
www.georgia-aba.com

Minnesota Northland ABA

September 24
Minneapolis, MN
Radisson University Hotel
www.mnaba.org

October

South Carolina ABA

October 8
Columbia, SC
Columbia Conference Center
www.sc-aba.com

Florida ABA

October 6–9
Orlando, FL
Hilton Walt Disney World
www.fabaworld.org

October (cont.)

Northwestern ABA

October 8–9
Spokane, WA
Gonzaga University
www.cwu.edu/~zayacr/nwaba

Berkshire Association for Behavior Analysis and Therapy

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

Nevada ABA

October 16–17
www.nevadaaba.org

Vermont ABA

October 21
Burlington, VT
Sheraton Hotel and Conference Center
www.vtaba.org

Mid-American ABA

October 22–23
Lake Geneva, WI
Grand Geneva Resort and Spa
www.uwec.edu/maba

Manitoba ABA

October 23
Winnipeg, MB
St Paul's College, University of Manitoba
www.maba.ca

Tennessee ABA

October 22–23
Nashville, TN
Scarritt-Bennett Center
www.tennesseeaba.org

November

Southeastern ABA

November 4–6
Ashville, NC
Four Points by Sheraton
psychweb.cisat.jmu.edu/serdiks/seaba/seaba.htm

Alabama ABA

November 10–12
Birmingham, AL
Double Tree Hotel
www.auburn.edu/alaba

New York State ABA

November 10–12
Saratoga Springs, NY
Gideon Putnam Resort
www.nysaba.org

December

Maryland ABA

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

South East Asian ABA Conference

December 11–12
Bengaluru, India
www.aba-india.org



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