

INSIDE BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS
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ON THE COVER: "Misty Dusk, Seattle"
 Photo by Shannon Kringen

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LETTER FROM THE ABAI PRESIDENT

shoot out W

BY KURT SALZINGER

Photography: MARTIN BURCH

FORWARD

we issued a statement officially recognizing our common goals on behalf of all behavior analysts:

ABAI, APBA, and the BACB pledge to work together to support and advance the interests of the field of behavior analysis. We acknowledge the importance of each organization's role, and agree to move forward in a cooperative and collegial manner.

The TITLE OF THIS BRIEF

report is based on the final sentence of my presidential address, in which I enjoined my listeners to shoot outwards when they circle the wagons rather than shooting inwards. In recent months, some behavior analysts have been at loggerheads with one another, and your leadership has been working hard to bring us all together once again, for on the outside there are many who fail to understand us and our approach.

We are all behavior analysts, and when we quarrel with one another, it is—or should be—about how to make us all more effective, whether we are scientists or applied behavior analysts. We work hard to make ourselves more effective in understanding the basic principles of behavior of human and nonhuman animals, and to understand and apply those principles to individuals with special needs, such as those emitting autistic, depressed, anxious, or psychotic behavior. Unlike the conditions that pervade psychology in general, in behavior analysis, we (scientists and practitioners) all wish to understand and apply the same set of behavioral principles. We began with one organization, namely the Association for Behavior Analysis International; as time went on, the need arose to have additional specialized organizations, such as the Behavior Analyst Certification Board (BACB), to provide certification of the competence of applied behavior analysts to carry out their therapeutic function in an ethical and recognized effective manner and the Association of Professional Behavior Analysts (APBA), to engage in political activity on behalf of practitioners to allow them to be recognized for purposes of insurance reimbursement for their work.

In recent months, the leadership of these organizations and ours have met to make certain that, as our work overlaps, we help one another for the ultimate benefit of all behavior analysts—scientist and practitioner alike. Recently,

ABAI has also become more transparent so all members can see what we do and can participate in our common work. Minutes of the council meetings are available on the web, and members are able to bring questions for discussion to forums on the portal (<http://portal.abainternational.org>). A finance committee has been established to help our treasurer with financial considerations and the science and practice boards are set up to represent the various points of view of our members. Chapters both in the United States and all over the world spread the word about behavior analysis. We have modified our convention to improve both the presentation of papers and their availability. Additional specialized conferences, both in the USA and other countries, happen every year to allow for the exchange of knowledge in many areas, including, to date, theory and philosophy, environmental sustainability, behavioral economics, education, and, of course, autism. We have added another journal, namely *Behavior Analysis in Practice*; all of our journals are available in print and are also featured electronically on PubMed Central 6 months after their publication date. ❖

A Record High in the Northwest:

A Recap of the 38th Annual ABAI Convention in Seattle

BY MARIA E. MALOTT

This past May, thousands of attendees gathered in Seattle, Washington, at ABAI's annual convention, making the 2012 convention the largest in history. Researchers, practitioners, students—anyone with an interest in the analysis of behavior—came together to discuss and share the latest developments in the field.

The Seattle convention welcomed 4,700 guests from 34 countries and all of the U.S. states (plus the District of Columbia) and featured 83 exhibitors. The convention was well received; of the 593 surveys returned (out of 4,519 sent to attendees—a 13% response rate), 83% evaluated the convention overall as “excellent” or “very good.” Among the highest rated aspects of the convention program were invited events and tutorials (89%), the B. F. Skinner Lecture series (89%), the Presidential Scholar's Address (85%), the ABAI Expo (84%), and the SABA Awards Ceremony (84%). In terms of logistics, registrants evaluated highly several aspects: ABAI regular staff (96%), additional onsite staff (94%), and registration (95%). The city of Seattle was one of the highest cities ever rated for the annual convention—94% of the registrants evaluated it highly.

The convention opened with the SABA Awards Ceremony, during which the ABAI community publically recognized leaders in the field. This year, SABA awarded Andy Bondy for international dissemination of behavior analysis, Charles Fergus Lowe and Pauline Horne for scientific translation, and the Department of Behavior Analysis at the University of North Texas for enduring

Photo: DOUG KERR (DOUGTONE ON WWW.FLICKR.COM)

1 Actors enthusiastically perform *Behavior Side Story*. **2** Guests peruse the tables in the bookstore. **3** A scene from the ABAI Expo. **4** Sarah Smugala (left) discuss the VB SIG with Benjamin Theisen (right) during the ABAI Expo. **5** Dick Malott (far right) poses with the outgoing ABAI Executive Council members (from left to right): Timothy Vollmer, Kathryn Saunders, Sarah Dunkel-Jackson, and Michael Dougher.

programmatic contributions to behavior analysis. For me, it was a true honor and privilege to receive SABA's award for distinguished service to behavior analysis. The event also included recognition of the 2012 SABA fellowship and grant winners (please see *Inside Behavior Analysis*, 4(1), pp. 28–33 for a summary of each SABA fellowship and grant winner along with a description of their projects).

The program offered 473 events across 16 program areas, which included 33 invited addresses and tutorials and 13 B. F. Skinner lectures. Invited addresses featured presentations and tutorials from leaders in behavior analysis, while the B. F. Skinner Lecture Series accentuated contributions from complementary disciplines and provided opportunities to gain a comprehensive perspective of behavior analysis by learning from scholars from outside the field. Our guest speakers for the B. F. Skinner Lecture Series represented a variety of topics and interests. Thanks to all the invited presenters and B. F. Skinner lecturers who participated in the Seattle convention.

In this year's presidential address, Kurt Salzinger discussed emerging influence and recognition behavior analysis is enjoying with his talk "Now What Shall We Do?" In this presentation, Dr. Salzinger also talked about how behavior analysts can take advantage of the current climate to further advance the field. A follow-up to Dr. Salzinger's talk, exhorting behavior analysts to "Shoot Outwards," can be found in this issue of the newsletter on page 2. This year's Presidential Scholar's Address featured Ian Ayres, Yale professor and author of the books *Super Crunchers* and *Carrots and Sticks: Unlock the Power of Incentives to Get Things Done*. In his talk, "Carrots and StickK: Using Accountability Contracts to Get Things Done" Ayres spoke about how to become better at constructing incentives to achieve personal and professional goals.

Opportunities for networking during the convention included the ABAI Expo and the exhibitor area. The ABAI Expo once again featured posters from accredited programs, affiliated chapters, special interest groups, behavior analysis organizations, and ABAI boards and committees. The exhibitor area included 83 organizations. Additionally, there were countless job opportunities at the job center. We would like to thank the exhibitors and employers at this year's convention for their contributions.

The bookstore offered over 600 titles relevant to behavior analysis and provided opportunities to meet authors during the book signings. Continuing education (CE) credits were offered for 260 events. There were also

See SEATTLE on page 6





6 Jack Michael (right) and Sarah Lechago (left) at a special event honoring Dr. Michael. **7** Outgoing Program Committee senior co-chair Ramona Houmanfar (left) with outgoing Practice Board coordinator Michael Dorsey (center) and Dick Malott (right). **8** 2012 SABA Award presenters (from left to right): Rick Smith, V. Lane Rawlins, Sigrid Glenn, Andy Bondy, Maria Malott, Michael Dougher, Pauline Horne, and Charles Fergus Lowe. **9** Presidential Scholar Ian Ayres delivers his address. **10** Michael Dougher (left) presents Maria Malott (right) with the SABA Award for Distinguished Service to Behavior Analysis. **11** Michael Dougher (far right) with representatives from the University of North Texas, the 2012 recipient of the SABA Award for Enduring Programmatic Contributions to Behavior Analysis (from left to right): Rick Smith, Sigrid Glenn, and V. Lane Rawlins.

many well-received social activities, including the ABAI Social, the Welcome Reception (hosted by the ABAI Student Committee), reunions and receptions for behavior analysis programs and groups, and much more. These events helped to create a rich convention experience full of opportunities for interaction and exchange.

Many people and groups contributed to the success of this event. The Program Committee once again did extraordinary work in building a quality convention program. Special thanks the Program Board coordinator, Kurt Salzinger and Program Committee co-chairs, Ramona Houmanfar and Raymond C. Pitts. This was the last program for which Ramona and Ray served as co-chairs and we owe them a debt of gratitude for their hard work and service—Ramona has been co-chair on the committee since 2003 and has consistently made amazing contributions! Next year, we look forward to the services of Mark Mattaini and Jesse Dallery, the new co-chairs of the Program Committee. Welcome, Mark and Jesse!

Richard Malott helped coordinate behavior analyst continuing education. Area coordinators for this convention program included Kennon A. Lattal and Megan E. Maxwell (applied animal behavior), Dorothea C. Lerman and Jennifer N. Y. Fritz (autism), Karen Anderson and Jonathan Pinkston (behavioral pharmacology), Thomas J. Waltz and Scott T. Gaynor (clinical, family, behavioral medicine), Patricia Bach and Mark P. Alavosius (community interventions, social, and ethical issues), Jennifer M. Asmus and Anjali

Barretto (developmental disabilities), Hayne W. Reese and Martha Pelaez (human development), Robert W. Allan and Matthew C. Bell (experimental analysis of behavior), Jennifer L. Austin and Cynthia M. Anderson (education), Heather McGee and Lori Diener (organizational behavior management), Ronnie Detrich and Jennifer Zarcone (practice), M. Christopher Newland (science), Jessica Singer-Dudek and Grant Gautreaux (teaching behavior analysis), Per Holth and Marleen T. Adema (theoretical, philosophical, and conceptual issues), and Caio Miguel and Anna Ingeborg Pétursdóttir (verbal behavior). The Student Committee contributed to unique tracks at the convention that focused on topics complimentary to its mission. These events included the Professional Development Series, a series of panel discussions designed to help students in the field of behavior analysis transition to becoming practitioners and researchers. Thanks to committee members Megan Aclan, Sarah Dunkel-Jackson, and Antonio Harrison.

Behind the scenes, convention management involved the great work of many people. Deep appreciation is due to ABAI staff members and the services they provided leading up to, during, and after the convention. Each year, the staff is one of the top-ranked aspects of the convention. Thanks to Aaron Barsy, Elisabeth Berthiaume, Michael Cooper, Brandon Forth, Jean Herbrandson, Jack Lingbeek, Hadley Moore, Kristine Pioch, Joseph Romeo, Majda Seuss, Eddie Soh, and Betty Soltesz. In addition, we are appreciative of the 33 staff who were contracted on



12 SABA Award for Scientific Translation recipient (along with Pauline Horne) Charles Fergus Lowe speaks during the awards ceremony. **13** Michael Dougher (left) presents Andy Bondy (right) with the SABA Award for International Dissemination of Behavior Analysis. **14** SABA 2011 International Development Grant recipient Tracy Pierce Bender (left) with International Committee chair Martha Hübner (right) during the International Reception. **15** Kurt Salzinger delivers the Presidential Address. **16** Rick Smith speaks during SABA awards as Sigrid Glenn looks on. **17** Outgoing ABAI Executive Council at-large representative Kathryn Saunders (left) with Richard Malott (right). **18** The t-shirt for *Behavior Side Story*. **19** A guest poses with the program book for the convention.

site and for our 16 student interns, who gained practical experience from their work. This year's interns came from Grand Valley State University, Kalamazoo Valley Community College, and Western Michigan University.

Attendee feedback will factor heavily in the planning for the 39th Annual Convention in Minneapolis, MN, at the Minneapolis Convention Center. Once again, the convention will take place over Memorial Day weekend (May 24–28, 2013) and will feature a great collection of behavior analysis presentations, posters, exhibitors, and more. Details will be included in the online call for papers. Thanks to everyone who took the time to complete the attendee surveys and provided feedback.

Moving forward, ABAI has many exciting events planned. On August 3–5 of this year, we offered Behavior Change for a Sustainable World. The objective of the conference was to raise public awareness on how basic principles of behavior change can help in the fight to preserve our environment, review current research, and create action plan initiatives. The conference featured an excellent group of invited speakers, including E. Scott Geller, Peter Kareiva, Darnell Lattal, Fred Provenza, Jeanine Stratton, and Lonnie G. Thompson. William L. Heward chaired the program committee, which included Mark P. Alavosius, Ramon Esteban Armendariz, Paul Chance, Julia H. Fiebig, Susan G. Friedman, João Claudio Todorov, Satoru Shimamune, and Janet S. Twyman. The event took place at the Ohio Union on The Ohio State University's campus.

On November 2–4, ABAI will go to Santa Fe, NM, for our theory and philosophy conference: The Contribution of Conceptual and Theoretical Issues to the Science and Application of Behavior Analysis. This single-track event will focus on research on the theory and philosophy of behavior analysis and feature presentations by William M. Baum, Max Hocutt, Peter Killeen, Jack J. McDowell, Jay Moore, David C. Palmer, Howard Rachlin, Henry D. Schlinger, Charles P. Shimp, and John E. R. Staddon. In addition to invited presentations by these distinguished scholars, attendees will have the opportunity to review current research at a poster session. Linda Hayes and M. Jackson Marr are the program committee co-chairs for this conference, which will take place at the Inn and Spa at Loretto.

We will begin 2013 returning to the Northwest for our annual autism conference in Portland, OR. This conference will once again feature research and best practices of relevance to the treatment of children and adults on the autism spectrum. In addition to invited presentations, there will be poster sessions and workshops that will offer attendees a robust conference experience. Travis Thompson is serving as program chair for this event for the third year.

Two more events will be announced soon. Be sure to mark your calendars for all upcoming events. ❖



2012 ABAI Presidential Scholar's Essay

BY ALLISON KURTI

This year's presidential scholar—deemed a “law and economics guru” by the *Chronicle of Higher Education*—is Dr. Ian Ayres. As one of the most prolific and most-cited law professors of his generation, Ayres has disseminated his work far and wide (Shapiro, 2000). Specifically, Ayres has published 11 books (including the *New York Times* bestseller *Super Crunchers* and his latest book, *Carrots and Sticks: Unlock the Power of Incentives to Get Things Done*), and over 100 articles.

Photography: MARTIN BURCH

In addition, Ayres serves as a columnist for *Forbes* magazine, writes for the *New York Times*' Freakonomics blog, appears on popular television shows, and co-founded the website www.stickK.com, which helps people achieve their personal and professional goals via the use of incentives.

Born and raised in Kansas City, Missouri, Ayres received his BA (majoring in Russian studies and economics) and JD from Yale, and his Ph.D. in economics from MIT. In addition to his interest in incentivizing behavior change, Ayres is also interested in preventing companies from discriminating based on sexual orientation. For example, one of Ayres' research interests is the fair employment mark, a certification mark that companies can apply to their products and/or services to indicate that they do not discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation. A second research interest is the Equality Forum's Fortune 500 Project, which lobbies the nation's largest corporations for sexual orientation discrimination protection. Ayres' work has been published in the *Wall Street Journal*, *New York Times*, *Financial Times*, *Slate*, *The New Republic*, and has been featured on popular TV shows including *Primetime Live*, *Oprah*, and *Good Morning America*. Ayres has also written a book on this topic, *Straightforward: How to Mobilize Heterosexual Support for Gay Rights*.

Despite being a preeminent and highly productive scholar, Ayres continues to apply his scholarly expertise to solving everyday problems and helping ordinary people achieve their goals. For example, Ayres' most recent book, *Carrots and Sticks: Unlock the Power of Incentives to Get Things Done*, instructs people about how to devise incentive schemes to achieve desired behavior change in their own lives (e.g., putting money at risk for not meeting some predetermined goal). Individuals who are taken with this notion can try incentivizing their own behavior change at this website (www.stickK.com). This site allows people to draw up behavioral contracts to hold themselves accountable for achieving a desired goal. Alternatively, one can elect a "referee" (e.g., spouse, housemate, etc.) to evaluate whether he/she has met a particular goal (e.g., exercising for 30 minutes on at least five days of the week).

Given the obvious relevance of Ayres' broad research interests, as well as the diverse outlets in which he has published his work, it is no surprise that Ayres has received numerous awards. As the William K. Townsend professor at Yale Law School, the Anne Urowsky professorial fellow in law, and a professor at Yale's School of Management, Ayres was recently elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Furthermore, Ayres's book with Greg Klass, *Insincere Promises: The Law of Misrepresented Intent*, won the 2006 Scribes book award "for the best work of legal scholarship published during the previous year." Ayres was also awarded by The Center for Public Representation (1991) for conducting research of great interest and relevance to the public.

Ayres' recent articles have focused on a broad array of current issues including affirmative action (2010), the relation

between gun ownership and crime (Ayres & Donahue, 2009), patent rights (Ayres & Parchomovsky, 2007), and employment protection (Ayres & Brown, 2007)—to name a few. Ayres has also conducted several empirical studies, in which he has also investigated questions of broad relevance. Ayres' empirical studies include research on the effects of affirmative action on the number of black lawyers, the prevalence of racial disparities in taxicab tipping, and the impact that proposing a new crime of "reckless sexual conduct" might have on problems of sexually transmitted disease and acquaintance rape. In addition to being an active producer of research, Ayres has also been an active reviewer of research through his position as an editor for the *Journal of Law, Economics, and Organization* (2002–2009). He also served as a research associate to the National Bureau of Economic Research, and is currently an adviser to The Center for Cost-Effective Consumerism.

Alongside Ayres' scholarly contributions to the fields of law, economics, behavior, and the growing field of behavior economics, Ayres has contributed to the public in other ways too. For example, Ayres has testified in a court case as an expert on the tailoring of affirmative action in government procurement (Rothe Dev. Corp. v. United States, 1999). Ayres also served as an advisor to the Justice and Commerce Departments on issues surrounding affirmative action and as a clerk for the Honorable James K. Logan of the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Ayres has previously taught at Harvard, University of Illinois, Stanford, and University of Virginia law schools, and has been a research fellow of the American Bar Foundation. Courses taught include antitrust, civil rights, commercial law, contracts, intellectual property, law and economics, and quantitative methods. When Ayres is not teaching, writing, or researching, he is an avid runner: Ayres placed first in the Law and Society Association's 5K fun run on three separate occasions. More significantly, Ayres completed the 1984 Boston marathon in just 3 hours and 12 minutes.

Given the breadth of Ayres' scholarly interests, the many outlets to which he has disseminated his ideas, and his passion for helping ordinary people achieve lasting behavior change, his nomination as the presidential scholar is well deserved. The ABAI community eager anticipates the newest major contributions to law, economics, psychology, and society in general, that Dr. Ian Ayres is certain to make in the very near future. ❖

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2012

ABAI is proud to announce the 2012 Fellows of the Association for Behavior Analysis International.

FELLOWS OF ABAI



Koichi Ono

Dr. Koichi Ono is professor of psychology at Komazawa University in Tokyo, where he has conducted research and taught behavior analysis for 33 years. His scholarly publications, authored in Japanese and English, have appeared in journals from four different continents. Professor Ono was among the first to demonstrate the effects of a “superstitious behavior” in humans (Journal of the Experimental Analysis of Behavior, 1987). He subsequently developed a conceptual analysis of superstitions as false rules. Three other major themes in Dr. Ono’s research have been (1) the effects of the history of contingency-controlled behavior on subsequent performance, (2) an analysis of conditions under which “free choice” is preferred over “forced choice,” and (3) complex stimulus control. His work has also involved careful cross-species comparisons. For example, in an important paper in Behavioural Processes, Dr. Ono and colleagues used an ingeniously simple matching-to-sample task to reveal different controlling relations in humans and pigeons. Dr. Ono has provided significant leadership and service to the large and active Japanese Association for Behavior Analysis (J-ABA). He was editor of the Japanese Journal of Behavior Analysis (1994–1997), and for 6 years served as president of J-ABA (1997–2003). As a visiting research fellow in Wales and the United States, Dr. Ono has also brought knowledge from Japanese behavior analysis to the international community.



John M. Roll

Dr. John M. Roll is Professor and Associate Dean for Research in the School of Nursing at Washington State University, Spokane. He is the Director of two Programs of Excellence at Washington State University, one in the Addictions and the other in Rural Mental Health and Substance Abuse Treatment. He also Co-Director of the Translational Addiction Research Center and holds faculty appointments in the Departments of, Psychology, Neuroscience,

and Health Policy Administration at Washington State University. In addition, he has appointments at the University of Washington in the Departments of Psychiatry and Family Medicine. Following his PhD from Washington State University, he was a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Vermont and a research fellow in substance abuse at the University of Michigan. He was a faculty member in the Schools of Medicine at Wayne State University and the University of California Los Angeles before returning to Washington State University. Dr. Roll has established a highly productive and highly cited record of published research on the treatment of addictive disorders. He applies behavior analytic techniques, including contingency management interventions for the treatment of drug abuse. His major research programs are extensively supported by large grants from a range of national and state agencies. He has served as a guest editor for a special issue of the Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis on behavior analysis and the treatment of drug addiction, and has served on the editorial boards of both JABA and the Journal of the Experimental Analysis of Behavior. He is a Fellow of the American Psychological Association (Division 28), has been President for Division 28 (Pharmacology and Substance Abuse), and has served as the Behavioral Pharmacology Area Coordinator for ABAI (2005–2007). In 2012, he will receive an award from Division 25 of the American Psychological Association for the Distinguished Contribution to Applied Behavioral Research.

Dr. Michael Perone is a professor in the Department of Psychology at West Virginia University. He has made substantial contributions to behavior analysis through his research, service, administration, and teaching. He is well known for his programmatic research on conditioned reinforcement, avoidance, and transitions from

rich to lean schedules of reinforcement, and more generally for the elegance and ingenuity of his experimental methodology. He has secured support from NICHD, OSHA, and NSF for much of his research. His investigations with animals and extensions of basic mechanisms to humans serve as a prototype for research translation. Dr. Perone's accomplishments in administration, service to the discipline, and teaching are similarly noteworthy. Dr. Perone served for 12 years as chair of the West Virginia University Department of Psychology, one of the foremost programs in behavior analysis.

He has served as President of ABAI, SABA, SEAB, and SEABA. He has been appointed to key editorial positions for major journals in behavior analysis, represented behavior analysis on the Federation of Behavioral, Psychological, and Cognitive Sciences, and served on numerous committees. In each of those roles, his skill and humor have been instrumental in bringing a charge to effective completion. Dr. Perone has received numerous awards for his teaching and mentoring, which, along with the successes of his former students, are testaments to his effectiveness in that arena as well. ❖



Michael Perone

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's Affiliated Chapters

ABA Colombia

BY WILSON LÓPEZ LÓPEZ AND MARIA CONSTANZA AGUILAR

Recently, ABA Colombia restructured itself to become a more efficient organization. Increased subscribership to our website has extended our influence beyond the borders of Colombia and has raised the chapter's importance throughout Ibero-America. Today, there are over 60,000 members who communicate, transfer content, experiences, and knowledge via our website (www.abacolombia.org.co).

ABA Colombia continues to collaborate with the Spanish Behavioural Psychology Association on the *International Journal of Clinical and Health Psychology*, a journal with an impact factor of 1.842 (www.aepc.es/ijchp/). ABA Colombia works tirelessly toward building synergies with organizations and projects related to its mission.

In this direction, ABA Colombia took part in the First South American Behaviour Analysis Conference, led by the Brazilian Association of Psychology and Behavioral Medicine and supported by the Federación Iberoamericana de Asociaciones de Psicología (FIAP; www.fiapsi.org/) in September 2011. We expect this to be the first of many future meetings that enable us to show our dynamics and to find mechanisms of cooperation and education that strengthen the development of behaviour analysis in this region.

As a founding member of FIAP, ABA Colombia continues to contribute to its projects, such as the development of the PsicoRedAlyc system (<http://redalyc.uaemex.mx/portales/areas/indices/psicologia/IndexPsicologia.jsp>) in the FIAP-REDALYC agreement. This system has over 60 full-text Iberoamerican journals online.

It is also worth mentioning that the Iberoamerican Ranking of Psychology (<http://consejo.cop.es/sci/>) in the FIAP-SciMAGO Spanish Official College of Psychologists collaboration, has been developed.

We continue to support initiatives geared toward behaviour analysis training in larger projects that we expect to be consolidated in the medium term. This year, we will provide further training together with the Santo Tomás University in Colombia in a seminar called "Assessment and Treatment of Autism: Behavioural Management, Trends and Perspectives" (www.abacolombia.org.co/postnuke/modules.php?op=modload&name=News&file=article&sid=407&mode=nested&order=0&thold=0), and we hope that these seminars help consolidate a formal programme developed with the university in applied behaviour analysis training.

We want to thank the Horizontes ABA Integral Therapy organization, its founders, and its staff, for their support.

ABA España

BY KATERINA DOUNAVI, YISSELL GALLARDO, AND JAVIER VIRUÉS-ORTEGA

The Spanish chapter continues to enjoy good health and we have several positive developments to report on. In this update, we will share details on ABAI's International Conference in Granada, the involvement of ABA España in promoting the translation of the BACB certification exams, and some recent developments in the coursework and practicum of our e-learning training program.

The Sixth International ABAI Conference was held in the beautiful and historic city of Granada (Spain) last year from November 24–26. ABA España had a very significant role during all stages of the process, starting with city selection, development of the program, local arrangements, and social events. ABAI originally targeted Madrid and Barcelona as potential locations for the conference. However, the ABA España board had voted in favor of Granada as the candidate city a few months earlier. Upon ABA España's request, Dr. Maria Malott extended her planning visit a couple of days to visit Granada. Dr. Tomás Carrasco, one of ABA España's founding members and a connoisseur of the city, persuaded Maria to consider Granada as a potential candidate. The vibrant city center with the Alhambra, the cathedral, and the charming neighborhood of the Albaicín, in addition to the competitiveness of the services available in the city, made Granada an unexpected candidate, one that compared favorably with the other cities. We were thrilled to learn that Granada ended up winning out! The inauguration event featured flamenco dancing and traditional desserts—the nuns of the nearby convent of Zafra were busy working on their 500-year-old secret recipe in preparation for the event! The inaugural reception took place at the beautiful palace of Carmen de los Martires.

A total of 520 participants from 22 countries participated in the conference. The conference featured a number of excellent behavior analysts as well as several reputable behavior analysts from Spain, including Dr. Froján Praga from Universidad Autónoma de Madrid and Dr. Luis Antonio Pérez-Gonzalez from the Universidad de Oviedo. ABA España arranged for the translation of all invited talks, provided ABAI with dedicated volunteers, translated the program, and organized local advertisements. Through various arrangements, ABA España supported or facilitated conference attendance for more than 50 students and ABA España members. The closing event was a mixture of intellectual exchange and the enjoyment of music, which left us all thirsty for more of both. The remarks from the ABAI representatives during the closing event were very moving, and we are tremendously grateful to Maria Malott, Dick Malott, Martha Hübner, Majda

Seuss, and all the ABAI staff who did their best to make the conference a success. The conference ended with a performance by Ensemble La Danserye, a group of luthiers, musicologists, and performers who enchanted the audience with a program of traditional songs from Granada.

We would like to thank by name some of our members and volunteers who responded to ABA España's request and got involved to make this happen: Alberto Descalzo Quero, Alejandra Zaragoza Scherman, Arturo Clavijo, Brenda Vazquez, Brisa Reina Marín, Camilo Hurtado-Parrado, Carlos Marchena, Celia Nogales González, Elena Ruiz, Gabriel Schnerch, Irene Lopez Arenas, Manuela Bouwers, Margalida Maldonado Mayol, Maria Dolores Romera, Martha Pelaez, Noelia Rodríguez Vicén, Rebeca Pardo, Ricardo de Pascual Verdú, Sebastian Jackson, Victor Rodriguez García, and Virginia Bejarano Ruiz. We apologize for any omissions.

A second noteworthy development that has taken place over the last 12 months relates to the translation of BACB certification exams into Spanish. This achievement is the result of a long process that started years ago. Javier Virués-Ortega from ABA España suggested to Dr. Jerry Shook the potential value of translating BACB certification exams into Spanish as a prerequisite to disseminate this credential in the Spanish-speaking world. Two years later the BACB agreed that translating their examinations was a valuable pursuit, and they decided on Spanish as the first language targeted for translation. The translation process, however, could not start right away, as the upcoming job analysis and the ensuing modifications in the exam structure and item database recommended waiting. During the summer of 2011, upon Dr. Shook's request, the translation process finally started. ABA España collaborated in this endeavor by putting together a group of senior academics and practitioners from Colombia, Mexico, and Spain who volunteered their expertise to consult on the translation of the items composing the exam. The exam was first offered in Spanish in May 2012. We are very grateful to the BACB for their effort in the final success of this initiative. For us, it is very significant that Dr. Shook moved forward the translation process during his last months among us; we will always remember his support.

Finally, as reported on other occasions, ABA España continues to be the only institution in Spain offering a postgraduate non-university training program with a course sequence approved by the BACB. The course is currently being offered through our e-learning platform, www.aba-elearning.com. The course is linked with a practicum program giving students the opportunity to receive training and in-situ and long-distance supervision. In addition, we are currently planning to expand our long-distance supervision capability. We are glad to welcome Virginia Bejarano Ruiz and Katerina Dounavi as current managers of the practicum program. Students interested in experiencing behavior analysis internationally have the

opportunity to spend a year at the New England Center for Children. We would like to take the opportunity to congratulate Irene Lopez Arenas, Carola Scolari, and Myrta Galache for having the courage to pursue this fantastic opportunity! To date, several students from Spain and other European countries have undergone our practicum program, qualifying for the BCBA exam.

In summary, over the last year there have been exciting developments led by ABA España. We expect to continue expanding the field of behavior analysis in Spain and beyond!

ABA India

BY SMITA AWASTHI

ABA India had an extremely successful 2011–2012. In December 2012, the chapter organized its second applied behavior analysis (ABA) conference titled, "Autism: From Early Childhood to Adulthood: Successful Data-Based Interventions." The conference was hosted in the beautiful city of New Delhi. Dr. Manish Vaidya (professor, University of North Texas); Dr. Karola Dillenburger (professor, Queens University of Belfast); and Dr. Rajashree Ganesh (developmental pediatrician) were keynote speakers at the event. Powerful leaders from the field of politics and government inaugurated the conference. The conference had 24 papers, 6 workshops, and 18 posters. The focus of the conference was parents of children with autism. Each paper was supported by a video presentation showing behavior modification and positive changes due to the application of behavioral principles. The final plenary session included the "Parent Perspective"; four parents presented videos showing changes and skill acquisition from language to cooking and socialization skills through evidence-based practice.

India now has four practicing BCBAs and three practicing BCaBAs and at least another 12 mentoring professionals who are studying ABA through distance education.

ABA India has matured in the 3 years of its formation, with new leadership emerging within the organization. Smita Awasthi, the first president of ABA India, stepped down from the position in December 2011 to continue her challenging role as founder trustee (as ABA India is a nongovernmental, not-for-profit organization). The organization elected a new president in Sridhar Aravamudhan, who has taken over all responsibilities in a smooth transition. With a dynamic team of professionals, ABA India is growing and the number of people studying behavior analysis is increasing. Challenging tasks remain for ABA India as market-driven forces put pressure on behavior analysts to continue to practice the latest evidence-based interventions.

ABA India took bold initiative during World Autism Awareness Day on April 2, 2012, to organize a five-city campaign to advocate on behalf of behavior analysis in India. The event was inaugurated by the State Commissioner of Disability in the cities of Kolkata, Bangalore, Lucknow,

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Mumbai, and Jaipur. The campaign was supported by three renowned photographers. Behavior Momentum India collaborated with ABA India to photograph 45 children diagnosed with autism whose photographs were exhibited in the campaign titled, “Beautiful Moments.” For the first time “behavior analysis” was mentioned in the press, and extensive interviews of ABA India founders and executive council members were printed across the country (www.aba-india.org).

There are plans to conduct workshops in various smaller cities in India. ABA India participated in a panel discussion at the APBA conference at Tampa, Florida as well as at the 2012 ABAI Annual Convention in Seattle.

The third ABA conference will take place on December 8–9, 2012, at the historic city of Chennai. We invite participants from across the globe to take the opportunity to make this initiative a success.

ABA Switzerland

BY GHADEER BARGHOUTHY

The ABA Switzerland chapter has only been officially active for 6 months. Despite being a very new and young chapter—in addition to behavior analysis being almost nonexistent in Switzerland—we have been able to achieve a few of our objectives.

We have about 30 members—mainly from Switzerland, but also from other countries including France, Italy, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America. Our membership mostly consists of full and supporting members for now. All of our members work with individuals with autism, but we hope to also include behavior analysts in other fields in the future. Unfortunately, there are no universities that teach behavior analysis in Switzerland, so there are fewer opportunities to find students. Still, we hope to recruit students from other disciplines interested in pursuing careers in behavior analysis.

In order to promote behavior analysis in Switzerland and to help gain recognition of the discipline by the Swiss government, we have been supporting and collaborating with projects initiated by parent associations that aim to promote behavior analysis and intensive behavioral interventions. Furthermore, the Swiss chapter is part of a Swiss autism network that is working toward unifying diagnostic measures and research objectives in autism in order to get government support for early intervention.

Our chapter is also collaborating with Louise Denne, BCBA, in translating the UK ABA Autism Education Competencies Project into German in order to provide a strong behavioral framework with which behavior analysts can train professionals in Switzerland. This will allow professionals to set specific objectives for training as well as measure progress in a uniform manner across the country. The project is already being translated into French, and we are hoping to also translate this into Italian so that it will

be available in the three official Swiss languages (www.ambitiousaboutautism.org.uk/page/what_we_do/research/aba_competencies.cfm).

In June, our members attended two workshops presented by Dr. Gregory P. Hanley, Ph.D., BCBA-D, and Jamie Hughes, MA, BCBA (<http://ovassociation.com/index.php/fr/>) addressing sleep problems and stereotypy in autism and on identifying and intervening on 24 barriers that may influence learning. In collaboration with the association organizing the workshop and the presenters, ABA Switzerland provided two private 1-hour meetings with the presenters after each workshop, exclusive and free to its members. The goal was for ABA Switzerland members to ask more detailed questions in one of their three official Swiss languages about the research and strategies presented—more specifically, to ask questions they wouldn’t necessarily have been able to ask during workshops that are open to non-behavior analysts and parents as well. These meetings served as an ideal opportunity for the members to meet each other and build contacts.

In the next year, we will mainly focus on providing more continuing education opportunities in the local languages as well as help members network and stay up to date with current research and events. We also hope to develop research opportunities, especially in areas that promote evidence-based practice as such services are not available in Switzerland at the moment.

Alabama ABA

BY JENNIFER GILLIS

The Alabama ABA (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 network, learn about behavior analysis in the region, and to earn continuing education (CE) credits. The 20th annual convention was hosted in Birmingham, AL in October 2011. The first day of the convention offered two excellent workshops: Dr. Cathleen Piazza provided a workshop on the assessment and treatment of pediatric feeding disorders and Dr. R. Wayne Fisher provided a workshop on functional analysis and treatment of aberrant behavior in autism. The next 2 days of the convention included presentations by a variety of speakers on topics of interest to the members of ALABA. Our keynote presenters were Dr. Piazza and Dr. Fisher. We had a full convention with behavior analysts attending from Alabama as well as surrounding states. ALABA members had the opportunity to earn up to 17 CEs between the various talks and workshops. ALABA holds an open

business meeting for all members interested in increasing their participation in our organization during the last day of the convention. Please see the website for details.

ALABA is currently planning its 21st annual convention, which will also be held in Birmingham, AL. Our keynote speakers include Dr. Greg Hanley, Dr. Florence DiGennaro Reed, and Dr. Derek Reed. 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 CEs and registration rates at low costs. For more information about the ALABA convention, please visit us online at www.alabamaaba.com.

In 2011, ALABA's activities have focused on enhancing membership benefits and remaining involved in legislative issues important to behavior analysis in Alabama. The Executive Committee presented an initiative to its members for the development of regional chapters of ALABA. The purpose of these chapters is to facilitate contact between members of ALABA in different geographic regions across the state. An example of a regional chapter's activities might include the establishment of a monthly journal club meeting. ALABA also updated its website to be more accessible to its members, consumers of applied behavior analysis services in the state, and others interested in ALABA. A new domain name was created: www.alabamaaba.com. In addition, members are now able to renew their membership and pay for the convention online. The Executive Committee and members of ALABA have remained active in autism insurance reform—meeting with legislators, speaking at and attending public hearings, and keeping members and supporters updated with pertinent legislative issues in Alabama.

Albania ABA

BY VALBONA DEMIRI, ANJEZA DISHNICA,
AND ERMAL NGJELINA

It has been almost a year since the Albania ABA chapter was affiliated. It was an important year in terms of the development of the organization. During this time, we were focused on four main objectives: (1) legal approval of the association according to Albanian law; (2) building stable relationships with parents of children with developmental disabilities, such as autism, through applied behavior analysis (ABA) intervention models and standards of practice; (3) continuing our ABA education via training; and (4) dissemination of accurate information regarding ABA as well as developmental disabilities. By establishing these objectives, we are convinced that the foundation for steadily expanding ABA throughout Albania is strong, and we are optimistic about the future.

For approval of Albania ABA as a legal organization within the country, we have gone through the arduous Albanian legal system, which involved extensive

documentation, expensive attorney fees, and lengthy proceedings and re-proceedings. Added to the above legal process, the Albanian psychological environment is mostly psychodynamically driven and lacks much information on ABA as a branch and science of psychology. This information could be interesting from an international perspective, as we had to spend much time educating the ruling judge for our case before he gave approval for the foundation of the chapter. The approval of every legal entity in Albania goes through court, and judges must be informed about what they are approving. In our case, no one had ever talked or informed the Albanian public about ABA before then.

The next phase was the fiscal registration of Albania ABA, which is now in its final stage. This essentially means that every legal entity in Albania requires the equivalent of a tax identification number. We are happy to report that our tax identification number has been approved, and we are waiting for the actual number to be sent this summer. The fact that we did not have an approved legal entity has limited Albania ABA's activity this past year, but this does not mean we haven't worked in the name of ABA.

Given the limited conditions under which we could work, in the last year we sponsored and supported trainings and workshops in ABA at a local center working with developmentally disabled children. In July 2011, we offered our first workshop and ABA training. Approximately 20 Albanian professionals in the field of psychology attended the trainings, provided by psychologists and behavior analysts from the United States of America—Valbona Demiri, Ph.D., BCBA-D, and Debra Paone, Ph.D., BCBA-D. The trainings left all professionals yearning for more, and we aim to continue to provide such opportunities in the future.

Regarding our activities on the dissemination of accurate information related to ABA, we have used Facebook to spread information. So far, the results have been positive, as we are increasing the number of "friends" interested in ABA. A challenge to our field here in Albania is the lack of persons willing to work within ABA. We are aiming to present the field in the most positive light. We believe that the lack of understanding and knowledge about ABA may be a deterrent for professionals.

Finally, we consider our professional training to be a top priority in supporting the expansion of ABA within Albania. Accordingly, at least two of our Albania ABA officers (President Elect Anjeza Dishnica and Secretary Elona Ceko) have enrolled (February 2012) in the ABA online program offered by the Van Loan School of Graduate and Professional Studies of Endicott College, leading to the BCBA certificate. We are also happy to report that Anjeza Dishnica and Elona Ceko attended the Sixth ABAI International Conference in Spain (November 2011). We have also begun work on creating an Albania ABA website, which we hope to launch in the next few months. This website will provide

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information on Albania ABA, such as how to join and where to find additional ABA information and resources. We are optimistic! Despite our activities being limited legally, in less than a year we have made some great strides towards the dissemination and advancement of ABA in Albania.

We also dream that ABAI will one day select Albania as the location for its international conference. We are confident this dream will one day become a reality.

Arizona ABA

BY BECKY WISKIRCHEN

The Arizona Association for Behavior Analysis (AZABA) was established as an official chapter in May 2011 with the mission to promote the science of behavior and its associated technologies within Arizona. AZABA strives to serve as a scientific and professional reference group for all in Arizona who identify themselves as scientists or practitioners in disciplines that embrace the principles and practices of behavior analysis. The association also promotes research to advance the understanding of both human and animal behavior and to identify and promote the use of effective and humane behavioral procedures in meeting the educational, (re)habilitation, and behavioral health needs of persons within Arizona. AZABA also advises political, legislative, and policy-making bodies with respect to all matters pertaining to behavior analysis within the state.

In our first year as a chapter, we have been quite active in our pursuit to promote behavior analysis by hosting several in-person and Skype meetings, discussion boards, in-services, conferences, and socials. Prior to our acceptance as a chapter, BCBAs in Arizona rallied together to begin bringing ethical issues to the forefront of our field. In early May, Dr. Frederick S. Wechsler, chair of the Arizona Board of Psychologist Examiners (the BCBA licensing board in AZ), spoke to over 30 behavior analysts about ethical concerns, practices, and the importance of maintaining familiarity with the BACB guidelines. This initial in-service spurred an ongoing conversation among behavior analysts in the state and prompted the development of an ethics committee within the association.

In late May 2011, AZABA held a business meeting at ABAI's annual convention in Denver, after submitting our application to be an affiliate chapter. At the meeting, committees were formed and members were encouraged to brainstorm goals for the year. The evening concluded at a Brazilian Steakhouse where members enjoyed each other's company while dining on a limitless buffet of salad, vegetables, and meat. In the months following the business meeting, members were busy planning our first annual BCBA conference in collaboration with the Arizona Autism Coalition. The conference, held on November 5 at the Disability Empowerment Center in Phoenix, was a huge success with close to 100 people in attendance

including parents, caregivers, advocates, teachers, therapists, BCBAs, and other professionals. Topics of discussion included the BACB ethical guidelines, licensure for behavior analysts, updates on autism insurance in Arizona, funding sources for parents and professionals, applied behavior analysis terminology, assessment tools, a parent panel, and a recap of the National Standards Project findings. The overall feedback from participants was positive, affirming the importance of having venues where parents and professionals can learn and work together.

AZABA began 2012 with a great start, co-hosting an ethics workshop in February. Jon Bailey and Mary Burch presented their exciting "Ethics Lab" workshop, complete with real-life ethical dilemmas and participant role-plays designed to shape behavior analysts to think and act ethically. Participants were encouraged to join the renowned presenters at a local Mexican restaurant that was a favorite of Jon Bailey's during his time at Arizona State University. The workshop was followed by a 2-day community conference, hosted by one of the provider agencies in the valley, where AZABA was able to obtain a booth. Several parents, providers, and students interested in the field stopped by the booth to learn more about behavior analysis in Arizona. During his keynote speech at the conference, Jon Bailey presented AZABA with a generous donation to help support public policy and legislation for behavior analysts in the state. The members of AZABA were honored to receive his encouragement and support.

In May 2012, AZABA held their annual business meeting at the ABAI annual convention in Seattle. Members were encouraged to attend the meeting in person or via Skype and to participate in one of our active committees. The evening concluded with dinner in the hip city of Seattle, known for its culinary expertise. Currently, members are busy working on plans for our Second Annual BCBA Conference in Arizona. AZABA will be co-hosting this event with the Arizona Autism Coalition again this year. The Disability Empowerment Center has been reserved for the event on November 3, 2012. Details will be posted at www.azaba.org.

In addition to the association's hosted programs, our members have attended and presented at several conferences around the nation, including those hosted by ABAI, California ABA, 4-Corners ABA, and the Association for Professional Behavior Analysts. Information about these events, as well as links to upcoming events and presenters, can be found on our website.

In January 2011, an Arizona licensure law for behavior analysts went into effect. This law requires anyone who practices behavior analysis in Arizona to be licensed under the Arizona Board of Psychologist Examiners (ABPE). While the law is already in effect, the rules that will govern behavior analysts in the state are not yet finalized. The ABPE has posted the rules for comment by the public.

Members of AZABA are working together to read and discuss the ramifications of the rules in order to give appropriate feedback. Members are also encouraged to attend regular in-person meetings held by the ABPE to better understand the processes by which they operate. Attendance at these meetings has been both informative and helpful in establishing rapport with psychologists in the state.

As the chapter continues to grow, we encourage those interested in joining to fill out the online application. On our website, we also have an AZABA-only discussion forum in which members are invited to post questions, comments, and information about upcoming events. It has been a beneficial tool that many members use to encourage dialog about issues that are affecting behavior analysts in the state. Many conversations that begin on the forum are revived at meetings and during informal discussions among members. We have opportunities for involvement at all levels and in all of our committees and welcome all who identify themselves as scientists or practitioners in disciplines that embrace the principles and practices of behavior analysis.

Arkansas ABA

BY SHERYL HAHN

The Arkansas Association of Behavior Analysts (ArkABA) has advanced and promoted the science and application of behavior analysis to consumers in Arkansas through a variety of linkages. ArkABA successfully attained or exceeded the goals established for the inaugural year. The members of ArkABA, individually and corporately, have increased consumer awareness of applied behavior analysis services related to the changes in insurance coverage that became effective in October 2011.

The newly designed website, Facebook page, connections on Linked In, and relationships with local universities are just a few examples of ways utilized to promote the association and the science, increase membership, and extend our scope of influence.

Associação Brasileira de Psicologia e Medicina Comportamental

BY MARTHA HÜBNER, CLAUDIA OSHIRO,
AND GIOVANNA MUNHOZ ROCHA

The Associação Brasileira de Psicologia e Medicina Comportamental (Brazilian Association of Psychology and Behavioral Medicine; ABPMC) was established in November 1991, and was one of the first South American membership organizations for researchers, psychologists, psychiatrists, professionals, and students interested in the application, teaching, and scientific and technological development of behavior analysis. The central office is now located in São Paulo. ABPMC has 2,092 members and more than 11,000 names on its mailing list. Members come

from all over Brazil and this year ABPMC has members from each of the 26 Brazilian states.

Every year since its founding, ABPMC holds an annual convention that has had the honor of hosting renowned researchers from all over the world such as Carol Pilgrim, David Eckerman, Emilio Ribes, Ernest Vargas, Fred Keller, Gary Martin, M. Jackson Marr, Jay Moore, Julie Vargas, Kelly Wilson, Linda Hayes, Maria Mallott, Michael Dougher, Murray Sidman, Steven Hayes, Richard Mallott, Richard Serna, Robert Kohlenberg, Sigrid Glenn, Vicente Caballo, and William MacIlvane, among others. For the past 10 years, an average of 1,800 participants attended this conference and in 2004, ABPMC had the honor to organize the Second ABAI International Conference, which welcomed 2,420 registrants.

In 2011, the 20th Brazilian Annual Convention of Psychology and Behavioral Medicine was held in Salvador, Bahia and occurred in conjunction with the First South American Meeting of Behavior Analysis. Presenters from throughout South America were invited to contribute to the exchange of knowledge in behavior analysis. One of the greatest successes of this event was to have an increase in the number of attendees coming from the northeast of Brazil.

At the beginning of the year, the ABPMC Board of Directors initiated a successful campaign to increase the number of student members; in 20 days, we had received 1,592 new applications!

ABPMC also supports many regional meetings on behavior analysis, and over the years those meetings have received more and more participants. Combining attendance for the annual and regional meetings, Brazil has more than 4,000 behavior analysts getting together every year to discuss, learn, present research, and divulge relevant advances in their areas. ABPMC is going to celebrate 21 years as an organization and many celebratory events have been planned.

Since 1997, in an attempt to publish the most relevant presentations of the annual meeting, ABPMC initiated a book series named *Sobre Comportamento e Cognição (About Behavior and Cognition)*, which already has 28 volumes about applied and basic research. The main goal of this collection is to publish articles that can be used as teaching material. In 2011, the name of the series was changed to *Comportamento em Foco (Behavior on the Spot)*, of which an electronic version was introduced.

Since 1999, ABPMC has also published a regular journal called *Revista Brasileira de Terapia Comportamental e Cognitiva (Brazilian Journal of Behavior and Cognitive Therapy)*, which is nationally recognized and well received by the academic community. This journal publishes scientific contributions to behavior analysis and has recently been produced in bilingual and electronic versions (www.usp.br/rbtcc). Produced in a more accessible language, the

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Boletim Contexto (Context Bulletin) is an electronic magazine currently in its 35th volume and features articles about relevant issues in behavior analysis.

Our chapter has been discussing ways to improve behavior analyst accreditation in Brazil as a way to promote and to validate good practices and training. ABPMC is trying to develop its own approach to this issue in order to address our country's needs and the reality of conditions in Brazil. We also engage in political advocacy on issues relevant to behavior analysis.

This year the 21st Brazilian Annual Convention of Psychology and Behavioral Medicine will be held August 15–18 in Curitiba, a city located the south of Brazil (state of Paraná). The president of the association is Claudia Oshiro and the president of the annual meeting is Giovana Munhoz da Rocha. To submit papers to the convention or to get more information, go to www.abpmc.org.br.

Association for the Advancement of Radical Behavior Analysis

BY ITALO VIGANÒ AND ALESSANDRO VALDINA

Report of 2011–2012 Scientific Activities

In 2011–2012, the Association for the Advancement of Radical Behavior Analysis (AARBA) covered the following areas of activity: behavior based safety (B-BS) diffusion of the protocol and application in production sites, behavior analysis education, and organizational behavior management (OBM).

Behavior Based Safety

The main B-BS event was the Fifth European Conference on Behavior Based Safety in Milan, Italy (June 15–17, 2011). As in the previous year, a large number of specialists and interested individuals attended the conference, which was held at the prestigious State University of Milan. Because of this event, a meaningful number of new B-BS protocol implementations began in Italian industrial plants in the latter half of 2011. As in the previous year in Venice, the European Conference on Behavior-Based Safety received recognition from the president of the Italian Republic through the award of a commemorative medal. This was a great honor for our association, as it was the second time AARBA had been recognized for its scientific contribution to safety at work.

Major international speakers at the 2011 conference were Mark Alavosius (University of Nevada, Reno), Phil Chase (Cambridge Center for Behavioral Studies), and Terry McSween (Quality Safety Edge). Additionally, important Italian safety experts enriched the scientific content of the conference, which had an attendance of over 300 people.

In April 2012, AARBA completed preparations for the sixth conference (Rome, June 6–8). Prominent international experts such as Dr. Richard Malott (ABAI president), Tim

Ludwig (Appalachian State University), Ramona Houmanfar (University of Nevada, Reno), Mark Alavosius (University of Nevada, Reno), and Lori Diener (OBM International) gave talks focused on B-BS and OBM.

In August 2011, one of AARBA's founders and its honorary president, Prof. Ettore Caracciolo, passed away. AARBA is planning a special commemorative lecture in honor of this Italian behavior analysis pioneer and will assign a €15,000 research grant to a young Italian behavior analysis researcher.

AARBA drafted, in close cooperation with the Cambridge Center for Behavioral Studies, a document called "Requirements for Certification of B-BS Process." Two major Italian certification bodies—the Royal Institution of Naval Architects and TUV Italia—also contributed to this document. Parallel to this effort, in collaboration with the main certification bodies, AARBA defined a certification path for B-BS professionals and their roles as auditors. These requirements will be presented and discussed during the Sixth European Conference on Behavior-Based Safety in Rome.

AARBA is also working with the Polytechnic Institute of Milan in conducting a controlled study on the implementation of B-BS processes in Heineken, Italy, for the thesis proposal of a graduate-level engineering student. In order to spread B-BS protocol knowledge within the professional community, AARBA is working with L'Associazione Nazionale fra Laboratori Mutilati e Invalidi del Lavoro (National Association of Disabled Workers) and Associazione Italiana Professionale Ambiente e Sicurezza (Italian Association of Safety, Health, and Environmental Professionals) to disseminate B-BS.

Another important collaboration with the University of Reggio Emilia (Enzo Ferrari) has recently concluded. With this institution, AARBA has planned a convention to help define the role of "scientific provider" for a postgraduate course in B-BS (80 hours), which will be held for the first time in a state-recognized institution and grant legal value to the course within the Italian territory. The 18th edition of the AARBA master's course in B-BS has been successfully completed, and we have now over 300 qualified experts in B-BS.

Behavior Analysis: Education Activity

AARBA put tremendous effort in 2011–2012 toward promoting education on behavior analysis principles. In collaboration with the State University of Parma, AARBA is organizing a master's course in applied behavior analysis (ABA) with the aim of educating psychologists and other specialists on ABA in clinical and organizational areas. This is the first ABA university master's course organized in Italy and over 20 students are currently enrolled.

In December 2011, AARBA organized the first edition of the Train the Trainers Course in Venice. The aim of

this initiative was to spread basic knowledge of behavior analysis principles supporting the learning process and the relevant applied methodology to design efficient and effective performance-based training for workers and students. The initiative has been accompanied with great success and satisfaction by the more than 15 company training managers attending the course. The course particularly focuses on e-learning techniques and instructional design principles and their application to the precision teaching (PT) paradigm.

Organizational Behavior Management

AARBA is still fully involved with the ManuVAR project, one of the biggest projects of the Seventh Framework Program financed by the European Commission. AARBA—in collaboration with the University of Malaga, University of Nottingham, and Tecnomat—developed a teaching machine based on virtual and augmented reality. The e-learning application uses high-level technology—such as 3D stereoscopic vision and a haptic device—that is able to reproduce the force feedback of a tool (e.g., grinder, polisher) on a surface. The application works thanks to a learning engine based on programmed instruction and PT principles.

AARBA kept disseminating OBM information, especially in dentistry. Currently, there is a continuing education program for dentists that regularly covers topics like management and motivation of assistant personnel, doctor/patient communication, and techniques to present and manage treatment plans. Hundreds of doctors have been training for the last 12 months. Additionally, the AARBA president has been requested to speak about behavior management topics at the Italian Society of Dentistry Conference.

Behavior Analysis Association of Michigan

BY JAMES T. TODD

The 26th annual convention of the Behavior Analysis Association of Michigan (BAAM) was held February 23–24, 2012, at the Student Center on the Campus of Eastern Michigan University (EMU) in Ypsilanti, Michigan.

Approximately 300 people representing more than a dozen universities and colleges from half a dozen states and the province of Ontario attended the BAAM convention. We had a record number of submissions, and expanded the conference to five tracks over 2 days. An expanded number of vendors displayed merchandise and other offerings. Many local and regional agencies sent staff and administrators. BAAM scheduled all regular sessions in meeting rooms overlooking EMU's Lake House area. As always, the BAAM staff and volunteers lead by Caitlyn Sorensen, Lauren Byrnes, Aimee Moore, Gyða Dögg Einarsdóttir, and Jennifer Kowalkowski did excellent work organizing and running the convention. BAAM extends

special thanks to the staff of the EMU Events Planning Office, especially Linda Moore, the Catering Department, and to all the workers in the Student Center for their contributions to making the conference run smoothly.

Reflecting the theme of the conference, "Nutrition, Obesity, and Health," the 2012 keynote address was delivered by W. David Pierce of the University of Alberta, who spoke on "Activity Anorexia: Participation of Neuroendocrine Responses in Food-Related Contingencies." Steven T. Higgins of the University of Vermont added to the theme with a special invited address, "Financial Incentives for Smoking Cessation Among Pregnant and Newly Postpartum Women." Other convention highlights are too numerous to fully list, but included "Obesity Prevalence and Weight Management Strategies for African-American Urban Adolescents" by Lisa M. Todd, Kathryn E. Brogan, Sylvie Naar-King, and Deborah A. Ellis (Wayne State University School of Medicine); "Methodological Behaviorism as a Radical Behaviorist Views It" by Jay Moore (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee); "Topics and Research in Problem Solving," with John W. Esch (chair, Esch Behavior Consultants) and Scott Gaynor (discussant, Western Michigan University); "The Adaptable Token System" with Krista Kennedy (Children's Hospital of Michigan Autism Center); "Novel Methodological Directions for Behavior Analytic Research and Intervention" with Matthew Jameson (chair, Western Michigan University) and Amy Naugle (discussant, Western Michigan University); "Eating and Addiction Among Weight Loss Surgery Patients: Can Behavioral Economic Theory Shed Light on the Association?" by Karen K. Saules, Summar Reslan, Ashley Wiedemann, and Shannon Clark (Eastern Michigan University); "Classroom Accommodations for Students With Anxiety and Mood Disorders," by Kim Killu (University of Michigan-Dearborn); and "Early Intensive Behavior Intervention for Autism: Is It Actually More 'Intensive' Than a Typical Child's Day?" by Caitlyn Sorensen, Lauren Byrnes, and James T. Todd (Eastern Michigan University).

BAAM is especially pleased to acknowledge the continuing and excellent contributions of Western Michigan University students and faculty to the poster session. A full copy of the schedule is available on our website.

BAAM will hold its 27th annual convention on February 21–22, 2013, in the Student Center on the EMU campus. BAAM intends to continue to offer a mix of basic, applied, and theoretical presentations and workshops. Online program submission and registration will again be available, 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.

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Behaviour Analysis in Ireland

BY JENNIFER HOLLOWAY, MICHELLE KELLY,
AND CLODAGH MURRAY

Behavior Analysis in Ireland (BAI), also known as the Division of Behavior Analysis, aims to promote the development of behavior analysis as a basic and applied science, disseminate research, and broaden public awareness of the applications of behavior analysis.

Workshop and Conference Review 2011–2012

BAI has hosted a number of events over the past year, including a seminar with Dr. Linda Copeland, a number of student data shares, and our sixth annual conference.

Seminar With Dr. Copeland

On September 21, 2011, BAI hosted a seminar at Trinity College Dublin entitled, “Evidence-Based Interventions for Autism: A Pediatrician’s Perspective.” The seminar was presented by Dr. Linda Copeland, a developmental pediatrician and board certified behavior analyst from California. Dr. Copeland reviewed the current evidence for medical and complimentary alternative medical (CAM) treatments for autism. The audience represented psychologists with various interests (clinical psychologists, educational psychologists, counseling psychologists, and behavior analysts); other professionals (pediatricians, occupational therapists, and teachers); students; and parents.

Dr. Copeland outlined some common medical tests conducted with children who have a diagnosis of autism. She advised that for-profit laboratories should be avoided, but noted that this was a more significant problem in the USA than in Ireland. She went on to discuss the importance of evaluating and analyzing the quality of scientific evidence. She outlined a system with a hierarchy of meta-analysis of multiple randomized controlled trials in people providing the strongest evidence in medical research. For behavior analytic research, Dr. Copeland outlined the following quality criteria: rigorous single-subject (single-case) design where each subject serves as his or her own control; adequate baseline data, treatment data, and follow-up with generalization; and ruling out alternative explanations for the change.

Dr. Copeland also discussed CAM treatments and outlined why behavior analysts and other professionals should be familiar with them, namely because numerous studies show high rates of alternative treatments being used with individuals with autism and because such treatments can affect behavior and influence the effectiveness of behavioral intervention. Dr. Copeland also reviewed the National Standards Project from the National Autism Centre. This large-scale project examined evidence-based educational interventions for autism spectrum disorders

and found that the most extensive support was for intensive applied behavior analysis (ABA). The studies in support of ABA were the most rigorous, and it was the intervention with the strongest evidence base.

Dr. Copeland finished her seminar with a salient quote from Bailey and Burch (2007): “It is absolutely unethical for a behavior analyst to be trafficking in unproven approaches.”

Student/Tutor Data Share

BAI has hosted two data share events so far this year. The data share is a speedy, informal gathering of ABA students and professionals that provides a forum to discuss casework in the field. It provides a great platform to discuss behavior analytic strategies used by other students/practitioners and can help improve the presentation skills of all attendees. This gathering is data-driven and each presenter is required to provide a graphical display of their results (ongoing or complete). A BCBA professional is present at each data share to ensure that all interventions abide by the ethical guidelines of the Behavior Analyst Certification Board (www.bacb.com). There was enthusiastic discussion amongst the audience after both events about the interventions and data.

Sixth Annual Conference

The BAI Annual Conference was held on April 13–14, 2012, in Trinity College Dublin. Attendees had a choice of two of four workshops on the first day from the highly regarded Professor William Baum, Dr. Janet Twyman, Professor David Gast, and Dr. Kevin Ayres. Professor Baum, from the University of California, Davis, spoke about the molar multiscaled view of behavior and reinforcement. Dr. Twyman, from the University of Massachusetts Medical School, discussed instructional design in the digital age. Professor Gast, from the University of Georgia, focused on the use of single-case research designs in answering applied research questions related to educational and clinical practices. Finally, Dr. Ayres, also from the University of Georgia, provided an overview of video modeling and mobile technology for individuals with autism and developmental disabilities.

Keynote Address: Professor Baum

Professor Baum presented the first keynote address on Saturday entitled, “Why Private Events Are a Mistake: Dualism, Behaviorism, and the Molar View of Behavior.” Baum discussed the dilemma faced by behavior analysts when considering private events. He encouraged the audience to question private events as a concept: “Although we acknowledge that everyone thinks, senses, and feels, their privacy is problematic for a science of behavior, because they cannot be observed by others. Even if we allow that privacy is accidental—only the result of absence of technology—the problem remains, because private events in others can only be inferred and therefore are as hypothetical as any mental construct.” Baum highlighted this problem by employing

three examples: riding the bus, hearing, and being in pain. From these, the temptation to posit private events arises when one tries to identify action at a particular moment. According to Baum, trying to distinguish one momentary activity from another by appealing to private events is no better than folk psychology. Professor Baum concluded that private events are irrelevant when understanding behavior in relation to environmental events, or for any practical purpose. His keynote address stimulated some very interesting and reflective discussion on the subject.

Keynote Address: Dr. Twyman

Dr. Twyman presented the second keynote address entitled, "Getting Into the Game: Synergies Between Behavior Analysis and Gaming Technology." Twyman began her presentation with a humorous introduction to her research on Ireland and its unusual inventions including chocolate milk, rubber soles, and the ejector seat. Twyman then led her audience through the qualities of gaming that appear to be rooted in behavior analysis. These qualities include the identification of target behaviors, the analysis of behavior change, the role of consequences (positive and negative), schedules, and the evaluation of the effectiveness of contingencies. Twyman systematically demonstrated the overlap between ABA and game dynamics theories. She made the argument for the use of ABA as a framework for behavior change "apps" in business and education. Twyman inspired each behavior analyst in the audience by highlighting the potential employment opportunities for them in this new field as well as providing excellent technological resources for practitioners.

Symposia and Individual Papers

Symposia and individual papers were presented in many areas of the expanding field of behavior analysis (e.g., technology in the classroom, applications of behavior analysis within regular education, acceptance and commitment therapy, etc.). In Ireland, there is increasing interest in the application of behavior analysis across populations. One symposium that reflected this interest was entitled, "Introducing Applied Behaviour Analysis to Marginalised Communities in Ireland: Outcomes and Experiences From Dublin's Inner City." The Education Service Manager of An Siol Community Development Project (www.ansiol.org), a community organization based in north inner city Dublin, presented within this symposium. She gave a comprehensive presentation on how ABA is incorporated within her job through (1) homework clubs, (2) social skills group for children with special needs, (3) 1:1 after-school tutoring sessions for secondary school students, (4) family learning club, and (5) 1:1 tutoring co-funded by the D7 Schools Completion Programme for students presenting with numeracy and literacy difficulties.

Poster Presentations

BAI hosted its first poster presentation session at this year's annual conference, which was a noted success. The chapter will continue to be a part of ongoing events at the conference.

Upcoming Events

BAI will host two symposia and a keynote speaker—Dr. Jennifer Austin—at the Psychological Society of Ireland (PSI) Annual Conference this year. The PSI conference will take place November 8–12, 2012, in Cork. Two pre-conference workshops will take place on November 8, with the full conference programme running from November 9–11. For full details on the PSI Annual Conference visit the conference website, www.psychologicalsociety.ie/conference.

BAI Membership

PSI is the national body representing professional psychologists. BAI represents recognized, qualified professionals in the specific science of behavior analysis. Those wishing to apply for membership must be members of PSI and hold a postgraduate qualification in behavior analysis recognized by the Division Committee. Relevant experience will also be considered. Membership application forms can be found on the PSI website, www.psychologicalsociety.ie/division-behaviour-analysis.

Berkshire Association for Behavior Analysis and Therapy

BY ALAN HARCHIK

The Berkshire Association for Behavior Analysis and Therapy (BABAT) is New England's primary membership association for behavior analysts.

Annual Conference

The chapter's 32nd annual conference was held October 13–14, 2011. Another new attendance record was set, with 900 attendees. Moreover, there was a record number of submissions and a record number of invited speakers (22). Highlights of the conference included keynote addresses by Brian Iwata, Jim Carr, Pat Friman, Ed Morris, and Mark Sundberg. In addition, Charlie Catania provided a wonderful and insightful introduction for Nate Azrin, recipient of the seventh annual Murray Sidman Award for Enduring Contributions to Behavior Analysis. Lauren Beaulieu of Western New England University (Greg Hanley, advisor) was awarded \$1,000 (plus conference expenses) as the winner of the fourth annual BABAT Student Paper Competition. Additionally, the B. F. Skinner Foundation sponsored a student poster competition with a \$500 award. The competition was judged by Claire St. Peter and Mark Sundburg, with Jessica Seaver (New England Center for Children; Jason Bourret, advisor) winning the competition.

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Planning is well underway for the 2012 BABAT Conference, to be held October 12–13, 2012, at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Twenty-five distinguished professionals have already agreed to participate, including Vince Carbone (Carbone Clinic), Aubrey Daniels (Aubrey Daniels International), Geraldine Dawson (chief science officer of AutismSpeaks), Flo DiGennaro-Reed (University of Kansas), John Donahoe (University of Massachusetts), Pat Friman (Boys Town), Peter Gerhardt (McCarron School), Greg Hanley (Western New England University), Steve Higgins (University of Vermont), Brian Iwata (University of Florida), Jim Johnston (Auburn University), Linda LeBlanc (Auburn University), Dorothea Lerman (University of Houston–Clear Lake), Sam Leigland (Gonzaga University), Brian Martens (Syracuse University), Tony Nevin (University of New Hampshire), Dave Palmer (Smith College), Anna Petursdottir (Texas Christian University), Derek Reed (University of Kansas), Denny Reid (Carolina Behavior Analysis and Support Center), Ken Silverman (Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine), Ron Van Houten (Western Michigan University), Tim Vollmer (University of Florida), Dave Wacker (University of Iowa), and Doug Woods (University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee). BABAT appreciates the continued support of all its members—students, educators, practitioners, scientists, and parents—for our conference and looks forward to seeing everyone.

Legislative Activity

There was a lot of activity in the Massachusetts state legislature regarding the licensing of behavior analysts. BABAT would like to thank the many practitioners and parent advocates who turned out for the September 20, 2011, hearing before the Massachusetts Joint Committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensing. BABAT helped pack the room (so much so that the hearing had to be moved to a larger space to accommodate the crowd) to demonstrate support for a responsible licensing process for behavior analysts. Two bills were being considered, one supported and the other opposed by BABAT. Representative Balser's bill (which proposed to place the oversight and regulation of the practice of behavior analysis under the Psychology Registry Board in Massachusetts) was not supported by BABAT and was heard first. A panel of three psychologists from the Massachusetts Psychological Association testified in favor of Representative Balser's bill. Then, three licensed psychologists (including BABAT member Dennis Kolodziecki and president Joe Ricciardi) testified in opposition to this bill. Then, the bill supported by BABAT, Representative Scibak's bill (which proposed an independent Board of Behavior Analysts to oversee licensing) was heard. Dozens of people signed up to testify in favor

of this bill, including BABAT's chair of the Professional Practice Committee, Bill Ahearn; parent advocates Nan Leonard, Judith Ursitti (AutismSpeaks), and Cathy Boyle; and many concerned behavior analysts. Massachusetts is incredibly fortunate to have strong parent advocates for behavior analytic services, and BABAT thanks them all for their support. Testimony in favor of Representative Scibak's bill was fervent and thorough. Furthermore, the Massachusetts Association of Health Plans also proclaimed support of Representative Scibak's bill. The Joint Committee's decision was to report Representative Scibak's bill favorably. BABAT will continue to monitor the bill and advocate for the right of behavior analysts to independently oversee the practice of behavior analysis.

BABAT would also like to thank the Association for Professional Behavior Analysts for its summary of the two bills and the BACB for alerting certificants in Massachusetts about the pending legislation that would affect behavior analysts' right to practice. BABAT also thanks MassABA for their efforts on this legislation.

The New England Behavior Analyst

The third issue of the BABAT online publication, *The New England Behavior Analyst*, was posted on the website (www.babat.org). Contents included highlights from the 32nd Annual Conference, information on the upcoming 33rd Annual Conference, results of the 2012 BABAT Board of Directors elections, membership updates, advocacy and practice updates, a brief literature review of behavioral sports psychology, a call for nominations for the new Gerry Shook Practitioner Award, and highlights from the first annual BABAT Social and Networking Event.

Bermuda ABA

BY KIMBERLY MILLS

The Bermuda Association for Behaviour Analysis (BABA) was officially chartered as a national chapter of ABAI in late 2011. This was a crowning achievement for the advancement of applied behaviour analysis (ABA) technologies in Bermuda. The process of becoming a national chapter was not easily achieved, but the results have proved well worth the work that was put into becoming affiliated.

Bermuda, like all countries around the world, has been affected by autism. Historically, the work of ABA practitioners in Bermuda has largely been surrounding service delivery to youth with autism. As such, the membership of BABA is comprised largely of current and former staff members of the country's only autism and developmental disability centre, which is the only centre in the country that employs ABA technologies as its primary intervention strategy. The activities of BABA are run concurrently with this organisation and include monthly workshops for Bermuda teachers and allied health professionals on topics related to functional behavior assessments; data collection;

behaviour intervention plans; teaching adaptive behaviours to youth with disabilities; research related to autism and autism interventions; effective treatments for youth with aggressive, disruptive, and self-injurious behaviours; practical applications of verbal behaviour techniques; and assistive technologies for youth with disabilities.

The members of BABA have been actively involved with the training, guiding, and mentorship of the Disabilities Service Department at Bermuda College in helping to create support systems for college students with disabilities. Members of BABA made a public service announcement to the community related to the formation of the organization.

Members of BABA also contributed an article to a local parenting magazine, citing the right to effective behavioral treatment. When we recruit for members, we will naturally seek to add to our ranks educators, special educators, and other allied health professionals who work with youth with disabilities, but that will not be the extent of our recruitment efforts. We will also seek to add those within the community who are seeking to solve everyday problems using the science of ABA. In the months ahead, BABA plans to engage in a formal drive to increase membership.

BABA is currently focused on getting ABA services reimbursed through insurance providers within Bermuda. This has been and will continue to be an ongoing effort for the organization. Additionally, we are working to put out at least one newsletter before the end of 2012 and hope all current members will contribute something to the publication.

BABA is seeking to add to board certified behaviour analysts to its membership ranks during 2012. In order to become a member, please visit www.tomorrowsvoices.bm and click on the BABA link to discover how you can participate in our international chapter.

British Columbia ABA

BY ELIZABETH ATHENS

The British Columbia Association for Behavior Analysis (BC-ABA) hosted our fourth annual conference, March 2–3, at the University of British Columbia, with approximately 162 delegates in attendance from two Canadian provinces and one U.S. state. The conference was presented in cooperation with the Autism Society of British Columbia, Autism Community Training (ACT), the Centre for Interdisciplinary Research and Collaboration in Autism, and the Faculty of Education at the University of British Columbia.

Dr. Mark Duran, a professor in the Department of Psychology at the University of South Florida, St. Petersburg, presented a pre-conference workshop entitled, "Sleep Better! Improving Sleep for Children With Special Needs" and the keynote address entitled, "An Optimistic Approach to Helping Individuals With Challenging Behavior." The remainder of the diverse and high-quality program consisted of two traditional paper presentations, six mini-seminars, and a poster session, which included

several submissions from local undergraduate students in applied behavior analysis. Additionally, our conference committee has partnered with ACT to offer continuing education (CE) credits at two training events across the province. These initiatives have benefited our members by providing local opportunities for obtaining CEs.

BC-ABA's website and publications committee has been busy and productive this past year. The committee members succeeded in implementing prior improvements to our website registration system and are now in the process of developing a members-only section of the website, where members will be able to access community job postings as well as articles on current topics in applied behavior analysis.

Our membership committee has enjoyed the new online registration system this year. BC-ABA's membership trends are reflected in the graph below:

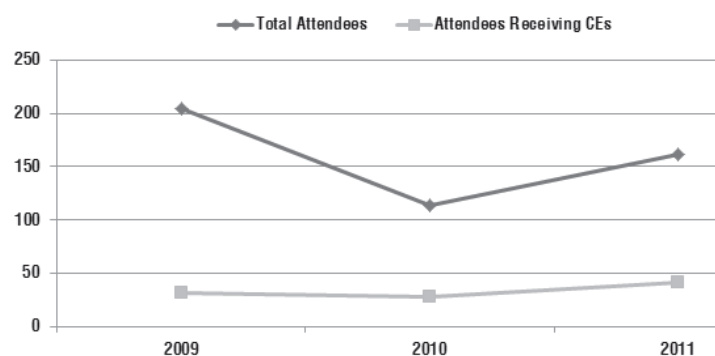


Figure 1. BC-ABA Conference Attendance Trends

In terms of future directions, the board and membership continue to keep abreast of national and international developments in behavior analyst licensure and taking steps to keep our members informed and updated. In order to remain ahead of the curve, our board is actively investigating various licensure options available to our field in the province of BC, in order to protect our right to practice, ensure quality to consumers of applied behavior analysis services, and promote our field. We are also working on further expansion of our website and hope to offer more member-specific benefits in the upcoming year. Finally, we are supporting a bid made by the Vancouver Convention Centre to host the 2014 or 2015 ABAI Annual Convention.

California ABA

BY KRISTI MILLER

It has been an exciting year for members of the California Association for Behavior Analysis (CalABA). CalABA placed increasing emphasis on providing education and advocacy on public policy issues affecting the right to practice, supporting organizations in obtaining insurance reimbursement for services, and increasing the grassroots involvement of members. This was reflected in the passage of

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Senate Bill 946, which mandates the coverage of behavioral health care for children with autism beginning in July 2012.

In 2011, CalABA formed a committee to develop recommendations for standards for consumers accessing behavioral services through the Department of Developmental Services Regional Centers in California. Behavior analysts working on similar issues throughout the country have referenced these standards, which were also presented at the 2011 ABAI Annual Convention in Denver.

Throughout the year, CalABA members networked around issues regarding practice and participated with the CalABA Board on committees, in workshops, and at informal get-togethers. In January 2012, CalABA held a strategic planning retreat, which involved board and non-board members working together to create marketing and public relations materials, plan fundraising activities, discuss access to insurance, and conduct long-term strategic planning for the chapter.

CalABA's 2012 Annual Conference was held in February in Orange County. CalABA's commitment to excellence was demonstrated with high-quality presentations across a variety of topics. Greg Madden, Allen Neuringer, Alan Poling, and David Wacker were keynote speakers. Other invited speakers included James Carr, Philip Chase, Jane Fisher, Rebecca MacDonald, Garry Martin, Heather McGee, Matthew Normand, Meeta Patel, Ruth Ann Rehfeldt, David Schaal, and Henry Schlenger. For the second year, a public policy track was offered at the conference and sessions were well attended. CalABA also held its first annual Parent Conference on Saturday, February 18, and received positive feedback from the 60 parents who attended. Additionally, Dr. Jerry Shook and Lorri Unumb were honored for their contributions to the field of behavior analysis. Finally, CalABA had an expo poster at the 2012 ABAI Annual Convention Seattle in May. More information regarding CalABA membership can be found at www.Calaba.org.

Central China ABA

BY XU HAIQING AND WANG HONG

Central China ABA (CCABA) has participated in international conferences, sponsored national events, conducted trainings for parents of children with disabilities, and presented a poster at the ABAI convention in 2011. We will continue to focus on membership growth, promote the international certification of BCaBA programs, and utilize the science of behavior analysis in the treatment of children with autism and developmental disabilities.

2011 Activities of Central China ABA

- March 2011, Participated in 2011 International Conference in Hong Kong. Speakers included Dr. William L. Heward, Dr. Neil Martin, Dr. Xu Haiqing (Chairperson of CCABA), et al.

- May 2011, Participated in 37th ABAI Annual Convention. Speakers included Dr. Edward R. Christophersen, Dr. William L. Heward, Dr. Maria E. Malott, Dr. Neil Martin, et al.
- June 2011, Sponsored a national conference in China for children with developmental disorders, including autism spectrum disorders (ASD). Speakers included Dr. Xu Haiqing, Ms. Sharon Chien, Dr. Yang Yufeng, and Ms. Sue Ke (TABA member).
- August 2011, Conducted a family training for parents of children with ASD. Speakers included Dr. Xu Haiqing, Dr. Wang Feng, Dr. Wang Hong, and Dr. Ding Lihua.
- December 2011, Sponsored Hubei Provincial Special Children Rehabilitation Association Annual Conference. Speakers included Dr. Xu Haiqing, Dr. Wang Feng, Dr. Wang Hong, and Dr. Dai Qiong.
- Publications: Presented a poster at the 37th ABAI Annual Convention titled, "The Effects of VB Treatment for Children With Autism in China"; published our quarterly in-house literature, *ABA Learning Skills*.

Chinese ABA

BY YANQING GUO

Greetings from the Chinese Association for Behavior Analysis (CABA)! In the past 2 years, chairman Dr. Yanqing Guo had been doing his best to create and improve the academic environment for applied behavior analysis. Although he spent most of the year at Harvard University (and missed the deadline to file the 2011 chapter report), applied behavior analysis (ABA) has become more popular in China, especially among people working with populations with autism spectrum and mental disorders, as well as typically developing children. Some of Dr. Guo's students held several seminars for parents and teachers while he was abroad. After he returned from the USA, Dr. Guo published *Applied Behavior Analysis and Behavior Management for Children*, which is the first book in China by a native author that systematically introduces the principles of behavior analysis for the management of children's behavior. Before this, the only books on this topic had been translated or re-edited from non-Chinese authors. He has also held five ABA and autism workshops for parents and teachers and has given lectures at academic conferences and meetings. Dr. Guo is still president of the postgraduate students' class in ABA which is now in its fourth year.

CABA does not collect membership fees, as it has been determined that it is first necessary to generate more national interest in the field. The chapter plans to hold a national conference in 2013. Additionally, we hope that from this year on, a new chairperson for the chapter will be elected every 2 or 3 years. While CABA does not have its own website, Dr. Guo has created a new professional blog about ABA (in Chinese: <http://blog.sina.com.cn/u/2714167134>).

Connecticut ABA

BY ELIZABETH C. NULTY

The Connecticut Association for Behavior Analysis (CTABA) recently hosted our eighth annual conference on Friday, March 9, 2012, in Cromwell, CT. We were excited to have a number of invited speakers join us this year, including Bill Heward, Amy Odom, Bob Ross, Richard Graff, and Sandra Chafouleas. In addition, we received the largest number of call for papers submissions in our history. We had our largest conference attendance at 140 people, as well as 14 vendor booths. Student poster awards were given to Melissa Griffin for Exceptional Contribution to Behavior Analytic Research in an Applied Context and to Peter Castagna for Excellence in Research Design. Both Ms. Griffin and Mr. Castagna attend Eastern Connecticut State University.

In September 2011, CTABA and St. Joseph College co-sponsored a Fall Workshop Series in West Hartford, CT. The workshop was a one-track series including topics on teaching social skills, managing challenging behaviors, and ethics. In October 2011, the Capitol Region Education Council sponsored the quarterly CTABA membership meeting in Windsor, CT. Members observed as the Executive Council conducted a business meeting. Afterwards, members provided feedback. One suggestion from members was to provide more information to members on licensure. As a result, CTABA formed a licensure committee with the goal to gather information from other state chapters on their process and to form a Connecticut position statement.

Over the past year, CTABA made several significant chapter development accomplishments. An important change was to our website design to make information more accessible to our members. Information that can be accessed via the CTABA website (www.ctaba.org) include Executive Council meeting minutes, bylaws, legislative updates, job postings, and upcoming events. In addition, CTABA submitted a 501(c)(3) application to become a nonprofit organization. CTABA also created organizational memberships over the past year. We would like to thank the following organizations for their support this year: Beacon Services of Connecticut, Applied Behavioral Strategies, the Center for Children With Special Needs, Rehabilitation Associates of Connecticut, Program Builders, St. Joseph College, and Naugatuck Valley Community College.

The upcoming year for CTABA will be exciting. In April 2012, CTABA held a membership meeting at the Center for Children with Special Needs. The goal of the meeting will be to encourage members to volunteer on committees. CTABA will also have a poster at the ABAI Expo. The Conference Committee is already planning the Ninth Annual CTABA Conference, to be held on Friday, March 15, 2013 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Cromwell, CT.

CTABA is the voice of behavior analysis for the State of Connecticut. For more information regarding CTABA, visit our website, www.ctaba.org, or email us at ctaba@ctaba.org.

Delaware ABA

BY CHRISTINE H. BARTHOLD

This is the first year for the Delaware Association for Behavior Analysis (DABA). Many thanks to all who have been supportive and made the formation of this chapter a reality. Our charter board members include:

- Christine Barthold, president (University of Delaware)
- Gary Allison, vice president (University of Delaware)
- Regan Davis, director (private practice)
- Susan Pfadt, secretary (private practice)
- Cathleen Albertson, secretary (Devereux Institute)
- Theda Ellis, board member (Autism Delaware)
- Vincent Winterling, board member (Delaware Autism Program)
- Kristine Peters, board member (Red Clay Consolidated School District)

We currently have 34 registered members of DABA and 40 members of our Google email list. While most of our energies have been dedicated to getting the chapter started, we are beginning to offer information to our members via our email list and regular meetings. At our first annual membership meeting (held in early April), members suggested we send more information about trainings and programs of interest through our email list. We are also very committed to providing education to the public about behavior analysis, and we plan to work collaboratively with state agencies, private entities, and the public to provide education on the principles of behavior analysis.

Ms. Kim Siegel of Autism Delaware was kind enough to join us on April 25 to talk about Senate Bill 22. This bill, if passed, would mandate coverage for ABA-based therapies in the State of Delaware. Ms. Siegel was instrumental in the drafting of the bill and lobbying for it to be passed. We had many questions and Ms. Siegel was kind enough to answer them. We thank her for her time!

While DABA does not have a functional website at this time, we are working to create a site that will be a user-friendly resource for all things behavior analysis in Delaware. If you are interested in joining DABA, membership is free. Please contact DEABAmembership@yahoo.com for more information.

Delaware Valley ABA

BY JAMES E. CONNELL

This past year has been a wonderful, celebratory year for the Delaware Valley ABA (DVABA) community. Our 2011–2012 lecture series highlighted the two founders of DVABA, Philip Himeline and Saul Axelrod. Saul and Phil

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are widely known for their numerous and extraordinary professional accomplishments. For the Delaware Valley folk, they are remembered for establishing the Temple University Applied Behavior Analysis Program and DVABA. The lecture series, titled "Diamonds in the Field: Perspectives From Philip Hines and Saul Axelrod," provided Phil and Saul with the opportunity to teach us, one more time, what it is to be a behavior analyst and what behavior analysis has meant to them. Their talks also provided the DVABA community the opportunity to properly thank them for years (or if you're counting, decades) of mentorship, leadership, fellowship, and meaningful friendship. Phil and Saul (as they're known around here) are more than experienced and accomplished researchers and mentors; they are our beloved colleagues and friends. Their presence will be missed in the halls of Temple University, but surely never forgotten. Phil and Saul left a legacy of scholarship and scholars whose impact is present in peer-reviewed journals and books and university programs across the nation. We thank them for their years of service and look forward to seeing them "around town." On behalf of the DVABA community, we wish them all the best in this new and exciting phase of their lives. Thanks guys!

Experimental Analysis of Behaviour Group UK

BY J. CARL HUGHES, MICHAEL BEVERLEY, AND EMILY TYLER
The Experimental Analysis of Behaviour Group (EABG) held its biennial meeting at the University College London April 18–20, 2011. The meeting was a great success and had the biggest attendance in the history of the EABG with over 200 delegates over the 3 days; academics, MSc and postgraduate students, and applied researchers came from across Europe, North America, and farther afield. Reassuringly for the future of behaviour analysis in Europe, there was a continued increase in 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.

The 2011 Conference Programme

We had a number of very distinguished invited addresses at the conference. It was our pleasure to welcome back Professors Bob Remington (Southampton University) and Richard Hastings (Bangor University), who updated the delegates on the evidence for comprehensive interventions for children with autism. We were pleased to invite Professor Erik Arntzen from Oslo, Norway, to update us on the developments of the European Association for Behavior Analysis (EABA). Professor Jack Marr joined us again from Atlanta, Georgia, USA, to talk on the

radical behaviourist position on privacy. We were also very pleased to invite Mecca Chiesa, from the University of Kent's Tizard Centre, to talk about the measurement of behaviour. Finally, it was our great pleasure to welcome Janet Twyman, associate professor of pediatrics at the University of Massachusetts Medical School/E. K. Shriver Center, to give our conference keynote address on the influence of new technologies on the future of behaviour analysis. Janet's talk was inspiring and she gave us a glimpse of the potential that new technologies may offer us in expanding behaviour analysis.

In addition to our invited speakers, we hosted over 80 other high quality talks and posters on both applied and basic issues. We were also pleased to hold a workshop on functional analysis and two 1-day workshops, one giving an introduction to precision teaching and the other an introduction to acceptance and commitment therapy.

We also held an open meeting at the conference to discuss the continuing movement to further develop behaviour analysis as a stand-alone, recognised profession in the UK. Since that meeting, a number of behaviour analysts and others with an interest in the field have started the important work of developing an official membership organisation in the UK to promote and represent behaviour analysis and those interested broadly in behaviour analysis (UK Society for Behaviour Analysis).

As we have come to expect, the attendance at the conferences over the last few years has included an ever-increasing number of BCBA and BCaBA delegates looking to gain their continuing education units (CEUs). We hosted 27 events, consisting of symposia, invited addresses, panel discussions, and workshops and offering up to 29 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. We are now in a situation in the UK and Europe where we are able to provide a good proportion of the CEUs for certified behaviour analysts; we believe this to be 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>).

Please also make a note that the sixth meeting of the European Association for Behaviour Analysis (EABA VI) will be held in Portugal, September 2012. 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 at this wonderful location. If you would like further information about the EABA VI 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 Portugal meeting and to support behaviour analysis through BCBA and BCaBA training and promotional events. In this regard, EABG has recently organized, in collaboration with TreeHouse School, several CEU events in the UK. We hope to organise a number of other CEU opportunities across the UK over the next year.

The EABG team wishes to thank all the delegates and presenters who attended the conference and our invited speakers who gave some wonderful and authoritative talks in their areas of expertise. Special thanks to students from Bangor University, Wales—Pagona Tzanakaki, Tracey Wileman, Kirsty Angel, Sarah Northope, Laura Brame, Rosie Wilson, Shiori Ono, Hannah Philpott, Karolina Watanabe, Tyronia Ferguson, and Lisa Hutchinson—for their hard work in helping to make the event run so smoothly. As always, special thanks to John Draper and the support team at University College London Psychology for assisting and hosting the event again.

Florida ABA

BY KEVIN MURDOCK

The 31st Annual Meeting of the Florida Association for Behavior Analysis (FABA) occurred September 21–24, 2011 at the Hilton Daytona Beach Resort/Ocean Walk Village. The conference was attended by approximately 950 members and featured 68 paper sessions, symposia, and panel discussions; 18 pre- and post-conference workshops; and 33 posters. Greg Hanley's excellent keynote presentation addressed common mistakes made by applied behavior analysts and ways to avoid them. Outstanding invited presentations also were provided by James Carr, Harvey Jacobs, Karen Pryor, and Ron Van Houten. Many other notable behavior analysts presented, including, but not limited to, Jon Bailey, Ennio Cipani, Jeannie Golden, Brian Iwata, Ray Miltenberger, James Partington, and Tim Vollmer. A special trivia contest honored Jack Michael and his significant contributions to our field and the careers of many individuals. David Wilder's presidential address provided many helpful recommendations for practicing behavior analysts regarding their contact with the research literature.

FABA's Executive Committee and its Legislative and Public Policy Committee continued to have the good fortune of being guided by the superb lobbyist Eric Prutsman. The committee and Eric have been extra busy this past year addressing legislation and policy changes regarding funding for behavioral services for persons with developmental disabilities, insurance coverage of ABA services, psychotropic medications for children, and restraint and seclusion in public schools.

The Florida Legislature officially proclaimed the first week of September 2012 as "Florida Behavior Analysis Week." A few weeks later, FABA will have its 32nd Annual Meeting, September 19–22, 2012, at the Hyatt Regency Resort in

Jacksonville. 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 conference will wrap up with additional workshops on Saturday.

Please visit www.FABAWorld.org to view the conference program including descriptions of the keynote and other invited presentations. Steve Coleman will present his presidential address. Many other excellent speakers will address a wide range of topics including effective and ethical professional practice, scientific research, developmental disabilities, autism, verbal behavior, education, parenting, organizational behavior management, and animal training and welfare. Exciting events are planned throughout the conference to enhance networking opportunities and to make the conference enjoyable, informative, and productive for participants. Some of the favorite events are speed networking, poster bingo, roundtable lunch special interest group discussions, and book signings. Members are encouraged to bring family members and significant others and to stay an extra night or two for some vacation time. The Hyatt Regency is just a short drive from the beach and is accessible to many theme parks, attractions, and Cape Canaveral. As always, the FABA store will feature a wide array of custom behavioral clothing, literature, and gift items.

To learn more about FABA and its upcoming conference, or becoming a FABA member, please visit our website above or contact Executive Director Kevin Murdock at kmurdock@usf.edu, or Secretary/Treasurer-Media Coordinator Jon Bailey at jonbailey1@mac.com.

Four Corners ABA

BY STEVEN R. LAWYER

The mission of Four Corners ABA is to promote the science of behavior and evidence-based technologies derived from the basic science in the Four Corners (Utah, Arizona, Colorado, and New Mexico) region. 4CABA had another strong year of providing behavior analysts in the Four Corners region with an intellectual home. Travis Blevins, MS, BCBA, (Behavioral Services of the Rockies) is the current president of 4CABA and organized our fifth annual convention in beautiful Winter Park, Colorado, on April 1–2, 2012.

Consistent with 4CABA's focus on balancing basic and applied research, we had a strong lineup of speakers from both areas, in addition to a speaker from outside behavior analysis to talk about behaviorally relevant subject matter. This year's list of speakers included Eduardo J. Fernandez (University of Washington and Woodland Park Zoo), Merrill Winston (PCMA), Claudia Dozier (University of Kansas), Timothy D. Hackenberg (Reed College), Philip N. Hineline (Temple University), Patrick C. Friman (Boys Town and The University of Nebraska School of

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Medicine), Pamela Neidert (University of Kansas and Edna A. Hill Child Developmental Center), Einar T. Ingvarsson (University of North Texas, Denton and Child Study Center), and Michael McBeath (Arizona State University).

This is the second year that we gave a Best Poster Award to a student based on the quality of his or her poster presentation. The poster competition takes place on the first night of our annual conference. This year's winner was titled, "Differences in Lean and Obese Zucker Rats in Delay Discounting," presented by Tiffany S. Dougherty, Steven R. Boomhower, and Erin B. Rasmussen (all from Idaho State University).

In our ongoing efforts to increase membership and let other behavior analysts know what we've been up to, 4CABA hosted a booth at the expo at the 38th ABAI Annual Convention in Seattle, Washington, May 25–29, 2012. Over the past year, we have also revamped our website to make it more user-friendly for members and members-to-be.

Are you interested in being a 4CABA member? 4CABA is open to anyone who is interested in the science and practice of behavior analysis. While most of our membership resides in the Four Corners region, we have numerous members from various parts of the country who have found our organization and annual convention an important part of their professional lives. There are numerous benefits to being a 4CABA member, including being a part of a group of individuals who value the science and practice of behavior analysis and enjoy being part of a strong, productive, and vibrant community of scholars and practitioners. Our members also are invited to our annual convention, where they are exposed to cutting-edge knowledge regarding behavior analysis and receive free CEUs! If you think you might be interested in being a part of 4CABA, please take a look at our website (www.4caba.org) for more information.

4CABA is very happy to announce recent additions to our governing board: Dixie Eastridge, MA, was elected to the position of president-elect; Zach Maple, MA, BCBA was elected to a 3-year term as director; and Keelee Burtch, Ph.D., was elected to be student representative.

French ABA

BY JOELLE NUCHADEE

French ABA spent 2011–2012 pursuing its mission to promote ABA in France. We moved forward in supporting the growth and dissemination of the science of behavior analysis through our behavior analysis master's program at the University of Lille III, North of France. Indeed, we were proud to celebrate the graduation of our first batch of students, and wish them luck as they launch into active life as psychologists in applied behavior analysis (ABA). Additionally, we are happy to welcome the new students.

The French chapter was thrilled by the visit of Timothy Shahan and Amy Odum from Utah State University. The

talks and lively exchanges with the graduate and postgraduate students proved to be wonderful learning opportunities for the students and for our fellow research colleagues at the University of Lille. Later in the year, we also had the opportunity to receive Gerson Tomanari from the University of São Paulo, Brazil. We are proud and pleased that this visit gave birth to scientific collaboration. Finally, we have a teaching collaboration starting with Armando Machado, from the University of Minho, Portugal.

Since ABA is still nascent in France and prone to many misconceptions, it is always valuable to have renowned behavior analysts from other parts of the world coming to meet with professionals, students, and academics to develop new collaborations.

In January 2012, three of our members were in Philadelphia to attend the Annual ABAI Autism Conference; they presented a poster entitled, "A Comparison of Early and Late Intensive Behavioral Intervention on the Outcome of Children With Autism at Standardized Tests of Visuo Spatial and Language Skills." We were also very excited to be part of the 2012 Annual ABAI Convention in Seattle; six of our members were present, and two posters and a talk were submitted and accepted. The posters presented the work of our postgraduate students and active members, one focused on stimulus control in facial expression discrimination in children with autism and the other on the effects of eclectic treatment and behavioral treatments on the verbal behavior of children with autism. The talk was part of the symposium entitled, "Improving Behavior and Academic Performance in Elementary School" and gave a snapshot of part of the work being implemented by an ABA-based centre with which we closely collaborate.

This year also saw the re-opening of our ABA training program for professionals in Tunisia. Tunisia's political earthquake had left this project pending for some time, but we are happy to be able to return to Tunisia to pursue the training for professionals and the supervision of fieldwork, set up in-home ABA programs, and develop inclusion programs in the patient's natural setting—be it school, college, or the work place. Indeed, French ABA is also instrumental in the development of ABA in the field by professionally qualified practitioners. The French chapter now has four board certified behavior analysts; we dare hope there will be many more to come with the master's program. We see this as the stepping stone to the development of evidence-based behavior intervention for those that may benefit from it. This is definitely a move forward as more and more institutes and organizations are opting for ABA-based treatments rather than an eclectic approach.

In an effort to make important behavioral tools accessible, we are working towards releasing a French translation of the *Assessment for Basic Language and Learning Skills—Revised*, developed by Dr. James W. Partington.

Georgia ABA

BY JANET BARNETTE LUND

The behavior analytic community continues to grow in Georgia. There are now 151 BCBA's and BCaBA's in the state. Specifically, Georgia is now home to 26 doctorate-level board certified behavior analysts (BCBA-D), 106 board certified behavior analysts (BCBA), and 19 board certified assistant behavior analysts (BcaBA). As an affiliated chapter of ABAI, we continue to support the local behavior analysis community through an annual conference, newsletters, and networking.

The fourth annual GABA conference was held November 4, 2011, in Atlanta and featured presentations by Merrill Winston, Ph.D.; Patrick McGreevy, Ph.D.; Dennis Reid, Ph.D.; Alice Shillingsburg, Ph.D.; Kim Lucker-Greene, Ph.D.; and James Carr, Ph.D. The conference covered topics relevant to a wide audience within the behavioral community. Research-based presentations on language acquisition procedures, the role of problem solving in complex verbal repertoires, and treatment integrity in applied settings were offered, as well as practical presentations on staff training and development, the role and use of punishment in programing, and reducing problem behavior through skill acquisition.

During 2011, several new offices were created on the GABA Executive Committee, which are now active positions. The current leadership team consists of officers for the following areas: past-president, president, marketing, membership, finance, continuing education, and communication.

Our goals for 2012 include improving and expanding our website to include more practical information and resources for behavior analysts and consumers in the state, pursuing nonprofit status for the organization, and once again maintaining an exceptional mid-sized annual conference to provide scholarly and practical learning opportunities to behavior analysts in our state, as well as type 2 continuing education credits.

Hawai'i ABA

BY CATHERINE WILSON AND ANNE LAU

It has been a great year for the Hawai'i Association for Behavior Analysis (HABA). A number of important systems were improved upon or added. For example, HABA's accounting and membership information is now handled through Quickbooks online. Our nonprofit paperwork has been filed. We are hoping to have the final documents any day now. Through this process, our by-laws were updated to include a Board of Directors. Our current Board consists of Anne Lau (president), Kimberly Henkle (vice president), Emaley McCulloch (secretary), Bobbi Pollock (treasurer), Justin Kyriannis, Cathryn Masuda, Heather Dozier, and Beau Laughlin.

Part of 2011's success was a conference entitled, "ABA and Technology." Wonderful and generous speakers joined us in Honolulu to discuss how the use of technology is affecting our field. Dr. Jose Martinez-Diaz from the Florida Institute of Technology and Dr. Dana Reinecke from Sage University presented on online graduate level programs in behavior analysis, which are very popular in Hawai'i due to the fact there is currently no graduate program physically on our islands. Two examples of online training systems for front-line staff were presented: Autism Pro and Autism Training Solutions. Data Makes a Difference also gave us a demo of several data collection apps. Dr. Linda LeBlanc wrapped up our first day with a discussion of the ethical implications involved with incorporating new technologies into our practice. On the second day, Dr. Jose Martinez-Diaz presented on a conceptual model of functional relations with implications for the assessment and treatment of problem behavior. The program for HABA's seventh annual conference included advertising space for local companies as well. The revenue for the conference covered our nonprofit status lawyer fees, and has given us a surplus budget for this year's events.

We hope to put those funds to use in meeting our lofty goals for 2012. This year we are striving to build a brand new website, create systems to smooth officer transitions, and double our membership. In order to increase our membership we are inviting amazing speakers to our quarterly meetings. Tom Caffrey joined us for our last meeting, and shared his perspective as a veteran parent and international consultant.

HABA's first annual Advocacy Award was presented to Janet Edghill, who has been instrumental in moving insurance reform through its initial stages in Hawai'i. With her hard work, we are hoping that behavior analytic services will eventually be covered for people with autism in 2013.

We also offered our first student scholarship to attend ABAI's annual convention. For many students in Hawai'i, the trip to the mainland for ABAI can be cost prohibitive. Kelly Deacon had the opportunity this year to attend the annual convention with the help of HABA and will be sharing her experiences in our next newsletter.

We are looking forward to an excellent annual conference in paradise this fall. Anyone who is getting too cold on the mainland is welcome to join us for a relaxing retreat with the warm community of behavior analysts here in Hawai'i.

Heartland ABA

BY TIFFANY KODAK

The Heartland ABA (HLABA) held its sixth annual conference March 1-2 in Omaha, Nebraska. We were honored to recruit Dr. James Carr and Dr. Keith Allen to conduct pre-conference workshops. Dr. James Carr offered a workshop titled, "Selecting Treatments for Socially Maintained Problem Behavior." Dr. Keith Allen's

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workshop was called, “Navigating the IEP Process.” Both workshops were well attended by individuals from a variety of fields and from surrounding states. We also had several invited conference presenters, including Dr. Florence DiGennaro Reed who discussed how to improve educator performance in service-delivery settings, Dr. Derek Reed who presented on translational solutions for a sustainable tomorrow, Dr. Edward Daly who lectured on how to select academic interventions, and Dr. James Carr who discussed the role of problem solving in teaching complex verbal repertoires. Dr. James Carr also provided an update on the Behavior Analyst Certification Board. We offered a poster presentation award for the fourth year in a row, which is meant to contribute financial support to a student attending the ABAI convention in May. The winning poster was titled, “Assessment and Treatment of Perseverative Conversations on Restricted Interest Topics in a 14-Year-Old Male Diagnosed With Pervasive Developmental Disorder” and presented by Todd Owen. In addition, Bobbi Hightree and Leah Clark were awarded the Heartland Association for Behavior Analysis Award of Excellence for their contributions to the field of applied behavior analysis in the Heartland area.

Conference attendance was similar to the level of attendance last year, which increased substantially from our attendance levels in previous years. We attribute this increase in attendance to several factors including (a) our modified conference date that we changed in an effort to prevent overlap with other regional ABAI chapter conferences, (b) recruitment of numerous esteemed colleagues from the field of applied behavior analysis who presented on a diverse range of topics of interest to a variety of professionals, and (c) increased attendance at the pre-conference workshops. We had 110 conference attendees, and more than two thirds of these also attended the pre-conference workshop(s).

Our seventh annual conference will be held in March 2013. We are currently in the process of identifying prominent behavior analysts in the field to present or conduct workshops at our next conference.

The 2012–2013 HLABA executive board includes Dr. Tiffany Kodak as our past president, Amber Paden as our current president, Elizabeth Bullington as our vice president, Anney Farenholtz as our secretary-treasurer, Doug Boe and Bobbi Hightree as our representatives at-large, and Kathryn Peterson as our student representative. Dr. Steve Taylor helped found HLABA and he remains an integral part of our organization.

HLABA continues to provide ongoing training opportunities to behavior analysts in Nebraska and surrounding states. We offer a monthly speaker series that is free of charge to our HLABA members. The speaker series allows members to obtain continuing education

units for BCBA certification, and many members join the speaker series via teleconference. Recent monthly speakers included Dr. Kevin Luczynski, who presented on the effects of teaching functional communication self-controls skills; Dr. Brett Kuhn, who discussed sleep disorders; and Monica Howard, who presented on using visual performance feedback for staff training.

Hong Kong ABA

BY EMILY KWAN

Hong Kong ABA (HKABA) is the affiliated chapter of ABAI in Hong Kong, China. We were established in 2010 by only a handful of BCBAs and others in the community dedicated to help promote applied behavior analysis (ABA) in Hong Kong. Since then, the number of BCBAs—as well as individuals working in related fields—have joined in and made an impact. We are entering our third year of operation in 2012.

Our current membership is about 12 people. Most of our members are BCBAs or BCaBAs. All of our members are promoting or practicing behavior analysis in the field of special education. The kind of activities we do include direct teaching, parent training, school consultation, and workshops for the public or other professionals. Some of us are in private practice, and a few of us work in an ABA setting that provides one-to-one special education. All of our members conduct their service in Cantonese or English or both.

In the past year, we launched our first issue of the *HKABA Newsletter* and distributed it widely to other special education organizations, individuals who are interested in ABA, and parents who are involved with ABA services. The *HKABA Newsletter* conveys information and research about our science and services in Hong Kong. It includes two sections of insightful articles contributed by our members. One section addresses various topics of interest to parents and the other contains summary articles for our own professional development. The newsletter also includes a summary of the past workshops or events and information for upcoming events we plan to hold. Recently, we published the second issue *HKABA Newsletter* and again, we have made this resource available to the public in hardcopy and electronic format.

We offered three continuing educational units (CEUs) in the past year. Dr. Kimberly Kircher provided a workshop titled, “Whole School Approach to Helping Children With Emotional Behavior Disorder”; Dr. Jeremy Greenberg provided a workshop called, “Morningside Academy’s School Curriculum and Fluency Training”; and Miss Emily Kwan provided a workshop on a case study in which a nonverbal boy used the Picture Exchanged Communication System at the most advanced levels. In the upcoming year, HKABA will continue to be involved in the dissemination of behavior analysis throughout Hong Kong. A number of nonprofit organizations have expressed their interest in obtaining some

of our expertise through collaboration in order to promote and apply ABA in their areas of work. HKABA and its members are preparing to hold workshops for organizations and parents interested in learning more about the research, practice, and application of behavior analysis.

To further education and broaden the use of ABA in Hong Kong, HKABA will start the first BCBA in-class program of its kind in China. We have received a number of inquiries about the program as well as positive feedback and interest from professionals in Hong Kong and mainland China. We are gearing up to launch the BCBA program this year with the first course ready to be rolled out in August 2012. Many individuals who are already in the field or plan to study special education, as well as a number of agencies in Hong Kong, have expressed interest in the program to assist in training staff to be BCBAs/BCaBAs. It is indeed encouraging and exciting to see the recognition and demand for our program.

With a number of upcoming workshops as well as all the other events still in the pipeline, we will be kept busy all year round. Our team will continue to work hard to educate the community about the benefits of our science through our members' professionalism, research, resource dissemination, and effective service delivery. Wish us luck in our mission in the upcoming year!

Hoosier ABA

BY SHEILA HABARAD AND SUSAN WILCZYNSKI

The purpose of the Hoosier Association for Behavior Analysis (HABA) is to facilitate humane, ethical, and effective behavioral practices in academic, research, home, school, clinic, community, and other settings. To this end, HABA has several objectives:

- Promote the basic science upon which behavioral technology is grounded.
- Support the Behavior Analyst Certification Board as the appropriate credentialing body for practitioners of applied behavior analysis in the state of Indiana.
- Serve the professional community as a reference group for other practitioners concerned with the application of behavior analysis.
- Conduct an annual conference focused on research and professional practices in behavior analysis.
- Offer opportunities for BCBAs and BCaBAs to earn continuing education units.
- Facilitate and conduct peer review committees.
- Promote participation in activities organized by ABAI.

HABA has three membership types: full, student, and affiliate. Full members hold at least a bachelor's degree in behavior analysis, psychology, education, or a related field with training or professional experience in behavior analysis and whose interests include teaching, research, and/or the practice of behavior analysis. Student members are currently enrolled in an academic degree program, internship, or

resident program relevant to a career in behavior analysis. Affiliate members are direct care staff, parents, consumers, or individuals with an interest in the field. The annual dues structure matches these distinctions with a current annual cost of \$15 for student members, \$20 for affiliate members, and \$50 for full members.

The executive committee is elected annually from full members with the addition of an elected student representative. Members on the executive committee are required to hold a master's degree and be a Board Certified Behavior Analyst. The student representative is elected by the student members and must be enrolled in an academic degree program, internship, or resident program relevant to a career in behavior analysis.

We hold monthly business meetings to discuss the annual conference, the development of subcommittees, and current issues that impact the field of behavior analysis in the state of Indiana. Quarterly meetings are held offering educational presentations with continuing education credits available and clinical case reviews. HABA provides its membership and the community the opportunity for educational discussions amongst behavior analysts across the state for review on current practices and policies, potential future changes, ethical guidelines, improving the quality of services that are being provided, and how to prepare for the changes that lie ahead of us.

In addition, we hold an annual conference to bring in professionals from the state of Indiana and throughout the country to continue to promote research and professional practices in behavior analysis. The HABA annual conference takes place the second weekend in October in downtown Indianapolis. We hold a combination of panel discussions, symposia, workshops, paper presentations, and a poster session along with a 1-hour keynote address. Our conference consists of a mix of professionals, students, parents, and teachers who are active in the field of behavior analysis.

Icelandic ABA

BY INGIBJÖRG SVEINSDÓTTIR

The Icelandic Association for Behavior Analysis (ICEABA) is now in its eighth year as an ABAI chapter. It is a very small association with a diverse membership of professionals, students, and laypeople. However, what we perhaps lack in numbers we make up for with fierce ambition. We are proud to report that our second convention was held at the Gerðuberg Convention Center in Reykjavík on October 21, 2011. We offered a practical pre-conference workshop on performance management in health care with Sigurður Óli Sigurðsson, Ph.D., assistant professor at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. The conference itself was an international affair with the official languages being English and Icelandic. Invited international speakers were Iser De Leon, Ph.D., BCBA-D, from Johns Hopkins

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University School of Medicine, who spoke on exploring determinants of reinforcer effectiveness in children with intellectual disabilities; Erik Arntzen, Ph.D., from Akershus University in Norway, who spoke on applications of stimulus equivalence technology; and Sigurður Óli Sigurðsson, Ph.D., who gave an introduction to workplace performance analysis and management. In addition to these lectures, the breadth of topics was exciting, ranging from consumer behavior to direct instruction of music reading to functional behavioral assessments and behavior support plans in school settings to a large-scale project on positive behavior support in elementary schools. Z. Gabriela Sigurðardóttir, Ph.D., closed the conference with her musings about the status of behavior analysis in the world today.

Our popular coffee house meetings continue throughout the year. At these events, members present their research findings or other interesting topics in behavior analysis, and enthusiastic discussions invariably ensue. For over 12 years now, our email list has been a venue for lively discussions about behavior analytic subjects, and these continue with verve both on our email list and on our Facebook page (which opened this past winter). The three BCBAs located in the country continue to monitor the international discussion on legislation and certification in the field with special attention to how these can be applied in the Icelandic environment. Work on the Icelandic lexicon of behavior analytic terms continues to be a labor of love. Our online journal, *Atferli*, is a peer-reviewed electronic journal that publishes papers on research, practice, and conceptual issues in behavior analysis. It is the only journal in Icelandic devoted to these topics.

Our annual meeting was held in May and is open to all members. This meeting is the highest decision-making body of the chapter. In leadership news, our president, Ingibjörg Sveinsdóttir, Ph.D., BCBA-D, and our secretary, Hafþís Lilja Gunnarsdóttir, have dutifully served their terms and have decided to step down. Sigurður Viðar will continue to serve ICEABA as treasurer. For more information about ICEABA, please visit our website, www.atferli.is.

Illinois ABA

BY AUTUMN N. MCKEEL AND MARK R. DIXON

The first annual convention was held in Springfield, Illinois on April 13, 2012. Illinois Association for Behavior Analysis's (IL-ABA) purpose is to promote behavior analysis, primarily through an annual conference. IL-ABA is a state chapter of the ABAI. The goals of the organization include collaboration between behavior analysts, fostering relations between practices and universities, and creating a licensing bill for behavior analysts in the state of Illinois.

The speakers at the conference came from a variety of professions, including university professors, practitioners, and educational leaders in behavior analysis. The presidential address involved a discussion on licensure

experiences in surrounding states. There were also three panel discussions, including relevant speakers who discussed research, practice, and student agendas for the state. The research agendas included new developments among universities, funding, and opportunities for students. Practice agendas included discussion regarding funding; the need to disseminate behavior analysis; and the place of behavior analysis in homes, schools, and universities. The student agenda focused on discussing opportunities for individuals during and after graduation. The conference ended with a business meeting to determine new board member and this year's objectives.

Future conferences will maintain a single-track structure that will emphasize science and practice. IL-ABA will work to connect behavior analysts across the state and will concentrate on improving relations within Illinois as opposed to out-of-state professions. We hope that increased collaboration will allow mutual sharing and encourage the development of effective research-based strategies. In addition, by connecting professors, students, and practitioners, IL-ABA will build foundations for networking, resource management, research opportunities, and experience building for students across the state. The annual conference will allow members to voice concerns and discuss ethical guidelines for practice. One of the major objectives of IL-ABA is to establish and encourage a state licensure bill. This will happen with the collaboration of active members in order to ensure that the endeavor is appropriately developed to suit the needs of behavior analysts in Illinois. There was also a chapter meeting held during the ABAI annual convention. Current and new members attended and the meeting allowed time for further discussion of actions that should be taken. A website is in development and a Facebook page was created to serve as a way to encourage interaction among professionals in Illinois. The 2013 conference will be held in Springfield, Illinois during the month of April.

Istituto Europeo per lo Studio del Comportamento Umano

BY PAOLO MODERATO

The Istituto Europeo per lo Studio del Comportamento Umano (European Institute for the Study of Human Behavior; IESUM) 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, IESUM has been committed to promote the full range of behaviour analytic scientific and humanistic potential. From this premise, the chapter is dedicated to the training, development, and evaluation of behavior analysis in clinical settings in the various forms recently developed.

IESUM has offered experiential trainings during the past year in clinical behavior analysis, acceptance and

commitment therapy (ACT), and functional assessment procedures with scholars and professionals such as Kelly Wilson, Peter Sturmey, Lanny Fields, Jonathan Kanter, and Vincent Carbone.

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 fifth edition, along with as many as five 150-hour 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 Philip N. Chase, Neil Martin, and Vincent Carbone, 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 limited the educational contents and purposes to this strong, yet limited, field of application. IESCUM looks at its BACB accredited courseware 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, 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 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.

IESCUM has promoted and helped the development of the Italian Association for Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (Associazione ACT-Italia), which represents the Italian chapter of the Association for Contextual Behavioral Science. IESCUM and ACT-Italia together

have organized a series of experiential workshops on ACT and Relational Frame Theory for students and practitioners, and edited Italian versions of many internationally acclaimed ACT manuals written by authors such as Kelly Wilson, Steven Hayes, and Russ Harris.

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 a large scale 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 participating with many European partners on the Leonardo Project STAMPPP II, working on the Italian translation and adaptation of “Simple Steps,” a package of resources on applied behavior analysis for parents of autistic children. IESCUM has also worked on the Italian translation and adaptation of the *Verbal Behavior Milestones Assessment and Placement Program* by Mark Sundberg, which has recently been published in Italy.

In 2011 the chapter, in collaboration with ACT-Italia, organized and hosted the IX World Conference of the Association for Contextual Behavior Analysis in Parma. A relevant number of researchers and students in IESCUM attended the 2011 EABG conference in London and ABAI annual conventions in San Antonio (2010) and Denver (2011), where they have delivered basic, applied, and theoretical presentations. This year, a number of IESCUM members also plan to attend the X ACBS World Conference in Washington and the European Association for Behavior Analysis Convention in Lisbon. Additionally, IESCUM is organizing the 10th International Congress on Behavior Studies that will take place in Lisbon, Portugal during September.

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.

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Iowa ABA

BY EVELYN HORTON

The Iowa Association of Behavior Analysis (IABA) is a hearty group of individuals dedicated to building the accessibility of behavior analytic services in the state. To this end, the chair of the Legislative Action Committee has taken leadership on an important initiative: Two years ago, Iowa passed legislation providing an insurance mandate that covered applied behavior analysis (ABA) services for family members of state employees. This year, another effort was made to extend that mandate to those who are not state employees. This bill passed with bipartisan support out of the Senate, but died in the House. Members of IABA are among the first to become credentialed providers of the insurance services.

Iowa did make some strides in increasing ABA services to young children with autism. The Homestead became the first Medicaid provider of intensive early intervention ABA services in the state and worked with Iowa Medicaid Enterprises and Magellan to develop a model system of delivery of those services.

One major focus of the IABA chapter is to promote and support behavior analysis throughout the state by serving as a resource to parents, service providers, and policy-making bodies. During this past year, IABA members were active in a variety of ways. For example, several members gave oral presentations at state and regional conferences. Among those were Maria Valdovinos, Susan Smith, John Pokrzywinski, Sean Casey, and Amy Walter. Additionally, William Steffan, Maria Valdovinos, and John Pokrzywinski completed ABA poster presentations and publications.

Support was shown to our neighboring chapter, HLABA, through participation in their annual conference, held in Omaha. Additionally, CEUs for BCBA's were provided within the state through HLABA presentations via the Iowa Communication Network. Continuing education units were also provided at the Autism Society of Iowa annual conference hosting Daniel Oppenden, who presented on pivotal response training.

In order to build capacity within the state of Iowa, board member Sean Casey has worked through the Department of Education with 54 challenging behavior specialists across the state's area educational agencies. The focus was on functional behavior assessments (FBA) and behavior intervention plans. That project was presented at 2011 ABAI Annual Convention in Denver, the Mid-ABA conference, and to school psychology providers within the state. The work in this area includes an exam to discriminate those who are knowledgeable in FBAs from others who are not, as well as a procedure manual for conducting an FBA.

Currently, there is no coursework sequence provided in Iowa that has approval status for those pursuing certification

in behavior analysis. In order to build capacity, IABA supports the development of an approved coursework sequence to be made available through at least one of the universities. Sean Casey did provide a 45-hour coursework sequence in basic behavior principles, function-based and advance assessments, and behavior intervention planning.

It is an exciting time to be a behavior analyst in Iowa. Membership in IABA is one way to make connections with others throughout the state as we work together to ABA and increase the capacity to provide evidence-based interventions to Iowans.

Israel ABA

BY EITAN ELDAR AND TALİ WOLF ZUKERMAN

Israel ABA (IsABA) was established in 2003, held its first conference shortly afterwards, and has been offering a yearly conference and workshops ever since. IsABA is growing consistently, reaching more than 100 members. All of the IsABA members actively support applied behavior analysis (ABA) in various academic and clinical fields, and hundreds of professionals participate in IsABA's activities every year.

More than 130 students are studying yearly in three approved BACB programs. These programs are offered at Tel-Aviv University and The College for Academic Studies, led by Prof. Amos Rolider (BCBA-D), and at the Kibbutzim College, led by Dr. Eitan Eldar (BCBA-D).

IsABA has published the Hebrew version of ABA terms and ethical principles in addition to a few textbooks in Hebrew, written by several Israeli scholars. Notably, most of the students who have graduated from the above-mentioned programs were 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. IsABA goals are to:

- Promote ABA as a leading science in human behavior.
- Gain recognition of the discipline as a distinct and unique profession, by the Ministries of Health and Education.
- Have more members and friends join the chapters.
- Establish an ABA newsletter/journal in Hebrew.
- Establish additional approved ABA programs in other universities and initiate the first full graduate program.
- Promote experimental and applied ABA research in Israel.
- Strengthen our ties with the BACB and ABAI and encourage more Israelis to take part in their activities.

The first 2012 IsABA convention, "The C, the B, and the CBT," dealt with cognitive, behavioral, and cognitive-behavioral therapy perceptions of behavior and treatment. Among the 150 participants were behavior analysts, educators, and clinicians. Presentations portrayed the similarities and differences among the disciplines. Dr. Andrew Hawkins from WVU was the guest speaker, discussing "Studying Teaching Expertise Through Behavioral Systems Analysis." His second presentation, "A Christian

Behavior Analyst? Seriously? Religion in the ‘Secular City,’” dealt with behavior analysis and religion. The second 2012 IsABA convention, “I Have Something to Say,” focused on ABA early educational interventions for children with communication difficulties. Among the 200 participants were behavior analysts, educators, clinicians, and parents. The guest speaker, Dr. Andy Bondy, provided two lectures: “Dealing With Difficult Behaviors at Home and in the Community” and “Evidence-Based Communication Approaches for Children With Autism.” Other lectures dealt with a variety of interventions, stressing the vital role of parents.

The recent IsABA newsletter dealt with the inclusion of students with special needs in the regular education system. A model for individual inclusion of autistic children was offered, followed by papers describing various inclusion programs.

IsABA is announcing a new ABA journal called *Hitnahagut* (“behavior,” in Hebrew). The journal will publish research about applications of the experimental analysis of behavior to problems of social importance. The official language of the journal is Hebrew. Launching the first ABA scientific journal in Hebrew should serve Hebrew speaking professionals and researchers, in Israel and elsewhere, striving for updated information and knowledge in their own language. It should also support the dissemination of ABA in Israel by bringing quality information to decision makers and professionals who are not exposed to the international literature and therefore are not informed of the quality and effectiveness of ABA. An open business meeting was held in Seattle to discuss the potential of this journal with Hebrew speaking scholars and those who are willing to support this initiative. You can request more information about the journal by emailing hitnahagut.israel@gmail.com.

Japanese ABA

BY KENJIRO AOYAMA

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 938 members in 2011 came from a wide variety of professions including researchers, schoolteachers, 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 2012 conference will be held at Kochijyo Hall, Kochi from September 1–2, 2012. In 2012, J-ABA elected new board members for 2012–2015, and Shigeki Sonoyama of Tsukuba University was elected as president. J-ABA recently started two new programs to encourage young students living in the USA as well as in Japan. The first offers financial support for two students from Japan to attend ABAI events. The other program donates books to young Japanese behavior analysts who are studying or working in the USA.

Jordan ABA

BY MARIA I. MUNOZ BLANCO AND LINDA J. PARROTT HAYES

The Jordan Chapter of the Association for Behavior Analysis International (JorABA) was founded in 2009 during the first JorABA conference. Since its foundation, the number of members has increased from 11 full members and 34 student members to 40 full members. The association is primarily composed of the graduated students from the Behavior Analysis and Health Master Program at the Jordan University of Science and Technology. Currently, one of the members of the association obtained his BCBA certification and an additional seven members are ready to sit for the exam. Members of JorABA are currently meeting for elections as well as to discuss activities for the dissemination of behavior analysis in the region. The chapter has its own website (<http://jordanaba.org/>) where members can find information about future events and job opportunities, and where nonmembers can learn how to become part of the chapter. The current president is Alaa Yousef Awad, the secretary/treasurer is Wafa Al-waked, and the student representative is Motasem Al-Shorman.

Kansas ABA

BY EDWARD K. MORRIS

The mission of the Kansas Association for Behavior Analysis (KansABA) is to (a) disseminate information about the science and practice of behavior analysis, and education and training therein; (b) address issues relevant to the science and practice of behavior analysis; (c) maintain disciplinary, professional, and ethical standards; and (d) recruit and enhance interest in behavior analysis throughout the state and in the Kansas City metropolitan area (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 (Jill Koertner), and a student representative (Todd Merritt). The Council is assisted by a secretary (Todd

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Merritt) and a treasurer (Linda Heitzman-Powell). In addition, KansABA has a Legislative Affairs Committee (Nan Perrin, chair), a Membership Committee (Jill Koertner, chair), a Website Committee (Jason Hirst, chair); and a BACB Certification Committee (Linda Heitzman-Powell and Jill Koertner, co-chairs).

Membership

KansABA has membership categories for full members—members who meet the requirements for full membership in ABAI (\$25 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 behavior analysis in Kansas (\$25); and adjunct members—citizens in other states and countries who also express an interest in behavior analysis in Kansas (\$15).

Conference on Clinical Behavior Analysis

Our main activity this past year was organizing and holding an April 28, 2012, conference titled, “From Research to Practice: Clinical Behavior Analysis.” CEUs were available through the Behavior Analysis Certification Board, as were certificates of attendance. Unlike other affiliate conferences, ours are not patterned after ABAI’s annual convention. Instead, we build our conference programs around themes in research, training, and practice in Kansas and invite one notable out-of-state speaker. The theme of research-to-practice (and practice-to-research) informs the orientation of our conferences and the content of many presentations. This year’s program included the following speakers:

- Michael Dougher (Department of Psychology, University of New Mexico), “An Introduction to Clinical Behavior Analysis”
- Ed Christophersen (Children’s Mercy Hospital South Clinics, Overland Park, KS), “Applying Behavior Analysis in Pediatrics”
- Stephen Ilardi (Department of Psychology, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS), “Therapeutic Lifestyle Change”
- Juliet Nelson (Bert Nash Mental Health Center, Lawrence, KS), “Dialectical Behavior Therapy”
- Ric G. Steele (Clinical Child Psychology Program, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS), “Pediatric Obesity and the Contributions of Behavioral Treatments to Weight Related Health”
- Rob Zettle (Department of Psychology, Wichita State University), “Acceptance and Commitment Therapy”

In addition, Mike Wasmer (Autism Speaks) provided an update on Kansas autism insurance legislation in a brief presentation, “ABA and ASD: Kansas Legislation and Insurance.” Finally, KansABA advanced science and education in behavior analysis by offering BACB CEUs.

KansABA Website

Our Website Committee chair, Jason Hirst, revamped our website this year. Please visit us at www.Kansaba.org. In fact, if you type “KansABA” into Google’s search engine, you will find that KansABA is the first listing (and 8 of 10 listings) on the first page. We will continue to update and expand the site.

Autism Insurance Legislation

Through the efforts of Kansans and KansABA members—in particular, Linda Heitzman-Powell and Nan Perri—the State of Kansas passed pilot legislation in 2010 that mandated insurance for the assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of autism for state employees. Implemented in 2011, it has been extended through 2012. This year, the House of Representatives passed House Bill 2764, which will extend this coverage to all state-regulated group insurance plans for individuals with autism through age 18. The coverage will be up to \$36,000 a year for children through 6 years of age and up to \$27,000 a year for children and youth from 7–19 years of age. Discussion on the House floor referred to the intense public pressure for this legislation, indicating that advocacy for the bill was effective. The bill is now in the Senate. Despite the lobbying on its behalf, it may or may not be passed this year.

Plans for 2012–2013

In addition to monitoring legislation, updating and upgrading our website, and hosting another conference—likely on organizational behavior management—we will pursue Internal Revenue Service tax-exempts status as a 501(c)(3) organization and continue our efforts to increase membership so that we can more actively advance our mission.

Kentucky ABA

BY KEITH HERSH

The Kentucky Association for Behavior Analysis (KY-ABA) has experienced significant growth in the past year. In the entire state of Kentucky, there are currently only 76 certified behavior analysts listed on the Behavior Analyst Certification Board’s certificant registry. The majority of those individuals are BCBAs with only a few BCaBAs and BCBA-Ds.

KY-ABA currently has 79 full, 9 affiliate, 35 student, and 4 family members. KY-ABA held its first annual conference March 9–10 of 2012 in Louisville, KY. The conference was completely sold out, and included many professionals from related fields, including special education and psychology. The conference included a range of clinical and professional topics related to applied behavior analysis. Insurance regulations and the current state of affairs with major insurance companies were discussed. Dr. Ennio Cipani presented on functional assessment of problem behavior. In addition, Dr. Richard Malott presented on the history of applied behavior analysis (ABA) and encouraged participants of the conference to also become “Dream Chasers.”

The revenue generated this year has allowed KY-ABA to more than double the budget for next year's conference, which will be held during March 2013. This will allow us to bring in additional invited speakers, and move to a larger-sized venue that can accommodate over 140 attendees.

KY-ABA also strives to do more than just put on an annual conference. Our members also receive newsletters that update them on current changes in legislation that affect behavior analysts, as well as private insurance regulations. Members of the KY-ABA insurance forum have had several meetings with the Kentucky Department of Insurance, Humana, Anthem, Kentucky Spirit, and United Health Care. The results have been steady progress with most insurance companies regarding reimbursement for ABA services rendered to children diagnosed with autism. Some insurance companies are currently contacting BCBAs and accepting BCBAs as in-network providers. Largely because of the coordination of the KY-ABA insurance forum, private insurance companies have offered much more reasonable rates for ABA services. In addition, the insurance forum was successful in securing CPT or procedural codes for most services provided by a behavior analyst, including supervision of paraprofessionals. The results of the negotiations have helped many behavior analysts understand the parameters of working with private insurance. KY-ABA has been a leader in providing resources to parents and professionals who have experienced the challenges associated with receiving reimbursement for ABA services from these companies.

KY-ABA is also a conduit of information about ABA in the state and in southern Indiana. KY-ABA presents for parent advocacy agencies such as FEAT of Louisville, and the Autism Society of Kentuckiana. KY-ABA also has a new website, which was launched this year. Erick Dubuque has designed a fully functional website that allows individuals to purchase a range of products, including membership, conference registration, and even KY-ABA t-shirts. The website development has allowed for easier membership database management and streamlines our email contact lists without requiring manual entry. In addition, the website has allowed KY-ABA to address questions ranging from membership options to obtaining clinical supervision. Finally, our website includes a job posting section that allows us to keep the community informed about potential job opportunities in Kentucky and surrounding areas. Please feel free to visit our website at www.kentuckyaba.org.

Korean ABA

BY YUNHEE SHIN

Last year, the Korean ABA chapter held an annual conference and hosted other activities, including professional training programs. In addition, we published four issues of the *Journal of Emotional & Behavioral Disorders*. With more than 14,000 members (1,009 full; 1,382 associate; and 12,137 web members), the Korean ABA sponsors various activities

in the field of research and interventions for individuals with emotional and behavioral disorders (EBD).

Publishing the *Journal of Emotional & Behavioral Disorders*

- The spring issue: March 31
- The summer issue: June 30
- The fall issue: September 30
- The winter issue: December 31

Conference

- **Theme:** Re-establishing the education of Korean children with EBD
- **Date:** November 12
- **Attendees:** Approximately 200 people
- **Presentation 1:** Issues of Increasing the Number of EBD
- **Presentation 2:** Screening and Diagnosis for EBD—Practical Approaches Step by Step
- **Presentation 3:** Family Support for Children With EBD
- **Presentation 4:** Teacher Training for Students With EBD

Professional Training

- **Summer Program:** July 25–August 6, “Assessment, Diagnosis, and Evaluation for Individuals With EBD,” approximately 600 attendees
- **Winter Program:** December 26–January 7, “Abnormal Behaviors and Psychology,” approximately 600 attendees
- Assessment, diagnosis, and evaluation for individuals with EBD
- Abnormal behaviors and psychology
- Intervention for individuals with EBD
- Applied behavior analysis in positive behavior support

Korean Association of Child and Adolescent Behavior Therapy

BY JUNG YEON CHO

With 502 current members, the Korean Association of Child and Adolescent Behavior Therapy performs a wide variety of activities in the fields of treatment, research, and education. Last year was the busiest in our history. First, many seminars and workshops were held in order for the student members to acquire and develop their knowledge base and applications. Second, conferences and training sessions were carried out in order for the leaders and supervisors to train our members and give them useful field experiences. Third, BCBA/BCaBA monthly preparation study sessions and several local group sessions were supported. Fourth, Professor Jung Yeon Cho, the president of the association, wrote periodic columns in the magazine *Lights Monthly*. Finally, Professor Cho appeared weekly on a radio program at PBC, providing parents with information and advice about their kids' maladaptive behaviors. Visit our websites, www.dcu.ac.kr and www.kacbt.or.kr.

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2011 January Activities

- Special lecture on career development
- Workshop on positive behavioral interventions and support (co-hosted by Korea School Counseling Association)

2011 February Activities

- Introduction to behavior analysis in the daily newspapers (*Dong-A*, *Choongang*, and *Hangyoreh*)
- Opened behavior analysis practicum session

2011 March Activities

- Formed a behavior analysis research group
- Lectured on TV programs
- Held nation-wide academic discussion meeting

2011 April Activities

- Internship for teachers of students with hearing disorders

2011 May Activities

- Special lecture on children's behavior in accordance with their parents' nursing attitude

2011 June Activities

- 10th behavior analysis workshop on respect for human rights in student guidance
- Practicum case studies at Green Flower Behavior Therapy Center (www.gfbt.org)

2011 September Activities

- 11th behavior analysis seminar on acceptance and commitment therapy

2011 November Activities

- Special lecture on multidisciplinary approach to pediatric developmental disorder (co-hosted by Korea Association for Developmental Disorder)

2011 December Activities

- Contracts with treatment centers for practicum/internships
- Research and training for supervisors

Lone Star ABA

BY GERALD E. HARRIS

Mission

- Promote the analytical science of behavior and its associated technologies.
- Serve as a scientific and professional network and reference group for all in the Houston Metropolitan Area who identify themselves as scientists or practitioners in disciplines that embrace the principles and practices of behavior analysis.
- Promote research that will advance understanding of behavioral processes.
- Identify and promote the use of effective and humane behavioral procedures in meeting the educational and habilitative needs of people within the Houston Metropolitan Area.

- Advise political, legislative, and policy-making bodies with respect to all matters pertaining to behavior analysis in the Houston Metropolitan Area.
- Work to support and develop quality standards for the practice of behavior analysis.

The Lone Star Association for Behavior Analysis (LSABA) was established in 2009 to provide local support for applied behavior analysis (ABA). LSABA is an organization for professionals and students in the field who live and work in the Houston Metropolitan Area. Members include practitioners as well as educators who work in either the public or private sectors. While a majority of the members are involved in the application of ABA to children with autism, LSABA recognizes and supports those professionals who utilize ABA across a wide variety of populations and problems.

The regular LSABA meetings are an excellent forum to inform members of ABA-related news, events, and issues. At the beginning of each meeting, the committee chair for each of LSABA's committees presents specific information on current issues, typically followed by a lively discussion by all.

Legislative issues related to the practice of ABA are, of course, at the forefront of professionals' minds. The LSABA Legislative Committee is devoted to monitoring legislative activities and informing members about how certain actions might affect them and their consumers. This committee and individual LSABA members, when appropriate, respond to various requests for support or information from lawmakers and work to influence local laws and regulations that are related to the practice of ABA.

Many local ABA practitioners are particularly interested in third-party insurance issues related to ABA treatment for children with autism. The LSABA Insurance Committee has made huge (and, at times, difficult) strides in establishing rapport with several major insurance companies' autism policy and claims groups. This committee has worked collaboratively with insurance companies to help educate relevant decision-makers about ABA and related important considerations for treatment, thus increasing efficiency for processing ABA treatment claims and requiring periodic progress reports. Committee members have also participated in events within the community—such as Houston's Families for Effective Autism Treatment (FEAT-Houston) round-table discussions and presentations—to provide important information about properly completing claim forms, specific coding information and procedures (e.g., relevant laws and provider restrictions), and requesting pre-authorizations for ABA treatment. One of the Insurance Committee's current projects is maintaining and enhancing a database of resources (e.g., references, white papers, model form letters, etc.) that will be helpful when providing guidance and support to practitioners and families during the appeals

process for Employee Retirement Income Security Act health plans that do not include (or specifically exclude) benefits and/or coverage for ABA treatment.

Each LSABA meeting also includes a continuing education component, with BACB-approved CEUs. Current ABA research articles are selected, presented, and discussed in depth. The mix of practitioner and scholar viewpoints typically results in a very informative, lively, and interesting educational experience.

An important goal of LSABA is to inform and support the use of applied behavior analysis in the Houston Metropolitan Area. To that end, we work closely with FEAT-Houston. A LSABA representative attends and participates in FEAT-Houston board meetings in order to facilitate communication between the two groups and to help coordinate locally supported ABA activities. Such activities include LSABA BCBAs providing regular full-day workshops for the community. The “ABCs of ABA” workshops provide a basic foundation in ABA for parents, teachers, and others, while the “123s of ABA” workshops provide more detailed information about specific applications. LSABA also provides CEU support during FEAT-Houston’s annual conferences. A new cooperative endeavor by LSABA and FEAT-Houston involves creating and delivering a training program for childcare workers (e.g., nannies, babysitters, etc.) that will provide a basic pragmatic skill-set to use when caring for children with special needs; this particular service has been much requested by the community. Currently, LSABA is also working with local firefighters and emergency responders to develop autism awareness training programs. LSABA and its individual members also support other local organizations and participate in events to promote ABA within the community to both professionals and consumers. For example, LSABA members have promoted the benefits of ABA through presentations given for The DePelchin Center and the Houston chapter of the Autism Society, as well as for specialized schools within the Houston Metropolitan Area. LSABA also participates in area autism resource fairs and special events.

LSABA is very appreciative of the state chapter, Texas ABA (TxABA), and works cooperatively with them to further the goals of ABA professionals. There is a good system of information exchange in place and LSABA and its members participate both as an organization and as individuals to assist TxABA with activities and events.

At the national and international level, LSABA continues to be supported and encouraged by ABAI; we are grateful for all the assistance provided by that organization. As an affiliate of APBA, LSABA has received welcome support and encouragement from those professionals as well.

Overall, for a very young organization—now almost 3 years old—LSABA appears to have a good foundation and a good early record of accomplishment. LSABA is

certainly fortunate to have such dedicated and caring members, many of whom serve passionately on one or more committees to positively affect the practice of ABA in the Houston Metropolitan Area.

Louisiana ABA

BY MELISSA COCO RAYMOND

Louisiana ABA (LouABA) recently held elections for president and advisory council members. Congratulations to Dr. Grant Gautreaux, president elect, and advisory council members Mrs. Kathy Chovanec, Dr. Dolleen Day Keohane, and Mrs. Melissa Coco Raymond. Thanks to past president Dr. Cameron Melville for his commitment to LouABA and its members.

LouABA membership is at its highest! Upcoming events include officer elections and bylaw revisions. In addition, LouABA remains involved in the legislative process for licensing behavior analysts in Louisiana. We are working vigorously to ensure that the proposed law will best protect professionals and consumers.

Manitoba ABA

BY KERRI L. WALTERS AND GENEVIEVE ROY-WSIAKI

The Manitoba Association for Behaviour Analysis (MABA) is in its seventh year as an affiliate chapter of ABAI. During our sixth year, a number of objectives were achieved, including increasing our membership to the highest numbers to date, publishing two newsletters, providing a public workshop in partnership with the Manitoba Psychological Society on behavioural strategies for managing and treating challenging behaviours, establishing an advisory committee to develop a proposal for licensing behavioural psychologists in Manitoba, and hosting a highly successful sixth annual conference. To promote awareness of MABA, we presented an expo poster at the 2011 ABAI Annual Convention in Denver, CO.

MABA was successful in collaborating with the University of Manitoba Department of Psychology and the St. Amant Applied Behavior Analysis Program in hosting Dr. Brian Iwata (University of Florida) for colloquia and a full day workshop on functional analysis. Our 2011 annual conference was funded by a number of sources from the University of Manitoba, and featured presentations by Drs. Brian Iwata and Vivienne Rowan (Assiniboine Psychological Group); the conference was attended by 74 individuals. The line-up consisted of eight presenters covering a variety of research and application topics, seven poster presentations, and one exhibitor booth. Our 2012 conference will feature presentations by our guest speaker, Dr. Per Holth (Oslo and Akershus University College of Applied Sciences) and a number of local researchers and practitioners.

As a way of recognizing the outstanding contributions made to the field of applied behaviour analysis in the

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province of Manitoba, MABA developed an Outstanding Contributions to the Field of Applied Behaviour Analysis Award in 2009, which was awarded to Dr. Joseph Pear of the University of Manitoba. In 2010, Dr. Carl Stephens, president and CEO of St. Amant, was recognized for his significant contributions to the field, and in 2011, Dr. Garry Martin was awarded based on the many significant contributions he has made to the field locally, nationally, and internationally over the years.

In 2011, MABA began work on a new website, which will be unveiled in 2012. Our web designer will continue working on enhancing the features and functions in 2012 to make it more accessible and user-friendly for our members and guests.

In 2012, MABA will implement an alternative pathway agreement reached between the chapter and the BACB to increase the number of board certified behavior analysts (BCBA) in the province. Furthermore, we will continue our important work in advocating for the licensing of behavioural psychologists with the Psychological Association of Manitoba, our local psychology regulatory body.

To conclude, in addition to extending upon our 2011 achievements, our key objectives for 2012 include increasing the number of BCBAs in Manitoba; working with the Psychological Association of Manitoba to license behavioural psychologists; increasing our membership; providing a variety of presentations for the general public on matters relating to behaviour analysis; extending the scope and content of our website; partnering with local organizations, colleges, and universities to promote awareness of applied behaviour analysis and to recruit members; publishing two newsletters; developing a brochure to share with the public outlining the purpose and goals of our organization; and hosting our seventh annual conference.

Maryland ABA

BY SUNGWOO KAHNG

The Maryland Association for Behavior Analysis (MABA) held its 14th Annual Meeting in Baltimore, Maryland on Friday, November 18, 2011. Our conference is devoted to the dissemination of behavior analysis, both basic and applied, to our members from the Mid-Atlantic area. Nearly 250 members heard presentations from Patrick Friman (Boys Town, The University of Nebraska School of Medicine), Leonard Green (Washington University), Gregory Hanley (Western New England University), Allen Neuringer (Reed College), and Maureen van Stone (Kennedy Krieger Institute). Michael Cataldo also provided a tribute to Joseph V. Brady. Ashley Johnston (Caldwell College), David Jarmolowicz (Virginia Tech Carilion Research Institute), and Joshua Jessel (University of Maryland, Baltimore County; UMBC) were selected to present at this year's MABA Student Paper Symposium. Students received a \$200 award each for their papers.

Staff and students presented nearly 30 posters from organizations such as UMBC, Kennedy Krieger Institute, the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, The Vista School, Caldwell College, CUNY Graduate Center, Millersville University, University of North Carolina Wilmington, BASICS ABA Therapy, Bancroft, and the Virginia Institute of Autism. Finally, we had a preview performance of *Behavior Side Story* by Phil Himeline, A. Charles Catania, and Sean Eubanks. We would like to thank our sponsors, the Kennedy Krieger Institute, Little Leaves Behavioral Services, and Achieve Beyond. Additionally, we would like to thank Vince Carbone for volunteering his time to conduct a pre-conference workshop to a sold-out audience.

At the conclusion of the conference, Greg Lieving (West Virginia University Institute of Technology) stepped down as president and Stephanie Contrucci-Kuhn (Westchester Institute for Human Development) assumed the role. Carrie Borrero (Kennedy Krieger Institute) took on the role of president-elect. Christine Accardo (The Shafer Center) was elected member-at-large and Joshua Jessel (UMBC) was elected student representative. Thanks to John Borrero (UMBC), Christina Vorndran (Bancroft), and Amber Mendres (UMBC) for their time on the executive committee.

Plans are currently under way for the 15th Annual Meeting to be held on Friday, November 30, 2012 in Baltimore, Maryland. We expect to include distinguished behavior analysts in our line-up of speakers and are working on conducting another pre-conference workshop. Additionally, we will have our annual MABA Student Paper Symposium, which is open to all behavior analysis students. For more information about our upcoming conference, please go to www.marylandaba.org.

Finally, representatives from MABA are working with Autism Speaks for autism insurance reform in Maryland to increase access to services for children with autism.

Massachusetts ABA

BY STEVE WOOLF

The Massachusetts Association of Applied Behavior Analysis (MassABA) was officially incorporated and granted a 501(c)(3) nonprofit status in May 2011. The current MassABA elected leadership includes:

- President Steve Woolf, Ph.D., BCBA-D
- Past President John Stokes, MS, BCBA
- President Elect Mariela Vargas-Irwin, Psy.D., BCBA-D
- Treasurer Robert Ross, Ed.D., BCBA-D
- Experimental Representative Darlene Crone-Todd, Ph.D.
- Applied Representative Brian Liu-Constant, MS, BCBA
- Member-At-Large John Randall, MS, BCBA
- Member-At-Large Rita Gardner, MS, BCBA

MassABA would also like to recognize Dr. Robert F. Littleton, chairperson of the Contracts and Reimbursement Committee, and Dr. Michael Dorsey, chairperson of the Conference Committee.

MassABA regularly brings together behavior analysts across the commonwealth for professional development and to disseminate information relative to state legislative/policy developments. MassABA is a true behavioral trade association directed by elected officers and governed through publicly accessible bylaws. MassABA offers an annual conference, regular networking opportunities, and professional development events scheduled throughout the year. MassABA is an inclusive group of professionals with a transparent system of governance designed to increase member participation in all aspects of the association.

This has been a very exciting year for MassABA! Some of our accomplishments include:

- Continued advocacy and professional guidance relative to the implementation of Massachusetts's ARICA bill
- Increasing professional membership to over 550 members
- Selling out the second annual MassABA conference at Bentley University, with over 432 attendees
- Obtaining a 501(c)(3) nonprofit status
- Development of the Contracts and Reimbursement Committee, which shall create model reimbursement rates and service definitions necessary for setting professional standards
- Supporting and advocating for the behavior analysts licensing bill introduced by Representative John Scibak, which would further professionalize the field and increase consumer protections for recipients of applied behavior analysis services in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

The MassABA Board of Directors would like to thank our keynote speakers who helped to make our first annual conference a success: Dr. Jon Bailey, Dr. Ennio Cipani, Dr. Lynn Koegel, Dr. Robert Koegel, and Dr. Missy Olive. The chapter expresses our sincere appreciation to our 26 local conference presenters who provided attendees choices of 16 potential presentations. MassABA also had 15 exhibitors and three organizational members (Beacon ABA Services, Melmark New England, and the Evergreen Center) who assisted in sponsoring the conference. MassABA has already begun planning for our third annual conference, with a date set for April 5, 2013, at Bentley University. Our goal for the 2013 conference is to repeat our success with another sold-out event and to offer behavioral practitioners an array of both internationally recognized speakers and local professional talent.

For the 2012–13 year, membership fees continue to be waived. Fees are charged at continuing education events for those who wish to receive BCBA CEs. All full members of ABAI who reside or practice in Massachusetts can join MassABA at no charge by sending an email to

massappliedbehavioranalysis@gmail.com. To become a professional voting member of MassABA one must qualify in one of the following categories:

- Full membership of ABAI
- BCBA, BCBA-D, or BCaBA
- Licensed as a professional in a profession in which applied behavior analysis is provided for within the profession's scope of practice

MassABA will continue to offer regularly scheduled BCBA CE trainings to members. With the support of membership, we hope to create a vibrant and sustainable association that represents the voice of all behavior analysts across the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Mid-American ABA

BY JONATHAN BAKER

The Mid-American Association for Behavior Analysis (MABA), a regional affiliate of ABAI, is a membership organization devoted to promoting scholarly interchange in behavior analysis through its annual convention. The 12th Annual MABA Convention was held October 21–22 in Bloomington, Illinois. More than 200 people attended the convention, a MABA record! The convention began when Dr. Cynthia Pietras (Western Michigan University) gave her opening remarks. The first symposium included Dr. Ron Van Houten (Western Michigan University) presenting “How to Get Our Culture to Adopt Behavior Analysis Solutions”; Dr. Jeffrey Weatherly (University of North Dakota) presenting his talk “The Mosaic that is Discounting, Escape, and Gambling”; and Ms. Kristina Vargo (Southern Illinois University, winner of the student paper competition) providing “An Evaluation of the Efficacy of and Group Preference for Three Rates of Opportunities to Respond During Circle Time.” Later, Dr. Wayne Fisher (University of Nebraska Medical Center) discussed “Enhancing the Effectiveness and Practicality of Function-Based Interventions for Problem Behavior Using Multiple Schedules,” and Dr. Suzanne Mitchel (Oregon Health & Science University), presented her talk on “Examining the Shared Genetic Basis of Impulse Behavior and Alcohol Use.” During the afternoon of the first day, Dr. Kenneth Silverman (Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine) presented “Application of Operant Conditioning to Address the Chronic Nature of Drug Addiction”; Dr. Alan Poling (Western Michigan University) discussed “Using Giant African Pouched Rats (*Cricetomys gambianus*) to Detect Landmines and Tuberculosis: Humanitarian Successes and Research Challenges”; Dr. Jay Moore presented “When We Speak of the Mental”; and Dr. Cathleen Piazza presented “A Summary of the Effectiveness of Treatments for Pediatric Feeding Disorders.” The first day ended with poster presentations by students and faculty.

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The second day of the convention began when Dr. Steven Hirsch (Institutes for Behavior Research) discussed “The Behavioral Economics of Human Choice and Cooperation” and Dr. Michael Hixson (Central Michigan University), elaborated on “Implications of the What Works Clearinghouse Single-Case Design Standards for Applied Behavior Analysis.” During the final session, Dr. Sean Casey (Iowa Department of Education) discussed “Developing Capacity for Function-Based Assessment and Behavior Intervention Plans Through a Statewide Training Program,” and Dr. Susan Wilczynski presented “Becoming Critical Consumers of Evidence-Based Practice Guidelines.”

The 2012 convention will be held October 4–6 in Minneapolis, Minnesota at the Holiday Inn Minneapolis Metrodome. The conference will again include addresses on both basic and applied behavior analytic research.

MABA holds a business meeting at the annual convention. Persons interested in this organization are welcome to attend either meeting. The current president of MABA is Dr. Diana Walker (The Chicago School for Professional Psychology). The president-elect is Dr. Adam Derenne (University of North Dakota). More information about MABA and the annual convention can be found at the organization website (www.uwec.edu/maba) or by contacting Jonathan Baker (jonathan.c.baker@siu.edu).

Minnesota Northland ABA

BY TIMOTHY R. MOORE AND KIM TASKY

Greetings from the Minnesota Northland Association for Behavior Analysis (MNABA)! We enjoyed a 2011 filled with opportunity and energy as our individual and organizational membership continued to grow and MNABA became more widely recognized as an important resource in the community. We welcomed three new faces to the executive council who have provided fresh thinking and vigor to the group, including Emily Monn (University of Minnesota-Twin Cities) as the Central MN liaison, Lisa Ott (St. Cloud State University) as the student liaison, and Julie Slowiak (University of Minnesota-Duluth) as the Northern MN liaison. In the past year, our activities have centered on promoting behavior analysis to the state legislature, creating opportunities for professional and student networking, and becoming a more visible resource for behavior analysis in the community.

Entering the 2012 legislative session in Minnesota (our legislature works January–May), MNABA was aware of the important role it had to play as private insurance companies continued to cut back on coverage of services for children with autism and discussion had begun about the future of state funding as well. Led by our legislative liaison, Eric Larsson (Lovaas Institute for Early Education—Midwest), MNABA drafted an applied behavior analysis (ABA) standards document modeled after the CalABA version

to guide policymakers as they considered bills mandating private insurance coverage for autism treatment (including ABA-based early intervention), as well as reductions in state Medicaid coverage. The insurance mandate has failed in recent years, but we continue to be hopeful in 2012 as MNABA-led efforts to rally ABA constituents to the capitol have been more successful this year.

Students make up a significant portion MNABA membership, thanks to the work of our student liaison over the past year. Connections with campus representatives and students from around the state and beyond continue to increase opportunities for student networking. Last summer, student members (and some old pros) embarked on a road trip to attend the 2011 Wisconsin ABA road show at University of Wisconsin, Eau Claire. The event was an inspiring success, so a collaborative 2012 “data blitz” was hosted by St. Cloud State University in April where students displayed their ongoing research and prepared for their presentations at ABAA.

MNABA’s Community Outreach Committee was also hard at work last year. We were invited to participate in community forums in Minneapolis to inform parents of Somali children about ABA, and we were asked to provide input to a parent round-table in St. Paul about best practices in behavior analysis and autism intervention. MNABA has also leveraged social media to spread the word and connect with members and the community alike. The MNABA Facebook page is a growing resource for the executive council to disseminate information and for our members to network. Check it out at www.facebook.com/pages/Minnesota-Northland-Association-for-Behavior-Analysis-MNABA/108618934790.

MNABA closed 2011 with the annual conference at St. Cloud University’s Atwood Center, which again was an engaging and inspiring day and night of behavior analysis with local, regional, and national flavor. Our pre-conference social networking event was very well attended on Thursday night, and then on Friday morning over 130 professionals and students attended the main event. The program began with the dynamic Patrick Friman as our keynote speaker who discussed behavior analysis in mainstream, everyday life. The morning continued with Jennifer McComas presenting her research on the application of stimulus equivalence principles to teach Native American languages, and Kevin Klatt’s presentation, “How Do I Get Rid of Scrolling?” was of great interest to practitioners working with children with autism.

With the morning sessions complete, students then took over and proudly displayed their current research in our poster presentations. This year’s winning presentation, authored by Nicolas Watkins and John T. Rapp, was entitled “Environmental Enrichment and Response Cost: Immediate and Subsequent Effects on Stereotypy.” Watkins and Rapp found the use of environmental enrichment in addition to response cost decreased immediate stereotypy

for five of six participants with autism and increased immediate item engagement for four of six participants.

The afternoon continued with breakout sessions from James Carr, Douglas Johnson, Jeffery Tiger, Julie Slowiak, Jennifer Asmus, and Gail Peterson. From grounding the audience in the history of behavior analysis, to discussing current approaches in the treatment of severe problem behavior, autism treatment, and staff performance management, the afternoon presenters sent an inspired MNABA group back to their clinical and research homes for the year's work ahead.

This year's MNABA conference will take place on September 28, 2012, at the Cambria Suites in Maple Grove, MN. The conference committee is hard at work planning for another dynamic and inspiring conference this fall. If you are interested in becoming a MNABA chapter member, please visit www.mnaba.org for an application and details.

Missouri ABA

BY JOHN M. GUERCIO

The Missouri Association for Behavior Analysis (MOABA) has continued to work as hard as possible to support all of the behavior analysts residing in our state. The insurance mandate that was passed within the last couple of years has allowed for any practicing behavior analyst in the state to have a license in order to practice. This mandate will go a long way towards increasing the quality of the providers of applied behavior analysis services in Missouri. Given that the licensure mandate in Missouri is a practice act, no one is allowed to practice behavior analysis without the education and training necessary to ensure consumer protection and quality behavior analytic services. Another positive aspect of the licensure of behavior analysts has been the provision of services to thousands of children who may not have received them had the insurance mandate and subsequent licensure bill not been in place. MOABA has also received a number of contacts from other states related to the licensure process.

The degree of political involvement and participation in constructing effective licensure language has made Missouri one of the most successful states to have enacted licensure so far. We have had very few conflicts related to the supervision of licensed professionals and have been able to maintain as smooth a process as possible. In light of this, other states that are currently going through the licensure process or have it as a legislative proposal have contacted MOABA for guidance. Our intent has been to share our experience to make the process as free of conflict in other states as possible. In addition to the ongoing efforts related to licensure, MOABA has been active in helping to generate an evidence-based manual on treatment guidelines for autism spectrum disorders.

This initiative is called the Missouri Autism Guidelines Initiative (MAGI) and is comprised of some of the top

autism service providers, educators, and administrators serving the Missouri autism community. The process of putting forth a recommended set of guidelines was anchored in a number of evidence-based reviews that examined some of the most successful treatments for autism spectrum disorders. It is not surprising that the majority of these interventions had their basis in applied behavior analysis. The MOABA board was very involved in making sure that this point was highlighted as well as sharing the findings from these evidence-based reviews in a way that highlighted participant advocacy and consumer protection as outlined in our ethical standards and codes of conduct.

Nevada ABA

BY KENDRA BROOKS RICKARD

The Nevada Association for Behavior Analysis (NABA) aggressively launched its 2012 program by taking positive steps to energize cohesive interaction among our membership. One such action was to initiate publication of an online newsletter to keep members abreast of current and planned activities. NABA president, Dr. Kendra Brooks Rickard, highlighted the inaugural edition with the following message to members:

It is with great pleasure that I announce several new developments for 2012 in the Nevada Association for Behavior Analysis. First and foremost, I am honored to introduce our new council. We have an amazing group of individuals working diligently to fulfill NABA's mission and to make a difference for our members. Secondly, we have redesigned our website and it is now ready to launch. We encourage you to log on and explore the new features now available to both members and non-members. Lastly, we are gearing up for an excellent conference this fall. In the spirit of NABA's mission, we will strive to provide an eclectic conference touching on all aspects of our diverse field. We also recognize that new developments in our field have led to the need for further support and education for practitioners. We will aim to meet these needs through the provision of resources and training and by offering continuing education credits in ethics. Information about the conference and trainings will be posted on the website as new information becomes available. In sum, the NABA council is enthusiastic about the year ahead of us. We would love to hear from our members regarding the actions and services you would appreciate. Your feedback is a critical component of our continued effort to make an impact in our state, our communities, and in our field.

Leadership is working energetically and cooperatively toward two identifiable ends: setting up an informative and comprehensive annual conference and enhancing communication through upgraded electronic media.

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The NABA website has been restructured to provide interactive features to facilitate communication among members during the months when face-to-face meeting is not possible. A useful new feature is a comprehensive “Upcoming Events Calendar,” which includes entries with links to the relevant websites. There is even one event already on the calendar for the year 2014. With member cooperation in keeping us informed of newly scheduled events, we can make this an exemplary source for the entire behavior analysis community.

The dates and venue for the 2012 NABA Conference have been set! This year’s conference will be held Friday and Saturday, September 21–22 at the luxurious Grand Sierra Resort Hotel and Casino in Reno, Nevada. As in previous years, NABA will be a one-track conference to ensure the opportunity to attend each of our fascinating speaker presentations! The Leadership Council has mapped out an exciting array of topics and panels to be presented by invited experts in their fields.

Details on conference fees and incentives for early registration are still being formulated, but plans are underway to offer some new and unique incentives. A block of rooms will be reserved for attendees; however, this is still pending. Please visit the Grand Sierra Resort website and have a look at the plush features of the freshly remodeled resort hotel, here is the link: <http://grandsierraresort.com>.

Also, please check out our NABA Facebook page: www.facebook.com/pages/Nevada-Association-for-Behavior-Analysis/122915934403673.

New Jersey ABA

BY GREGORY S. MACDUFF

This year New Jersey ABA has continued to work with state agencies in an effort to gain their recognition of board certification as a minimum credential for behavior analyst practicing in our state. Meetings with the State Department of Education and the Division of Developmental Disabilities continue to occur. We are pleased that past efforts have resulted in the recognition of this credential by the Department of Banking and Insurance—this allows certified behavior analysis to bill insurance carriers for services.

New Jersey has several colleges and universities that currently offer graduate work in applied behavior analysis. Many members of our board serve as faculty members within these programs or direct programs that offer practicum experiences and research opportunities. A recent meeting with faculty members from these programs included discussion regarding the importance of students participation in the design, completion, and summary of single-subject research as a component of their master’s or doctoral programs.

New York State ABA

BY VICKI MADAUS KNAPP

The New York State Association for Behavior Analysis (NYSABA) is the official state affiliate of ABAA and the Association for Professional Behavior Analysts. NYSABA represents families, practitioners, and scholars committed to research and practice of behavior analysis and hosts statewide and local conferences, offers resources, and provides social networking and communication to support behavior analysis. The chapter supports the ethical, humane, and effective application of behavior analysis.

NYSABA has an executive board that includes a president, Vicki Madaus Knapp; past-president, Dennis Mozingo; president-elect, Deborah A. Napolitano; treasurer, Linda Matey; and secretary, J. Helen Yoo. The full NYSABA board includes a consumer representative, Dan Lesinski, and representatives-at-large Paul Luyben, Helen Bloomer, Jenny Tuzikow, and Peter Gerhardt. Also on the board are our committee chairs: David McAdam (Education Board), Michael Friga (Marketing Board), Dennis Mozingo (Legislative Board), Joseph Pancari (Finance Board), Daniel Fienup (Student Activities Board), and Frank Cicero (Membership Board). The NYSABA board relies on our office manager, Dave Atkinson, for his organizational skills.

In November 2011, NYSABA held its 22nd Annual Conference in Saratoga Springs, NY, which featured Brian Iwata and Sandra Harris as keynote speakers. More than 300 people from New York and surrounding areas attended and we are proud to report that the number of students registrants has continued to increase.

We are currently planning our 23rd Annual Conference, which will again be held at the Gideon Putnam Resort in Saratoga Springs and will occur October 25–26, 2012. Pre-conference workshops will be held on October 24. We are pleased to announce that James Carr and Patrick Friman will be featured as our keynote speakers. Additionally, we are planning four tracks, including the topics of skill building, challenging behavior, translational and theoretical research, and professional and organizational development. Judith Ursitti, Autism Speaks’ director of State Government Affairs, will be providing the “Autism Speaks Autism Insurance Reform Workshop for Behavior Analysis.”

NYSABA’s Legislative Committee has continued to lead the way in the organization’s mission to gain recognition of the profession of behavior analysis in New York State and to advocate for consumers of behavior analysis in state policy and legislation. NYSABA has worked with Autism Speaks and the legislature in providing recommendations for wording of legislation that requires insurance funding for individuals with autism spectrum disorders. We are proud to report that the New York Autism Insurance Reform Law passed in 2011 and provides “...coverage for applied behavior analysis provided or supervised by a Board

Certified Behavior Analyst.” NYSABA continued its work with Autism Speaks, the Behavior Analyst Certification Board, and the Association for Professional Behavior Analysts to draft a behavior analyst licensure bill, which was submitted in April 2012.

NYSABA is committed to continuing its leadership in New York on behalf of our constituents—researchers, practitioners, and the consumers of behavior analytic services. For more information about any of NYSABA’s activities, please visit our website (www.nysaba.org).

New Zealand ABA

BY MAREE HUNT

The New Zealand ABA (NZABA) chapter consists primarily of staff, students, and recent graduates of the seven universities in New Zealand. Additionally, our membership includes therapists, business consultants, and some international members.

The most noteworthy event 2011 was our Eighth Annual Conference hosted by the Department of Psychology at the University of Waikato in Hamilton (August 26–28) and attended by 70 people. The very full conference programme included 35 paper presentations as well as an expanded poster session with 13 presentations. The wide range of topics covered in papers and posters included both applied human and applied animal studies and a broad range of contemporary issues in the experimental analyses of behaviour. Participants in the studies reported included humans, rats, pigeons, hens, and possums. A significant proportion of the paper presentations also provided opportunities for CE credits.

As in previous conferences, many of the papers were presented by postgraduate students. The quality of all of these was very high, but particularly so from the recipients of the annual student awards. John Bai (The University of Auckland) received the award for the best student presentation in the experimental analysis of behaviour for “Context Matters: Resistance to Change in a Combined Stimulus Context.” Victoria Burney (the University of Auckland) received the award for the best student presentation in the applied analysis of behaviour for “Using Brief Functional Analysis to Determine the Functions of Emerging Speech in Children With Autism Spectrum Disorder.”

The very full conference programme also included informal opportunities to discuss research and issues relevant to the discipline with a social welcome event on Friday evening and a conference dinner on Saturday evening.

A notable event at the conference was the presentation by NZABA of the Lifetime Contribution Award to Professor Michael Davison (University of Auckland) to acknowledge his extraordinary and sustained contribution to the development of behavior analysis in New Zealand.

The Ninth Annual NZABA Conference will be hosted by the School of Psychology at Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand, from the August 31–September

2, 2012. The call for papers is open until August 1 and those interested should contact Maree Hunt at maree.hunt@vuw.ac.nz for more information. The conference welcomes international participants and those interested might note that the conference will be held in our beautiful capital city. Also of interest, the dates of our conference are arranged so that anyone interested, particularly those in the behavioural pharmacology field or with an interest in addiction or neuroscience, can also attend the Australasian Winter Conference on Brain Research. That conference is held in the ski town of Queenstown on August 25–29 (for more information, please see their website at <http://psy.otago.ac.nz/awcbr/index.html>).

Those interested in joining NZABA should note that there is no formal application process or fee. Active membership is achieved by attending the annual conference and paying any necessary fees (there are no fees for student presenters). Any interested individuals should contact Celia Lie (celia@psy.otago.ac.nz) to register for membership or complete the online form on the NZABA website (<http://nzaba.org/membership/>). For up-to-date news and more information about NZABA, please visit our website at www.nzaba.org.

Norsk Atferdsanalytisk Forening

BY ERIK ARNTZEN, JON LOKKE, AND TERJE GUNDHUS

In 2011, the Norsk Atferdsanalytisk Forening (Norwegian ABA) has 803 members and this number has been relatively stable for the past 10 years. The vast majority of the members hold a bachelor’s degree in social welfare.

Norwegian ABA is run by a board of eight members with full executive powers, chaired by a president. The association is an affiliated chapter of ABAI and has several regional affiliates and special interest groups. The chapter sponsors seminars, publishes books, provides equipment, and organizes local activities around the country, as well as provides international representation at important conferences. Norwegian ABA has a specific focus on expanding its current activities and furthering the influence of behavior analysis in new areas, thus broadening the impact of the science.

The chapter organizes an annual conference. The number of attendees in 2011 was 783 and has been at that level for many years. The conference is a 4-day conference with five to six simultaneous tracks. In 2011, we had presentations within all domains of behavior analysis, even though most of the presentations were papers concerned with applied behavior analysis or practice guided by behavior analysis. In addition, translational research was presented. International speakers were also invited. In 2011, David Palmer was the invited speaker; he gave two presentations, the first on behavior analysis and the two purposes of science and the second on the interpretation of the behavior of the listener. The poster session in 2011 was in a new and professional format and made it easier for students to participate.

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Norwegian ABA publishes two journals: *The Norwegian Journal for Behavior Analysis* and *The European Journal of Behavior Analysis*. *The Norwegian Journal for Behavior Analysis* is published quarterly and is a peer-reviewed journal that publishes papers on research, practice, and conceptual issues in behavior analysis, mainly in Norwegian. In 2011, abstracts in English were included. *The European Journal of Behavior Analysis* (EJOBA; www.ejoba.org) is a peer-reviewed journal published twice a year. EJOBA is primarily for the original publication of experimental reports and theoretical or conceptual papers relevant to the analysis of the behavior of individual organisms. EJOBA has published a number of special issues since the first volume was published in 2000. The last issue of EJOBA included a special issue from the Experimental Analysis of Behavior Group in London. The issue included papers by Drs. Marr and Twyman.

North Carolina ABA

BY R. M. "DUKE" SCHELL

The North Carolina Association for Behavior Analysis (NCABA) held its 23rd anniversary conference in Winston-Salem, NC, February 15–17, 2012. The conference was a wonderful success thanks to the leadership of our president, Mark Stafford, as well the rest of our Executive Committee, including Ya-yu Lo (past president), Jim Phillips (president elect), Kristie Thompson (vice president), Beth Schmitt (secretary), Nancy Poteet (treasurer), Callie Plattner (member-at-large), Natalia Acosta Krum (member-at-large), Susan Flynn (student representative), Jamie Clary (publications editor), Fred Spooner (senior advisor), Duke Schell (liaison to ABAA), and other NCABA volunteers.

The 23rd Annual NCABA Conference opened with the presentation of awards to honor people in North Carolina who have promoted behavior analysis in research and everyday practice. This year's honorees included Diane Browder for the Fred S. Keller Excellence in Behavior Analysis Award, Darcie Rhodes for the Technical Utilization Award, and Tom Thompson for the "Do Things" Award. Bethany Smith was recognized for the NCABA Student Scholarship Award.

Invited speakers at this year's conference included Carol Pilgrim, Tim Ludwig, Richard Saunders, Muriel Saunders, Denny Reid, Mark Sundberg, Jim Bodfish, and Ray Pitts. Over 20 other speakers participated in concurrent sessions, the highlighted student symposium, and panels. NCABA provided a poster session the first evening of the conference, and several participants were recognized for outstanding posters, including Jane White and Rachael Cushing in the professional category and Crystalyn Schnorr and Shaqwana Freeman in the student category. Thanks to our poster judges Mark Sundberg, Dick Saunders, Fred Spooner, and Tom Thompson. Overall, we had 185 conference participants, with 169 people attending our six workshops. The conference

attendees included 125 members, 24 paraprofessionals, and 24 students. NCABA again offered free registration for the first 20 student members. The evening social on the second night of the conference was filled with scrumptious food and drink, engaging conversations, and energetic if not coordinated dancing to the music of a live band.

NCABA provided both BACB and NC psychologist continuing education credits. During the conference, 81 certified behavior analysts from seven states earned 1,042 continuing education credits, and NC psychologists earned over 250 continuing education credits. The NCABA conference continues to provide a wide range of topics and speakers that received excellent feedback for attendees seeking professional continuing education at a reasonable price.

NCABA hosted a poster at the expo during the 38th ABAA Annual Convention in Seattle and handed out "virtual" memberships to interested visitors. Please visit our website at www.nc-aba.com and see additional highlights from the 23rd Annual NCABA Conference. At the website, you can see descriptions of our awards and our newly elected officers and find information on becoming a 2012 NCABA member. The NCABA website also provides information about our history since 1989, links to newsletters, and information about the conference and upcoming events, including NCABA-sponsored mid-conference workshops and planning for the 24th Annual Conference to be held next February in Wilmington, NC.

Northwestern ABA

BY RYAN ZAYAC, RICK SHAW, DANA STEVENS, AND KATE LAINO

The Northwestern Association for Behavior Analysis (NWABA) is an independent, nonprofit, professional organization affiliated with ABAA. We are dedicated to the science of behavior and its application to social issues. Our members live and work in the northwestern United States and western Canada.

Members of NWABA are students, educators, and practitioners specializing in psychology, animal behavior, education, special education, developmental disabilities, counseling, and organizational behavior management. While some NWABA members are also members of ABAA, membership in the parent organization is not a prerequisite for NWABA membership.

Oregon ABA

BY JENNY FISCHER

It has been another busy year for the Oregon Association for Behavior Analysis (ORABA). ORABA continues to support the dissemination and practice of behavior analysis in Oregon and holds quarterly presentations and meetings that provide continuing education and networking opportunities to its members.

ORABA is excited to welcome Maria Lynn Kessler, Ph.D., to our board of directors. Dr. Kessler is a faculty

member at the Oregon Institute of Technology in Klamath Falls, home to Oregon's only BACB-approved university training sequence. In addition to electing a new board member, ORABA recently approved a revised set of bylaws and introduced a new website, which will contain information about state and national events as well as a provider registry. The new website address is <http://orbehavioranalysis.wordpress.com>.

ORABA continues to work with parent advocacy groups and legislators to pass autism insurance reform laws in our state. An ORABA representative has joined a legislative work group led by Senator Bates of Medford, Oregon, who is preparing a bill for the 2013 legislative session. We are optimistic about the prospects for legislative reform in the coming year, and are thankful for the guidance of Dr. Gina Green from the APBA and Dr. Jim Carr from the BACB throughout this process.

In the coming year, ORABA will continue to support legislative efforts to mandate insurance coverage for autism treatment. In addition, we will advocate for the development of additional training programs in behavior analysis, so that Oregon's behavior analytic community is prepared to meet the needs of consumers.

We at ORABA are excited about the opportunity to attend two national conferences in the Northwest, ABAI's 2012 Annual Convention in Seattle, WA, and the upcoming 2013 Autism Conference in Portland, OR. The ORABA board of directors looks forward to continued growth of behavior analysis statewide and regionally, and is grateful for the support of national organizations like ABAI.

Ontario ABA

BY JEN PORTER

The 2011–12 Ontario Association for Behavior Analysis (ONTABA) board have hit the ground running this year as we continue to move forward with the regulation process and expanding the ONTABA name and brand throughout Ontario. Our recruitment team has been actively giving presentations to agencies, organizations, and educational institutions. They have set a lofty goal to increase our membership to 400 members. In addition, we have identified our website as an important area of development and have been working to increase functionality (by adding member portal functions) and to give it a facelift so it reflects our professional and public aims.

The Professional Regulation Committee has begun pursuing title protection as a first step in regulation of behaviour analysis on Ontario. ONTABA is working under advisement from ABAI, BACB, APBA, and a government relations firm in the province to move this agenda forward.

This year we are looking to increase participation in ONTABA through our various committees. We have put out a call for all committees requiring members and received a great response. In addition to participating in committees,

we are always looking for contributions to the quarterly newsletter. We will also be looking for additional people to sit on the website committee to assist with content development and enhance the functionality. We are working on our website facelift and expect to launch it this coming summer.

The ONTABA board would also like to announce the recreation of the Public Policy Committee. This committee has been defunct for the last couple of years and has now been reinstituted as the Public and Community Relations Committee. This committee will begin work to raise the profile of ONTABA both inside the behavioural community and out. The board has also begun to strategize around ways to reach out to our membership outside the greater Toronto area. We welcome any ideas members might have and hope to hear from interested members who live throughout Ontario to help with this initiative. ONTABA is also reaching out to the membership outside the greater Toronto area through sponsorship of conferences in a variety of locations across the province. We are happy to sponsor the following conferences: (1) the Behavioural Solutions Conference in Kingston, ON; (2) Successful Inclusion of Students With Autism Spectrum Disorder, with keynote speaker Dr. Sam Odom; (3) Applied Behaviour Analysis: Using Science to Improve Education of Students With Autism Spectrum Disorders, with keynote speaker Dr. William Heward; and (4) Developing Life Skills and Addressing Problem Behaviour of Children With Autism, with keynote speaker Dr. Hanley.

Our conference chair has been hard at work planning this year's annual conference, and we will be back at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre during November 29–30. We are happy to welcome Dr. Mark Dixon and Dr. Gina Green as our international invited speakers.

The ONTABA board is looking forward to a busy and productive year and we wish ABAI and all our chapter colleagues the same.

Pennsylvania ABA

BY KEITH WILLIAMS, LACEY R. BAILEY, AND RICHARD M. FOXX

The 2012 Pennsylvania Association for Behavior Analysis (PennABA) annual conference was a rousing success by serving more participants than ever before! Our participants from Pennsylvania and the mid-Atlantic region continue to demonstrate their resolve to spread the science of applied behavior analysis (ABA) and to improve the ability of ABA professionals to practice within their communities.

We hope you will join us for PennABA 2013 in Hershey, PA, in late March. We will have 2 days of informative and interesting speakers scheduled. In addition to earning BACB credits, we hope you will take advantage of PennABA as a place to meet old friends and network with other behaviorally oriented folks.

For those of you in education, we understand the last few years have been particularly difficult due to huge cuts

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in the education portion of the Pennsylvania state budget. This has resulted in reductions and even the elimination of some programs. While we hope this coming year will be better, it does not appear this will be the case. It appears as though there will be significant reductions in the state's financial support to services for persons with developmental disabilities and mental health services.

While this is gloomy news, we are confident that behavior analysis will continue to grow in the Pennsylvania Commonwealth and beyond. As long as we can demonstrate that our interventions not only work, but save money, there will be a demand for our services.

Philippines ABA

BY MARISA COJUANGCO

The Philippines Association for Behavior Analysis (PABA) enjoyed a fruitful year in 2011. With the help of friends, the chapter was able to host activities for our members and the families of students we serve.

In February, we organized a workshop through the kind assistance and generosity of Applied Behavior Consultants, Inc. (ABC) in California. Through their president and PABA consultant, Dr. Joseph Morrow, we were able to invite to Manila two wonderful trainers from their school. Mr. Rick Gutierrez, MS, BCBA, and Ms. Mari Ueda-Tao, MS, BCBA, came to Manila to share their expertise in the field of applied behavior analysis. They conducted a 4-day hands-on workshop attended by teachers, parents, and therapists alike. The following topics were covered:

- Introduction to applied behavior analysis
- Picture Exchange Communication System (PECS) and the Pyramid Elements (theory behind PECS)
- Functional communication, including verbal behavior
- New tutor/technician training—including hands-on implementation of basic lessons
- Behavior excesses and replacement behaviors

The audience was composed mostly of teachers and therapists who were very happy to have the opportunity to practice the concepts during the hands-on segment of the conference. Many were thrilled to be able to talk directly with the speakers to get their expert opinion. Suggestions were made to offer more of this type of training. We are very thankful for all the support that ABC has given to the chapter. Because of their unwavering support, the PABA has been able to offer trainings to all those interested in applied behavior analysis.

In August 2011, we had a fundraising activity for autism awareness. We organized a musical event where we had the support of individuals and some corporations that were one with us in our advocacy. Though we continue to face various challenges, we are hopeful that PABA will thrive with the assistance and generosity of others who believe in our mission.

Polskie Stowarzyszenie Terapii Behawioralne

BY NINA ZAWIDNIAK AND EWA KULIGA

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

Currently, 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 centers and institutions (in Gdansk, Kielce, Krakow, Warsaw, Zabrze, etc.) focused on offering effective help to persons with autism, and publishes the periodical *Krok za Krokiem (Step by Step)*, which contains articles by world-renowned experts on teaching persons with autism.

PBTA has promoted behavioral therapy by organizing specialist trainings for a wide range of attendees (mainly the teachers and parents of the emotionally and developmentally disabled). Over 700 participants attended trainings in 2011.

The boards of Poland's two ABAI affiliated chapters (i.e., PBTA and the Polish Society for Behavioral Psychology) have initiated a joint program aimed at unifying the formal requirements for behavioral therapists in Poland. The aim of these actions is to consolidate and formalize occupational trainings for behavioral therapists that are currently in place and thus define the requirements for practicing therapists in order to make behavioral therapy clearly identifiable with the highest quality of therapeutic services. Therefore, in light of that common goal, the two chapters have decided to create a registry of practicing behavioral therapists in Poland to integrate and regulate the existing system of trainings and occupational education that enables applicants to obtain the title of behavioral therapist. As of this moment, 70 people in Poland have been granted the title of licensed behavioral therapist. A set of theoretical and practical trainings framed as five preparatory routes, as well as the appropriate examination criteria, have been prepared for persons applying for the occupational title of behavioral therapist:

- Route I (for practicing therapists) includes submitting an official application for the granting of the title of behavioral therapist. The application shall include a confirmation of the applicant's qualifications, documents confirming no less than 3 years of professional practice under supervision, and a positive reference from the head of the relevant therapy center.
- Route II includes completion of a three-level course in behavioral therapy and at least five specialization courses,

completion of no less than 30 days of internships at any of the collaborating centers, 2 years of professional practice under supervision (a minimum of 50 hours of supervision per year), and a positive reference from the supervisor.

- Route III includes completion of the following courses from the Institute of Psychology at Jagiellonian University: Wprowadzenie do Psychologii Behawioralnej (Introduction to Behavioral Psychology) and Terapia Behawioralna: Teoria i Praktyka (Behavioral Therapy: Theory and Practice), completion of at least five specialization courses, no less than 20 days of internships at any of the collaborating centers, 2 years of professional practice under supervision, and a positive reference from the supervisor.
- Route IV includes completion of the postgraduate studies in applied behavior analysis at the Warsaw School of Social Sciences and Humanities, completion of no less than 20 days of internships at any of the collaborating centers, 2 years of professional practice under supervision (a minimum of 50 hours of supervision per year), and a positive reference from the supervisor.
- Route V includes completion of the postgraduate studies in applied behavior analysis at the Sopot School of Social Sciences and Humanities, 1 day of work observation at no less than three collaborating centers, 2 years of professional practice under supervision (a minimum of 50 hours per year), and a positive reference from the supervisor.

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

PBTA also organized the conference “Czas na Dialog! Porozmawiajmy Wiecej o Efektywnej Rewalidacji” (Time to Talk! Let's Talk About Parents) for special education teachers. The participants included 450 special education teachers and psychologists from all over the country who professionally help persons with a wide range of disorders and employ various methods of therapy.

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

- The Behavioral Therapy Clinic (BTC) in Krakow and a local branch of the BTC in Wroclaw 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 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 almost 1,000 families throughout Poland.

- The Emergency Intervention Team provides short-term (up to 2 weeks), intensive therapy for persons with developmental and behavioral disorders and their families facing material and other hardships. In 2011, around 20 families from all over Poland used this form of therapy.
- The integration classes are aimed at younger children with disabilities identified as belonging to the spectrum of autism, but possessing basic group-work skills. The classes are conducted on the basis of preschool teaching methodology and the principles of applied behavioral analysis. The objectives of the classes are to integrate the children within a group and develop their social competence. There are currently eight children participating in the classes.
- The social skills trainings are classes conducted in small groups and intended to develop positive social behaviors. The classes are aimed at older children with emotional disorders, Asperger's syndrome, and high functioning autism. Eight students currently attend these classes.
- PBTA works to obtain resources that allow further development of the organization and introduce new statutory activities (including research programs).
- One of the more important events of 2011 was a behavioral rehabilitation camp. Twenty families from across Poland participated in the event. The camp involved intensive therapy work aimed foremost at instructing and supervising parents and guardians of persons with developmental and emotional disorders under the care of the BTC. The camp also included theoretical trainings, the purpose of which was to broaden and deepen the scope of the parents' and guardians' knowledge of applied behavior analysis.
- The Safety First Program, aimed at teachers at regular and inclusive schools in the Krakow municipality. The program is meant to aid and train teachers in working with students with normal intellectual capacities who manifest difficult behaviors. The program is to include 20 students and cover the observation of the students at school, implementation of a therapy scheme meant to modify difficult behaviors, active training and instructions for the teachers, and training for the schools' respective teachers boards.

Polskie Towarzystwo Psychologii Behawioralnej

BY MONIKA SUCHOWIERSKA

Activities of the Polskie Towarzystwo Psychologii Behawioralnej (PTPB; Polish Society for Behavioral Psychology) aimed at disseminating knowledge about behavior analysis in Poland. PTPB was founded on November 16, 2002; thus, in 2012 we are celebrating our

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10th anniversary! The society membership consists mainly of psychologists (university lecturers and clinicians); students of psychology (undergraduate, graduate, and postgraduate studies); and people representing other professions, mainly pedagogues and speech therapists. The most important statutory goals of the PTPB include:

- Developing and promoting psychological knowledge, with special attention paid to behavior analysis as a science.
- Improving professional qualifications of the members of the society, as well as of people who set for themselves goals similar to those of the society.
- Supporting the scientific initiatives of members.
- Disseminating knowledge of successful applications of behavioral analysis to unfavorable social phenomena and individual/personal problems.
- Promoting professional ethics and its implementation.
- Educating the general public about behavioral treatment as a form of psychological treatment, as well as disseminating knowledge on its effectiveness.

Since 2009, PTPB has been a stronger organization due to a fusion with another behaviorally oriented society in Poland—Polish ABA. This fusion was done with mutual understanding of the two organizations' governing bodies as regards favorable outcomes for dissemination of behavior analysis in the country. ABAI has approved PTPB as the organization that is going to continue in the international arena the work of Polish ABA. The main accomplishments of PTPB in the last 2 years include:

- Organizing two national symposia: The VII International Scientific Symposium of PTPB, "Behavior Analysis: Perspectives on Verbal Behavior," gathered about 250 attendees. About 200 individuals participated in the pre-conference workshops. We hosted four international presenters from California State University, Stanislaus (USA); Marshall University (USA); and Bangor University (UK). The symposium was organized jointly by PTPB and the Department of Behavior Analysis at the Warsaw School of Social Sciences and Humanities. Additionally, the VIII International Scientific Symposium of PTPB, "Applied Behavior Analysis—Evidence-Based and Effective Treatment for Developmental Disabilities," gathered about 300 attendees. We hosted eight international presenters from Pyramid Educational Consultants, Inc.; California State University, Stanislaus (USA); Marshall University (USA); Bangor University (UK); Kendall School (USA); and the Connecticut Center for Child Development (USA). The symposium opened with a tribute to Dr. Gerald "Jerry" Shook. The symposium was organized jointly by PTPB, the Department of Behavior Analysis at the Warsaw School of Social Sciences and Humanities, and Step by Step Foundation for Children With Developmental Disabilities and Their Families.

- Publishing two books on behavior analysis: *Behavior Analysis from A to Z*, written by Przemyslaw Bąbel, Monika Suchowierska, and Pawel Ostaszewski, which received SABA's 2009 International Development Grant. The forwards to this book were written by Prof. W. Joseph Wyatt and the late Jerry Shook. *Behavioral Interventions for Children With Autism: Theory, Research and Practice of Applied Behavior Analysis*, also written by Monika Suchowierska, Pawel Ostaszewski, and Przemyslaw Bąbel, which is the first book in Poland to deal comprehensively with applied behavior analysis. The forwards to this book were written by Prof. William Heward and Prof. Gary Novak.
- Signing an agreement with Step by Step Foundation for Children With Developmental Disabilities and Their Families, which will allow us to collaborate to promote knowledge of applied behavior analysis and its applications to working with children with autism.
- Working with the Polish Association of Behavioral Therapy on the certification of behavioral therapists—we have over 100 behavioral therapists and about 15 supervisors.
- Workshops focusing on rational behavioral therapy.

Our plans for 2012 include:

- Organizing a 10th anniversary celebration, which will have a scientific character and focus on the most prominent individual and research findings in behavior analysis since its conception.
- Organizing IX International Scientific Symposium of PTPB, which will focus on severe problem behavior.
- Forming a section of behavior analysis within PTPB.
- Increasing membership.

Québec ABA

BY MARC J. LANOAZ

In the last year, the Québec Association for Behaviour Analysis (QcABA) has focused on its mission of promoting the science of behaviour analysis in Québec by (a) becoming affiliated with ABAI, (b) disseminating accurate and updated information on behaviour analytic services in French and English, (c) starting the development of a strategic plan, and (d) organizing its second annual conference.

First and foremost, QcABA became an affiliated chapter of ABAI in November of 2011. This recognition not only increased our visibility and credibility in our province, but it also provided support for our mission. In order to meet our objectives and to provide clear guidelines for our members, we translated the Behaviour Analyst Certification Board Guidelines for Responsible Conduct to French, which we received authorisation to post on our website (www.qcaba.org). Given the scarcity of information on the practice of behaviour analysis in French, we hope the translation will guide the development of the field in our province.

To disseminate information about the association and the science of behaviour analysis in our province, we

published two issues of our newsletter, *Info-QcABA*, in both French and English. The newsletters included articles on the science of behaviour analysis as well as topics relevant to our practice in Québec. We also sent a letter to parents of children with autism and had a booth at our local autism association's annual conference to provide objective information about behaviour analytic services. Our efforts seem to have considerably increased our membership from 77 members last year to over 90 members as of April 2012.

The Board of Directors has started to develop a strategic plan to guide our actions in the next 3–5 years. A first draft was submitted by the president, which will be discussed at our next board meeting. To assist us in building and maintaining an effective chapter, two members of the Board of Directors participated in the leadership training at the 38th ABAI Annual Convention in Seattle in May.

Our second annual conference was held on March 8, 2012, at the Université de Montréal. The conference was bilingual with presentations in the morning being held in English and those in the afternoon in French. Attendance far exceeded our expectations with approximately 95 registrants for the event. Dr. John T. Rapp, professor at St. Cloud State University, provided a much appreciated keynote address on using discontinuous recording methods and single-case designs to evaluate behaviour changes in clinical settings. We also had several local researchers and clinicians who presented their work conducted with individuals with developmental disabilities. The 1-day event ended with a very interesting panel discussion on the state and future of early intensive behavioural intervention in Québec.

For the year to come, we plan to explore the possibility of collaborating on a national level with our sister organisations in other Canadian provinces. We will continue our recruitment of new members and hope to reach 100 members by the end of 2012. Our Events Committee is actively planning for our third annual conference, which should be held in February 2013. Two new issues of our newsletter will be published to pursue our objective of providing accurate and updated information on behaviour analysis in French and English to our members. Finally, the Board of Director's main objective is to finalize our strategic plan to guide our actions in the years to come. Altogether, we hope that these activities will help us fulfill our mission and ensure that individuals seeking behaviour analytic services in Québec have access to high quality services.

Rhode Island ABA

BY SHEILA O'BRIEN QUINN

Rhode Island ABA will celebrate its first birthday in November 2012. During these months, we have enjoyed the hospitality of the staff and administration of the Pathways Strategic Teaching Center in Coventry, Rhode Island, who have provided space and refreshments for our meetings. Because of the efforts of member Breta Combs, we are

cooperating with Families for Effective Autism Treatment of Rhode Island (FEAT-RI) so that our members can earn CEUs for participating at some of our meetings.

Working with our state representatives to pass both licensure and insurance legislation has been a major focus of our chapter. Judith Ursitti of Autism Speaks has provided continuous guidance and superhuman support for the chapter's efforts. The chapter's legislative liaisons Bob Kidd, BCBA, and Brian McGovern, BCBA, have been instrumental in alerting the membership to legislative committee hearings as well as modeling effective testimony techniques. Roberta Ryan, BCBA, and chapter president-elect Andrea Chait, Ph.D., BCBA, have joined Bob and Brian in frequently speaking at committee hearings. The legislation mandating insurance coverage for applied behavior analysis treatment for children with autism has passed and the licensure bill is expected to pass soon. Check our website (www.ri-aba.org) for a banner headline when that happens!

Sociedad Mexicana de Análisis de la Conducta

BY C. CARPIO, R. ARROYO, AND C. CANALES

For 36 years, the constitution of the Sociedad Mexicana de Análisis de la Conducta (Mexican Society of Behavior Analysis; MSBA) has sought a collective identity for those who acknowledge in the experimental and applied analysis of behavior in the scientific manner for generation and application of psychological knowledge. From this identity, the chapter gained legitimacy and institutional support for all the efforts and attempts to create opportunities for the generation, application, dissemination, and discussion of scientific behavioral knowledge. Although not unique, the Mexican Congress of Behavior Analysis and the *Mexican Journal for Behavior Analysis* (MJBA) are the two most notable displays of the corporate effort to achieve the aims of promoting and disseminating the analysis of behavior and its disciplinary and social benefits.

Despite some uncertainty, the continuity of MSBA attests to those who have worked for behavior analysis via teaching, research, and institutional administration. Members of MSBA share the following general values:

- To disseminate knowledge about behavior analysis among practitioners of psychology and related disciplines.
- To contribute to the *Mexican Journal for Behavior Analysis*.
- To organize seminars, conferences, lectures, and scientific events in order to promote communication among scholars in behavior analysis in Mexico.
- To partner with similar associations in Mexico and abroad.
- To advise institutions, organizations, and associations on issues related to behavior analysis.

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With one of its primary objectives to contribute to the creation of spaces for the dissemination and discussion of theoretical and methodological aspects of both basic research and the derivation of intervention strategies in applied settings related to the experimental analysis of behavior, MSBA was formed in May 1975.

According to these aims, the XXI Mexican Congress of Behavior Analysis was held August 29–September 2, 2011, in Acapulco, Guerrero, an event with 67 activities (6 keynotes, 10 invited lectures, 14 invited symposia, 16 symposia, 18 free paper sessions, and 3 poster sessions), requiring the participation of 413 authors and co-authors.

MSBA's dissemination of work by behavior analysts has crystallized in its continued support of the *Journal of the Experimental Analysis of Behavior*, published continuously since 1975 as part of the Mega Project of Scientific Journals in the *Catalogue of the National Autonomous University of Mexico*, and hosted at www.journals.unam.mx. The journal is of exceptional quality and receives financial support from the National Council of Science and Technology.

For this year, the chapter is planning the XXII Convention of MSBA, to be held November 13–16, 2012, in Guanajuato, Guanajuato. The call for presentations is now open and can be found at www.smac.org.mx. We're also planning the Third Symposium on the Analysis of Student Behavior.

Southeastern ABA

BY KAREN G. ANDERSON

Mission

Southeastern Association for Behavior Analysis (SEABA) is a regional affiliate of ABAA. Like its parent organization, SEABA seeks to promote scholarly discourse within and about behavior analysis. SEABA membership and convention registration are open to anyone with a scholarly interest in behavior analysis.

History

Although many people contributed to the founding and development of SEABA, Aaron J. Brownstein is widely credited with being the driving force behind this process. At SEABA's inaugural business meeting, Brownstein was elected its first president and Fred Keller was awarded the honorary title of past president in recognition of his profound impact on behavior analysts in the Southeast (and, indeed, everywhere). Brownstein passed away in 1986. Keller was an active participant in SEABA until his death in 1996.

SEABA's "sunburst" logo was designed around 1986 by Robert C. Mellon, a graduate student at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. A banner bearing this familiar design marks the podium at SEABA annual meetings and passes from the outgoing to the incoming president at the conclusion of each meeting.

Convention

SEABA pursues its agenda primarily through an annual scientific meeting. The day and a half program of the annual meeting features invited addresses touching on the many domains in which behavior analysis has had an impact. SEABA's first convention was held November 15–17, 1984, at the Landmark Hotel in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. The original program format emphasized topical symposia organized by a variety of SEABA members. Over the years, the annual meeting has evolved to emphasize hour-long addresses invited by a program chair.

SEABA convenes its annual meeting each October or November. Sites are preferred that provide ready access from throughout SEABA's large catchment area, which stretches roughly from southern Florida to northern West Virginia. Over the years, a loyal SEABA following has developed from outside the region as well. Among these welcome interlopers are former invited speakers and former students of graduate programs in the region, who upon sampling the annual meeting, increasingly make SEABA a permanent fixture on their convention calendars.

Governance and Philosophy

SEABA is governed by elected officials, including a president (who selects the convention site, appoints the program chair, and presides over the annual meeting); a secretary (who maintains communication with the members); and a treasurer (who attends to the organization's financial business). A three-person board of directors advises the other officers.

A guiding philosophy of SEABA is that students are junior colleagues, with an emphasis on the latter portion of the term. Consequently, SEABA strives to keep membership and convention registration fees low to facilitate student attendance. By SEABA tradition, students typically assist in the planning and orchestration of the annual meeting, and contribute to its scholarly well-being through numerous poster presentations. For more information, please visit our website: <http://psychweb.cisat.jmu.edu/zinnte/seaba/index.html>.

Swedish ABA

BY ULRIKA LÅNGH AND NED CARTER

Swedish ABA (SWABA) had 132 members in 2011. Interest in behavior analysis in Sweden has grown in recent years, with increasing demand for applied behavior analysis services from parent and support groups that focus on autism and developmental disorders. Interest is also growing among professionals, mainly psychologists, special educational teachers, and speech therapists.

Our new website, www.swaba.se, went live in 2011. In February 2011, SWABA arranged a 1-day seminar in Stockholm. Topics covered included brief intervention, evaluation of acceptance and commitment therapy with a group, and Nathan Azrin—eternal pioneer. Sixty people attended the autumn meeting in October and listened to talks

on work motivation and corporate culture, love as behaviour, and using clickers with behavior analysis in animal training.

SWABA supports the formation of special interest groups and an organizational behavior management group was formed in 2011—an addition to a previously formed group for board certified behaviour analysts. SWABA was represented at the 2011 ABAI Annual Convention in Denver, CO. During the convention, SWABA presented a poster at the expo. In addition, bids were accepted for a unique SWABA t-shirt, the proceeds of which were donated to the SABA unrestricted fund.

SWABA would like to encourage anyone who plans to visit Sweden or Scandinavia to contact Ulrika Lång (ulrika.lang@sl.se), the current president, to explore the possibility of meeting and/or lecturing. SWABA holds its annual meeting during the first quarter of each year. In 2012, the fall meeting will be held on October 20 in Stockholm.

Tennessee ABA

BY BETH URBANCZYK

For Tennessee Association for Behavior Analysis (TABA), and the field of behavior analysis at-large, 2011 was a year filled with excitement, frustration, loss, and hope. In order to remain current with public policy and professional issues related to our field, members of the TABA Executive Committee attended a number of relevant events at the 38th ABAI Annual Convention ranging from “Second Town Hall Meeting” to “Legislation, Licensure, and Insurance for Behavior Analysts in Kentucky” (presented by Nic Weatherly). These events provided a lot of information to digest. TABA Executive Committee continued to stay involved in 2012 at the Second Annual APBA Conference meeting for state chapters as well as the ABAI chapter leadership training at the 38th ABAI Annual Convention.

We are quite fortunate to have Jim Johnston living in Tennessee and sharing his time, insight, and knowledge regarding these very challenging issues. He contributed an article titled, “Did You Know” to our summer 2011 newsletter on serious issues that we all need to consider as we go about our daily work and as we (the TABA membership) work together to strengthen TABA. We are grateful that Dick Malott contributed his “Confessions of a Fanatical, Radical Behaviorist” article in our fall 2011 newsletter. In the next newsletter, Dick Malott will write about the life of Dr. Gerald Shook—who recently passed away—which will recount his many sincere thanks to Jerry. TABA made a donation in Dr. Shook’s memory to the American Lung Association. Finally, TABA and the State of Tennessee saw three important behavior analysts move out of state: George Zukotynski, Mark Chambers and Robin Lunsford. We wish each of you well in your journey! George moved to Texas, Mark to Florida, and Robin to Washington.

The members of the Executive Committee and Committee Chairpersons continue to work actively and diligently on

behalf of the TABA membership. We were fortunate in 2012 when the weather cooperated and we held our annual face-to-face meeting in January as scheduled. TABA also held regional meetings in the spring. On March 27, the Middle Region held a conference in Nashville. On April 21, the East Region held a conference in Dandridge. Finally, on April 27, the West Region held a conference in Arlington. Many thanks go out to regional representatives Annette Little, Mick Needham, and Pam Gillespie for organizing these CE events that help bring our members together in their local regions as well as encourage new and renewed memberships. We have a number of tasks that are in process for 2012. A few of those tasks include continued development and refinement of a new TABA brochure, legislative monitoring via Caissa Public Strategy, Memphis, and the 15th Annual TABA Conference to be held October 18–19, 2012. We are additionally planning to have a business meeting this year with Kentucky and Alabama ABA in an effort to collaborate and strengthen the Southeastern Region for the field of behavior analysis.

We have had some changes in terms of our committee chairpersons in 2012. Jason Grosser has stepped into the leadership role for the Professional Standards Committee. He has been quite active in continuing to gather information from a variety of sources and individuals across the State of Tennessee and nationally as well. Brian Kee has stepped into the Membership Committee chairperson role. He has many ideas for the growth of TABA’s membership, community outreach, and increased awareness of TABA as an organization. If you are interested in working with Jason and/or Brian on their committees, please feel free to contact them via director@tennesseeaba.org. Samantha Edwards, Carolina Reyes-Needham, Paul Malanga, and Pablo Juarez are spearheading the planning for the 15th Annual TABA Conference. The conference is shaping up quite nicely in terms of speakers, topics, and collaboration. Please go to www.tennesseeaba.org to become a member of TABA find updates on our conference in Nashville!

Texas ABA

BY ANNA INGEBORG PETURSDOTTIR

Mission

The mission of Texas Association for Behavior Analysis (TxABA) is to advance the science and application of behavior analysis to improve the world in which we live. To that end, TxABA strives to disseminate knowledge from the science of behavior analysis to the public and to professional behavior analysts working in Texas and its neighboring states (Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana, and New Mexico).

2012 Annual Conference and Awards

TxABA sponsors an annual conference that has recently grown to be one of the largest regional conferences on behavior analysis in the United States. This year’s

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conference was held February 17–18, 2012, at the Austin Convention Center in Austin, TX. It attracted 612 attendees; making it the best attended TxABA conference ever. Invited presenters included Jonathan Baker, Thomas Critchfield, Michael Domjan, Wayne Fisher, Sigrid Glenn, Douglas Johnson, Peter Killeen, Dorothea Lerman, Michael Mozzoni, Matthew Normand, David Palmer, Cathleen Piazza, Carol Pilgrim, and Paul Soto.

Over 30 posters by students, faculty, and practitioners from all over Texas and neighboring states were showcased at the poster sessions. The winners of the annual student poster competition were Rachel Dove (University of North Texas; “It Might Leave a Bitter Taste in Your Mouth: The Effects of a Sucrose Fading Procedure on the Consumption of Alcohol” co-authored by Jonathan Pinkston) and Layla Abby (Texas Tech University; “Teaching Self-employment Skills to Adults With Developmental Disabilities: An Analogue Analysis with a Recycling Business” co-authored by Wesley Dotson, David Richman, and Samuel Thompson).

An autism research competition was arranged in connection with the conference’s autism track. The three winners received cash prizes and an opportunity to present their research in an invited symposium at the conference. Amanda Bosch from Texas Tech University presented “An Evaluation of a Common Autism Treatment: The Weighted Vest,” JoAnna Jones from the Texana Center presented “The Assessment of Generalization and Stimulus Control in Social Skills Training for Children With Autism,” and Anne Shroyer from the University of Houston–Clear Lake presented “Caregiver Preference for Reinforcement-Based Behavioral Interventions.”

Each year, if conference revenue permits, TxABA awards two James L. Kopp Memorial Scholarships to students of behavior analysis who plan to present their research at the upcoming annual convention of ABAI. These competitive scholarships, which are \$500 each, are intended to help defray the cost of attending the annual convention. In order to be eligible to apply, a student must be listed as the presenting author of an accepted poster or symposium presentation. Awardees are announced and presented with their awards (if present) at the annual conference. The 2012 James L. Kopp Memorial Scholarship recipients are Anne Shroyer from the University of Houston–Clear Lake and Tracy Lepper from Texas Christian University, both of whom presented their research at the 38th ABAI Annual Convention in Seattle.

Finally, at the 2012 conference, Dr. Janet Ellis was honored with the presentation of TxABA’s Career Contributions to Behavior Analysis in Texas award. Dr. Ellis is a former president of TxABA who has enjoyed a successful career, both as a behavior analyst and as a faculty member at the University of North Texas. The 2012 Conference Committee consisted of facilities coordinator Billy Edwards;

administrative coordinator Heather Barahona; CEU coordinator Gordon Bourland; and program chairs Jennifer Fritz, Sarah Lechago, and Manish Vaidya. They deserve applause for putting on this extremely successful conference.

Committees

Gordon Bourland chaired TxABA’s Public Policy Committee in 2011–12. This committee plays a huge role in TxABA’s activities, as it monitors legislative activity and other public policy issues that may affect behavior analysts and their consumers in the state of Texas and recommends action to the TxABA Council. The Council regularly acts upon the recommendations of the committee by providing input to public agencies. A Publicity and Membership Committee was appointed for the first time in 2011. The committee in 2011–2012, which was chaired by Russell Lang, assisted greatly with the marketing of the 2012 conference and preparation of press releases.

Special Interest Groups

In 2011–2012, TxABA had three special interest groups (SIGs) arranged around common interests and geographical locations. The Dallas–Fort Worth Area Autism SIG was chaired by Heather Moore, the South and Central Autism SIG by Lupe Castaneda, and the Organizational Behavior Management SIG by Domonique Randall.

Other Information

TxABA’s electronic newsletter was published once in 2011–2012 and distributed to members via email. TxABA’s Facebook page currently has over 460 followers and is used to disseminate conference information and public policy information, among other things. TxABA’s website performs well in Google searches on behavior analysis in Texas.

Officers

The 2011–2012 TxABA Council consisted of President Anna Petursdottir; Past President Gordon Bourland; and council members Jennifer Fritz, Duy Le, and Lori Russo. The student representative to council was Summer Koltonski. Elections were held in February for a council member to replace Lori Russo, who completed her term, and Sarah Lechago was elected. In addition, student members elected Brett Kellerstedt as the student representative for 2012–13.

In 2011–12, Heather Barahona served as TxABA’s administrative coordinator and only paid (albeit underpaid) employee and Carla Smith took over the position of treasurer from Leslie Burkett, who served in that role for many years.

Upcoming Activity

The upcoming year is expected to be busy for TxABA. The Texas Legislature goes into session in January 2013, making the monitoring of legislative activity a priority for TxABA.

Legislative activity pertaining to the licensing of behavior analysts has not yet occurred in Texas, but given developments around the nation, the Public Policy Committee and TxABA Council are monitoring the situation closely.

TxABA's next conference will be held March 1–2, 2013, at the Hilton Downtown Fort Worth in Fort Worth, TX. At the time that this report was written, TxABA was exploring potential venues for the 2014 conference.

Tidewater ABA

BY MEGAN MILLER

Tidewater ABA formed in November 2011. This local chapter was started by a group of behavior analysts living in the Tidewater region of Virginia committed to disseminating information about behavior analysis in this part of the state. Activities this year included the first election of officers, monthly meetings to decide events and activities for the upcoming year, and the formation of a Facebook and wiki page to disseminate information about the chapter.

The largest project completed by Tidewater ABA this year was providing assistance with an insurance and licensure law. The president of Tidewater ABA, Megan Miller, worked very closely with the Virginia Autism Project and the Association of Professional Behavior Analysts to coordinate behavior analysts around the state to ensure that the licensure law protected behavior analysts' right to practice. The bill passed and became a law in March 2012. It is our hope that by October 2012, families of children with autism across Virginia will be able to access their insurance coverage for behavior analytic services.

The officers and members of Tidewater ABA are very excited to increase activities in 2012. Members will experience access to networking within the Tidewater area, access to data sheets and discussion topics on the wiki page, and presentations by local and national behavior analysts.

Utah ABA

BY SARAH E. BLOOM

The Utah Association for Behavior Analysis (UtABA), founded in 2010, seeks to encourage scientific activity, professional training and development, and intellectual activity related to behavior analysis in the state of Utah. UtABA held its second meeting in June 2011 in cooperation with the Effective Practices for Teachers and Human Service Professionals Conference at Utah State University. UtABA participated in that conference by offering presentations within the behavior analysis track. UtABA's second annual business meeting was also held at that conference. The keynote speaker was Dr. Robert Horner of the University of Oregon; Dr. Stephanie Peterson of Western Michigan University delivered a presentation in the behavior analysis track. In addition to other behavior analysis presentations, UtABA contributed two research symposia and a poster session to the conference program.

This year's conference (June 18–21) was held in cooperation with the Effective Practices Conference at Utah State University. Dr. Jo Webber of Texas State University delivered the keynote address. Additional behavior analysis presentations, research symposia, a poster session, and a business meeting were also held.

UtABA is a BACB-approved type 2 provider. Current officers are Sarah Bloom (president), Tom Higbee (president-elect), Andrew Samaha (secretary/treasurer), Shawnee Collins and Amy Odum (members-at-large), and Matthew Brodhead and S. Shanun Kunnavatana (student representatives).

Vermont ABA

BY ALLISON STONE

The Vermont Association for Behavior Analysis (VtABA) held its annual members' meeting on October 19, 2011, at the Capitol Plaza Hotel located in Montpelier, Vermont. The VtABA members' meeting is an annual highlight for the organization. It provides a venue for members to gather and reflect on the organization's accomplishments of the previous year and discuss the direction of VtABA for the upcoming year. This past year, we also invited members to share the specifics of their applied behavior analytic work in a data share. Topics at the data share included a local human service agency's early autism intervention program, training school staff to implement a verbal behavior program to increase student manding behavior, and parents implementing a behavior analytic sleep intervention with their children. The data share was well received by attendees. In light of the event's success, we plan to expand to a larger audience, including conference attendees in addition to VtABA members. We believe that it can serve as a valuable platform for students and professionals to share their work in applied behavior analysis with one another. The annual meeting was followed by VtABA's Second Annual Conference the following day. We were honored to have Dr. Dennis Reid present "Training, Supervising, and Motivating Support Staff to Promote Independence and Enjoyment Among People With Disabilities." The event was well attended by educators and students from all around the state.

We are also pleased to report that VtABA continued to see membership numbers grow in 2011. Factors that most likely contribute to this impressive membership growth include continuing education opportunities in the field of behavior analysis offered to VtABA members at a discounted rate, free BACB-approved continuing education credits, and opportunities for professionals interested in behavior analysis to learn how to apply the principles to their particular field of work.

In the upcoming year, VtABA will focus on being an accessible community presence and resource. Although in a consistent state of refinement, VtABA continues to provide information to members and the community through our

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website (www.vtaba.com), on our Facebook page, and via LinkedIn. VtABA will also offer several events in 2012:

- On Friday, October 26, the Capitol Plaza in Montpelier, VT, will host VtABA's Third Annual Conference with guest presenter, Dr. Iser DeLeon. This event will also include a data share for professionals in the field of behavior analysis and the annual VtABA members' meeting.
- In the fall, VtABA will lead an informational workshop on legislation of the Autism Insurance Bill in Vermont.

Virginia ABA

BY TRACY E. ZINN

On March 24, 2012, the Virginia Association for Behavior Analysis (VABA) held its eighth annual conference. We invited six speakers to this meeting: Carrie Borrero (Kennedy Krieger Institute, "Pediatric Feeding Disorders: From Assessment to Treatment"); Chad Gluska (College of Charleston, "Behavior in Transition: The Disruptive Effects of Shifts in Reinforcement Context"); Alice Shillingsburg (Marcus Autism Center, "An Overview of the Verbal Behavior Approach to Teaching Children With Autism Spectrum Disorders"); Ray Miltenberger (University of South Florida, "Safety Skills Training With Children: What Works and What Doesn't?"); Tina Sidener (Caldwell College, "Toward a Technology for Establishing Conditioned Reinforcers for Individuals With Autism"); and Jim Johnston (Auburn University, "Issues in Credentialing Professional Applied Behavior Analysts"). Our attendance was up by about 40% from last year, with 91 registrants and 84 attendees.

At the conclusion of the conference, we had a poster session (featuring approximately 20 posters), social, and business meeting. At the business meeting, we discussed possibilities for expanding the conference so that we could reach a wider audience of interested people in the state. Currently, we are asking members for nominations for president-elect, secretary/treasurer, and board of directors and will be having elections via email contacts for our members. We are interested in hearing from both members and other interested parties as to the needs of the people of Virginia. For example, are there workshops or topics that constituents would like to see at the conference? (For contributions, please go to http://jmu.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_af0sJMvXPYGIh18.) We are also interested in collaborating with Tidewater ABA in order to determine what unique niche each of our chapters can fill.

VABA is planning a revamping of our website to be more inclusive of a wider audience. Again, we are hoping for feedback regarding the information that constituents would like to see on the website.

VABA is a Behavior Analyst Certification Board approved continuing education (CE) provider for board

certified behavior analysts and board certified assistant behavior analysts. Type 2 continuing education credits are available at the annual meetings. We do not have a final count of the number of CEs offered in total this year. One goal for our organization is to provide opportunities to earn CE credits to the practitioners in our state. We would love to hear from practitioners, parents, and academics regarding the topics that are most pressing for them.

The annual VABA conference is the primary activity of our organization and our only annual meeting. Membership in VABA includes registration for the annual conference; therefore, we do not distinguish between the number of conference attendees and the size of our organization. The Ninth Annual VABA Conference will be held at James Madison University on March 30, 2013. Please check our website for updates on next year's conference. The conference will also include a business meeting to address elections. VABA members, please encourage students and colleagues to submit posters for next year's conference. Questions about VABA should be directed to Tracy Zinn (zinnte@jmu.edu).

Wisconsin ABA

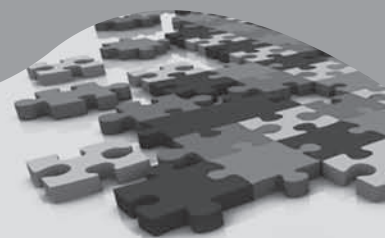
BY WILLIAM MURRAY

The Wisconsin Association for Behavior Analysis (WisABA) was founded in 2004 after a small group of behavior analysts and supporters gathered in the northeast part of the state to discuss the prospect of becoming a local chapter of ABAL. Our mission is to promote an evidence-based understanding of human behavior and to help the people of Wisconsin improve their lives and the lives of those around them. WisABA is also an affiliate of the Association of Professional Behavior Analysts. WisABA's recurring and ongoing activities include the annual WisABA conference (focused on behaviorally based solutions in Wisconsin), collaborative road shows with academic and professional entities around the state, continuing education opportunities for behavior analysts, social networking activities for members and other interested parties, position statements on issues of concern to behavior analysts and their clients, educating interested community groups about applied behavior analysis, and advocating for behavior analysts and behavior analysis through public policy input. Depending on interest, experience, and training, membership in WisABA may be one of three types: full, affiliate, or student.

This past year was exciting for WisABA. Behavior analysts in our state continue to benefit from the licensure bill enacted in 2010—as of this writing there are 35 licensed behavior analysts in Wisconsin, including autism treatment providers, neurorehabilitation professionals, those in academic and governmental positions, and an increasing number of private consultants who work in various capacities delivering services to individuals with behavioral concerns. We also developed a relationship with our

statewide Autism Society, and put in place a mechanism to ensure representation at each other's annual conferences, recognizing our mutual interests in ensuring sound practices. Our fourth annual conference was held August 20–21, 2011, at the Waisman Center on the campus of the University of Wisconsin-Madison. This 2-day conference was well attended, with local and nationally recognized speakers presenting on a variety of behavior analytic topics. Workshops focused on antecedent interventions to prevent challenging behavior, supporting functional communication of individuals with autism, tailoring toilet training to meet the needs of individual children, and functional behavior assessment. For the first time, we encouraged parents of children with disabilities to attend presentations free of charge, and intend to do so at future conferences. We wish to thank all those who presented and attended and we hope you will return in future years.

The year ahead presents similar opportunities for WisABA. We hope to have another road show in the fall, where students, professors, professionals, and practitioners will have an opportunity to share research with other WisABA members and get feedback on their work, establishing new collaborations and friendships in the process. Our business meeting held in Seattle at ABAI's annual convention gave WisABA members the opportunity to review the past year's accomplishments and plan next year's major activities. Our fifth conference is scheduled for August 13–15, 2012, at the Memorial Union on the University of Wisconsin-Madison campus. We again have an impressive array of presenters from around the state as well as from around the country. All are welcome and we look forward to the exchange of ideas and data-based research. On the advocacy front, we continue to work toward efforts to ensure practice rights for qualified behavior analysts in Wisconsin, keeping in mind issues related to consumer protection and the need for sound ethical practice. We look forward to another exciting year and welcome input from members as well as interested others across the state. ❖



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Updates From ABAI's Special Interest Groups

Applied Animal Behavior SIG

BY CHRISTY A. ALLIGOOD

This year, the Applied Animal Behavior Special Interest Group (SIG) has continued our focus on communication with SIG members, ABAI members, and applied animal behaviorists in other organizations; promotion of scholarship in applied animal behavior; and certification/licensure issues affecting applied animal behaviorists. Our SIG's Yahoo Group continues to serve as our primary means of communication with SIG members and the vehicle for strategic-planning discussions. To join the Yahoo Group, contact the communications liaison, Terri Bright, at terribright@comcast.net. We continue to discuss ways to generate dialogue with other groups within ABAI and with other applied animal behavior organizations. Certification and licensure issues are of increasing interest to a number of SIG members, and SIG leaders communicated with the BACB this year regarding these interests.

We again recognized excellent student scholarship in applied animal behavior this year with the Marian Breland Bailey Award for Student Research and Scholarship. We have experimented over the past several years with changes to the submission and evaluation process for the award, and we will continue to discuss ways to raise the profile of the award and promote student participation. This year we added new expert reviewers, and thanks to the generous support of our members, we were able to provide our finalists with registration for the ABAI pre-convention workshop "How Do They Do That? An Introduction to Operant Conditioning at the Zoo." Students interested in programs of graduate study in animal behavior may wish to consult a listing of such programs created by SIG member Eddie Fernandez, which can be found at <http://faculty.washington.edu/eduferna/AABprograms.xlsx>.

Last year we instituted a set of bylaws, including a new mission statement, to guide the SIG as it continues to grow in the coming years. This year we continued our work on solidifying the organizational structure of the SIG by incorporating our group and applying for nonprofit status. These steps will allow for easier transitions and better financial management as new SIG leaders are elected.

As usual, SIG members were very busy at the ABAI convention; this year in Seattle there were 22 applied animal behavior-related events, including the aforementioned workshop, 11 posters, 5 symposia, 2 B. F. Skinner lectures, a tutorial, and 2 Professional Development Series panel discussions in collaboration with the ABAI Student Committee. The SIG conducted our annual business meeting and presented a poster at the expo, and SIG leaders attended and presented at the Special Interest Group Leadership Training. We also organized a visit to Woodland Park Zoo, led by Eddie Fernandez.

The membership of the Applied Animal Behavior SIG is diverse and includes academicians, researchers, and practitioners from a variety of disciplines dedicated to, affiliated with, or interested in animal behavior and/or behavior management or behavior therapy with animals in applied settings. We welcome new members who share our interest in animal behavior and applied behavior analysis. For more information, contact SIG president Christy A. Alligood at Christina.Alligood@disney.com.

Autism SIG

BY LORI BECHNER

The Autism Special Interest Group (SIG) brings together individuals who specialize or are interested in the application of behavior analysis to the education and treatment of individuals with autism across the lifespan. The Autism SIG's initiatives include promoting high standards and supporting consumers in the application of behavior analysis services, publishing an electronic newsletter, maintaining a shared website with the Parent-Professional Partnership SIG, and presenting an annual student research award.

Current Officers

Lori Bechner completed her term as president in May when Bob Ross assumed this role. Past presidents David Celiberti, Mary Jane Weiss, and Ruth Donlin also continue to contribute to the activities of the Autism SIG. Amy Hansford currently serves as secretary/treasurer, and Sara Gershfeld serves as webmaster.

Membership

With membership of more than 1,300 people, we are the largest special interest group within ABAI! All are welcome to join the Autism SIG. There are no fees required, and membership information is kept confidential. For more information, visit our website (www.autismpppsig.org) or email autismsig@gmail.com.

Consumer Guidelines

One of the main initiatives of the Autism SIG has been the development and revision of the Consumer Guidelines for Identifying, Selecting, and Evaluating Behavior Analysts Working With Individuals With Autism Spectrum Disorders. The Consumer Guidelines were first developed in 1998 as a resource for parents and professionals, and were revised in 2004 and 2007. We are currently hard at work on completing another revision of these guidelines, which aim to be reader-friendly and to reflect the many changes in practitioner issues in the recent past. Updates on the current revision process were provided at our annual business meeting (open to all) at the ABAI convention. The revision process includes work by an internal

committee, as well as external review. A link to the current version of the Consumer Guidelines is available on our website. We are excited to finalize and distribute the revised version in the near future!

Newsletter

Newsletters are published two to four times per year. Content includes research article reviews, book reviews, program descriptions, interviews, and topical articles. Last year, we changed the format of our newsletter from paper to electronic to make distribution and content access easier. All members of the Autism SIG receive the newsletter by email. In addition, all newsletter content is available through links on our website. If you are interested in contributing to the newsletter, please visit our website to volunteer!

Website

The Autism SIG maintains a shared website with the Parent-Professional Partnership SIG: www.autismpppsig.org. The website contains information from our newsletters (research article reviews, book reviews, program descriptions, interviews, topical articles), information about upcoming conferences (including the ABAI annual convention and autism conference), resources such as frequently asked questions, and information about the annual student research award. Please visit our website to check out these features!

Behavior Analysis for Sustainable Societies SIG

BY JULIA H. FIEBIG

The Behavior Analysis for Sustainable Societies Special Interest Group (BASS SIG) has continued to make progress in building a membership from within and beyond the behavior analytic community. Through the support of the Cambridge Center for Behavioral Studies and their Green/Environment Solutions Group, the ABAI Executive Council, and the efforts of many other individuals, BASS has continued to grow in membership and spark interest in behavior change and sustainability initiatives. The BASS Facebook page—established by Donny Newsome—has reached approximately 330 “likes” and continues to be a forum for sharing information on sustainability efforts across disciplines. The BASS Yahoo Group—established by Todd Ward—is also a vehicle for discussion and the continued development of BASS objectives, topics of interest, and initiatives.

The second BASS SIG business meeting was held at the 38th ABAI Annual Convention in Seattle, Washington. Discussions of the function and structure of BASS were continued. The need for officer elections; length of terms; and the function and responsibilities of various positions including chairperson, associate chairperson, membership coordinator, communications/web coordinator, treasurer, and

outreach/liaisons contact were discussed. Meeting notes and contact information can be found in the BASS Yahoo Group.

In line with the BASS mission to advance applications of behavior analysis to environmental issues, members and supporters of BASS presented seven papers at the 38th ABAI Annual Convention in Seattle:

- Evaluating Strategies to Improve Energy Conservation in a University Setting (Canisz, Smith, & Eni, 2012)
- Three More Green Projects From Fresno State (Wilhite et al., 2012)
- Teaching Preschool Children Recycling Behaviors: An Evaluation of Behavioral Components Within Public Service Announcements (Wilhite & Williams, 2012)
- Driving Green: Toward the Prediction and Influence of Efficient Driving Behavior (Newsome & Alavosius, 2012)
- Sustainability in the Field: Lake Tahoe Hospitality and Environmental Protection (Leeming, Hansen, & Alavosius, 2012)
- Distributing Green Practices: Sustainability in a Supply Chain (Knott et al., 2012)
- Climate Change and the Global Need for Sustainable Practices: Opportunities, Challenges, and Responsibilities for Behavior Analysts (invited symposium paper; Heward, 2012)

Additionally, members of BASS made poster submissions for ABAI's upcoming Behavior Change for a Sustainable World Conference, which will be held in Columbus, OH, August 3–5, 2012. Information regarding these posters can be found at <http://portal.abainternational.org/Public/ProgramOnTheWeb/frmPoster.aspx?intConvID=25&Search=Posters>.

Future objectives of BASS include continuing to support initiatives that directly contribute to applications of behavior analysis to environmental issues. BASS supports collaborative initiatives for multidisciplinary research and practical applications of behavioral solutions for environmental issues. Below are BASS SIG's target goals:

- Increase membership within ABAI and expand membership to include other scientists, researchers, professionals, and students interested in approaching behavior change and sustainability from a multidisciplinary perspective.
- Establish relationships with other SIGs in ABAI and other organizations interested in collaborating on disseminating research and practical applications of behavioral solutions to climate change, pollution, over-consumption of resources, and imbalances in environmental sustainability.
- Develop resources for individuals interested in behavior change and environmental issues.
- Develop textbooks, curricula, and additional educational resources that address sustainability and the application of behavior analysis.

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- Develop an information base of current effective practices/initiatives, government policies, and employment opportunities for behavior analysts interested in behavior change and environmental issues.

Additional information can be found by signing up for the Yahoo Group (<http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/behavioranalystsfor sustainablesocieties/>) or joining the BASS Facebook page (www.facebook.com/BASS-Behavior-Analysis-for-Sustainable-Societies#!/pages/BASS-Behavior-Analysis-for-Sustainable-Societies/115936941800586). Be sure to check www.abainternational.org/Special_Interests/BASS.asp for updates.

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Behavioral Gerontology SIG

BY JONATHAN BAKER

Behavioral gerontology is the application of behavior analysis to aging and age-related issues (LeBlanc, Raetz, & Feliciano, 2011). 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 Special Interest Group (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 opportunities for 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 consumers of the

value of our craft. The BGSIG holds a meeting during ABAI's Annual Convention and honors a student presenter each year. In addition to ongoing business activities, this meeting typically includes discussing challenges involved in working in multidisciplinary service settings and brainstorming ideas for research studies to foster future student participation. A newsletter is distributed twice per year, and the spring newsletter always includes a list of the aging-related presentations at the upcoming convention. Information about the SIG and previous newsletters are available on the website (<http://bgsig.wordpress.com/>).

Behavior Analyst Online

BY PAUL R. MALANGA

Behavior analysis has been used to improve performance in a wide array of fields, including 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, comprehensive functional behavioral assessment, collaboration, and problem solving demands that behavior analysts be creative thinkers in the application of evidence-based procedures based on principles of the science of human behavior. Staying current with best practices is critical to ensuring a client's right to effective behavioral intervention while wide dissemination helps "save the world with behavior analysis." The Behavior Analyst Online is dedicated to helping behavior analysts remain current in research and methodology, while providing free Online access helps ensure worldwide availability of some of the latest behavior analysis research.

The Behavior Analyst Online will develop and deploy new resources, making them available on the Internet free of charge to the public. These resources will be dedicated to educating the public about behavior analysis as well as serving as a resource for professionals involved in research and/or application of behavior analysis principles. The group will also be responsible to its membership to develop resources that are useful in everyday research, education, and application of the science of behavior. Finally, the group will be operated under the guidance of its Senior Membership Board.

Our website provides behavior analysts with information on the following:

- Theory, basic and applied research 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, and direct and analogue assessment
- Behavioral interventions across an array of disciplines, including behavioral health, education, criminology, consultation, verbal behavior, and early intervention

- 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

Objective

The objective of the Behavior Analyst Online is to develop specific resources including, but not limited to, the following:

- Online e-journals
- Online referral services
- Professional placement services
- Behavior analysis web boards
- Document shares
- E-newsletters
- Online behavior analysis storefronts

Subscribe

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

Clinical SIG

BY THOMAS J. WALTZ AND EMILY JOHNSON

Clinical behavior analysis (CBA) involves the application of behavior analytic principles to the full range of human problems, many of which have traditionally been considered “mental health” issues. CBA clinicians work with the relationship between thoughts, feelings, and other behavior to help people move beyond their problems and toward more fulfilling lives.

The Clinical Special Interest Group (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 includes:

- Anxiety disorders
- Behavioral gerontology
- Behavioral health
- Childhood disorders
- Cognitive rehabilitation
- Couples therapy
- Developmental disabilities
- Family therapy
- Forensic psychology (assessment and treatment)
- Habit disorders
- Health psychology
- 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 to clinical populations. This group seeks

to promote CBA within ABAI and is interested in maintaining the long-standing relationship between basic research and clinical application.

At the 2012 ABAI Annual Convention, the Clinical SIG met to continue work on several ongoing projects. A new Clinical SIG newsletter, *The Clinical Behavior Analyst*, is soliciting submissions that include brief updates from CBA academic training programs and research labs, promotions of workshops and conference events, and information on CBA events during the ABAI annual convention. The Clinical SIG is working to develop opportunities to recognize and support students doing research in this area. To keep up to date on Clinical SIG activities, please check our listserv at http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/Clinical_SIG/.

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

Direct Instruction SIG

BY WENDY L. LITTLETON-KOZMA

The significance of evidence-based instructional practices has been established, 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.

As the number of individuals diagnosed with autism spectrum disorders (ASD) has increased significantly over the past decade, there is tremendous interest in autism research and services within the applied behavior analysis community. Practitioners, educators, students, parents, and other professionals are seeking out education and training in behavior- and science-based interventions. Professionals working with individuals with ASD make up a significant number of those attending the ABAI annual convention. It is one of the goals of the Direct Instruction Special Interest Group (DI SIG) to provide training and support as it relates to ABAI members and convention attendees.

Direct instruction is a logical choice for a wide variety of learners. Frequently, the instructional needs of learners with ASD and other challenges are not so dramatically different from the needs of typically developing learners. As a stated goal, the DI SIG is striving to coordinate and support a continuum of ongoing education, training, and networking opportunities for all individuals interested in direct instruction implementation as an effective, evidence-based instructional practice.

Members of the DI SIG who prepare and mentor students in special education training programs have recently undertaken a review of the literature regarding

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the characteristics of learners with ASD. They describe a close match between direct instruction methodology and meeting the identified instructional needs of learners on the spectrum. Specific features of direct instruction that support this population include:

- **General Case Instruction.** Teaches intended generalizations while prohibiting incorrect generalization. Instruction becomes most efficient when more content is taught in less time.
- **Formats.** Provide consistent instructional routines, wording, and arrangement of learning tasks. Such formats support learners sensitive to changes in routines while providing systematic fading of prompts.
- **Standardized Error Correction Procedures.** Increase instructional efficiency through prevention of error patterns that interfere with generalization and fluency development.

Presidents and chairs of the Autism SIG, the DI SIG and the Parent-Professional Partnership SIG continue informal discussion concerning ways in which the SIGs might collaborate to provide support and training for both parents and professionals attending the annual convention and other related events such as state organization conferences. Such collaboration would provide a forum to plan for and provide ongoing training in direct instruction for professionals on multiple levels (e.g., introductory, intermediate, and advanced/research) and offer education and support for parents.

This year at the annual convention in Seattle, the DI SIG again sponsored a booth at the ABAI Expo. Returning members and newcomers were welcomed at the annual business meeting where discussion included current research projects. DI SIG members also identified key topics and made suggestions regarding best practices related to the implementation of direct instruction, particularly as it relates to the education of children on the autism spectrum.

Dissemination of Behavior Analysis SIG

BY JOSH PRITCHARD

The Dissemination of Behavior Analysis Special Interest Group (SIG) had an exciting year! Our mission is to disseminate the science of human behavior to the public at large through the promulgation of easy to understand explanations of what exactly this science is, to help society realize the potential of behavior analysis, and to dispel myths that detract from its positive image.

The listserv currently has 122 members, our Facebook page has 330 “likes,” and we have 122 Twitter followers. We have recently elected new committee members for 2012: Amanda Kelly is the chair, Benjamin Witts is the vice-chair, Megan Miller is the secretary, Corey Robertson is the webmaster, and Josh Pritchard is the past chair.

At the ABAI convention, we announced our first B. F. Skinner Journalism Award winners—David Freeman won first place, and Robert Wright was second place.

We urge all our readers to make nominations for next year at www.aboutbehavior.com/skinnerjournalismaward.htm. The B. F. Skinner Journalism Award is for original writing—an article, series of articles, or book—published in English for the first time in 2012. The panel of judges—comprised of members of ABAI or other recognized experts in behavior analysis—will choose up to three winners. All winners will receive a certificate, and first and second place winners will receive monetary prizes totaling \$500. However, there will be no winner if the judges find no nominated work sufficiently deserving. Anyone, including the author, may nominate a work. There is no nomination fee for the 2012 award. The person nominating a work must submit one copy for each member of the panel of judges. Up to five works by a given author may be nominated, but only one of those works may win. A series of articles on a given topic published in one periodical is considered one work.

In our efforts toward dissemination, we have made some excellent progress. Amanda Kelly has been doing a fantastic job using social media as a means to disseminate behavior analysis. Additionally, we have updated our website, and with a dedicated webmaster, we expect it to be even more dynamic. We hope to have increased membership in the upcoming year. If you are interested in getting our science into the hands of the lay population, join today! Here are some ideas for ways you can begin:

- Write a summary of conferences for ABAI or other behavioral newsletters
- Send releases to media
- Submit a proposal for a poster at a conference
- Prepare/participate in a panel discussion
- Write about conference events
- Write a press release

Evidence-Based Practice SIG

BY MARK HARVEY

The Evidence-Based Practice Special Interest Group (EBP SIG) of ABAI launched its website (<http://ebpsig.org>) in April 2012. The website was designed to provide resources to educators, clinicians, and researchers interested in evidence-based practice. The website provides a portal for joining the SIG and highlights the research activities of members and researchers examining evidence-based practice in educational settings. Website visitors can view the latest edition of *Savage Controversies*, the quarterly newsletter edited by Dr. David Test (dwtest@uncc.edu). Previous editions are archived on the website as well. Links to conferences and resources related to evidence-based practice are noted.

Several EBP SIG members drafted articles that will be included in the special issues scheduled for publication this fall or winter. Both the *Journal of Positive Behavior Support*

and *Education & Treatment of Children* are publishing special sections on evidence-based practice. Topics range from the utilization of single subject research in evidence-based practice to the integration of evidence-based practice in IDEA.

The annual business meeting was held on Saturday night (May 26) at the 38th ABAI Annual Convention in Seattle, Washington. New leaders for the EBP SIG were elected to help refine the organizational goals and develop an infrastructure to serve the ever-growing SIG. During the annual meeting, EBP SIG members reviewed the mission statement and offered revision ideas for the website.

The EBP SIG continues to provide assistance to organizations interested in learning about or implementing evidence-based practice. The EBP SIG is working with the Practice Board Task Force on Evidence-Based Practices as they provide guidance to behavior analysts offering evidence-based service delivery. Such technical assistance may prove helpful in avoiding some of the pitfalls associated with identification of evidence-based practice.

At this time, there are no membership dues for the EBP SIG. Anyone interested in joining the SIG should log on to the website and sign up under the "Join" tab at the top. Student and ABAI members with website development experience and/or an interest in leadership positions are expressly encouraged to join.

Experimental Analysis of Human Behavior SIG

BY ERIC JACOBS AND MANISH VAIDYA

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

- 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 business meeting of the SIG where students are asked to present their experiments to the audience.
- 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 EAHB as an interesting and viable area of study. Prior recipients have included Alan Baron, Murray Sidman, Joe Brady, Joe Spradlin, A. Charles Catania, David Schmitt, Grayson Osborne, Travis Thompson, and Jack Michael.
- Sponsoring the *Experimental Analysis of Human Behavior Bulletin* (EAHB Bulletin): The bulletin (ISSN 1938-7237) is an online, 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 Manish Vaidya, many of the past hard copy volumes are now available online. We are grateful to the Department of Behavior Analysis at the University of North Texas for technical support in this endeavor.

- Sponsoring an annual meeting for interested parties at the ABAI annual 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 EAHB, 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 2011–2012 activities

The EAHB SIG held its 2011 annual meeting at the ABAI 37th Annual Convention in Denver, CO. The SIG recognized the winners of the Student Paper Competition, Jolene R. Sy (University of Florida; faculty sponsor, Timothy R. Vollmer) for her paper titled, "An Evaluation of Response Rates Under Progressively Increasing Delays to Reinforcement" and Bradley D. Gossett (University of Central Arkansas; faculty sponsor, Shawn R. Charlton) for his paper titled, "Delayed Risk-Taking: Greater Willingness to Gamble for Future Compared to Present-Gambles." The SIG is indebted to Chata Dickson for coordinating the competition and to all participants and reviewers who made the event possible.

The SIG was also excited to present its 2011 Distinguished Career Award to Dr. Jack Michael. To honor Dr. Michael and his many contributions to the field, we organized a symposium featuring presentations by former students and colleagues. The speakers included Caio F. Miguel, Henry D. Schlenger, and Mark L. Sundberg. The symposium (#418) was held on Monday, May 30, 2011, in room 406 of the convention center. The SIG thanks all of the speakers, as well as Sigrid Glenn and Alyce Dickinson, for contributing to this special event.

At the ABAI 38th Annual Convention in Seattle, WA, we presented the 2012 Distinguished Career Award to Dr. Howard Rachlin. To honor Dr. Rachlin and his many contributions to the field, we organized a symposium featuring presentations by Matthew Locey, Len Green, and Dr. Rachlin. The symposium (#165) was held on May 27 in room 606 of the convention center. Thanks to those who joined us to celebrate the career of Dr. Rachlin.

During this year's meeting, we also discussed business related to the *EAHB Bulletin*, including election and term limits of the editorial board and strategies for increasing the publication's impact. We also discussed nominees for next year's Distinguished Career Award.

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EAHB continued from page 63

Upcoming plans for 2012–2013

Plans for the upcoming year will remain focused on our three primary goals: promoting the experimental analysis of human behavior and basic behavioral research by encouraging student research and scholarship, recognizing outstanding career-long contributions to the field, and maintaining an outlet for publishing human operant research. Progress toward these goals was made by recognizing the 2012 Student Paper Competition winners at our meeting in Seattle. These 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 EAHB SIG continued 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*.

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

Gambling SIG

BY ANDREW BRANDT

The Gambling SIG (G-SIG; previously named the BIG-SIG) had an exciting year marked by another successful gambling conference, continued publication activities, and a new website. The single-track gambling conference was held in Fort Lauderdale, FL, and the G-SIG membership is very grateful to the behavior analysis community at Nova Southeastern University for hosting this event. We also thank Simon Dymond for soliciting and organizing an excellent collection of talks, which covered several critical topics including the treatment of pathological gambling using acceptance and commitment therapy, the role of verbal behavior in gambling, and neuroimaging of brain activity during gambling.

The G-SIG also continued its role in publishing two issues of the journal *Analysis of Gambling Behavior* (AGB), which contains peer-reviewed articles related to the scientific study of gambling and the treatment of pathological gambling. The recent issues contain articles from many distinguished gambling researchers on topics including the modeling of gambling using animal subjects, motivating operations in laboratory gambling environments, delay and probability discounting, and the gambling functional assessment tool. To find back issues or information about submitting an article, please see the AGB website at <http://analysisofgamblingbehavior.org>.

Finally, the G-SIG launched a new website (<http://www.andrewebrandt.com/gsig/home.htm>) this year, which is designed to promote G-SIG events, organize past conference information, and provide a place to share gambling research resources. Please visit the G-SIG website for more information, or contact the chair directly at gamblingsig@gmail.com.

Health, Sport, and Fitness SIG

BY MARIANNE L. JACKSON

Over the past year, the Health, Sport, and Fitness SIG (HSF SIG) has continued efforts to increase membership, create a lasting structure for our financial affairs, and provide useful services and events for our members. We have continued to update our Facebook page and now have 216 fans on this site. 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. We currently have 65 people on our email contact list and provide information on upcoming SIG events through this list. In addition, we have been contacted to connect authors, clinicians, and researchers with SIG members from around the United States and as far away as Melbourne, Australia. As a new addition to SIG benefits, we produced our first newsletter in August of last year. This was produced by our committee member Jennifer Klapatch and was sent to all members on our email list. We would like to thank Jennifer for her initiative and hard work on this project.

Another change this year was that we finally acquired our own SIG bank account, thanks entirely to the hard work and persistence of our treasurer, Jeff Jacobs. The only expense the SIG had this year was the Student Research Award of \$100. At the annual business meeting, we discussed the idea of membership dues and other fundraising events as ways to ensure continued growth and to provide funding for future events. The business meeting also saw the introduction of a new chair. The 2008–2012 chair, Marianne Jackson, last year expressed her intention to step down at the 2012 annual business meeting. A new chair has been elected and information can be found on ABAI's SIG web page. We are sure that the SIG will continue to see growth and increased member benefits and events under this new leadership.

At this year's ABAI annual convention in Seattle, the SIG members provided fitness-related events for all attendees, including the consistently popular yoga/Pilates class. We would like to express our thanks to all SIG members who contributed to these events as well as all those who attended.

The HSF SIG continues to grow and encourages interested parties or new members to contact us. Information may be found on the Facebook page called "ABAI Health, Sport, & Fitness SIG" or through the ABAI website under "Special Interest Groups." On behalf of the HSF SIG, we would like to thank all those who contributed their time and efforts throughout the year.

History of Behavior Analysis

BY EDWARD K. MORRIS

The History of Behavior Analysis Special Interest Group (HoBA SIG) application was submitted in early 2011. It was approved by ABAI's Executive Council at the May meeting that year. In our submission, we wrote the following:

Our aim is to advance behavior analysis, nationally and internationally, through knowledge and understanding of its history. Our mission is to advance that knowledge and understanding. Our objectives are to (a) cultivate and nurture, (b) enrich and improve, and (c) communicate and disseminate the field's history. Our audience includes behavior analysts, other scientists and humanists, and the public at large.

Our purview is the field's long past, short history, and recent origins.

Why HoBA

In addition to the forgoing reasons for founding the SIG, there are rationales for conducting historical research, pursuing scholarship, and disseminating information. Jack Michael (2004) offers one such rationale:

Students of behavior analysis who know little of its history will be less than optimally effective in acquiring new knowledge. They will also be unaware of relations among various parts of their professional and scientific repertoires. In short, it is important to know where we came from. (p. 93)

For instance, the field's history can place its subfields in relation to each other. The field has breadth and depth that extends beyond any topic, area, or subfield. In addition, its history describes the interdependence among the field's system, its sciences, and its practices. Behavior analysis is greater than the sum of its parts. In addition, its history addresses the discipline's relations with the biological, psychological, and social sciences. Behavior analysis is defined, in part, by its comparisons and contrasts with them.

Beyond this, historiography has more general rationales. Cicero (106–43 BCE) offered among the first: "Those who know only their own generation remain children forever." Perhaps the most common rationale is attributed to the Spanish philosopher George Santayana: "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." Another is based on Mark Twain's (1869) observation about travel in *The Innocents Abroad*: "[History] is fatal to prejudice, bigotry, and narrow-mindedness..." (p. 243). Farmington (1949) summarizes these and other rationales:

History is the most fundamental science for there is no human knowledge which cannot lose its scientific character when men forget the conditioning under which it originated, the questions which it answered,

and the function it was created to serve. A great part of the mysticism and superstition of educated men consist of knowledge which has broken base from its historical moorings. (p. 173)

Membership

Our membership is open to anyone interested in the SIG's aim, mission, or objectives. This includes members of ABAI and other behavior-analytic organizations (e.g., APA Division 25, the Cambridge Center for Behavioral Studies, the B. F. Skinner Foundation), as well as members of organizations outside of behavior analysis (e.g., the Society for the History of Psychology, Cheiron, the History of Science Society) and independent scholars. The SIG's members need not be members of ABAI.

Recent Activities

Other than establishing the SIG last year, we began the process of establishing a HoBA Listserv. It will be available shortly. In addition, we conducted our first annual business meeting at the 2012 convention of ABAI. Among the topics discussed were holding an annual HoBA symposium during the annual convention, developing a HoBA awards program (e.g., for the best HoBA presentation), and establishing a HoBA website. A website could provide resources for the conduct of behavior-analytic historiography (e.g., bibliographies, articles), as well as links to websites containing relevant material (e.g., the Society for the Experimental Analysis of Behavior, the B. F. Skinner Foundation), other archival resources (e.g., Archives for the History of American Psychology, Harvard University Archives), and other history of science organizations (e.g., Society for the History of Psychology, History of Science Society).

These projects will require an organizational structure beyond what we have at present, which is a president (Ed Morris), a vice-president (Karen Wagner), and a secretary-treasurer (Todd McKerchar). It will require task forces and committees and chairs thereof, and perhaps some modest dues. First, though, we will establish our bylaws (e.g., concerning electoral policies and procedures).

For the Moment

To become a member, join the HoBA Listserv, or volunteer for a specific SIG function (e.g., task force, committee) please contact Ed Morris at the Department of Applied Behavioral Science, Dole Human Development Center University of Kansas, 1000 Sunnyside Avenue, Lawrence, KS 66045. You can also contact Dr. Morris via phone (785-864-0519), fax (785-864-5202), or email: ekm@ku.edu.

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Interbehaviorists SIG

BY MITCH FRYLING

The Interbehavioral SIG has had a presence within ABAAI for some time. However, the status of the SIG has been somewhat unclear in recent years. Over the last year, I have made some progress toward developing structures for the SIG and hope to continue doing so in the future. In what follows, I will describe the brief accomplishments of the SIG and update the organization on our aims for the next year.

The SIG has established a Facebook page, "Interbehaviorists in ABAAI SIG," which now has over 50 followers. The main purposes of establishing the Facebook page were to provide reference lists of relevant literature involving interbehaviorism and interbehavioral psychology, highlighting particular authors who have written extensively in the area (e.g., Drs. Dennis Delprato, Ed Morris, and Linda Parrott-Hayes), and to promote events relevant to interbehaviorism. In the near future, the page will highlight the work of other interbehaviorists (e.g., Sid Bijou and Noel Smith). Each of these authors has much to offer behavior analysis, and the SIG is committed to disseminating and preserving this work. Other areas, such as Kantor's perspective on psychological linguistics (Kantor, 1977), have been the subject of research in the past, some of which have fallen out of "mainstream" behavior analysis (e.g., Bijou, 1989; Bijou, Umbreit, Ghezzi, & Chao, 1986). This in no way suggests that they are not relevant, however. In fact, perhaps the opposite is true. As behavior analysis continues to develop, the relevance of interbehaviorism may become more and more apparent.

Several interbehaviorists gave presentations at the ABAAI international conference in Granada, Spain. Many of these talks were the subject of good discussion and scholarly debate among presenters and attendees. These presentations were generally well attended, and strengthened our commitment to interbehaviorism and our involvement in ABAAI and international efforts.

The Interbehavioral SIG also participates in organizing symposia at the ABAAI annual convention. Realizing that interbehaviorism can seem somewhat confusing and unconventional in the absence of an orientation to the perspective, we coordinated an introductory symposium this year. This involved specific talks on the investigative, interpretive, and applied subsystems of interbehavioral psychology, highlighting in particular the relevance of those subsystems to the science of behavior analysis. It is our hope that these efforts raise awareness of the interbehavioral

perspective and underscore its value to the field of behavior analysis at large. Related to this, the relevance of interbehaviorism to important and interesting sociopolitical issues has been specifically articulated in recent years, and we hope these efforts are of service to the field (e.g., Fryling, 2011; Hayes, Dubuque, Fryling, & Pritchard, 2009).

One of our immediate goals for the future is to establish an annual newsletter. This will include all of the information described above and serve as a column of sorts, where authors may highlight aspects of interbehaviorism and their relevance to behavior analysis and ABAAI. The first issue of the newsletter will be published and distributed via email and on Facebook after the ABAAI annual convention in Seattle, WA. We also hope to have a presence at the upcoming ABAAI theory and philosophy conference in Santa Fe, NM, November 2-4, 2012.

In summary, the goals of the Interbehaviorists SIG are very general: support the dissemination, preservation, and elaboration of the work of J. R. Kantor and other interbehaviorists. We will continue working toward these goals in the upcoming year. Interested members of ABAAI should visit our Facebook page or email Mitch Fryling at mitch.fryling@gmail.com.

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Multicultural SIG: Multicultural Alliance of Behavior Analysts

BY ELIZABETH HUGHES FONG

The Multicultural Alliance of Behavior Analysts (MultiABA) set the framework for an exciting new year! We have connected current, supporting, and student behavior analysts with opportunities to promote the field within underserved communities. At the 2012 ABAAI Annual Convention in Seattle, WA, officers of MultiABA participated in a workshop titled "Bridging Sociocultural Differences and Distance in the Treatment and Support of Children With Autism and Related Developmental Disorders."

This year, MultiABA initiated the review and drafting of cultural standard of practice for behavior analysts. In recognition of the global demands for behavior analytic services as well as the recent developments in related disciplines such as social work, speech and language pathology, and applied and cultural psychology, MultiABA has facilitated dialogues on cultural awareness and skills

pertaining to scientific and ethical behavior analytic services and practices.

If you have interested in becoming a member of MultiABA please contact Elizabeth Hughes Fong at elizabeth@multiaba.com and request a membership form.

Organizational Behavior Management Network

BY HEATHER MCGEE, YNGVI EINARSSON, RANDALL HALLMAN, LORI H. DIENER, CHUCK CROWELL, HANA MANAL, ANNA CONARD, AND NATHAN BECHTEL

It has been a very good year for the Organizational Behavior Management Network (OBMN). The board and officers are currently busy planning a joint conference with the California Association for Behavior Analysis (CalABA) for 2013 in Orange County, California! We are looking forward to the opportunity to collaborate with one of ABAI's largest chapters and to introduce more professionals, academicians, students, and community members to the power of organizational behavior management (OBM). Visit the CalABA and OBMN websites for up-to-date information about this exciting conference! Additionally, we've been experiencing growth over the past several years, and continue to look for new ways to attract and retain members. If you haven't already become an OBMN member, we'd like to encourage you to visit our website to learn about the benefits of joining our community!

Membership

Membership in OBMN reached an all-time high around our last conference. Since then our membership has gone down a bit (287 members as of April 9). On a positive note, this is the highest membership total we have been during a nonconference year. Our goal is to stay above 300 members and we are quite optimistic we will reach and stay above that point this year.

These are exciting times for OBMN. Late last year, we introduced the "Video of the Month" section on our website, which features OBM related talks and presentations. Currently, we are working on taking advantage of social media with the purpose of being more engaged with our membership on a daily basis.

The Video of the Month section has given our members a chance to relive our 2011 conference with a new presentation every month—and for those who could not go a chance to experience it for the first time. We have had great feedback from our membership and we hope to continue this service for as long as we have access to great material.

We are also proud to report that our international presence continues to grow every year. To date we have 69 international members who represent 20 different countries.

We hope to continue to grow throughout 2012 and hope to begin to involve students from OBM universities

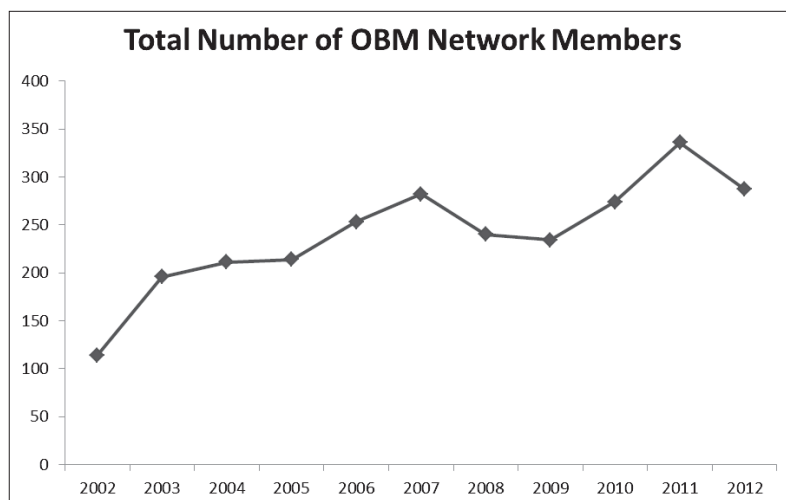


Figure 1. OBMN membership trends

in our effort to recruit and retain members. Thanks to those of you who have helped recruit new members.

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

Website

Since experimenting with social media interactions, we are now planning our most ambitious web project to date: linking to a multitude of constantly updating social media sites such as Twitter and Facebook to our site. With this in hand, OBMN members will be able to follow some of their favorite figures with the click of a mouse. Additionally, we are streamlining the website to be more user-friendly and less cluttered. Our slick new interface will make it easier than ever to navigate the site's top stories. We are also taking advantage of new information technology in exciting ways to create a better experience. With the advent of Google Analytics, we are able to monitor traffic instantaneously. With this information, we will be able to make the website more user-friendly and trim down unnecessary pages.

With so many upcoming website enhancements, members of OBMN will have a completely new and exciting experience, becoming more connected than ever before to the digital information age.

Awards

OBMN received several nominations for the Lifetime Achievement and Outstanding Contribution Awards. A panel reviewed the nominations and an announcement of the winners was made at the annual business meeting during the ABAI annual convention. Additionally, the recipients—Dr. Dwight Harshbarger (Lifetime Achievement) and Dr. Judy Agnew (Outstanding Contribution)—gave invited talks at the convention, where they received their awards. Check out pictures of Drs. Harshbarger and Agnew on the OBMN website!

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Chris Anderson Research Fund Grants

No grants were awarded this year. We would like to remind OBM students to consider applying for the Chris Anderson Research Grant by the January 2013 deadline (see our website for the specific date). Awardees receive up to \$700 to conduct their research.

Newsletter

The *OBM Network Newsletter* staff was very excited to incorporate unique articles in the past few issues, comprising of topics such as leadership development, behavior-based safety, and branding the field of applied behavior analysis in order to present a unified technology to companies and clients. With the help of our active membership, three issues were published in 2011 and an additional three issues are planned for 2012. Additionally, we plan to publish a special issue during the summer of 2012 to coincide with ABAA's upcoming sustainability conference. As always, we strongly encourage submissions to the newsletter. Please see the website for more details or contact the incoming newsletter editor, Anna Conard, at anna.l.conard@wmich.edu.

Treasury

OBMN is in excellent financial health. Funds currently total \$33,612.86 from membership fees and the surplus from the 2011 conference. Most of these funds cover costs related to the *Journal of Organizational Behavior Management*, website and software, professional and legal fees, marketing and copy, conference, and from the business meeting at the ABAA annual convention. The Chris Anderson Research Fund currently totals \$4,589.69. The General Donations Fund currently totals \$29,870.25, a result of the generous donations made during the 2011 conference in Tampa, 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.

Parent-Professional Partnership SIG

BY DAVID CELIBERTI

The Parent-Professional Partnership Special Interest Group (PPP SIG) is now in its 12th year and was originally developed to help address the needs of the growing numbers

of parents within the behavior analysis community. 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. PPP SIG is quite different from other SIGs within ABAA. Aside from educating parents about behavior analysis, our SIG's other primary initiative is helping parent attendees get the most out of ABAA and its conferences. More specifically, our ongoing initiatives include the following:

- Helping parents involved in applied behavior analysis (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 ABAA convention
- Hosting an orientation for parents and other newcomers at the start of the ABAA convention
- Sponsoring formal conference events that target issues of significance to parents from time to time
- Supporting ABAA in reaching out to the parent community in the regions adjacent to the annual autism conference
- Creating opportunities for networking
- Providing a forum for discussion of objectives at our annual business meeting

Additionally, we are currently engaged in the following:

- Broadening the scope of our website
- Expanding upon our website's existing FAQ section
- Creating new resources to help parents become more familiar with behavior analytic interventions and services, become better advocates for services, and promote accountability
- Identifying new ways to reach out to parent attendees at ABAA's conventions and conferences

All interested parents and professionals are encouraged to join the PPP SIG. To join, send your name, mailing address, and email address to Denise Grosberg at denise@denisegrosberg.com.

Current Officers (2010–2011)

- Co-president: David Celiberti, Ph.D., BCBA
- Co-president: Pamela H. Gorski, MPA, BCBA
- Secretary-treasurer: Denise Grosberg, MA
- Webmaster: Sara Cohen, MA, BCBA
- Consumer liaisons: Kerry Ann Conde, MS, BCBA; Lynn Faerber, BA; Peggy Halliday, M.Ed., BCBA; Jennifer Hieminga, M.Ed., BCBA (international member); Audrey Meissner, M.Ed., BCBA (international member); Alison Moors, MA, BCBA; and Barbara Wells (parent member)

Officers and consumer liaisons serve on a number of committees that support the members of the PPP SIG. 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 with respect to PPP SIG related information
- Expand and update content on www.Autismpppsig.org
- Work closely with the Autism SIG regarding mutual website efforts

Convention Committee Objectives

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

Public Relations Committee Objectives

- Forge alliances with organizations that have compatible goals with PPP SIG
- Support the public awareness of the websites for PPP and the Autism SIGs by sharing our resources with other organizations and distributing information
- If requested, support ABAI in reaching out to the local and adjoining communities in the region hosting each annual convention, but more extensively the autism conference

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 email address to Denise Grosberg at denise@denisegrosberg.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.

Pediatric Feeding Disorders SIG

BY CATHLEEN C. PIAZZA, KEITH E. WILLIAMS, MICHAEL F. CATALDO, AND TESSA TAYLOR RIVET

The Pediatric Feeding Disorders Special Interest Group (SIG) now has more than 70 members, and new membership queries continue to come in at a fast rate. Individuals interested in the SIG may direct their questions to Cathleen Piazza at cpiazza@unmc.edu. The mission of the Pediatric Feeding Disorders SIG is to generate interest;

foster collaborative research; share clinical information; and impact training, practice, and reimbursement for evaluation and treatment of pediatric feeding disorders. As such, the SIG will attempt to tackle some tough issues that face clinicians who treat children with feeding disorders.

At the Pediatric Feeding Disorders SIG business meeting held at the ABAI 2011 Annual Convention, key issues discussed included development of a feeding track for the convention, billing and insurance reimbursement, and a multi-site standardized outcome study. Several of the convention presentations regarding pediatric feeding were at overlapping times, so it was not possible to see all presentations. Development of a feeding track would prevent scheduling conflicts and allow for attendance at all presentations in this area. Several attendees reported strategies that have been successful regarding billing and insurance reimbursement, such as billing code changes, revisions to authorization letters, and utilization of an attorney. Last, participants discussed conducting a multi-site outcome study to demonstrate the efficacy of behavioral treatment and assist with insurance approval. Initially, children with tube dependence or significant growth deficiencies could be included among those with a clear need for treatment, and financial benefit could be demonstrated. Consumers of the research (especially insurers and referral sources) may be more interested in variables such as amount of tube feed reduction, oral intake, and length and cost of treatment rather than behavioral target variables (e.g., acceptance, expels, mouth cleans, negative vocalizations, gagging).

Over the past year, first steps have been taken to form the Pediatric Feeding Disorders Consortium, a multi-site collaborative effort of programs providing feeding treatment services. The initial purpose of this effort is to better understand existing resources that treat feeding disorders in young children, the techniques employed, and costs and outcomes. With this information and the existence of a working consortium, the second objective would be for these programs to work together on improved treatment techniques and outcomes, as well as to help both parents and payers navigate the sometimes confusing process of identifying the best combination of treatment modalities for each child. A broad draft list of programs was created by gathering sites from the Pediatric Feeding Disorders SIG and business meeting sign-in sheets and compiling lists of feeding treatment programs in feeding books and on feeding websites. One hundred thirty-five programs were identified, 11 of which are international sites. Preliminary information was documented, including program name and affiliation(s), physical and mailing addresses, phone number, contact person (plus credentials and title/position), website, and email address. Maps were created depicting the locations of the programs. A first

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draft of extensive data (e.g., services available, population, disciplines, methods, financial information) to be collected from the programs was created. Initial pilot (Phase 1) survey data (e.g., program affiliation, setting, disciplines, population, services available, and payment sources) were collected from a sample of the SIG members. Twenty-three surveys were sent out, and 18 completed surveys have been returned. In addition, input was solicited concerning interest in the consortium, feedback on the Phase 1 survey, and scope of data to collect in future phases. Also, programs were encouraged to send supplemental materials such as program brochures and materials used in the program (e.g., intake forms, goal and outcome forms, data collection materials). Next steps include revising the Phase 1 survey based on the pilot data collected, sending the Phase 1 survey to the broader community of programs, and collaborating on future phases using electronic survey and analysis methods.

Anyone interested in these issues is encouraged to contact the SIG chair. Members were encouraged to exchange ideas throughout the year via email and telephone. We also generated a list of the members with contact information and program affiliation. We will resume discussion of these issues next year. Input is welcome and appreciated from all interested parties.

Positive Behavior Support SIG

BY BOB PUTNAM

The Positive Behavior Support Special Interest Group (PBS SIG) is dedicated to promoting research-based strategies that combine applied behavior analysis and biomedical science with person-centered values and systems change to increase quality of life and decrease problem behaviors. The overall goal of the PBS SIG is to promote the use of positive behavior support interventions in schools, communities, agencies, and homes, and to 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 2012 ABAI Annual Convention. The PBS SIG currently has over 50 members. The group reviewed the goals of the PBS SIG and discussed ways to:

- Increase the number and visibility of PBS presentations at the ABAI convention
- Disseminate accurate information about PBS to ABAI's membership
- Promote methodologically sound, data-based PBS research
- Encourage open dialogue among behavior analysts and proponents of PBS

A presentation was provided by Bob Putnam that reviewed the impact of PBS in our nation's schools. Highlights of the presentation included a review of implementation of school-wide positive behavior support (SWPBS) in over 14,000 schools nationwide, the largest demonstration of the application of applied behavior analysis/positive behavior support in the nation's public schools. Research has shown that schools that implement SWPBS demonstrate reductions in problem behavior and improved academic outcomes (Bradshaw, Mitchell, & Leaf, 2010; Horner, Sugai, & Anderson, 2010). Preliminary evaluation data indicate that more intensive individual student behavior support is perceived as more effective (and less likely to be needed) when SWPBS is implemented (Medley, Little, & Akin-Little, 2007). Evaluation (but not experimental) data indicate that implementation of SWPBS is associated with a reduction in the number of instances in which intensive interventions or practices (including seclusion and/or restraint) are perceived as needed, increases the effectiveness of comprehensive interventions, and improves the maintenance of behavior support gains (Feinberg, Simonsen, & Putnam, 2010). In the legislative area, it is expected that when IDEA and No Child Left Behind are authorized, an emphasis will be on multi-tiered systems of support, including PBIS as an intervention to improve school climate and reduce exclusionary discipline practices.

Discussion of how to increase membership of the SIG by current members of ABAI was conducted. There are many members of ABAI who are also members of APBS. A survey was suggested to determine how many of the current PBS SIG members are members of APBS and how many APBS members are members of ABAI. The executive members of APBS and the SIG will explore developing relationships between APBS and ABAI through potential exploratory meetings with the Executive Council of ABAI.

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

Practitioner Issues in Behavior Analysis SIG

BY MICHAEL WEINBERG

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 one being that it is unethical for a licensed psychologist to refer a client 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 their ways and start the process of licensing. Other licensing documents, such as the BACB's model licensing act, drew heavily from our act and are in many ways less stringent than the requirements we set forth. In 2010, the Executive Council of ABAI had approved a version of the model act we initially wrote with input from members of the newly created Practice Board. This was the first ever model-licensing act for behavior analysts supported by ABAI and was posted in the organization's website with a letter from then president, Ray Miltenberger. Due to some differing views and concerns raised among members, the act was removed from the site last year. Nonetheless, there are currently nine states that have licensure laws in place for the practice of behavior analysis. California has a stipulation in its current autism insurance bill for licensure and it appears that a vote by the Massachusetts legislature is expected in the near future.

While the SIG has taken down its original model act, it is important to be aware of the following issues: (1) Entry costs into a profession play into insurance reimbursement (the low entry costs—a master's degree and a few courses, for example—currently have rated behavior analysts at two-thirds the insurance reimbursement of counsellors). (2) Low access to reimbursement coupled with limited populations negatively affects future student draw. (3) Even with many states (at least 30) with autism insurance legislation stipulating services by BCBA's and BCaBA's are billable for insurance, we are getting reports that some insurance companies are not accepting providers with certification as in-network providers, resulting in lower billable rates relative to licensed practitioners who typically are eligible to become in-network providers. In addition, we hear that one major insurance company will not accept behavior analysts with certification only as neither in-network or out-of-network providers. That insurance company will reportedly only credential licensed clinicians.

Hence there appears to be key advantages for behavior analysts who are practitioners, as well as for the field we work in, to pursue licensure where it seems relevant and needed to ensure services can continue to be provided for those who need them. These are issues that the PIBA SIG will continue to actively address and work on with other practice related SIGs and via 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, the PIBA SIG immediately took to the road and started promoting the act (Cautilli & Dziewolska, 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, New Jersey, and

Delaware on the need for behavior analytic licensure.

In order to gather more data on the needs, concerns, and preferences of ABAI members who identify themselves as practitioners, we have posted a link to a practitioner survey on our list. We encourage all ABAI practitioner members to complete the survey to help with deciding future activities we should pursue on your behalf. The link to the survey is http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ABAI_Practice_Issues.

PIBA has not limited itself to the adoption of licensure. In 2009–2010, 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, 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 (e.g., loan forgiveness, etc.). These were all factors that other professions, like psychologists and professional counsellors, were pursuing for their practitioners.

We are opening up nominations for officers of the SIG. Please use the PIBA SIG list in Yahoo Groups to make your nominations for officers, and then we will open the voting to our members. We welcome new members and invite you to join the discussion on our list. Please sign in and request to join the list at abapractice_group@yahoogroups.com.

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Rehabilitation and Independent Living SIG

BY CHRIS PERSEL

The Rehabilitation and Independent Living SIG (RAIL SIG) has experienced growing pains over the recent year and a half. Traumatic brain injuries and neurological disabilities related to concussion and mild brain injury have been gaining much more attention than ever before. The demand and need for services related to behavior challenges following such injuries has also gathered increasing recognition. Unfortunately, the availability of these specialty services is limited, placing greater demand on those providing behavioral support. The reimbursement, health care coverage,

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and funding difficulties further affect treatment for this population. Senate hearings in March 2012 outlined the clear need for post-acute rehabilitation following brain injury, so time will tell if this will result in positive change. The SIG continues to provide opportunities for treatment professionals in the rehabilitation of people with brain injuries to gather and compare thoughts, brainstorm ideas, and gather support for the field. RAIL SIG has had members from states across the USA and from as far away as Ireland. Discussions have centered on continued communication amongst the members using social media and other techniques, such as periodic conference calls. Time constraints have interfered with accomplishing goals set at previous meetings, however, renewed energy from the ABAI annual convention has pushed the group forward. Goals include developing guidelines for the use of behavior analysis with brain-injured survivors, reviewing legislation issues related to rehabilitation, and providing professional support and acknowledgement to effective staff training techniques or programs. Resource analysis and availability are among the difficulties facing many in this field. Current interest in the principles of applied behavior analysis (ABA) as they relate to brain injury rehabilitation has sparked interest in better understanding how to train BCBAs in neurological issues. What factors are essential regarding the brain, the injury, and related challenges for those developing behavior plans to understand? What medications are common and how do they affect learning? What is the rehabilitation environment and who else is providing treatment, including behavior plans? Programs such as ReMed, Learning Services, and Centre for Neuro Skills have been providing such services and can assist with input from many others in the field to outline possible course work that can be used to augment the current ABA courses. Opportunities for ABA student interns at facilities treating those with brain injuries must be developed to promote the career path for the future. Research collaboration is also essential for this specialized area to gain recognition for the powerful impact it can have on this population. The common goals of rehabilitation and behavior analysis make such collaboration seamless and effective. Functional skills development programs, maladaptive behavior reduction plans, and social reintegration outlines are areas clearly in need of strong behavior analysis, yet are frequently not managed by BCBAs. Once again, RAIL SIG is positioned to help guide the better integration of behavior and rehabilitation services. Successful behavior analysts can expect daily challenges from this population while experiencing a great sense of pride as they regain their life skills and return to a productive quality of life. Future goals have to focus on furthering the structure of the SIG and growing the membership through consistent communication. Thank you to all members who continue to support the SIG and this population.

Sex Therapy and Educational Programming SIG

BY FAWNA STOCKWELL, SORAH STEIN, BRIGID MCCORMICK, NICK SCHREIBER, AND JESSICA COOPERKLINE

The Sex Therapy and Educational Programming SIG (STEP SIG) was formed to help disseminate empirically verified information regarding sex education and therapy, and it currently 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.

STEP SIG was founded in 2007 and has been providing a 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 2012 ABAI annual convention, the various facets of SIG interests were demonstrated during STEP SIG's two symposia. Topics included a discussion of the need for additional training opportunities for behavior analysts who assess and treat sexual behavior in their professional practice, a focus on measurement tactics used to study sexual behavior, and opportunities to utilize behavior-analytic principles in socially significant ways to understand and bring about positive changes in the areas of sexual abuse and sex work.

In addition, members of STEP SIG presented a poster at the 2012 Annual Alternative Sexualities Conference in Chicago, IL, which displayed real-time sexual behavior data of female sex worker and non-sex worker participants. The Annual Alternative Sexualities Conference involved both clinical and scholarly presentations on sexual behavior and other related diversity topics.

In the upcoming year, in addition to the two symposia at the 2012 ABAI annual convention, STEP SIG aims to organize and present additional 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. We will continue to investigate the existing need and interest that exists in the field of applied behavior analysis for training and resources tailored to the assessment and treatment of sexual behavior. Additionally, we plan to create a student research award to recognize exemplary and original student research in the area of sexual behavior. STEP 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 SIG

BY TRACIE L. LINDBLAD

The mission of the Speech Pathology Applied Behavior Analysis (SPABA) SIG is to promote dissemination of behaviorally oriented speech and language research and the application of evidence-based practices to speech and language professionals, as well as to foster active dialogue between behavior analysts and speech-language pathologists studying issues in speech, language, and communication.

The SPABA SIG is grateful for the support and continued guidance from the past chair, Barb Esch. We would also like to thank our current slate of officers and volunteers and look forward to expanding our core group of members. Tracie Lindblad and Laura Grow are the current co-chairs and Barb Esch is the past chair. Additional committee chairs include Debbie Leblanc and Landa Mark (membership and communications) and Amanda Karsten (grant awards). The SIG would like to formally extend an invitation to any members who may want to serve as a committee chair or to volunteer on a committee to contact us by sending an email to SPABASIG@yahoo.com.

Our membership in 2011 remained stable with the most significant difference in the student category, where the increase in student members offset the decrease in full members (28 full members and 15 student members). We are on our way to surpassing last year's total, with 33 members signed up in the first quarter of 2012 (26 full members and 7 student members) and our membership drive will be swinging into full gear over the summer. Of our 2011 membership totals, 60% were speech-language pathologists (SLP)—or dually certified—or SLP students and the remainder were in the field of behavior analysis only. Within the first quarter of 2012, the membership was comprised of 76% SLPs and 24% behavior analysts. Thus, our effort to increase our SLP membership by using social media has been successful to date.

The SIG and our members have been active during the past year conducting research; disseminating information regarding evidence-based practice; applying the principles of applied behavior analysis (ABA) to the research and the treatment of speech, language, and communication disorders in children and adults; and teaching and/or mentoring students in both the fields of ABA and speech pathology. These activities have taken place in North America and internationally and help to further the SIG mission.

In order to increase our presence in the “mainstream” of speech-language pathology, embrace social media, and utilize the technology of the 21st century, the SIG launched our SPABA Facebook group. The Facebook group has enabled our members to connect with each other in order to share or request pertinent information in a more timely fashion. While our younger members expect to use social media, some of our more senior members are still unsure as to the cost/benefit of this new communication medium.

Over the past year, the SIG increased the monetary award for the Research and Application or Dissemination grants to \$250 for each category of award. These grants are available to ABAAI members who, as students, conduct empirical research or, as a practitioner, raise awareness about behavior analysis among SLPs. Research projects should advance the evidence base for behavior-analytic conceptualization or treatment of speech, language, communication, and feeding disorders. Application or dissemination projects should involve effective application of the science-based principles of behavior by SLPs or distribution of accurate information about the science-based field of behavior analysis among SLPs. This year's grant recipients presented their research at the SIG's business meeting during ABAAI's annual convention in Seattle. Additionally, updates from last year's recipients—Kate Koehler-Platten (“Using a Lag Reinforcement Schedule to Promote Phonemic Variability in Children With Developmental Disabilities”) and Sara Vank (“Self-Guided Tutorial of Dynamical Assessment and Behavior Management”)—were presented at the business meeting. Each year, student members and practitioners may obtain updated information about submitting grant proposals for the current year on our website, www.behavioralspeech.com. The deadlines for grant submissions for this year will take place in April 2013.

The SIG also disseminated an online survey regarding salaries and employment practices for dually certified SIG members (i.e., licensed/registered as a speech-language pathologist and certified as a BCBA). The results were presented at the SIG business meeting this year and provided our membership with up-to-date information regarding this new “category” of professional. Next steps were identified in order to provide our SLP members with the tools they may need when negotiating employment contracts.

Finally, the SIG is working on ways to encourage more of its members to pursue the BCBA or BCaBA credential in addition to their speech pathology degree. Information about this process can be found at the BACB website (www.bacb.com). Interdisciplinary collaboration and training is a core tenet of our SIG. In order to promote the benefits of interdisciplinary practice and assist with knowledge translation, the SIG invited Dr. Thomas Higbee from the University of Utah, to speak during the business meeting. Dr. Higbee described the Disability Disciplines Doctoral Program within the Emma Eccles Jones School of Education and Human Services at the University of Utah. The Disability Disciplines Doctoral Program offers a multidisciplinary doctoral degree that brings together faculty and students across disciplinary and departmental lines to explore interrelated aspects of disabilities. Specializations include speech and language pathology, special education, rehabilitation counseling,

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applied behavior analysis, and disability studies. All specializations balance a common core of multidisciplinary coursework and applied activities with a strong disciplinary focus. Thus, both faculty and students work within a multidisciplinary context without compromising their important disciplinary perspective, knowledge, and skills.

The SPABA SIG executive board is looking forward to expanding our membership and increasing member participation in the board and within our committees. We are also planning to complete a number of projects over the year to support our members:

- Develop an online database of practitioners dually certified as SLPs and BCBAs
- Encourage *Advance* magazine and other national/state/provincial associations to include information regarding BCBA or BCaBA certification within their salary survey
- Develop web-based tutorials to disseminate information regarding a behavioral approach to the study and treatment of speech, language, and communication disorders in children and adults

Many of the identified initiatives are only feasible with increased financial support from our members. Please consider donating your expertise/services in-kind, financial contributions, or committee support so that we may meet the needs of our membership and complete our targeted activities.

If you are interested in learning more about SPABA SIG, wish to volunteer to sit on a committee, or assist with a specific project, please visit us at www.behavioralspeech.com, email us at SPABASIG@yahoo.com, or join our SIG and Facebook group.

Standard Celeration Society SIG

BY KERRI MILYKO

Greetings fellow chart enthusiasts! This year, the Standard Celeration Society (SCS) has made some exciting changes! First, we welcome our new vice president and secretary, John Eshleman and Shiloh Isbell, respectively. They have been so valuable to the organization and its mission to grow and share the love of "The Chart." The next election for president, secretary, and treasurer will take place in the fall, when the elected officials' names will be revealed at our annual conference.

Another new change is the re-launch of www.celeration.org. We look to provide a user-friendly tool to learn about the chart, precision teaching, and the like. As always, the *Journal of Precision Teaching and Celeration* can be freely accessed via our website.

A thrilling additional change is the hiring of Optimal of West Coast Behavioral Consultants. Our organization is looking to the geniuses of Optimal to help restructure the organization and provide clear systems for our daily behaviors. We are excited about the potential improvements this will

bring to our SIG. When the day-to-day operations work like well-oiled machine, our executive board will have more time to spend on projects and scholarships to disseminate the standard celeration chart (SCC) and precision teaching (PT).

In addition to the new business of SCS, we have some exciting old business to share. SCS held its 24th Annual International Precision Teaching Conference in Reno, NV in December. Thanks to the tireless efforts of Kendra Rickard of Fit Learning and her Conference Committee, nearly 90 attendees enjoyed a successful conference. Presentations from keynote speakers Anthony Biglan and Steven Hayes and invited speakers Michael Fabrizio, Carl Binder, and Doug Greer will be available on our new website. Kent Johnson of Morningside Academy was bestowed the Ogden Lindsley Lifetime Achievement Award for a professional life devoted not only to PT and the SCC, but also to enriching the lives of teachers and students.

We look forward to another exhilarating conference in the heart of downtown Chicago on December 6–8, 2012. Julie Vargas and Charles Merbitz are our headlining keynote speakers. Please visit www.celeration.org for more details regarding the hotel, workshops, pricing, and call for papers.

Amidst all the exciting changes and events, our community lost two significant pioneers in PT and behavior analysis: Steven Graf (May 2011) and Owen White (March 2012). Abigail Calkin, in the 2011 September issue of *Inside Behavior Analysis*, wrote a beautiful memorial about Dr. Graf. You can read Owen's memorial on www.celeration.org. Although Steve and Owen are no longer with us, we will continue to promote their vision and mission of equipping all with standard measurement and celeration.

Teaching Behavior Analysis SIG

BY CHRISTINE H. BARTHOLD

As in previous years, the majority of the SIG's activity has been online. We continue to host a lively listserv, the TBA-L. The listserv currently has over 600 members. This is more than a 60% increase from last year. To join the TBA-L, please visit <http://teachbehavioranalysis.com>. You will also find members-only content such as videos for teaching, textbook suggestions, and teaching materials on the website.

In keeping with our motto, "For those of us who teach others how to change behavior," we have a diverse group of behavior analysts. Many are practitioners who work directly with clients, some are basic researchers, and some are both. Members hail from North America, South America, Europe, Asia, and Australia. It would be great to have representation from Africa, too! We have members who are at the beginning of their careers talking with members who are long-time practitioners of behavior analysis. The result is lively conversation, debate, and constant learning. Here are some topics of recent discussion on our list:

- Free will
- Schedules of reinforcement

- Requirements for certification/credentialing
- Ethics
- ABAI event presentations
- Basic research
- Teaching resources
- Dissemination of behavior analysis
- Suggestions for intervention with specific populations
- Application of behavior analysis to everyday life

Over the years, we have attempted to become more formal in our structure and add resources, trainings, and other events. Our members, though, seems to like the informal discussion and would prefer just to participate via the listserv.

We hope those of you who are not currently on our listserv consider joining. If you are interested in more information, please do not hesitate to contact Christine Barthold at chrisbarthold@bartholdautism.com.

Verbal Behavior SIG

BY TRACI M. CIHON

The Verbal Behavior Special Interest Group (VB SIG) council has been active in promoting our mission, which is to support a behavioral approach to the study of language, especially as explored by B. F. Skinner. The SIG's goals include the following:

- To support and encourage research efforts that improve our understanding of verbal behavior
- To support practice-based issues in utilizing the analysis of verbal behavior
- To support undergraduate and graduate instruction of Skinner's verbal behavior
- To communicate with other organizations making use of Skinner's verbal behavior
- To disseminate information regarding a behavioral approach to studying language

In the past year, our executive council has been especially focused on retention and recruitment efforts and improving the visibility of the SIG. For example, Ms. Danielle LaFrance will publish the second issue of *VB News*, the official publication of the VB SIG, this year. Historically, *VB News* has been published only once per year. In addition, she has improved the quality of this publication.

Each issue will include a piece on a featured verbal behavior research laboratory (see this issue focusing on Dr. Luis Antonio Perez-González's lab at the University of Oviedo in Spain) and an interview with an active member of the verbal behavior community (see this issue for an interview with Dr. Anna Petursdottir, the current editor of *The Analysis of Verbal Behavior*). Moreover, Dr. Sarah Lechago has continued to develop the VB SIG website (www.vbsig.info) and has added features such as an online membership application with online payment options. The website will also serve as the context in which our members will be able to participate in VB SIG council elections. This year marks the first time in VB SIG history that members will be able to nominate individuals for open council positions via email and cast their votes electronically.

In other developments, Ms. April Kisamore has assumed the role of VB SIG treasurer and has been working with our former treasurer, Ms. Season Almason to finalize our application for 501(c)(3) status. It is our hope that this will support Dr. Lechago and Dr. Judah Axe in their efforts to secure donations that help support the VB SIG. It was also our great pleasure to honor Dr. Jack Michael as the first recipient of the Jack Michael Outstanding Contributions in Verbal Behavior Award at this year's business meeting.

While we are proud of these accomplishments, we are also pleased to report that we have maintained our commitments to supporting and encouraging student research and instruction in Skinner's verbal behavior. Drs. Axe and Lechago will announce the winners of our Student Research and Student Grant Competitions at this year's annual business meeting. In addition, VB SIG council members continue to display our newly designed expo poster at state and regional conferences.

We are grateful for the contributions of our outgoing council members—Ms. LaFrance, Ms. Conde, and Drs. Axe and Lechago—and we look forward to their continued service, their return, and/or the contributions of those who will replace them.

As always, we welcome input from our current and future members. Please feel free to email us with any questions, comments, or suggestions at thevbsig@gmail.com.

Elsie Pinkston (1937–2012)



BY RICHARD MALOTT

By 1974, Jerry Mertens had had it with the Midwestern Psychology Association's refusal to allow more than two or three behavior-analytic presentations at their annual conference. So he convinced Izzy Goldiamond to hold an alternative conference at the University of Chicago.

And the conference was a big success, with almost 100 people attending. One of the attendees was Elsie Pinkston, a young woman fresh out of the University of Kansas who had joined Izzy as the other resident behavior analyst at the University of Chicago.

Amidst the scholarly presentations, we had a business meeting; and because Jerry and Izzy's little conference was such a success, we decided to have the conference again next year. But the conference needed a name. How about the "Midwestern ABA?" And, after we'd convinced Elsie and Izzy that "ABA" stood for "Association for Behavior Analysis" and not "Applied Behavior Analysis," we agreed to have it the next year, again in Chicago, but maybe downtown. Thus was born MABA, then ABA (as our organization lost its Midwest centrism), and then ABAI (as our organization lost at least some of its USA-centrism).

As a result of an auto accident, the brilliant Izzy Goldiamond spent much of his productive life in a wheel chair—all of his MABA/ABA life. Many times Elsie would wheel Izzy in his wheel chair at MABA/ABA and attended his other handicap-induced needs. She did so, even though to her amusement more than irritation, Izzy continued to call her "Elsa" rather than "Elsie."

But it turned out that, to my surprise and distress, Elsie was more than a handmaiden to Izzy Goldiamond. And more than one of the minority ensuring that behavior analysis had a face at the prestigious University of Chicago. When I was chairing MABA's first business meeting, a tough, man-eating, feminist—you know the type, stood up—her fist clenched in a power salute (virtually if not really), and asked, "What about the women's issues?" Huh? Can't we just sweep those under the rug? No, we must make sure there's a strong role for women in MABA. What a pain in the butt.

Turns out Elsie Pinkston was not a tough, man-eating feminist, just a little Kansas farm girl, who, in spite of her Ph.D. from the University of Kansas and her faculty position at the University of Chicago, was still a little farm girl scared

spitless at having to make such a confrontational fuss in front of all those people. She didn't want to do that; but the big conscience of the little Kansas farm girl would not let her avoid making the fuss. Her Kansas farm-girl conscience told her that was the right thing to do and she had to do it.

Elsie was the first woman elected to the MABA Council. And awkward as it was for her, she kept the women's issues on the front burner, and wouldn't let us good old boys sweep them under the carpet, to mix a metaphor or two. Elsie had the vision and stayed true to it. Without her and her fellow feminists in early MABA/ABA, the wonderfully strong women's presence in ABA might not have become so impressive; and we might not have had nearly as many women presidents and council members as we have had over the years. Without the explicit intervention of women like Elsie, the role of women in ABA might be much less significant; the natural contingencies alone often fail to produce significant social improvements; things don't necessarily just get better on their own.

Also, Elsie played a major role in loosening the grip Chicago had on MABA/ABA/ABAI. By 1978, Illinois had still failed to pass the U.S. Equal Rights Amendment, designed to guarantee equal rights for women. So Elsie and the other MABA feminists insisted that we boycott Illinois. I objected, because it would be such a pain in the butt to move MABA and because Chicago was the coolest city in the Midwest, if not in the known, civilized world. I lost, the feminist won, and now our ABAI convention has or will have been held from Boston to San Francisco, from Atlanta to San Diego, from Florida to Minneapolis, with many stops in between and an occasional return to good old Chicago—including its Hilton Hotel—the former stronghold of the anti-behavior analytic Midwestern Psychology Association. Had Illinois not resisted and our feminists not insisted, the ABAI convention might never have left the comfort of the Chicago Hilton and the ABAI convention might never have been directly shared with the people on the east coast, the west coast, the south coast, and...

The last time I saw Elsie at ABA, she was having lunch with her husband Don Baer; we had a nice chat. The next time I saw Elsie, was at the 2002 OSU conference "Focus on Behavior Analysis in Education," where she presented the keynote address, "Letters to a Lawyer," in place of her late husband, Don Baer (the presentation was posthumously published, as his last published piece); we had a nice chat. That was the last time I saw Elsie; I'd hoped we'd have more nice chats, but the natural contingencies alone often fail to maintain the occasions for nice chats with old friends.

Elsie's ashes will be buried next to Don's. ❖

Latin American Journal of Psychology: Special Issue on Metacontingencies and Cultural Practices

BY WILSON LÓPEZ LÓPEZ AND LUIS MANUEL SILVA

The dynamics of verbal communities committed to science and technology are associated to the production of new concepts and systems for explanation, prediction, and control, which give rise to new questions, enhance theories, create new hypotheses, design new experiments, and ultimately are the origin of new technologies and techniques. Nevertheless, the development of new explanatory systems that engage Verbal Communities that are diverse, exhaustive, rigorous in both criticism and empirical and theoretical verification, involves that the proposed concepts are seen as powerful in explanation, prediction, and control.

The concept of metacontingency, initially advanced by Professor Sigrid Glenn, is part of this effort, and this special issue is a contribution that presents a number of similar works. The interlocked behavioural contingencies account for emerging products of social and cultural systems, and this is where their power lies; in other words, this concept and its developments are a bridge that explains the links between individual and social matters.

Cultural practices, as emerging products from metacontingencies, give rise to questions and hypotheses about conflicts between individual and social consequences, the way that concurrent contingencies operate upon individuals, and the specialisation of individual and group behaviours. This issue presents diverse theoretical and experimental findings, and will become a hallmark of the contribution of a novel, powerful system for explaining social and cultural events.

We thank Professor Glenn and all the authors and reviewers who contributed their excellent papers to this issue. We also need to point out that the idea for this issue arose from the strong influence of our conversations with Professor João Claudio Todorov and of his work.

Finally, we thank Fundación Universitaria Konrad Lorenz for embracing this special issue, "Metacontingency Analysis, Cultural Practices and Social Issues" in the *Latin American Journal of Psychology*. We are sure that this special issue will become a landmark in the contributions made by behaviour analysis to the explanation of social phenomena, and it is very satisfactory that it is published by the *Latin American Journal of Psychology*, a journal with such history and influence.

- and Macrocontingencies Revisited" by Diana Delgado
- "Metacontingencies, Experimentation and Nonhumans: Searching for Conceptual and Methodological Advances" by Saulo Missiaggia Velasco, Marcelo Frota Benvenuti, and Gerson Yukio Tomanari
- "Metacontingencies, Cultural Selection and Social/Verbal Environment" by Felipe Lustosa Leite and Carlos Barbosa
- "Analyzing Behavioral and Cultural Selection Contingencies" by Chad Hunter
- "Conceptual and Experimental Directions for Analyzing Superstition in the Behavioral Analysis of Culture" by Natalia Marques, Felipe Leite, and Marcelo Frota Lobato Benvenuti
- "An Interdisciplinary Account of Martyrdom as a Religious Practice" by Ramona Houmanfar and Todd Ward
- "Cooperatives, Green Behavior, and Environmental Protection" by Mark Alavosius and William Newsome
- "Effects of Consequences on Patterns of Interlocked Contingencies: A Replication of a Metacontingency Experiment" by Ana Carolina Trousdell Franceschini, Mariana Januário Samelo, Rodrigo Nunes Xavier, and Maria Helena Leite Hunziker
- "Consumo de Cigarrillo y Prácticas Culturales en Contextos Universitarios" by Mónica María Novoa-Gómez, Idaly Barreto, and Luis Manuel Silva
- "An Iterated Four-Player Prisoner's Dilemma Game With an External Selecting Agent: A Metacontingency Experiment" by Daniele Ortu, April Becker, Thomas Woelz, and Sigrid Glenn
- "Effects of Communication and Cultural Consequences on Choices Combinations in INPDG With Four Participants" by Dyego Costa, Clarissa de Pontes Vieira Nogueira, and Laércia Abreu Vasconcelos
- "Effects of Support Consequences and Cultural Consequences on the Selection of Interlocking Behavioral Contingencies" by Liany Tavares Tadaiesky and Emmanuel Zagury Tourinho
- "Análisis Metacontingencial de la Ley de "Justicia y Paz" (975 de 2005) en Colombia" by Daniel Del Río Forero, Diego Alejandro García, Luis Manuel Silva, and Wilson López López
- "Effect of Resource Scarcity on Dyadic Fitness in a Simulation of Two-Hunter Nomocloners" by Sinay Neves, Thomas Woelz, and Sigrid Glenn
- "Behavioral-Analytic Research of Cultural Selection and the Complexity of Cultural Phenomena" by Emmanuel Zagury Tourinho and Christian Vichi
- "Comportamiento Sustentable y Educación Ambiental: Una Visión Desde las Prácticas Culturales" by Marithza Sandoval Escobar

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New ABAI Organizational Members

Autism Services Group

Autism Services Group (ASG), now in its third year of operation, has been organized as a “one-stop” autism insurance benefits manager to fill the gap between insurers and employers, plan members seeking services to support their autistic child, and the autism services provider community. The ASG founder’s call to action involved belief in the effectiveness of applied behavior analysis (ABA) and a response to both the unprecedented demand for autism services and the emergence of autism insurance mandates.

ASG manages autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and other developmental disability (DD) benefits on behalf of health plans, employers, and other purchasers of ASD and DD services. ASG became a wholly owned subsidiary of Beacon Health Strategies, LLC, in 2011. The initial geographic focus was in New Jersey, but operations have since expanded into five additional states. Service models include an infrastructure to support proprietary statewide autism provider networks, provider and member services, credentialing, benefits care coordination, billing, claims processing, utilization management, and quality improvement. ASG is a manager of autism insurance benefits, *not* a provider of services.

Having played a pioneering role in the managed behavioral healthcare industry, ASG’s leadership understands the challenges involved in supporting individuals with ASD. Until there is sufficient actuarial data (on both the insurance and provider sides), insurance companies face a very difficult challenge to determine optimal outcomes of care and the best possible underwriting solutions. ASG provides a solution for both the near and long term. ASG meets the challenge of managing autism insurance benefits in the following ways:

- **Outcomes Management.** Using ASG’s custom designed care management module, we focus on standardizing the consistency and quality of care across our provider network. We find that best-practice behavior must be shaped and guided by the interaction between the care manager and the network provider if it is to occur. Each child is required to receive a comprehensive assessment that enables the development of an individualized support plan (ISP). This plan details where the child is functioning across multiple domains and articulates which behavioral gains and reduction in maladaptive behavior is expected to occur during an episode of care (typically 6 months). After each clinical encounter, the provider enters quantitative data as to actual functioning during that session. ASG’s dashboard is constantly monitored by our cadre of care managers and when a child’s reported level of functioning is outside the bounds of expected achievement, our BCBA senior

care managers are alerted and undertake a review to understand why the child is not making anticipated progress. To summarize, the ASG model begins with a statistical measurement of where the child is today and appropriate goals are set for each child by the end of an episode of care. If the child is no longer making progress, then all therapy is halted until additional information is attained via case review or reassessment.

- **Build Networks of Qualified BCBAs and ABA Therapists.** ASG understands the role and needs of providers who serve children with ASD and their parents. ASG is attuned to the reality that behavior analysts and ABA therapists are not experienced with insurance reimbursement and related documentation requirements and have not been previously credentialed as health care providers. Accordingly, ASG offers providers’ complete, automated resources for claims submission, billing, and payment along with a web-based electronic clinical record.
- **Coordination of Care.** ASG’S call center is staffed by experienced ABA care managers who are BCBA’s and ABA therapists. Care managers are responsible for helping prospective patients understand and access their specific autism insurance benefits. BCBA supervisors oversee the work of the care managers but also review clinical data and outcomes of providers on a continuous basis. They manage targeted outcomes by providing peer-to-peer recommendations to treating clinicians. When anticipated treatment gains are not forthcoming, ASG’s care supervisors interact with the attending BCBA to modify the ISP or effect a change in the ABA therapist. All information concerning patients and patient care is entered, tracked, managed, and protected on ASG’s proprietary care management system. This information management system provides the following supports to ASG’s provider network.
- **Real Time Metrics.** To our knowledge, the ASG proprietary IT system is the first platform that has been created to provide all of the tools necessary to collect and analyze ABA treatment data in the health care insurance environment. ABA therapists and BCBAs in the field can access a PC or hand-held device at their leisure, log on to the system through the ASG HIPPA compliant portal and enter their patient encounter data. For BCBAs and ABA therapists, this is a major innovation in that most autism services providers have previously used make-shift, Excel-based technology or, worse, pencil and paper systems for tracking the effectiveness and outcomes of patient care.

Patient progress can be tracked across multiple clinical indicators (e.g. age, diagnosis, severity, etc.) tied to

their treatment plans. We can identify where progress is improved or hindered by other factors such as pharmacological interventions, other therapies (e.g. speech), and situations that arise within the family, school, or community and intervene as necessary to promote continued progress and achievement of outcomes.

Behavior Analysis Center for Autism

Carl T. Sundberg, Ph.D., BCBA-D, and his wife Devon created Behavior Analysis Center for Autism (BACA) in the fall of 2009, with two centers in Fishers, Indiana. In September 2011, BACA expanded to the Zionsville, Indiana area with the new BACA-Z center. Seeing the need to expand to northern Indiana, BACA began to train staff in November 2011 for the newest center, BACA Hart, which opened in Elkhart in early 2012.

As the founder and executive director for all four BACA locations, Dr. Sundberg oversees the implementation of BACA's verbal behavior programs and the training of its skilled therapists. Dr. Sundberg received his doctorate degree in applied behavior analysis (ABA) from Western Michigan University (WMU).

While a graduate student, Dr. Sundberg taught behavior analysis at WMU for 7 years. He has published in *The Analysis of Verbal Behavior* and *A Collection of Reprints on Verbal Behavior*. He has more than 25 years of experience in the field of mental health and has specialized in the treatment of individuals with autism and other developmental disabilities for the last 15 years. Since 1996, Dr. Sundberg has assessed and worked with more than 500 children and adolescents with autism spectrum disorders and over 50 school districts. Dr. Sundberg has served as adjunct faculty at Ball State University teaching Skinner's analysis of verbal behavior, was past-president of the Hoosier Association for Behavior Analysis, is a guest editor of *The Analysis of Verbal Behavior*, and has presented at numerous behavior analysis conferences.

BACA currently has five doctoral board certified behavior analysts (BCBA-D), 11 board certified behavior analysts (BCBA), two board certified associate behavior analysts (BCaBA), two onsite speech pathologists, and an occupational therapist. All of our therapists have at least 4 years of college education and all have gone through rigorous training.

Dr. Sundberg has strong collegial relationships with other national experts on ABA, and these colleagues travel to BACA regularly to consult for Dr. Sundberg on many of the children's cases. As part of BACA's clinical team, the visiting consultants come from all over the country to consult with BACA staff and clients and enhance skills as well as deliver training sessions. They include Dr. Mark

Sundberg, BCBA-D; Dr. Pat McGreevy, BCBA-D; Dr. John Esch, BCBA-D; Dr. Barbara Esch, SLP, BCBA-D; Dr. Peter Gerhardt, Ed.D.; and Bob Ryan, BCBA.

Mark L. Sundberg received his doctorate degree in ABA from Western Michigan University (1980) under the direction of Dr. Jack Michael. He is the author of the Verbal Behavior Milestones Assessment and Placement Program (the VB-MAPP). Dr. M. Sundberg visits BACA twice a year to advise BACA on their systems approach and provides staff training.

Dr. Pat McGreevy received BS and MA degrees from the University of Iowa and his Ph.D. in education from Kansas University, where he was a student of Ogden R. Lindsley, who in turn was a student of B. F. Skinner. He is the author of *Essentials for Living* (in press). Dr. McGreevy consults with BACA 3 days a month. He consults on specific client programs, trains staff, and provides feedback on BACA's instructional systems. Dr. McGreevy is valuable to BACA due to his background in precision teaching and working with those who have moderate to severe developmental disabilities.

Dr. John Esch earned a Ph.D. in ABA from the Psychology Department at Western Michigan University and is currently one of its adjunct faculty members. He has given workshops and presentations in the USA, Europe, and Australia on topics that include verbal behavior, classroom management, functional assessments, challenging behaviors of difficult-to-manage students, vocal variability, and establishing ABA classrooms in public schools. His current research interest is in speech acquisition. A recent paper (Esch, Esch, & Love, 2009) on vocal variability can be found in *The Analysis of Verbal Behavior*, volume 25. Dr. John Esch consults with BACA for 2 days a month. He maintains a caseload of specific BACA clientele, trains staff and provides feedback on BACA's instructional systems. In addition, Dr. Esch is able to utilize BACA clientele to carry out his research.

Dr. Barbara Esch is a behavior analyst and speech pathologist with over 30 years experience in behavioral interventions for individuals with developmental disabilities. Dr. Esch received her Ph.D. in ABA from Western Michigan University and her MA in speech pathology from Michigan State University. She is the author of the *Early Echoic Skills Assessment*, part of the Verbal Behavior Milestones Assessment and Placement Program: VB-MAPP (Sundberg, 2008). Dr. Esch's background in speech language pathology and behavior analysis has proven invaluable to the clients of BACA.

Peter Gerhardt is the director of education at the Upper School of the McCarton School in New York City. Dr. Gerhardt has more than 30 years of experience utilizing the principles of ABA in support of adolescents and adults with autism spectrum disorders in educational, employment, residential, and community-based settings.

Dr. Gerhardt consults with BACA Prep on a quarterly basis. BACA Prep is specifically for clientele ages 7–20, thus Dr. Gerhardt's advisement has set the structure for the young adults in this program.

Bob Ryan began studying ABA and practicing as a therapist over 20 years ago at a residential treatment facility in Florida called Threshold when it was under the clinical direction of Dr. Eb Blakley. After extensive experience in the field, Bob received his MS in ABA from Florida Institute of Technology. Bob demonstrates expertise in the following areas: discrete trial training, natural environment teaching, precision teaching, direct instruction, verbal behavior, and functional behavior assessment. Bob provides consultation services to BACA 4 days a week.

BACA's implementation strategy includes creating an enriched learning environment at each facility through the

utilization of B. F. Skinner's analysis of verbal behavior within the framework of ABA to teach children with language and social deficits. BACA also provides natural environment training in the community and home and coordinates with families and outside professionals to create a cohesive team to benefit clients. BACA currently is carrying out research under the direction of Drs. John and Barb Esch.

By ensuring the staff receives and applies intensive, ongoing training, BACA provides the most efficacious ABA services to children and young adults with autism to improve their quality of life. Treatment is based on current research findings from the most experienced scholars in the field of behavior analysis in the areas of teaching language, social, self-help, and academic and employment skills.

BACA is considered a premier ABA center in its field and is eager to employ those that are interested in its mission.



Seventh Annual Autism Conference

January 25 – 27, 2013

Portland Marriott Downtown Waterfront Hotel; Portland, OR

New for 2013

Provider, Science and Parent tracks will be offered. Additionally, two poster sessions will offer conference attendees the opportunity to review the foremost research being conducted around the world in the area of autism.

Friday, January 25: Practitioner Workshops

Presenters to be announced.

Saturday, January 26: Science Day: Research to Practice

Dorothy Griffiths, Ph.D. (Brock University)
Topic: Autism and Sexuality

Henry Roane, Ph.D. (Syracuse University)
Topic: Behavior Challenges/Problems

Aubyn Stahmer, Ph.D. (University of California, San Diego)
Topic: Implementing Evidence-Based Autism Practices in Families and the Community

Glynis Murphy, Ph.D. (Tizard Centre, University of Kent)
Topic: Autism in the Criminal Justice System

Anastasia Dimitropoulos, Ph.D. (Case Western Reserve University)
Topic: Brain Imaging and Autism: Search for Subtypes

Sunday, January 27: Parent Day

Travis Thompson, Ph.D. (Minnesota Early Autism Project)
Topic: Making Sense of Early Intervention: Choosing an Intervention

Bridget Taylor, Ph.D., BCBA-D (Alpine Learning Group)
Topic: Teaching Independence Skills to Children With Autism

Breakout Sessions with Travis Thompson and Bridget Taylor

Cathleen Piazza, Ph.D., BCBA-D (University of Nebraska Medical Center)
Topic: Food Refusal: What Causes It and What To Do About It?

V. Mark Durand, Ph.D. (University of South Florida)
Topic: Sleep Problems

Breakout Sessions with Cathleen Piazza and V. Mark Durand

Sunday Panel Discussion

What Keeps Me Awake at Night—A Panel Discussion on School to Adult Transition

- Wayne Fisher, Ph.D. (Munroe-Meyer Institute, University of Nebraska Medical Center)
- Peter Gerhardt, Ph.D., (Upper School, The McCarton School)
- Bridget A. Taylor, Ph.D. (Alpine Learning Group)
- Kammy Kramer (autism activist and parent)

Conference Chair



Travis Thompson, Ph.D.
(University of Minnesota)

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The Association for Behavior Analysis International's journal, Behavior Analysis in Practice, provides science-based information on best practice in behavior analysis.

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Association for Behavior Analysis International

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& MAX HOCUTT (UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA)
DISCUSSANT: MARIA R. RUIZ (ROLLINS COLLEGE)

WHAT COUNTS AS BEHAVIOR?

PRESENTERS: WILLIAM M. BAUM (UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, DAVIS)
& CHARLES P. SHIMP (UNIVERSITY OF UTAH)
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LEARNING

PRESENTERS: PETER KILLEEN (ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY)
& JACK J. MCDOWELL (EMORY UNIVERSITY)
DISCUSSANT: JOHN W. DONAHOE (UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS)

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& HENRY D. SCHLINGER (CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LOS ANGELES)
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**PATTERNS OF EXPLANATION IN BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS:
MODELS AND THEORIES**

PRESENTERS: PETER KILLEEN (ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY)
& JACK J. MCDOWELL (EMORY UNIVERSITY)
DISCUSSANT: JOHN W. DONAHOE (UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS)

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

2012

August

Wisconsin ABA Fifth Annual Conference and Workshops

August 13–15
Madison, WI
Memorial Union
University of Wisconsin–Madison
www.wisaba.org/conference

XXI Brazilian Meeting of Psychology and Behavioral Medicine

August 15–18
Curitiba, Paraná, Brazil
Expo Unimed Curitiba
<http://abpmc.org.br>

September

New Zealand ABA Conference

August 31–September 2
Wellington, New Zealand
Victoria University of Wellington
<http://nzaba.org>

Japanese ABA Conference

September 1–2
Kochi, Japan
www.j-aba.jp/index.html

Florida ABA 32nd Annual Conference

September 19–22
Jacksonville, FL
Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront
<http://fabaworld.org>

Nevada ABA Annual Conference

September 21–22
Reno, NV
Grand Sierra Resort Hotel and Casino
<http://nevadaaba.com>

Minnesota Northland ABA Conference

September 28
Maple Grove, MN
Cambria Suites
www.mnaba.org

October

Alabama ABA 21st Annual Convention

October 3–5
Birmingham, AL
Doubletree Hotel
www.alabamaaba.com

Mid-American ABA Annual Conference

October 5–6
Minneapolis, MN
www.uwec.edu/maba.html

Berkshire Association for Behavior Analysis and Therapy 33rd Annual Conference

October 11–12
Amherst, MA
University of Massachusetts, Amherst
www.babat.org

Australian Association for Cognitive and Behaviour Therapy National Conference

October 17–21
Sanctuary Cove
Gold Coast, Queensland, Australia
www.aacbt.org

Tennessee ABA 15th Annual Conference

October 18–19
Nashville, TN
Scarritt-Bennett Center
www.tennesseeaba.org

Swedish ABA Conference

October 20
Stockholm, Sweden
www.swaba.se

New York State ABA 23rd Annual Conference and Workshops

October 24–26
Saratoga Springs, NY
Gideon Putnam Resort
www.nysaba.org

Vermont ABA Third Annual Conference

October 26
Montpelier, VT
Capitol Plaza Hotel
<http://vtaba.org>

November

Arizona ABA and the Arizona Autism Coalition BCBA Conference

November 3
Phoenix, AZ
Disability Empowerment Center
www.azaba.org

ABAI Theory and Philosophy Conference

November 2–4
Santa Fe, NM
Disability Empowerment Center
www.abainternational.org

Sociedad Mexicana de Análisis de la Conducta Conference

November 7–9
Guanajuato, Gto.
Hotel Misión
www.smac.org.mx

Ohio ABA Third Annual Fall Conference

November 17
Cincinnati, OH
The University of Cincinnati
www.ohaba.org

Missouri ABA Conference

November 19–20
www.moaba.org

Ontario ABA Annual Conference

November 29–30
Toronto, ON
Metro Toronto Convention Centre
www.ontaba.org

Maryland ABA 15th Annual Conference

November 30
Baltimore, MD
Royal Sonesta Harbor Court Hotel
www.marylandaba.org



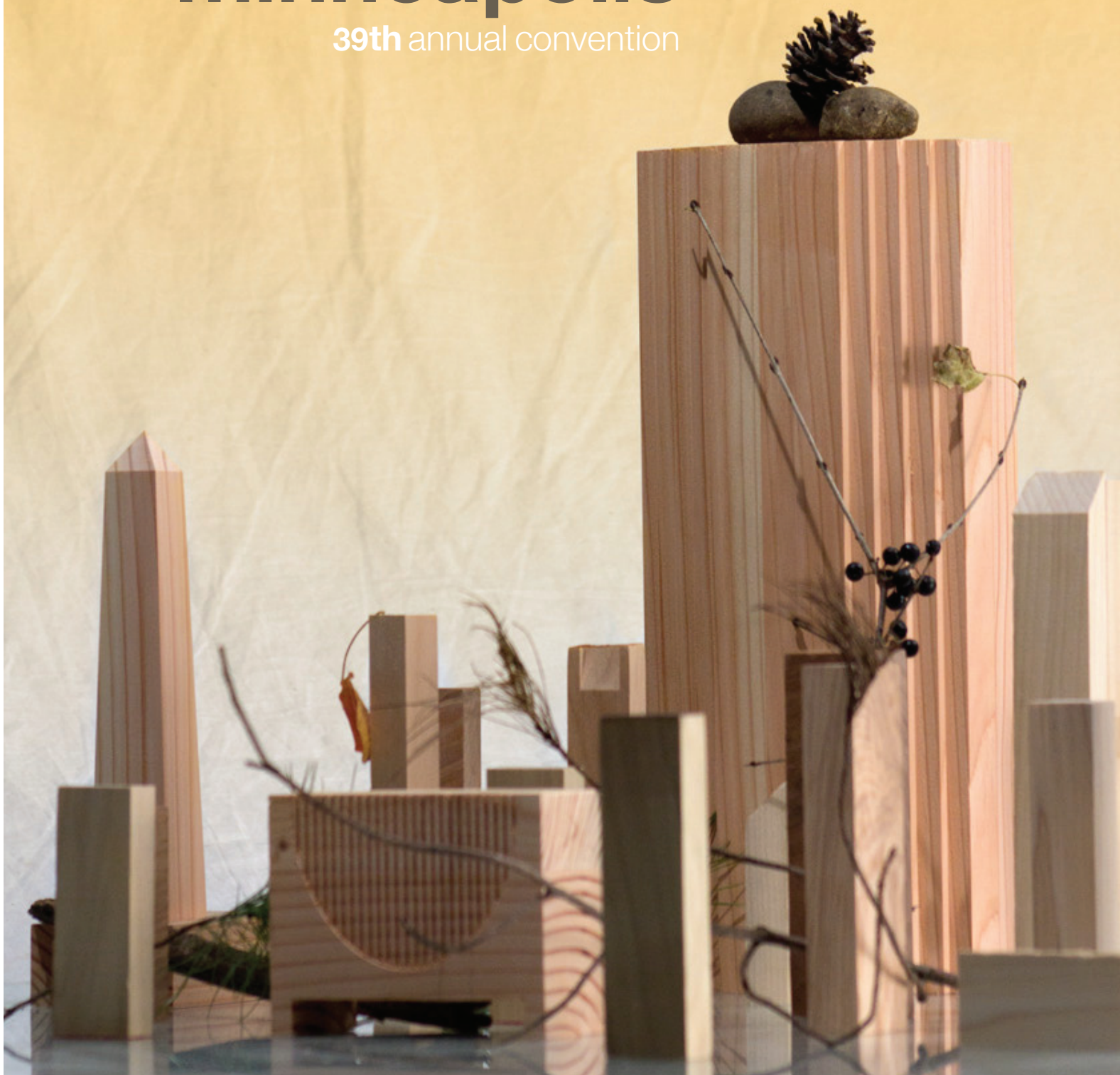
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