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SABA's support has been a beacon for students and individuals in various disciplines throughout the globe.

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Table of Contents

Update from the SABA President 2

SABA Donors 6

SABA Grant Report 8

Autism Conference Preview 18

In Memoriam: Travis Thompson 20

2023 Supporting and Sustaining Members 24

Updates From ABAI's U.S.A. Affiliated Chapters 25

Updates From ABAI's Non-U.S.A. Affiliated Chapters 45

Updates From ABAI's Special Interest Groups 57



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2014-2016

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Transforming Lives
Shaping Our Future

SABA Society for the Advancement of Behavior Analysis

SABA helps ensure the future of behavior analysis by providing grants and promoting basic knowledge of the discipline. We honor those who have made significant contributions to further these goals.



PRESERVING DEVELOPING & DISSEMINATING ...

the SCIENCE *of* BEHAVIOR AN UPDATE FROM THE SABA PRESIDENT

BY RUTH ANNE REHFELDT

For the field of behavior analysis to prosper, needed are innovative projects that expand the scope and breadth of science and practice.

The Society for the Advancement of Behavior Analysis (SABA) has supported the efforts of individuals and organizations to do just this for nearly five decades. SABA's support and recognition have been applied to students, individuals and organizations that promote discipline across the globe, and leaders whose pioneering work in research, teaching, and service has advanced the field in any number of ways. In appreciation of the contributions to our field made by those recognized, this report delineates the SABA awards and grants that were awarded this past year.

2023 SABA Awards

The 2023 SABA Award winners were as follows (a summary of the meritorious work of those recognized is also provided):

Distinguished Service to Behavior Analysis

Linda Hayes

Linda Hayes is a Distinguished Faculty Emerita at the University of Nevada, Reno. Linda co-founded the Behavior Analysis Program at the University of Nevada on a self-capitalization model and served as its director for over a decade. She has received many awards for her contributions to behavior analysis, including the Fred S. Keller Award for Teaching of Behavior Analysis and a SABA Award for Enduring Contributions to Behavior Analysis for the program she founded. Linda similarly founded UNR's Satellite Programs in Behavior Analysis around the world. She was the recipient of a Global Engagement Award from the University of Nevada and a SABA International Development Award. Linda served two terms as ABAI President and has held a number of other leadership positions in the organization.

Scientific Translation

Ken Silverman

Ken Silverman has been on the faculty of Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine for over 30 years and is currently a Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences. Ken has developed pioneering operant-based treatments to address community poverty and health challenges. Ken has investigated abstinence reinforcement interventions for the treatment of heroin and cocaine addiction, financial reinforcement to promote and maintain viral suppression in adults living with HIV; computer-based training to establish academic and job skills that chronically unemployed adults need to gain and maintain employment and escape poverty; and a reinforcement-based therapeutic workplace to promote and maintain drug abstinence and employment. All these related research lines have focused on low-income adult populations. Dr. Silverman's volume of published research has shown that operant reinforcement can sustain long-term therapeutic behavior change in addressing chronic health problems and that the therapeutic workplace is effective in treating drug addiction, promoting employment, and reducing poverty.

International Dissemination of Behavior Analysis

Zuilma Gabriela Sigurðardóttir

Zuilma Gabriela Sigurðardóttir has worked on the dissemination of behavior analysis in Iceland and Europe for 30 years, including as a therapist, consultant, and adjunct faculty member at the University of Iceland, while also being an administrator and developer of services for individuals with developmental disabilities in Reykjavík. She entered academia full-time in 1999 as an assistant professor of behavior analysis in the psychology department of the University of Iceland. She has guided and supervised approximately 190 student research projects for a thesis in behavior analysis at all levels, including the only Ph.D. thesis in behavior analysis in Iceland. She has aided Icelandic students in finding programs of study in behavior analysis in the United States and Europe since 1998 and has guided them in the application process. She was the

recipient of the SABA international development grant in the year 2000. She served as president of the European Association for Behavior Analysis, was an exchange teacher at the University of Latvia with Erasmus fellowships, and co-coordinated the first conference on behavior analysis in Sofia, Bulgaria in 2016.

Effective Presentation of Behavior Analysis in the Mass Media APOPO

APOPO's overarching goal is to implement innovative solutions to protect communities and the planet. APOPO operates participatory research and learning culture in which rats and other scent-detection animals are trained to detect mines and tuberculosis in affected countries. APOPO has created jobs and cultivated a workforce in regions experiencing socioeconomic challenges. APOPO became an independent mine action operator in Mozambique in 2007 and has since worked across the globe to carry out mine action operations in three countries. APOPO's work in presenting behavior analysis in the mass media can be viewed on their website: apopo.org/.

Enduring Programmatic Contributions in Behavior Analysis Oslo Metropolitan University

The master's program in Behavioral Science—formerly known as Learning in Complex Systems—admitted its first students in the Fall of 2004 and was accredited by ABAI in 2010. In the Fall of 2022, 135 students were admitted to the full- and part-time programs. Along with a solid grounding in theory and research methods in behavior analysis, students complete elective courses in applied behavior analysis and write a thesis in the form of a scientific article. The Department of Behavioral Science also runs an ABAI-accredited bachelor's program in psychology with an emphasis on behavior analysis and a Ph.D. program in behavior analysis. Department faculty are internationally recognized scholars in the field. The program values interdisciplinary efforts and works to integrate behavior analysis with complexity science, network analysis, and economics, offering elective courses in OBM, risk management, behavioral economics, and early intervention.

2024 SABA Awards

The following individuals and graduate training programs will be honored at the SABA Awards Ceremony at the 2024 Annual Convention. As in past years, this event will be held on the opening morning of the convention.

Distinguished Service to Behavior Analysis
Jay Moore

Scientific Translation
Jomella Watson-Thomas

International Dissemination of Behavior Analysis
Dermot Barnes-Holmes

Effective Presentation of Behavior Analysis in the Mass Media
Stuart Vyse

Enduring Programmatic Contributions in Behavior Analysis
Teachers College, Columbia University

2023 Grants

Following review, the following individuals were awarded grant funds from SABA to support the completion of specific projects related to the aims and mission of the organization. The purpose of each funding opportunity is also delineated.

Innovative Student Research

The purpose of this program is to provide funding for students in psychology or behavior analysis doctoral programs and students in psychology or behavior analysis master's programs that can support applied or basic research in the experimental analysis of behavior.

Innovative Student Research, Master's Thesis

Skylar DeWitt
Madison Graham

Carla Marinez-Perez
Molly Mattes

Innovative Student Research, Doctoral Dissertation

Sarah Davis
Jacqueline DeBartelo

Carolyn Ritchy

Innovative Student Research Grant in
Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

The purpose of this grant is to support graduate-level study of issues relevant to diversity, equity, and inclusion within the field of behavior analysis.

Cassandra O'Hara
Hannah Vance

Sidney W. and Janet R. Bijou Grant

The Sidney W. and Janet R. Bijou Grant provides support for doctoral student research designed to incorporate behavioral principles to the study of human development.

Abbie Cooper
Anna Kate Edgemon

Kristen Newell

International Grant

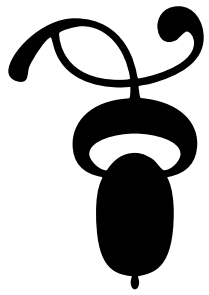
The purpose of this grant is to increase opportunities for individuals and organizations that do not have the necessary resources to communicate important behavior analytic information and knowledge on a worldwide scale.

Alan El Tagi
Sunyoung Kim

Yifei Sun

Sarah Mead Jasperse

Krystal Kennedy
Javier Virues-Ortega



Save the date: Sunday, May 26th

GALA DINNER 2024 7:00 PM

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CONVENTION
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Public Awareness Grant

This funding mechanism supports projects designed to deliver messaging focused on behavior science and behavior analytic solutions to important problems. Projects in which messaging is grounded in scientific evidence and which target an audience that has not yet been reached by existing initiatives are typically selected.

Maeve Donnelly

Adam Hockman

Interdisciplinary Approach to the Treatment of Autism.

The Doreen Granpeesheh Interdisciplinary Approach to the Treatment of Autism Fund was established in 2020. The purpose of this funding mechanism is to support collaborations between behavior analysts and other disciplines dedicated to evidence-based treatments for autistic individuals. Currently, this fund is used to support an invited presenter at the annual convention who offers a diverse perspective on the diagnosis and treatment of autism. For 2023, Dr. Timothy Buie of Harvard Medical School/Boston Children's Hospital was the invited speaker, and delivered a presentation entitled, "Considering the Medical Factors Contributing to Behaviors in Autism."

Senior Student Presenter Fund

The purpose of this fund is to support qualified student applicants with complimentary registration for an ABAI event. In 2023, 49 senior student presenters were sponsored.

On SABA Funds

SABA assets are divided between restricted and unrestricted funds. Restricted funds are used exclusively for their stated purpose (whether determined by donors or the SABA Board of Directors) and may be permanent or temporary. Permanently restricted funds are generated from the annual return of the principal of a donation and/or by new donations. Temporarily restricted funds result from one-time donations for a discrete purpose. Unrestricted funds are not designated for a specific purpose and are allocated by the SABA Board to support the society's activities. As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, SABA accepts tax-deductible donations.

With Thanks

SABA expresses enormous thanks to individuals and organizations who have made donations of any size to support the outstanding work of the individuals recognized during 2023. Gold, Silver, and Bronze-level donors are recognized on a monument in the ABAI office lobby, a photo of which is shown on page 2. ❖

2022–2023 **SABA Donors**

On behalf of the SABA Board, we are grateful for all the ABAI members who contributed to SABA in the past year to help build our funds. These donations enable SABA to provide annual grants that support research in and the development of behavior analysis. This list reflects donations from September 1, 2022 through September 1, 2023.

\$10,000 & above

SABA Unrestricted Fund

John Mabry Trust

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SABA Unrestricted Fund

Alyce Dickinson

Beth Sulzer-Azaroff

\$1,000–\$4,999

SABA Unrestricted Fund

Larry Alferink

Anonymous

Catherine Hine

Judi Komaki

M. Jackson (Jack) Marr

Michael (Mike) Perone

Greg Stikeleather

\$500–\$999

SABA Student Presenter Fund

Paul Neuman

David Pyles

SABA Unrestricted Fund

Mark Galizio

Linda Hayes

Kent Johnson

Harold (Hal) Miller

\$250–\$499

DEI Student Research Fund

David Wesch

SABA Student Presenter Fund

Edward (Ed) Morris

David Wesch

\$100–\$249

DEI Student Research Fund

Judah Axe

Thomas (Wade) Brown

Emma DenBleyker

R. Wayne Fuqua

William (Bill) Sweeney

SABA Student Presenter Fund

Judah Axe

Daniel (Dan) Fienup

Chris Hughes

Karen Lionello-DeNolf

William (Bill) McIlvane

Raymond Miltenberger

Michael (Mike) Perone

Kathryn Roose

Stephanie Stolarz-Fantino

William (Bill) Sweeney

Rachel Taylor

Thomas (Tom) Waltz

SABA Unrestricted Fund

Wendy Donlin Washington

Zuilma Gabriela Sigurdardottir

Kenji Okuda

Rita Olla

Dag Strömberg

Janet Twyman

\$50–\$99

DEI Student Research Fund

Kathleen (Kathy) Bohrer

Grant Gautreaux

Sherry Serdikoff

Susan Wilczynski

Alyssa Wilson

SABA Student Presenter Fund

Darlene Crone-Todd

Zuilma Gabriela Sigurdardottir

Grant Gautreaux

MaryKate (Kate) McKenna

SABA Student Presenter Fund

Christina Nord

Sherry Serdikoff

Susan Wilczynski

SABA Unrestricted Fund

Karen Anderson

Darlene Crone-Todd

Robert (Bob) Dlouhy

Grant Gautreaux

Julie Koudys

Eric Larsson

Suzanne Mitchell

Michael (Mike) Mozzoni

Rita Olla

Other Amounts

DEI Student Research Fund

Erik Arntzen

Lauren-Lee Askew

Darlene Crone-Todd

Elizabeth (Beth) Diviney

Maria Gassner

Kathleen (Kat) Kelly

Anita Li

Stacey Maxwell

Scott Miller

Yaniz Padilla Dalmau

April Rapp

John Russell

Vicci Tucci

Thomas (Tom) Waltz

Nina Wilde

Criss Wilhite

SABA Student Presenter Fund

Lauren-Lee Askew

Samantha Bergmann

Sarah Casella Jones

Alison Cox

Elizabeth (Beth) Diviney

Thomas (Tom) Freeman

**SABA Student
Presenter Fund**

Jonathan (Jon) Friedel
Kathleen (Kat) Kelly
Alan Kinsella
Anita Li
April Rapp
Alyssa Wilson

SABA Unrestricted Fund

Elizabeth (Beth) Divinely
Hua Feng
Thomas (Tom) Freeman
Deborah (Deb) Grossett
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Society for the Advancement
of Behavior Analysis

2023 SABA Grant Reports

THE SOCIETY for the ADVANCEMENT of BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS (SABA) AWARDED the FOLLOWING GRANTS in 2023:

Thesis Grant Winner, \$2,500:

Skylar DeWitt (Eastern Michigan University)

Thesis Grant Winner, \$2,500:

Madison Graham (University of Kansas)

Thesis Grant Winner, \$2,500:

Carla Martinez-Perez (University of Florida)

Thesis Grant Winner, \$2,500:

Molly Mattes (Western Michigan University)

Dissertation Grant Winner, \$5,000:

Sarah Davis (Brock University)

Dissertation Grant Winner, \$5,000:

Jacqueline DeBartelo
(The Chicago School of Professional
Psychology, SUNY Upstate Medical University)

Dissertation Grant Winner, \$5,000:

Carolyn Ritchey (Auburn University)

Innovative Student Research in DEI, \$4,000:

Cassandra O'Hara (University of Florida)

Innovative Student Research in DEI, \$2,000:

Hanna Vance (University of Kansas)

International Development, \$5,000:

Aladin El Tagi
(Alternative Paths Training School)

International Development, \$3,000:

Krystal Kennedy (Assistant Professor)

International Development, \$3,096:

Sunyoung Kim (University of Illinois Chicago)

International Development, \$4,150:

Sarah Mead Jasperse
(Emirates College for Advanced Education)

International Development, \$3,999:

Yifei Sun
(Teachers College Columbia University)

International Development, \$3,000:

Javier Virues-Ortega (ABA España)

Public Awareness, \$5,000:

Maeve Donnelly (Northeastern University)

Public Awareness, \$5,000:

Adam Hockman (MGH Institute of Health
Professions & ABA Technologies)

Sidney W. & Janet R. Bijou Grant, \$10,465:

Abbie Cooper (West Virginia University)

Sidney W. & Janet R. Bijou Grant, \$9,905:

Anna Kate Edgemon (Auburn University)

Sidney W. & Janet R. Bijou Grant, \$11,230:

Kirsten Newell (Louisiana State University)

The following articles are summaries of the reports submitted by the 2023 awardees.

Master's Thesis Grants

Studying an Analog of
Treatment Relapse of Severe
Destructive Behavior in
Children with Autism in a Safe
and Ethical Manner

BY SKYLAR DEWITT



Skylar's thesis project aims to compare treatment relapse outcomes (e.g., resurgence) following two differential reinforcement of alternative behavior (DRA) procedures: one which programs for extinction of the target response, and one which does not.

While DRA with extinction is one of the most effective and common treatments for problem

behavior, there may be instances in which it is not practical or safe to place a behavior on extinction (e.g., attention-maintained self-injury which must be blocked to prevent harm to the client or another individual). Thus, the use of DRA without extinction may be a preferable treatment option in some cases.

However, the extent to which DRA without extinction interventions are susceptible to resurgence is not fully understood. A greater understanding of the factors contributing to resurgence following DRA treatment variations may increase practitioners' ability to make data-driven decisions regarding the strengths and limitations of including (or not including) extinction as a treatment component.

Much of what we know about resurgence was established as a result of basic laboratory research on topics such as The Matching Law, Behavioral Momentum Theory, and Resurgence as Choice Theory. This study uses a human operant (i.e., translational) model to evaluate this question, as there are concerns with the ethics and feasibility of studying questions related to this form of relapse in settings which are not equipped to manage severe behavior. As such, this study has additional

significance in bridging the gap between basic and applied research on resurgence.

The funding provided by this SABA grant will allow Skylar to purchase the equipment necessary to build a human operant lab space on Eastern Michigan University's campus, recruit study subjects (by way of making monetary donations to a university food pantry as a result of each subject's participation), and travel to ABAT's annual convention in 2024 to disseminate her results.

A Quantitative Examination of the Effects of Repeated Contingency Reversals on Behavioral Flexibility

BY CARLA MARTINEZ-PEREZ



Carla Martinez-Perez is a doctoral student in the Behavior Analysis program at the University of Florida, working under the supervision of Dr. Chris Podlesnik. Her thesis project aims to identify and compare the effects of relatively static versus dynamic contingency changes to evaluate whether repeated reinforcement-contingency reversals affect resurgence, and whether the theoretical framework Resurgence as Choice (RaC) can account for the results.

With her project, Carla aims to examine whether rapid contingency reversals could result in resurgence, leading to a rapid appearance followed by a rapid decline in responding with further exposure to extinction. Such findings have implications for understanding the conditions that contribute to both flexible behavior patterns and the durability of behavioral treatments.

While research on resurgence has largely focused on its relevance to relapse, the return of a previously reinforced target behavior despite no longer being reinforced demonstrates behavioral flexibility. Behavioral flexibility is a general term referring to adaptations that promote survival under the pressure of changes in the environment. Unlike relapse, resurgence is beneficial under circumstances related to problem-solving and survival by potentially exploiting replenished sources of reinforcement. Accordingly, an understanding of resurgence provides novel insight into behavioral processes involved in flexible patterns of behavior during common activities such as play, creativity, and seeking resources under competition. Therefore, understanding the behavioral processes contributing to resurgence would provide important insight into both relapse and behavioral flexibility.

Carla would like to thank Dr. Podlesnik, her colleagues, family, and friends, as well as SABA for supporting her master's thesis research.

Using Behavioral Economics to Optimize Tornado Hazard Preparedness

BY MADISON GRAHAM



Madison Graham is a doctoral student in Dr. Derek Reed's Applied Behavioral Economics lab at the University of Kansas. She previously worked with Dr. Jan Sheldon at the University of Kansas prior to Dr. Sheldon's retirement. The opportunity to work with both of these mentors has

led to uniquely broad interests and applications of behavior analysis for Madison. Her primary interests involve a behavior-analytic approach to community resilience and public policy. These interests span from behaviors surrounding juvenile justice and truancy to natural disasters and disaster preparedness, considering implications for policy and the community.

The SABA grant will support her master's thesis research, which will assess an individual's willingness to invest in disaster preparation. Specifically, this study will use behavioral economic tasks (e.g., a purchase task) to evaluate willingness to purchase a FEMA-approved residential safe room to protect from tornado damage. There have been few applications of behavior analysis to behavior surrounding disaster preparedness, severe weather, and tornadoes (e.g., Cox et al., 2021; Gelino & Reed, 2020). However, the field provides incredible resources to assess these behaviors. Behavioral economic tasks lend well to disaster research as they can be used to simulate scenarios that may not be able to be otherwise manipulated due to logistical or ethical concerns (e.g., response to natural disasters). To closely replicate and simulate available disaster preparation resources, Madison designed the behavioral tasks for the study using a community-wide grant currently available through FEMA. This study will employ a mixed design with a parametric evaluation of pricing within-subject and a between-subjects expenditure comparison. Respondents will complete a series of tasks, including a residential safe room purchase task.

Further, to maximize the potential of these findings, her research involves interdisciplinary collaboration with civil engineers and economists. The results of this study may further inform consumer decision-making surrounding disaster preparedness. They could inform and improve currently available federal grant programs as well as policies and interventions surrounding disaster preparation and infrastructure. Considering these potential implications, results could eventually lead to a line of research allowing better preparation for both individuals and communities.

Evaluating the Effects of Learning New Targets During Follow-Up on Maintenance of Mastered Targets

BY MOLLY MATTES



Molly Mattes is the primary student investigator for the project entitled “Evaluating the Effects of Learning New Targets During Follow-Up on Maintenance of Mastered contribute to relapse of avoidance using reinforcement Targets.” Due to the importance of maintenance, behavior-analytic researchers have evaluated the effects of modifying variables during teaching on maintenance (e.g., mastery criteria; Fuller & Fienup, 2018). However, little research has evaluated how the frequency and timing of practice opportunities following mastery affects maintenance. An equal distribution involves regular follow-up sessions occurring at constant intervals (Fuller & Fienup, 2018; Longino et al., 2021). Progressively increasing distribution involves practicing a skill more often immediately following mastery and gradually increasing the intervals between sessions (Sigafos et al., 2005). This study’s purpose is twofold. The first purpose is to compare levels of performance (labeling arbitrary shapes) across two follow-up session arrangements (equal and progressively increasing).

The second purpose is to evaluate the impact of learning new targets (i.e., learning to label three new arbitrary shapes) on levels of performance for previously acquired targets. Participants will be college-aged students who will learn an arbitrary tacting task using three sets of three arbitrary shapes and names. Each set of targets will be assigned to a follow-up session arrangement (equal, progressively increasing, or control). Following mastery of the initial three target sets, participants will begin a 60-day follow-up phase. Participants will return for two additional trainings that will occur 14 days and 28 days following the initial training. During each additional training, participants will learn one new set of novel targets. Levels of performance (correct labeling of arbitrary shapes) will be measured and compared before and after each additional training.

Molly Mattes is responsible for creating all study materials, conducting all training and follow-up sessions, training other members of the research team, and graphing and analyzing all participant data. The funds from the Society for the Advancement of Behavior Analysis Innovative Student Research Grant will help to provide the necessary technology for this study as well as fund travel expenses to the 2024 ABAI Annual Convention so that Molly can disseminate the results of this research.

Doctoral Dissertation Grants

Evaluating the Application of Behavioral Coaching Strategies for Dance Instruction

BY SARAH DAVIS

Sarah Davis is a doctoral candidate at Brock University (St. Catharines, ON, Canada), under the co-supervision of Drs. Kendra Thomson and Tricia Vause. The 2023



Innovative Student Research Dissertation Grant will support Sarah in leading three studies that evaluate the application of behavior analysis in dance education. In Study 1, Sarah will conduct a scoping review of the behavioral dance literature to provide a descriptive overview of this

literature and identify gaps that need to be addressed. In Study 2, Sarah will expand upon the positive outcomes of her previous research¹ by virtually training dance instructors to implement TAGTeach™ and directly examine the effects of their implementation on dancers’ performance and dance experience. Study 2 may facilitate the uptake of TAGteach™ in the dance community and contribute to our understanding of the implications of TAGteach™ on dancers. In Study 3, Sarah will assess the relative differences between a behavioral coaching strategy (immediate acoustical feedback) and a traditional teaching method (delayed vocal feedback) on dancers’ performance and satisfaction. Findings from Study 3 may be used inform the focus of future training approaches applied in the dance setting. Sarah aims that her research will build capacity in the dance sector by providing accessible training opportunities and on-going manualized resources. In turn, Sarah hopes that this research will foster a supportive dance culture (among dance instructors and dancers) that maximizes the benefits of dance.

A Translational Evaluation of the Effects of Alternative Reinforcer Magnitude on Resurgence Significance

BY JACQUELINE DEBARTELO



Destructive behaviors can have a substantial impact on the quality of life of individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities by reducing their opportunities for social interactions, increasing the likelihood of more intrusive supports (e.g., restraints, psychotropic medication use, out-of-home placement), and increasing the likelihood of injuries to themselves and others. In this population, differential reinforcement of alternative behavior (DRA) successfully reduces many destructive behaviors; however, resurgence of target behaviors is highly prevalent when conditions for alternative reinforcement worsen. For example, although basic research has demonstrated that higher magnitudes of alternative reinforcement produce more rapid reductions in target responding, higher magnitudes of alternative reinforcement are also associated with more resurgence of target behavior during periods of reinforcement reduction or suspension (Craig et al., 2017). Thus, clinicians may need to consider the risks of using higher magnitudes of reinforcement during DRA because it may increase the probability of resurgence of target behavior when the treatment is disrupted. Jacqueline DeBartelo is interested in identifying the variables controlling the persistence and resurgence of destructive behavior to inform more efficacious and enduring treatments. The 2023 Innovative Student Research Dissertation Grant will assist her in conducting a translational evaluation of the effects of alternative reinforcer magnitude on the persistence and resurgence of behaviors in a clinical population. Using a human operant preparation, Experiment 1 will systematically replicate the procedures described by Craig et al. (2017) to evaluate the effect of high and low magnitudes of alternative reinforcement on (a) target response persistence during DRA and (b) resurgence of target responding when reinforcement is suspended with a clinical population. Experiment 2 will evaluate whether gradual reductions in alternative reinforcer magnitude during DRA (a) produce resurgence of target responding and (b) mitigate resurgence when reinforcement is subsequently suspended. These findings are important for extending basic research to a clinical population to guide the development of more effective treatments for destructive behavior.

Understanding Learning Processes Contributing to Social Avoidance in Volatile Environments: A Quantitative Analysis of Relapse Following Social Exclusion

BY CAROLYN RITCHEY



Carolyn Ritchey holds two Master's degrees and is a BCBA. She currently is a PhD candidate working under the direction of Dr. Chris Podlesnik. Her dissertation project will introduce a novel laboratory procedure for examining resurgence of avoidance for the first time, while also quantitatively characterizing learning processes that contribute to relapse of avoidance using reinforcement learning models. The project will inform clinical practice by suggesting novel approaches to treating Social Anxiety Disorder and mitigating relapse following social exclusion.

Resurgence comprises increases in a previously reinforced target response – such as social avoidance – when conditions worsen for an alternative response, such as approaching others. For example, if approaching others leads to being ignored or rejected, this could produce a resurgence of avoidance that jeopardizes prior treatment gains. Thus, resurgence occurs with unexpected changes in contingencies or volatility inherent in social environments. Despite significant clinical implications, no empirical studies have examined resurgence of avoidance.

Carolyn's project will introduce a novel social exclusion paradigm. In this paradigm, participants will play a social game, with virtual players making decisions about whether or not to share jokes with the participant. Approaching other players could result in one of three outcomes. Players could (1) opt to share a joke with the participant (inclusion) or (2) view the joke only amongst themselves (exclusion). Alternatively, participants could be informed that (3) a research assistant overseeing the game did not choose a joke, and, as a result, there is no joke to be shared (extinction). Avoidance could result in (1) forgoing the opportunity to learn whether one was included or excluded or (2) extinction. Specific research questions (RQs) are listed below and will be addressed in two experiments using group designs. Carolyn plans to use multilevel modeling techniques to characterize the degree to which the group means apply to individuals.

RQ1: Does social approach-avoidance behavior flexibly shift with changes in social contingencies? In other words, does avoidance increase when approaching others

likely results in exclusion? Does avoidance decrease when approaching others likely results in inclusion?

RQ2: Does resurgence of social avoidance occur when approaching others results in less favorable outcomes – for example, when approaching others initially leads to inclusion but later results in extinction?

RQ3: Does more intermittent social reinforcement (more extinction) for approaching others increase resurgence of social avoidance? That is, does more extinction result in more avoidance?

RQ4: Does greater success in recent social interactions paradoxically precipitate a greater relapse effect when a person encounters a social setback later, as implied in the resurgence literature? Specifically, do more experiences of social inclusion for approaching others lead to more avoidance when approaching others later results in extinction?

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Grants

Culturally Responsive Contingency Management for Smoking Cessation in LGBTQ+ People

BY CASSANDRA O'HARA



Cassie is a second-year doctoral student at the University of Florida studying Psychology with an emphasis in Behavior Analysis under the advisement of Dr. Jesse Dallery.

Her research interests include culturally responsive approaches to treating substance use disorders, digital contingency management, laboratory models of relapse, and health-related choice behavior. Cassie's research project will use a mixed methods approach to develop, assess, and implement culturally tailored digital contingency management for smoking cessation in LGBTQ+ folk. Smoking is just one area in which LGBTQ+ folk experience significant health disparities and there is a dire need for more research.

Since contingency management involves providing financial incentives contingent on objective evidence of smoking abstinence, this research project would not have been possible without the Innovative Student Research

Grant in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. Words cannot express Cassie's gratitude to all those who made this grant possible and for the impact it will have on LGBTQ+ individuals. She is honored to be a recipient and looks forward to disseminating the results of this research at future conferences.

Using Enhanced Written Instructions to Prepare Behavior Analysts for Negotiations in a New Workplace

BY HANNA VANCE



Hanna Vance, MA, BCBA is a doctoral student currently studying behavior analysis at the University of Kansas and is transitioning to the University of Florida in fall 2023.

Broadly, her research interests have explored employee performance measures as well as behavior-analytic applications to social responsibility topics (i.e., gender, equity, pay practices). Her current research interests continue to include diverse applications of the science across individual, organizational, and community levels. SABA's Innovative Student Research Grant in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion will support Hanna's current project which seeks to equip women-identifying behavior analysts with skills and resources to negotiate aspects of an initial job offer (e.g., salary, personal days, remote work options). This interest stems from recent research in the field indicating pay inequities exist to varying degrees for groups of behavior analysts (i.e., women faculty, women minority practitioners, and practitioners working in rural locations; Baires et al., 2023; Li et al., 2019; Vance et al., 2023). Experiencing pay inequities early in one's career can have negative individual level impacts such as fewer retirement savings (American Association of University Women, 2018), as well as organizational level impacts such as less social cohesion, and more social conflict in the workplace (Breza et al., 2018). It is unfortunate that only a small percentage of women challenge or negotiate initial salary offers (Babcock & Laschevar, 2003), and women overall have lower salary expectations when starting new jobs and often feel they lack the skills or tools to effectively negotiate (Gray et al., 2019). Hanna is hopeful that her research in this area can reduce some of the barriers that exist and empower women to advocate for themselves. Hanna is thrilled to be collaborating with her advisors, Drs DiGennaro Reed and Jimenez-Gomez, on this research. Hanna is honored to receive this grant and is excited to share results of this study at professional conferences next year.

International Development Grants

ABA Resources for Practitioners and Families in Ghana

BY KRystal KENNEDY



Dr. Kennedy and her behavior analysis team at Tennessee Technological University will use SABA funding and additional university funds to deliver a series of free behavior-based trainings in Ghana. She will be visiting Accra, Cape Coast, and Kumasi across a two-week period. Attendees will include IBAs, Cape Coast College of Education faculty and students, educators, and families. Dr. Kennedy's PhD teaching assistant, Vandyck Adade-Yeboah, is a Ghana native who will also assist with the trainings. Training topics are based on identified needs including positive behavior supports, classroom strategies and supports using behavior analysis principles, disability awareness, and assessment. IBAs will receive ACE trainings at no cost. The training is scheduled for February 1–15, 2024.

Online Training for Early Childhood Educators in Korea

BY SUNYOUNG KIM



Although the Special Education Improvement Act was enacted in 1994 in South Korea to ensure successful inclusion of students with disabilities, early childhood (EC) educators can become credentialed in early childhood special education (ECSE) by taking only a limited number of ECSE courses. The requirement of such few courses may indicate that they lack the in-depth knowledge necessary to implement behavioral interventions in inclusive settings. A recent study found that Korean teachers in inclusive classrooms have difficulty managing their classrooms and addressing diverse behavior issues due to a lack of professional knowledge and ongoing training. Given that Korea has extremely limited access to BCBA's and knowledge about applied behavior analysis (ABA), providing online training on evidence-based

behavior interventions (EBI) that target the principles of ABA will enhance teachers' ability to use these practices in their inclusive classrooms. The first goal of this project is to provide synchronous online training modules to 100 teachers in inclusive EC programs in Korea. The modules will offer comprehensive information about the principles of ABA, systematic instructional strategies, and methods for progress monitoring. Each training session will contain a case study, demonstration, and opportunities for practice. The second goal is to create a webpage for teachers that includes the pre-recorded modules and other resources. This webpage will serve as a platform for teachers to access and engage with training materials and provide a means to seek additional support from BCBA's. In the long term, this webpage will lay a foundation for future expansion, with a goal of disseminating ABA knowledge and resources that can benefit all EC teachers in Korea.

Sunyoung Kim, PhD, BCBA-D, is an Associate Professor in the Early Childhood Special Education at the University of Illinois Chicago (UIC) and Korean bilingual researcher. Her work has been focused on addressing the educational experiences of marginalized families and their children with autism spectrum disorders in the US. Emily Gregori is a BCBA and an Assistant Professor in Special Education at UIC. Her work examines methods for supporting individuals with autism and other developmental disabilities using person- and family-centered assessment and treatment programs. So Yeon Kim, PhD, BCBA-D is Korean bilingual. As an independent researcher, she explores instructional methods to improve academic and behavioral outcomes for students with developmental disabilities in educational settings.

Creation of ABA Training Videos Appropriate for and Accessible to an Arab Muslim Audience

BY SARAH MEAD JASPERSE



When using a behavioral skills training approach to train behavior analysts and behavior technicians, a critical component involves modeling the skill. In some situations, video models have a few advantages, including a standardization of content, the ability to show models from a variety of contexts, and the capability of replaying models.

In the Arab Muslim world, a problem is encountered when trying to use English-language ABA training videos freely-available on the internet. Most of the videos have been created within a Western context and do not reflect the cultural values of the Arab Muslim community. More critical than a lack of access to videos with Arab Muslim visibility, many of the videos include features that render

the videos inappropriate or prohibited (e.g., showing people with sleeveless shirts).

With this SABA International Development Grant, an Abu Dhabi-based team led by Sarah C. Mead Jasperse, PhD, BCBA-D, will address this barrier by creating a series of ABA training videos that are appropriate for and freely accessible to an Arab Muslim audience. Dr. Mead Jasperse will develop the content of the training videos and assure the quality of the final products. Michelle Chioccola, MSED, BCBA, will coordinate all aspects of arranging for volunteer actors. Feras Awad, a filmmaker, will film and edit the videos. This combination of expertise (i.e., academic/instructional expertise, clinical/community expertise, multimedia production expertise) is uniquely suited to accomplish the goals of the project.

According to WorldData.info, there are over 450 million residents in Arab League nations. With only two Verified Course Sequence programs housed within this region, ABA training resources designed with the Arab Muslim population in mind are limited. This project is designed to have a sustained and long-term impact by creating training videos that can be used—freely and in perpetuity—by any instructor who needs materials suitable for Arab Muslim communities or who wants to increase Arab Muslim visibility. The hope is that this will result in more behavior analysts being trained in these communities, which will result in more ABA services being available in the region.

Talk ABA in Chinese

BY YIFEI SUN



The population of individuals with Autism in China is estimated to be around 10 million. Currently, there are 100 BCBA's working in China. Half of them are based in Hong Kong, while the other half serve 18 major cities in mainland China. This gives us a ratio of 1 BCBA per 10,000 individuals

with Autism. Consequently, families with children on the autism spectrum often have to travel or even relocate to major cities in order to access any Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) services. Families often have limited knowledge in their decision making process when trying to locate the most effective treatment.

Moreover, despite ABA being the most effective intervention method for autism and various other developmental delays, only 16 universities in China offer a degree in special education, and none of them specialize in applied behavior analysis. With BACB discontinuing accreditation outside of North America, China heavily relies on BCBA's who complete their studies abroad and return to serve the community.

With this project, our aim is to disseminate scientific knowledge to families in need in China and keep

practitioners up to date with the current literature. We believe that by doing so, we can improve the efficiency and efficacy of the limited ABA services in China. To achieve this, we plan to use the funds from the International Development Grant to develop a Mandarin Chinese podcast that provides essential resources. The podcast will (1) outline facts and knowledge about ABA, (2) explain the philosophical background and fundamental terms of ABA, and (3) disseminate classic and current research on addressing common needs and concerns. In addition to regular episodes, we will release periodic Q&A episodes to address shared or specific questions from families and practitioners. To further assist our audience, we will provide additional resources such as references to tactics discussed in the episodes and visual outlines of procedures in Chinese. To ensure the relevance of our content to families and practitioners in China, we will collect user experience and social validity data through questionnaires. This feedback will help us focus our topics on areas that are most relevant and valuable to our target audiences.

Creating a Sustainable Series of Thematic Article Collection in Spanish from the ABAI Journals

BY JAVIER VIRUES-ORTEGA



Association for Behavior Analysis International (ABAI) is thrilled to announce an innovative project aimed at disseminating article collections in Spanish composed of selected articles from ABAI's journals. With support from ABAI, this initiative seeks to bridge a significant gap in

the availability of high-quality and up-to-date reference materials for Spanish-speaking students and professionals around the globe. The primary objective of this project is to curate and publish a yearly thematic book composed of key publications within a given subfield sourced from ABAI leading journals. These collections will cover a diverse range of topics within applied behavior analysis (ABA), including but not limited to teaching behavior analysis, cultural diversity and equity, ethics, translational research, and verbal behavior. This project will be made possible thanks to ABA España extended experience in producing and publishing high-quality reference materials for the Spanish-speaking community of behavior analysts with over 25 titles published over the last five years. The intended beneficiaries of this project are Spanish-speaking ABA students and professionals worldwide. By providing comprehensive and accessible resources in their native language, ABAI and ABA España aim to empower practitioners, researchers, and learners to enhance their understanding and application of ABA principles in their respective communities. The

impact of this project cannot be overstated. Currently, the availability of authoritative ABA literature in Spanish is limited, hindering the growth and development of professionals in Spanish-speaking regions. By offering these collections of rigorously selected articles in their native language, we aim to promote inclusivity, knowledge exchange, and professional growth within the global ABA community. ABA España envisions this project as an ongoing effort to continually expand and update the literature base of the field in the Spanish language, incorporating the latest advancements in the field.

Public Awareness Grants

Raising Public Awareness of Behavior Analytic Approaches in Pediatric Primary Care Settings

BY MAEVE DONNELLY



In addition to the well-known and efficacious methods for reducing problem behavior and teaching functionally equivalent replacement behaviors, behavior analysis researchers and practitioners have developed several intervention methods to address common child

development issues. These interventions address toilet training, supporting healthy sleep, teaching functional communication skills, increasing food variety, developing play skills, completing home routines and self-help tasks, improving peer interactions, increasing physical activity and fitness, teaching safety skills, and more. There has long been a call from within the field of applied behavior analysis to bring information about these evidence-based practices to pediatric primary care providers (e.g., Allen et al., 1993; Bruni & Lancaster, 2019; Friman, 2010). Correspondingly, pediatrician survey results have revealed that pediatricians may have less training or confidence to address these types of problems (i.e., related to sleep, behavior, peer interactions, etc.; e.g., Boreman et al., 2007; Leaf et al., 2004; Nasir et al., 2016). Thus, the purpose of this project is to raise awareness of behavior analytic methods and strategies for resolving common childhood problems in the area of pediatric primary care.

SABA grant funding will support development and

distribution of brochures and website content related to behavior analytic approaches. Brochures developed by the primary investigator will include information about the principles of behavior and simple starting tips for intervention in caregiver-friendly language. A QR code that links to a website with more comprehensive information including information for practitioners as well as caregivers will be printed on each brochure. The website will house comprehensive multimedia content related to identification and implementation of straightforward behavior analytic principles and strategies (e.g., reinforcement) as well as information about how and when to refer or seek professional behavior analysis services. Brochures will be distributed to pediatric primary care offices in the Boston, MA area. The primary investigator will develop training for using these resources. The primary investigator will also seek pediatric practitioner input a minimum of twice annually via survey and/or focus group. In addition, a social validity survey will be distributed to gather information about the utility and efficacy of this method for raising public awareness.

BA Publication Collective: Increasing Our Writing Footprint and Impact

BY ADAM HOCKMAN



Behavior analysts conduct research and relevant work in healthcare, public and health policy, education, and other important disciplines. One way to increase general awareness of their work is through publication in high-profile magazines and journals (Harvard Business Review, New

England Journal of Medicine, and others worldwide) that exceed the reach of behavior analysis journals and rank higher in Google search results.

A grant from SABA's Public Awareness grant is being used to establish an online community of behavior analysts who aspire to be published in mainstream outlets. Wider Reach: The Behavior Analysis Publication Incubator supports researchers and practitioners in key publication steps: brainstorming, writing and editing, beta reader management, and interactions with publishers—always with close attention paid to the intended “mission” of the work. Wider Reach welcomes submissions from behavior analysts and researchers worldwide, and its volunteers identify and reach out to those who are conducting innovative research or otherwise working to impact society at scale. We also accept inquiries regarding well-designed unpublished theses and dissertations, as well as manuscripts that have been rejected.

Many significant developments in behavior analysis

are unknown to the public and behavior analysts. Writing about our work—in accessible, engaging ways—and publishing it on mainstream platforms and in journals and magazines, will give behavior analysts greater access and connection to readers and to each other. The SABA award makes both of these visions a reality.

For more information about pursuing a project with Wider Reach or to recommend others for our project, please contact hockman.adams@gmail.com. To receive updates on our efforts, join our mailing list: forms.gle/GXRzey1J8wFxLtgX8. Website and resource library coming soon!

A Behavior Analytic Approach to Understanding Abusive Head Trauma

BY ABBIE COOPER



Abbie Cooper is a doctoral student at West Virginia University studying under the mentorship of Dr. Claire St. Peter. She completed her B.S. in chemistry at St. Lawrence University before discovering behavior analysis. Her research interests center around understanding resurgence and other relapse phenomena following negative reinforcement and the translation of basic understandings of resurgence to clinical and novel settings. The Bijou Grant will support her study of one of those novel applications of resurgence.

One such application of resurgence is the relapse of caregiving responses (both appropriate and abusive). Abusive Head Trauma (formerly known as Shaken Baby Syndrome) is abuse that can lead to significant disability and neurological damage in infants. It affects approximately 1200–1400 infants every year. A leading predictor of AHT is colicky crying which is incessant crying that appropriate caregiving behavior cannot prevent or stop. Although there has been previous research on methods to prevent AHT, almost none of it has taken a behavior-analytic approach. The goal of this project is to better understand the environmental variables that impact infant caregiver behavior from a behavior-analytic approach. From this approach, caregiver behavior can be said to be under the control of negative reinforcement (i.e., caregiver behavior stops crying which increases the likelihood of that behavior in the future). The first goal of the project is to establish the probability of the emergence of shaking during the extinction of previously negatively reinforced, appropriate caregiving responses. The second goal of the project is to evaluate the utility of a contingency-management approach for promoting positive caregiving practices for individuals with a previous negative reinforcement history for shaking.

The Bijou Grant will support the development of

simulated infants that will allow Abbie and her team to use a novel human-operant approach to study the relapse of caregiving responses. The research will provide valuable insight into the environmental variables that lead to abusive caregiver responses and test the efficacy of contingency management for treating participants with an experimental history of negatively reinforced abusive caregiving behavior.

Assessment and Treatment of Sleep Disturbance for Adolescents in a Residential Facility

BY ANNA KATE EDMON



In addition to the well-known and efficacious methods for reducing problem behavior and teaching functionally equivalent replacement behaviors, behavior analysis researchers and practitioners have developed several intervention methods to address common child development

issues. These interventions address toilet training, supporting healthy sleep, teaching functional communication skills, increasing food variety, developing play skills, completing home routines and self-help tasks, improving peer interactions, increasing physical activity and fitness, teaching safety skills, and more. There has long been a call from within the field of applied behavior analysis to bring information about these evidence-based practices to pediatric primary care providers (e.g., Allen et al., 1993; Bruni & Lancaster, 2019; Friman, 2010). Correspondingly, pediatrician survey results have revealed that pediatricians may have less training or confidence to address these types of problems (i.e., related to sleep, behavior, peer interactions, etc.; e.g., Boreman et al., 2007; Leaf et al., 2004; Nasir et al., 2016). Thus, the purpose of this project is to raise awareness of behavior analytic methods and strategies for resolving common childhood problems in the area of pediatric primary care.

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Effects of the Timing of a Repeated Reading Intervention on Active Student Responding During Small Group

BY KIRSTEN NEWELL



Kristen Newell is a doctoral student at Louisiana State University studying under the mentorship of Dr. Jeanne Donaldson. Before starting her doctoral program, she earned her MS in Applied Behavior Analysis from Florida State University.

Kristen's current research, designed in collaboration with Dr. Scott Ardoin, focuses on the role of reading interventions in classroom engagement and assessing student preference for the interventions they experience. The Bijou Grant will support her research examining how the timing of a repeated reading intervention, as either preparation for (preteaching) or review of reading material, affects active student responding (ASR) when reading in front of peers.

According to the National Assessment for Educational Progress, only 33% of fourth-grade students read at or above proficiency in 2022. Students who are at risk of reading failure may be less likely to volunteer to read in front of their peers, despite practice being critical for improving reading skills. For these students, implementing interventions designed to increase both class engagement and strengthen specific academic skills may be beneficial. Repeated reading is a reading intervention shown to increase overall fluency and comprehension of reading passages (Begeny et al., 2009). Repeated reading can be used as either a preteaching or review strategy to increase fluency and comprehension, but the timing of when the intervention is received may affect students' willingness to read in front of their peers.

Kristen's study will examine how the timing of a repeated reading intervention, as either preteaching or review of reading material, affects ASR during a small group. Additionally, the study will assess the timing of repeated reading on the number of sessions required to reach the oral reading fluency mastery criterion during intervention sessions. Lastly, the study will investigate student preference for repeated reading as an intervention and when it is delivered. Preteaching and review may both be effective strategies to increase students' success in the classroom by providing students with additional interaction with the content; however, to our knowledge, no studies have compared the effects of the timing of when students experience the additional content relative to classroom instruction. Results from this study may allow practitioners to make informed decisions on how the timing of a reading intervention impacts students' willingness to engage in class. ❖



BOOK SERIES

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18th ANNUAL



SCIENCE-INFORMED APPLICATIONS IN AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS

BY CHRISTOPHER NEWLAND & TERRY S. FALCOMATA

Applied behavior analysis (ABA) has long been regarded as the standard of care for treatment of individuals with autism. It was among the first, if not the first (and we will hear about this at the conference), to employ empirically-based interventions to address the disabling signs and symptoms associated with the autism spectrum. Applied behavior analysts have consistently delivered humane, data-driven care that is grounded in a peer-reviewed literature. It is also characterized by the degree to which its practitioners scrupulously collect data to ensure that the course of treatment is working.

Over the years, our understanding of autism and of what constitutes appropriate treatment has grown and evolved, as it should. ABA looks very different today than it did at the beginning and it will certainly change in the years to come. At the 2024 Autism Conference we will hear from practitioners, scientists, and a historian about some of the best of contemporary interventions as well as some of the first attempts to apply our nascent understanding of the experimental analysis of behavior to the treatment of autism and developmental disorders. The 18th ABAI Autism Conference will take place at Caesar's Palace in Las Vegas from March 18-20. The evenings will be free because, Vegas!

The first day of the conference will feature workshops that focus on practical topics pertaining to ABA. The first workshop will be conducted by Dr. Matthew Brodhead (Michigan State University) and will focus on the application of behavioral systems analysis to promote and maintain professional and ethical behavior in the

workplace. Dr. Brodhead will provide practical guidance on the implementation of procedures aimed at the promotion of ethical behavior of employees. The second workshop, presented by Dr. Mark Dixon (University of Illinois at Chicago), will focus on assessment and intervention practices for assisting Autistics/individuals diagnosed with ASD to acquire and sustain practical skills.

In the morning of day two of the conference, two presenters will discuss several important and timely topics regarding ABA practice as well as historical perspectives pertaining to ABA. First, Dr. Timothy Vollmer (University of Florida) will present on the topic of severe behavior disorders displayed by Autistics/individuals diagnosed with ASD. Dr. Vollmer will review important previous findings and discuss future avenues of research as they pertain to clinical application. Next, Dr. Edward Morris (University of Kansas) will provide a historical account of ABA and the assessment and treatment of Autistics/individuals diagnosed with ASD within the context of the contributions of Charles B. Ferster. Later in the morning, Dr. Alice Shillingsburg will present on the topic of direct instruction (DI) and language learning for Autistics/children diagnosed with ASD. Dr. Shillingsburg will provide an overview of DI as an evidence-based practice as well as the procedures application to language skill acquisition by Autistics/children diagnosed with ASD.

Day two, in the afternoon, will see four presenters address an assortment of topics. First, Dr. Thomas Critchfield (Illinois State University) will discuss the topic of derived stimulus relations. Specifically, Dr. Critchfield



2024 CONFERENCE PREVIEW

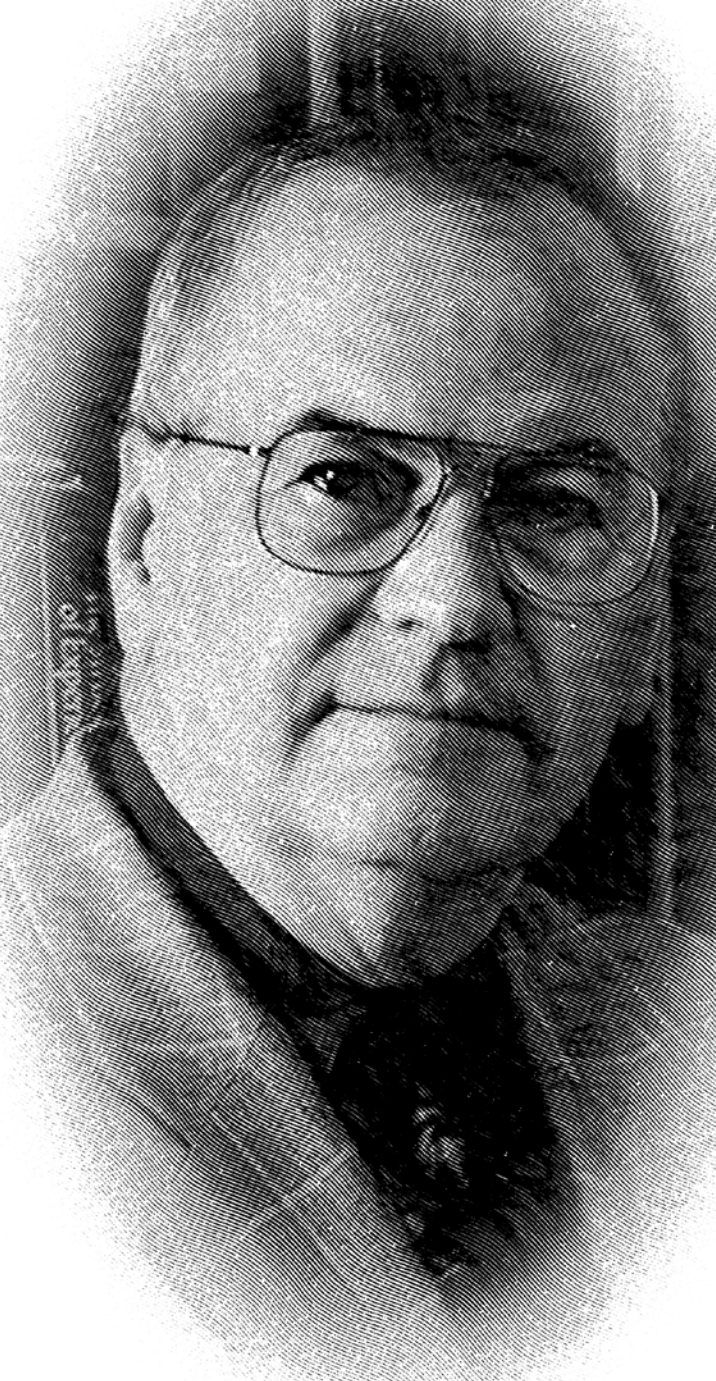
will provide an introductory presentation on the topic with a focus on skill acquisition and other gains produced by the procedures. Next, Judith Ursitti (Council of Autism Service Providers) will present on the topic of advocacy for autism services. Ms. Ursitti will discuss quality and sustainability of ABA services with an emphasis on advocacy at state and federal levels and the empowerment of individuals (including novices) to be effective advocates. Third, Dr. Brian Boyd (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill) will discuss the potential reconceptualization of how we, as researchers and practitioners, approach the assessment and treatment of repetitive behaviors exhibited by Autistics/individuals diagnosed with ASD. Dr. Boyd will provide comments several important facets of the topic of assessment and treatment of repetitive behaviors including diverse viewpoints, including that of Autistics/individuals diagnosed with ASD, and recent findings on relations between repetitive behaviors and other ASD-related conditions. Finally, Julie Kornack will discuss issues pertaining to ABA and applied behavior analysts in the role of health care providers. Ms. Kornack will provide insights on this very important topic including the implications of widespread insurance funding of ABA services as a medically necessary mental health benefit in the treatment of Autistics/individuals diagnosed with ASD and the potential interference of payor guidelines that affect applied behavior analysts' ability to apply practices consistent with established standards of care.

Day three of the conference begins with a pair of presentations that will cover diverse topics pertaining to

assessment and treatment practices as well as other issues encountered by Autistics/individuals diagnosed with ASD. First, Dr. Cynthia Anderson (May Institute) will present on a recent randomized clinical trial in which she and her team carefully compared conventional EIBI with briefer, modular interventions. Using a community sample, they ask whether 40 hours is really the gold standard. The results could affect how EIBI is constructed and delivered. Next, Eileen Lamb (The Autism Cafe) will present on the topic of autism advocacy and her experience as an autistic person with autistic children.

Later in the morning, Olive Healy will present her recent work in the areas of assessment and treatment issues pertaining to Autistics/individuals diagnosed with ASD. Next, Dr. Jennifer Austin (Georgia State University) will discuss trauma-informed care and how it can be viewed in a behavior-analytic framework. She will discuss ways that this perspective, which is growing in human service delivery, can be incorporated into applied behavior analytic practice. Finally, Dr. Mark Dixon will provide an introductory-based presentation on the application of acceptance and commitment therapy-based procedures to increase quality of life Autistics/individuals diagnosed with ASD.

The aim of the conference is to enhance the range of attendees' knowledge and understanding across a diverse array of important topics relevant to Autistics/individuals diagnosed with ASD. We hope to see you in Las Vegas! ❖



A Behavior Analysis Obituary for

BY RICHARD MALOTT

Travis Thompson was a uniquely talented person who made major contributions to behavior analysis, over the course of more than half a century. But unfortunately, he died this August 2nd, at the age of 86.

Travis was born and raised in Minneapolis, Minn. And as a student at the University of Minnesota, he studied psychology, neuroscience, zoology, and child development, with Ken MacCorquodale, Paul Meehl, and others. Though after grad school, he frequently ventured away from Minneapolis, for post-docs with Joe Brady and then with Robert Hinde and for work, as Smith Professor of Psychiatry, at the University of Kansas, and Director of the John F. Kennedy Center for Human Development, at Vanderbilt University--both prestigious appointments. But he always came BACK home to Minneapolis, both to work (teaching, research, and human service) and to live.

Travis's prolific, high-quality work was widely recognized and appreciated, as shown by his receipt of a dozen awards. He was a very productive researcher and author with over 200 articles and 30 books, covering an amazing range of topics including the first textbook on behavioral pharmacology, with Charles Schuster; conditional relations by monkeys; behavioral functions of aesthetics; the history and the philosophical bases



General obituary:
[www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/name/
travis-thompson-obituary?id=52646175](http://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/name/travis-thompson-obituary?id=52646175)



Publications:
[scholar.google.com/citations?
user=W1b-NskAAAAJ&hl=en](https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=W1b-NskAAAAJ&hl=en)



Travis Thompson

of behavior analysis; social learning theory; visual reinforcement in Siamese fighting fish and in fighting cocks; applied behavior analysis; cannabis, morphine, and other drugs self-administration by rats, pigeons, and monkeys (among the first in that area); autism; developmental disabilities; Prader-Willi syndrome (many articles); neurology and behavior; classical conditioning; self-injury; token economies; children, poverty, and developmental disabilities; architectural design of housing for adults with developmental disabilities; self-injury; and urinary incontinence.

In addition to all his scholarly research and publications, Travis spent most of his career providing services to people with developmental disabilities, Prader-Willi syndrome, and autism. And in recent years, he'd also concentrated on providing support for the families of children with autism—support that included relevant family-oriented publications and a website, as well as direct-care services.

Also, Travis played a major role in the development of the Minnesota Northland ABA, and he played a major role in ABAAI, itself, from chairing our Autism Conferences to founding our Behavior Analysis and the Arts special-interest group with its graphic and musical presentations, reflecting his own excellent water-color painting and stained-glass creations. Additionally, he

was an active member of our executive committee. And aside from ABAAI, he'd been president of three different divisions and societies.

In 2010 Travis began the long, complex, and no-doubt irritating process of getting ABAAI and related organizations, the APA, and ultimately the AMA to approve a set of CPT (Current Procedural Terminology) codes for behavior analysis, so that insurance and government funding could be available for all the ABA services we are now providing for those with autism and other difficulties. And without Travis and also Wayne Fisher understanding the necessity of our CPT codes and doing the work to make them a reality, we would be able to provide only a small fraction of the services that ABA now provides.

Finally, as many of you may remember, in recent years Travis had been actively posting his daily behavior-analysis calendar on Facebook, telling the history and current story of behavior analysis with photos of various participants, on their birthdays and an explanation of their relevance. Even though he had been seriously ill during his last years, Travis continued to work on his beloved behavior-analysis calendar.

We've had and still have many great behavior analysts in our field, but few have been as impressively productive and diverse as Travis Thompson. ❖

ON AUGUST 2, 2023, the behavior analytic community lost one of its heroes. Few can boast of a history of contributions to the field to the same extent as Travis Thompson. Travis' lengthy career included a breadth and caliber of work that few scholars accomplish in one career, let alone a lifetime. Travis' work will indeed leave a lasting mark. Travis was a scientist, practitioner, humanitarian, and an artist, all bundled up into one very kind human who was passionate about seeing progress in the discipline he so loved. To be sure, a large portion of Travis' career was dedicated to the behavioral treatment of autism. The

may be patrons or followers of an artist or of a certain type of aesthetic materials. We attend concerts, visit museums, collect and listen to recordings, attend movies and theatrical performances, belong to a book group, or learn to be docent at the art museum. These activities all involve actively responding to aesthetic materials, and having experiences that serve as reinforcing events" (Thompson, 2018, p. 372). In this seminal paper Travis encouraged us to address analyses of phenomena as complex as the arts straight-on, and not be intimidated by the enormity of such a task. He further elaborated, "culture defines

the loom upon which culture is woven

Some Reflections on Travis Thompson's Contributions to Behavior Analysis and the Arts

BY RUTH ANNE REHFELDT

vast majority of his publications focused upon the genetic bases for a variety of developmental disorders, and, as Malott and Poling acknowledged, he himself was a service provider who worked tirelessly to enhance supports for autistic individuals and their families. In the decade or so preceding his death, however, Travis ventured into a new arena which he approached with elegance and brilliance: behavior analytic interpretations of the arts, aesthetics, and culture. Not only did Travis contribute conceptual analyses on these topics in academic forums, but he fostered an appreciation for the arts more generally among the behavior analytic and ABAI community.

Travis served as the founder and chair of the Behavior Analysis and the Arts (BAARTS) Special Interest Group within ABAI, which he established in 2014. BAARTS' stated purpose is to promote the relationship between behavior analysis and the arts, including literature, visual arts, music, and other performing arts. Under Travis' leadership the SIG organized two performance events at annual conventions. In 2015 in San Antonio, this included an evening program of music and poetry, along with an art exhibit. An additional event was held in 2016 at the annual convention in Chicago, which featured Fabio Luz, a world-renowned classical pianist from Brazil, and other musicians, poets, and arts enthusiasts. Hundreds of conference attendees participated as audience members at both events.

Travis co-coordinated a special issue on the arts and aesthetics for *The Psychological Record*, in which he and several others provided commentaries on a lead article by Francis Mechner. Travis' paper conceptualized the behavioral processes underlying both the creation of art by the artist and the responses to an artistic work by a verbal community, including the cultural-level selection of various art forms (Thompson, 2018). In Travis' words, "we

the parameters of art and aesthetics, which determine which of these devices will fit within a given cultural niche. Our lives and behavior are organized around a few givens; the rest consists of strands

tying us together, because we are woven around a simple set of values and derived symbolic relationships the rest of what matters grows like hand-woven threads knotted in an irregular, unpredictable pattern to strengthen our relationships. Some people complain these irregularities make it difficult to decipher. That is what behavioral analysis is all about, isn't it?" (Thompson, 2018, p. 376).

Travis delivered several noteworthy presentations on aesthetics at ABAI conventions, including a paper at the 9th International ABAI Conference in Paris in 2017 entitled "Behavior Analysis and Private Events: Love Looks Not With the Eyes, but With the Mind." This paper provided a behavioral analysis of the processes involved in the covert experience of love. At the 45th Annual Convention in Chicago in 2019, Travis delivered a presentation entitled, "Behavioral Analyses of Aesthetic Reactions," which followed closely from the TPR special issue.

Travis was an active Facebook user. He shared many posts on behalf of BAARTS in recent years, which were predominantly stories about artists, musicians, and writers, as well as commentaries on the integration of the study of the arts and creativity into behavior analysis. Travis was a studied artist himself. He shared photos of his own stunning water-color paintings with his friends on Facebook frequently. Like the volume of prolific scholarly publications, his artwork provides a lasting stimulus in which the many functions of Travis will always be present. ❖

Thompson T. (2018). "Behavioral Functions of Aesthetics: Science and Art, Reason, and Emotion." *The Psychological Record*. 68:365-377. doi: 10.1007/s40732-018-0314-

A SMALL EXAMPLE OF A MASSIVE CONTRIBUTION: TRAVIS THOMPSON

BY M. CHRISTOPHER NEWLAND

IT IS THE RARE INDIVIDUAL about whom it can be said that before they came along, a scientific field did not exist and afterwards it became a major force. Travis Thompson was one of those individuals. The obituary in *Inside Behavior Analysis* by Richard Malott. Identified the many areas that Travis Thompson shaped. On top of this were his contributions to the professional practice of behavior analysis and the state and national organizations that support our science and practice. I wish to amplify a slice of that work, with an emphasis on what he accomplished as a young scientist.

In the 60s he and his collaborators Charles Schuster and Roy Pickens, asked an extraordinary question: Can we understand drug abuse by framing the drugs of abuse as a reinforcing event? Travis Thompson and Charles Schuster showed that the answer was “yes” for morphine (Thompson & Schuster, 1964) and with Roy Pickens it was also “yes” for cocaine (Pickens & Thompson, 1968). In each case, a laboratory animal pressed a lever when a drug was the consequence and ceased lever-pressing (sometimes after an extinction burst) when the drug’s vehicle, a placebo, was the consequence. More detailed examination provided solid evidence that the drugs participated in behavior as a reinforcing stimulus. Before this work, theories of why drug abuse occurred including the blaming of the victim for being morally deficient to psychoanalytic approaches like early experiences with breast feeding that are difficult to comprehend and harder to apply. Like all good science, the question could only be asked because of earlier work, notably behavioral work by B. F. Skinner, Charles Ferster, James Weeks, and James Collins and neurobiological work by James Olds and Peter Milner and it was asked with his collaborators, but Travis Thompson’s work is frequently viewed as the benchmark investigations.

Here was a simple, straightforward approach that accomplished a lot. It framed substance abuse as a behavior-environment interaction and not the result

of internal, and unreachable, processes. It also placed substance abuse squarely in the framework provided by B. F. Skinner’s three-term contingency: In the presence of a stimulus, a reinforcer had a consequence that strengthened that response. Regularly spaced patterns seen in the drugs’ self-administration raised the prospect that a private stimulus produced by the drug might be occasioning a response to produce the next administration. Increasing a fixed-ratio requirement for the drug eventually gave rise to an appreciation of one of many environmental factors, a drug’s cost, in driving self-administration. This work changed our scientific understanding of substance abuse. And by identifying a mechanism for the behavior associated with substance abuse, his work pointed to treatment approaches, such as those targeting choices between drug-taking and other activities conducted later under the auspices of behavioral economics.

There was a time when the idea that bringing substance abuse into the lab was inconceivable. Travis Thompson and his colleagues showed how it can be done using a procedure that is now the gold standard in laboratory models of substance abuse. A PubMed search of “drug” and “self-administration” produced over 13,000 papers since those seminal works, and there are certainly many others that did not use those exact terms.

The passing of Travis Thompson is an occasion to reflect on how a relatively small component of the corpus of his research effort had a massive impact on the world. It also is an indication of how a fundamental understanding of the scientific side of behavior analysis yields important advances in addressing a perplexing and devastating problem. The work was accomplished using a purely behavioral analysis of the problem yet it yielded results that extend to the core neurosciences as well as to public health. His work contributed significantly to an appreciation of behavior-drug interactions and his life illustrates the best of what a science of behavior can accomplish. ❖

2023

Supporting and Sustaining Members

ABAI would like to recognize and thank those members who provide additional support to encourage the involvement of undergraduate and graduate students in the science and practice of behavior analysis through increased membership dues. To learn how you can enhance your support of the field through our supporting membership option, or push your support even further with a sustaining membership, please visit www.abainternational.org/membership.

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SUNDAY, MAY 26 | 8 PM

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

Idaho ABA

BY AUDREY KENNEDY

The Idaho Association of Behavior Analysis (IdABA) is the Idaho affiliate chapter of ABAI. We are a younger association, officially signing our bylaws in 2019 and becoming an affiliate chapter in 2022. IdABA finished up 2022 with a total of 72 members. Though a small, growing association, we are doing great things for behavior analysis in Idaho. IdABA has had an annual conference since 2021. Due to our small membership, the rural nature of our state, and the pandemic, our past conferences have been virtual. We are very excited to host our first in-person conference this coming April 2023.

IdABA's committee membership and activity continues to increase. This past year our CEU committee has grown and we continue to offer free quarterly CEUs to our members. New this year, our mentorship committee has begun to offer free mentorship opportunities to members. Being a rural state, and with a high percentage of newly certified behavior analysts, some of our practitioners can feel isolated and on their own. Our association is excited to support the ability to grow the capacity and skills of our newer analysts.

IdABA continues to work hard to disseminate behavior analysis and remove barriers to practicing applied behavior analysis in the state. This coming year a key objective and goal of the association is to work with insurers to ease credentialing and billing processes of private insurance.

Mid-American Association for Behavior Analysis (MABA)

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

The 22nd annual Mid-American Association for Behavior Analysis convention was held October 20th – 22nd, 2022 in St Louis, MO at Live! by Lowes in Ballpark Village, which featured an outstanding speaker lineup. The 2022 MABA president, Stephan Walker (St. Cloud State University), began the conference with opening remarks. After opening remarks, speaker Timothy Vollmer (University of Florida) gave the first symposium, during which he discussed “Knowing What We Do Not Know”. This was followed by Suzanne Mitchell (Oregon Health and Science University), who presented a symposium

entitled, “Assessing Willingness to Exert Effort Using a Discounting Framework”. Claudia Dozier (University of Kansas) then gave a presentation entitled, “Synchronous Schedules of Reinforcement: Recent Translational & Applied Research”.

The afternoon began with Matt Normand (University of the Pacific), who presented “Change Behavior, Change the World”, which was followed by Rick Blevins (University of Nebraska-Lincoln) whose talk was entitled, “Understanding Primary Reinforcement is Just Not Enough to Explain the Misuse of Nicotine”. Kathryn Kalafut (The Chicago School of Professional Psychology) presented a symposium on “Animal Welfare and Behavior Analysis.” The academic sessions ended with our Forrest J. Files Student Award winners presenting on their research. Javid Rahaman (University of Nebraska Medical Center) won the applied project award and Chivon Niziolek (The Chicago School of Professional Psychology) won the basic research project award.

With the sudden passing of David Jarmolowicz, attendees were able to participate in an informal memorial discussing their favorite memories of Dave. The memorial was followed with a poster session. This year's convention featured posters representing work conducted at different institutions. Three awards were provided: Grace E. Bartle (University of Kansas) won the Best Overall Poster Award, Tadd D. Schneider (University of Kansas) won the Best Basic Research Poster Award, and Isacc J. Melaonson (University of Nebraska Medical Center) won the Best Applied Research Poster Award.

The second day of the convention began with Christina Alligood (The Chicago School of Professional Psychology) presenting on “Behavior Analysis as an Animal Care Tool in Zoos and Aquariums.” This was followed by Tara Fahmie (University of Nebraska Medical Center) who presented on “Rethinking the Safety of Functional Analyses” and Travis Smith (Kansas State University) presenting on “A Rodent Model of a Reinforcer Pathology: Intermittent Access to High Fat/Sugar Diets Increases Impulsive Choice and Reinforcer Efficiency.”. The conference concluded with President-Elect, Tyler Ré (The Chicago School of Professional Psychology) announcing the location and speaker list for the 23rd annual MABA Conference.

We are looking forward to the upcoming 2023 convention, which is slated to be held October 5th – October 7th in Kansas City, MO at the Intercontinental Kansas City at the Plaza. The conference will again include addresses on both basic and applied behavior-analytic research and theory. Students and faculty are encouraged to present posters on their research or theoretical efforts. In addition, 1–2 students are annually awarded with the

Forrest J. Files student researcher award to help offset travel costs.

The current president of MABA is Dr. Tyler Ré (The Chicago School of Professional Psychology). More information about MABA, the annual convention, student awards, registration information, and joining our email list can be found at the organization's website: www.midamericanaba.com or by contacting the Operations Coordinator at: midamericanaba@gmail.com.

Minnesota Northland ABA

BY AUDREY KENNEDY

Hello from the Minnesota Northland Association for Behavior Analysis (MNABA)! Last year was a major redesign for our association. We had over 6 board positions at the end of their term. In June, our executive board met up to discuss a plan of how to streamline board processes and evaluate the needs of MNABA. A board restructure was designed and approved by the full board to include in our bylaws at the end of June 2022. Our new board now consists of: President, President Elect, Administrative Director, Conference Director, Legislative Director, PR Director, Website Director, Member at Large-Conference, Member at Large-Communication, and 2 Student Members.

Below are a few highlights of 2022:

- Updated MNABA Bylaws
- We welcomed almost a whole new board in September 2022: Dr. Angelica Aguirre, Dr. Odessa Luna, Holly Johnson, Dr. Eric Larsson, Dr. Stephen Walker, Dr. Eunju Choi, Emily Michell, Araya (Joy) Verojporn, Zoe Cosato, Katy Ashley, and Fartun Mohammed
- We hosted our largest attended in-person conference on September 22–23rd, 2022. Our conference was also back in-person after 3 years since the pandemic.
- Location: Bloomington, MN
- Keynote Speaker: Amanda Kelly, PhD, BCBA-D
- CEUs provided: 22.5 (total)
- 4 3-hour workshops
- 6 breakout sessions: 3 Autism and 3 Non-Autism Tracks
- 1 Panel Events
- Ask the Experts! The BACB's New Supervision Guidelines and Barriers for Service Providers
- 15 sponsors/exhibitors
- Data Blitz Event- 7 virtual poster presentations (Free CEUs)
- # of attendees: 270
- Out grew our host hotel
- Below are our goals for 2023:
- Find new conference hotel
- Edit and Vote on 2023-2028 strategic plan
- Redesign website

- Creating a Neurodiversity, Student Resources, and find a Provider pages
- Collaborate with Minnesota Department of Human Services to provide CEU's for EIDBI trainings
- Provide Quarterly Virtual Trainings hosted by the Adult Services SIG for Free CEU's for MNABA Members
- Continue to disseminate compassionate ABA on social media, our website, and to the community
- Increase our social media engagement
- Support and contact local representatives to approve the Provider Relief and Reimbursement Rate Increase Bills for Spring 2023 legislative session in collaboration with the Autism Treatment Association of Minnesota.

New Hampshire ABA

The New Hampshire Association for Behavior Analysis (NHABA) is an Affiliate Chapter of the Association for Behavior Analysis International (ABAI). Its mission is to promote the development and awareness of behavioral services in the state of New Hampshire by (1) supporting the development of standards of practice for behavior analysis; (2) promoting and supporting the conduct of behavior analytic research; (3) promoting research, education, and practice-based principles in behavior analysis; (4) promoting and supporting the professional development of behavior analysts; and (5) raising awareness of the association and its services.

Executive Committee

NHABA is governed by an Executive Committee comprised of a President, Past President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Member-at-Large, and a Student Member-at-Large. The 2023 Executive Committee is comprised of: Jodie Deming (President), Ally Dube (Past President), Danielle Tibert (Vice President), Nicole Fragala (Secretary), Erin Norris (Treasurer), Kassandra Coleman (Member-at-Large), Savannah Arnold (Student Member-at-Large).

Membership

NHABA offers three categories of annual membership: Full Annual Membership (\$45.00), Affiliate Annual Membership (\$35.00), and Student Annual Membership (\$20.00). NHABA also offers organizational discounts for ABA companies practicing Behavior Analysis in NH. Organizations with several eligible employees can sign their employees up and receive a bulk discount. The purpose of this is to increase the membership numbers. Costs are as follows: 21-50 eligible employees (\$250.00), 51 or more eligible employees (\$500.00) 20 or fewer eligible employees (\$125.00).

Membership is open to all persons interested in or actively engaged in behavior analysis. Memberships

start on the day of the annual conference and remain in effect until the date of the next annual conference. Full Member status may be obtained by any individual holding a terminal degree in a discipline directly related to or involving behavior analysis and whose full-time professional commitment includes teaching, research, and/or practice in behavior analysis. An Affiliate Member status may be obtained by any member evidencing an interest in the discipline of behavior analysis who does not qualify under the standards of full membership. Affiliate members enjoy all the benefits of Full Membership but do not vote on decisions of the chapter. A Student Member status may be any individual pursuing formal training in behavior analysis on at least a half-time basis but still needs to be gainfully employed therein may apply for membership in this category. Student Membership requires documentation to verify the applicant's student status. Student members may also vote on membership decisions of the chapter.

There are multiple benefits to becoming a member of the organization. These benefits include but are not limited to, reduced conference registration, free CEUs at NHABA meetings, a mentorship networking platform to connect behavior analysts with others to share expertise, notifications about continuing education opportunities, the latest news in behavior analysis, a vote on issues pertinent to the organization, and the opportunity to hold office in the organization (Full Members only).

Events

NHABA has actively hosted events in the state since 2016. Each year since, the organization has held an annual conference and continues to be a sought-after event for professional development in New Hampshire and surrounding areas.

The conference's location is rotated yearly to extend the association's reach in the state. In September of 2022, NHABA held a conference in Manchester, NH. The organization was pleased to host Dr. Karly Cordova, Molly Ola-Pinney, Dr. Monica Gilbert, Kim Woolf, Amy Evans, Dr. Michael Dorsey, and Dr. Clea Sigaud. The keynote speaker was Molly Ola-Pinney, who discussed her efforts with the Global Autism Project.

NHABA currently hosts quarterly chapter meetings, each offering a CE in supervision or ethics. The association continues to determine the most effective platform to offer these meetings to reach the most members across the state. Currently, the meetings are hosted in person and offer a virtual option.

Currently, NHABA membership stands at 73 members and continues to grow. The association continues to seek effective ways to engage in outreach and disseminate information about the association's activities and opportunities. This year, NHABA has updated the bylaws

to include more opportunities for growth while building strong policies and procedures. The chapter will focus on NH state licensure. NHABA continues to seek a more robust and active presence as a resource for individuals interested in behavior analytic services in New Hampshire. Through the work of NHABA, the aim will remain to work towards the association's mission as a whole and expand its reach and impact.

Contact Us

More information about New Hampshire Association for Behavior Analysis can be found on the organization's website: <https://nhaba.net>

Massachusetts ABA

BY ANGELICA AGUIRRE, PHD, BCBA-D

Introduction:

The Massachusetts Association for Applied Behavior Analysis (MassABA) was established in 2010 to support the science and practice of behavior analysis in Massachusetts. As the home of over 3200 BCBA[®]s, 162 BCBA-D[®]s, and over 1900 BCaBA[®]s and RBTs[®], Massachusetts boasts among the highest per capita concentration of certified behavior analysts in the world and an active behavior analytic community. The vision of MassABA is to serve as the trade organization for its community. MassABA has focused its efforts to fulfill this vision by:

- 1 Supporting behavior analysts seeking licensure by assuring that licensure applications are processed in a timely manner.
- 2 Supporting legislation that would strengthen the licensure process in Massachusetts with the creation of a separate licensing board for behavior analysts.
- 3 Supporting the expansion of insurance coverage for ABA services.
- 4 Advocating for timely reimbursement of ABA services by state funding sources.
- 5 Expanding regional continuing education events for behavior analysis practitioners in more remote locations of the region.
- 6 Expanding interaction and correspondence with MassABA members via social media.
- 7 Advocating for behavior analytic professionals practicing in public schools by organizing a monthly networking event and advocating for adequate support for BCBA's in public schools.
- 8 Hosting an annual conference that brings diverse behavior analytic voices and applications to our membership.

Summary of 2022:

Annual Member Meeting and Election Update

The Annual meeting of MassABA members occurred on

6/7/22, and included a CE Event, announcements and information sharing from MassABA committee chairs, and initiation of an election for MassABA board of director members and officers. Fifty-five (55) members of MassABA attended and participated.

MassABA completed a Strategic Planning Process in 2018 and has continued to steadily implement the strategic goals identified in this plan. The majority of the strategic initiatives are facilitated via committee work.

A summary of each of the committee's initiatives and goals is included below. An election was held in 2022, with new officers and Members-At-Large being voted onto the Board of Directors by MassABA members.

Public Relations/ Advocacy Committee Update:

This committee of MassABA was created in 2021 as the Policy & Procedures Committee and was renamed in 2022. This committee remains focused on leading challenging conversations within the field of ABA related to public policy, legislative issues, and positions relative to the application of applied behavior analysis. MassABA recognizes the complexity of the issues facing the field today and seeks to create open dialogue while continuing our strong advocacy work in this arena.

MassABA will continue to engage with members, stakeholders, and the general community through the development of written position papers. With an eye to advancing difficult conversation in the field, MassABA has developed public opinions on matters of importance, including creating and announcing a position on the use of contingent electric skin shock (CESS) as behavioral treatment (this position statement was posted in 2021). The chapter will continue this work by creating additional position papers in the upcoming year. MassABA hopes others will feel empowered to share their opinions on critically important issues that shape the lives of individuals and impact the longevity of the field in a broader sense.

MassABA recognizes the rapid changes in our society that impact the practice of applied behavior analysis in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. MassABA seeks to create a space for inclusivity of ideas and open dialogue and to promote the many positive ways ABA has and will continue to make positive changes in the communities where individuals providing and receiving ABA live and work.

Legislative Committee:

Over the past year MassABA's legislative committee has continued to work with our state government leaders to keep them abreast of issues of importance to our membership. This included working collaboratively with BABAT on the development of a bill that would create a separate licensing board for behavior analysts. Such a board would be comprised of behavior analysts and would focus solely on the licensure of behavior analysts rather than

multiple disciplines under the licensing board. MassABA will include a session on updates from the licensure board via the board representatives at the annual conference in 2023. In addition, MassABA remains actively involved with advocacy for legislative endeavors that impact behavior analysis in the commonwealth, including support for expanding the equitable access of ABA services to people of all ages and abilities.

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging Committee

This committee of MassABA was created in the spring of 2021. Its mission statement was developed and published on the MassABA website in April 2021. Initiatives of this committee in 2022 have included a survey of members to gather information about the diverse representation of MassABA members, sharing of the survey results with the committee and Board of Directors and development of goals based on these results. In addition, the committee facilitated several CE Events, including a panel discussion of service perspectives of neurodiverse individuals and several journal article discussions, all facilitated by the Committee Chairperson. This committee meets bi-monthly.

Professional Development/Conference & Events Committee Update:

MassABA has a history of holding an extraordinarily successful annual conference, typically drawing over 700 participants. This event was held remotely in 2022 and again drew over 700 total attendees. CEs were provided as part of the cost of conference tickets. There were a wide range of topics and prominent speakers including Pat Friman, Greg Hanley, Nasiah Cirincione-Ulezi, Laura Grow, and Steve Woolf. The conference committee offered brief virtual events for our members on a variety of topics based on feedback from members. MassABA saw an increase in student member participation in CE Events over 2022 and will continue to foster involvement of students of ABA in MassABA initiatives.

MassABA initiated a CE Series in the spring of 2023 around the theme of "Successful ABA Service Delivery". This began with a CE Event titled: Measuring Joy in Early Childhood ABA Sessions", presented by Jennifer Posey of Endicott College in Massachusetts. This series will continue through the spring of 2023. MassABA also cosponsored CE Events with Insurance Resource Center of UMASS and ACCEPT Educational Collaborative for behavior analysts working in public school settings.

Public School Committee:

The MassABA Public Schools BCBA Group currently has 211 BCBA's representing 70 public school districts across the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. In addition to being an active support network to public school BCBA's, this

group provides monthly CE events that focus on public school related issues. This year's topics have emphasized ways for BCBA's to incorporate a greater focus on diversity, equity, and inclusion in schools, promoting evidence-based practices, and addressing common ethical challenges in providing behavior-analytic services in schools. Some notable highlights have included the following presentations: Addressing Racial Bias in Education: A Behavior Analytic Approach (May Beaubrun, M.Ed., BCBA, LBA), Practical Functional Assessment (PFA) and Skill-Based Treatment (SBT): Applications in Public Schools (Greg Hanley, Ph.D., BCBA-D, LABA), and Clinical and Ethical Considerations for Treating Students with Mental Health Diagnoses (Jillian Bennett, Ph.D., BCBA-D, LABA).

Social Media Committee

This committee was established in 6/21 to focus on the use of social media platforms to increase member engagement. MassABA currently has Twitter and Facebook groups, as well as a chapter website. During 2022, the Social Media Committee focused on updates/revisions to the chapter website, as well as frequent interaction with MassABA members via an active Facebook Group, which currently has 1600 + followers. Upcoming goals include the creation of monthly blog posts and sharing of CE Events throughout the year via social media outlets.

Summary

MassABA looks forward to continuing at the forefront of policymaking and professionalization of service provision in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. We recognize that the rapid growth of providers of ABA services requires that the field step up to meet the challenge of supporting these new practitioners with resources to help ensure that they are providing high quality and effective ABA services. Through our social media, community outreach, CE events and advocacy, MassABA will continue to disseminate the positive impacts of the science of ABA with a larger audience and focus its efforts on ensuring quality service provision in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and elsewhere.

Missouri ABA

BY MADELINE BURKE

AzABA catapulted out of the COVID-19 pandemic with a tremendous year of growth and sense of purpose. The organization prioritized several strategic objectives designed to improve internal functioning and external stakeholder engagement. All efforts to these ends were grounded in our mission and values. AZABA's values form the organizing principle of this report.

Be a community resource

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

In 2022, AzABA recorded 697 members and proudly offered 36 CEU opportunities. For the first time AzABA allocated a line item in the budget to empower all Special Interest Groups and Committees to seek content for AzABA membership. The budget was developed such that special efforts were taken to create transparency in speaker fees and to provide generous honorariums to all speakers irrespective of other factors. This aligned with AzABA's commitment to treating all speakers equitably and captured the spirit of promoting diversity and inclusion. Events were led by one of five special interest groups (Feeding, ACT/RFT, Expanding the Scope, Coordination of Care, and ABA in Schools) or its five committees (Ethics, Program, Marketing & Outreach, EDI, and Public Policy and Programs).

AzABA also had a strategic priority in 2022 to engage and empower students, Behavior Analysis Trainees, and Registered Behavior Technicians. The organization initiated its first year of providing a stipend and mentoring opportunity for four interns. The interns were provided with the opportunity to participate in every facet of the Association's general business. The culmination of the internship was the integration of a new Special Interest Group supported by the Past President to generate additional programming for these important stakeholders.

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

Since its founding in 2011, the AzABA has been a national leader in promoting the ethical expansion of the behavior analytic scope. The Public Policy Committee engages in regular stakeholder meetings with representatives from government and state health plans to address barriers to care and preserve the ability to practice transdiagnostically.

In 2022, AzABA grew its participation and support of the Behavior Analysis Subcommittee under the Board of Psychologist Examiners. AzABA was invited to provide guidance on proposed rule revisions for the practice.

AzABA has been following public discontent with the practice of Applied Behavior Analysis. One of AzABA's largest undertakings in 2022 was in response to requests from its membership to issue a public statement on Contingent Electric Skin Shock (CESS). AzABA participated in national discussions on this topic with other affiliates and ultimately released a statement after collecting and analyzing data from various local stakeholders and members. The Association endeavored to model compassionate, thoughtful, and databased leadership through the process.

Purposeful Governance:

AzABA commits to process-driven, data-supported decision making and careful financial planning. The organization maintained a strong financial position, due largely to stable membership, high conference attendance, and sponsorships. With the recent expansion of board seats, internships, committees, and SIGs, AzABA looked to transition from being a primarily volunteer-run organization to one with paid employees. The Association did have a part time staff in 2022, and the staff member's hours increased significantly to account for demands in SIG and committee work. One of the strategic priorities for 2022 was to consider the point at which an Executive Director was viable. This will continue to be a consideration in 2023. As is the case with any expanding volunteer-run organization, governance is critical. 2022 saw the development of a number of policies and procedures to crystalize core functions and processes of the organization. 2022 also saw the creation of an Executive Committee to support the efficiency of board meetings. Perhaps the greatest achievement of 2021–22 was the development of a comprehensive Group Leader Handbook that supports adherence to processes and guidelines essential to leaders of SIGs and committees. This was presented in the first board retreat whereby an expert facilitator was paid. The facilitator was contracted to support the development of a strategic plan and also to deliver a comprehensive training on best practices in Board Governance. Special attention was paid to the unique features of a nonprofit professional organization.

Connection

AzABA works to create a place where the behavior analytic community can come together to connect with each other, other professionals and/or community stakeholders. AzABA values the inclusion of its entire membership and the recognition of every voice. AzABA continued to connect inside and outside of Arizona. Inside of the state the organization supported Arizona's Interprofessional Behavioral Health Collaborative which includes all other

medical and allied health professional associations in the state to promote interprofessional collaboration. AzABA continued its meaningful collaboration and reciprocity efforts with the Black Association for Behavior Analysis (BABA) and Latino Association for Behavior Analysis (LABA). In collaboration with other ABAI affiliates, AzABA continued the previous year's commitment to host culturally responsive events. The organization is grateful for its connection to BABA and was very proud that BABA supported 34 student and RBT scholarships to AzABA's Annual Conference! AzABA's Annual Conference on October 28th and 29th had a total attendance of 480 participants. Of our inperson attendees 171 were AzABA BCBA Members, 71 were AzABA Affiliate Members, 39 were nonmembers. For our virtual offerings, 50 were BCBA Members, 16 were AzABA Affiliate Members, and 18 were non-members.

Integrity of Action

We evaluate all AzABA work through the lens of equity, diversity, and inclusion and ensure our actions represent our values in every objective. Integrity in Action is a new value that the AzABA Board of Directors voted to adopt in an effort to perpetuate the organization's legacy with respect to DEI. The Board found it necessary to add this lens to all mission- focused actions. In 2022 this value was expressed through an ongoing DEI assessment conducted by the Board of Directors, the addition of this value, a guiding statement on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion as well as, the adoption of a policy on discrimination and harassment. Three subcommittees were formed in 2022 to advance activities in support of this value under the leadership of the EDI Committee. They include: Equal Access to Services, Informing & Impacting Legislation & Policy, Training & Education. 2022 was certainly a very active year for AzABA. The Board of Directors, staff, members, and volunteers expect a similarly busy and values driven 2023. The Missouri Association for Behavior Analysis (MOABA) is an organization founded to support and promote scientific research on basic principles of behavior and the effective and ethical application of those principles across the great state of Missouri.

This year we welcomed Dr. Jordan Belisle (president-elect), John Guercio (Member at Large), Madison Imler (Student Representative), and Sadiqa Reza (Member at Large). Returning board members included Miin-An Hošić (secretary), Andresa DeSouza (treasurer), Madeline Burke (president), and Ali Cooper (past president). We thank Alan Lowe (former student representative), Megan Boyle (former Member at Large), and Dr. Jennifer Weyman (former past president) for their commitment to MOABA and the practice of behavior analysis in Missouri.

Last year we held our annual MOABA conference in St. Louis, Missouri in November 2022. To ensure the



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safety of our members, we provided the opportunity to attend in-person or virtually. We offered six presentations and four workshops. Our invited presenters included Scott Herbst, Abigail Kennedy, Kirk Kirby, Julie Kornack, Bryan Middleton, Leslie Neely, Maegan Pisman, Chardae Rigdon, Becca Tagg, and Noor Syed. We selected presentations to highlight the importance of culture and diversity in behavior analysis such as, “Cultural Adaptations in the Application of Applied Behavior analysis: Lessons Learned” by Leslie Neely and “Biases and Self-Reflection: Shaping Cultural Contingencies” by Noor Syed. In 2022, MOABA also held a summer workshop entitled, “Getting Shift Done: Our Journey to Happy, Relaxed, and Engaged” by Erik Jacobson, Mara Vanderzell, Jon Horn, Brianna Elsasser, and Kelly Gallagher.

During the annual conference, the MOABA board continued to offer a student poster contest. This allowed students to receive feedback on posters from our notable presenters and two students were selected to receive free admission to the annual 2023 conference. MOABA will continue to provide opportunities to support student research in the future.

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

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

Montana ABA

BY TRACI SHINABARGER

In 2022, MTABA set forth to organize Board and membership structures to better serve our members. MTABA started by updating chapter Bylaws to reflect the member's needs and to expand participation. In addition to the Dissemination and Policy Committees, the Membership and Conference committees were formalized. Each Committee is chaired by a Board Member and each Board Member is responsible for supporting at least one committee. These committees were also opened up to the membership for participation. In September 2022, the membership voted to expand the number of seats on the Board. The current Board includes:

Ania Young, Past President (2022–2024);
Traci Shinabarger, President (2022–2024);
Bradley Tiefenthaler, President-Elect (2022–2024);
Autumn Kostka, Treasurer (2022–2025);
Kayla Laughlin Secretary (2022–2025); and
Four members at-large with staggered terms: Brett Gilleo, Shelley Burbank, Jessica Collins, Tonya Blaney, and Lisa Jones Park

This Board became effective September 10, 2022, at the annual chapter meeting held during the annual conference.

The 2022 MT Annual Conference was held in-person in Missoula, Montana on September 9th and 10th. The conference theme was ABA in the Schools and included experts in bringing ABA into school districts from the Educational Cooperative of the Rockies; legal advocates from Disability Rights Montana; and members with special knowledge of working in the Montana educational system. Overall, the conference was a success as measured by a post-conference survey of attendees who reported high satisfaction with quality of the speaker presentation, presentation content, venue, and overall comfort at the conference. Attendees' preferences included learning about IDEA and practical strategies for working in classrooms.

MTABA used the annual conference to assess interest in pursuing legislation in the 2023 legislative session to increase access for students to ABA. Two representatives showed interest and a bill placeholder was created. At the writing of this article, the bill appears stalled in the process; however, the bill as drafted by MTABA and presented is both bipartisan in nature and likely to continue to support conversations between private practitioners and school districts in how to best serve students. The Policy Committee grew to include five members and three Board members and continues to monitor this along with other legislation and state department policy changes that impact the provision of ABA.

In addition to the annual conference, MTABA sponsored a virtual training with Andy Bondy, titled, “Prompting, Stimulus Control, Error Correction: What's your Teaching Ritual?” The MTABA Conference Committee aims to present three virtual trainings in 2023 in addition to the annual conference set for September 9th and 10th in Helena, MT.

The Membership Committee launched Coffee with BCBAs, a monthly gathering of practitioners with various topics relevant to the practice of ABA and in Montana specifically. Members receive email reminders and join virtually via a Zoom link.

The Dissemination Committee is the most active committee by far in 2022. The committee is almost finished with a map of Montana that outlines where ABA providers are located. This will assist both providers and families in locating services. The Committee also submitted a SABA grant to expand the number of professionals in Montana by offering scholarships to students of accredited programs as well as reduced rates on fieldwork supervision. MTABA's connections with state departments led to the grant receiving support from officials working with tribal nations and developmental disability services. A second grant was submitted by this Committee to the Montana Developmental Disability Program to match funds if the SABA grant is approved.

MTABA continues to grow and support behavior analysis in Montana through trainings, advocacy, and outreach. We are looking forward to a busy and productive 2023.

Nebraska ABA

BY SHELBY WAGNER

The Nebraska Association for Behavior Analysis has continued concentrating efforts to obtain licensure for Behavior Analysts in the state of Nebraska. Earlier this month, the Health and Human Services Committee voted 7-0 to advance our bill to the full legislature for debate and voting. It is likely this will be scheduled in the next few weeks.

Our annual conference was held in Omaha in March 2022. The workshops were led by Dr. Tyra Sellers, Dr. Matt O'Brien, and Dr. Kelly Schieltz. Topics presented include improving juvenile justice systems, treatment integrity, assessment and treatment via telehealth, and cultural adaptations in the field. Throughout the year, we also offered our members other CEU opportunities in the form of a virtual speaker series.

Following our annual conference, Shelby Wagner served as President, Sara Kupzyk was elected as Vice President, Victoria Bock served as Past President, Steve Taylor served as Treasurer, Jessica Beck served as Secretary, and Gabrielle Roberts was elected as Student Representative.

Nevada ABA

BY CHRISTINA LYDON

The Nevada Association for Behavior Analysis (NABA) continues to prioritize the growth of the organization with increased outreach throughout the state by focusing on the value of membership for all levels of study or credential. NABA monitors matters of public policy that impact behavior analysts in our state. NABA's public policy committee chair, Molly Halligan, M.A., BCBA, LBA, stays abreast of legislative changes that may affect behavior analysts and the populations they serve related to funding, licensure criteria, and management. Her work in this area has allowed NABA to actively support state-level changes that improve the quality and accessibility of behavior analytic services.

NABA has continued to work throughout 2022 and 2023 to increase membership and member engagement as well as inclusivity within the organization. The organization passed several bylaw changes in 2022 to that end, including removing the Ph.D. requirement for prospective Presidents, adding a member class for RBTs and a provision for the addition of an RBT representative to the Board, allowing for electronic voting rather than restricting votes to those attending the conference, and establishing a Past-President position to ensure consistency during board transitions. Virtual town hall meetings continue to be held periodically to create an open forum

for discussion between board and committee members, NABA members, and other interested parties. Also, our At-Large Representative Melissa Almanza, MEd, BCBA, LBA has worked diligently to maintain current avenues of communication with our membership while also advocating for NABA to establish a presence at new networking opportunities.

Additionally, NABA has made it a priority to offer learning opportunities throughout the year. NABA's practice committee continues to be active, continuing their organization of a series of free virtual Q&A sessions with experts on topics of interest. NABA is also in the process of developing a library of asynchronous content collected from previous events that will ideally be made available to members for educational purposes.

NABA will present a live, in-person, annual conference in October 2023. The conference will take place at the Whitney Peak Hotel, in Reno, NV from October 12, 2023, to October 15, 2023.

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

President: Christina Lydon, PhD, BCBA-D, LBA

President-Elect: Gregory Smith, PhD, BCBA-D, LBA

Past-President: Megan McGrew, PhD, BCBA, LBA

Treasurer: Natasha Hughes, MEd, BCBA, LBA

Treasurer-Elect: Jennifer Thomas, MA, BCBA, LBA

Secretary: Kathleen Soyka, MA, BCBA, LBA

Secretary-Elect: Deborah Meinberg, MA, BCBA, LBA

At-Large Representative: Melissa Almanza, MEd, BCBA, LBA

At-Large Representative-Elect:

Chantal Rainford, MA, BCBA, LBA

Student Representative: Angel DePriest, BCaBA

Student Representative - Elect: Donna West NABA

Committee Chairs: Molly Halligan, MA, BCBA, LBA (Public Policy)

Jennifer Bonow, PhD, BCBA-D, LBA (Practice)

New Jersey ABA

BY SUNGWO KAHNG & STEPHANIE SUMMERS

The New Jersey Association for Behavior Analysis (NJABA) continues to advance the science and evidence-based practice of behavior analysis throughout New Jersey. With over 1250 members, we are a community of behavior analysts who support their consumers, conduct research, and train future behavior analysts. Furthermore, we strive for a diverse, equitable, and inclusive behavior analytic community.

On March 3, 2023, we held our Annual Conference in Somerset, NJ. Approximately 562 attendees (in-person and remote) had the opportunity to learn from

our Keynote Speaker, Dr. Janet Twyman, as well as many presentations and posters. For the first time, we also held our Pre-Conference Workshop led by Dr. Tyra Sellers. Attendance continues to grow every year, and our attendees continue to be extremely pleased with the professional development and networking opportunities. Plans are already underway for our next Annual Conference to be held in the Spring of 2024.

Our Annual Conference is one of many events held throughout last year to support our community. On June 11, 2022, we held our first annual NJABA Science of Behavior Analysis Conference. This was an opportunity for our members to share the university-based research conducted in New Jersey. Additionally, attendees had the opportunity to hear from one of the leading behavior analytic scientists, Dr. Caio Miguel. Our 2nd annual NJABA Science of Behavior Analysis Conference will be held on June 10, 2023, at Caldwell University. Dr. Tara Fahmie will be the keynote speaker. We also continued our regular NJABA Speaker's Series throughout the year covering topics such as Setting the Groundwork for Friendships: Facilitating Play Dates & Social Skills Groups; Teaching Toleration of Medical Examinations through Collaboration: Strategies to Improve Access to Healthcare for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities through Collaboration with Medical Personnel and Caregivers; What Every Behavior Analyst Needs to Know About Providing Services to Students in Special Education; More Than a Checkbox: Conceptualizing Supervision from Intake to Discharge; Indices of Happiness and Unhappiness during Treatment for Pediatric Feeding Disorders.

New Jersey continues to be a highly desirable state for behavior analysts. Membership has increased over 50% since 2022. One of our primary goals last year was to strive for equity by increasing support for students and behavioral technicians. These groups represent the future of our profession; therefore, it is our priority to ensure that they are a part of our community. To do this, we reduced one barrier to their participation by eliminating membership fees and keeping conference registration fees to a minimum.

As we look to the future of behavior analysis in New Jersey, we must also recognize the pioneers who have helped to build our profession. Therefore, for the first time, we recognized the contributions of past leaders who laid the foundation for our community's success by awarding the annual NJABA Distinguished Service Award. The 2022 recipient was Dr. Sandra Harris from Rutgers University who has been integral to service delivery, training, and research throughout New Jersey. The 2023 recipient was Dr. Greg McDuff from the Princeton Child Development Institute who was recognized for leading one of the groundbreaking autism schools in the country.

Finally, we worked diligently to support the practice

of behavior analysis in New Jersey through our special interest Workgroups. These NJABA Workgroups are a forum for us to engage with practitioners in the state about legal or policy changes that may impact behavior analytic service delivery and are focused on insurance, Medicaid, and business practices; adult supports; public schools, early intervention; diversity and inclusion; and ABA services in Spanish. Additionally, we started a Student Workgroup for early career professionals. These workgroups have provided critical networking opportunities for practitioners in the state.

We have also worked to advocate for the practice of behavior analysis in New Jersey. Governor Phil Murphy signed the "Applied Behavior Analyst Licensing Act" into law in January 2020 and appointed six members of the State Board of Applied Behavior Analysis Examiners. The Board's first draft of the regulations has been completed and is currently under administrative review. Additionally, we communicated information to our members about the New Jersey Higher Education Student Assistance Authority's Behavioral Healthcare Provider Loan Redemption Program. This was a one-of-a-kind state-level program that provided up to \$150,000 to Board Certified Behavior Analysts and other behavioral healthcare providers in loan redemption in exchange for service.

NJABA continues to be a strong community of behavior analysts who provide service, conduct research, and train future professionals. All these many accomplishments are a function of our members and the many volunteers who dedicate their time to the success of the behavior analytic profession in New Jersey.

New York State ABA

BY NANCY DIB

The New York State Association for Behavior Analysis (NYSABA) has experienced another great year and we are excited to share our chapter update with ABAI for 2023. We have been busy with association projects, communicating with our membership, and advocating for the field of behavior analysis throughout New York State. NYSABA has continued to make progress in several areas this year.

We are thrilled that the scope expansion bill, which passed in December 2021, will go into effect in June 2023. NYSABA has been working diligently on the regulatory roll out and has been in close communication with NYS Education Department on this.

Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) became a billable service under Medicaid in NYS over the Summer of 2021, however, at that time there were some challenges to providing services to individuals diagnosed with autism/autistic individuals who were Medicaid enrollees. NYSABA has worked with various partners to resolve these issues and we are happy to report that the Medicaid rate was adjusted, and ABA will be available to all Medicaid recipients.

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

NYSABA continues to be a voice for the behavior analytic community in New York. Although NYSABA membership continues to grow, we need to focus on increasing the number of members to push forward with important legislative issues happening in the state. Unfortunately, the number of licensed and certified behavior analysts in the state continues to significantly outnumber the number of members in NYSABA. All behavior analysts in the state are urged to join NYSABA so that our collective voice can be heard by the state legislature. If you are not a member of NYSABA, become one. If you are already a member of NYSABA, get a colleague to join. If you and your colleagues are already members, we thank you and encourage you to become active in the association.

In October 2022, we held our 33rd annual conference in a hybrid model. We were honored to hear keynote addresses from Dr. Nasiah Cirincione-Ulezi and Dr. Amber Valentino. There were a variety of speakers with engaging topics. This conference focused on the themes of humble behaviorism, cultural humility, and social justice.

Our new 2023 Board members include Nancy Dib (President), Noor Syed (President-Elect), Tricia Moss-Lourenco (Past President), Kim Shamoun (Treasurer), Vicki Knapp (Secretary), Kozue Matsuda (Representative at Large), Amanda LaPrime (Representative at Large), Leanna Mellon (Membership Committee Chair), Kenneth Shamlian (Membership Committee Co-Chair), Fernande Ikombo-Deguenon (Finance Committee Chair), Brian Healy (Education Committee Chair), Nicole DeRosa (Conference Committee Chair), Melissa Jackson (Conference Committee Co-Chair), Rachael Atherly (Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, & Accessibility Committee Chair), Bobbi Rogers (Consumer Representative and Chair of the Parent and Family Committee), Sally Izquierdo (Student Activities Committee Chair) Tina Covington (Marketing Committee Chair), Shannon Carr (Marketing Committee Co-Chair), Maureen O'Grady (Public Policy Committee Chair) and Deborah Napolitano (Public Policy Committee Co-Chair). To better represent our vision and goals, two committees changed names in 2022. The DEI Committee changed to the DEIA Committee in order to incorporate an additional focus on Accessibility.

The Legislative Committee changed to the Public Policy Committee, which better represents all of the areas of work and advocacy addressed by that committee.

NYSABA is in the process of transitioning to new association management software and upgrading to a new website with improved accessibility and benefits for our members. We are now planning for our 34th annual conference to be held in Albany on October 26-28, 2023. We will be accepting presentation and poster submissions from members. Also, check out our NYSABA website (www.nysaba.org) and take a look at the NYSABA Parent & Family website at www.nysabaparent.org, which includes free resources for parents and family members of consumers of behavior analysis services.

Wishing everyone a happy and healthy 2023 from New York!

North Carolina ABA

BY SARAH POPE

The North Carolina Association for Behavior Analysis held its 34th annual conference in person from February 22 - February 24, 2022. The conference was a great success thanks to the leadership of Shanun Kunnavatana, President (Easter Seals UCP of NC and VA), as well as the rest of our Executive Council including Monique Baker, Past President (Effective Interventions); Nina Deese, President Elect (Easterseals UCP of NC and VA); Haja Jallow, Vice President (Caring Hearts Behavioral Services LLC); Leigh Ann Strain, Secretary (Effective Interventions); Nancy Poteet, Treasurer (Private Consultant); Sarah Pope, Member-at-Large (Mosaic Pediatric Therapy); Janis Krempa, Member-at-Large (Building Steps Forward); Elizabeth Thurman, Student Representative (University of North Carolina Wilmington), Jamie Clary, Publications Editor (Riddle Developmental Center); Fred Spooner, Senior NCABA Advisor (UNC-Charlotte); Duke Schell, Senior NCABA Advisor (Riddle Developmental Center); Ruth Hurst, NC Psychological Association (Murdoch Developmental Center); Sarah Pope, Liaison to ABAI and ACE Coordinator (Mosaic Pediatric Therapy), Selene Johnson, Community Liaison (ABC of NC) and a host of other NCABA volunteers.

The conference included a variety of invited speakers, workshops, and concurrent events with presenters from across the state and country present on a variety of topics in addition to the Welcome and Award Presentation, the Annual Business Meeting, poster presentation, and a student symposium. The first day of the conference began with workshops on Challenging your Cultural Responsiveness: The Importance of Integrating Cultural Values within Ethical Behavioral Service Delivery (Natalia Baires, PhD, BCBA-D) and Being a Critical Consumer of ABA Literature (Aaron Check, MA, BCBA & Katie Wolfe, PhD, BCBA-D). These workshops were

then followed by invited presentations focusing on the following topics:

- *Toward Ethical Clinical Practice: Considering the Intersection of Disability and Race Models in Applied Behavior Analysis* (Natalia Baires, PhD, BCBA-D)
- *Promoting the Scientist-Practitioner Model through Applied Research and Dissemination* (Kristin M. Hustyi, MA, BCBA, LBA)

The second day of our conference began with 13 concurrent presentations. These presentations were then followed by invited presentations focusing on the following topics:

- *BCBA Licensure: A Review of Statutes and Update on the Rules Regulating the Practice of Behavior Analysis in NC* (Selene Johnson & Thomas Thompson, PhD)
- *Supporting Data-Based Decision Making in Early Career Practitioners* (Katie Wolfe, PhD, BCBA-D)
- *Economics of Extinction: Adding Nuance to Discussions of the Viability of Extinction as an Intervention* (Joseph M. Lambert, PhD, BCBA-D)

The third day of our conference began with invited presentations covering the following topics:

- *Effects of Visual Exposure to Natural versus Built Environments on Delay Discounting and Behavior Economic Drug Demand* (Meredith Berry, PhD)
- *Motivational Interviewing—Some Whats, Whys, and Hows for Behavior Analysts* (Carolynn S. Kohn, PhD, BCBA-D)
- *Skill Acquisition Programming and Stimulus Control Technologies: A Non-Linear Research Program* (Tom Cariveau, PhD, LP, BCBA-D)

These invited presentations were followed by workshops on Bridging the Gap:

- *Building Applied Research Programs to Improve Organizational Performance and Patient Outcomes* (Kirstin M. Hustyi, MA, BCBA, LBA) and
- *Improving the Process and Product of Intensive Intervention for Challenging Behavior Through Data Triangulation* (Joseph M. Lambert, PhD, BCBA-D, Bailey A. Copeland, MEd, BCBA & Jessica L. Paranczak, MEd, BCBA, LBA).

Our speakers did an outstanding job of delivering meaningful and important content to our attendees. This year, NCABA was able to offer both NCPA and BACB continuing education credits, including supervision and ethics credits. Up to 17 BACB credits were available to participants (inclusive of 1 ethics credit and 7 supervision credits) as well as up to 14 NCPA credits.

A total of 564 registrants participated in the 2023 conference. This was an increase of 150 additional participants compared to our 2022 virtual conference which included 414 registrants. NCABA was thrilled with the high level of participation and attendance as the conference was now back in person.

At the opening of the conference, Shanun Kunnavatana welcomed all participants. Awards were given to several

very deserving individuals during the opening remarks. Joseph Deacon (Positive Behavior Supports Corp) was awarded the Fred Keller Excellence in Behavior Analysis Award; Jose Montes (Positive Behavior Supports Corp) received the Technical Utilization Award, and Alexandria Brown (University of North Carolina Wilmington) received the Student Scholarship Award. Dr. Martin Ivancic was also honored with a Lifetime Achievement Award. NCABA also awarded its first Student Research Grant to Taylor Kennedy for a project on Overcoming Picture Interference Effect. Taylor will receive a grant from NCABA in the amount of \$1000 to complete her research.

The NCABA Student Representative, Elizabeth Thurman (University of North Carolina Wilmington), organized an excellent student symposium for this year's conference, including presentations by Monique Pinczynski (University of North Carolina Charlotte), Thai Williams (University of North Carolina Charlotte), and Trudy Georgio (Texas A&M University).

We hosted a poster presentation with the following posters winning in their respective categories. Undergraduate Winner - Emily Hutchinson, Emma Auten, and Carole Van Camp (University of North Carolina Wilmington): Individualized Heart Rate Assessment in College Aged Adults as a Measure of Physical Activity Graduate Winner—Delanie Fetzner Platt, Tom Cariveau, Paige Ellington, and Alexandria Brown (University of North Carolina Wilmington): Prediction of Response Patterns Across Data Recording Methods Professional Winner—Gracy Dailey, Michelle Moore and Abbey Jordan: Client Choice in Selecting Treatment Methods.

This year's annual business meeting was well-attended. The Board welcomes Jacqueline Hamilton in the position of Vice President, Lauren Broadwell in the position of Member at Large, and Kayla Jefferson in the position of Student Representative. Nancy Poteet was re-elected into the position of Treasurer.

Deserving a special thank you and acknowledgement are Jamie Clary, Ruth Hurst, Fred Spooner, Duke Schell, Selene Johnson and Sarah Pope who serve non-voting but essential functions for the NCABA Board. Jamie Clary serves as our NCABA Web Editor, Ruth Hurst serves as our liaison to NCPA, Sarah Pope serves as our ABAI liaison and ACE Coordinator, Selene Johnson serves as our Community Liaison, and Fred Spooner and Duke Schell serve as Senior NCABA Board Advisors. We want to sincerely thank out-going board members Monique Baker (Past President) and Sarah Pope (Member at Large) for all they have done to support and advance NCABA during their terms.

Please visit our website at www.nc-aba.com and see additional information regarding past events, and upcoming opportunities, and to find information on

becoming an NCABA member. The NCABA website also provides information about our history since 1989, including the “25 Year History” slide show, links to newsletters, and information about the conference and upcoming events, including our NCABA summer Autism conference and planning for our 35th annual conference to be held next February 2024 in Winston Salem, NC.

North Dakota Association for Behavior Analysis

BY CRISTINE DEEVER & ALLISON SMITH

The North Dakota Association for Behavior Analysis (ND ABA) was established in 2012 with a small group of 12 professionals seeking to support the practice of ABA in North Dakota and to provide continuing education and networking opportunities within the state. Since that time, we have grown to approximately 80 members and have held an annual conference in April since 2012. Our annual conference provides a local opportunity to discuss issues relevant to behavior analysis across the state, network, and engage in professional development. We continue to follow legislative activities regarding the practice and scope of behavior analysis and behavior health. In 2020, ND ABA became BAC ACE Provider and in 2022 a chapter of ABAA.

Our 2023 Annual Conference was held in Bismarck, ND on April 17 and 18, 2023. Our invited, guest speaker for this year’s event was Dr. Eric Larsson. Other speakers included Dr. Sandra Bishop and Dr. Jordan Lill.

Our Executive Board is made up of Cristine Deaver as President, Morgan Braton as Vice President, Andrea Richards as Secretary, Suzanne Carroll as Treasurer, Dr. Alyssa Suess, Matthew Russel, and Jackie Loepp-Trautman as a Members-at-Large. 2023 elections will be held for the Vice President, Secretary, and one Member-at-Large position. Our committee chairs for the Conference Planning Committee include Cristine Deaver, Morgan Braton, Jackie Loepp-Trautman, Allison Smith, and Dr. Jordan Lill and, include Cristine Deaver, Dr. Jordan Lill, and Dr. Alyssa Suess for the Legislative Workgroup.

Ohio ABA

BY KIM WOLFF

Founded in 2008, The Ohio Association for Behavior Analysis (OHABA) is an affiliated chapter of the Association for Behavior Analysis International (ABAI). OHABA is an organization for people interested in behavior analysis and is primarily an interest group.

The purpose of this nonprofit 501(c)(6) organization is to promote the science and theory of Behavior Analysis through the support of research, education, and practice.

- Supporting the certification process of Certified Ohio Behavior Analysts (herein referred to as “COBA”).

Supporting the national certification process of Behavior Analysts and assistant Behavior Analysts (herein referred to as “BCBA” and “BCaBA”).

- Advocating for Behavior Analytic services and the profession of Behavior Analysis. Enhancing quality assurance in behavior analytic services. Promoting Behavior Analysis and university programs that specialize in Applied Behavior Analysis.
- Providing continuing education opportunities for behavior analysts. Providing resources and information related to behavior analysis.
- Organizing an annual conference which shall serve as a forum for presentation of scientific and technological achievements as well as the discussion of the affairs of the organization.
- Maintaining a group site or website containing information about the organization and about Behavior Analysis in Ohio and elsewhere.
- Alerting Members to regional and national issues affecting the practice of Applied Behavior Analysis.
- Functioning as the Ohio contact for and representative of the Association for Behavior Analysis International.
- OHABA works to promote behavior analysis by a.) promoting Behavior Analysis in the educational setting b.) promoting Behavior Analysis and university programs that specialize in Applied Behavior Analysis c.) provides a forum for the discussion of research and conceptual issues in behavior analysis d.) maintains a website containing information about the organization and about behavior analysis in Ohio and elsewhere and e.) functions as the Ohio contact for and representative of the Association for Behavior Analysis International (ABAI).

The OHABA Executive Board Members as of March 2023 included the President, Janet Hansen, PhD, BCBA-D, COBA, Past President, Jennifer Sweeney, BCBA-D, COBA, President-Elect, Nikki Williams, PhD, BCBA, COBA, Secretary, Kim Wolff, MS, BCBA, COBA, and Treasurer, Dacia McCoy, PhD, BCBA-D, COBA. The OHABA Board is committed to making the organization a resource to members across the state of Ohio. The OHABA Board includes Marketing Chair, Kate Wallace, BCBA, COBA, Membership Chair, Brittany Duffy, BCBA, COBA, Professional Standards Chair, Bryan Drosch, LPC, BCBA, COBA, Education Chair, Kate Anderson, BCBA, COBA, Program Co-Chairs, Cara Brown, MA, BCBA, COBA and Hannah Stauffer, MA, BCBA, COBA, Public Policy Chair, Jen Gonda, BCBA, COBA, Diversity, Equity, Inclusion Chair, Juliana Carrus, MEd, MA, CCC-SLP, BCBA, COBA and Student Chairs, Sara Martin and Seth Sharpe, BCBA.

During 2022–2023, the full Board and committees worked hard to coordinate opportunities for its members. In February of 2022, OHABA was proud to offer a

two-day conference virtually. Invited speakers included Tyra P. Seller, JD, PhD, BCBA-D (Keynote), Dr. Malika Pritchett, Nicholas Maio-Aether, Dr. Kazemi, and Andratesha Fritgerald. The topics of the conference were diverse and ranged from compassionate care, behavior analysis and equity in public education, sexual and gender orientation through ABA, supervision and mentorship, and diversity and inclusion. Due to COVID, the Board did not host any in person events throughout the year. Instead, the Board created monthly virtual events, to bring our members together to discuss topics and issues related to behavior analysis.

Membership Information

Increasing membership across the state has been a primary focus for OHABA. The following table shows the growth in membership each December since 2012:

Year	Members	Year	Members
2012	46	2018	280
2013	114	2019	389
2014	127	2020	248
2015	148	2021	270
2016	208	2022	211
2017	226		

OHABA is intent on continuing to increase its membership by offering CEU opportunities to members across the state. Individuals interested in joining OHABA, can find a membership form on our website www.ohaba.org. Membership fees are \$40 for full members, \$35 for affiliate members, and \$15 for student members. This was the first year OHABA offered three-year memberships for our full (\$75) and affiliate (\$60) members. Benefits of membership include a reduced registration fee for OHABA conferences with CEUs included. Individuals interested in becoming a member of OHABA or any members who are interested in serving on the board or a committee, should contact OHABA at ohaba@ohaba.org.

Annual Conference 2022

The 2020 Conference was held on February 11th and 12th at the Marriott University Hotel. The 2022 conference was OHABA's 12th annual conference. The conference offered diverse topics and opportunities for members to connect virtually.

Certification in the State of Ohio

The OHABA board has worked closely with the Ohio State Board of Psychology to educate BCBA's in the state on the process and importance of becoming Certified Ohio Behavior Analysts (COBA's). Only individuals who have the COBA can practice behavior analysis in the state, except in exempt settings. The last step in obtaining the certification requires candidates to attend a half

day workshop and pass an exam covering the rules and regulations regarding behavior analytic practice in Ohio. The Board has committed to having representation at each of these workshops to assist in answering questions and to ensure newly certified members are aware of OHABA as a resource.

Future Direction

OHABA Board is committed to making the organization a resource to members. The Board continues to add additional Board positions and develop committees to assist Chairs in the completion of their duties. The board continues to promote networking events with the goal of reaching ABA professionals across the state by regions. Due to COVID, our initial efforts which were hosting Town Hall events per region, have shifted to monthly coffee chats to reach all members of the state. We commit to continue to offer those events to focus on a variety of topics, special interests, open collaboration, and focused CEUs programs. The Board continues to become aware of potential legislation, which could impact the practice of behavior analysis in the state. The Board is also evaluating policies and practices to ensure we are focused on the diversity, equity and inclusion of all members. We continue our commitment with legislative efforts to ensure the practice of applied behavior analysis continues to be recognized with Medicaid and other insurance as a medically necessary service.

Oregon ABA

BY ANALISE HERRERA

The Oregon Association for Behavior Analysis (ORABA) had a successful year in 2022. We experienced 44% growth in membership to a current total of 156 practitioners and affiliate members. We hosted our 5th annual conference in Portland, Oregon. This was our first year returning to an in-person conference since 2020. We exceeded our expectations and sold out our conference! We were so pleased to host Dr. Marlesha Bell as our keynote speaker and Dr. Charna Mintz as our invited speaker. We conducted a practitioner survey to collect some demographic data and identify barriers to membership for providers across the state. This data is being utilized to inform improvements to our organization in 2023 and beyond. As we move into 2023, we are excited to begin several new projects including the development of a practitioner directory and offering pre-recorded CEU events through partnership with Behavior Live.

Interested individuals can find information about our organization at www.oraba.org. Membership fees support quarterly and invited conference speakers, scholarships for our student representatives, and several networking events throughout the year. Additionally, we follow public policy matters closely and aim to keep our members well informed of current legislation, rule-making, and other issues that impact the professional lives of behavior analysts

in the state. While the large majority of practitioners live in the Portland metro area, we have members across the state and hope to continue to increase our visibility in Central and Southern Oregon.

Pennsylvania ABA

BY JIM CHOK

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

Mission and Vision

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

History

PennABA was incorporated in 1998. Richard Foxx and William Helsel saw a need to support behavior analysis in the state of Pennsylvania. In 2000, Richard Kubina chaired a meeting at the ABAAI annual convention to help elect PennABA's first set of officers. With the creation of PennABA, service providers, teachers, students, and families in Pennsylvania gained a resource that fosters the application and growth of behavior analysis.

PennABA Updates

Nicole Mastromatto, MA, BCBA, remains as the Secretary for PennABA and assists with conference planning and the logistics associated with recording continuing education credits.

Jonathan Ivy, Ph.D., BCBA-D, continues to lend his effort and talents to PennABA as the Director of Planning and Development. Keith Williams, Ph.D., is currently the Executive Director and Treasurer for PennABA. Rather than holding an in-person conference this year, PennABA designed online presentations that could be accessed by its members. In September of 2022, PennABA began offering free membership to anyone who has been a member in the past, as well as any person who resides in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

For all of those who signed up for free membership, PennABA offered free virtual continuing education sessions. The presentations included offerings in both ethics and supervision, and certain courses were made available to psychologists who wished to obtain CEs for psychology licensure requirements. Over the past calendar year, PennABA was able to provide 15 CE credits for its members. We hope to hold an in-person conference again in 2023 and are currently in the process of identifying presenters.

Closing

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

Puerto Rico Association for Behavior Analysis

BY YANIZ PADILLA DALMAU & ETHEL RIOS ARROYO

Puerto Rico (PR) has been an unincorporated territory of the United States since 1898 and its people have been US citizens since 1917. PR has a population of over 3.2 million people, approximately 84% of the population reports not speaking English “very well”, and it is one of the poorest jurisdictions in the US with over 40% of the population falling under poverty (Census, 2020). Puerto Rico has a high incidence of Autism Spectrum Disorders (Cordero, et. al., 2012), however, behavior analytic services for this population are highly inaccessible due to a lack of providers (14 BCBA's as of 2022), no graduate-level programs, limited availability of information and services related to ABA in Spanish, and few mechanisms for funding the services. To alleviate some of these challenges, a group of Puerto Rican behavior analysts have informally worked together since 2017 to disseminate ABA in Puerto Rico and to support each other in the delivery of services. This group of providers was solidified into a formal chapter in 2021, and the Puerto Rico Association for Behavior Analysis (PRABA) became an official ABAAI affiliate chapter on July 22, 2022.

PRABA's first accomplishment was to successfully hold the first ABA conference in Puerto Rico on July 23-24, 2022. PRABA's president, Yaniz Padilla Dalmau, had the honor of announcing our affiliate chapter status during the opening remarks of this event. PRABA's inaugural conference had the mission of disseminating information about behavior analysis and the efforts local behavior analysts have engaged in to increase accessibility to ABA services in Puerto Rico. The hybrid and bilingual 2-day event were attended by 104 people in person and 85 people virtually. Presenters included David Wacker from the University of Iowa who delivered the keynote address, Yaniz Padilla Dalmau who delivered the presidential address, and invited speakers from the mainland and from Puerto Rico including Patricia Kurtz, Haydee Toro, Kelly Schietz, Matthew O'Brien, Hector Ruiz, Ethel Rios Arroyo, Iris Pons, Norielys Pons, Dagmar Millan, Laura Maldonado, and Marta Riviere. Presentation topic areas included the state of ABA in Puerto Rico, translational research, interdisciplinary interventions for severe behavior, telehealth, verbal behavior, early intensive behavioral interventions for young children with autism, ethics and more. Registrants included BCBA's and behavioral

therapists, both from Puerto Rico and other states, psychologists, speech and language pathologists, students, and consumers. This event contributed to one of PRABA's main goals which is to establish a cohesive professional community of behavior analysts in PR. For some attendees, the PRABA conference was their first contact with behavior analysis and the conference served the purpose of awakening the interest of some of these professionals in becoming part of this community and obtaining additional training in behavior analysis.

Three months after the conference and using the funds gained from it, PRABA officially incorporated as a nonprofit organization in Puerto Rico. Becoming a nonprofit organization will allow PRABA to more easily advocate for public policy changes to help the profession of behavior analysis and our consumers. For example, PRABA aims to work towards recognition of behavior analysis as a profession in PR, work towards licensure for behavior analysts, and advocate for insurance coverage for ABA. PRABA's board of directors has begun working towards these goals in the first few months of the organization. For example, the board members have participated in meetings with the Special Education division of Puerto Rico's Department of Education to promote ABA services as related services covered under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and promote continuing education and seminars to special education teachers and school psychologists. In addition, PRABA's board of directors has written memorandums with professional opinions about ABA services in Puerto Rico (needs, accessibility, efforts, etc.) to inform public policy and legislative work.

During 2023, PRABA will develop a series of in-person and virtual seminars and workshops to continue disseminating ABA in Puerto Rico. Additionally, PRABA is developing its membership and benefits package to increase the professional community, continuing to develop visibility of ABA, provide continuing education to interested professionals, and overall increase access to information to our colleagues, consumers, and those interested in becoming part of our community. The board is also conducting research into necessary processes to promote regulation and licensing of the practice of applied behavior analysis in PR with the goal of drafting an action plan towards licensure. Finally, PRABA is planning its next bilingual, hybrid conference in Puerto Rico to be held in October of 2024. The board aims to continue disseminating behavior analysis in Puerto Rico and to extend its reach to other Spanish-speaking communities.

Rhode Island ABA

BY CODY MORRIS

This year, RI-ABA has focused its resources on creating its first half-day in-person conference that was held on

Salve Regina University's campus on March 24th, 2023. The conference included three invited speakers and a poster session.

South Carolina ABA


BY KATIE WOLFE

2022 was a successful year for South Carolina ABA (SC ABA). Board members included past president, Kerri Pakurar, president Katie Wolfe, secretary Kim Snyder, treasurer Anslie Patrick, at-large board member Katie Franke, and student representative, Tameeca Comer.

In 2022 we provided multiple, high-quality, free CEs to SC ABA members in addition to our annual conference, including ethics events and journal clubs. We continued our licensure efforts, detailed below, and continued conversations around working towards diversity, equity, and inclusion in the organization. We held a hybrid conference in 2022 and, with 292 attendees in-person and live-streaming, had our largest conference to date. For the first time, SC ABA offered concurrent sessions - we held two sets of 3 concurrent breakout sessions in addition to workshops, a keynote, and an invited session.

Legislative Affairs Committee: The chair of our legislative affairs committee is David Green. Committee members include Kerri Krauss, Zahra Haji, Scott Braud, and Anna Craft. In 2022, a bill for licensure of behavior analysts in the state of South Carolina was proposed in both the House and Senate. A hearing was held in March, with testimony from David Green and Zahra Haji in support of the bill. Katie Wolfe provided written testimony in support of the bill. Two individuals, one on behalf of the South Carolina Alliance of Health Plans and one on behalf of the Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation, testified with concerns related to how the scope of practice was defined and to the perceived lack of specificity in the bill about a) educational requirements to become a behavior analyst and b) continuing education requirements to maintain licensure. The bill did not explicitly outline these requirements but instead referred to the Behavior Analyst Certification Board (BACB) in both of these

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areas to accommodate future changes that the BACB may make in terms of entry-level education and ongoing continuing education. The subcommittee ultimately voted to adjourn the debate on the bill, meaning that it did not move forward during the legislative session in 2022. Based on the advice of our lobbyist, we decided to temporarily pause our efforts on putting a bill forward. Instead, we are focusing on grassroots efforts to build legislators' awareness of behavior analysis to set the stage for a more successful licensure push in the future.

Social Committee: We had transitions in our social chair position in 2022 as our existing social chair relocated. We identified a new social chair, Jennifer Elkins, and successfully held two social events in 2022.

Ethics Committee: We held three Zoom ethics CE events in 2022 that were well attended by SC ABA members. Our ethics chair stepped down, and we have identified a new ethics chair, Nicole Orsini, who began in January 2023.

We had a few other changes in leadership in 2022:

- Kerri Pakurar (past president) transitioned off the board and Jacqui Abrams was elected President-Elect.
- Tamecca Comer (student representative) transitioned off the board and Amy Eacho was appointed as the new student representative.
- In addition to these efforts, SC ABA hosted the following presenters at our annual conference on October 23–24, 2022 in Charleston, SC. We were pleased to be able to offer a hybrid conference to our members to allow those to attend who were unable to travel to Charleston.
- Dr. Steven Lindauer presented a workshop titled, “Incorporating Parents Into Behavioral Interventions for Their Children”
- Dr. Tyra Sellers presented a workshop titled, “Supervision: Some Strategies for Success.”
- Dr. Tyra Sellers presented a keynote titled “Ethics: Embracing the Gray”
- Dr. Elizabeth Fong presented, “An Overview of DEI in ABA”
- We also held breakout sessions for the first time! We had 2 sets of 3 concurrent sessions:
- Dr. Laura Seiverling, The Importance of Interdisciplinary Collaboration When Providing Behavioral Feeding Interventions
- Dr. Paul Gavoni, OBM and Educational Leadership for Improving Discipline Issues in Schools
- Andy Patrick, Dr. Zahra Hajiaghamseni, & Dr. Kerri Krauss Mihalik, Effectively Communicating with Legislators About Behavior Analysis
- Dr. Becca Tagg, Values Based Bonus Card as an Organization Wide System of Reinforcement

- Dr. Jillian Dawes, Teamwork Makes the Dream Work: Special Considerations in School-Based Behavioral Service Provision
- Dr. Elizabeth Fong, BACB certificates Self-Reported Knowledge of LGBTQIA+ Topics
- Attendees appreciated the hybrid option for our conference, and we received great feedback on the presentations from our members!

Our 2023 conference will be in Columbia, SC on October 16–17, 2023. For more information about our conferences, membership, or upcoming events, please visit our website, www.sc-aba.org, or like us on Facebook (South Carolina Association for Behavior Analysis). As a perk of SC ABA membership, updates are regularly provided to members on the relevant legislature, area events related to behavior analysis, and changes affecting providers.

Southeastern ABA

BY CHRISTY ALLIGOOD & KATHRYN KESTNER

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

History:

In 1984, Aaron Brownstein (UNC Greensboro) rallied a group of prominent behavior analysts in the Southeastern U.S. around the idea of a regional conference on the science and philosophy of behavior analysis. The Southeastern U.S. contained a large number of strong but geographically scattered academic and research groups (e.g., Florida, North Carolina, West Virginia, Alabama, and others) and without a venue for scholarly interaction. For many, the Southeastern Psychological Association had served this purpose, but the content of that conference had become overwhelmingly professional rather than scientific (i.e., following the direction of APA). SEABA was founded to be the venue for behavior analysts. SEABA was structured specifically to foster high-level discourse on research and theory in behavior analysis. The organization's sole activity would be to conduct an annual conference. The conference format was developed specifically to replicate the environment of early behavioral conferences, and scientific specialty organizations (e.g., the Behavioral Pharmacological Society). To this end, the conference was to be a day-and-a-half, single-track

program so that all participants could conveniently attend all presentations establishing a common basis for discussion and interaction. Speakers were to be selected based on content and quality of their empirical and theoretical work, and to comprise a well-balanced program of basic, applied, conceptual and philosophical presentations. The fall was selected to complement the main ABAI convention held in the spring, and the first meeting was held in the fall of 1984 in Myrtle Beach, SC.

A Special Emphasis on the Future of Behavior Analysis:

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

Mission for Behavior Analysis:

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

"SEABA has never sought to influence behavior analysis directly, but its influence is wide nevertheless. A disproportionate number of JEAB and JABA editors and editorial board members in recent years are SEABA members and alumni. One could argue that the nurturing of students in the science and philosophy of behavior analysis is the organization's greatest accomplishment." The 39th annual SEABA conference will be held in Greenville, SC. More information, registration, and CEU pre-purchase are available at www.SEABAonline.org.

Tennessee ABA

BY NEA HOUCHINS-JUAREZ & LINDSEY BRADY

The Tennessee Association for Behavior Analysis (TABA) was established in 1997 and continues to focus on providing quality continuing education opportunities to Behavior Analysts across the state, supporting various state ABA programs, and ensuring the availability of applied behavior analysis services throughout all three regions. Since the COVID-19 pandemic, TABA has continued coordinating online continuing education opportunities both within regional meetings and the annual conference to ensure members were able to access these benefits safely. During the 2022, conference we were able to provide a hybrid conference that allowed for attendees to choose their desired attendance modality and offered post-conference access to all CEUs.

Currently, TABA has approximately 394 members.

There is one annual state conference, and three regional meetings hosted each year. The annual conference is typically held in Middle Tennessee as regional meetings are held in each of the three grand regions of the state, Middle, and East. The annual conference provides a central forum to discuss all aspects of researching, planning, and delivering applied behavior analysis services that address the needs of Behavior Analysts across the state, while the regional meetings allow for those needs of local Behavior Analysts to be discussed. Some meetings were conducted in person while others were conducted virtually.

The 25th Annual Conference was held as a hybrid conference using the BehaviorLive platform on October 28th and 29th. During this conference, approximately 530 Behavior Analysts attended to hear the following qualified invited speakers: Joshua Jessel Ph.D., BCBA-D, Adithyan Rajaraman, Ph.D., BCBA-D, LBA, and Sarah Troutman, MA, BCBA. Dr. Jessel focused on advances in the Practical Functional Assessment of problem behavior within today's ABA and advances in the Skill-Based Treatment of problem behavior within today's ABA. Dr. Rajahraman discussed promoting safety and compassion in the assessment and treatment of dangerous behaviors and extensions in Skills-Based treatment research which included procedural variations and implementer training. Sarah Troutman discussed compassion within ABA.

Our Executive Committee is made up of the following individuals: Nea Houchins-Juarez as President, Lauren Weaver as President-Elect, Rebekah Williamson as West TN Regional Representative, Stephanie Marshall as Middle TN Regional Representative, Emily Guarino as East TN Regional Representative, Phillip Pearce as West TN Student Officer, Janey McDonald as Middle TN Student Officer, and Melissa Young as East TN Student Officer. Our committee chairs include Michelle Hopton, Zachary Stevens, and Mollie Todt (co-chairs, Continuing Education), Erin Szarka (Publications), Brianna Giles (co-chairs, social media), Clinton Smith (Professional Standards), and Zachary Stevens (Membership), Pablo Juarez and James Meindl (Public Policy Committee co-chairs). Lindsey Brady continues as the Director of Operations. Collectively, this group is dedicated to advancing the presence of TABA across the state by finally offering a hybrid conference option, providing engaging opportunities for regional meetings, attempting to reconnect with members in person as permitted, and working to identify current and possible new benefits for TABA members in the future. TABA is active on Facebook and Instagram.

Texas ABA

BY RACHEL KRAMER

TxABA Mission

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

Membership:

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

TxABA Executive Council (EC)

The 2022–2023 Executive Council consisted of President Jeffrey Dillen, President Dr. Summer Gainey, Council Member Jennifer Hines, Council Member Dr. Berenice de la Cruz, Council Member Dr. Joseph Dracoby, Council Member Dr. Leslie Neely, Senior Student Representative Julie Hrabal, Junior Student Representative Marcus Strum (non-voting), TxABA Executive Director Rachel Kramer (non-vong), and TxABA Secretary-Treasurer Dr. Zachary Morford (non-voting). TxABA The TxABA Executive Council continued to meet monthly to discuss strategic plan progress, monitor the budget, discuss upcoming events, oversee TxABA Committees, approve SIGs, appoint TxABA PPG officers, and discuss current events/issues in the field.

TxABA Strategic Plan

The TxABA Executive Council met in person in July 2022 to review progress on the TxABA Strategic Plan. As we grow our committees, TxABA has adjusted short-term goals while retaining long-term goals: 1) Develop the organizational infrastructure for committees, special interest groups (SIGs), the executive council, and administration; 2) Refine the relationship between TxABA and the TxABA Public Policy Group (TxABA PPG); 3) Support the quality and growth of the science and practice of behavior analysis through expansion of funding opportunities for science, practice, and research, and through the expansion of service offerings beyond the annual conference; 4) Increase the visibility and awareness of behavior analysis and TxABA among the public, and; 5) TxABA will engage in activities that promote diversity, inclusion, and equity as it pertains to its members, constituents, and conference attendees.

The TxABA Strategic Plan will be updated in July

2023, as we select short-term goals for the next three years. This process involves a SWOT analysis by the Executive Council and a member survey. The majority of short-term goals will be implemented through TxABA Committees and by the TxABA Executive Director.

TxABA Annual Conference and Awards

TxABA hosted its 38th Annual Conference in San Antonio, TX on April 27–30, 2023. It was a hybrid conference with BehaviorLive live streaming the conference and providing asynchronous viewing for most presentations after the conference. TxABA continued this year to offer pre-conference workshops on Thursday. The conference consisted of 9 tracks with all invited presentations: Neurodevelopmental Disorders Track, Neurodevelopmental Disorder Track – Adults, Professional Track, General Track, Education Track, Social Issues Track, Organization Behavior Management Track, Research Track, and Niche Areas Track. The Niche Areas track was new to our conference this year and the purpose is to offer presentations similar to the general track but in areas with a smaller number of behavior analysts working. TxABA expanded our Sunday offerings at the conference to have an interactive panel with autistic self-advocates, an event for RBTs and students, and a networking event for individuals who work with adults with neurodevelopmental disorders in Texas. This year we had a welcome event for students, RBTs, and first-time conference attendees to provide guidance on attending a conference. Thank you to everyone who made the 2023 TxABA Conference a success! The 39th Annual Conference will be held at the Royal Sonesta Houston Galleria on April 11–14, 2024.

Two awards were presented this year at the TxABA 2023 Conference. Dr. Kent Johnson was presented with the Enduring Career Contributions to Behavior Analysis award for his many contributions to our field during his extensive career. Dr. Johnson's career has left an enduring legacy to the science and application of behavior analysis through his founding of Morningside Academy, co-founder of Headsprout, co-author of five books and over 30 articles for professional audiences and serving consecutive 3-year terms on the Executive Council of the Association for Behavior Analysis International. Dr. Bruce Weinheimer was presented with the Career Contributions to Behavior Analysis in Texas award for his diverse work throughout his 40-year career in Texas. Dr. Weinheimer has worked in a variety of settings including TX State Supported Living Centers (previously State Schools), TX MHMR, TX Department of Aging and Disability Services, school districts, and private practice. He has worked as an adjunct faculty at several universities over the years and trained both psychologists and behavior analysts. The majority of Dr. Weinheimer's work has involved being the first behavior analytic contact for professionals in other fields.

TxABA was honored to recognize these two individuals for their numerous contributions to the field of behavior analysis over their careers.

Other Activities

A major change this year is that TxABA updated our logo and website. Our new logo features the state of Texas with our state flower the bluebonnet. The bluebonnet was chosen as both a symbol of Texas and a symbol of growth. A bluebonnet may struggle to grow in a relatively barren environment but will thrive in a rich environment. The behavior analyst in working with individuals or animals strives to create a rich environment to nurture and foster growth.

We are working to update the functionality, content, and style of our website to increase ease of use across platforms. We are growing our resources page on the website with contributions from two different committees. As we continue to update, you will find different Texas landscapes on our website, symbolizing TxABA's commitment to being an organization for the science and practice of behavior analysis for the entire state from the piney woods and coastal regions across the hill country and plains regions to the desert and mountain regions. TxABA values the diversity that makes Texas beautiful and unique. TxABA continued to increase dissemination beyond the annual conference with the TxABA Speaker Series webinars that are free to TxABA members. In 2023, TxABA will host a total of 6 webinars with topics based on a member survey. For more information on the TxABA speaker series, please visit our website www.txaba.org/2023speakerseries/.

TxABA currently has nine standing committees that were created to implement the strategic plan. TxABA standing committees are the Awards Committee, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusivity for Everyone Committee, Grants and Funding Committee, Professional Issues and Development Committee, Program Committee, Promoting Engagement Committee, Special Interest Group Committee, and Student Committee. The Professional Issues and Development Committee took the lead in promoting our committees during the 2023 conference. The TxABA Promoting ABA ad hoc Committee finished their work this year by making recommendations to the TxABA organization, as well as gathering resources for the TxABA Website. TxABA has seven Special Interest Groups (SIGs) with the approval of the Severe Behavior SIG this year. The six other SIGs are the Alamo City Behavior Analysts, Austin Area (ATX) ABA, Behaviorists for Social Responsibility, Organizational Behavior Management, Pediatric Feeding Disorders, and Supporting ABA Success in Residential Settings.

TxABA Public Policy Group (PPG)

The TxABA PPG is the sister organization of TxABA that focuses on legislative issues and lobbying. The 2022–2023 TxABA PPG officers consisted of President Rany Thommen, President-Elect Mariel Cremonie-Fernandez, Treasurer Berenice de la Cruz, Secretary Anna Sciarillo, and Communications Jennifer Perry. The TxABA PPG was busy with their new lobbyist during the 2023 legislative session. For more information, please visit behavioranalysispu.wixsite.com/txabappg.

Utah ABA

BY CHRISTINE MANNING

We have had a busy and exciting year in Utah, focusing on compassion and collaboration with our families, stakeholders, and colleagues. This has been an area of focus many members have appreciated at this time in our history. We have also continued to focus on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and strive to bring awareness and understanding to UtABA practitioners so they can best serve our communities.

Our Public Policy committee worked tirelessly with our partners at Utah Medicaid to update the ABA Provider Manual. It went through several revisions and was put into effect Jan. 1, 2023.

UtABA has been collaborating with the Office of Professional Licensure Review (OPLR), a new office in the Department of Commerce tasked with providing recommendations to the legislature on how to improve and update occupational regulation in Utah. They are reviewing a variety of behavioral health care professions' licensing requirements and conducting focus groups with some UtABA members. This will help to improve occupational regulation to ensure consumers of ABA have access to safe and competent care.

UtABA webinars continue to be well attended by our members. Our most recent presenters were Dr. Dana Paliliunas who presented on Intervention-Enhancing Effects of Acceptance and Commitment Training on Work Performance, Dr. Jonathan Tarbox, PhD, BCBA-D who presented on ACT and Compassion-Focused Applied Behavior Analysis, and Dr. Tyra Sellers, PhD, BCBA-D, who spoke on Collaboration and Compassion. We look forward to the continuation of UtABA webinars and bringing high quality content to our members.

Our Professional Development Committee put together an amazing annual conference that was held in August 2022 at Utah Valley University (UVU) in Provo, Utah. We were honored to host amazing speakers who covered a variety of topics. Keynote speakers included Sandra Bishop, BCBA, LBA and Kristine Rodriguez, BCBA. Workshop courses were provided by Dr. Monica Gilbert, PsyD., BCBA-D, LMHC, and Sandra Bishop BCBA, LBA. At the conclusion of day two of the conference,

UtABA hosted a wonderful Social and Networking event at the beautiful Sundance Mountain resort. Post conference data reflects it was our best conference to date!

Our Public Relations committee was busy keeping UtABA members up to date on the latest happenings in behavior analysis around the state. Among other things, they posted information about upcoming webinars and conferences, and shared tips for people getting ready to sit for the BCBA exam.

UtABA is continuously improving our collaboration and opportunities for students to get involved. Their help was so appreciated at our annual conference, as is their outreach program to get BCBA's in training, who may not be part of a local university, more involved. UtABA's student members are the best!

We are fortunate to have such wonderful practitioners in the state of Utah who embody the values and professionalism of what quality ABA looks like across different settings.

Virginia ABA

BY CHRISTY EVANKO

The Virginia Association for Behavior Analysis (VABA) is the affiliate chapter of ABAI in Virginia. We represent behavior analysts in Virginia and ended 2022 with over 600 members! We had a slight increase over 2021 membership but are not back to our pre-COVID numbers of over 800 members. The Commonwealth of Virginia has the 11th largest certified BCBA-Ds, BCBAs, BCaBAs, and RBTs (combined) in the United States. The association has been in existence since 2003 and is a 501c6 organization. VABA contracts with a lobbyist and has one paid contracted position, an Administrative Director. We have four goals that we use to achieve our mission of promoting and supporting the practice, research, and dissemination of behavior analysis throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia. Goal 1 – Improve Viability and Sustainability of the Organization; Goal 2 – Provide Quality Service to Our Members; Goal 3 – Strengthen the Diversity and Cultural Competence within VABA and the Behavior Analysis Profession across the Commonwealth; Goal 4 – Advocate for the Science of Behavior Analysis in the Commonwealth. We are frequently monitoring our strategic plan to find better ways of serving our members. This year, our 19th annual conference was in Harrisonburg. We were very excited last year to get back to in-person conferences after two years of virtual. We recently began offering location-based special interest groups in Central VA, Tidewater, and Northern VA, which are providing additional professional development events to serve our members. Our Marketing & Membership; Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, Dissemination, and Public Policy Committees continue to meet and do the heavy lifting for our organization. We are very excited to have recently completed a website and logo reboot and hope that everyone enjoys the new

look. In 2022, VABA distributed four newsletters that were each opened by half of our membership or more. We published ten blog posts with information that affects practitioners in Virginia. We communicated to over 1800 people via Facebook, over 1200 via Twitter, and over 400 people on our newer Instagram Account. We also began using LinkedIn to communicate. We publicized more than 40 jobs on our website. We had 300 attendees and 31 sponsors. We published an annual report on our Web site: www.virginiaaba.org/about/annual-reports/. VABA Membership offers many benefits, including an annual conference, networking opportunities, quarterly newsletter, CEU offerings (including the conference and beyond), members-only resources including supervision resources and a search engine, lobbying and policy efforts, location-based special interest groups, and discounts on a variety of outside products. The VABA Board of Directors works diligently to make sure we are relevant to behavior analysts in Virginia. We meet every other month and stay in continual contact to provide benefits that our members request and need. We are proud to represent behavior analysis in Virginia.

Washington ABA

BY FRANCESCA CRISPO & JENNIFER COLLADO

The Washington Association for Behavior Analysis (WABA) had a great year in 2022! In October, we hosted the WABA annual conference in Auburn, WA. Focusing on “Compassionate Care,” we were joined by speakers Courtney and Dr. Jonathan Tarbox on “Compassionate Care Within Applied Behavior Analysis”; Shannon Penrod, President of the Autism Network on “The Parent’s Perspective: What I wish ABA providers knew about ABA”; and Dr. Mari Cerda on “Disability Justice In Behavior Science.” The conference was concluded by a panel of providers working towards prioritizing assent, compassion, and trauma-informed practice in their work.

The WABA Public Policy Committee has worked to support access to care through advocacy for improved Medicaid rates. This included working with the Healthcare Authority to support a decision packet recommending an increase in Medicaid rates for ABA services. Additionally, members responded to a call to action by contacting the Governor to support these imperative changes to ensure that all individuals may access ABA services, regardless of insurance type.

WABA also offered the following webinars to the community in 2022: Building a Culturally Humble ABA Practice: Considerations for Organizations and individual practitioners. In addition to access to free webinars, members can enjoy a reduced rate to the annual conference, as well as attendance and the ability to vote in all membership meetings. The Washington State ABA community looks forward to seeing what 2023 will bring us!

Wisconsin ABA

BY MEGAN SELLERS

The Wisconsin Association for Behavior Analysis (WisABA) is in its 19th year of supporting behavior analysts in the state of Wisconsin through networking and professional development opportunities. WisABA continues to promote awareness of behavior analysis and advocates for behavior analysts in the state of Wisconsin and the clients they serve. WisABA continues to collaborate with the Department of Health Services (DHS) in their stakeholder meetings that are held twice a year. Through this collaboration, information as well as any updates regarding the behavioral treatment benefit through the State of Wisconsin is disseminated to practicing behavior analysts who are members of WisABA. Our annual conference was held in Milwaukee this past August across three days. A variety of speakers were presented, bringing informative talks and facilitating collaborative discussions among our members. The WisABA Award for Contributions to Behavior Analysis in the State of Wisconsin was awarded to the Wisconsin Autism Providers Association (WAPA) for their continued commitment to Autism Service Delivery. The focus of WisABA is to continue to provide opportunities for continuing education to practicing BCBAs, which our conference and quarterly general membership meetings provide. WisABA's website and marketing committee work hard to maintain our website to best suit our members and their needs. WisABA's membership grew in 2022 with the hard work of this committee. These efforts will continue in 2023 as we work to serve as a valuable resource for our members. WisABA's public relations committee is hard at work to grow awareness of WisABA by increasing access to information via social media as well as other outlets. In addition, the public relations committee has identified areas to increase WisABA's membership through outreach to students of behavior analysis and practicing registered behavior technicians (RBT). In 2023, WisABA will continue to collaborate with DHS to encourage and facilitate communication between this funding source and those providing services in an effort to increase access to behavior analytic services for clients in the state of Wisconsin. WisABA's conference committee has begun to plan the annual conference for 2023. This year's conference will take place October 6–7th in Milwaukee. We hope to have many of you join us as we welcome a wide range of speakers and poster presentations. For information on becoming a member and our conference, please visit www.wisaba.org. ❖

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

ABA Switzerland

BY SILJA WIRTH

In 2022, ABA Switzerland was again eager to provide attractive CEU opportunities for their members.

First, we welcomed Jacob Sadavoy and Joy Johnson who held a captivating talk on how to navigate parents' wishes, client's values, practitioner's bias, and assessment inflexibility. They shared perspectives from professionals and autistic self-advocates and truly expanded everybody's horizons in this ethics webinar.

In May Timothy Folley presented the behavior analytic perspective of trauma and attachment.

Next up we had Shane Spiker return to present a webinar on how to foster trainee relationships that aren't horror stories. He provided important insights for supervisors, and we were able to provide supervision CEUs for our members.

Lastly, we had Brielle Spangenberg and Erika Emery presenting on setting the groundwork for friendships and how to promote social learning opportunities for children with autism.

Members of ABA Switzerland have been involved in teaching ABA in a 3-year-course on early intensive intervention for children with autism. Thus, the science of ABA was spread more widely in the country this year. The ABA masters in Geneva has been postponed but is hopefully going to start in September of 2023.

As in previous years we continued our work in collaborating with other European countries. We are still part of the advisory group for the EuroBA project. We meet regularly with ONPAC (Organisation Nationale des Professionnels en Analyse du Comportement) in France and ABA Germany. Additionally, a representative of ABA Switzerland attended the European conference on Behavior Analysis in Milan, organized by AARBA.

ABA Switzerland also became active when we heard about the JRC controversy regarding ABAI. We had a conversation with the board of ABAI and wrote a position statement regarding ABA Switzerland's perspective on the use of contingent skin shock in ABA interventions. We were very relieved when we heard that ABAI has decided to also distance themselves clearly from any such use of punishment within the field of ABA. We are happy to continue our affiliation with ABAI and value the time and engagement they devoted to this important ethical issue.

In order to achieve more for ABA in Switzerland, we have decided to extend our board and have taken on two additional people as advisory board members. Due to their engagement, we hope to gain more momentum in the months to come. And we continue to work on our social media presence: our new student representative has created

a Facebook group for students of ABA in Switzerland.

Towards the end of the year, we realized that we needed to redo and update our website in order to reach more people, make selling our webinars easier, be more attractive and informative to our members, and have a more interactive platform with professionals and consumers of ABA in Switzerland. We got several offers from different providers, gained our members' approval to spend a big part of our funds, and started the process of getting a new website ready. Currently, it is in the making and the board is devoting a lot of resources to rewriting texts, creating a nice layout, and optimizing the design.

As the BABC withdrew from Europe at the end of this year, ABA Switzerland has stepped up to take over some of the tasks. We started designing a registry that will list qualified professionals in Switzerland and are getting ready to publish this registry on our new website. We would like to provide a continued point of reference for consumers to check a professional's credentials when enlisting their services.

Bermuda ABA

BY ERICA SMITH

2022 was the third year that Bermuda, as well as the rest of the world, had to deal with the impacts of the global pandemic! And although Covid-19 continues to take its toll, we are grateful that there are now vaccines, medicines, and both personal and public behaviors in place to better manage the virus and assist us all in transitioning back into a "normal" life. Bermuda's Behaviour Analysts showed incredible resilience throughout this period and ensured that Bermuda's clients had continuous quality access to services.

Another phenomenon occurred – the slow but steady growth of the ABA profession in Bermuda!

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

Unfortunately, BABA's membership numbers contracted as former members focused on surviving through the pandemic and supporting clients. In spite of declining membership numbers, the growth in the awareness and use of ABA in Bermuda continued.

Currently, there are:

- 14 RBTs in Bermuda registered with BACB (9 active, 4 expired, 1 inactive), of which 8 gained their certification through Tomorrow's Voices.
- There is 1 expired BCaBA in Bermuda registered with BACB.
- There are 3 active BCBA's in Bermuda registered with

BACB and all 3 gained their certification through Tomorrow's Voices.

And we are proud that there is 1 active BCBA-D in Bermuda (Dr. Jahnae Harvey, PhD, BCBA-D) registered with BACB.

The above breakdown shows that there has been a growth in the total number of certified behavior professionals in Bermuda from 15 in 2021 to 19 in 2022, which bodes well for the growth of the profession on our Island given our population size of approximately 64,000. The partnership between Tomorrow's Voices and the Bermuda Association of Behavior Analysis has directly contributed to the ability for 74% of these professionals to gain the necessary professional development and skills required to become registered and maintain that registration. However, as the Behavior Analyst Certification Board (BACB) has been phasing out the certification for international behavior professionals, BABA is at a crossroads with regard to solidifying solutions to help any new members gain certifications. We are actively researching alternative certifications to ensure the continued ethical standards and quality of services are maintained on our Island.

With the loosening up of Covid-19 restrictions mid-way through 2022, the Behavior Analysis profession in Bermuda was able to transition to holding more professional development events, both virtually and in person. Through the partnership with Tomorrow's Voices, seminars and training workshops on subjects related to ABA and special needs were presented by Senior Verbal Behavior Therapist Dr. Jahnae Harvey.

In 2022 a total of 352 persons attended 5 training workshops and 14 community talks, private trainings, and presentations, consisting of parents, teachers, college students, health professionals, government officials, and others in the community resulting in 624 hours of professional development (PD) hours, which was an increase of 4% in PD hours over 2022. Attendees of the training workshops received professional development certificates issued by Tomorrow's Voices.

The 5 Training Institute workshops focused on the following topics:

- February 16th, 2022—*All About Autism*
- April 20th, 2022—*Comorbid Disorders—Coexisting, Seeing the Full Picture*
- June 15th, 2022—*Did I Really Need to Do That?—Executive Functioning*
- September 21st, 2022—*Teaching Social Skills: Let's Be Social Butterflies*
- November 17th, 2022—*Transitioning into Adulthood—Taking Steps into the Future Direction*

Planned professional development workshops for 2023 are as follows:

- February 15th 2023—*There Is More To Language Than What You Say—Language Is A Behavior*
- April 19th 2023—*Natural Environment Teaching (Play, Daily Living, And Leisure Skills—We Can't Have All Work And No Play!*
- June 14th 2023—*Challenging Behavior—It's A Two-Way Street*
- September 20th 2023—*Food Fights?—How To Handle Picky Eaters?*
- November 15th 2023—*Let's Put That On Paper—Data Collection Methods*

The development of the profession and growing interest in young people is a key priority for BABA. The partnership with Tomorrow's Voices as the island's only clinical Autism center has provided an incredible opportunity for giving students hands-on practical experience with ABA. 8 students engaged in 10-week internships during Summer 2022 where the students received mentorship, hands-on experience, therapeutic exposure opportunities, as well as the ability to participate in a research project under the direction of Dr. Jahnae Harvey. In addition, in November 2022, through a partnership with the Bermuda Government's Department of Workforce Development, an additional 2 university students who held an interest in the field of psychology, were able to undertake a 13-week internship. Community members also committed to their own professional development and growth in the Behavior Analysis profession through participating virtually in many international seminars, workshops, and events as follows:

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

BABA and indeed Bermuda are very proud that Ms. Jahnae Harvey, BCBA was awarded her PhD! Through hard work and dedication, Dr. Harvey also received her second master's degree in philosophy prior to obtaining her Doctor of Philosophy in Developmental Psychology. To support her dissertation Dr. Harvey was able to incorporate archival clinical data from Tomorrow's Voices. Through this process, Tomorrow's Voices' clinical data was published at the dissertation level in the research database of ProQuest (Document ID: 29253586). In addition, Ms. Rachel Hayward, RBT earned her master's

degree in special education with a concentration in ABA in September 2022! BABA is extremely proud of Dr. Harvey's and Ms. Hayward's accomplishments and their continued dedication to growing the field of ABA in Bermuda. BABA members are honored to continue to lead the way with regard to growing the ABA profession in Bermuda and are actively involved in national policy and legislative projects in Bermuda. Tomorrow's Voices Board Chair, Ms. Thea Furbert, is a member of the team working on the Bermuda National Intellectual Disability Plan. This involvement provides a behavior-lens to addressing the issues facing our Island's students and adults with Intellectual Disabilities, ASD and related disorders.

BABA is actively looking to expand its Executive Board with Behavior Analyst professionals and continues to work on growing its membership, but the past few years have been difficult with the impact of the global pandemic. In 2022 it was about survival and having resilience to persevere. In 2023 our goal is to grow our outreach as such, we are actively seeking persons across Bermuda who are interested in the ABA field to join and lead in the development of the association.

British Columbia ABA

BY SARAH PASTRANA

This year was a busy one for the British Columbia Association for Behavior Analysis!

The board has been actively involved in advocacy to protect individualized provincial autism funding and to expand access to individualized funding for other disabilities. We continue to work with the BC Disability Collaborative, a group comprised of organizations from across the disability sector, to advocate for increased funding and access to services for underserved groups.

In 2022, the board created a new committee to address Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) on the board and in our professional community. We were excited to welcome the first board member elected to this position in April 2022! We added a second elected member to the DEI committee in April 2023. The DEI committee organizes monthly meetings and trainings for our membership and provides guidance on board decisions. The board has made yearly DEI training mandatory for all elected officials. We have also updated our student grant program to make access to funding more equitable for our student members.

The board has also been engaged in an overhaul of our organizational and governance systems. We have been working with an agency that provides support and training to non-profit organizations to review and revise many structures and systems within our organization, from our vision, mission, and values, to building board culture, to how meetings are run. Most recently, we completed an overhaul of our onboarding manuals and onboarding process.

Finally, BC-ABA held our 15th annual conference in

March 2023. We were thrilled to be able to return to an in-person event this year after two years of meeting online. This year we hope to be able to offer more opportunities for our members to connect and foster greater connections among our professional community.

Caribbean ABA

BY SLOANE PHARR

In 2022, our chapter has been revitalized and re-organized with a full Board consisting of a President, President Elect, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary, as well as 2 Members-at Large. This Board continues to work with our partner organization, The Caribbean Association for Behavior Analysis (CABA), to further expand our reach and better serve countries across the Caribbean.

Our mission remains the same, which is to promote the regulation and advancement of the discipline of behavior analysis. We continue to be committed to ensuring the ethical, effective, and humane use of behavior analysis; advocating for funding mandates and evidence-based interventions; providing opportunities for continuing education; disseminating applied and basic research; supporting the activities of ABAA; and supporting the expansion of certification options for those currently providing behavior analytic services and those who might do so in the future.

In the last year, in collaboration with CABA, we became both a BACB and IBAO CEU provider. In addition, have held 2 Parent Corner virtual meetings, presented 1 live Supervision CEU, and 1 Member-At-Large meeting. By the end of 2022, 68 individuals became members of our organization spanning 15 countries in the Caribbean region.

We are looking forward to another successful year with plans to provide additional CEU and podcast offerings, achievement of NGO status, and the addition of a certificant registry allowing those from the Caribbean to access supervision options to achieve goals of further certification as well as mentorship, and much more.

Central China ABA

BY XUEYI DENG

In 2022, CCABA has fully carried out five major operational activities: certified training, continuing education, membership development, talent training in colleges and universities, conferences, and workshops.

Certified Training

To date, 153 people were trained in the CNABA (level D) Training program, and no one obtained the CCaBA (CAPPDR (China Association of Persons with Psychiatric Disability and their Relatives) Certified assistant Behavior Analyst) qualification; 498 people were trained in the CNABA (level C) Training program, and 22 people

obtained the CCBA (CAPPDR Certified Behavior Analyst) qualification; 37 people were trained in the SBT Training program, and 9 people obtained the CCBSA (CAPPDR Certified Behavior Supervision Analyst) qualification; 73 people were trained in the CNABA (level B) Training program, and 7 people obtained the CCBSA-B (CAPPDR Certified Behavior Supervision Analyst -Bachelor) qualification; 3 people were trained in the CNABA (level A) Training program, and 3 people obtained the CCBSA-M (CAPPDR Certified Behavior Supervision Analyst -Master) qualification.

Continuing Education

In 2022, CCABA has invited many BCBAs and BCBA-Ds to carry out continuing education credit courses with the following themes: The importance of "analysis" in ABA teaching practice; The similarities and differences between VB and DTT in practice; From VB-MAPP Assessment to Verbal Behavior Intervention; The introduction of DATA model (1); PEAK -A New Tool for VB Assessment and Teaching; Determining what to teach: The Assessment of DATA model (2); The integration of family education and institutional education from the perspective of behavioral analysis; The Integration of Relational Frame Theory (RFT) And Verbal Behavior (VB) in Early Intensive Behavior Intervention (EIBI); DATA Model (3): Dynamic evaluation and practical case study; What is PBS? How family-centered PBS can enhance your practice?; DATA Model (4): How to Develop an IEP; DATA Model (5): Planning for Instruction Part 1; How to use VB-MAPP and ABLLS-R in combination; The concept and importance of preschool inclusive education; The school-wide intervention: How to support the children with disabilities in inclusive preschool; Use differentiated instruction to support children with disability to participate independently.

Membership Development

To date, the number of CCABA members has grown to 387, including 314 individual members and 73 institutional members.

Talent Training in Colleges and Universities

CCABA has supported to date Guangxi College for Preschool Education- the first university that provides specialized training to develop ABA talents in China- to establish the ABA major, enrolling more than 100 students each year.

Conferences and Workshops

In 2022, CCABA held professional conferences with the theme of "Grow with Star", which were broadcast live on the Internet. During these conferences, the Chairperson of CAPPDR or the Secretary General of CCABA made

an opening statement, which was followed by a joint discussion on a professional topic with experts (BCBAs) invited by CCABA and expert teachers from local cities (BCaBAs or CCBSAs), while the front-line teachers of local institutions listened to the statements and speeches and could ask questions to experts. The topics discussed included “How to better carry out relevant services in the pandemic,” “The realities and needs of special education teachers,” “How to support the growth of a special education teacher from the perspective of career development,” “How to support the growth of an autistic child,” “What is the ultimate goal of rehabilitation and education of people with autism,” “The feelings and emotions of autistic children,” “Children unable to attend school (confusing class rules) despite the progress made in the areas of cognition and oral language after training.” To date, the conferences have been held in Suzhou, Wuhan, Yantai, Xuzhou, Xi'an and other cities. CCABA has also invited Lou Xiaofang (BCBA) to carry out an online live workshop with the theme of “The Effective Use of ABLLS-R and VB-MAPP”.

Chinese ABA

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

The year 2022 was a busy year for CABA.

At the beginning of March 4, 2021, Behavior Analysis Practitioner Certification Committee was set up to carry out the preparatory work for the professional skills certification of behavior analysis practitioners in China. On March 4, May 13, July 20, and September 14, 2021, 4 professional skills certification meetings for behavior analysis practitioners were held respectively. Chairman of the Rehabilitation Association Autism Rehabilitation Professional Committee, Applied Behavior Analysis Representatives of the professional committee, representatives of the China Association of Mental Disability and Relatives and Friends, the Office of the National Autism Rehabilitation Research Center and relevant personnel and experts from Huaxia Publishing House attended the meeting. Cao Yuejin, executive director, and secretary general of the Rehabilitation Association presided over the meeting. On September 15, 2022, and October 13, 2022 2 meetings were held. After repeated discussions, the participants reached a

lot of consensus. The progress of the relevant work is as follows: (1) Determining the name of the professional skills certification work progress of behavior analysis practitioners. To meet the requirements of national standards, the term "behavior analysis practitioners" will be uniformly used. (2) Established the "Behavior Analysis Professional Skills Certification Committee", with Jia Meixiang, the chairman of the Autism Professional Committee of the Rehabilitation Association, as the chairman of the committee, and Cheung Miaomiao, the deputy director and secretary general of the Behavior Analysis Professional Committee, as the secretary general of the committee. (3) Determine the work direction of the committee: prepare for the professional skills certification of behavior analysis practitioners. (4) Determine the principles of work development: The establishment of the Professional Skills Certification Committee for Behavior Analysis Practitioners and the development of future work will adhere to the principles of openness, fairness, impartiality and non-profit, and emphasize the principles of professionalism and ethics. (5) Determine the framework and specific functions of the professional skills certification committee for behavior analysis practitioners: the important work now can be set up as transactional work departments (such as finance, network) and educational work departments (including credential, examination and ethics), and then gradually improve and enrich the organizational system and functions according to specific work needs. (6) Establish a "Promotion Committee for the Professional Skills Certification of Behavior Analysis Practitioners" to jointly carry out the promotion of the professional skills of behavior analysis practitioners in China. (7) Build a professional skills certification system service platform for behavior analysis practitioners. On the 20th and 21st of May 2023, we held our eighth annual conference online. This year's conference with support from the China Association of Rehabilitation of Disabled Persons, Hua Xia Yuan Dao, Peking University Sixth Hospital and Beijing Mentougou Maternity and Child Health Care Hospital.

Dr. Guo Yanqing from the Peking University of Sixth Hospital gave an opening speech. Professor He Huizhong from Beijing Normal University gave her presentation on her research regarding the implementation of PRT in China PRC. Dr. Li Xue from the Peking University of Sixth Hospital presented Social Skills for Teenage ASD. Dr. Wang Chongying from Nankai University presented Whole school multiple hierarchy of prevention and solution on students' problem behavior. Dr. Zhu Jing from Shanghai Zhunyi Consultancy presented Data analysis-case study. Ms. Cheung Miaomiao from Star Sight child education and research center gave an in-depth presentation on ABA program evaluation. Professor Xu Sheng from East China Normal University gave a presentation of comparative

study on online parent training versus both in-home and at center training. Dr. Lin Fanyu from NinBo XingCheng Institute gave a presentation on ethics concerns with ABA.

In 2023, we will continue working actively towards the goal to provide high-quality and professional services to the Chinese public.

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

Hong Kong ABA

BY JEREMY GREENBERG

Hong Kong Association for Behavior Analysis has been affected by the pandemic over the last few years. Personnel changes and the disruption to the region has more or less stalled our efforts to continue as an ABAAI Chapter. However, recently, a core group of practitioners, some existing HKABA Board members and some new behavior analysts have held a meeting to revive the chapter and move forward.

There has been an increase in certified behavior analysts in the region as well as the development of a few new organisations that provide services to children and families with special education needs. HKABA members continue to contribute to the field through attendance at conferences, in person and online as well publish research in our field.

Plans for the group include an upcoming social event to re-connect and to hold elections to establish a new Board with a fresh agenda. Many chapters have confronted these issues as we are confident that we have not been alone in the struggle to continue to fulfil our mission and vision to continue to develop behavior analysis in the region. We are looking ahead and hope to have a more established and vibrant group, moving forward.

Istituto Europeo per lo Studio del Comportamento Umano (IESCUM)

BY PAOLO MODERATO & GIOVAMBATTISTA PRESTI

IESCUM (the Istituto Europeo per lo Studio del Comportamento Umano; <http://www.iescum.org>) is, since 2007, the Italian chapter of ABAAI, established to translate into specific actions a vision of experimental and applied behavior science in Italy. Since its founding, IESCUM has been committed to promoting the full range of behavior analytic scientific and humanistic potential. Based on this premise, IESCUM is dedicated to the training, development, and evaluation of behavior analysis in clinical settings in various forms.

IESCUM has offered in Italy over the past year experiential trainings in clinical behavior analysis, acceptance and commitment therapy, and applied behavior analysis with scholars and professionals such as P. N. Chase, Ruth Anne Rehfeldt, Siri Ming, and S. Ala'i-Rosales. The dissemination of a sound culture in ABA has been carried out institutionally through a 2-year postgraduate course sequence ("Master" in Italian) in Behavior Analysis, now in its XVII edition, along with several 180-hour and 60-hour courses targeting operators who aim to become assistant Behavior Analysts or Behavioral Technicians.

In collaboration with IULM University in Milan, IESCUM has promoted a postgraduate course in Behavioral Economics and Nudging. The course, now in its fourth edition, is the first of its kind in Italy and aims to apply behaviorally informed policies to organizations and society.

IESCUM is participating (2020–2023) in an Erasmus+ project entitled "Developing Professional Qualifications and Training for European Behavior Analysts. The behavior analyst occupation is not formally recognized in the European Union, equally no US/international certification/license can be formally acknowledged in UE. The overall objectives of this project, which is the result of the cooperation of international partners coming from the United Kingdom, Czech Republic, Netherlands, Ireland, Greece, Sweden, and Italy, are to ensure transparency and recognition of skills and qualifications for behavior analysts in Europe, tackle skills gaps, shortages, and mismatches and support persons with special needs and/or disabilities.

In January 2020, just before the pandemic, IESCUM played a pivotal role in founding ABA Italia. In Spring 2022, the IESCUM Board resolved to merge with ABA Italia to establish the largest Italian Association of BAs. ABA Italia (www.abaitalia.org) brings together 435 behavior analysts, 181 assistant behavior analysts, and 488 behavioral technicians who have passed the minimum training standards to ensure families. At the moment, 3879 are the students still in training.

In September 2022, the first ABA Italia congress was

held, with the participation, among others, of Martha Pelaez, Thomas Szabo, and Darin Cairns.

Over the years, IESCUM has developed a network of national centers for early intensive behavioral interventions with autistic children. The network includes centers that are either managed by IESCUM or whose equipment is systematically supervised by IESCUM. Since 2021, IESCUM has been collaborating with Behavior Labs, a software house focused on social robotics, VR applications, and new technologies dedicated to serving people in the Autism spectrum, to open a new center in Catania.

In March 2023, IESCUM is organizing a conference on ABA, Social Robotics, and New Technologies in Catania in collaboration with the Italian Society of Child Psychiatry. In 2023, IESCUM will also organize the third Italian conference on third-generation behavior therapies called Mindfulness, Acceptance, and Compassion. This conference has been held in Milan since 2017 and sees the attendance of about 500 professionals and researchers.

Japanese ABA

BY KENJI OKUDA

The 40th annual convention was held fully online operated by the Japanese ABA office, from Sep. 25–30, 2022.

Additionally, the annual convention was held at Asia-Pacific Import Mart in Fukuoka, on October 2, 2022.

We will hold the 41st annual convention at Ritsumeikan University in Osaka, Sep. 8–10, 2023.

Kenya ABA

BY POOJA PANESAR

Kenya Association for Behavior Analysis is excited to share that we now have four BCBAs working in the country. Two are of Kenyan origin, and two are of American origin but living in Kenya. We were all able to meet in January 2023 and discuss issues that we would like to address within the field.

One of the main challenges in Kenya is the proliferation of RBT numbers without supervisors. Many have simply completed a 40-hour course online and claim to be RBTs. They begin providing services under the umbrella of ABA but have no supervision or qualification to do so. Our strategy to combat this issue is to provide more parent education on ABA, supervision, and requirements for those providing ABA services. Once parents are well-informed and ask the right questions, professionals will be pushed to do better.

We are also working on the local registration process for an association. Finances and manpower were a challenge initially, but with the added certificants, the burden is easier when divided.

We will be looking into providing workshops and recruiting current members for KABA this year to engage the community and push on dissemination of ABA.

Korean Association of Child and Adolescent Behavior Therapy

BY YUNHEE SHIN

The Korean Association of Child and Adolescent Behavior (KACBT) is a multidisciplinary nonprofit professional association with growing membership and an increasing number of alliances with like-minded organizations. KACBT has met with the preparatory committee of the Korean Association for Behavior Analysis to discuss managing licensure of Korean clinical behavior therapists in connection with international licensure. KACBT's mission is to share ABA information and collaborate with behavior therapists, parents, and others. Since 2009, KACBT has held many meetings, seminars, and conferences, as well as a case conference in collaboration with Daegu Cyber University, which also has a VCS program and QASP-S program in its department of behavior therapy. We shared with them a list of Korean practice organizations and suggested a supervision training program. KACBT is focused on challenging behavior of children and adolescents, offering support to caregivers and practitioners via workshops and case conferences. We have also connected with many clinics and organizations to provide positive behavior support.

Conference

- 2023 Summer seminars
- Date: June. The date is not decided.
- Venue: Daegu Learning Center, Daegu Cyber University
- 2023 Autumn Conference
- This conference has not yet been set.

Membership

KACBT consists not only of college members, including professors and undergraduate students, but practitioners, special education teachers, and behavior analysts. We hope this joining of professors, researchers, and teachers will aid in efforts toward progress in the field of behavior therapy, and we welcome new members.

Manitoba ABA

BY MARIA PONGOSKI

The Manitoba Association for Behavior Analysis (MABA) is proud to be in its 18th year as an affiliated chapter of ABAAI. We met several objectives during our 17th year, described below.

In 2013, MABA became a CE provider, and in 2022 was able to offer free CEUs to our members who are BCBAs and BCBA-Ds at the Annual Conference. MABA held its Annual Conference in September 2022, hosting a variety of speakers. Our keynote speaker, Dr. Adithyan

Rajaraman (Vanderbilt University Medical Centre), delivered a presentation entitled “Promoting Safety and Compassion in the Assessment of Treatment of Dangerous Behavior.” The conference also featured presentations by our invited speakers, Dr. Katie Saint (Fox Valley Autism Treatment Program), who presented on ABA and mental health; Meredith Molina, who presented on providing compassionate behavior analytic therapy; Amy Gravino (Rutgers University), who spoke about sexuality and the autism spectrum, and Dr. Mary Jane Weiss (Endicott College) provided a talk on ethical decision making. Finally, a panel discussion, chaired by Carly Cressman, MA (University of Manitoba) on the ongoing evolution of applied behavior analysis and our roles in this change.

We are looking forward to our 19th Annual Conference, to be held in the fall of 2023, in a virtual format. Our Conference Chairs are hard at work putting together a list of potential speakers and topics that will be of interest to our members and conference attendees. Additional information can be found at maba.ca/conference as it becomes available.

For the upcoming year, we will continue to work on our new and ongoing objectives and goals. Our key objectives for 2023 include offering CE opportunities for our members, as well as exploring options to provide education for the general public. Furthermore, we will also explore opportunities to promote behavior analysis in Manitoba through partnerships with local organizations and universities. For example, we are currently working in collaboration with a local organization to host a joint conference on Technology and Disability. As well, we would like to find new ways to support new students and innovative research in applied behavior analysis through the development of new awards. Finally, we would like to continue to work on increasing our membership through various recruitment initiatives.

New Zealand ABA

BY ANNE MACASKILL

The New Zealand Association for Behaviour Analysis (NZABA) is a community of people working, teaching, and researching Behaviour Analysis in, or with a connection to, Aotearoa New Zealand.

The focus of NZABA is to host an annual conference in late August. In 2022 the conference was held on the Waikato University campus in Tauranga for the first time. After having to host the 2020 and 2021 conferences online, it was wonderful to get together in person in Tauranga while also including online conference presenters and participants.

The quality of student talks was so high that the judges acknowledged five outstanding presentations. Specifically: Tokiko Taylor (University of Waikato) for her talk entitled: Perspective taking is Stimulus Control: Conditional Control by the Presence or Absence of “Person” Stimuli in a False-belief Task, Victoria Burney

(University of Auckland) for her talk entitled: Engagement of parents in behavioral intervention, Nicky Duff (Victoria University of Wellington) for her talk entitled: The role of autobiographical memory in social problem solving, Sehar Moughal (University of Auckland) for her talk entitled: Feminism, family violence, and behavior analysis – why and how? Rhea Choundira (University of Waikato) for her talk entitled: Tootling through a Cultural Lens: Effects of Tootling on Student and Teacher Behaviours in an Inclusive School in Aotearoa.

In addition, the audience choice award went to yet another excellent talk from Alisha (Bo min) Kwon (University of Auckland). Alisha’s talk was entitled: Promoting skill advancement and the generalization of skills across settings for children with tube dependency. The titles and affiliations of the student award winners showcase the diversity of excellent research presented across areas of behavior analysis and across the country.

NZABA continued to collaborate with the Society of Behaviour Analysis Aotearoa New Zealand, a new group with many overlapping members focused on professional practice issues. The society is now a registered charity in New Zealand. NZABA and the society co-hosted a pre-conference workshop offering CEUs on ethical issues of specific relevance to practitioners in New Zealand.

In 2023 our conference will be held at the Victoria University of Wellington Pipitea campus. Our website at nzaba.wordpress.com/ provides up-to-date information about how to register and will post the conference program once available. You can join NZABA via a form on our website; we do not charge a membership fee. Members automatically join our email list and will receive occasional updates and announcements. Our Facebook group at facebook.com/newzealandaba hosts more informal discussions and shares links to items of general interest to those working in the field of behaviour analysis.

Ontario ABA

BY JAMIE SANTANA & NANCY MARCHESE

2022 was another record-breaking year for the Ontario Association for Behavior Analysis (ONTABA). The association hosted its 30th annual conference, its first-ever hybrid conference. ONTABA offered both an in-person option (after a two-year hiatus from in-person events) and an online option to make the conference more accessible to the membership across the large province. With a total of 797 attendees, the 2022 conference was the largest annual conference in the history of ONTABA. Attendees had the opportunity to learn from 4 invited speakers (Dr. Patrick McGreevy, Dr. Mahshid Ghaemmaghami, Dr. Mary Jane Weiss, and Dr. Peter Gerhardt), listen to 9 symposia and 6 paper presentations, and interact with 30 poster presentations. The association hopes to continue this trajectory of growth in conference attendance when they

host their 31st conference on November 9 and 10, 2023. The annual conference was not the only successful ONTABA event in 2022, however. During the summer of 2022, ONTABA hosted its annual Evening for Behavior Analysis. The panelists for this event shared their wisdom related to cultural competency and provided some examples of how cultural competency can be integrated into the workplace.

Throughout 2022, ONTABA continued working with the College of Psychologists of Ontario (CPO), soon to be renamed to the College of Psychologists and Behavior Analysts, to support professional regulation (known as licensure in the US). Working with CPO, as part of the continued work toward regulation, ONTABA collaborated with CPO on the development of an ABA portal and Frequently Asked Questions pages housed on the CPO website. These web pages provide information and updates to the public and practitioners impacted by the upcoming professional regulation of behavior analysts. As an association, ONTABA will continue working with CPO and the provincial government to establish regulation of behavior analysis. ONTABA is committed to ensuring that their members are informed and prepared for the steps required for regulation.

The Ontario Association for Behavior Analysis is also excited to share that it has hired its first employee, an administrative assistant. By securing the support of an administrative assistant, ONTABA's board of directors is looking forward to increasing its capacity to focus on key strategic activities that will benefit the membership.

In late Fall 2022, ONTABA released its new strategic plan, outlining 3 key strategic priorities:

- 1 Build the capacity of ONTABA to achieve its mission and goals.
- 2 Provide leadership and advocate for ethical, effective, and safe behavioral services in Ontario.
- 3 Enhance services and support for all ONTABA members in all parts of the province.

To achieve these strategic priorities, the board of directors will continue to work hard for the membership. Recruitment of support from the administrative assistant and a number of consultants is also part of the association's plan to continue building its capacity. First, a newly contracted government relations consultant will be supporting strategic development and relationship building with a variety of government officials across Ministries (known as Departments in the US) including those from the Ministry of Health, Education, Child Community and Social Services, and other relevant ministries. Work will also continue with ONTABA's communications consultant to broaden the reach of our materials and information to the community at large.

In terms of enhancing accessibility to events across

the province, ONTABA is committed to making as many of its events as possible hybrid events. In an effort to continue benefiting its members, last year ONTABA solicited region-specific feedback from its membership across the province via a number of town halls. The plan is to implement this region-specific feedback over the next year. Finally, ONTABA is pleased to announce that 2022 marked the election of the very first Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) representative to the board of directors. This unique board member will chair the DEI committee and help to ensure that all of ONTABA's meetings, events, and plans are DEI-informed.

Looking forward to 2023, ONTABA is excited to continue its trajectory of growth and invite members from all ABAI chapters to join them for their conference and other events this year. If you're interested in becoming an ONTABA member, head over to the website and click the JOIN ONTABA button. Membership benefits include free CEUs during ONTABA's official events, discounted rates for the promotion of jobs or on our social media pages, discounts on technology, professional insurance, and more! While you are visiting the website, you are invited to check out some of the recent improvements made to further increase accessibility and user-friendliness. You are also invited to follow ONTABA's official social media pages on Twitter or Instagram at @ONTABA1 or on LinkedIn at the Ontario Association for Behavior Analysis (ONTABA). Continuing to advocate for accessible behavioral services and sharing ABA-related information with the public is a key goal for ONTABA this year.

Philippines ABA

BY MARIA TERESA ECHAUS COJUANGCO

Philippine ABA for the year 2023 was able to resume its activities and programs as the restrictions of the Philippine Government on Community Enhanced Quarantine rule were slowly eased to a lower level. The government in the second quarter of the year allowed institutions to work on a hybrid setup which PABA together with their affiliate member centers managed to adopt.

The first project of PABA for the year was to update its website and offer online seminars and workshops for its members. These seminars presented by various member center affiliates were received well by members and other participants coming from various provinces of the country where COVID restrictions were still implemented. ABA practitioners doing online practices were given continued assistance in updating various information about ABA practice. More ABA practitioners availed of online PABA services due to their accessibility and convenience. Medical facilities availed the assistance of PABA in giving short lectures to their staff about ABA and online observation on PABA affiliate centers.

PABA continued to serve government community health

centers by providing assistance in training their in-house staff as well as continued accepting students doing their internship as part of their respective academic requirements.

In September 2022 was able to host its first Annual Virtual Conference entitled Applied Behavior Analysis: A Scientific Approach to Behavior. In this new format, PABA's objective was to reach a wider audience, specifically those outside of the region. PABA was able to feature several speakers from the USA presenting various scientific approaches to behavior. Dr. Joyce Tu - Ed.D., BCBA-D shared her expertise in Severe Problem Behaviors. Dr. Smita Awast—PHD., BCBA-D spoke on Verbal Behavior while Dr. Teresa Camille Kolu—PHD., BCBA-D lectured on Trauma Informed Applied Behavior. Ms. Theresa Mckee—M. Ed, BCBA spoke on Teaching with Acoustical Guidance, and Manny Rodriguez DBA, BCBA shared his expertise in Organizational Behavior Management. Ms. Maribel Castillo Stikeleather—M. ED, BCBA lectured on ABA: Implementation on a Large Scale. These speakers have greatly contributed to the best practices of ABA in the US and internationally and shared information with their Filipino audience who are limited in having access to information about ABA. All presentations brought increased awareness to all participants and follow-up lectures were immediately requested.

The Virtual Conference allowed more participants to access information about ABA practices from the US. Participants were also able to utilize the conference as an opportunity to network with other attendees and become more involved in PABA and their respective communities.

For the coming year 2023, PABA will be able to implement various requests from its members to offer more online lectures and seminars as this new format was highly acceptable to most participants. PABA will aim to work on more fundraising projects to fund more of its assistance at local government health centers.

Polish Association of Behavioral Therapy

BY PAWEŁ BAKALARZ

Polskie Stowarzyszenie Terapii Behawioralnej (Polish Association of Behavioral Therapy, PABT) was officially registered in 2002 as a formalization of the work of Early Behavioral Intervention Group operating in Cracow since 2000. PABT is one of two Polish organizations of behavior specialists, both ABAI Affiliated Chapters.

Both organizations operate Polska Licencja Terapeuty Behawioralnego (Polish License of Behavior Therapist, PLBT) system (<https://pltb.pl>). PLBT is a country-wide system that provides theoretical and practical training and certification for prospective behavior specialists working with ASD. Currently, the system has 4787 candidates, 254

certified therapists, 34 certified supervisors, and 8 therapy centers. Theoretical training is provided as coursework developed by cooperating organizations and specialists or as academic courses available at SWPS University of Social Sciences and Humanities, Jagiellonian University, or other approved academic coursework. The system recognizes BCBA title as one of the means of acquiring a behavior therapist title. PABT also offers courses outside of the certification system and builds up CE for certified therapists. CE courses offered cover both typical professional topics and basics of Organizational Behavior Management and behavioral approach to resocialization. From 2021, PABT will run the project “Przełom – Skuteczne Rozwiązania Behawioralne” (Breakthrough – Effective Behavioral Solutions) as a vehicle for providing behavior-analytic technology to businesses, organizations and individuals with sub-clinical problems.

In 2014 PABT opened two schools for children and youth with special needs, particularly ASD and Intellectual Disabilities, in Cracow. Later, an elementary special school was opened in Raciborz.

We also offer psychological, educational, and behavioral diagnostic services, behavioral programming, and therapy. Additionally, we provide Behavioral Crisis Intervention Services for clients with severe behavior problems: severe aggression/SIB/destruction and/or extreme skill deficits.

In 2022 both PABT and the Polish Society for Behavioral Psychology celebrated their 20th anniversary, combined with the 10th anniversary of the PLBT system. A conference was held in Cracow, with speakers from all over Poland and internationally: Drs. Julie Vargas (BF Skinner Foundation), Andy Bondy (Pyramid Educational Consultants) and Neil Martin (Behavior Analyst Certification Board).

On our social media, we provide information on applied behavior analysis and its basic technologies. In the year 2023 we're planning to introduce webinars devoted to more detailed clinical and non-clinical topics and continue our current operations. We plan on extending our non-clinical offer, providing behavior-analytic knowledge to IT specialists working with Reinforcement Learning and gamification. We will increase our OBM activity and dissemination efforts.

Candidates for PABT can file an application to the Board. Dues are annual and amount to 80 PLN. Members include behavior therapists and parents of children with special educational needs.

Polish Society for Behavioral Psychology

BY BARTŁOMIEJ SWEBODZINSKI

During 2022 Society continuously worked on the development of the Polish certification system (license) for

behavior analysts. The recently achieved goal is the creation of an advisory body at the Chapter, composed of commonly selected therapists and supervisors licensed under the Polish Behavioral Therapist License. Polish certification system was created and introduced in 2010 together with partner organization Polish Society for Behavioral Therapy (www.terapeutabehavioralny.pl). Its aim was to improve the quality of work of behavior analysts in Poland by establishing professional standards of good work and proper conduct for behavioral analysts. Two members of PSBP participate on a regular basis in meetings of the executive committee of the system.

The main responsibilities are:

- Evaluating applications of candidates to the title of behavioral analyst according to standards of the Polish certification system,
- Developing standards for training programs and evaluating new training courses proposed by supervisors within the system,
- Answering ongoing questions concerning the certification system and providing a consistent interpretation of its rules,
- Propagating knowledge about the certification system and behavioral therapy in Poland as well.

Work is currently underway on changes to the Polish licensing system in the context of the termination of certification of behavior analysts from outside the US and Canada by the BCBA.

In 2022, the association took patronage over the publication of the following books:

- “Science and human behavior” by Burrhus F. Skinner – Polish version edited by our chairman of the board, Przemysław Bąbel.
- Katie Cook's “Thriving with Autism: 90 Activities to Encourage Your Child’s Communication, Engagement, and Play”—Polish version edited by our member Monika Suchowierska-Stephany “Development of a child with autism”.
- “Beyond the DSM” by Steven C. Hayes and Stefan G. Hofmann. Marcin Domurat and Konrad Ambroziak are responsible for the substantive editing of the translation.

Also, it took patronage over the International Scientific and Didactic Conference “Curiosity builds bridges,” 8-11.09.2022 Poznań (ACT.2022).

In addition, as part of partnership and co-organization, mention can be made of:

- The conference “Cognitive-behavioral psychotherapy in the face of contemporary challenges” organized by the Polish Society of Cognitive and Behavioral Therapy and the Institute of Psychology of the Jagiellonian University in Krakow, May 13–15, 2022;

- II Rally of Behaviorists—50 years of Polish behaviorism, co-organized with the Polish Association of Behavior Therapy, Krakow, October 15–16, 2022. Special guests attended with their lectures: Julie Vargas (daughter of B.F. Skinner), Andy Bondi (the co-author of the PECS) and Neil Martin (the representative of Behavior Analyst Certification Board).

Sociedad Mexicana de Análisis de la Conducta

BY ROSALINDA ARROYO

During October 2022, our society held, for the first time in its history, its annual Convention in the city of Oaxaca, which, in addition to providing the opportunity for the society to enter into a collaboration agreement with the local and only public state university, allowed behavior analysis to be brought closer to a part of our country which historically hasn't had the opportunity.

Our XXXI Convention took place from 26 to 28 of October and included 10 guest speakers and 203 papers presented (symposia and poster sessions) and we had more than 350 people register.

During this Convention, to recognize and honor those who have dedicated their academic lives to behavioral science, the society granted the Trajectory Awards to Dr. Laura Acuña and Dr. Daniel Gómez-Fuentes. Likewise, as a promotion strategy for new behavior analysts, we held the 4th National Contest for the best undergraduate and postgraduate Theses in behavior analysis, with Daniel Gaistardo and Jamne Dávila being awarded, respectively.

Given the diversity and breadth of our country, starting this year a new strategy was implemented to promote collaboration among members of our society. Mainly, the creation of regional networks, and establishing a commissioner for each of them, so it is expected that for our next meeting, new joint collaborations will be presented.

Additionally, we had the first meeting of the Women's Special Group in Behavior Analysis (WSGBA), this group has as its main goal the promotion, development, and dissemination of the knowledge and research carried out by Mexican women in behavior analysis as well as to highlight the role and leadership of women and serving as a link between young female students and recognized female practitioners with a data-driven perspective, for that enterprise in this year we will launch a Facebook page (@GEMAC in Spanish) and a website.

The Mexican Journal of Behavior Analysis (MJBA), which is edited by this Society, welcomed our new editor for the English language, Dr. Cristiano Valerio dos Santos, and the General Editor, Dr. Carlos Flores presented a new web page for the journal which could be consulted at: rmac-mx.org.

Finally, we are glad to announce that our next Convention will be held from 18 to 20 of October in Hermosillo, Sonora. More information about it will be available in our web page www.smac.org.mx.

Swedish ABA

BY DAG STROMBERG

The Swedish Association for Behavior Analysis (SWABA) had 221 members at the end of 2022, an 8% increase since 2021. The chapter continued its activity on social media; at the end of 2022, 1628 people were following SWABA on Facebook, a 16% increase since 2021. The association also has accounts on Twitter, LinkedIn, and Instagram, all with an increasing number of followers.

SWABA's fall meeting place took place October 1st, 2022, in Stockholm, as a hybrid event. We enjoyed presentations by Hampus Bejnö on the Autism Program Rating Scale, by Martin Lardén on reducing criminal recidivism, and by Sigrídur Soffía Sigurjonsdóttir (Iceland) on feedback. Also, Tiina Holmberg Bergman and Ola Stadig presented a newly published anthology for parents of school-aged children with autism.

The annual meeting took place March 25th, 2023, in Stockholm, again a hybrid event. The day included a presentation on NeuroACT by Johan Pahnke, and another one about a new book on supervision of Early Intensive Behavioral Interventions, by Tobias Rasmussen and Oscar Strömberg. There was also a discussion led by Lise Roll-Pettersson and Elin Mellgren, concerning the impacts of the recent (2022) national guidelines for Autism and ADHD by the National Board of Health and Welfare, currently recommending EIBI for children with autism. Furthermore, the recipient of the fourth annual "SWABA-prize" was announced: as a recognition of his important work in disseminating behavior analysis in Sweden, in the context of Organizational Behavior Management, the prize was awarded to Rolf Olofsson.

During the year, SWABA's president has participated in a network that meets twice per year, connecting six different Swedish associations for behavior analysis, contextual behavior science, and/or various types of behavior therapy, as well as a newly started Swedish-speaking behavior therapy association in Finland.

SWABA is also involved in a collaboration between representatives from the Nordic countries (Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden), discussing quality assurance of behavior analysis within a Nordic context.

SWABA was represented at the 2023 ABAI Annual Convention in Denver. As usual, a poster was presented at the ABAI Expo. In addition, in 2022, the SWABA board was in contact with the ABAI Executive Council to clarify our standpoint against the use of contingent electric skin shock.

Our association supports the formation of special

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

SWABA would like to encourage anyone who plans to visit Sweden or other countries in Scandinavia to contact the board (info@swaba.se), to explore the possibility of meeting and/or lecturing. SWABA holds its annual meeting during the first quarter of each year and a fall meeting/conference in September or October. Our fall meeting of 2023 will take place in October, in Stockholm. Please visit the SWABA website for updates concerning the program.

Taiwan ABA

BY LI-TSUN WANG

The last year was the year when the Covid-19 epidemic affected Taiwan the most, children in school from preschool to college needed to study on-line, the situation prompted some telehealth services to rise in Taiwan, but most parents still got used to taking children for special kids by face-to-face services, so children met been stopped their therapies for a while, these affect their learning very much and these situation let parents most spend more time to reschedule children's routine in the home. At the start of 2023, the covid-19 seems to become gradually stable, and this will be helpful for more ABA services in institutions and schools. The following were activities during 2022 in Taiwan ABA (TABA), and most of them were online, and from July to December, the activities also invited parents or therapists on China to joint. And Taiwan ABA collected feedback from audiences for these to set up the topic for 2023 academic conference, we thank for those participants to provide opinion. These will promote better practice for Taiwan's ABA development.

- During April to July, TABA held 3 lectures for parents, BCaBAs and BCBAAs, each was three hours. The presentation topics include "Apply PBS to kinder gardens and home settings," lecturer was Dr. Pei-Fang Rachel Wu, "Overcoming challenges of Conducting a Center-Based Social Skills Class for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders" and "ABA and the Treatment of Pediatric Feeding Disorders for Children with ASD," during lectures besides the basic behavior principles and lecturer illustrated some examples for promote application. A total of 185 participants and some of them joined two to three lectures, and 87 of them got type II continuing education credit by these events.
- And during September to November 2022, TABA held four lectures for parents and therapists still online, each was two hours, and the ethics topic provided type II continuing education credit. Including "Ethical and

Legal Concerns in Behavioral Interventions for High-Risk Behaviors” lecturer was Dr. Grace Ho(BCBA-D), “Teaching Self-Determination for children with special needs” lecturer was Dr. Chen-Ya Juan, “Teaching Pretend Play for special Kids” lecturer was Yu-Hsuan Chen(B.Ed. BCaBA) and “The frequent problems and better ways for transition of Special Children from Kindergarten to early elementary School Stage” lecturer was special education teacher Mr. Wang Yana. About the above events, 121 participants attended these lectures.

- The web promoting to introduce and recommend literature and review literature about ABA research or practice on JABA or other Journals by short summary abstracts in Chinese, there were 6 abstracts on TABA’s web during 2022, through this way encouraged people more easily to select and find papers. And will continue these to 2023. And Board of Taiwan ABA will plan invite senior BCBA to hold a discussion session to let Taiwan ABA’s member deep learning and touching literatures, to know more trends and new practical improvements.

About the year 2023

TABA annual academic conference was on 5/7 and 5/8, and focused on the topic” The Applied Behavior Analysis Recent Research and Clinical Practice in Treatment of behavioral problems”, we invited Dr. James King, BCBA-D, who is the program director, ABA Department in SEEK Inc., and Dr. Grace Ho to lecture, will welcome different area workers, such as teachers of special education, therapists, and behavior analysts attend, and will provide continuing education credits.

2023 Taiwan ABA will still hold several training sessions, like lectures or workshops, and most will be online and hope to have a chance to provide training face to face. The topic of workshop during 2023, focus on behavior problems, also invite professors and practitioners to speak teach self-determination for special kids in more detail and practically, and We will keep on our mission to spread knowledge of behavior analysis to professionals and parents, promote the science in Taiwan, to held more lectures or workshops to provide behavior analyst’s continuing education credits, and to fulfill audience’s need in future.

Taiwan ABA Team has big plans to set up the system which Taiwan’s localization behavior analysts’ certificate, and more professors and practitioners will joint Taiwan’s ABA’s board. get together to promote ABA services as more diverse, ethical, and professional in Taiwan, and keep spreading the better ABA practice. ❖

Updates From ABAI’s Special Interest Groups Culture and Diversity Annual Report

During the past year the SIG group has been inactive. The president has experienced some personal problems that have prevent him from completing all his duties. However, we can report that we have accepted new members in the Facebook group. In addition, our secretary has been very active participating in podcasts speaking about equity and systems change and advocating for inclusive higher education in individuals with autism. Our continuous goal for this year consists of increasing social media presence, developing a website, and creating a podcast with themes related to inclu-sion, diversity, and culture in different countries. In addition, we have not made changes to our by-laws. In our SIG we are always open to including people from different cultural, racial, and sexual backgrounds. In fact, most of our current Facebook members are from different groups. We have not completed an activity targeting DEI activities; however, we hope to accomplish this goal during this year.

2022 Experimental Analysis of Human Behavior Annual Report

The SIG remains focused on our three primary goals: Promoting the experimental analysis of human behavior and basic behavioral research by encouraging student research and scholarship in EAHB, by recognizing outstanding career-long contributions to the field, and by maintaining an outlet for publishing human operant research. Due to the conference being held online, the SIG again had to postpone many of its activities. Additionally, due to COVID challenges, the award presentation for Dr. Timothy Hackenberg, Professor of Psychology at Reed College on cross-species comparisons of behavior and the processes by which we may separate species from procedural differences will occur next year when we are confident the event will be well-attended. The EAHB SIG continues to increase the size of its membership (currently 120 ABA members) by i) presenting a poster at the ABA Expo, ii) by promoting the annual Distinguished Contributions Award address, and iii) increasing the visibility of the EAHB Bulletin.

The SIG also has undergone a transition of leadership. After 8 years of masterfully managing all SIG activities, Drs. J. Adam Bennett and Kathryn Kestner will be stepping down as Chair and Vice-Chair, respectively. Their contributions to the SIG are doubtlessly uncountable and they will be missed dearly. In their place, Dr. David Cox will take over as the SIG Chair and Dr. Catherine

Williams will assume the role of Vice-Chair. Dr. Stephanie Jimenez will, to the fortune of the incoming chairs, remain on as the SIG Treasurer.

In the coming year, activities will include reviews of manuscripts for 2022 Bulletin release (likely December), settling into SIG roles for the new chairs, and an updating of the tech stack to help coordinate and facilitate SIG activities.

Membership in the EAHB SIG is open to all individuals who are interested in the SIG's aim, mission, or objectives. Members do not have to be members of ABAI and membership is currently free. Check out our website for more details: www.eahb.org/.

Forensic Behavior Analysis— Special Interest Group

TIMOTHY J. TEMPLIN, MA, BCBA

Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) has been useful in addressing societal problems related to the criminal justice field. For example, the role of teaching family homes in reducing recidivism and prison drug programs. An important impact has been on the treatment of adolescents and children to improve parenting for conduct disorder and reduce aggressive behavior and assaults in school.

Our Special Interest Group (SIG) has undergone some important changes in the last year.

We have elected a slate of officers to serve four roles. We have changed the name from the previous Crime, Delinquency, and Forensic Behavior Analysis to Forensic Behavior Analysis (FBA). We have a website under development and have been producing newsletters and video content for our members. Our total membership has now grown over 2,000 at the time of this writing.

To ensure that those in the criminal justice fields have access to appropriate, evidence-based, behavior analytic, therapeutic resources to reduce crime and delinquency. SIG members have testified on behavioral intervention to reduce crime. Continued advocacy and research are needed to make behavior analytic services available to criminal justice, mental health, military and veterans' fields and to document the efficacy of behavior analysis in these applications.

Two SIG Members presented at the ABAI 49th Annual Convention in Denver, CO. Details are below:

Title: Behavior Analysis, Functional Relationships, and Criminal Justice Symposium #203

Hyatt Regency, Centennial Ballroom H

Date: Sunday, May 28, 2023

Time: 12:00–12:50 PM

Behavior Analysis Assists the Criminal Justice System,

Timothy Templin (Endicott College)

There are many uses of behavior analysis to further the

study of criminology, or otherwise assist in criminal or civil legal proceedings, as well as juvenile or adult correctional programs. Areas of interest related to this field have been reviewed in the literature, and in current practice, for this presentation. Among areas where ABA can branch into criminal justice include prevention of domestic violence, organizational behavior management for police officers, and restoration programs for competency to stand trial. The dissemination of ABA within the criminal justice field is also important, and the different areas of focus are covered by the Forensic Behavior Analysis (FBA) Special Interest Group (SIG) within the Association for Behavior Analysis International (ABAI).

Behavioral Contingencies in Homicide,

Kodey Lai (Arizona State University)

Behavior analysis has the goal of being able to change behavior, specifically to describe, predict and control behavior. The assumption is that an individual's learning history will affect their chosen actions and behaviors. Using this assumption, behavior analysis claims to predict and control behavior. There should be consistency in how homicide offenders act using this principle, in their past behavior, criminal history, and behaviors at the crime scene.

Information from an individual's learning history of previous years should therefore make it easier to predict homicide offenders. In this presentation, behavior analytic principles will be used to analyze behaviors and permanent products that are observable at the crime scene to show characteristics that should be present in everyday life, even with offenders of homicide.

A quarterly meeting is planned for the SIG to further the goals of improving our website, increasing membership, and offering career advice for those interested in this exciting field. Timothy J. Templin, MA, BCBA Forensic Behavior Analysis Special Interest Group—Director of Public Relations.

Gambling SIG

BY GSIG OFFICERS

The Gambling Special Interest Group (GSIG) is a home base for behaviorists interested in gambling research and treatment. Our mission is to foster the growth of gambling research in behavior analysis through collaborative research efforts, the coordination of researchers and ideas, and the sharing of resources for the mutual benefit of the field, its adherents, and those who are impacted by such endeavors. We invite interested parties to join the GSIG for free; whether your interest relates to research, treatment, policy, all the above, or more broadly about risk and choice, we bet you will find the GSIG resources and literature on the behavioral analysis of gambling rewarding. Our website (gsig.squarespace.com) is where prospective members

can get information about the GSIG and join our group. The website also houses research software. Each program represents hours of work or finances staked by a behavioral researcher, and each program is completely free to our members. Our members are in the process of updating our software and plan to have new software on Github. Persons interested in gambling should also visit Analysis of Gambling Behavior at repository.stcloudstate.edu/agb for a journal devoted to behavioral research. The GSIG has had a long relationship with Analysis of Gambling Behavior, as many GSIG members have supported the journal in various roles over the years. Last year we collaborated with the journal to get the back issues online, from the first issue to the present.

History of Behavior Analysis

EDWARD K. MORRIS, PRESIDENT

The History of Behavior Analysis (HoBA) Special Interest Group (SIG) of the Association for Behavior Analysis International (ABAI) was founded in 2011. Our Listserv was established in 2012. Our first business meeting was held at the 2013 ABAI convention and has been held there annually since, except during the COVID-19 pandemic. As of March 2023, we had about 284 members. This was up a dozen from last year, but our membership is basically stable. To join the SIG and the ListServe, contact Pat Williams (University of Houston-Downtown) at WilliamsP@uhd.edu.

Aim, Mission, Objectives, Purview, and Audience

The SIG's aim is to advance behavior analysis nationally and internationally through its history and historiography. Our mission is to cultivate and nurture, enrich, and improve, and disseminate the field's history and historiography. Our objectives are to enhance teaching the history of behavior analysis (e.g., course content, pedagogy); to enhance research on its history (e.g., historiography) and its dissemination (e.g., presentations, publications); and to enhance service to the field's history in the SIG and ABAI (e.g., leadership, governance, communications). Our purview is the field's long past (599 B.C.E.–1900), short history (1900–1930), and recent origins (1930–present). Our audience includes behavior analysts, other scientists and humanists, and the public at large.

Reasons and Rationales

Jack Michael (2004) offered the following reasons and rationales for teaching and researching the field's history and historiography: *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)

More specifically, the history and historiography of

behavior analysis place the discipline, its sub-disciplines, and its practices in relation to each other. The field has breadth and depth beyond any one of them. Its history and historiography reveal the interdependence of the field's system, its sciences, and its practices. The field is more than the sum of its parts. Its history and historiography also address the field's relation to other sciences and the humanities. The field is defined, in part, by its comparisons and contrasts with them.

History and historiography also have more general rationales. The Roman philosopher Marcus Tullius Cicero (106–43 BCE) offered among the first: “Those who know only their own generation remain children forever.” Another is based on an observation by the American author and humorist, Mark Twain (1835–1910), about travel—but here “History”—in *The Innocents Abroad*: [History] is fatal to prejudice, bigotry, and narrow-mindedness, and many of our people need it sorely on these accounts. Broad, wholesome, charitable views of men and things cannot be acquired by vegetating in one little corner of the earth all one's lifetime. (Twain, 1869, p. 243).

Perhaps the most common rationale is attributed to the Spanish-American philosopher, George Santayana (1863–1952): “Those who do not learn from history are doomed to repeat it” (Santayana, 1905). Benjamin Farrington (1949) summarizes these and other rationales in almost a behavior-analytic idiom: *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; see also Coleman, 1995)

More recently, Carl Sagan (1934–1996) observed, “You have to know the past to understand the present.” (www.queslyfe.com), on which Ibram X. Kendi (1982–present) elaborated: “To know the past is to know the present. To know the present is to know yourself” (Reynolds & Kendi, 2020, p. ix).

Membership

Our membership is open to anyone interested in the history and historiography of behavior analysis. This includes (a) all ABAI members; (b) members of other behavior-analytic organizations, including Division 25 for Behavior Analysis of the American Psychological Association (APA), the Cambridge Center for Behavioral Studies, and the B. F. Skinner Foundation; (c) members of organizations outside of behavior analysis, including APA Division 26 for the Society for the History of Psychology, the International Society for the History of the Behavioral Sciences (aka Cheiron), and the History of Science Society; and (d) independent scholars. The SIG's members need not be members of ABAI. We have no membership fee.

Governance

Until recently, the SIG’s governance has consisted of its founding president, Edward K. Morris (University of Kansas), and a vice-president, Karen Wagner (Behavior Service of Brevard, FL). Pat Williams (University of Houston-Downtown) is our Listserv owner and moderator. The SIG’s near-future goals are to broaden its leadership and governance (see below).

Business Meeting

Our main activities have been hosting a ListServ for our members, a website (in process), and an annual business meeting at the ABAI conference. To summarize the minutes of our last meeting in 2022:

- Despite the size of the SIG’s membership, attendance at the business meetings has been modest the last several years (e.g., K. Wagner and n ~4-8 members), compared to earlier years (n ~20). Behavioral gerontology
- The low attendance probably reflects the SIG’s lack of engagement with its members other than through its Listserv. The SIG’s activities have not changed since its founding—and neither has its leadership.
- Tin 2022, the SIG leadership, and the audience discussed changes in the SIG’s structure and functions, the most fundamental of which is to establish By-Laws. This would:
- Formalize the SIG’s structure (e.g., governance, Executive Council)
- Expand the SIG’s purview (e.g., committees, positions) Set a calendar for elections and the succession of leadership (e.g., positions, voting, terms)

In expanding the SIG’s purview, the leadership and audience in 2022 and 2023 considered further the functions the SIG could address, in part, through a committee structure. This might include a membership committee (e.g., growth, diversity), finance committee (e.g., dues, donations, IRS status), website committee (e.g., management, communications), publications committee (e.g., a newsletter), program committee (e.g., conference posters, papers, symposia), education committee (e.g., a syllabus bank), dissemination committee (e.g., bibliographies, a YouTube directory), obituary committee (e.g., published obituaries), archival committee (e.g., listing and promoting archives), awards committee (e.g., for the best annual HoBA presentation or publication), and a history of ABAI and ABAI SIGs committee (e.g., for their website).

Goals for 2023

The SIG’s goals this year were to establish By-Laws and a committee structure. The SIG president took the lead, but SIG members were invited to participate (see ekm@ku.edu).

Preliminary by-laws and committees were developed last spring and discussed and voted on at the May 2023 Business Meeting at ABAI held on Sunday, May 28 from 7:00 to 8:00 PM in the Hyatt Regency, Mineral Hall E. Please join us. The future of history looks bright.

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Naturalistic Developmental Behavioral Intervention SIG

The Naturalistic Developmental Behavioral Intervention (NDBI) SIG is proud to share its third annual report. The NDBI SIG was founded in May of 2020 by Sophia D’Agostino (president), Melanie Pellecchia (member at large), Elizabeth Horton (secretary-treasurer), Emma Sipila-Thomas (student member/secretary-treasurer), Ana Dueñas (member at large), Amy Matthews (member at large), and Meghan Kane (member at large). The NDBI SIG aims to bring together professionals who have an interest in understanding and advancing the dissemination and implementation of Naturalistic Developmental Behavioral Interventions for individuals with autism spectrum and related dis-orders. The NDBI SIG has three primary purposes: (1) Advance the understanding of NDBI among behavior analysts; (2) Disseminate the latest research and practice related to NDBI in the treatment of individuals with autism; (3) Provide a forum for behavior analysts interested in NDBI to network and collaborate.

NDBIs are empirically validated interventions implemented in natural settings using components from developmental and behavioral science. Common examples of NDBI approaches include Incidental Teaching, Pivotal Response Treatment, Early Start Denver Model, Enhanced Milieu Training and many more. To bring parsimony to the field, Schreibman et al. (2015) proposed the common use of the term NDBI to refer to interventions that combine ABA with developmental science. The core elements of NDBIs as identified by Frost et al. (2020) include (1) face-to-face on the child’s level, (2) follow child’s lead, (3) use positive affect and animation, (4) model appropriate language (5) respond to communicative attempts, (6) use communicative temptations, (7) provide frequent direct teaching episodes, and (8) provide quality direct teaching episodes. A recent

meta-analysis recognized NDBI as a promising intervention approach for children with autism (Sandbank et al., 2020). Please see our website (linked below) for a list of recent NDBI publications and other re-sources including handouts, videos, and books to learn more about NDBI.

During the past year, we have maintained a website (sites.google.com/sdsu.edu/ndbispecialinterestgroup/home), twitter account (@ndbigroup), and Facebook group (www.facebook.com/NDBI-Special-Interest-Group-for-ABAI-106003411312893) designed to grow interest in NDBI and share links to relevant resources. Our group hosted bi-monthly NDBI focused article discussions (provided CE at no charge) led by members. In addition, a subset of members has focused on writing publications with the underlying mission to support wide-scale implementation of NDBI. Further, NDBI SIG leaders presented a series of three NDBI-focused webinars for Behavior University. Our plans for the upcoming year include the continuation of bimonthly article discussions, creation of additional visuals and other handouts to increase the understanding of NDBI, and peer-reviewed NDBI publications. We also hope to support NDBI research and/or ABAI conference funding for graduate students.

To become a SIG member or if you are interested in learning more about NDBI, please contact us at NDBISIG@gmail.com. Membership is currently free and we welcome anyone to join. We hope to engage more practitioners in discussions around NDBI and provide resources to increase NDBI implementation.

Occupational Therapy Applied Behavior Analysis SIG

BY AMY STANGO

Mission

The occupational therapy special interest group's mission is to promote the development and dissemination of behaviorally oriented occupational therapy research, and to promote interdisciplinary collaboration between behavior analytic and occupational therapy professionals. This collaboration between occupational therapists and behavior analysts is a boon for members of the public who receive services to address deficits in meaningful behaviors, or occupations, such as activities of daily living, education, work, play, leisure, social participation, and rest and sleep.

Gratitude

The occupational therapy SIG is grateful for the support of the ABAI members who helped to form the group: Jessica Dean, Adrienne Fitzner, Jenna Weisz, Susan Silvestri, Kristine Quinby, Josh Pritchard, Hallie Ertel, Christine Barthold, Ansley Hodges, Lina Slim-Topdijan, Rebecca Tagg, and Amy Stango. We also wish to extend our thanks to the Speech Pathology Applied Behavior Analysis

(SPABA) SIG, which has offered ongoing support in the development of our SIG.

Membership

The occupational therapy SIG provides a significant amount of free access to SIG information and interaction through our Facebook group. We have 3,027 Facebook users who have joined our SIG in this manner.

Financial

There are currently no fees associated with joining the occupational therapy SIG.

Sig Member Activities

The occupational therapy SIG was formed during the COVID-19 pandemic, and to date, the interactions of group members have been virtual. Formal and informal members of the SIG have been active conducting research, disseminating information regarding evidence-based practice, applying the principles of applied behavior analysis to the research and treatment of occupational performance, publishing scholarly articles, conducting webinars, creating digital material, speaking and conducting workshops at professional conventions, and mentoring students in both the fields of ABA and occupational therapy.

The Open Educational Resources SIG

BY VERONICA J. HOWARD,

FOUNDING MEMBER OF THE ABAI OER SIG

Cost and access are significant barriers to recruiting diverse future behavior analysts. For example, up to 60% of undergraduate students skip purchasing textbooks due to cost (Florida Virtual Campus, 2018), jeopardizing their ability to learn the material and be successful in classes. Students also report that the cost of educational materials is a significant barrier to success, requiring them to choose between basic living expenses such as rent and food or their course materials (The Hope Center, 2021), which has only been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic (US PIRG, 2021). Free and openly licensed educational resources improve student success and retention, particularly among groups historically underrepresented in college (e.g., Fischer et al., 2015, Colvard et al., 2018).

Our volunteer-led community seeks to promote educational affordability by promoting the use of Open Access (zero cost) and openly licensed Open Educational Resources (OER) to better support students and promote diversity, equity, and inclusion in the field of behavior analysis. Open Educational Resources are teaching, learning, and research resources that are free of cost and access barriers. Their copyright licenses share permissions to allow anyone to freely use, adapt, and share those

resources through the “5R’s”: Retain, Reuse, Revise, Remix and Redistribute (opencontent.org).

The SIG is committed to offering events and resources that are as accessible as possible, namely through digital access free of geographical restriction and cost barriers.

Mission

The Open Educational Resources SIG aims to promote the adoption, creation, and dissemination of open educational resources in behavior analysis. We do this by providing educational events and opportunities to teach about the value of low-cost educational, training, and research resources. We also build community, providing a forum for OER creators to collaborate on new projects and highlight amazing new resources, reducing the individual workload required to create and manage OERs. We also work to disseminate news about OER and the empirical benefits of these resources within and beyond our membership.

Governance

Our community is led by President Brian Middleton (Bearded Behaviorist/Mindful Behavior). Our board includes Ryan Sain (Mary Baldwin University/PsychCore) and Tara Fahmie (Monroe-Meyer Institute), with a newly elected board member joining our ranks in May 2023. Our Secretary/Treasurer is Veronica Howard (Mary Baldwin University).

Events and Activities

The SIG has offered numerous CE events for the community, including:

- “The Environment in which ABA Evolved: The History of ABA in its Historical Context” with Dr. Chris Barthold (January 2022)
- “Taking a Structured Approach to Staff Performance Needs using the Performance Diagnostic Checklist-Human Services (PDC-HS)” with Dr. Tyra Sellers (May 2022)
- “COVID on Campus: Interventions to Mitigate Viral Spread and Severe Illness at a University” with Dr. Rachel Potter (June 2022)
- “A Values-focused Approach to Solving Ethical Dilemmas” w/ Dr. Barbara Kaminski and Kate Fox (December 2022)
- “Solving Today’s Ethical Dilemmas - a Values-Focused Approach” w/ Kate Fox and Dr. Barbara Kaminski (January 2023)
- “Going Beyond the Code: The Effect of Teaching Decision Tree Use on Students’ Ethical Choice-Making Behavior” with Christy Evanko and Dr. Kelly Matthews (February 2023)
- “Affirming Practice in the Context of the LGBTQ+ Community: Professional & Ethical Considerations” w/ Rose Froelich & Dr. Rachel Potter (March 2023)

- “Uncovering the Open Educational Resource: Behavioral Pedagogies and Online Learning” w/ Dr. Adam Brewer, Dr. Mirari Elcoro, & Aura Lippencott (March 2023)
- “Relational Frame Theory and Acceptance and Commitment Training - The Basics and Connections” w/ Dr. Scott Herbst (April 2023)

Additional events were offered in May and beyond. These sessions are available for free for our members and can be accessed for review through our OER SIG member forum. Membership in the SIG is free and is not bound by membership requirements to any organizations.

SIG leadership also shared resources to the community, including links to related groups’ conferences, free-to-access webinars, and openly published resources in the interdisciplinary Open community.

2023 Goals

The community is gearing up for another year of amazing CE opportunities plus some ambitious new projects, including the development of openly licensed resources to teach introductory-level content in behavior analysis. We will also be institutionalizing many of our SIG activities in formal policies and procedures to promote continuity in our first administrative change since the COVID pandemic began. Volunteers and leaders are needed, so if you’d like to learn more, reach out to the OER SIG!

Get Involved!

The OER SIG is open to any behavior analysts working in research, teaching, and practice who are interested in promoting the free and open dissemination of behavior analytic materials using open licenses. All contributions to the community are eagerly welcomed, and we encourage anyone interested in making the field more accessible to learn more about our SIG at www.openbehaviorsig.org/.

OBM Network Annual Report: March 2023

Overview

Founded in 1982, the Organizational Behavior Management (OBM) Network exists to develop, enhance, and support the growth and vitality of Organizational Behavior Management through research, education, practice, and collaboration. Our members are consultants, managers, professors, and students who research and apply the science of behavior in organizations in areas such as Performance Management, Behavior-Based Safety, Behavioral Systems Analysis, Consumer Behavior Analysis, Health and Wellness, Monetary Incentive Systems, Training and Development, and Leadership and Culture.

OBM Network Strategy

The OBM Network crossed a major milestone in 2022, celebrating its 40th anniversary since our founding. As the demand for OBM continues to grow, it is our priority to ensure the high quality of OBM research, education, and application.

This past September a small group of OBM Network members met in Ponte Verde Beach, Florida during the Florida Association for Behavior Analysis (FABA) conference to align on a vision for the OBM field and to clarify the OBM Network's role in serving that vision.

Members who participated in this discussion included: Abigail Blackman, Nicole Gravina, Andressa Sleiman, Matt Laske, Lori Ludwig, Tim Ludwig, Nicholas Matey, Anna McCalpin, Mellanie Page, Sharlet Rafacz, and Dave Wilder.

We answered 2 questions: 1) Where do we want to see OBM as a field in the next 5-10 years? 2) How can the OBM Network help serve this vision?

We agreed on a vision: Our vision for OBM is to grow through dissemination of the science/application while maintaining quality standards across OBM practitioners, academics, and researchers.

This vision is broader than the OBM Network alone; it also involves universities and businesses. We all need to work together to ensure the quality of OBM research and practice. The OBM Network can contribute to this vision by:

- Serving as the main hub for OBM resources, learning, and collaboration to ensure quality.
- Building relationships with other ABAA SIGs, ABAA chapters, universities, businesses, and others so that the OBM Network is recognized as the place to go for OBM needs/questions/quality criteria.
- Retaining members to keep OBMs connected over time.

We accomplish this now through conferences, access to our flagship journal, the Journal of Organizational Behavior Management, newsletters, a membership portal with multiple networking and sharing features, and other special projects. The special projects we are excited about delivering to the OBM Community in 2023 include: special themed newsletters, webinars and podcasts with top experts in our field, and an OBM instructors' group for those who teach OBM to come for recommended syllabi, advice, and best practices.

There is a lot of work to do and it couldn't be done without the numerous volunteers who care about the quality growth of our field. The following individuals are those who are leading the way forward for the OBM Network today:

- Board of Directors: Anna McCalpin (President), Doug Johnson (Incoming President), Sharlet Rafacz (Past President), Lori Ludwig (Executive Director), Adam Warman (Director of Finance), Shannon Biagi (Director of Operations), Grace Bartle (Director of Outreach)
- Awards and Student Research Grant: Andressa Sleiman, Byron Wine
- Newsletters: Daniel Cymbal, Sebastian Jimenez, Natasha Miller
- Webinars/Podcasts: Matt Laske, Andressa Sleiman
- Research & Education Committee: Denys Brand, Flo DiGennaro Reed, Sharlet Rafacz (Chair), Nicole Gravina, Doug Johnson, Lori Ludwig, Andressa Sleiman, Lori Ludwig
- Ambassadors: Tim Ludwig, Kelly Therrien, Grace Bartle, Eliza Goben

Membership

Currently, the OBM Network has 393 members (286 Full; 106 Students). Full Members are current professionals in the field of OBM and other related practice areas. Student Members are currently enrolled in a formal academic program in higher education.

Membership benefits include access to an interactive membership portal with exclusive member-only content, subscription to the Journal of Organizational Behavior Management, eligibility to apply for the Chris D. Anderson Student Research Grant, the Outstanding Innovative OBM Intervention Award, and vote in the annual election for the OBM Network President.

Conferences

- Recordings from our 2022 OBM Conference invited speakers are available for members on the OBM Network website. This hybrid conference took place in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of the Florida Association for Behavior Analysis (FABA) in September, 2022. The conference drew 335 attendees.
- The OBM Network is partnering with Black Association for Behavior Analysis (BABA) in sponsoring an OBM track at their annual meeting on June 16-19, 2023 in Detroit, Michigan.

Student Research Grant

Chris D. Anderson Student Research Grant

The Chris Anderson Research Award program fosters traditional research in OBM relevant to organizational settings. Recipients of this grant use behavior analytic methods, include specific behavioral targets as part of organizational change strategies, and present individual subject information or appropriate statistical tests to document group effects. This grant has been awarded to 14 students since 2007. The 2022 grant recipient was Abigail

Blackman for her research: The effects of virtual training and self-monitoring on leading a meeting.

Awards

Lifetime Achievement Award

This award has been given to 20 individuals since 1988 who have fundamentally advanced our understanding or application of behavioral principles in organizational settings. Past recipients of this award have been individuals whose contributions have significantly advanced the field of OBM. In 2022, we honored the late Thomas Mawhinney, to reflect on his mentorship, dedication, and dissemination of OBM.

Outstanding Contribution Award

This award has been given to 20 individuals since 1992 who have made significant and measured contributions to the field. The 2022 Outstanding Contribution Award recipient was Cloyd Hyten.

Innovative Research Award:

The OBM Network gives the Innovative Research Award to authors of the most innovative research published in the Journal of Organizational Behavior Management each year. An awards Committee independently reviews and scores articles to determine the winner. This award has been awarded to authors of 6 journal articles since 2016. The most recent recipients were Seth Walker & Tyra Sellers for their research: Teaching Appropriate Feedback Reception Skills Using Computer-Based Instruction: A Systematic Replication.

Outstanding Applied OBM Intervention Award

This award has been given to 3 organizations since 2018 who use OBM techniques to achieve measurable results. There were no awards given in 2020–2022.

Positive Behavior Support Annual Report

The Positive Behavior Support Special Interest Group (PBS-SIG) promotes 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 PBS SIG's main objective is to create awareness of how behavior analytic principles are applied in PBS activities and promote PBS interventions in schools, communities, agencies, and homes, and supporting practitioners in its use. The PBS SIG members are those engaged in experimental and applied analyses of behavior who are interested in positive behavior support. The SIG was established in 2005 and has experienced four presidents since its inception. There are 1.9K

members in the Behavior Analysts for Positive Behavior Support Facebook group, a 46% increase from 2021. The PBS-SIG values include person-centered planning, socially significant outcomes, networking/partnership, dissemination, and broad applications of PBS. For 2023 the PBS-SIG will evaluate SIG needs and continue to implement short- and long-term goals focusing on the following areas:

- Transitioning from a SIG Leadership Team to a SIG Board with acting board members.
- Development of a Social Media Campaign to expand across multiple platforms.
- Increase SIG Leadership Team presence on the Behavior Analysts for Positive Behavior Support Facebook page.
- Increase participation through networking and partnership opportunities.

Anyone interested in behavior analysis and positive behavior support is welcome to join the SIG. Currently, the membership is free. To become involved, email Jodie Soracco at soraccoja@vcu.edu.

Rehabilitation and Independent Living Special Interest Group 2023 Annual Report

The Rehabilitation and Independent Living Special Interest Group (R.a.I.L.), established in 1981, continues to support and promote the acceptance of Behavior Analysis as an integral discipline in rehabilitation, neurorehabilitation, and related areas, especially for those individuals that have experienced a brain and neurological injury. Patients with acquired brain injuries or other neurological disabilities often require behavior analysts to develop treatment programs in settings such as hospitals, free-standing clinics, and private rehabilitation facilities with multidisciplinary teams. These patients/individuals may also be dealing with complex, related medical conditions, intense psychosocial challenges, and significant disruption to their lives.

The Rehabilitation and Independent Living SIG has been a small group of dedicated and engaged rehabilitation treatment professionals, including BCBAs, who meet and communicate innovative ideas, gather support to expand the field, and compare program and treatment challenges. Since the pandemic, it has remained difficult to connect group members considering the current health care environments. Over the last ten years, the R.a.I.L. SIG has hosted participants from multiple states and from as far away as India, Canada, and Ireland. The primary function and event for the R.a.I.L. SIG continues to be

the group meeting at the annual ABAI conference. Active and engaged discussions have resulted in plans for future development and growth. The neurologically impaired population was impacted by the effects of COVID-19 and their mental health issues were compounded by reduced ability to receive the vital rehabilitation treatment they require. Health care professionals have also continued to navigate the challenges of cultural, political, environmental, and mental health issues that face our communities.

At last year's annual conference meeting, the group was excited to discuss collaboration with the neuroscience SIG. This type of connection would allow for both groups to support the concepts behind the relationship of neurology, behavior, and ABA service vital voice in this arena. Another challenge facing the R.a.I.L. SIG was recognition of the core population represented by the group, neurologically impaired individuals. The name of the SIG may not convey the message well however it is steeped in history within the organization. More discussion to follow.

The SIG continues to support expanding the understanding of brain injury and the need for behavior services. R.a.I.L. SIG members previously helped develop, with the BACB, a long-term action plan for growing the field of behavior analysis in acquired brain injury. Recently, a R.a.I.L. SIG member co-authored an article published in *The Journal of Head Trauma Rehabilitation* regarding behavior interventions in brain injury rehabilitation. There was a consensus that more research and contributions are needed from professionals in the space to expand the knowledge base in this area. This further points to the great need for practical training and supervision of students including internship opportunities and partnerships between current treatment programs and BCBA verified practicum programs remains. Collaboration amongst treating BCBAs and other professionals is vital to successfully integrating sound practices into rehabilitation settings. Finally, guidelines for behavior treatment in brain injury rehabilitation need to be formulated, research on interventions with brain injured patients has been limited and has lacked some of the rigor needed to provide valued results.

The R.A.I.L. SIG has continued to welcome members from such diverse backgrounds as physicians and brain injury professionals to students and concerned family members. The power of that diversity is evident in lively discussions, informative exchanges of information and long-standing relationships that provide much needed support. Members are encouraged to share articles, program ideas and professional experiences. Members of the R.A.I.L. SIG must be a part of the solution. The growth of the R.A.I.L. SIG has come from current members networking with their peers and having the courage to step up to significant challenges this treatment population presents.

Visit the SIG Facebook page to check it out, join, and like: www.facebook.com/pages/ABA-Rehab-Special-Interest-Group/118243448217580.

SIG Español

BY MAPY CHÁVEZ ASKINS

El SIG Español fue fundado en el 2004, y nace de la búsqueda de espacios de habla hispana para el intercambio de experiencias, ideas, recursos e iniciativas por parte de analistas del comportamiento quienes tienen como primera lengua el español, o quienes trabajan con poblaciones cuya primera lengua es el español. Nuestra misión tiene a su base establecer lazos de comunicación y colaboración entre miembros de ABAI.

Otro objetivo importante del SIG es promover la investigación en países de habla hispana, trayendo dichos resultados como presentaciones a la convención anual de ABAI. A futuro, nos interesa re-establecer oportunidades para que este intercambio pueda ocurrir en español.

El SIG Español se reúne cada año durante la Convención Anual de ABAI.

Aquellos interesados en obtener más información, o hacerse miembros, pueden comunicarse con:

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Speech Pathology Applied Behavior Analysis SIG

BY NIKIA DOWER

Mission

The Speech Pathology-Applied Behavior Analysis (SPABA) SIG mission 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 (SLPs) studying issues in speech, language, feeding, and communication, including augmentative-alternative communication.

Gratitude

The SPABA SIG is grateful for the support and guidance of former chair, Barb Esch. We would also like to thank our current officers and volunteers: Tracie Lindblad and Nikia Dower (Co-Chairs), Clodagh Murray (Grant Competition and Awards Coordinator), Heather Forbes (Treasurer), Sari Risen (Membership Coordinator), Lina Slim (Secretary), Deirdre Muldoon (Communications Coordinator), and Sophie Millon (Community of Practice Event Coordinator).

World-wide SLP-BCBA and SLP-BCaBA

We are proud to announce that there are now 490 SLPs who are BCBA's or BCaBA's worldwide. We are present in 43 states, Washington DC, Puerto Rico and 17 countries outside the United States. We continue to provide and maintain an online database of practitioners dually certified as SLPs and BCBA's/BCaBA's from around the world: www.behavioralspeech.com/search-for-an-slpbcba.html.

Membership

In our 2022–2023 membership cycle, our paid membership decreased to 20 members who provided a donation with 4 being student members. SPABA continues to provide a significant amount of free access to SIG information and interaction through social media; therefore, when the combination of formal members and SPABA Facebook group members are calculated, we are pleased to report a total of 9510 formal and informal members which is an increase of 437 from our last report. The SPABA Facebook group has enabled our members to connect with each other to share or request pertinent information in a timelier fashion. Since the decision to make the SPABA Facebook group an open group for anyone requesting to join without requiring SIG paid membership, the interest in this group continues to increase yearly.

Financial

Membership fees and donations go directly to fund our annual grant competition. For the past six years, our decision to ask for a nominal membership fee + a donation gave us mixed results. Starting in 2020 and continuing to date, great effort has been put into our membership drive as well as public displays of gratitude on social media when a member signed up and donated.

Annual Grants

SPABA offers three \$250 annual grants: the Giri Hegde Empirical Research Grant, the Barb Esch Application Grant, and the Nikia Dower Dissemination Grant. These grants are available to ABAl members who, as students or practicing clinicians, conduct empirical research or raise awareness about behavior analysis among SLPs. Research projects advance the evidence base for behavior analytic conceptualization or treatment of speech, language, communication, and feeding disorders. Application and dissemination projects 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. We are pleased to announce that several of SPABA's previous grant recipients have had their research published.

SPABA SIG did not participate in ABAl's annual conference in Denver in 2023 and as such, SPABA SIG's 2023 grant recipients presented their research virtually

after the convention. Each year, student members and practitioners may obtain updated information about submitting grant proposals for the current year on our website, www.behavioralspeech.com.

SIG Member Activities

During 2022, formal and informal members of the SIG continued to be active conducting research, disseminating information regarding evidence-based practice, applying the principles of applied behavior analysis to the research and treatment of speech, language, feeding and communication disorders in children and adults, publishing scholarly articles, conducting webinars, starting podcasts, speaking on podcasts, creating digital material, speaking and conducting workshops at professional conventions, presenting posters at professional conferences and teaching and/or mentoring students in both the fields of ABA and speech pathology. While most of these activities took place in North America, several were done internationally and as such, furthered the SIG's mission. Our members presented at least 153 times during 2022 including the ABAl 2022 Annual Convention, annual state speech/language association conferences, annual state applied behavior analysis association conferences, numerous webinars, podcasts, and a few members were interviewed on their local news channels. Many members were presenters at non-speech/non-behavior analytic conferences as well. A list of presentations can be found here: www.pinterest.com/SPABASIGofABAl/2022-slp-bcba-presentations/.

Past Initiatives

SPABA is committed to the consistent dissemination of ABAl's Interprofessional Collaborative Practice Between Behavior Analysts and Speech-Language Pathologists resource document to both behavior analysts and speech-language pathologists. We remain grateful for ABAl's initiative in producing this important document and are proud that two SPABA Executive Committee members were among the four authors.

SPABA hosts on our website the work of M.N. Hegde, PhD. His contributions to the speech- language field while applying a behavior-analytic lens is truly inspiring.

SPABA produces a periodic electronic newsletter as a paid member benefit.

Current Initiatives

SPABA has continued to offer free, community of practice events (SCOPE). Topics ranged from the Motivating Operation to ABA—Augmentative & Alternative Communication—Speech Generating Devices. In 2022, SPABA became a CE provider via the BACB. The SIG is planning on offering CEs for SCOPE in 2023 as well as offering behavior-analytic speech/language content in the form of workshops and webinars.

SPABA's ongoing and consistent social media presence helped in dissemination across disciplines. The SPABA SIG continues to be regularly active via our Facebook group, Facebook page, as well as Twitter, Instagram, Pinterest accounts and our LinkedIn page.

FUTURE INITIATIVES

The SPABA SIG Executive Committee is looking forward to expanding our membership through various initiatives, social media and increasing member participation on the executive team and within our committees. We are also planning to complete several projects over the year to support our members:

- Develop web-based tutorials and in-person courses to disseminate information regarding a behavioral approach to the study and treatment of speech, language, communication and feeding disorders in children and adults.
- Work with the Verbal Behavior SIG and Behavioral Gerontology SIG on joint programs and initiatives.
- Continue disseminating behavior analytic information to ASHA members through the ASHA community forum listserv and to US and international speech pathologists via various speech/language Facebook groups as well as presenting at speech/language conferences and conventions.
- Continue disseminating speech-language information to ABAI members and BACB certified individuals via various behavior-analytic Facebook groups and list-servs as well as presenting at ABA conferences and conventions.
- Continue disseminating interprofessional collaboration information across related disciplines and fields to maximize outcomes for shared consumers of our services. This collaboration has strong benefits and enhances communication between our related professions.

The identified initiatives are feasible only with increased financial support from our members. Please consider donating your expertise/services in kind, making financial contributions, or providing 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 the SPABA SIG, wish to volunteer to sit on a committee, or assist with a specific project, please visit us at www.behavioralspeech.com and join or follow us on social media:

Facebook Group: **SPABA.SIG**

Facebook Page: **SPABASIGofABAI**

Twitter: **SPABASIG**

Instagram: **SPABASIG**

Pinterest: **SPABASIGofABAI**

LinkedIn: **speech-pathology-applied-behavior-analysis-special-interest-group-of-abai**

Standard Celeration Society

BY THE SCS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Standard Celeration Society (SCS) became an ABAI special interest group (SIG) in 1995. The mission of the SCS aims to uphold and advance the defining features and conventions of the Standard Celeration Chart. The SCS strives to be a friendly and enduring forum, supporting application and dissemination of standard celeration charting across an expanding range of practitioners and other stakeholders. The values of the SCS that guide behavior in fulfilling the mission include acknowledgement and appreciation of the founding principles and applications of our science (e.g., “standing on the shoulders of giants”), generosity in our interactions with others, driving and embracing change, social beneficence, commitment to evidence-based practice, and having fun. Since 2015, the SCS has employed an organizational structure composed of a board of directors and volunteer leadership teams that actively work toward implementing new and maintaining current initiatives designed to further the organization's mission.

We have an active board of directors consisting of five members on 3-year terms, an executive director, vice presidents, associate vice presidents, and committee members. The board of directors provide guidance and decision making for the SCS executive director, who carries out board initiatives with vice presidents, associate vice presidents, and volunteers. We also have a five-member advisory council that supports the work of the SCS by providing expertise and professional knowledge. Current leadership teams include finance, programs, membership, scientific and academic relations, non-conference programs, operations, marketing, communications, international relations, diversity, and website services. Our leadership teams have actively developed the underlying systems to support the SIG's structure and facilitated institutional memory as individuals transition into leadership roles, an important component for voluntary leadership teams to maintain productivity.

Currently, the SCS has several active priority initiatives underway. First, the SCS is currently redesigning the central website for the SIG (www.celeration.org). While some components of the new website are already in place, we are completing the development of several other features, including a redesigned member gateway, free continuing education opportunities for members, publication resources, training program locations for students interested in academic training, and digital chart share. Membership in the SCS also offers additional benefits not available to non-members including discounted rates to the conference each year, access to the historical publication database of

the Journal of Precision Teaching and Celeration, and soon to be announced web-based continuing education events. The fees range from sustain-ing membership for \$100, full membership for \$50, and student membership for \$25.

The second initiative focuses on highlighting our organization's entrepreneurial members such that their skills, insights, and strategies developed over decades of business development in the area of precision teaching can be made available to others looking to start their own businesses. This is an exciting time to become involved with the SCS, as this organization has a long history of entrepreneurs creating successful operations that provide clinical/educational services outside the mainstream of applied behavior analysis.

Third, we are hosting an international conference. The event is scheduled for June 9–10, 2023 in Galway, Ireland at the Galway Bay Hotel. The keynote speakers will be Dr. Richard Kubina, Dr. Kent Johnson, Dr. Sinead Lydon, and Dr. Claire McDowell.

Finally, our 36th Annual Conference of the Standard Celeration Society will be held November 9–11, 2023 in St. Pete Beach, Florida at the Tradewinds Resort. The conference spans three days, with the first day offering interactive workshops for practitioners and scientists of all kinds. The last two days feature invited and submitted symposium, panel, paper presentations, poster session, annual chart share, and expo. The keynote speakers will be Dr. Jesus Rosales-Ruiz and Dr. William L. Heward. Please visit www.celeration.org for more information regarding all of our upcoming conferences. The SCS eagerly welcomes new charters and members into our community. This nurturing group is full of brilliant and seasoned professionals who are always willing to offer advice or mentorship. Simply become a member and see the opportunities accelerate!

Verbal Behavior Special Interest Group

BY DANIELLE LAFRANCE, PH.D., BCBA-D (PRESIDENT)
The Verbal Behavior Special Interest Group (VB SIG) had another great year. We continued to fulfill the mission of advancing the theory, research, and practice of Skinner's (1957) analysis of verbal behavior by presenting awards to support the exemplary work of students and professionals, advancing the work of our student group, publishing two newsletters, disseminating information online, and more.

We applaud the students who received plaques and cash awards at our business meeting at the 2022 ABAI Annual Convention. There were three winners of the 2022 VB SIG Student Grant Competition—First Place: Elijah Richardson, University of North Carolina Wilmington; Second Place: Tianjiao Li, University of Maryland Baltimore County; Third Place: Thea Skau Engell, California State University, Sacramento. We would like

to thank the reviewers of this competition: Drs. Judah Axe, Mary Halbur, and Meka McCammon. In addition, there were three winners of the 2022 VB SIG Student Research Competition: Tatiana Zhirnova, California State University, Sacramento; Adrienne Jennings, Caldwell University; and Videsha Marya, Endicott College. We thank the judges: Drs. Jacqueline Mery, Joy Clayborne, Mark Sundberg, Sarah Frampton, and Tracy Leper.

The VB SIG also presented two professional awards. The Clinical Supervisor in Verbal Behavior Award was given to Dr. Alice Shillingsburg (May Institute) and the VB Early Career Research award was presented to Dr. Sarah Frampton (May Institute). We thank the judges: Drs. Adrienne Jennings, Caio Miguel, Dan Fienup, Manish Goyal, Jason Vadesco, and doctoral student Karina Zhelezglo.

The VB SIG continued to support our student group this past year. The group was composed of six graduate students from around the country. The group held video conference meetings to discuss articles and their own research; they included expert researchers in verbal behavior in those video conferences. Additionally, the student group is working in lock-step with the VB SIG Council Members to provide feedback, support, and disseminate new initiatives. Examples include assisting the Membership Coordinator with recruitment of authors publishing work in verbal behavior as new members, interviewing invited speakers as part of an online series of talk hosted by the SIG, and providing valuable support at the VB SIG's business meeting, held at the Annual ABAI Conference. Landon Cowen, Marquette University, served as the leader of the student group again this past year. Landon functioned as the student liaison to the VB SIG Council and attended several monthly VB SIG Council meetings. Additionally, one council member attends the monthly student group member meeting. The other 2022–2023 student group members include Maria Clara Cordeiro, Marquette University; Amanda Groos, Florida Institute of Technology; Mary-Genevieve White, Teacher's College, Columbia University; Zhang Astrid Wenhui, Teacher's College, Columbia University; and Tianjio Li, University of Maryland, Baltimore County.

The VB SIG published two full issues of VB News, our newsletter. Features of these issues included highlights of our student group and board members, a student article review, information related to a special issue in TAVB, verbal behavior research highlights, information about our online series, and verbal behavior resources. Additionally, the SIG's Newsletter Editor has updated the look of our newsletter to support efforts in enhancing the experiences of our members. This update also increased the efficiency with which the SIG generates its newsletters, given the superior software program used to develop it (i.e., Canva), and allowed the VB SIG's Website Coordinator to provide

members-only access to this particular benefit via our website. We are excited about the quality of our newsletter, our ability to share it online with our members, and the positive feedback from readers.

The VB SIG maintained a strong presence on the web and social media this year in an effort to continue dissemination of verbal behavior. The VB SIG transitioned to a new website in the past year, which allows for members only to access material such as archived newsletters and special VB content as part of their membership benefits. The new website also allows for renewal of group memberships and donations online, which has helped the SIG manage its membership applications and renewals. The SIG's Facebook page currently has 3.5k likes and 3.9k followers, and the SIG's Facebook group has 4.2k members. Of note, the SIG plans to consolidate its Facebook accounts, as activity in the Facebook group over the course of 2022 pulled focus away from the SIG's mission. We continued to post important information and opportunities such as the student and professional awards, and events such as ABAI presentations on the Facebook page and the website. We have also used our social media platforms to disseminate information about the SIG's online CEU events, and in collaboration with the Editor, to share important information and announcements related to *The Analysis of Verbal Behavior*. In the coming year, we plan to continue using social media platforms to contact VB SIG supporters and share information of interest to them. The VB SIG membership remained strong (i.e., 122 members in 2022 as compared to 141 in 2021). We plan to continue offering research and practice awards, publishing high-quality newsletters, offering a forum for graduate students to discuss verbal behavior, and showcasing verbal behavior opportunities and events on the web in an effort to maintain and increase our membership. From the 2022 ABAI convention through March 1, 2023, we maintained membership at 122 members, which shows tremendous dedication to the study of verbal behavior and support of the VB SIG. Our members enjoy eight benefits: (1) receiving VB News and having access (members only) to past issues on the website; (2) receiving emails about SIG-related events and opportunities; (3) joining the VB listserv to engage in discussions about verbal behavior; (4) becoming eligible to submit to the three VB SIG awards; (5) becoming eligible to be elected to positions on the VB SIG Board; (6) becoming involved in the VB SIG student group; (7) gaining professional development; accessing our mini conferences and webinars at a discounted rate; and (8) joining an active community of people passionate about verbal behavior. Additionally, the SIG's Board Members launched a new benefit for student members this past year, which consists of a mentorship program. Drs. Mirela Cengher (Membership Coordinator) and Tiffany Kodak (TAVB Editor) collaboratively outlined the process of developing this new resource for members. Within this

program, students and junior researchers are paired with doctoral-level senior researchers, who shape their peer-reviewing skills. Currently, two pairs of mentor-mentees are piloting the mentorship program. We are very proud to offer this newest benefit, and we are grateful to the 122 members who supported the VB SIG this year.

In 2020, Dr. Andresa DeSouza joined the council, filing our newest position as Dissemination Coordinator. Dr. DeSouza's focus has been to increase the VB SIG's efforts toward dissemination of VB. To this end, the VB SIG hosted a series of online talks in 2021 and 2022. Speakers for these events in 2022 included Dr. Barbara Esch (who presented in June) and Dr. Franchesca degli Espinoza (who presented in August). Two additional events were planned, with Drs. Tiffany Kodak (November), and Martha Hubner (December) slated to present. Unfortunately, however, both of these events had to be canceled due to speaker emergencies. The SIG is currently in the process of rescheduling these last two talks for 2023. The style of these talks is unique in that each presenter speaks for about 50 min and then a member of our student group spends approximately 20 min interviewing the speaker after which we open the discussion to attendees for a 15 min question and answer period. We received positive feedback following each event, and the SIG is currently in the process of identifying speakers for a new series to be hosted in 2023.

In 2021, we marketed a new website design and in 2022, we unveiled a new VB SIG logo, making our brand easily visually recognizable and allowing us to expand our reach. Additionally, we will host a new online series to continue to increase excitement about applied and experimental work in verbal behavior and continue to modify existing processes to ensure effective and efficient transfer of responsibilities following elections. Notably, the VB SIG has seen increased engagement from potential new members and long-standing members of the verbal behavior community this past year in the form of increased donations as well as engagement with our Dissemination Coordinator and offers/requests to speak at our online events. We look forward to continuing this momentum into the next year.

Finally, the VB SIG's Treasurer, Dr. Kathryn Glodowski, has exceeded all hopes and expectations by successfully laying the groundwork for the VB SIG to obtain non-profit status. Dr. Glodowski has worked closely with both an accountant and a lawyer, guiding the rest of the board members on these efforts. We are extremely excited to announce that as of February 2023, all the required documentation to submit for non-profit status has been finalized. The VB SIG's legal council will file this paperwork, and we eagerly await the results and member benefits, which we hope to be able to announce at the upcoming ABAI conference in May.

The work of disseminating and promoting verbal behavior would not be possible without the diligent efforts

of the VB SIG Board Members. There was one new VB SIG board member elected this past year: Dr. Adrienne Jennings, Ph.D., BCBA-D, who took over as the SIG's newest Grant Competition Coordinator. The SIG also continues to maintain a close working relationship with Dr. Tiffany Kodak, as the Editor of *The Analysis of Verbal Behavior*. We would like to welcome our new VB SIG board member, and will be hosting elections for several board positions in 2023, as several of our current board members come to the end of their terms (i.e., Dissemination Coordinator, Membership Coordinator, President, Student Group Liaison, and Treasurer).

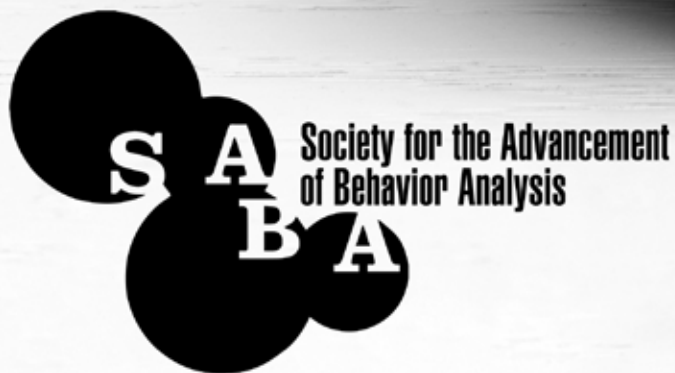
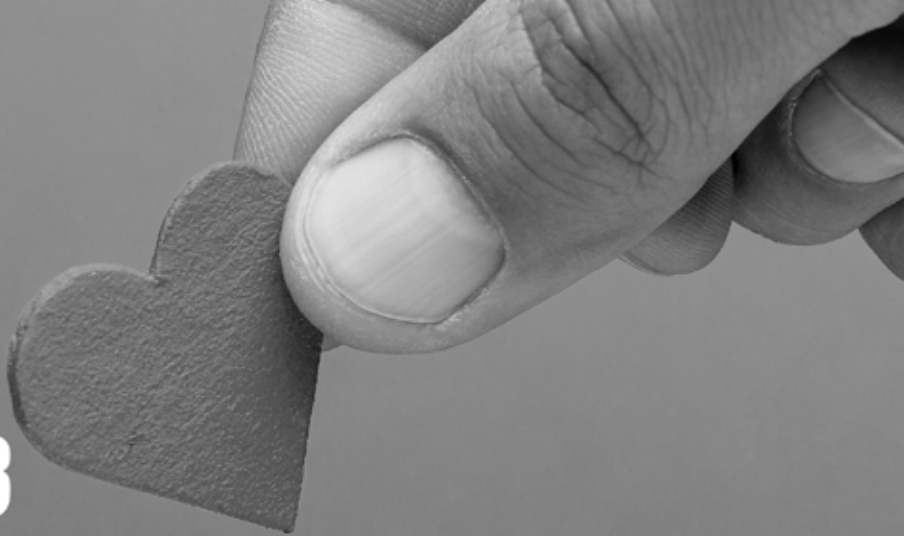
Current VB SIG board members include: Adrienne Jennings, Ph.D., BCBA-D (Grant Competition Coordinator), Andresa De Souza, Ph.D., BCBA-D (Dissemination Coordinator), Angelica Aguirre, Ph.D., BCBA-D (Newsletter Editor), Danielle LaFrance, Ph.D., BCBA-D (President), Kathryn Glodowski, Ph.D., BCBA-D (Treasurer), Landon Cowan, Ph.D. student (Student Group Liaison), Lesley Shawler, Ph.D., BCBA-D (Professional Awards Coordinator), Mirela Cengher, Ph.D., BCBA-D (Membership Coordinator), Robbie Hanson, Ph.D., BCBA-D (Secretary), Stephanie Keesey-Phelan (Grant Competition Coordinator), and Videsha Marya, Ph.D., BCBA-D (Website Coordinator). ❖

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...concerns verbal processes and the meaning of "psychological" terms and concepts. According to this feature, the only psychological terms that psychologists should deploy in their theories and explanations are those that are based on observable stimuli and behavior. Throughout the history of psychology, there has been a constant struggle between those who believe that the mind can be studied scientifically and those who believe that it cannot. This struggle is reflected in the work of many psychologists, including B.F. Skinner, who argued that all behavior is learned from the environment through conditioning, and Sigmund Freud, who argued that the mind is a complex structure with many parts that are not directly observable. The debate continues today, with some psychologists arguing that the mind can be studied scientifically and others arguing that it cannot. This is a central issue in the philosophy of psychology, and it is one that will continue to be debated for many years to come.

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