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NEWSLETTER OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS INTERNATIONAL

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### ON THE COVER

Illustration: MARTIN BURCH

# AN UPDATE *from the* SABA PRESIDENT

BY ERIN RASMUSSEN



PHOTO BY Joanna Kosinska on Unsplash

The Society for the Advancement of Behavior Analysis (SABA) was started over 40 years ago to provide financial support to promote and advance the field of behavior analysis. The three primary manners by which SABA achieves this are (a) supporting students, (b) globally promoting the science, and (c) providing a platform of recognition for our most impactful and inspiring leaders. This report updates our members on these activities during the past year.

### 2022 SABA Awards

Each year, SABA recognizes five distinguished individuals or institutions of our field by honoring them and their impact with awards. We hope you will join us at the opening ceremony of the 2022 ABAI convention in Boston (COVID pending, of course) to recognize and celebrate these outstanding individuals and institutions and their accomplishments:

- Deisy de Souza for Distinguished Service
- Steve Higgins for Scientific Translation
- Vincent Carbone for International Dissemination
- Martha Hübner for Effective Presentation in Mass Media
- Drake University for Enduring Programmatic Contributions

We congratulate each of these awardees for their sustained energy and efforts in promoting the field of behavior analysis.

### Supporting Students

Another way to advance the field is to nurture the next crop of scientists and practitioners. As such, SABA annually provides financial support to Student members to offset registration for the annual convention. This not only allows students to engage in learning about the cutting-edge research happening in the field, but it also allows them to present their own research, and connect to other professionals in our international community that are present at our convention. For the 2021 convention, which was virtual due to the COVID-19 pandemic, SABA funded 44 Student registrations via the Senior Student Presenter Grant and an additional 175 Student registrations via the Student Member Registration Campaign.

In addition to funding convention attendance, SABA also supports research initiatives of the most promising students by offering Innovative Student Research grants for research spanning basic and applied behavior analysis. The Science Board evaluates these grants and makes recommendations to SABA for the top proposals. This year, Innovative Student Research Grants were awarded to Sarah Peck (Utah State University) and Tanya Gupta (Arizona State University), who each received US\$3,000 grants for their dissertations. In addition, Paige Currie (West Virginia University) and Natalie Colon (Florida Institute

of Technology) each received US\$1,500 for their theses. The Sidney W. and Janet R. Bijou Grant (US\$10,000), which funds research that spans behavior analysis and development, was awarded to Ji Young Kim (Columbia University). Also, new this year to SABA is the Innovative Student Research Grant in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI). These grants, which are reviewed by the DEI Board, foster culturally significant research that is related to issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion. This year, the US\$5,000 award went to Alexandria Muldrew (University of Minnesota). Congratulations to these outstanding students!

### Global Outreach

SABA has a priority to expand behavior analysis globally. An example of this initiative is the International Development Grant. These monies fund behavior analytic projects all over the world. This year, a total of US\$6,500 in grants for International Development was awarded to the following five individuals: Zahera Analfooz (Bahrain), SangWeon Aum (Korea), Alvaro Clavijo (Columbia), Iris Pelizonni (Italy), Loukia Tsami (Liberia, Kenya, and Botswana), and Serife Yucsoy-Ozkan (Turkey). Congratulations to these prominent members of our global community!

### Public Awareness

SABA also awards grants for projects that disseminate the science and practice of behavior analysis to the general public. This year, a total of US\$12,500 was awarded for projects submitted by Jennifer Austin (United Kingdom Society for Behaviour Analysis), Chaturi Edrisinha (Oakland University), Alexandra Herman (Hungarian Association for Behavior Analysis), Varsovia Hernandez Eslava (Universidad Veracruzana), and Sunyoung Kim (University of Illinois at Chicago). Congratulations to these exceptional ambassadors to the field of behavior analysis!

### Interdisciplinary Approach to the Treatment of Autism

In 2020, the Doreen Granpeesheh Interdisciplinary Approach to the Treatment of Autism Fund was established. This fund is for developing opportunities for behavior analysts to collaborate with other disciplines on advancing the most effective practices and treatments for autism. Initially, the fund will sponsor presentations on autism from professionals outside the field. For example, at the 2021 convention, Dr. Richard Frye, a child neurologist with expertise in neurodevelopmental and neurometabolic disorders, gave an outstanding talk on “The Medical and Biological Complexity of Autism,” with a virtual meet-and-greet afterward. We look forward to continuing to develop ideas for interdisciplinary collaboration on the treatment of autism.

### Giving

We are grateful to individuals and organizations such as those listed above, but we are also grateful to all of our



members. You not only work to keep our science and practice strong, but you also contribute to improving the well-being of society. Another way that you give of yourself is to contribute generously to SABA. We are deeply grateful for your generosity and hope you will continue to donate to the growth and advancement of behavior analysis.

SABA's funds indeed are established by the contributions of many ABAI members and donors from the discipline. To date, SABA has supported nearly 200 research, development, and dissemination projects through grants, and—since 2011—has helped fund convention registration for 941 students. When you donate to SABA, you can donate either to long- or short-term funds, and you can select the area of where your donation will be used. Long-term funds will be kept in perpetuity. SABA manages the principal of these funds, and the interest on them is used for grants to support research and advancement of behavior analysis.

Some of the largest contributions have been made by individual donors. Many of our most generous members and supporters have also arranged for bequests to SABA, ensuring that their legacy after death continues to promote behavior analysis. Our major capital campaign donors are honored at the ABAI headquarters, where SABA operations are handled. Gold, Silver, and Bronze level donors are recognized on a donor recognition installation titled, “Understanding Behavior, Transforming Lives, Shaping Our Future (2014–2016).” Each major donor is commemorated with a glass tile etched with their name, photo, and year of donation. This piece is on display in ABAI’s lobby and is open to the public. Thank you to all of our donors; your contributions—small and large—advance our field.



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# HELP EMPLOYERS FIND YOU!



ABAI has made exciting changes to the Career Center to help you find your dream job, with more additions to be rolled out later this year. With 500+ new jobs posted, come check out the hottest behavior analysis job site!

- **FREE** online profile.
- Let employers find **YOU** with résumé and cover letter uploads!
- Alerts so you can be the first to apply for new jobs in your area.
- Job recommendations based on profile and previous searches.
- Positions for all experience levels, including RBT, BCBA, BCBA-D, bachelors, master's, and doctoral.

[www.abainternational.org/careers](http://www.abainternational.org/careers)

## 2020–2021

**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, 2020, through October 22, 2021.

**\$5,000 and above****SABA Unrestricted Fund**

Alyce Dickinson  
New England Center for  
Children Donations  
Robert N. Woll

**\$1,000–\$4,999****DEI Student Research Fund**

Carol Pilgrim

**SABA Unrestricted Fund**

Bradley G. Frieswyk  
Catherine Hinline  
Judi Komaki  
Kennon Andy Lattal  
Maria E. Malott  
M. Jackson Marr  
Michael Perone

**\$500–\$999****DEI Student Research Fund**

Christine E. Hughes  
Vincent Strully

**SABA Unrestricted Fund**

Harold J. Miller  
Vincent Strully

**\$250–\$499****DEI Student Research Fund**

Ellen Schleifer

**SABA Student Presenter Fund**

Gwen Johnson  
David W. Wesch

**SABA Unrestricted Fund**

William J. Helsel  
David W. Wesch

**\$100–\$249****DEI Student Research Fund**

Judah B. Axe  
R. Wayne Fuqua  
Kent Johnson  
Peter R. Killeen  
Danielle Ramos  
Griffin Rooker  
Jomella Watson-Thompson  
Naoki Yamagishi

**International Development Fund**

Michele R. Traub  
Benjamin Wessels

**Public Awareness of Behavior Science**

David W. Wesch

**SABA Student Presenter Fund**

Julie A. Ackerlund Brandt  
Judah B. Axe  
Saul Axelrod  
Sheila Barnes  
Dustin James Dixon  
Adam H. Doughty  
Jessica Foster Juanico  
Mitch Fryling  
William J. Helsel  
Timothy E. Heron  
Gwen Johnson  
Peter R. Killeen  
Raymond G. Miltenberger  
Melissa L. Olive  
Michael Perone  
Kimberly Sloman  
Peter Sturmeay  
Douglas C. Taylor  
Michele R. Traub  
Vikki Tucci  
Thomas J. Waltz  
Naoki Yamagishi

**Student Member Registration Fund**

Darcy Parks

**\$100–\$249 (cont.)****SABA Unrestricted Fund**

Julie A. Ackerlund Brandt  
Robert A. Babcock  
Francisco J. Barrera  
Eric Boelter  
Gordon Bourland  
Abigail B. Calkin  
Alayna T. Haberlin  
Linda S. Heitzman-Powell  
Christine Hoffner Barthold  
Mark Galizio  
Sigrid S. Glenn  
Gwen Johnson  
Peter R. Killeen  
Kenji Okuda  
Linda J. Parrott Hayes  
Stephanie J. Stolarz-Fantino  
Naoko Sugiyama  
William J. Sweeney  
Alan Szech  
Susan Wilczynski

**\$50–\$99****DEI Student Research Fund**

Julie A. Ackerlund Brandt  
Jesse Dallery  
Kristin Frigelj  
Grant Gautreaux  
Genae Annette Hall  
Elizabeth Anne Lambeth  
Suzanne H. Mitchell  
Clodagh Mary Murray  
Bethany R. Raiff  
Joel Eric Ringdahl  
Thomas G. Szabo  
Robert G. Vreeland

**Innovative Student Research Fund**

Raymond C. Pitts

**International Development Fund**

Miranda Macauley



**\$50–\$99 (cont.)****Public Awareness of Behavior Science**

Karen Kate Kellum  
MaryKate McKenna

**SABA Student Presenter Fund**

Hua Feng  
Grant Gautreaux  
Alayna T. Haberlin  
Genae Annette Hall  
Gary Scott Katz  
Margaret P. Martinetti  
Bethany R. Raiff  
Joel Eric Ringdahl  
Raymond C. Pitts  
Thomas G. Szabo  
Robert G. Vreeland  
Alyssa N. Wilson

**SABA Unrestricted Fund**

Alicia M. Alvero  
Karen G. Anderson  
Judah B. Axe  
Julia H. Fiebig  
Thomas R. Freeman  
Adam E. Fox  
Grant Gautreaux  
Robert Gulick  
Genae Annette Hall  
Mike Harman  
Gary Scott Katz  
Anastasia Keller-Collins  
April N. Kisamore  
Jeff Kupfer  
Mark A. Mattaini  
David McAdam  
Suzanne H. Mitchell  
Richard F. Rakos  
Thomas G. Szabo  
Timothy R. Vollmer  
Robert G. Vreeland  
Diana J. Walker  
Mary Jane Weiss

**Other Amounts****DEI Student Research Fund**

Shahla Susan Ala'i  
Daniel Almeida  
Jillian Arenson  
Emerson Aul  
Madison Barone  
Suzanne Byrne  
Abigail B. Calkin  
Rodrigo Vianna de Almeida  
Aecio De Borba Vasconcelos Neto  
Iser Guillermo DeLeon  
Deisy De Souza  
Anthony M. Esparza  
Jonathan K. Fernand  
Lauren Galanaugh  
Jessica Emily Graber  
Veronica J. Howard  
Barbara J. Kaminski  
Gary Scott Katz  
Kathryn M. Kestner  
Lauren Kline  
Anita Li  
Danielle Miyoko Cohen  
Amy Murrell  
William J. Sweeney  
Enith Teran  
Susan Wilczynski  
Alyssa N. Wilson  
Kelly G. Wilson

**Innovative Student Research Fund**

Andrea Baumes  
Katherine Lynch  
Miranda Macauley  
Elizabeth Quevedo  
Thomas G. Szabo  
Joshua C. Vandever  
Ray Wesnofske

**International Development Fund**

Andrea Baumes  
Justin William James  
Katherine Lynch  
Maria Isabel Munoz-Blanco  
Felipe Ernesto Parrado  
Janani Vaidya  
Joshua C. Vandever

**Other Amounts (cont.)****Public Awareness of Behavior Science**

Katherine Lynch  
Miranda Macauley  
Yasmine Sanandaji  
Sam Alan Schurer  
Joshua C. Vandever

**SABA Student Presenter Fund**

Shahla Susan Ala'i  
Robin Diane Alford  
Mary Barczak  
Suzanne Byrne  
Alison Cox  
Aecio De Borba Vasconcelos Neto  
Iser Guillermo DeLeon  
Deisy De Souza  
Alyce M. Dickinson  
Jeffrey E. Dillen  
Anthony M. Esparza  
Jonathan K. Fernand  
Avner Fraidlin  
Jessica Emily Graber  
Jessica Herrlin  
Ansley Catherine Hodges  
Veronica J. Howard  
Mary Elizabeth Hunter  
Karen Kate Kellum  
Kathryn M. Kestner  
April N. Kisamore  
Katherine Lynch  
Miranda Macauley  
James S. MacDonald  
Suzanne H. Mitchell  
Felipe Ernesto Parrado  
Joshua C. Vandever  
Mary Jane Weiss

**SABA Unrestricted Fund**

Nicole L. Bank  
Samantha Bergmann  
Alec M. Bernstein  
Suzanne Byrne  
Aecio De Borba Vasconcelos Neto  
Robert Dlouhy  
Adam H. Doughty  
Anthony M. Esparza  
Lauren Galanaugh

## Other Amounts (cont.)

### **SABA Unrestricted Fund (cont.)**

Anthony Gomez  
Agustin Daniel Gomez Fuentes  
Deborah L. Grossett  
Denise M. Keller  
Sarah Kong  
Anita Li  
Katherine Lynch  
Neil Timothy Martin  
Rita Olla  
Robert E. O'Neill  
Martha Pelaez  
Laura Perkins  
Sarah E. Pinkelman  
Benjamin Reynolds  
Zuïlma Gabriela Sigurdardottir  
Jessica Singer-Dudek  
Kristin E. Skousgard  
Lina M. Slim  
Debra J. Spear  
Mark William Stafford  
William J. Sweeney  
Cory Toegel  
Vicki Tucci  
Jason C. Vladescu  
Olga Vojnovic-Fireman  
Dean C. Williams



Society for the Advancement  
of Behavior Analysis

## Doreen Granpeesheh Endowment

***In 2020, through a generous \$100,000 donation from Doreen Granpeesheh, SABA was able to establish a new fund in her name. The Doreen Granpeesheh Fund will be dedicated to introducing the behavior analysis community to other disciplines in order to develop and collaborate on more comprehensive interventions for the understanding and treatment of autism. The fund will sponsor presenters from related fields at the ABAI annual convention as the SABA Board of Directors looks toward to developing other ways to encourage the use of collaborative experiments and interventions issuing from such interactions.***

***Learn more about SABA funds at:  
[saba.abainternational.org/funds](https://saba.abainternational.org/funds)***



Society for the Advancement  
of Behavior Analysis

# Donate to the SABA Senior Student Presenter Fund

Your donation can make a big difference in  
the career path of a behavior analysis student.

*"Thanks to the generosity of the SABA grant donors, I was able to travel to San Diego to present my master's thesis at ABAI 2018. I received invaluable feedback that I can incorporate into future research projects. All in all, it was a wonderful opportunity to share the work we have been doing at Brock University."*

— Talia Ennett

*"The SABA Senior Student Presenter Grant was instrumental in providing me the opportunity to attend the 2018 ABAI Annual Convention in San Diego, CA. In attending the convention, I was able to present my research and attend many excellent presentations. I am extremely grateful for the generous donations that made these experiences possible. Thank you!"*

— Sarah Davis

*"I was the recipient of a SABA student presenter grant this year, which not only helped me monetarily to attend ABAI, but made me feel encouraged to present my interdisciplinary work to the ABAI community."*

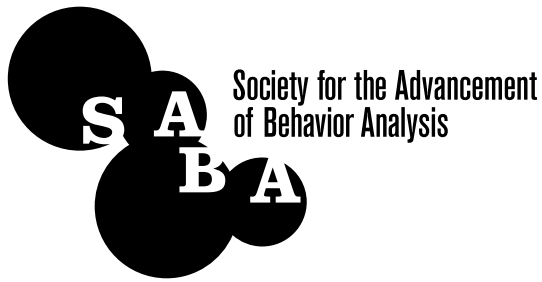
— Christina Nord

*"The SABA award allowed me to get to know some cutting-edge research and talk face to face to researchers from all over the world that I could not contact otherwise. It was also an opportunity for networking and getting to know other fields. The participation and presentation of research in international events adds several points when we apply for a job (at least in Brazil). In this regard, your donation has increased my chances of getting a job after I finish my doctorate. So, thank you! You literally have the power to change some lives for the better."*

— Táhcita Mizael

[saba.abainternational.org/funds/senior-student-presenter-fund](https://saba.abainternational.org/funds/senior-student-presenter-fund)





# 2021 SABA Grant Reports

The Society for the Advancement of Behavior Analysis (SABA) awarded the following grants in 2021:

- **Innovative Student Research in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion grant winner \$5,000:**  
Alexandria Muldrew (University of Minnesota)
- **Dissertation grant winner \$3,000:**  
Tanya Gupta (Arizona State University)
- **Dissertation grant winner, \$3,000:**  
Sara Peck (Utah State University)
- **Thesis grant winner, \$1,500:**  
Natalia Colon (Florida Institute of Technology)
- **Thesis grant winner, \$1,500:**  
Paige Currie (West Virginia University)
- **International development grant winner, \$1,000:**  
Zahera Alanfooz (Think Behavior and Development Center in Bahrain)
- **International development grant winner, \$1,000:**  
SangWeon Aum (Eden II Programs)
- **International development grant winner, \$1,000:**  
Alvaro Arturo Clavijo Alvarez (Universidad Nacional de Colombia)
- **International development grant winner, \$1,500:**  
Iris Pelizzoni (Tice Cooperativa Sociale)
- **International development grant winner, \$1,000:**  
Loukia Tsami (Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities, University of Houston-Clear Lake)
- **International development grant winner, \$1,000:**  
Serife Yucesoy-Ozkan (Anadolu University)
- **Sidney W. & Janet R. Bijou grant winner, \$10,000:**  
Ji Young Kim (Teachers College, Columbia University)
- **Public Awareness grant winner, \$2,500:**  
Jennifer Austin (UK Society for Behavior Analysis)
- **Public Awareness grant winner, \$2,500:**  
Chaturi Edrisinha (Oakland University)
- **Public Awareness grant winner, \$2,500:**  
Alexandra Herman (Hungarian Association for Behavior Analysis)
- **Public Awareness grant winner, \$2,500:**  
Varsovia Hernández Eslava and Janet Enriquez (Universidad Veracruzana and University of North Carolina at Charlotte)
- **Public Awareness grant winner, \$2,500:**  
Sunyoung Kim, Emily Gregori, and Veronica Kang (University of Illinois at Chicago)

The following articles are summaries of the reports submitted by the 2021 awardees.

Change lives  
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BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS  
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FLORIDA TECH

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# Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

## Cultural Considerations in Treatment Development and Applied Behavior Analysis Service Delivery



BY ALEXANDRIA MULDREW

Alexandria is a fifth-year doctoral candidate at the University of Minnesota studying both school psychology and applied behavior analysis (ABA). Her research broadly focuses on using an interdisciplinary approach to

mitigate discipline disparities experienced by school-aged youth. For her master's thesis in ABA, Alexandria plans to operationalize cultural considerations in ABA treatment planning and service delivery. The generous funds offered through the Innovative Student Research Grant in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion will help with the effective implementation of this project. Specifically, translation and transcription services will assist with the facilitation of collecting qualitative data to understand the experiences of families receiving ABA services. Alexandria is honored to receive this SABA grant and she looks forward to sharing the results from this research project with members in the field.

## Doctoral Dissertation Grants: Behavioral and Neurobiological Mechanisms of Temporal Control by Long Intervals



BY TANYA GUPTA

Tanya's graduate research has been centered around how animal behavior is entrained to different intervals of time in the seconds-to-minutes range, known as interval timing. Prior work has shown that the hippocampus (HPC), a brain structure critical for

encoding memories, is also involved in interval timing, particularly when the timed intervals are long (>40s). However, evaluating this length-dependent effect in animal models is complicated by the observable link

between timing behavior, motivation, and non-timing processes. Because timing tasks inherently impose a delay-to-reward, increasingly long intervals can induce schedule strain and reduce motivation to engage in the task, indexed by decreased frequency of trial initiation. Additionally, observed responses in timing tasks appear to be a mixture of timing and non-timing processes, and the proportion of non-timed behaviors has been shown to increase at longer intervals.

The SABA Innovative Student Research Grant will help fund the final study in Tanya's doctoral dissertation, which will elucidate a specific role for the HPC in timing long intervals in rats, using a novel task which allows for simultaneous observation of timing behavior and other processes which may mediate HPC involvement. Rats in this study will be trained in a novel timing-with-opportunity-cost task, in which animals are trained to seek food at two levers. One of these levers (T) delivers reward after a fixed interval of time has elapsed. The other lever (P) delivers food with a low constant probability (e.g., 1/30 lever presses deliver food). On any given trial, rats are expected to respond primarily on the P lever, and increasingly "check" the T lever as the trained time of reinforcement gets closer. Following stable performance, animals will receive hippocampal infusions of muscimol, a drug which deactivates the target structure while it is onboard, and animals will be trained on a novel long interval. Then, Tanya will conduct analyses to assess the extent to which the HPC is needed to encode stable timed behavior, and whether any effect of interval length can be ascribed to changes in timing behavior or are related to other behavioral processes. This project is a culmination of Tanya's previous work on the structure of behavior entrained to long intervals, and data collection is already underway.

## Exposure to High Effort Contingencies and Assessment of Generalized Effects in Children with ADHD



BY SARA PECK

Sara Peck earned her BA in psychology from Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts (MCLA), where she was a research assistant to Dr. Tom Byrne. She is currently a Ph.D. student at Utah State University, working with Dr.

Gregory J. Madden. Sara's primary areas of research include reducing effort- and delay-based impulsive choice, identifying underlying mechanisms of successful

reductions in impulsive choice, and translating laboratory successes to clinical settings.

The awarded SABA grant will support an experiment examining the effects of exposure to high-effort contingencies on effort-based decision-making in children with ADHD. The inability to sustain effortful, goal-directed behavior is a symptom of ADHD. Individuals with ADHD differ from control populations on task persistence assessments and decision-making tasks. Persistence deficits in the academic setting are specifically identified as a clinical barrier for individuals with ADHD. Studies with humans and nonhumans have shown that exposure to high-effort contingencies (i.e., high-effort training) can increase generalized persistence and effortful tendencies.

Participants will be assigned to high-effort training or a control condition. High-effort training will involve multiple effort tasks and a terminal variable ratio 12 schedule. Effects of training will be assessed on a mirror-tracing persistence task, an effort-based impulsive choice task, and an academic assignment. Compared to the control condition, high-effort training is expected to increase task persistence (i.e., latency to quit a mirror-tracing task) and preference for high-effort, high reward choices in an effort-based impulsive choice task. High-effort training is also expected to improve academic on-task behavior, assignment completion, and latency to quit an academic assignment.

If this study is successful, future research may evaluate longer-term application of persistence interventions for children with ADHD in more naturalistic settings (e.g., classrooms). Sara would like to thank the Society for the Advancement of Behavior Analysis for funding her dissertation research, and her current and past mentors for their support and guidance.

## Master's Thesis Grants: Teacher Perceptions on Delayed Treatment Outcomes and Severity of Student Problem Behavior



BY NATALIA COLON

Natalia Colon is a graduate student in the applied behavior analysis, Master of Science program at the Florida Institute of Technology. Her thesis project examines the relationship between the severity of student problem behavior and the discounting of delayed treatment outcomes by teachers. The study will present participants with vignettes where participants

assume a hypothetical role of a teacher. The vignettes will detail two separate students with mild or severe problem behavior. Participants will watch videos of the hypothetical students in the classroom and then complete the delay discounting assessment to determine if there is a difference between discounting of treatment based on problem behavior severity. If teachers discount treatment outcomes, adherence to the intervention may be at risk because behavioral interventions often do not immediately produce results. The data from this study will inform researchers the level at which teachers discount treatment effects and may provide empirical evidence for clinicians to offer additional support to this population for training. Results may indicate that motivation may be stronger for the immediate termination of the student's problem behavior despite the long-term implications of reinforcing problem behavior. In addition to the treatment outcomes discounting assessment, a monetary discounting assessment will also be utilized for comparison. Doing so adds to the literature as to whether delay discounting is a trait variable or commodity dependent. Few previous studies have examined delayed behavioral treatment outcomes as the commodity of interest. Natalia's thesis project aids clinicians in determining whether teachers as program implementers require support for sensitivities to delays. The SABA grant will provide Natalia with funding to recruit participants, utilize more sophisticated data collection and statistical software, and travel to the Association for Behavior Analysis International's Annual Convention to disseminate her findings.

## Effects of Aripiprazole Alone and in Combination With d-Amphetamine on Probability Discounting in Sprague- Dawley Rats



BY PAIGE CURRIE

Paige Currie is a doctoral student at West Virginia University (WVU), working in the behavioral pharmacology laboratory under the supervision of Dr. Karen G. Anderson. This SABA grant will support her master's thesis research,

which is designed to evaluate effects of aripiprazole, alone and in combination with d-amphetamine, on probability discounting with Sprague-Dawley rats as subjects.

Aripiprazole is an atypical antipsychotic that is prescribed for individuals with schizophrenia, Tourette's Disorder, bipolar disorder, and autism spectrum disorder. No known studies have investigated effects of aripiprazole on risky



choice, however, several case studies within the literature suggest a potential relation between administration of aripiprazole and development of maladaptive behaviors, such as compulsive gambling.

In the study the grant will support, rats will engage in a probability-discounting task, in which choice is between concurrent options of a smaller, certain reinforcer and a larger, uncertain reinforcer (e.g., 1 food pellet at 100% probability of delivery versus 2 food pellets at varying probabilities of delivery). Upon reaching stability, rats will be given various doses of aripiprazole in 3 mL Jell-O tablets and will complete the same probability-discounting task. After the determination of the dose-response function for aripiprazole alone, the task will be run again following administration of d-amphetamine (i.p.) and aripiprazole.

In addition to research, Paige has been completing a practicum placement with the WVU Neurodevelopmental Center and Center for Excellence in Disabilities. She has developed an interest in the behavioral and interdisciplinary treatments of pediatric feeding disorders, and particularly feeding difficulties associated with avoidant/restrictive food intake disorder (ARFID) and obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD). Paige hopes to earn her Ph.D. and continue her academic career, blending research, clinical work, and teaching at a university.

Paige would like to thank SABA for supporting her master's thesis research. Additionally, she would like to thank Dr. Anderson, her WVU lab mates and colleagues, and her friends and family for their support during her doctoral training at WVU.

## International Development Grants: Autism Awareness in Bahrain



BY ZAHERA ALANFOOZ

Children with an autism spectrum disorder (ASD) require intensive involvement and support from their parents. Siblings of children with ASD often experience feelings of loneliness, jealousy, neglect, anger, due to their parents devoting much time to their

child who requires more support. Teachers and school professionals also face struggles to include students with ASD into their classrooms and often require consultation with behavior analysts or other special education professionals. Virtual schooling has also recently resulted in increased pressure on teachers and families to ensure students success with limited support.

Given that the idea of inclusion into mainstream schooling is relatively new in the Kingdom of Bahrain,

the funding will be used for designing an inclusion curriculum. The curriculum will become a resource for educators and parents aiming to increase awareness and acceptance of ASD and neurodiversity. Additionally, the curriculum will facilitate inclusion of neurodiverse students into classrooms and the wider society. The curriculum will follow the principles of behavior analysis and will be available in Arabic and English. Training modules will also be available electronically with guidance on how to use the curriculum specifically for schools or parents with limited resources. A section of the curriculum will specifically target siblings of children with ASD with simple activities based on behavior analytic principles to help them interact, support, and advocate for their sibling on a day-to-day basis.

The project will involve the following steps: (1) creating a questionnaire for parents, educators, and siblings of children on the spectrum, which will be distributed with the help of local schools in Bahrain and the Bahrain Autistics society; (2) analyzing key areas in which all parties require supports; (3) materials and resources gathering; (4) curriculum design; (5) delivery of pilot workshop; and (6) delivery of subsequent workshops. The project will be shared on social media, the local newspapers, and national television to reach out to people locally and to cultivate participants and share participant views and feedback to the community.

Zahera Alanfooz holds a Master of Arts degree in Education from the University of Auckland, New Zealand. In 2016, Zahera became the second Bahraini to receive the BCBA credential. She works at Think Behavior and Development Center in Bahrain since 2014 as a clinical supervisor.

## Dissemination of Applied Behavior Analysis Based Treatments for Individuals With Autism Spectrum Disorder to Korean Parents Using Webinars



BY SANGWEON AUM

SangWeon Aum, Ph.D., BCBA-D, the behavior services supervisor at Eden II Programs, in Staten Island, New York, was exposed to the discipline of behavior analysis in his first semester at Eastern Michigan University when taking the course of Experimental Analysis of Behavior.

He has been working in the field of autism treatment since September 1996.

In Korea (the Republic of Korea), applied behavior analysis (ABA) based treatments for children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) have not been widely recognized as evidence-based treatments by their parents. The International Development Grant will be used to disseminate information about ABA-based treatment procedures to parents of children with ASD in Korea via webinars and electronically transmitted handouts. Specifically, the webinars will focus on teaching three crucial components of behavioral interventions: (1) reduction of problem behaviors; (2) improvements in social interaction and play skills; and (3) improvements in communication skills (e.g., mand, intraverbal skills). In addition to learning about these evidence-based interventions, parents will also be introduced to behavioral assessments (e.g., verbal behavior-based assessments) that will help them assess their children for skill deficits that would benefit from intervention. The webinars will be presented in the Korean language, and summary handouts will be provided to the parents electronically after each webinar. At the conclusion of each webinar, a social validity questionnaire will also be given to the parents in order to measure the acceptability of each presented ABA-based treatment.

The webinars are intended to increase parents' awareness and understanding about ABA as an evidence-based treatment for ASD. In other words, parents participating in the webinars are expected to develop increased knowledge about effective methods of teaching their children at home and in the community.

## Instaurating a Trusting Applied Behavior Analysis Academic Community for Spanish Speakers Through Social Media



BY ALVARO ARTURO CLAVIJO ALVAREZ

Staying up-to-date on behavior analysis (BA) is fundamental for psychology professionals and students. Even the general public could benefit by having more information about BA's multiple applications. The "Centro de Investigación e Innovación en Análisis de la Conducta (CIIAC; Research and Innovation in Behavior Analysis Center)" aims to become a reliable academic community that any Spanish speaker can join through social media (Facebook). The project could reach any person interested in BA, no matter the country because it is online. At the moment, the site has more than 1,000 followers and has

reached more than 3,000 persons. The project will expand to other social media like YouTube and Instagram. The site's content focuses on four topics: (1) ABA, all applied topics on how to solve common and not-so-common living problems; (2) conceptual, all the topics for keeping updated on research, conceptualization, and knowledge; (3) trending, all the BA news currently occurring in the country or the world, for instance, COVID-19 and the current actions that ABA can provide for protection and care; and (4) festivities, important and relevant dates related to BA to some extent, whether historical, applied, or investigative. Short explanations and references from essential books and trending scientific papers accompany all the publications, allowing followers to understand behavior analysis and its applications. As far as possible, the site will keep Spanish speakers from different countries updated with information about BA in applied and basic topics with free online access to content all year. Seven researchers compose the team that manages the project. They work in specific areas: choice behavior, aversive control, verbal behavior, behavioral evolution, gamification and education, clinical behavior analysis, self-control, reasoning, stimulus control, cooperation, and behavioral economics. Because of the team's diversity, the site offers new content all year with further references. People interested in BA will trust what ABA and BA can do to solve social and individual problems.

## Parents for Parents: Spreading ABA for Foreign Communities



BY IRIS PELIZZONI

Iris Pelizzoni graduated in psychology with an experimental thesis on the application of applied behavior analysis (ABA) principles to the world of sports with Prof. Silvia Perini at the University of Parma.

After graduation, she started her postgraduate internship in Tice, an Italian psychological and research center ([www.centrotice.it](http://www.centrotice.it)), and visited the Morningside Academy in Seattle. Back in Italy, she obtained a Master's in applied behavior analysis and began her Ph.D. in psychology, studying behavioral strategies for the acquisition and enhancement of study skills of children with learning disabilities. For about 10 years, she has been involved in planning and intervention with children with academic, emotional, and behavioral difficulties. In addition, she supports parents through parent training and psychological counseling.

The objective of the project is to spread ABA, its principles, and its effectiveness to foreign parents with children who attend the Italian school system (almost 10%).

The aim is to help them to better understand children's needs and choose effective and efficient interventions. To achieve this goal, we will record psycho-educational videos whose actors will be foreign parents. They will describe, in their native language, the main developmental disorders and the characteristics of the interventions with ABA. The videos will be initially translated into Arabic, thanks to the collaboration with a mother of a child with specific learning disorder. Then the videos will be translated also into Indian and Moldovan. The videos will be spread on the main digital platforms (Facebook, Instagram, YouTube) and sent to school principals in the north of Italy. In this way, the videos will become free material useful not only for foreign parents of children with developmental disorders but also for teachers.

## Telehealth ABA World Project



BY LOUKIA TSAMI

The recipient of 2021 SABA International Development grant, Loukia Tsami, works as a research associate at the Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities at the University of Houston Clear Lake.

Tsami and her colleagues have been disseminating behavior analysis internationally since 2016 and have established relationships with parent groups and professionals who work with children with disabilities and have minimal resources. They deliver services via telehealth not only to people located in large cities, but also in isolated communities in over 34 countries in Central and South America, Europe, Africa, and Asia. However, financial constraint is one of the largest impediments to this project. For example, less than half of people living in Africa have access to the internet (data retrieved from [www.internetworldstats.com](http://www.internetworldstats.com)).

This SABA grant will help support services to families in Africa in three ways. First, the funds will cover the internet fees for two families with children with disabilities to receive direct behavior analytic services via telehealth at their houses. Tsami from the United States will meet with the parents and children weekly to conduct functional communication training sessions for a minimum of 3 months. Second, funds will support two educational trainings for teachers, speech therapists, other professionals who are interested in learning more about autism and how to support this population.

Last, the funds will support a pilot project in Botswana to increase awareness of behavior analysis and establish the profession of Behavioral Technician (BT) as "interventionist" with the Botswana Quality Assurance Authority Board. This is a first step in recognition of Behavior Analysis services in the country. Maleshwane

Mauco, the only BCBA in the country, will serve as the coordinator of the project in Botswana. Tsami and Mauco will develop a 40-hour BT competency level instruction curriculum and train 10 individuals in-vivo and via telehealth. Through follow up probe sessions, the behavior therapists will evaluate generalization and maintenance of the skills taught to the BTs. The findings of all projects will be presented in a conference in Gaborone supported by Botswana government officials in April 2022.

## A Future Learning Tool: ABA Podcast Channel



BY SERIFE YUCESOIY-OZKAN

Podcasts have emerged as a new learning tool and are being used increasingly in education for over a decade. The students prefer to use podcasts because they perceive them as tools that provide them with advantages or benefits. The

podcasts allow the audience to listen to the recordings independently, its cost is minimal, or the subscription is usually free and user-friendly. In Turkey, very limited applied behavior analysis (ABA) resources are available for students, practitioners, and families. Only three Turkish ABA textbooks are available, and there is no podcast on ABA. The lack of these sources and the necessity of online learning makes unique learning opportunities important. It is assumed that the podcast is the easiest and the trendiest way of sharing information to reach every person around the country, to introduce ABA, explain ABA background, reveal ABA literature, and disseminate ABA interventions.

The SABA International Development Grant will be used for ABA podcasts. The project will create an ABA podcast channel in Turkish, launch ABA podcasts weekly, and disseminate the podcast as a learning tool across the country. The project will help enhance learning and update existing knowledge of students, practitioners, parents, and the community for ABA background, topics, concepts, and principles. It is assumed that the project will increase the awareness and the knowledge of ABA interventions. It also will create a long-lasting impact on student, practitioner, parent, and community learning on ABA.

Dr. Yucesoy-Ozkan, Ph.D., is a professor of special education and researcher at Anadolu University. She has published peer-reviewed articles and conducted research projects on ABA-related topics. Also, she is the co-editor of an ABA textbook, and she has taught many ABA-related undergraduate and graduate courses. She is a charter member of the ABA Turkey Chapter.



# Public Awareness Grants:

## “This is ABA” Video



BY JENNIFER AUSTIN

As in many countries, there are a number of misperceptions about behaviour analysis in the United Kingdom. These ideas range from relatively benign misunderstandings (e.g., ABA is an autism treatment) to potentially dangerous accusations (e.g., behaviour analysis is abusive). Although most behaviour analysts have come to expect some misunderstandings about what they do and likely correct those errors as they arise in everyday discourse, pervasive public misconceptions about ABA can potentially limit uptake of behaviour analytic services, or worse yet, encourage engagement with less effective alternatives. Therefore, strategies aimed at disseminating accurate information, which are designed for easy public consumption, are important components of enhancing the public image of behaviour analysis and supporting consumers to make more informed decisions.

Two primary goals of the UK Society for Behaviour Analysis are to educate the public about behaviour analysis and enact strategies to promote consumer protection. These efforts include a consumer-facing website, as well as holding a register of UK behaviour analytic practitioners that allows consumers to check the credentials of those individuals. The UK-SBA Board (chaired by Dr. Jennifer Austin) will use the SABA Public Awareness Grant to further consumer education efforts by producing a short “This is ABA” video. The video will feature UK behaviour analysts working across a range of applications (e.g., OBM, prisons, early intervention, intellectual disabilities, foster care) to promote a more accurate account of the scope of ABA and the ways that it can produce positive, ethical, data-based outcomes for individuals, families, communities, and organisations. The video also will feature individuals who have benefited from behaviour analysis, who will share how some aspect of their lives has been affected by the science. The video will conclude by signposting consumers to the UK-SBA Register of Behaviour Analysts.

The video will be posted on the UK-SBA website and social media outlets, and consumers will be invited to take an “ABA: Fact and Fiction” quiz before and after the video to help gauge impact. UK-SBA hopes that these efforts may serve as a model for other countries facing similar issues regarding public perceptions of behaviour analysis.

# Methodology to Train LEOs Using Virtual Reality



BY CHATURI EDRISINHA

Human beings, when faced with a stressful situation, tend to underestimate their own likelihood of being able to think and speak coherently, behave in ways that are uncharacteristic, and make poor decisions. Such behaviors are exacerbated if the individual has a social communication deficit such as autism spectrum disorders (ASD). Core characteristics of ASD, such as difficulty making eye contact, are often assessed as threatening behaviors by law enforcement officers (LEOs) and can lead to disastrous results such as misinformed arrests. Federal, state, and private organizations have funded numerous studies targeted at identifying ASD, treating the core deficits of ASD, and ASD intervention. However, persons with ASD still engage with the public and in environments outside of intervention and treatment settings. As these individuals age and continue to exist in our communities, the probability that they will need the services of LEOs or have interactions with LEOs is relatively high. However, LEOs may not have the knowledge or prior training to effectively interact with the ASD community or respond to a crisis situation with a person with ASD. As a result, it is essential to train LEOs to interact in safe and productive ways with the ASD community.

The SABA funding will support Dr. Chaturi Edrisinha develop a methodology to train LEOs using virtual reality (VR) to quickly identify and de-escalate scenarios with mock civilians who exhibit characteristics of ASD. Such a training would greatly reduce the risk factors involved in potentially crisis situations while concurrently providing an opportunity for LEOs to vividly and viscerally experience the crisis. The benefits of such a study include an improved understanding of the effective ways of training LEOs; extending the scope of VR as a training tool to identify characteristics of ASD; exploring the consequences of decision making; and prompting LEOs to de-escalate a potential crisis without the human risks involved. Such a strategy could potentially open up exciting avenues of research within which increasingly complex questions such as the function and evocation of risk-taking behaviors and the contextual nature of a risk analysis can be further examined without human risk or cost.

## Developing a Hungarian ABA Literature



BY ALEXANDRA HERMAN

Alexandra Herman graduated in MSc in Psychology at Eötvös Loránd University in Hungary in 2009. She started working as an ABA therapist in the same year, and has been working in the field of applied behavior analysis ever since. She

graduated with a distinction in applied behavior analysis at Bangor University in 2018, receiving her second MSc, then qualified as a board certified behavior analyst in the same year. Alexandra spent more than four years living and working in the UK as an ABA therapist and consultant working mainly with children with ASD and language impairment in home, school, and community settings. Her main areas of expertise are early intervention, delivering therapist and teacher training, and most importantly dissemination of the science of Behavior Analysis in her home country. Hungary currently has four board certified behavior analysts who practice in the country. Alexandra has been working together with her colleagues on dissemination in the last 10 years, creating an ABA Therapy Center for children with autism in Budapest, delivering trainings, consultation, and workshops for parents, supporting mainstream schools in integrating children with special educational needs, as well as presenting at conferences throughout the country.

Alexandra is the VCS coordinator of the first ABA university course sequence in Hungary. With the support of the 2020 International Development Grant, the Hungarian Association for Applied Behavior Analysis (Magyar Alkalmazott Viselkedéselemzés Egyesület, MAVEE, [www.mavee.hu](http://www.mavee.hu)) was established in January 2021. Alexandra is currently the president of the organization.

The 2021 Public Awareness Grant will support the Association's first project: developing a Hungarian ABA literature. Together with Kis Lépések Alapítvány (Small Steps Foundation, [www.kislepesek.hu](http://www.kislepesek.hu)), MAVEE will create educational booklets with educational video materials and infographics about the science and applications of Behavior Analysis, both for professionals and the general public. The Association will publish online booklets with supporting materials for professionals and for the general public, following three mini-conferences between the summer of 2020 and 2021.

MAVEE members aim that the outlined project can serve as a conceptual model for other countries with no or little infrastructure of ABA.

## Promoting Applied Behavior Analysis Throughout Mexico



BY VARSOVIA HERNÁNDEZ ESLAVA  
AND JANET ENRIQUEZ

Mexico is among the largest countries in Latin America. Over the years, social sector reform has profoundly impacted the redesign of health programs and education. Yet, challenges related to fragmentation and administrative complexities have resulted in lack of medical, and educational services, particularly for families of children who have autism or those suspected of having autism. Moreover, most of the materials circulated for dissemination are predominantly designed towards



English-speaking populations, and Spanish resources have not been culturally modified to Latin American culture. Our aim is to establish international collaboration between Universidad Veracruzana (México) and the University of North Carolina at Charlotte in an effort to promote applied behavior analysis throughout Mexico and create empirically-based culturally competent resources for diffusion free of cost.

Resources will consist of videos introducing basic principles of behavior and its applications which will incorporate Mexican families modeling these principles. Videos will be developed by Varsovia Hernández Eslava, from Universidad Veracruzana (México), and Janet Enriquez, from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, with the collaboration of the Multimedia Lab X-Balam at Universidad Veracruzana. These video resources and curriculum will be made available online for families, teachers, and professionals to learn more about applied behavior analysis as it pertains to diverse populations in natural settings. Curriculum development will incorporate behavioral skill training methodology (Miltenberger, 2003) and the final version and all its materials will be promulgated through a website.

The target audience will consist of professionals looking for educational materials on ABA as well as parents, teachers, and professionals working with diverse populations that will benefit from these materials and from the online course: Intensive Behavioral Structured Learning for Caretakers. The proposed project is part of a broader, inclusive project that seeks to strengthen the collaboration between bilingual behavior analysts in México and in the United States in their endeavor to advance applied behavior analysis internationally.

## Webpage to Promote Accessibility of Evidence-Based Behavioral Interventions to Korean-American Caregivers



BY SUNYOUNG KIM, EMILY GREGORI,  
AND VERONICA KANG

Korean-American caregivers—despite being part of the seventh-largest and the fastest-growing immigrant population in the United States—continue to report unfamiliarity with the overall education system and limited awareness of and access to effective behavioral strategies and services to support their children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD). In order to promote the accessibility of evidence-based behavioral interventions that are widely implemented in home, community, and educational contexts, a webpage consisting of self-directed, caregiver-friendly learning modules will be developed for Korean-American caregivers of children with ASD in their primary language. Prior to launching the webpage, the modules, consisting of 10 evidence-based



behavioral interventions, will be piloted with 20 Korean-American caregivers to evaluate (a) the effectiveness, (b) the feasibility, applicability, and generalizability, and (c) the potential need for cultural adaptation within the Korean-American context. The 20 caregivers will complete each module and then participate in individual interviews and complete rating scales. Upon revising based on pilot data, the modules will be made available to the public and will include quantitative and qualitative summary data about the Korean-American caregivers' experiences and perceptions as well as suggestions for cultural adaptations. Ultimately, the findings have the potential to fulfill a significant need and promote public awareness of behavioral interventions among the rapidly growing Korean-American community.

Sunyoung Kim, Ph.D., BCBA-D, a Korean-born bilingual researcher, and Assistant Professor in the Department of Special Education at the University of Illinois-Chicago (UIC), is focused on EBIs for young Korean-American children with ASD and their caregivers. Emily Gregori, Ph.D., BCBA, is an Assistant Professor of Special Education at UIC. Her research explores the assessment and treatment of challenging behavior for individuals with developmental disability and aims to identify variables that impact the sustainability of EBIs. Veronica Kang is a Korean-American doctoral student in Special Education and is interested in implementing and evaluating social communication skills for Korean-American children with ASD.

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# Sidney W. & Janet R. Bijou Grant

## A Translational Application of Rapid Assessment of Delay Discounting with Predictions for Saving and Spending Behavior



BY JI YOUNG KIM

Ji Young Kim is a doctoral student studying applied behavior analysis at Teachers College, Columbia University, under the supervision of Dr. Daniel Fienup. She received her MA in applied behavior analysis at Teachers College, Columbia University, and her BA from Barnard

College, Columbia University, Cum Laude with a degree in psychology. She is interested in the translation of behavioral economics research to the design of educational system. Specifically, she is interested the application of delay discounting in a natural environment and finding efficient ways to implement instructions and class wide token economy systems. The Bijou grant will support her study of the development of delay discounting and saving/spending behavior to develop a brief, rapid assessment of sensitivity to delayed rewards that may be used across different age groups.

Delay discounting has been associated with many maladaptive behaviors such as drug use, gambling, and overeating (Reynolds, 2006; Weller et al., 2008). However, the complex nature of deriving meaningful discounting values inhibits its widespread use among practitioners (Critchfield & Reed, 2009). The development of a more accessible, user-friendly method would lower the barrier for practitioners to evaluate the degree of delayed reward sensitivity of all population. Additionally, more studies on the development of individuals' saving and spending behavior are needed.

Ji Young's current project will investigate the developmental trajectory of saving and spending behavior and determine whether the brief delay discounting assessment can predict the saving and spending behavior of children and adults. Ji Young will conduct the study across college students at her university and elementary school-aged students from her professional setting. If the goals are achieved, the newly developed method will serve as a behavioral proxy for quantifying the concept of delay of gratification and thus, bridge the gap between the basic principles of delay discounting and its clinical utility. Further, it will allow us to understand the development of individuals' saving and spending behavior which can be reliably measured using the new technology.

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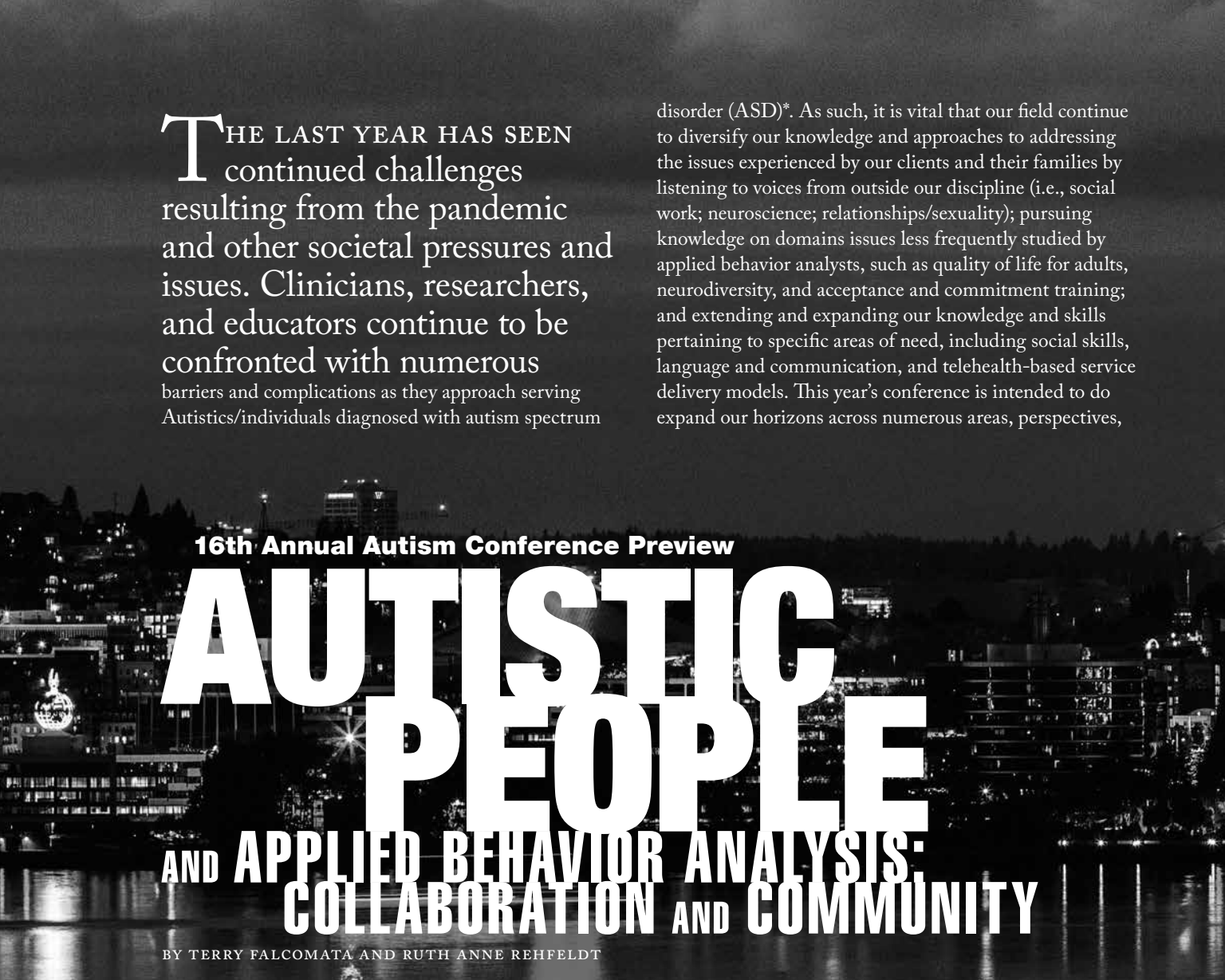
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**T**HE LAST YEAR HAS SEEN continued challenges resulting from the pandemic and other societal pressures and issues. Clinicians, researchers, and educators continue to be confronted with numerous barriers and complications as they approach serving Autistics/individuals diagnosed with autism spectrum

disorder (ASD)\*. As such, it is vital that our field continue to diversify our knowledge and approaches to addressing the issues experienced by our clients and their families by listening to voices from outside our discipline (i.e., social work; neuroscience; relationships/sexuality); pursuing knowledge on domains issues less frequently studied by applied behavior analysts, such as quality of life for adults, neurodiversity, and acceptance and commitment training; and extending and expanding our knowledge and skills pertaining to specific areas of need, including social skills, language and communication, and telehealth-based service delivery models. This year's conference is intended to do expand our horizons across numerous areas, perspectives,

### 16th Annual Autism Conference Preview

# AUTISTIC PEOPLE AND APPLIED BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS: COLLABORATION AND COMMUNITY

BY TERRY FALCOMATA AND RUTH ANNE REHFELDT

the practice of ABA with an emphasis on the application of contextual behavior science (CBS). Dr. Masuda will provide insights for combining functional and contextual approaches to cultivating cultural sensitivity in our work.

On day two of the conference, three presentations will cover several relevant and timely topics. Amy Gravino (A.S.C.O.T. Consulting) will present unique and practical information and perspective regarding sexuality and Autistics/individuals diagnosed with ASD. Dr. Hedda Meadan (University of Illinois) will present on a novel and innovative model for building capacity for the delivery of effective interventions within clients' natural environments via telepractice-based procedures. Stephen Gillaspay (American Psychological Association) will provide practical insight on the subject of reimbursement for ABA services.

In the afternoon of day two, four presentations will address a variety of topics. Dr.

Adriana Di Martino (The Child Mind Institute) will

present on brain imaging and connectivity pertaining to Autistics/individuals diagnosed with ASD. Innovations relating to acceptance and commitment therapy and relational frame theory, with a specific focus on application with Autistics/individuals diagnosed with ASD, will be discussed by Dr. Giovambattista Presti (Kore University). Dr. Sandy Magaña (University of Texas at Austin) will provide unique perspectives on culturally tailored parent mediated interventions. Finally, the subject of distress experienced by individuals and effective interventions aimed at addressing related noncompliance during necessary medical and dental appointments will be presented by Dr. Keith Allen (Munroe-Meyer Institute, University of Nebraska Medical Center).

Day three of the conference begins with a pair of presentations that will address challenges faced by many Autistics/individuals diagnosed with ASD and practical approaches to addressing those challenges. Dr. Marjorie

and approaches to practice. The conference will take place March 5-7, 2022, in Seattle and is comprised of diverse topics that will be presented by individuals from the field of applied behavior analysis (ABA) and a variety of other disciplines.

The first day of the conference will feature workshops that focus on topics germane to the practice of ABA. The first workshop will be conducted by Dr. Peter Gerhardt (The Epic School) and will provide forward-thinking guidance on the challenges associated with the pursuit of a meaningful quality of life for adults. The second workshop, presented by Dr. Akihiko Masuda (University of Hawaii), will focus on the vital topic of cultural considerations in

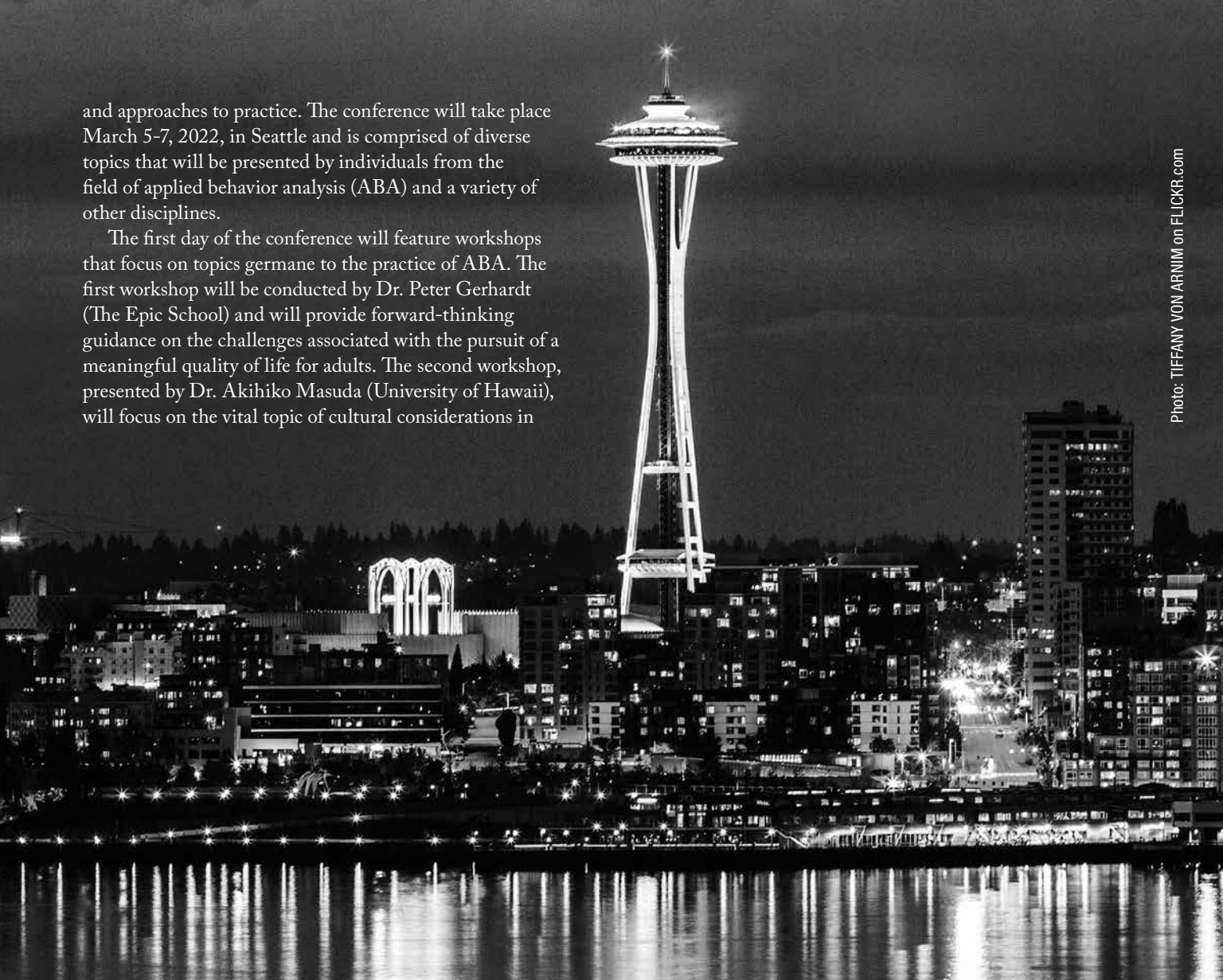


Photo: TIFFANY VON ARNIM on FLICKR.com

Charlop (Claremont McKenna College) will present on the crucial topic of social skills and inventive research on treatments that are implemented within dyad and group formats. Next, Ralf Schlosser (Northeastern University) will discuss cutting edge technologies and their use with assessment and intervention strategies for facilitating language and communication with children with minimal verbal skills. Both presentations will include telehealth components.

Later in the morning, the important and timely topic of neurodiversity and Autistics/individuals diagnosed with ASD will be discussed by a group of panelists with diverse perspectives. The participants on the panel consist of Dr. Justin Leaf (Autism Partnership Foundation), Amy Gravino, Joy Farrah Johnson (Spectrum Support), and Dr. Robert Ross (Beacon ABA services). The panelists will engage in an open, candid, and constructive conversation about ABA and neurodiversity.

The conference will conclude with presentations on the assessment and treatment of challenging behavior and reading. Dr. Henry Roane (Upstate Medical University) will present findings from translational and applied studies on treatment relapse pertaining to challenging behavior with a focus on practical implications for application. Dr. Martha Costa Hübner (University of São Paulo) will conclude the conference by describing research on innovative strategies for helping children acquire reading repertoires.

The aim of the conference is to enhance the range of attendees' knowledge and understanding across a diverse array of topics. We hope to see you in Seattle! ❖

*\*The terminology utilized in the presentation titles and abstracts for this conference was selected to adhere to the seventh edition of the American Psychological Association Publication Manual and to be inclusive of those who prefer person-first as well as identity-first language.*



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

### Alaska ABA

BY KRISTIN RIALI

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

Membership benefits include low cost CEUs, discounted registration for the annual AKABA Conference (hopefully resuming in 2021), access to private members-only online forum, and updates on legislation and other events related to the practice and research of behavior analysis in Alaska. Please visit our website ([www.alaskabehavior.org](http://www.alaskabehavior.org)) for current events, news, and membership information.

2020 was a challenging year for AKABA and its members. The ongoing recession, global COVID-19 pandemic, racial injustices, and a tumultuous national political environment have all contributed to it being a complicated year. It has been a year of advocacy and maintenance of many of AKABA's core systems. The AKABA leadership attempted to maintain and promote member participation despite the cancellation of the annual AKABA conference.

The major theme of 2020 was continuing many of our core mission offerings—namely advocacy and professional development for our practitioners.

#### Continued Advocacy

We narrowed our focus in 2020 as our members adapted to changes in practice due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Our main focus for advocacy was determining how to address the State of Alaska licensure board's decision to allow people holding the QASP certification to become Licensed Behavior Analysts. The executive board met in December to decide how to move forward and determined that more information was needed regarding another new credential, the QBA. Once this information has been gathered, the board plans to meet with a representative from the State of Alaska. Our leadership deliberated upon the implications of including credentials other than those from the BACB since the state laws currently refer to the BACB's certification in the eligibility criteria for licensure and whether there is a need for a governing body over the LBA license, especially with regards to ethics.

AKABA has helped to facilitate communication amongst members who are helping each other to work through Medicaid billing issues. The members discussion

board on the website has served as a way to notify others of changes and issues.

Currently, AKABA is receiving information about these topics through notifications from our members. Moving forward, it is strongly recommended that AKABA designate a representative to the Department of Health and Human Services, the Governor's Council, and other advocacy groups to ensure that the field of behavior analysis is accurately and fairly represented.

#### Professional Development/CEUs

AKABA became a formal Authorized Continuing Education provider in late 2018 and with the support of members of our executive board, AKABA provided two direct member events in 2020. Through professional partnerships, AKABA supported two additional events (CBAI and the ABAI OER SIG). Our capacity to provide CEUs was reduced due to the uncertainty surrounding our annual conference, which was scheduled for June 2020, then postponed and eventually cancelled.

#### 4th Annual Conference

Due to the ongoing global pandemic, the fourth annual AKABA Conference was postponed. The conference was scheduled for June 12–13 at UAA. The program included several high-profile behavior analysts. Luckily, all of the speakers have agreed to participate in the re-scheduled conference. The AKABA Conference Committee is considering a hybrid (face-to-face & virtual) or possibly an entirely virtual conference in the future. Once the format and date(s) have been determined, an announcement will be forthcoming. Although the conference was postponed, the AKABA Conference Planning Committee deserves a heartfelt thanks for all of their efforts. The members were Aimee Smith, Mychal Machado, Kristin Riall, Julie Heimerl-Lee, Rachel White, Veronica Howard, Summer LeFebvre, Kelly Forestal, and Eric Murphy.

### California ABA

BY JOCELYN THOMPSON

The California Association for Behavior Analysis remains committed to actively serving our membership, community stakeholders, and consumers of ABA. The last-minute cancellation of the 2020 regional conference due to COVID and local shelter in place orders was particularly devastating to our organization. CalABA launched a massive fundraising campaign last spring/summer, which had a positive impact on the organization. For 2021, CalABA hosted a virtual conference in lieu of their annual in person event with approximately 461 individual registrations. CalABA anticipates returning to an in-

person conference for 2022 in Santa Clara, CA.

Throughout the pandemic, CalABA continued to support both behavior analysts working in academia and those practicing in clinical settings. Numerous townhall meetings and free webinars were held to help support the behavior analytic community with up to date COVID information and the state of ABA services in CA.

CalABA has continued to be actively involved in public policy matters related to the practice of ABA in CA. CalABA was scheduled to host its second Legislative Day at the state capitol in Sacramento. However, due to COVID restrictions, this event was also cancelled at the last minute and was cancelled for 2021. The public policy committee plans to host this event again in March 2022.

Outreach continues to be priority for our organization. We have established a separate Stakeholder Advisory Committee to increase communication and collaboration between CalABA and various stakeholder groups throughout CA. Recommendations from this committee have resulted in CalABA's participation in a number of events that provided information about the science and applications of ABA to a wider audience. For 2020–21, the stakeholder committee and other CalABA board members partnered with Autism Society of CA to launch a campaign around fire safety, specifically, what do parents and behavior analysts need to know to develop fire safety programs.

CalABA continues to support three special interest groups (SIGs)- Behavior Analysts in Education, Diversity and Inclusion, and Business Practices. Participation in these special interest groups lead to the development of a new CalABA diversity, equity, and inclusion board position.

## Hoosier ABA

BY AMBER BADGETT

HABA made it through 2020 thanks to our Executive Board, Membership, and our affiliation with ABAI. In the first quarter of 2020, we started out strong having our first member CE event of the year in person in Michigan City, Indiana focusing on all thing's licensure. We had a Q & A with Dr. Michael Dorsey and Dr. Gordon Bourland from ABAI and a presentation by Dr. Gina Green from APBA. HABA continued to partner with IN-PEAT to work with a lobbyist in an attempt to obtain licensure. Unfortunately, we were unsuccessful in 2020 and due to financial instability HABA was no longer able to fund the lobbyist. The board worked super hard to plan for our 2020 conference entitled, "Versatility-A Toolbox for Practitioners". We secured our location, our line-up, and we were working hard on obtaining sponsors and engaging membership to help us out of our financial challenges from sustaining a lobbyist.

Then the pandemic hit, and everything changed. With much uncertainty we determined that was safest to cancel our in-person conference. We pivoted and created, Hoosier

Happy Hour Virtual Events. Our first event in April was a roundtable discussion on telehealth and things to consider for returning to in center services. In July in response to the cultural climate we attempted to form a committee to increase awareness and interest in behavior analysis careers among students of color in hopes to perhaps do our small part to increase representation in our field. Unfortunately, while we had interest in the initiative professionals were struggling with pandemic life and we were unable to get enough interest to pursue this initiative.

In October, we hosted a virtual conference with the following line-up: Dr. Becca Tagg, Dr. Malika Prichett, Dr. Bridgett Harrison, Dr. Carl Sundburg, and Vince LaMarca. This conference was a one-day event, and it was quite successful and fun to "see" our members. We even had a super fun virtual social hosted by Vince LaMarca. Our 3rd Annual Bridgett Harrison Award was presented to Melany Shampo a former president of HABA for her continued commitment to HABA's mission. Overall, we had 60 in attendance and members were able to purchase the online conference and view post-event if they were unable to attend.

In November, HABA hosted Gordon Holmes with Mass Mutual and provided a free workshop, "How Caregivers Can Secure the Future of Their Dependents with Special Needs" we shared this resource and opened it up to all members and their clients' families. In December, we held a Hoosier Happy Hour Event hosting special guest, Dr. Ellie Kazemi who provided 1 CE training on "Unleash the Power of Behavior Analysis: Make Everyone Fall in Love with You."

This past year was very difficult and pushed the HABA board and members to pivot and engage in networking and learning together in new ways. All in all, we are proud of how we survived the pandemic year 2020.

### Strategic Plan Goals

HABA's strategic plan goals from 2020 included the following:

- Obtain BCBA Licensure: not accomplished.
- Increase Membership: not accomplished.
- Increase Sponsorships: not accomplished.
- Host Conference 2020 in Bloomington with goal of 300 attendees: cancelled due to Covid-19 closures affecting our ability to get sponsorships; there are not enough funds for us to host conference.
- Host Two Quarterly Events in different locations across the state: one completed in Northern Indiana in January and two offered virtually through Hoosier Happy Hour.
- Participate in strategic planning and strategic plan review and revision with executive board and committee chairs: completed.
- Increase membership involvement in committee's: not completed.

- Increase opportunities for behavior analysts around the state to participate in person by offering different locations for events: discontinued due to pandemic.
- Updated April 2020—in place of conference, host monthly Hoosier Happy Hours with a variety of topics to discuss in a roundtable format with invited special guests: completed.
- Updated April 2020—work to stabilize our financial situation through offering pre-recorded conferences and quarterly events from 2018. Sell HABA merchandise and work on getting sponsors for 2021 conference: completed.

Our strategic plan goals for 2021 include:

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

### Leadership

We would like to thank the 2020 Executive Committee and Committee chairs:

- Danyl M. H. Epperheimer, MS, BCBA: past-president
- Amber Badgett, MA, BCBA: president
- Ann Dorlet, MA, BCBA: vice-president
- Anne Drew, MA, BCBA: treasurer
- Amanda Jones, MS, BCBA: secretary
- Tysha Rivich, MS, BCBA: member-at-large
- Sierra Hudson, BS, RBT: student representative
- Zack Novello, BS, RBT: RBT representative
- Bridget Harrison, BCBA-D: Public Policy chair
- Maqenzi Furgason, MS, BCBA: Conference chair
- Vince LaMarca, MS, BCBA: Licensure chair

The following people make up HABA's 2021 Executive Committee and Committee chairs:

- Danyl M. H. Epperheimer, MS, BCBA: past-president
- Amber Badgett, MA, BCBA: president
- Ann Dorlet, MA, BCBA: vice-president
- Amanda Ahrens, MS, BCBA: treasurer
- Amanda Jones, MS, BCBA: secretary
- Tysha Rivich, MS, BCBA: member-at-large
- Vacant: Public Policy chair
- Maqenzi Furgason, MS, BCBA and Mel Shampo, MS, BCBA: Conference chairs
- Vince LaMarca, MS, BCBA: Licensure chair

## Kentucky ABA

BY STEPHEN WOOD

### Mission

The Kentucky Association for Behavior Analysis (KYABA) is an Affiliate Chapter of ABAA. Its mission is to advance awareness, development, and access to the science and practice of behavior analysis in the Commonwealth of Kentucky by (1) encouraging the understanding of behavior analysis in academic, research, and the natural environments; (2) supporting the design and application of effective behavioral procedures to improve the quality of life of the citizens of Kentucky; (3) serving as a professional reference group for those who identify themselves as scientists or practitioners in disciplines that embrace the principles and practices of behavior analysis; (4) advising political, legislative, and policy-making bodies with respect to all matters pertaining to behavior analysis; (5) organizing colloquiums, symposiums, and conferences that shall serve as a forum for the presentation of scientific and technological achievements, clinical practice, as well as for discussion of the affairs of the organization; and (6) publishing and distributing information on behavior analysis.

### Executive Committee

KYABA is governed by an Executive Committee comprised of a president, past president, president-elect, three representatives and one student representative. The 2021 Executive Committee is comprised of Stephen Wood (president), Luna Weiss-Salinas (past president), Melissa Diaz (president-elect), Alan Allday (representative), Tammy Hammond-Natof (representative), Jessika Vance-Morgan (representative) and Amanda Chavez (student representative). The Executive Committee is assisted by a Director of Operations. The 2021 Director of Operations is Karen Devine.

### Committees and Task Forces

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

- Membership Committee: Chaired by Melissa Fee, BCBA, LBA-KY. The mission of the Membership Committee is to increase membership in the association, disseminate information about association activities and opportunities, and develop new initiatives that increase the value of membership in the association.
- Events Committee: Chaired by Stephen Wood, BCBA, LBA-KY. The mission of the Events Committee is to assist in the planning and implementation of events sponsored by the association.
- Social Media Committee: Chaired by Jessika Vance

Morgan, BCBA, LBA-KY. The mission of the KYABA Social Media Committee is to disseminate information relevant to the association's events and initiatives.

- Awards Committee: Chaired by Luna Weiss-Salinas, BCBA, LBA-KY. The mission of the Awards Committee is to develop, plan and implement the nomination, selection, and presentation process for awards given by the association.
- Outreach & Activism Committee: Chaired by Stephen Wood, BCBA and Luna Weiss Salinas, BCBA. The mission of the Outreach Committee is to represent the association's interests to external organizations that operate activities relevant to the association's interests.

## Membership

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

## Events

KYABA has actively hosted events in the state since 2012. For the last few years, the organization has held an

annual conference and a workshop series. These events have consistently sold out and drawn registrants from every corner of Kentucky and its surrounding states. In 2020, KYABA held a workshop in Louisville, KY, "Advanced Topics in ABA," with Dr. Vincent J Carbone, BCBA-D. In April 2021, KYABA will begin a virtual/online monthly CEU opportunity for its members, "Behavior Analysis & Brews." The 2021 Executive Committee has elected to plan and host an in-person conference in late 2021.

## Contact Us

More information about Kentucky Association for Behavior Analysis can be found on the organization's website: [www.kentuckyaba.org](http://www.kentuckyaba.org).

# Massachusetts ABA

BY SUSAN AINSLEIGH

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 2700 BCBA®s, 150 BCBA-D®s, and 47 BCaBA®s, Massachusetts boasts among the highest per capita concentration of certified behavior analysts in the world and an active behavior analytic community. The vision of MassABA is to serve as the trade organization for this community. MassABA has focused its efforts to fulfill this vision by:

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

## 2020/21 Overview

In 2020, a global pandemic occurred which impacted all aspects of service delivery of applied behavior analysis in the Commonwealth of MA (as well as likely nationally

and globally). The COVID-19 pandemic continues as of the writing of this report. MassABA has continued to focus its efforts on each of the above goal areas; however, many goals and activities were impacted by governmental restrictions imposed by the pandemic.

### **Legislative Update**

Over the past year MassABA has continued to work with state government leaders to keep them abreast of issues of importance to our membership, as well as to advocate for legislative change that would strengthen service delivery. This included continued support for a bill to create an independent licensing board to oversee LABA in Massachusetts. This bill was not successfully passed in 2020 but has been refiled in 2021. MassABA, in collaboration with BABAT and MassCAP, also provided support for statements advocating access to COVID-19 vaccination for ABA providers, and advocating insurance coverage for telehealth services during the pandemic. Finally, MassABA board members, in collaboration with BABAT and MassCAP, provided feedback on documentation standards proposed by the Behavioral Health Center for Excellent (BHCOE®) in 2020; these standards are in the final review process.

### **Insurance Update**

MassABA has been a consistent supporter for broadening insurance accessibility for recipients of ABA in MA, and for providing ABA providers in Massachusetts with increased information about insurance coverage and changes. During 2020, MassABA cosponsored, with the Autism Insurance Resource Center, several continuing education events that included updates on insurance coverage, provision of telehealth services, and insurance documentation requirements. These were offered as remote events for increased access during the pandemic. These events were offered free of charge to MassABA members.

### **Strategic Planning & Implementation Update**

MassABA completed a strategic planning process in 2018. Monthly review of the strategic plan occurs by the Board of Directors, and many initiatives are underway to achieve the goals dictated by this plan. In 2020, these included the following:

- Roll-out of the use of a membership management service, to better track, solicit feedback from, and communicate with members of MassABA;
- Increasing of affordable access to continuing education opportunities, specifically remote options due to COVID 19 pandemic;
- Creation of a Diversity and Inclusion Committee, to better address the needs to diverse service providers and recipients in MA;
- Continued engagement with members via social media.

### **Professional Development Update**

MassABA has a history of holding an extraordinarily successful annual conference, typically drawing over 700 participants. Due to COVID19 pandemic restrictions, this event was cancelled in 2020. This had a major impact on MassABA revenue, as well as MassABA ability to network and interact with members.

To accommodate distancing requirements and financial challenges faced by many providers, MassABA facilitated a free summer/ fall CE Series in 2020, with monthly CE Events held at either no cost or minimal cost to members. These events averaged 100+ participants per session. MassABA is planning a remote, 1-day conference in 2021 and hopes to resume onsite conferences and CE Events in 2022, to coincide with continued remote events. MassABA also continued to cosponsor events with the Autism Insurance Resource Center in 2020, as well as providing MassABA members via its website information on provision of effective telehealth services.

MassABA's active Public-School Committee co-sponsored a monthly networking event for BCBAs working in public schools in the Commonwealth titled: Professional Practices Symposium for Behavior Analysts: Developing Effective ABA Programs in Public School Systems. This monthly event continued in 2020 with remote events, due to the pandemic restrictions. Over 100 BCBAs working in public school districts around the Commonwealth attended. A series of speakers accompanied opportunities to network and problem solve challenges associated with behavioral service delivery in public school settings.

MassABA's newly formed Diversity Committee offered professional development events in 2020–21, reviewing current literature on diversity and inclusion initiative in the field of ABA.

### **Committee Action**

MassABA has several active committees who work to address specific areas of interest to our members. These committees include:

- The Public School BCBA Committee
- The Legislative Committee
- The Diversity and Inclusion Committee
- The Conference and Events Committee

MassABA looks forward to continuing to be at the forefront of policy making 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. MassABA will continue to focus its efforts to ensure that we strengthen the science and practice behavior analysis.



# New Jersey ABA

BY STEPHANIE SUMMERS AND MARY LOUISE KERWIN

The New Jersey Association for Behavior Analysis had many accomplishments over the year. Organizationally, we have adopted revised mission, vision, and value statements. NJABA's mission is to advance the science and evidence-based practice of behavior analysis through research, education, service delivery, and advocacy in the state of New Jersey. Our Vision is a statewide community in which behavior analysts and behavior technicians have the research, training, and resources they need to improve people's lives. We value science, research, ethics, compassion, excellence, and collaboration. As a result of this revision of our mission, we have reorganized our activities around the four pillars of research, education, service delivery, and advocacy. Across these four pillars, we strive to attract, recruit, and retain our members, and communicate effectively and efficiently with them.

## Research

New Jersey has a long and storied history of meaningful contributions to the field of behavior analysis. Alpine Learning Group, the Douglass Developmental Disabilities Center, and the Princeton Childhood Development Center were early pioneers in the practice of ABA and some of the research and literature that came out of the state years ago continues to serve as models for practicing behavior analysts today. According to the CDC (Maenner et al., 2020), NJ has the highest prevalence of Autism Spectrum Disorder diagnoses in the U.S., and, with that, there continues to be a growing need for properly trained professionals who can deliver evidence-based treatment effectively. NJ currently has nine colleges and universities that offer BACB-verified coursework sequences, many of which are regularly conducting and disseminating research in efforts to promote the science of behavior analysis. The research pillar's foundation is our collaboration and communication with our New Jersey Applied Behavior Analysis ABAI Verified Coursework programs through our University Liaison. In addition to creating a statewide forum for researchers to present their work at our Annual Conference, we initiated a Research Round-Up column in our monthly newsletter to provide our members with access to empirical data on topics such as inappropriate touching and working with an individual who has difficulty cooperating with healthcare routines. Finally, we are in the process of creating a committee to review requests for contacting our members about participation and/or advertising research.

## Education

Our University Program Liaison, Jason Vladescu, Ph.D., BCBA-D, coordinates activities among our nine ABAI Verified Coursework Sequence programs in the state. In

addition to highlighting each program in our monthly newsletter, NJABA has facilitated the development of a student committee, composed of a student representative from each training program in the state. Finally, we have modified our student representation on the NJABA Board of Directors. The student group has nominated a representative and an alternate to attend meetings to improve bidirectional communication between the Board and students. Our goal for the next year is to understand how NJABA may better serve the training programs and their students.

## Service Delivery

In 2020, NJABA established a Service Delivery Committee under the capable leadership of Craig Domanski, Ph.D., BCBA-D. This committee was formed to address the needs of NJABA members with respect to disseminating information about service delivery in the state, including any legal or policy changes that impact the delivery of behavior analytic services across different agencies. The Service Delivery Committee oversaw the development of several specialty area focus groups in 2020, including Diversity and Inclusion and ABA Services in Spanish, which join existing workgroups focused on Insurance, Medicaid, and Business Practices, Adult Services, Public Schools, and Early Intervention. We also led weekly information-sharing sessions for all NJ behavior analysts during the first months of the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition to providing information, the workgroups have been instrumental in providing a community for members with similar interests and challenges to learn from each other. Finally, NJABA joined the New Jersey Speech and Language Pathology Association to form the NJSLP-NJABA Collaborative Practice Group. The group developed a resource to assist members of both professions in understanding each other better to facilitate more integrated service delivery for our clients.

## Advocacy

Within the area of advocacy, our Chair of Government Affairs, Suzanne Buchanan, Ph.D., BCBA-D, has been actively working towards a goal that has been years in the making. Governor Phil Murphy signed the Behavior Analyst Licensing Act into law on January 13, 2020. The law's original enactment date was mid-July, but the implementation of this law and many others has been delayed until 90 days after the public health emergency per an Executive Order. In addition to advocating on NJABA's behalf to secure licensure for behavior analysts in the state, Suzanne has worked extensively with the NJ's Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services (AKA Medicaid). In April 2020, the Division launched coverage of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) for children with autism ages 0–21. This is a wonderful accomplishment because 40% of the state's children are covered under Medicaid.

## Diversity & Inclusion

The Diversity and Inclusion committee was created in the past year under the leadership of Erin White, Ph.D., BCBA-D, Sandra Gomes, Ph.D., BCBA-D, and Pierre Louis, M.A., BCBA. The committee created a diversity statement, began collaborating with a university on a training project, shared resources to increase cultural competency and humility, and reviewed recent articles on diversity from *Behavior Analysis in Practice*.

## Membership

This past year we saw a record-breaking increase in our membership. At the end of December 2020, we had 635 members. In addition to increasing our membership, we created a new membership category for Behavior Technicians at the suggestion of our Chair for Membership, Cat Santa, Ph.D., BCBA-D. We are also in the process of modifying our application for membership to capture more demographic data to better understand the needs of our members. Despite COVID-19, we have been able to keep our membership rates low. Currently, membership for BCBA-D, BCBA, BCaBA, and Affiliates is \$50/year. Student and Behavior Technician membership is \$25/year.

## Events

Like most state chapters, we were planning on holding our Annual Conference in the Spring. Once the implications of the pandemic became apparent, we rescheduled our conference to be held virtually on September 18, 2020, which was sponsored by ReThink. Pete Polgar of Glenmont Consulting supported the technical aspects of the conference. Our Keynote Speaker was Dr. Doug Woods from Marquette University who spoke about trichotillomania. We had 14 presentations with 30 speakers at the conference. The conference was a huge success! We had over 600 behavior analysts attend the conference, which was by far, the most attendees we have ever had. The recorded talks were available to registrants and for purchase until December 31, 2020.

Our second virtual conference occurred on April 16, 2021 using the Behavior Live platform. The Keynote Speaker was Bill Heward, who spoke about targeting learning outcomes most likely to yield optimal benefit to the child. In addition, 17 speakers presented their work and we had 10 poster presentations. The talks are available to registrants for 6 months as well as being available to purchase.

In addition to our Annual Conference, we offered other CE events. Including a two-part series by Kelsey Ruppel, Ph.D., BCBA-D, LABA of FTF Behavioral Consulting presented on the Balance Program, an approach developed by Dr. Greg Hanley for addressing severe problem behavior for children with ASD. This spring we started

a Speaker Series comprised of five invited speakers presenting on a variety of topics throughout the year.

## Communication

NJABA strives to communicate well with our members and potential members under the capable leadership of the Chair of Communications, Jenna Glennon, MA, BCBA. To accomplish this goal, we issue a monthly newsletter with regular updates on our activities and events. In addition, we've increased engagement appreciably among the behavior analytic community in New Jersey via social media. We have a social media presence across multiple platforms, including Instagram, Facebook, and LinkedIn thanks to our Coordinator of Social Media, Emily Gallant, Ph.D., BCBA-D. More people than ever are now aware of our conference offerings, CE events, news digests, statewide programs, and workgroup activities. Follower counts continue to increase across three social media platforms, indicating that these communications provide valuable information to a growing population within our state. Finally, we completely redesigned our website over the past 18 months to match our revised mission and vision statements.

# Oregon ABA

BY AMANDA JOHNSTONE

ORABA has continued to experience growth in membership and BACB certificants in the state over the last year despite being amid a pandemic. In 2020, ORABA hosted its annual conference virtually and continued to provide continuing education to members across the state.

Oregon's growing population of practicing behavior analysts is continuing to grow. However, the number of Registered Behavior Analysis Interventionists has slowed this year, which is likely attributed to the Covid-19 pandemic. As of the beginning of 2021, there are 285 active Licensed Behavior Analysts, 27 active Licensed Assistant Behavior Analysts, and 1477 active Registered Behavior Analysis Interventionists in Oregon. ORABA has closely followed the activities of the Behavior Analyst Regulatory Board this year and is proud to have members serving on the board in 2020.

ORABA's annual conference, Lessons Learned and Future Directions, occurred in October. The conference was held virtually. ORABA's keynote speaker, Ellie Kazemi, Ph.D., BCBA-D, presented to members on the topic of creating a culture of care. Shawn Capell, MS, BCBA, LBA discussed fulfilling the promises of applied behavior analysis. Several of our local behavior analysts presented on a variety of topics.

Oregon's higher education system saw additional opportunities for students to engage in behavior analytic studies. Portland State University, University of Oregon,

and Oregon Institute of Technology all provide course sequences for certification in Applied Behavior Analysis.

## Pennsylvania ABA

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

### PennABA Updates

PennABA's operations were disrupted this past year by the Covid-19 pandemic. Given that our 2020 conference was scheduled toward the very beginning of the pandemic, we initially planned to hold the conference with safety measures in place. However, as the risks of pandemic accelerated and

we became more aware of how the virus is spread, and which conditions lead to greater risk, we determined we could not safely proceed with our conference.

As the pandemic continues to pose significant health risks, we are planning our next steps for 2021. Currently, we are aiming to develop and post a series of webinars that can be accessed for continuing education credits. Given the difficult financial climate many of our members may be facing, we will be offering these continuing education opportunities free of charge.

In addition to conference planning, several of our executive council members remained engaged in the legislative efforts to license behavior analysts in Pennsylvania. These members have coordinated with local state representatives as well as leaders from other states who have previously navigated legislation related to licensing.

### 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.

**Join Proud Moments ABA  
and make an impact today!**

[www.proudmomentsaba.com](http://www.proudmomentsaba.com)



**Proud Moments ABA**

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

### ABA Colombia

BY CAMILO HURTADO-PARRADO

The major changes that ABA Colombia went through during 2020 (e.g., election of a new board, modification of by-laws, and vision and mission redefinition) resulted in positive, relevant, and promising changes in the focus and activities of the Chapter during the last 6 months.

In alignment with its updated mission of contributing to the professional and scientific development of Behavior Analysis in Colombia, the Chapter created a new subcommittee lead by Board Members Yors Garcia and Diana Vergara and behavior analysts in different regions (within and outside Colombia). This committee is dedicated to aggressively increase the dissemination and recognition of the science and profession in Colombia and the region. Efforts have included strengthening social media presence (Facebook @colombiaaba, Twitter @AConducta), networking with other Chapters, and scheduling open-access and regular events (one monthly) with experts from Colombia and abroad in different areas and topics. The first events (<https://bit.ly/2UeSQKQ>) addressed the role of applied behavior analysis in the Latin- and Ibero-American region and globally (Dr. Gladys Williams) and the professionalization of Behavior Analysis around the world (Dr. Neil Martin). The number of viewers (beyond 1,000 as of February of 2021) and feedback from the audience show promise of the relevance and impact of these efforts. The topic of the future events will include a panel of experts on applied behavior analysis in Latin America, the study of cultural phenomena from a behavior analytic perspective, and the role of behavior analysis in education. All the events will be broadcasted live and free every last Thursday of the month, and then will continue available in the YouTube channel of the Chapter (<https://bit.ly/2UeSQKQ>).

In alignment with ABA Colombia's vision of representing nationally and internationally behavior analysis as a science and a profession, the Chapter's Board met in February 2021 with Dr. Neil Martin (director of International Development of the Behavior Analyst Certification Board) to receive initial guidance on the steps necessary to (a) develop a set of minimum standards for the practice of behavior analysis in Colombia, and (b) establish a system of recognition for institutions and individuals that practice behavior analysis, including those that provide behavior-analytic services. The result of this initial effort was the creation of a subcommittee that will develop a proposal for such system of standards and recognition. It is expected that the official outcome of the "ABAI Task Force in International Education and Practice," to which Dr. Wilson Lopez-Lopez continues

contributing to representation of ABA Colombia, will also provide guidelines and resources that will support the efforts of this subcommittee.

We are excited about the positive impact that the changes in ABA Colombia's leadership and efforts have already produced over the last months. This is especially the case considering the challenges that the COVID-19 pandemic brought to our country and region. These outcomes encourage us to continue contributing to the experimental, applied, and professional Behavior Analysis in Colombia and Latin America.

### ABA in Nigeria

BY BOSEDE E. ASIKHIA

Interim Officers were appointed by ABA in Nigeria (ABAN) trustees to run the association in 2019-2020: Bosede Asikhia, president, BCBA, QBA; Francis Mohie, vice president, RBT; Eziafakaku Nwokolo, secretary, BCBA, QBA; and Daisy Jonathan, financial secretary/treasurer, QASP-S. The chapter celebrated the following accomplishments:

- Appointment of regional coordinators:
  - a. ABAN North Team coordinator: Angela Ikuomola QBA
  - b. ABAN East Team coordinator: Dr. Tina Irimoren Ph.D., QBA
  - c. ABAN West coordinator: Temitope Osoba QASP-S
- Total registered members: 50 as of December 2020.
- Website developed: [www.aban.org.ng](http://www.aban.org.ng)

#### Activities

Since its inception, ABA in Nigeria has engaged in the following activities:

- Set up WhatsApp group for sharing vital information such as specific training and consultancy services.
- Established a regional ABAN web team for outreach, liaison, awareness, and advocacy programs in order to encourage participation and commitment of members in the science of ABA and to raise awareness about the efficacy of ABA to the consumers, community, and governmental institutions. ABAN Autism awareness programs are on-going at the agency and regional levels and use campaigns and rallies during Autism awareness month to organize talks at churches, mosques, and at government institutions.
- Established the *West African Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis* (coordinator: Komlantse Gossou, BCBA), which released its first publication after our conference in May 2021.
- Our first ABAN Virtual Conference took place April 30–May 1, 2021.

- Collaborated with Nigerian ABA professionals in sharing vital information for the benefit of ABAN members.
- Created opportunities for supervision, consultancy, free and subsidized CEU, and scholarships for ABA training (teachers and parents).
- About 10 members were able to establish their own agencies through motivation and consultancy services.

## ABA Saudi Arabia

BY FAISAL ALNEMARY & MONA ALHADDAD

ABA Saudi Arabia was accepted as an affiliated chapter of ABAI on May 31, 2013. After seven years since the establishment of the chapter, ABA Saudi Arabia is taking responsibility to commit to its mission statement.

ABA Saudi Arabia was established with the mission to disseminate information about the science of behavior analysis and support the development of and access to behavior analytic services for people in need. To accomplish this mission, the chapter seeks to support the development of graduate opportunities for appropriate candidates in Saudi Arabia, plan and support continuing education (CE) for practicing behavior analysts, and advocate for the right to community-based access to behavior analytic services through governmental and regulatory channels.

The founding and current officers are Faisal Alnemary, Ph.D, BCBA, president; Mona AlHaddad, MEd., BCBA, vice president; Shayma Omar, Ph.D, secretary; Shumaila Jaffrey, treasurer; and Wafe Aljohani, PhD BCBA, publication and marketing officer.

ABA Saudi Arabia currently has a membership of around 70 members, consisting of practicing behavior analysts, students (graduate and undergraduate), speech pathologists, and community-based individuals interested in behavior analysis in Saudi Arabia. As one aim of our mission is to disseminate the science of ABA to different communities in

Saudi Arabia, the chapter continues to provide workshops to people in the community including parents, practitioners at intervention centers (e.g., Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health, HRH Prince Mohammad Bin Salman Autism Centers, Jeddah Autism Center, Saudi Association for Autism, Jeddah Institute for Speech and Hearing, Autism Center of Excellence, and Center for Autism Research), and school teachers. Many who attend these workshops are looking for certification in ABA through accredited short courses or intense seminars (e.g., RBTs). Due to this fact, the chapter's mission is to keep spreading awareness of ABA and credentialed people who are qualified to provide ABA services. As a result, the number of BCBA certificants has increased over the years to reach 100 as of May 2021.

### Activities

Members of the chapter carried out several activities to continue our effort to disseminate behavior analysis across Saudi Arabia.

First, the chapter is committed to continue its effort in regulating the practice of ABA and its profession through governmental entities, such as the Saudi Health Council (SHC), the Saudi Commission for Health Specialties (SCfHS), and other governmental entities affiliated with Ministry of Education and Ministry of Human Resources and Social Development (MHRSD). The chapter is continuing the efforts that were taken last year (mentioned in the previous report), when Dr. Alnemary, BCBA, (on March 11, 2020) and on behalf of all practicing behavior analysts in Saudi Arabia, presented a proposal to the MHRSD to establish a local licensing or certification program in applied behavior analysis. This is still a work in progress. However, we recognize the increased number of individuals interested in ABA through attending the synchronised workshops and seminars conducted throughout the year 2020–2021.

Also, one of the unique efforts was the First Virtual Saudi Applied Behavior Analysis Symposium, which was





organized by Dar Alhekma University in partnership with the Autism Center of Excellence, Riyadh and the Jeddah Institute for Speech and Hearing. The symposium shed light on the history, present and future of ABA in Saudi Arabia and was very successful in attracting interested people, behavior analysts, health practitioners, parents, and stakeholders in Saudi Arabia and the GCC region. Both the ABA Saudi Arabia chapter's president and vice president had presentations at the symposium where the activities and initiatives done by the chapter were discussed and shared with participants. The Symposium was held on March 19–20, 2021 with 13 International, regional and national speakers and eight workshops dedicated for families, and four of them with CEUs.

Also, we continue to run our biweekly virtual meetings to inform members about the chapter's activities. Furthermore, some of the members have translated several documents and provided independent talks to spread the words about behavior analysis.

Finally, we are planning to recruit new officers due the relocation of the previous chapter officers, followed by marketing the chapter through recruiting new members and increasing the number of training to promote awareness about ABA.

### Membership

ABA Saudi Arabia welcomes members at the full, affiliate, and student levels. Membership is open to all individuals interested or actively engaged in behavior analysis. For the time being until we become an associate chapter, any person wishing to become a member must submit a completed application form and pay annual membership dues. Contact [abasaudiArabia@gmail.com](mailto:abasaudiArabia@gmail.com) or [malhaddad@dah.edu.sa](mailto:malhaddad@dah.edu.sa) for membership information.

## Association for the Advancement of Radical Behavior Analysis

BY FABIO TOSOLIN

In 2020–21, AARBA was been actively involved in several initiatives, specifically regarding the ABA community and the growth and strengthening of our discipline in educational, political, research, and organizational areas. We are glad to share what we've accomplished to date, hoping to inspire other chapters and advance our goals for the future.

### Dissemination & ABA Community

In 2020, members of the chapter took part in the ABAI 46th Annual Convention, which was scheduled to be at

Washington, but due to the pandemic, had to be organized entirely online. During the event, chapter members had the opportunity to attend to several interesting symposia and panels, plus two events that involved AARBA representatives directly. During the morning of Saturday, May 23, our president—Fabio Tosolin—collaborated in a symposium that highlighted the importance of the development of a specific COVID-19 behavioral containment protocol. This presentation gathered elements of what has been studied and learned so far about the spread of the novel coronavirus and the effects of the COVID-19 in a variety of areas of behavioral inquiry. For the second intervention (25th), Dr. Tosolin delivered a presentation titled, “Behavior-Based Safety Driving: Improve your Driving with the B-BS Protocol.”

In 2021, we hosted the 14th edition of our Scientific European Conference on Behavior-Based Safety (B-BS) and Performance Management (PM) in conjunction with the 16th edition of the Scientific European Congress on Applied Behavior Analysis. Initially, the event had to take place at the Palazzo Gran Guardia in the city of Verona, but due to the unexpected lockdown, we had to rearrange and organize the event entirely online. The main element that emerged throughout the interventions given by invited speakers, was management of the COVID-19 pandemic response and the resources that had been implemented by organizations and single entities to continue with work and provide necessary services. Most of the audience was OBM-related, with HSE managers, HR managers, consultants, and work psychologists, but also included many clinical psychologists and therapists, we decided to organize a concurrent session of symposiums and workshops focusing on the field of ABA in autism.

At the event, we had the honor to host several international guest speakers, such as Terry McSweeney (executive consultant at Dekra), Mike McCarthy (Sustain Leangains), Sigurdur Sigurdsson (full commissioner for the Behavior-Based Safety Accreditation Commission of the Cambridge Center for Behavioral Studies), and other important pioneers in the field of OBM. As far as behavior analysis applied to clinical fields is concerned, Leasha Barry, Dayna Beddick (University of West Florida), and Robert Ross (senior vice president at the Behavioral Education Assessment and Consultation, Inc.) contributed with talks focusing on the adaptations and implementations of ABA strategies to provide support to families and clients even during the lockdown period. For the first time, the event concluded (June 27) with the creation of a Consensus Conference, both for the B-BS and autism conference, where leading experts in the field of behavior analysis discussed and approved a scientific protocol for the management of anti-contagious behaviors useful for productive and health purposes.

Specific to the area of organizational behavior

management (OBM), the first version of the “Protocol for the management and the monitoring of the measurements for the COVID-19 containment” was developed during the month of April by Fabio Tosolin and Maria Gatti (general secretary and chief scientific officer of AARBA) and was subsequently shared with the international community. Moreover, during the Consensus Conference, several researchers and practitioners in the field of ABA and OBM (Sigurdur Oli Sigurdsson, Mark Alavosius, John Austin, Christoph Bördlein, Donald A. Hantula, Francesco Marella, Mike McCarthy, and Terry McSween) gathered. During this meeting, the OBM’ers discussed in detail the importance of the application and divulgation of COVID-19 protocol, along with recommended improvements and additional developments. The protocol focuses on changing individuals’ behavior through a structured and evidence-based approach based on behavior measurement and feedback providing. The adoption of a specific protocol can have an enormous impact in our societies. The use of measurable elements can indeed allow for the collection of useful data needed to make decisions in terms of prevention and intervention, increasing population health and wellbeing.

During the month of December, we renewed our commitment to Ambiente-Lavoro, the biggest Italian fair about environment and safety at work. Online, we held two presentations about the development of the protocol for the management and monitoring of measurements for COVID-19 containment and behavior-based safety for the development of safe behavior.

During the end of 2020 and throughout the pandemic period, we also had the opportunity to collaborate with various organizations located throughout Italy and to organize webinars focusing on the implementation of the specific COVID-19 protocols. What we are most proud of is that this happened not only in the industrial field,

but even in schools, hospitals, and restaurants—showing the importance of a science of behavior devoted to solving human problems in all settings.

### Higher Education

During the month of April, with the essential support of Dr. Leasha Barry and Dr. Dayna Beddick, we started with the first Verified Course Sequence (VCS) of the Italian Associate Chapter of ABAI. Given the lack of knowledge related to the adoption of ABA techniques and their spread throughout universities, we rely on structured international courses like this to bring knowledge and competence into Italian health and learning facilities. Due to the importance and the continued divulgation of the science of ABA in Italy, during the month of April 2021—and with great enthusiasm—we started our second edition of the VCS. Support and collaboration from Italian associations that focus on the application of ABA in different environmental contexts has been an essential component to prepare for this new edition. We are very excited to have the opportunity to support Italian students to appropriately respond to families’ needs just like in other more ABA-focused countries.

Moreover, between the months of September and November 2020, we held the 39th edition of our 80-hours B-BS post-graduate course, where we trained another class of students and safety and operations professionals. During this course, individuals were not only trained on the theoretical background of behavior analysis and its implementation in the OBM field, but they were even exposed to its practical aspects (creating a checklist, presentation of data analysis, conducting safety meetings, etc.). With the new year, we had the opportunity to start with the 40th edition of the B-BS online course (February–April 2021) and with the creation of an intense 3-day online course during the month of January 2021,



focusing on B-BS implementation, specifically in relation to the COVID-19 protocols.

### Public Policy/Legislation

On January 5, 2021, we had the final confirmation that AARBA has been accepted by the Federation of Italian Medical-Scientific Societies, which includes about 190 scientific associations. This allows us not only to collaborate with them, but to also play a meaningful role in influencing Italian State decision making—thanks to the greater prestige and power of medical societies compared to psychological societies.

### Research Projects

As far as research is concerned, in collaboration with the Polytechnic of Milan, we dealt again with some master's degree theses: In 2020, we supported one intern and for 2021; we are supporting two interns.

The purpose of the first thesis of 2021 was to assess the effectiveness of the scientific method of B-BS applied to contract workers. The use of an experimental multiple baselines design between behaviors was used to evaluate the effectiveness of the B-BS process and the use of a non-parametric test (c-test) to assess the significance level of the outcomes of the trial. The results demonstrate the effectiveness of the B-BS process, with a significant increase in the frequency of adoption of safe behaviors. Indicating that the integration of contract workers when implementing a B-BS process, would benefit both safety and the economy of scale generated by the unification of the safety process regardless of the functional dependence of all workers.

The second thesis, still in progress with a multiple baseline across subject design, focuses not only on the difference between baseline condition and intervention (feedback) condition, but also on the difference between immediate feedback and deferred feedback. In particular, the difference between 1-to-1 peer feedback delivered just after a behavioral observation with a checklist, and a biweekly department safety meeting feedback provided by a safety leader. This research is conducted in the region of Veneto, in an international papermill plant.

### Companies Consulting

As far as major Italian and multinational companies' support, we followed-up our commitment in the nation with some interventions based on training and OBM consulting.

Throughout the months of September, we started with two new projects, both based on the application of AARBA COVID-19 protocols, but in two different environmental contexts. The first one was taken forward in an academic context of an Italian School in Milan and the second one in the restaurant catering component of Milan Rotary Club. The main objective in both projects were data gathering through the design

of specific checklists formed by safe hygiene behaviors and feedback-based interventions aimed to increase the frequency of safe behaviors. Several implementations of the AARBA COVID-19 protocols are currently involving a variety of firms and educational fields. The results up to now are encouraging and show a positive and stable trend in the improvement of safe hygiene behaviors. We are very happy to say that the COVID-19 protocols have been implemented not only by firms that already had an ongoing B-BS process, but also by ones that got to know behavioral safety during the pandemic.

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

## Association Française— Les Professionnels de l'Analyse du Comportement

BY DIANE FRASER AND HELENE ABDELNOUR

In 2020, Association Française—Les Professionnels de l'Analyse du Comportement and ABA-Online began the first online VCS in French. Our third cohort has already begun. Our content includes readings in French, readings in English, videos, live tutoring sessions, and an end-of-week quiz to test acquired knowledge.

The Miltenberger book was translated last year and made available to the students on the website. Dr. Bailey's book was translated this year. We are working to become an ACE provider as well.

Association Française—Les Professionnels de l'Analyse du Comportement is managed by Diane Fraser, president and coordinator of the VCS; Helene Abdelnour, treasurer; and Melodie Geneste, Secretary.

## British Columbia ABA

BY MIRIAM ELFERT

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

The BC-ABA board consists of 12 elected board members who meet 10 times per year to advance behaviour analysis in the province of British Columbia. We have a dedicated and active board with diverse experiences and abilities. Our membership also represents a diverse group of behavior analytic practitioners providing services throughout the province.

Regulation of BCBAAs and BCBA-Ds has continued to be an area of focus for BC-ABA. BCABA has been working with the College of Psychologists of British Columbia and in conjunction with the provincial government's Ministry of Health towards regulating the field of behaviour analysis in BC. Due to recent developments, namely, the review by the provincial government of the Health Professions Act and the BC regulatory framework, progress on this issue has been stalled; however, we hope to continue engaging with the government and stakeholders on this important issue, with the goal of eventually becoming a regulated profession in BC.

BC-ABA's annual conference will be held in April 2021; this year the conference will be held virtually due to the pandemic and restrictions on in-person gatherings. There will be two live keynote presentations, one by Dr. Bridget Taylor on compassion practices in the profession of behavior analysis and the second by Dr. Nirbhay Singh on mindfulness. The conference will also include a number of pre-recorded "on-demand" presentations by local behavior analysts on a variety of topics including sexuality, telehealth services, and practical functional assessment in school settings. The call for papers for the 2022 conference will go out in by the end of this year. We welcome anyone to submit and look forward to expanding the variety of presentations we can offer.

In response to the pandemic and the shift to remote service delivery, we hosted a series of online webinars for our members. Ashley Rose and Dr. Siri Ming presented on telehealth and Dr. Evelyn Gould presented on Acceptance and Commitment Therapy.

Another important area of focus for BC-ABA has been issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI).

BC-ABA conducted a survey of its members about DEI issues and received valuable feedback and a number of suggestions on what we can do to ensure Page 2 of 2 Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour (BIPOC) voices are heard and represented in our conferences, discussions, and communications. Based on feedback from the DEI survey, we expanded our training in an effort to provide more diverse continuing education opportunities. To include perspectives of autistic individuals, we hosted a presentation by autistic adult and advocate Oswin Latimer on how to better understand the autistic brain. We also launched a 16-hour anti-racism training with Dr. Alana Tappin, a clinical psychologist from Toronto. The training is divided into a series of four 4-hour workshops, one time per month for four months. We recently completed the first workshop in the series and look forward to learning more from Dr. Tappin and each other in the coming months.

Based on another suggestion that came out of the DEI survey, BC-ABA asked for volunteer members to form a DEI committee which has met three times. The BC-ABA board is working with the DEI committee to identify future opportunities for collaboration.

BC-ABA is unique in that we have a Student Alliance committee run by our elected student representatives. The committee is comprised of students enrolled in behaviour analytic programs in BC. They work at advancing behaviour analysis among the student population and host various events throughout the year to facilitate this goal.

BC-ABA's membership continues to maintain at approximately 300 members which includes full, student, and associate memberships. Benefits to being a BC-ABA member include continuing education opportunities (e.g., annual conference); access to presentation recordings and slides; access to board meeting minutes for up-to-date



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information regarding BC-ABA events and activities; current information, news, and job advertisements via our monthly newsletters; and networking opportunities with other BC-ABA members. All this for only \$30 CDN per year for a full membership!

BC-ABA continues to be an active chapter affiliate of ABAI and is honoured to represent ABAI in the province of British Columbia.

## Manitoba ABA

BY RYAN HECKERT

The Manitoba Association for Behaviour Analysis (MABA) is proud to be in its 16th year as an affiliated chapter of ABAI. We met several objectives were met during our 15th year, described below.

In October 2020, MABA was proud to host Dr. Robert K. Ross (Beacon Services) as the keynote speaker at our 15th Annual Conference. The conference was held in a virtual format and was well received by all attendees! Dr. Ross delivered a presentation entitled “Behavioural Indicators of Effective ABA Programming.” The conference also featured presentations by our invited speakers, Dr. Frank Cicero (Seaton Hall University), who shared his knowledge on sexual behaviour, autism, and behaviour analysis; Dr. Madeleine Keivy (University of Manitoba), who presented on using multiple and chained schedules in a clinical setting, and Dr. Cary Trump (University of Northern Colorado), who presented on behavior analytic equations. To conclude the conference, a panel discussion consisting of Dr. Ross, Dr. Cicero, and Dr. Trump discussed the impact of cultural diversity on ABA. The panel was chaired by Mr. Rob Jeffrey (St. Amant).

We are looking forward to our 16th Annual Conference, to be held on October 28, 2021, in a virtual format. The conference will feature a keynote presentation on ethics by Dr. Jon Bailey (Florida State University). Information on additional speakers can be found at [maba.ca/conference](http://maba.ca/conference).

MABA became a CE provider in 2013, and in 2020 offered several events. CEUs were available for free to our members who are BCBAs and BCBA-Ds. These events included our conference and two webinars. In March 2020, Dr. Matthew Brodhead, presented a webinar on risk mitigation during the COVID-19 pandemic. In conjunction with the Ontario Association for Behaviour Analysis (ONTABA), we hosted our seventh webinar which featured Ms. Arezu Alami (Brock University), who presented a clinical case on the treatment of food refusal.

As part of our mission to disseminate information on behaviour analysis, MABA participated in the annual Psychology Month event at St. Amant in February 2020, where we sponsored prize packages for a psychology themed trivia quiz open to all staff. MABA also provided several awards for students and members. In May 2020, MABA

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

For the upcoming year, we will continue to work on our new and ongoing objectives and goals. Our key objectives for 2021 include offering CE opportunities for our members, as well as exploring options to provide education for the public. Furthermore, we will also explore opportunities to promote behaviour analysis in Manitoba through partnerships with local organizations and universities. Finally, we would like to continue to work on increasing our membership through various recruitment initiatives.

## Norwegian ABA

BY ERIK ARNTZEN

In 2020, the Norwegian Association had about 550 members, and this number has decreased a bit over the last couple of years. Most of the members hold a bachelor's degree in social welfare; however, an increasing number of members hold a master's degree and Ph.D.

The Norwegian Association arranges a five-day annual conference in April or May. Due to the pandemic, we postponed the conference, and it was arranged as a hybrid conference for three days in October. A maximum of 50 people attended the conference at the venue (due to Norwegian rules), while more than 800 people attended the conference online. The three days included 16 hours of symposia and presentations. During the three days, we had interviews with different researchers and video-clips showing various applications of behavior analytic techniques.

The Norwegian ABA publishes two journals: *The Norwegian Journal of Behavior Analysis* and *The European Journal of Behavior Analysis*. *The Norwegian Journal of Behavior Analysis* is published twice a year. The journal is a peer-reviewed journal that publishes papers on research, practice, and conceptual issues in behavior analysis, mainly in Norwegian. From 2011, abstracts in English are included. *The European Journal of Behavior Analysis* ([www.ejoba.org](http://www.ejoba.org)) is a peer-reviewed journal published twice a year. *EJOBA* is primarily for the original publication of experimental reports and theoretical or conceptual papers relevant to analyzing individual organisms' behavior. *EJOBA* has published several special issues since the first volume was published in 2000. *EJOBA* has a collaboration with Taylor & Francis Group.

# Polish Association of Behavioral Therapy

BY EWA KULIGA

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

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

PABT has promoted behavioral therapy by organizing specialist trainings for a wide range of attendees (mainly the teachers and parents of the emotionally and developmentally disabled). Over 1,000 participants attended such trainings in 2020.

In 2014, the association formed non-public schools “UMIEM” (“I can”). Two of them are located in Krakow, and one opened in September 2017 in Raciborz. In total, “UMIEM” schools provide education to 32 students with autism spectrum disorders and intellectual disabilities.

Since 2010, boards of two Polish Chapters of ABAI (i.e., PABT and Polish Society of Behavioral Psychology)

have been working on a joint program—Polish License of Behavioral Therapist—to standardize formal requirements for behavioral therapists in Poland. The purpose of these activities is to consolidate and formalize professional training for behavioral therapists in Poland, and thus define the requirements for practicing therapists to make behavioral therapy clearly identifiable by the highest quality of therapeutic services. Polish License of Behavioral Therapist runs an integrated system of theoretical and practical training to enable trainees to gain the title of behavioral therapist. At present, 229 people in Poland have been granted the title of licensed behavioral therapist, 31 people have the title of behavioral supervisor and 4,000 are in the process of acquiring qualifications.

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

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



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- courses, no less than 100 hours of internships at any of the collaborating centers, professional practice under supervision, and a positive reference from the supervisor.
- Route IV includes completion of postgraduate studies in applied behavior analysis at the SWPS University of Social Sciences and Humanities, completion of no less than 80 hours of internships at any of the collaborating centers, professional practice under supervision (a minimum of 50 hours of supervision per year), and a positive reference from the supervisor.
- Route V includes completing second degree studies in the Faculty of Psychology of the SWPS University of Social Sciences and Humanities (also as a unified master's degree studies): "The Psychology of shaping and modifying behavior", master's degree studies in psychology in the SWPS University of Social Sciences and Humanities in Poznań, module: "Application of behavior therapy in education for children of normal and disordered development—an introduction", other relevant studies including a module covering applied behavior analysis, lasting at least 60 didactic units; the coursework has to be presented to the Board of Polish License of Behavior Therapy system for official acceptance, at least five specialty courses, at least 100 hours of training in one of the collaborating facilities, including at least two training periods of minimum five consecutive days each (i.e. at least 20 hours each), work under a supervision of a current holder of a Supervisor's License (at least 50 hours of supervision).
- Route VI includes obtaining a BCBA certificate.

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

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

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

- The Emergency Intervention Team (EIT) is a short-term (up to 2 weeks), intensive therapy for persons with developmental and behavioral disorders and their families facing material and other hardships.

In 2020, PSTB wasn't able to organize neither conference, nor therapeutic camp due to COVID-19. Majority of training courses took place online. PABT's Ambulance is an online form of help destined for people and families in need of assistance. In order to give professional help PABT's Ambulance has offered difficulties' diagnosis, analysis of video material and instruction of therapeutic skills.

PABT's outreach started extending beyond Poland. According to our survey (N=505) conducted in early 2020, 3,8% of Polish behavior therapists also work abroad, mostly in the British Isles and Czech Republic. Some of them also work in Germany and Austria or Italy. In 2017 PABT accepted international members and started cooperation with "ADAM" from Czech Republic. Since then, we had Czech therapists attending our courses and applying for internships in Polish licensed behavior therapy centers. Due to this cooperation, we established Silesian-Moravian Office in Raciborz. We also had Ukrainian specialists expressing interest in bringing high-quality behavior therapy to their country.

In 2020, PABT and Polish Society of Behavioral Psychology started talks with specialists and centers not associated with us, to establish some form of agreement and work with BACB towards establishing a country-wide credentialing system that would be recognized by the authorities and legal system. These talks were stopped due to the pandemic and its influence of schools and therapeutic centers.

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

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

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

At present, 62 therapeutic centers use SYSABA. PABT works to obtain resources that allow further development of the organization and introduce new statutory activities (including research programs).

# Taiwan ABA

BY LI-TSUN WANG

During the last year, The Taiwan Association for Behavior Analysis (TABA) kept on promoting behavior science to parents, special education teachers, private institution, and many others. The activities held during this year included workshops, lectures, practical training, the Annual TABA Conference, and institutional behavior intervention training workshops. Because of COVID-19, most of events were held by online video conference. This allowed more people in Taiwan to improve their professional knowledge and skills about behavior science.

The TABA annual conference was on April 26, 2020 and focused on practice and research based on new trends related to inclusion environment. The topic was “Implementation and Perspectives of Applied Behavior Analysis in Inclusive Environment”, which was presented by the invited speaker Dr. Ya-Ping Wu, who is an assistant professor in the department of Special Education at National Chiayi University (NCYU) in Taiwan. The presentation introduced the inclusion process by ABA for a child with Autism in elementary school, and how to use AAC to communicate with child with special needs in an inclusive environment, also in elementary school. Another speaker, Dr. Pei-Fang Rachel Wu, who is a full-time professor of the master’s Program of Early Therapy Education, Department of Early Childhood Education of National Taichung University of Education, shared NET implementation within the inclusion setting. A total of 46 people, including teachers, speech therapy workers, occupational therapy workers, special education staff, and behavior analysts, attended this event.

In March 2020, we accepted an invitation by Kaohsiung Nanzi Special Education School in Taiwan, to introduce problem skills training for 10 teachers. From March to May 2020, TABA held six lectures for parents about a range of issues—in all, 33 parents joined. Topics covered included:

- behavior problem solving skills,
- skills by ABA during home for parents,
- peer interaction skills for preschool children,
- social skill training for school-age children,
- how to promote social interaction via games at home,
- and the effectiveness for teaching at home.

From October to December 2020, TABA held six half-day, online workshops on the following topics:

- special children toilet training,
- eating training strategies,
- teaching in natural situations,
- application of reading skills for special kids,
- the initiation of behavioral problem intervention starts with the evaluation of behavioral function,
- and ABA strategies to reduce learners’ escape behavior and promoted enjoy learning.

There were 39 total members in attendance of these workshops, and those who attended commented that they were looking forward to more training.

Activities in 2021 included the Annual TABA Conference on June 26, 2021, which focused on “The Latest Development Trend of Applied Behavior Analysis and Clinical.” Drs. James King and Szu-Yin Chu, presented on ABA intervention application results in research and practical environments, catering their presentations to different areas of focus for workers and teachers, such as speech therapy, occupational therapy, special education, and more. We also held trainings and workshops in 2021 and continued to promote multiple programs for under special needs kids un 3-years old and their parents. Most of of these initiatives focused on individual and group parent skill training.

We remain dedicated to our mission to spread knowledge of behavior analysis to professionals and parents, to promote the science in Taiwan, and to invite more members and professionals join us.

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## Updates From ABAI's Special Interest Groups

### Addiction

BY AUGUST HOLTYN, BETHANY R. RAIFF, JESSE DALLERY & KIMBERLY C. KIRBY

The Addiction SIG was founded to expand training, research, and employment opportunities for behavior analysts in the area of addiction. The SIG provides a forum for all persons who have an interest in studying and applying behavior analysis to understand, prevent, and treat addiction. This may include addiction to drugs and other commodities (e.g., alcohol, nicotine, stimulants, opioids, internet, smartphones, food, gambling) and associated psychosocial problems (e.g., psychiatric comorbidities, unemployment, poverty).

In the past year, the Addiction SIG focused on maintaining the necessary infrastructure to support SIG activities. We conducted SIG leadership meetings, maintained our digital presence via Facebook, and monitored our system for tracking SIG membership. We held the inaugural business meeting of the SIG at the ABAI annual convention—our main focus at the business meeting was to provide an overview of the SIG's mission, increase SIG membership, and encourage feedback on ongoing and future activities of the SIG.

In the coming year, the Addiction SIG aims to accomplish several goals. The SIG will: (1) serve as a professional and scientific networking group for its members; (2) focus on growing its presence and interaction on social media; (3) continue to recruit new members; (4) promote submission of addiction-related symposia, panel sessions, posters, and papers for ABAI and highlight upcoming relevant presentations; and (5) expand the resources available to its members. In sum, the SIG aims to pursue several activities that will make membership in the Addiction SIG as beneficial as possible. Membership in the Addiction SIG is open to all individuals who are interested in the SIG's aim, mission, or objectives. The SIG's members need not be members of ABAI.

Membership is currently free. If you would like to become a member, please complete the membership application, found here: [https://jhmi.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_8d22zrevielRB9X](https://jhmi.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8d22zrevielRB9X).

### Behavioral Development SIG

BY JESSICA SINGER-DUDEK

The main mission of the Behavioral Development (DEV) SIG is to promote a behavioral developmental thrust within behavior analysis. We strive to bring behavior analysis to the wider world of child psychology and

learning, comparative psychology, adult development and gerontology, sociobiology, education, behavioral economics, developmental disabilities and autism, and language development, among other fields. We do so by incorporating theories and findings from other areas into our own research and by bringing professionals from outside traditional behavior analysis, including developmental psychology, to ABAI events and forming collaborations.

The DEV SIG's membership includes faculty, students, and practitioners, many of whom are also members of other SIGs (e.g., Autism, Verbal Behavior) and are interested in the DEV SIG's mission, conference program, and discussions. Our SIG has 85 current members. We have a large international presence, with countries including Norway, Germany, Mexico, Italy, Spain, China, Korea, UK, Bosnia, Canada, and France represented. Students from programs affiliated with the SIG and others whose interests align with our mission are encouraged to join. The DEV SIG has a Facebook page and is now up to 78 members! We hope it will succeed in reaching a wider audience and increasing the SIG membership. The page is currently closed to the group, but those wishing to view it can request access just by clicking a button. We are always looking to grow our membership and are planning on establishing a newsletter with updates on SIG-related research in the coming year.

On the agenda at the 2020 annual meeting were ways to spend our growing SIG funds. We decided to hold a Student Research Award competition in October, coinciding with the submission dates for the annual convention. The students submitted their applications with the understanding that, if selected, they would be expected to present their research at the 2021 ABAI annual convention. We received six submissions and chose three to receive monetary awards of \$400.00 each designed to offset ABAI membership and conference registration fees. The winners were Hung Chang, Francis Hwang-Nesbit, and Maninder Virk. Hung presented his research, entitled, "The Effects of the Observational Procedure on Conditioned Reinforcement for Books for Preschoolers with and without Disabilities" as part of a symposium chaired by Jaime DeQuinzio entitled, "Observational Learning Research: A Review of Trends and Current Examinations of Complex Repertoires." The other two award recipients presented their papers as part of the Behavioral Development Special Interest Group (DEV SIG) Graduate Student Research Award Presentations. Francis presented her paper, "Comparing Two Interventions on Establishing Multiple Stimulus Control" and Maninder presented her paper, "The Effects of Parent Training During Telehealth Sessions on the Students' Rate of Learning and Parents' Delivery of

Accurate Instruction.” The student research competition will continue for the 2022 annual convention and we hope to see more submissions in the future.

The DEV SIG is represented in the ABAI annual convention program in the area of Human Development (DEV). DEV SIG members consistently serve as DEV program area coordinators who help bring exciting presentations on a variety of topics related to behavioral development to the annual convention.

At the 2020 annual convention the DEV area was represented by 21 posters, 1 panel discussion, 2 paper presentations, and 9 symposia. The majority of these presentations focused on research related to verbal behavior development, acceleration of academic skills, and behavioral development across the lifespan. Co-program area chairs Jessica Dudek and Jo Ann Delgado also recruited an exciting Invited Tutorial entitled, “Designing Instruction for All Learners: How Verbal Development Informs Pedagogy and Instruction” by Jennifer Weber.

The 2021 annual convention hosted 12 posters, 3 papers, 1 panel, and 8 symposia. We had an interesting B.F. Skinner Lecture by Marla Brassard entitled, “Improving Observed Parenting and Enhancing Well-Being in Parents of Young Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder,” an International Address by Kieva Hrachuk entitled, “The Interaction Between Development and Instruction,” and an Invited Tutorial by Lin Du entitled, “0 to 60: Establishing Conditioned Reinforcers and Inducing Observing Responses.”

These sessions well represented the breadth of research interests by members of the DEV SIG, particularly in terms of the population of participants studied (those with and without developmental disabilities; children and adults) and the focus on verbal, academic, and behavioral development across the lifespan. The contributions of all the session chairs, presenters, and discussants was very much appreciated.

We are also excited to announce that have already lined up invited speakers for the 2022 annual convention. Sonali Rajan will be our B.F. Skinner lecturer, Dermot Barnes-Holmes will be our International speaker, and R. Douglas Greer will give an Invited Tutorial.

The DEV SIG has a poster at the ABAI Expo and holds a business meeting every year. All are welcome to attend. When we can meet in person, the DEV SIG members like to gather for a no-host SIG dinner. This enjoyable occasion is also open to all. In addition to being friendly, interdisciplinary by our very nature, and interested in many different topics and approaches, we have been a relatively informal SIG. Come find us at one of our presentations or invited talks, attend our business meeting, or Expo. We look forward to welcoming new members!

## Health, Sport, and Fitness SIG

BY JULIE M. SLOWIAK

The mission of the Behavior Analysis in Health, Sport, and Fitness Special Interest Group (HSF SIG) is to educate, coordinate, and provide resources to behavior analysts and other members of society seeking to address human challenges in health, sport, and fitness through the application of the science of behavior analysis.

We strive to fulfill our mission through: (a) Educating behavior analysts and other members of society and increasing awareness, visibility, and understanding of the application of the science of behavior analysis to health, sport, and fitness; (b) disseminating information about the practice of behavior analysis and educational and training opportunities relevant to practice of behavior analysis in the areas of health, sport, and fitness; (c) providing a professional network and access to educational and training resources (e.g., continuing education events, mentorship opportunities) for its members; (d) obtaining financial resources to support research grants for behavior analysts who seek to conduct research with the objective to develop or evaluate behavior analytic interventions to resolve human challenges in health, sport, and fitness, and (e) collaborating with other non-profit organizations, healthcare agencies, and health, sport, and fitness professionals to maximize our impact on current efforts.

The HSF SIG organized as a 501(c)(3) not for profit organization in April 2019, and its annual strategic plan includes five strategy areas to support the continued growth of the practice of behavior analysis in the areas of health, sport, and fitness: (1) visibility and awareness, (2) business skills and entrepreneurship, (3) credentialing and payment, (4) training and professional development, and (5) research. Over the past year, HSF SIG members have moved the organization’s mission forward through their work within three Volunteer Committees. The primary aim of the HSF Visibility Committee is to increase the visibility of the HSF SIG, HSF SIG members, and the application of behavior analysis to the areas of health, sport, and fitness to behavior analysts and the general public. The primary aim of the HSF Professional Development Committee is to support, encourage, and promote the development of practitioner competence. Finally, the primary aim of the HSF Research Committee is to support, encourage, and promote health, sport, and fitness-related research within the field of behavior analysis and among current and prospective HSF SIG members. We elected a new HSF SIG director to fill a new officer position, the Membership & Outreach Manager, in Spring 2020. We anticipate that additional committees and leadership opportunities will be added as the organization continues to grow.

In January 2021, the HSF SIG accepted applications for its small research grant program. The purpose of this grant is to support graduate students who engage in experimental research to demonstrate the application of behavior analysis to address human behavior in the areas of health, sport, or fitness. Additional goals of this program are to disseminate behavior analytic research and practice and to expand research opportunities for graduate students of behavior analysis. With available donations received through fundraising and co-hosting continuing education events, the HSF SIG was able to award three \$500 grants this year! Details for the 2022 HSF SIG Small Research Grant program will be announced in late 2021, and applications will be due in January 2022.

Our Annual Business Meeting was held virtually in June 2021. At this year's meeting, we introduced members of the Board of Directors. We presented the HSF SIG's mission, strategy areas, major goals, and opportunities for members to get involved. We also provided an overview of our accomplishments over the past year. Major accomplishments included growing our membership, co-hosting professional development opportunities that highlight HSF practitioners, disseminating research via social media, growing the small research grant program, and working with the editor of *Behavior Analysis: Research and Practice* to publish a special issue on behavior analysis in health, sport, and fitness.

One of our ongoing goals is to continue to increase visibility of the HSF SIG at the ABAI annual convention, as well as at state and regional conferences, through organizing fun activities for attendees that focus on maintaining healthy habits during travel and combating sedentary behavior while attending conferences. If conference organizers are interested in collaborating with us to organize a health and fitness-related event (whether in person or virtually), please email us at [director@hsfsig.org](mailto:director@hsfsig.org).

We also took action during the summer toward the development of a structured mentorship program and are in the process of evaluating a pilot mentoring circle program. We hope this program will serve to connect members with mentors and allow for peer-to-peer mentoring among those who desire to re-specialize and/or practice in the areas of health, sport, and fitness.

Conversations among members continue to support the contention that several barriers and ethical considerations exist for those who desire to practice in the areas of health, sport, and fitness. In addition, opportunities to secure research and supervised fieldwork experiences in academic programs are limited by the small number of ABA faculty with expertise or interest in health, sport, and fitness, as well as limited course offerings. Our focus will be to continue to support those who are interested in practicing and conducting behavior-analytic research within the areas of health, sport, and fitness.

The current HSF SIG board includes: Julie Slowiak, Ph.D., BCBA-D, University of Minnesota Duluth (executive director); Natalie Juhlin, MS, BCBA, United States Army Reserves (president/secretary); Gabrielle Torres, MS, BCBA, LBA, Acorn Health (treasurer); and Rachel Foster, doctoral candidate at the University of Kansas, (Membership & Outreach manager). We would like to thank to those members who have served on our Volunteer Committees over the past year: Jessica Arriaga, MS, BCBA, Niles Township District for Special Education; Sarah Burby, MS, BCBA, Brett DiNovi & Associates; Nicole M. Davis, Ph.D., BCBA, Northeastern University; Kate Harrison, M.S., BCBA, Brett DiNovi & Associates; E. Justin Page, Ph.D., BCBA-D, LBS, University of Pittsburgh; Rocky Perez, California State University, Fresno; and Sharlet Rafacz, Ph.D., California State University, Fresno.

For more information, please go to our website ([www.hsfsig.org/](http://www.hsfsig.org/)), Facebook Page ([facebook.com/ABAI.HSF.SIG/](https://facebook.com/ABAI.HSF.SIG/)), or follow us on Instagram (@hsf.abai). If you're interested in joining the HSF SIG, you will find details on our website. Membership is \$10/ year for students and \$20/ year for professionals (we also offer a 2-year option for professionals). If you have any questions, want to contribute to our blog, or would like to take a more active role in the Behavior Analysis in Health, Sport, & Fitness SIG, please email us at [director@hsfsig.org](mailto:director@hsfsig.org).

## Open Educational Resources SIG

BY VERONICA J. HOWARD

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 like 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 and inclusion in the field of behavior analysis.



## 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 currently led by Rachel Potter (Mary Baldwin University). Our board includes Ryan Sain (Mary Baldwin University/PsychCore), Clint Evans (Behavior Chef), and Brian Middleton (Bearded Behaviorist). Our Secretary/Treasurer is Veronica Howard (University of Alaska Anchorage).

## Events & Activities

In 2020, the SIG offered five continuing education events, including:

- An Introduction to CC Licenses, The Role of OER in the Dissemination of Behavior Analysis (a DBA SIG collaboration), The Search for an OER: A Mystery OER CE event, Students as Content Creators, and Annotating with Hypothes.is. These recorded events are freely available for review in our member forum.
- SIG leadership also represented the community at the ABAI Culturo-Behavior Science Conference, at the ABAI Annual Conference, at the 2020 Open Ed Conference, at the inaugural Open Education Southern Symposium. We were also graciously invited to conduct a CEU event for UncomfortableX, highlighting how OER initiatives can better help ABA educators and supervisors promote equity and diverse representation in materials.

## Goals 2021

The community is gearing up for another year of amazing CE opportunities plus some ambitious new projects, including the development of introductory-level modules to teach basic behavioral principles and applications as well as developing a curated list of free and open access resources to support courses teaching BCBA ethics courses. Volunteers needed!

We will also be working hard to highlight the amazing Openly Licensed supervision curriculum developed by our member, Dr. Rachel White (University of Alaska Anchorage Center for Human Development).

## 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. Students are very much welcome. More information about our free membership can be found at the SIG's website, [www.openbehaviorsig.org](http://www.openbehaviorsig.org).

# Speech Pathology 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

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), Trina Spencer (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). We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to Sudha Ramaswamy for being our Grant Competition and Awards Coordinator for the past several years.

## World-Wide SLP-BCBA and SLP-BCaBA

We are proud to announce that there now 429 SLPs who are BCBAs or BCaBAs worldwide. We are present in 44 states, Washington DC, Puerto Rico, and 12 countries outside the United States. We continue to provide and maintain an online database of practitioners dually certified as SLPs and BCBAs/BCaBAs from around the world ([www.behavioralspeech.com/search-for-an-slpbcba.html](http://www.behavioralspeech.com/search-for-an-slpbcba.html)). Our improved and updated website has enabled us to continue connecting with our members and any interested professionals. Our ongoing and consistent social media presence helped grow SPABA SIG in 2020. The SPABA SIG continues to be regularly active via our Facebook group, Facebook page, as well as Twitter, Instagram, and Pinterest accounts.

## Membership

In our 2020–2021 membership cycle, our paid membership increased to 106 (yes, 106!) members who provided a

donation with 11 being student members. We are beyond thrilled that our paid membership for 2020–2021 was up by 92 paid members! SPABA provides 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 is calculated, we are pleased to report a total of 8,288 formal and informal members which is an increase of 1,335 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 our decision to make our Facebook group an open group for anyone requesting to join without requiring SIG paid membership, the interest in this group continues to increase exponentially.

### Financial

Membership fees and donations go directly to fund our annual grant competition. Pleasantly surprised during this membership cycle, our operating funds increased significantly. For the past five years, our decision to ask for a nominal membership fee + a donation gave us mixed results. In 2020, great effort was put into our membership drive as well as public displays of gratitude on social media when a member signed up and donated. In addition, 100% of the SPABA SIG Executive Committee has donated to the SIG.

### Annual Grants

SPABA now 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 ABAI members who, as students or practicing clinicians, conduct empirical research or raise awareness about behavior analysis among SLPs. Research projects should advance the evidence base for behavior analytic conceptualization or treatment of speech, language, communication, and feeding disorders. Application and dissemination projects should involve effective application of the science-based principles of behavior by SLPs or distribution of accurate information about the science-based field of behavior analysis among SLPs. We are pleased to announce that several of SPABA's previous grant recipients have had their research published.

The SPABA SIG's 2021 grant recipients presented their research virtually at the SIG's business meeting during ABAI's annual 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](http://www.behavioralspeech.com).

### SIG Member Activities

Even though the COVID-19 pandemic affected the ability of many to present in person for the bulk of the 2020–2021 membership cycle, 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 62 times during 2020 including ABAI 2020 Annual Convention, annual state speech/language association conferences, annual state applied behavior analysis association conferences and numerous webinars and podcasts. Many members were presenters at non-speech/non-behavior analytic conferences as well. SPABA member, Rebekah Lee was awarded one of the Sidney W. and Janet R. Bijou Grants in 2020.

### Current Initiatives

SPABA began production of an electronic quarterly newsletter in June 2020 as a paid member benefit. SPABA has also offered free, monthly, community of practice events (SCOPE). Topics ranged from stimulus control, prompts/prompt fading, data collection, interprofessional practice and remembering Jack Michael.

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

SPABA has been gained the distinct honor of hosting on our website the work of M. N. Hegde, Ph.D. His contributions to the speech-language field while applying a behavior-analytic lens is truly inspiring.

### 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 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](http://www.behavioralspeech.com) and join or follow us on social media:

- Facebook Group: SPABA.SIG
- Facebook Page: SPABASIGofABAI
- Twitter: SPBASIG
- Instagram: SPBASIG
- Pinterest: SPABASIGofABAI

## Teaching Behavior Analysis SIG

BY DACIA MCCOY

The Teaching Behavior Analysis (TBA) SIG is a collaborative group with the goal of improving teaching and learning throughout the field of behavior analysis and beyond. All are welcome to join and there are no dues to participate. We recognize that teaching takes many different forms including staff training, academia, teacher consultation, parent education, and skills training for clients.

The TBA SIG has a variety of ways to get involved and connected with other members. One simple opportunity is to join the engaging listserv where members often post resources, references, open-source tools, and faculty or internship positions. This past year has raised many timely discussions regarding resources for virtual instruction, social justice and diversity, content revisions for the BACB 5th Edition Task List and new Ethics Code for Behavior

Analysts. To become a member of the listserv, send an email to Dacia McCoy at [mccoydi@ucmail.uc.edu](mailto:mccoydi@ucmail.uc.edu) and copy our list manager, Pat Williams, at [patwms@protonmail.com](mailto:patwms@protonmail.com). The large membership ensures a range of topics covered and generally a quick response from diverse viewpoints.

Furthermore, we have an active and growing Facebook page (@Teaching Behavior Analysis) with more than 7,800 members. This is another venue where resources, collaboration, and professional development opportunities are shared. With both platforms advertisements for commercial products and books are not permitted to allow for open dialogue and the group's focus to remain.

At the annual convention, we hosted a TBA SIG business meeting as a way for members to meet virtually, learn more about the group, and provide direction for the upcoming year. Make sure to look for the session at the next convention. There are also several ways to get involved in a leadership role within the group. If you are interested in learning more about running for a committee position or contributing to group initiatives you can email Dacia McCoy at [mccoydi@ucmail.uc.edu](mailto:mccoydi@ucmail.uc.edu). We are excited to continue to offer these great resources to members and look forward to seeing your involvement in the TBA SIG.

## Verbal Behavior SIG

BY APRIL KISAMORE AND DANIELLE LAFRANCE

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 2020 ABAI Annual Convention. There were three winners of the 2020 VB SIG Student Grant: first place went to Fernanda Oda, University of Kansas; second place to Sandhya Rajagopal, Florida Institute of Technology; and third place to Shannon Luoma, California State University, Sacramento. We would like to thank the reviewers of this competition: Terry Falcomata, Megan Miller, Kerry Ann Conde, Cassy Gayman, and Garet Edwards. In addition, there were three winners of the 2020 VB SIG Student Research Competition: Aparna Naresh, Teachers College, Columbia University; Fernanda Oda, University of Houston-Clear Lake; Danielle LaFrance, Endicott College. We thank the judges: Kent Johnson and Sarah Connolly.

The VB SIG presented three professional awards and the rotating Jack Michael Award in 2020. The Clinical Supervisor in Verbal Behavior Award was given to Dr. Caitlin Delfs, Village Autism Center. The VB SIG Excellence in Teaching Verbal Behavior Award was

presented to Dr. Jason Bourret, The New England Center for Children. We thank the judges: Jim Carr, Emily Sweeney-Kerwin, Caio Miguel, Amber Valentino, and Cynthia Pietras. The VB SIG presented the 2020 Jack Michael Award for the enduring contributions of an advanced scholar in the analysis of verbal behavior to Dr. Caio Miguel. We thank the judges: Janet Twyman, Hank Schlinger, and Vince Carbone.

The VB SIG continued to support our student group this past year. The group was composed of eight 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, and they are organizing a panel on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, and they are taking part in identifying a VB SIG logo. Landon Cowen, Marquette University, served as the leader of the student group this year. Landon functions as the student liaison to the VB SIG Council and attends monthly VB SIG Council meetings. Additionally, one council member attends the monthly student group member meeting. The other 2020–2021 student group members include Maria Clara Cordeiro, Marquette University; Amanda Groos, Florida Institute of Technology; Amanda King, University of Houston–Clear Lake; Kimberly Marshall, Endicott College; Haven Niland, University of North Texas; Sandhya Rajagopal, Florida Institute of Technology; Mary-Genevieve White, Columbia University; and Astrid Zhang, Columbia University.

The VB SIG published two full issues of *VB News*, our newsletter. Features of these issues included a lab highlight with Amarie Carnett, University of Texas at San Antonio and a segment titled, “Words from the field during a pandemic”. We are excited about the quality of our newsletter 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 SIG Facebook page has 2.6k likes and 2.9k followers, and the SIG Facebook group has 3.2k members. 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. In the coming year, we plan to continue using social media platforms to contact VB SIG supporters.

The VB SIG membership remained strong this year. 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 2020 ABAI convention through March 1, 2020, we maintained membership at 73 members, which shows tremendous dedication to the study of verbal behavior and

support of the VB SIG. Our members enjoy eight benefits: (1) receiving the VB News twice per year 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 Council; (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. We are grateful to the 73 members who joined and supported the VB SIG this year.

At the 2019 VB SIG business meeting, we announced a new VB SIG officer position titled Dissemination Coordinator. We received several nominations for this position and held an election to fill it in 2020. We announced Andresa DeSouza as our newest board member. Andresa’s focus will be to increase the VB SIG efforts toward dissemination of VB. To that end, the VB SIG will host three mini conferences throughout 2021. Speakers for these mini conferences have been identified from the list of prior Jack Michael Award winners. Dave Palmer is scheduled for June, Mark Sundberg is scheduled for August, and one other prior Jack Michael Award winner will speak in October. The style of these mini conferences is unique in that each presenter will speak for about 50 min and then a member of our student group will spend approximately 20 min interviewing the speaker after which we will open the discussion to attendees for a 15 min question and answer period.

In the coming year, we plan to expand our reach and increase membership via branding with a new VB SIG logo and enhancing our marketing with a newly designed website; hold three mini conferences to increase excitement about applied and experimental work in verbal behavior; focus on issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion; and modify existing processes to ensure effective and efficient transfer of responsibilities following elections.

The work of disseminating and promoting verbal behavior would not be possible without the diligent efforts of the VB SIG Council. There were a number of new VB SIG board members elected this year. Danielle LaFrance, Ph.D., BCBA-D, H.O.P.E. Consulting, LLC; Kathryn Glodowski, Ph.D., BCBA-D, Penn State Harrisburg; treasurer; Lauren K. Schnell, Ph.D., BCBA-D, Hunter College, Student Research Competition coordinator; Mirela Cengher, Ph.D., BCBA-D, University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Membership coordinator; Andresa DeSouza, Ph.D., BCBA-D, University of Missouri–St. Louis, Dissemination coordinator; Landon Cowen, doctoral student, Marquette University, Student Group liaison; and Tiffany Kodak, Ph.D., BCBA-D, Marquette University, editor, *The Analysis of Verbal Behavior*. We would

like to welcome all new VB SIG board members!

Other VB SIG board members include April Kisamore, Ph.D., BCBA-D, Hunter College, past-chair; Bethany Hansen, Ph.D., BCBA, University of Nebraska Medical Center, secretary; Caitlin Delfs, Ph.D., BCBA-D, Village Autism Center, Student Grant Competition coordinator; Brittany Juban, Ph.D., BCBA-D, May Institute; Amanda Laprime, Ph.D., BCBA-D, University of Rochester Medical School, newsletter editor; and Tom Cariveau, Ph.D., BCBA-D, University of North Carolina Wilmington. ❖



The mission of the ABA Billing Codes Commission is to facilitate evidence-based applied behavior analysis by advancing the multi-disciplinary understanding, dissemination, and standardization of the adaptive behavior CPT® billing codes.

To submit inquiries or provide feedback, visit us at: **[www.ababillingcodes.com](http://www.ababillingcodes.com)**

## 2021-2022 Calendar of Upcoming Conferences

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

### 2021 November

#### **Arkansas ABA Conference**

November 4–5  
To be held virtually  
[www.arkaba.org](http://www.arkaba.org)

#### **Behavior Analysis Association of Mississippi Fifth Annual Conference**

November 4–5  
Southaven, MS  
Landers Center  
<https://bit.ly/baams5th>

#### **Colorado ABA Conference**

November 12–13  
Greenwood Village, CO  
DoubleTree Denver Tech Center  
[www.coaba.org](http://www.coaba.org)

#### **Missouri ABA Conference**

November 12–13  
St. Louis, MO  
[www.moaba.org](http://www.moaba.org)

#### **Georgia ABA Conference**

November 19–20  
To be held virtually  
[www.georgia-aba.org](http://www.georgia-aba.org)

#### **Kentucky ABA Conference**

November 20  
Louisville, KY  
University of Louisville,  
Shelbyhurst Campus – Burhans Hall  
<https://kentuckyaba.org>

### December

#### **Maryland ABA Conference**

December 2–3  
To be held virtually  
[www.mdaba.org](http://www.mdaba.org)

### 2022 February

#### **Ohio ABA Conference**

February 11–12  
Columbus, OH  
Marriott Columbus University Area  
<https://ohaba.wildapricot.org>

### March

#### **ABAI 16th Annual Autism Conference**

March 5–7  
Seattle, WA  
The Westin Seattle  
<https://bit.ly/ABAIautism22>

#### **Nebraska ABA Conference**

March 24–25  
Location TBD  
[www.nebraskaaba.com](http://www.nebraskaaba.com)

### April

#### **17th Annual New Jersey ABA Conference**

April 1  
Somerset, NJ  
The Palace @ Somerset Park  
<https://njaba.org>

#### **Four Corners ABA Conference**

April 8–9  
Tucson, AZ  
Casino Del Sol  
[www.4caba.com](http://www.4caba.com)

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### May

#### **Massachusetts ABA Annual Conference**

May 12–3  
Location TBD  
[www.massaba.net](http://www.massaba.net)

#### **ABAI 48th Annual Convention**

May 26–30  
Boston, MA  
Boston Convention  
& Exhibition Center  
<https://bit.ly/ABAIAnnual22>

### September

#### **ABAI 11th International Conference**

September 1–3  
Dublin, Ireland  
The Convention Centre Dublin  
<https://bit.ly/ABAI Dublin>



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**SAVE THE DATE!**

# **BOSTON**

**48th ANNUAL CONVENTION**

**May 26 – May 30  
2022**

**Boston Convention &  
Exhibition Center**  
[www.abainternational.org](http://www.abainternational.org)





550 West Centre Avenue, Suite 1  
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[www.abainternational.org](http://www.abainternational.org)

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