



THE NEW ENGLAND BEHAVIOR ANALYST

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Volume 2

August 2011

BABAT Conference 2011

Mark your calendars! The conference is fast approaching!

The annual conference of the Berkshire Association for Behavior Analysis and Therapy (BABAT) will be held on October 13 and 14, 2011. The 32nd annual conference will be held at the University of Massachusetts (Amherst), providing an opportunity for behavior analysts throughout New England to hear and share their own cutting-edge research, recommendations for practice, and updates on professional issues.

We look forward to presentations from many distinguished speakers, including Jim Carr (Auburn University), Ed Daly (University of Nebraska–Lincoln), John Donahoe (University of Massachusetts), Pat Friman (Boys Town), Brian Iwata (University of Florida), Caio Miguel (California State University–Sacramento), Jay Moore (University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee), Ed Morris (University of Kansas), Dave Palmer (Smith College), Carol Pilgrim (University of North Carolina–Wilmington), Claire St. Peter–Pipkin (West Virginia University), Hank Roane (SUNY Upstate Medical University), Jesus Rosales–Ruiz (University of North Texas), Tris Smith (University of Rochester), Mark Sundburg (Sundberg and Associates), and Julie Vargas (BF Skinner Foundation).

Invited speakers will be presenting on topics such as the contributions of quantitative analysis to applied work, validating treatments through school-based consultation, the prevention of problem behavior, and much more! Our two-day conference provides a wonderful forum for students, professionals, and parents to view, discuss, and share information in our field. Be sure to visit our website (www.babat.org) for information on conference registration and BABAT membership benefits!


We hope to see you in the fall!

Last Call for Posters!

The submission deadline for symposia, papers, panel discussions, and workshops has passed for the 2011 BABAT conference, but you still have time to submit a poster proposal. The deadline for posters is September 9, 2011. Take advantage of this great opportunity to share some recent work with your fellow colleagues and New England behavior analysts

All submissions are made electronically at our website. Please visit www.babat.org for our "Instructions for Conference Submissions 2011" which will help you prepare your poster proposal.

Quick tips:

- » First, download the document Instructions for Conference Submissions 2011 from www.babat.org for help preparing your proposal.
- » Then, follow along with the Instructions document, gathering all required information into a word processing file.
- » Submit on line, cutting from your word processing file directly into the on-line fields. 



Dr. Greg Hanley providing an invited address during the 2010 BABAT conference

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A MESSAGE FROM THE BABAT PRESIDENT

Why Licensure?

Joseph N. Ricciardi, PsyD, ABPP, BCBA-D

This Fall will be an important moment for the practice of ABA in Massachusetts and perhaps throughout New England. The hard-fought Massachusetts behavior analyst licensure bill will be debated and possibly voted on during these months. BABAT has been in the mix from the beginning. But do we all understand why this is so important?



Licensing behavior analysts is more than a pathway for reimbursement through health insurance or the ARICA legislation. This is certainly valuable—but mostly, this is a benefit for families of children with developmental disabilities, and possibly for school districts, creating a method for defraying costs and bringing more behavior analytic services to children in need.

The profession will gain more than a new funding source through licensure. For behavior analysts licensure will mean identity and another advance toward a better practice.


As it is now, certified or not, anyone can say “I am a behavior analyst” with no distinction between those who have had proper advanced coursework, field training, and the like. But after licensure, the title becomes “Licensed Behavior Analyst”, making a distinction between the most qualified and the least. The title would be protected by law.

As it is now, there is limited ability to take action for irresponsible practitioners. Ethics violations, poor practice, improper promises—these can occur without an immediate remedy. But after licensure, a Board of Registration will be available to hear complaints and concerns, and address serious violations of ethics and standards. A Board will preserve the integrity of the field.

As independent practitioners we will need to define and adhere to a scope of practice—what is ABA, and what is not; what we are qualified to do, and what we will refer to another specialty. As much as a license defines our identity, it also limits it—a good trade-off since collaborating with other specialties is always best for the client.

As independent practitioners we will need to engage in important accountabilities: record keeping, confidentiality, standards of practice, best practices, and risk management. All of these will enhance the quality of services and protect consumers, and elevate our work where it needs to be, and for many behavior analysts has been all along.

As a field our goal has always been to apply our science toward solving human problems. Doing this better is what we have always been aiming for. Consider this quotation, now almost 45 years old: “Better applications [of behavioral technology], it is always hoped, will lead to a better state of society...” (Baer, Wolf, and Risley, 1968).

Licensure will make us better. 

Joseph N. Ricciardi

As independent practitioners we will need to engage in important accountabilities: record keeping, confidentiality, standards of practice, best practices, and risk management.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Two Board of Director Offices Open for Election


Nominations are being sought for the following offices open for election this year: Professional Practice Committee Chairperson and Student Relations Committee Chairperson. Each position carries a two-year appointment, from February 1, 2012-January 31, 2014.

Directors enjoy full voting rights on all voting matters, contribute to decision making during all Board meetings, and may participate at their discretion in any BABAT committee (conference planning, membership, professional practice, newsletter, and student relations) under the direction of the designated Chair of the committee. Directors are required to attend all meetings of the Board and vote on issues electronically in between scheduled meetings.

A full description of each office, nomination forms and procedures can be found at our web site, www.babat.org.

A Summary of Election Procedures

- » Our by-laws require elections be run every year. However, elected offices are held every 2 years. Therefore, about 1/2 of offices are open for election each year. Announcement of vacancies and nomination for office begins at the annual conference and thereafter via electronic mailing to all members who are current members during the 4th quarter of every calendar year.
- » Only current, "professional members" can be elected to office (A professional member is any person holding a bachelor's degree or above in any field and who works full or part-time in behavior analysis or therapy).
- » Nomination forms are currently posted on our web site, www.babat.org. Nominations are due on or before November 30th, 2011.
- » Nominations may be completed by any current member. However, a nomination must include the current CV of the nominated individual. Self-nominations are acceptable. Multiple nominations will not affect selection as a candidate (see below).
- » Our by-laws require the president to form an election committee from members of the Board. The election committee will coordinate the procedures, gather nominations, verify membership status of nominees, and select a slate of no more than three candidates from all nominees. All nominations will be reviewed without regard to number of nominations received.
- » After selected, candidates will be requested to submit a candidate's statement which will be posted on-line, and all members will be invited to view statements and cast ballots.

Elections are held during the first 2 weeks of January and close on January 15th. Winners are announced by February 1st. Newly elected officers assume their office on February 1. 

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BABAT Membership Update

BABAT remains New England's premier membership association for behavior analysts. Our members contribute to an active community of over 780 students, educators, practitioners, and scientists who work to improve the nature and application of our science through education, practice, and research. Members enjoy many benefits of membership including the following:


- » Discounts on registration, workshop, and continuing education costs at BABAT conferences
- » Networking opportunities
- » Legislative advocacy
- » Access to emails and newsletters informing members of important issues, current events, and potential changes in the field

BABAT supports its members and the field of applied behavior analysis through adherence to its mission to promote the professional practice of applied behavior analysis in Massachusetts. In the past few months, significant efforts have been directed at educating our members about the proposed bills and upcoming legislative hearings targeting the licensing of behavior analysts. This issue has the potential to dramatically change the current and future practice of behavior analysis. Subsequently, the BABAT Board of Directors has endeavored to inform and empower our members to protect their right to practice. In addition, the Board continues to work to keep our members up-to-date on other events and issues central to the practice of behavior analysis.

We welcome questions, comments, or concerns about our service to our members or the field in general as well as ideas on how to better support BABAT members and/or fulfill our mission. Correspondence should be directed to the Membership Chair, Patrick Heick, at babat.membership.chair@gmail.com.

Membership Drive

BABAT continues to strive to reach out to even more behavior analysts and future behavior analysts and encourage their membership. As we have seen in the last year, increasing numbers of students, educators, practitioners, and scientists are interested in joining our professional community. Indeed, our recent membership drive has been very successful. In addition to the over 600 professionals who joined BABAT at the 31st annual conference last October, more than 130 individuals have joined over the past eight months. These new members took advantage of the opportunity to join for free and benefit from access to monthly emails, to the New England Behavior Analyst, and to other membership benefits. For those who haven't yet joined, you can still join for free! That's right – you can still join New England's largest membership association for behavior analysts for free! We are still offering free membership in BABAT until the October 13 & 14, 2011 conference. So, be sure to join and encourage other New England behavior analysts and students of behavior analysis to join as well.

To become a BABAT member for free, go to the membership page on our website (BABAT.org) and add your name and email address to our mailing list or send your information to the BABAT Membership Chair at babat.membership.chair@gmail.com. 

MEMBERSHIP SHOWCASE

In this introduction to selected BABAT members, we hope to emphasize, across issues, the diverse accomplishments and the many contributions being made by New England behavior analysts.

This Volume's Highlighted Member: Kathy Dyer

In the late 1970's, I volunteered on the Autism Unit at Camarillo State Hospital in California. One Saturday afternoon I was exploring the grounds with a child in hand, and we stumbled across a building that said UCLA/UCSB Learning Laboratory. Walking down the quiet halls, I read the names Ivar Lovaas and Robert Koegel on the doors of the offices. I had read these names before and my excitement resulted in my applying to UCSB to study with Dr. Robert "Bob" Koegel. Bob had the wonderful combination of training in behavioral psychology, while having his Autism Project in the Speech and Hearing Department at UCSB. I feel his multidisciplinary influence resulted in the beginning of the Positive Behavioral Support research that I was gratified to be a part of, and my research publications with this team are now documented as evidenced-based practices by the National Professional Development Center on Autism Spectrum Disorders and the National Standards Project.

I earned my PhD. in Speech and Hearing Science from UCSB, and my Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech Language Pathology followed from Temple University. This resulted in a unique hybrid of training in applied behavior analysis and speech language pathology. In addition to this wonderful university training, I also was fortunate to work at the May Institute at the beginning stages of their behaviorally-based residential treatment program, and to collaborate with Dr. Lovass on the UCLA replication while working at Bancroft, Inc.

These formative experiences all contributed to my current involvements in Connecticut, where I collaborated with the Capitol Region Education Council and my boss Tom Parvenski to open the River Street Autism Program at Coltsville in 2000, where I now serve as Clinical Director. We serve over 50 students in our intensive behavioral intervention program. We have collaborated with Dr. Kathryn James of the Communication Disorders Division at Elms College to develop a Master's and C.A.G.S Program in ASD, with an approved BACB course sequence. I am an Associate Clinical Professor in this program, and our staff enjoy gaining hands-on training at our school. Our practicum training program will be available for dissemination in a manual that we are publishing with Dr. Beth Sulzer-Azaroff: *Applying Behavior Analysis Across the Autism Spectrum: A Field Guide for Practitioners* (2nd Edition). We actively program for generalization with our Integrated Preschool, Parent Training Program, and Health Desensitization Program. We have grown substantially over the past decade and are looking forward to seeing what the next 10 years will bring.



Dyer

ADVOCACY AND PRACTICE UPDATE

Support for and Challenges to the Practice Rights of Board Certified Behavior Analysts in Massachusetts and Beyond

Bill Ahearn, PhD, BCBA-D

Many BABAT members have been following a number of events relevant to the practice of behavior analysis in Massachusetts, New York, and nationally. More than half of the states in the US have passed some form of autism insurance reform legislation. The strong efforts of Autism Speaks' Autism Votes initiative (<http://www.autismvotes.org/site/c.frKNI3PCImE/b.3909853/k.BE44/Home.htm>) has led to 26 states, including Massachusetts, passing bills that explicitly require reimbursement for applied behavior analysis (and appropriate diagnostic services) for persons with autism. Each law is as unique as each person with autism. However, in all of Autism Votes supported bills applied behavior analysis is explicitly included and, in a number of these laws, Behavior Analyst Certification Board (BACB) credentialed providers are specifically named as reimbursable service providers.

This is the case in ARICA that was passed last year in MA and in another exciting development, New York's autism insurance law was unanimously passed on June 17th and awaits the governor's signature. Autism insurance reform is a fantastic advance for families affected by autism and a great challenge to our field.

This challenge is complex and there are many who are motivated to denigrate the BCBA and BCABA credentials. Though we have a number of insurance providers who are supportive of soundly designed and applied behavioral services, there are others who describe applied behavior analysis (ABA) as an experimental procedure without empirical validation. It is important for our field to work diligently to educate those that are not aware of the validity of ABA on the evidence base for behavioral intervention. There are a number of behavior analysts in MA that have been working with insurance companies along these lines and we feel very positive about good relationships that seem to be developing.

Some states (but not MA), and some insurance providers, require that service providers be licensed. Licensure is another challenge for our field. There has been much debate over the last few years about whether credentialing or licensure is the appropriate route to identifying competent providers of ABA. This, however, is a false distinction. Neither credentialing nor licensure guarantees behavior analytic expertise or consumer protections. The BACB credentialing system is a good starting point. The BACB was originally developed by the Florida state government as a means of identifying applied behavior analysts. Soon it was adopted by the governments of a number of other states and then became an international organization that has credentialed over 9,000 behavior analysts. The BACB has followed an accreditation model established by the National Commission on Certifying Agencies (NCCA) that requires that the BACB follow specific guidelines for managing this credentialing system. These guidelines include establishing a psychometrically-validated examination and standards for qualifying to sit for the exam, establishing and managing a continuing education process, conducting extensive surveys of the practice

of behavior analysis by involving a large number of practitioners in defining the field's standards, and submitting to an external review of the accrediting process by the NCCA every 5 years.

The BACB's credentialing system has changed drastically from its inception to the present day. These changes are the product of following the criteria established by the NCCA for organizing a discipline's practice standards. Licensure can certainly be a helpful complement to a sound credentialing system but for these processes to work together it is important that licensure links firmly to the field's practice standards. For those states in which licensure is necessary for reimbursement or in those states in which an autism insurance reform act defines ABA, it is ideal for licensure to be in line with the BACB's credentialing system. That is, licensure will only be a helpful addition to consumers or ABA and practitioners if it is directly linked to the BACB practice standards for BCBA-BAs and BCBAAs.

Currently in MA there are several bills that have been introduced that propose licensure for behavior analysts. BABAT is firmly committed to advocate for our profession and to promote professional practice of behavior analysis. We are dedicated to supporting sound licensing procedures. The author of one of these licensure bills, Representative John Scibak of South Hadley, worked closely with many behavior analysts to construct a bill that is firmly aligned with our field's practice standards and that would benefit both consumers and practicing behavior analysts. However, Rep. Balse of Newton has also proposed a bill for licensing behavior analysts. This bill, supported by the Massachusetts Psychological Association (MPA), would 1) place control of the practice of behavior analysts in the hands of the Board of Registry for Psychologists, 2) would give control of the licensing exam to this board of psychologists, 3) would require a degree in Psychology (or give control to this Board of Psychologists to determine what qualifies as an acceptable substitute), and, 4) would significantly limit the scope of practice of behavior analysis.

In this bill the scope of practice is referred to thusly, "Applied Behavior Analysis (is) a set of techniques derived from basic and clinical research in the psychology of learning. The techniques are employed therapeutically in an effort to control or reduce abnormal and maladaptive behaviors in specific populations, predominately children with severe developmental disabilities and autism..." It is clear that any definition of ABA as a "set of techniques" is not accurate. Furthermore, restricting the practice of behavior analysis to those individuals with severe developmental delays or autism shows ignorance of the many application successes of ABA beyond these populations. Additionally, focusing on problem behavior as the primary goal of behavior analytic procedures flies in contrast to typical practice even with these populations. It is critical to oppose Rep. Balse's bill as it would be a significant blow to practicing behavior analysts and would give broad authority over the practice of behavior analysis to a group that is not qualified to establish or review standards of behavior analytic practice. Behavior analysis may have had its early origin in Psychology departments but Psychology generally ignores behavior analysis. The majority of Psychology graduate programs in MA, that are not BACB-approved course sequences, have no courses in behavior analysis.

Behavior analysis is an independent discipline. We are made up of edu-

Continued on Page 12



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HOT TOPICS IN BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS

The purpose of this section is to highlight the breadth of social issues behavior analysts are currently working on by providing a brief review of a burgeoning research area.

Animal Training and Detection of Landmines or Tuberculosis

By Corey Stocco


Animals have been subjects in behavioral experiments since the pioneering work of Pavlov, Thorndike, Watson, and Skinner. Breland and Breland (1951) referred to this growing area as “applied animal psychology,” and described the practical use of behavior analytic technology for a variety of areas (e.g., entertainment or farming). Another early example of applied animal psychology is Skinner’s work on Project Pigeon (or Project ORCON) during World War II (Skinner, 1960). Project Pigeon involved training pigeons to peck a screen in a missile cone to guide a missile toward a target. Recent research has embodied this notion of applied animal psychology through training animals to detect landmines in Africa or even to detect if a person has contracted tuberculosis.

Within a well written and organized description of how behavior analysis got involved with landmine detection research and practice, Jones (2011) provides two reminders about behavior analysis. First, Jones discusses that the distinction between applied and basic research is not a matter of the species serving as participants, but rather the immediate social significance of the target behavior. This reminder has been dittoed by Edwards and Poling (2011), which highlighted emerging research with animal participants in the *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*. Second, Jones suggested how the core characteristics of applied behavior analysis (ABA) can be used to guide the use of behavior analytic methods to address novel, socially significant areas of research and practice. Jones described how the core characteristics of ABA guided the development of research on and practice of training dogs to detect landmines (see Baer, et al., 1968, 1987, for a description of the core characteristics of ABA). These reminders are woven throughout the fabric of the other recent publications on training animals to detect landmines or tuberculosis.

Other publications (Poling et al., 2010a; Poling, Weetjens, Cox, Beyene, & Sully, 2010b) reminded the reader of the problem solving process involved in the practice of behavior analysis that was enveloped within the unformalized principles of scientific practice described by Skinner (1956/1972). Poling et al. (2010a; 2010b) provided a description of (a) how training African pouched rats to detect landmines begins in the laboratory and progresses to the minefield, (b) the challenges encountered along the way, and (c) the methods used to counteract such challenges. For example, Poling et al. described how differential reinforcement is not possible in the minefield because handlers do not know if the rat’s indicator response is correct and would likely lead to the deterioration of the discrimination. As a solution, they intermittently run rats through simulated minefields where mine placement is known and differential reinforcement can be arranged. This type of problem solving ensures the quality of behavior analytic practice in the face of challenges, and is fostered by experimental analysis.

Poling et al. (2011a) demonstrated how behavior analytic research and practice should be guided by demonstrating effects of practical value (Baer et al., 1968, 1987) and social validity (Kazdin, 1977). Poling et al. provided a description of the effectiveness of their rat mine detection program in Mozambique (e.g., meters of land searched, and number of explosive devices found). Effectiveness, however, is not the only measure by which practicing behavior analysts gauge their success. Developing behavior or technology that is socially acceptable is also of great importance. Poling et al. also corroborated with the International Mine Action Standards 09.42 (2008), which provides standards held to mine-detection animals for accreditation.

Finally, the generality of these training procedures is described in the novel context of tuberculosis detection (Poling et al., 2011b). The use of operant discrimination training has been useful in addressing a variety of societal concerns, and will be a key component of future endeavors. Weetjens (2010) briefly discussed other possible applications of the same technology (e.g., detection of pollutants in soils).

Using operant discrimination training to train animals to detect landmines or tuberculosis is a burgeoning area of research and practice. Recent reports suggest that the role of behavior analysis is promising in such areas of importance. The publications mentioned above provided reminders about the research and practice of behavior analysis and their symbiotic relationship. The extent to which behavior analysis proves to be useful for novel societal concerns is ongoing, but areas such as those discussed above are encouraging. 

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Thursday Sep 15, 2011	The Ethics of ABA Intervention Mary Jane Weiss, Ph.D., BCBA (Endicott College) 3:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.	Type 2 CEU Event - 3 Credits	\$50.00
Thursday Oct 27, 2011	Obsessive Compulsive Behavior and ASD James Chok, Ph.D., BCBA (Melmark New England) 3:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.	Type 2 CEU Event - 3 Credits	\$25.00
Thursday Nov 17, 2011	Science, Fads, and Applied Behavior Analysis Thomas Zane, Ph.D., BCBA (Endicott College) 3:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.	Type 2 CEU Event - 3 Credits	\$50.00
Thursday Jan 19, 2012	ABA Interventions with Pre-School Children Nicole A. Heal, Ph.D., BCBA (Melmark New England) 3:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.	Type 2 CEU Event - 3 Credits	\$25.00
Thursday Feb 9, 2012	Towards a Model for Developing Effective and Preferred Treatments for a Stereotypic Behavior of Persons Diagnosed with Autism Gregory P. Hanley, Ph.D., BCBA (Western New England College) 3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.	Type 2 CEU Event - 2 Credits	\$50.00
Thursday Mar 15, 2012	Improving Play and Leisure Skills of Individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorders Bridget A. Taylor, Psy.D., BCBA (Alpine Learning Group) 3:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.	Type 2 CEU Event - 3 Credits	\$75.00
Monday & Tuesday Apr 2-3, 2012	Verbal Behavior Mark L. Sundberg, Ph.D., BCBA (Sundberg & Associates) 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Type 2 CEU Event - 12 Credits-ASHA	\$150.00 <i>per day</i>
Thursday May 3, 2012	Feeding Disorders of Children with ASD Keith E. Williams, Ph.D., BCBA (Penn State University Medical) 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Type 2 CEU Event - 6 Credits-ASHA	\$125.00

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CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

New Award Established by the Berkshire Association of Behavior Analysis and Therapy

The Berkshire Association of Behavior Analysis and Therapy is pleased to announce the first annual "BABAT Practitioner Award". BABAT would like to recognize the work of a regional practitioner who has used applied behavior analysis to make an exceptional contribution to the field this year. Practitioners should possess an advanced degree (i.e., Masters or Doctorate) and board certification in ABA (BCBA). The nominee must practice behavior analysis in one of the five New England states. Their work may be clinical in focus, or may include a focus on using behavioral concepts and technologies as trainers, organizational performance specialists (OBM), or in other behavior analytic roles. In any case, their work should be recognizable as ABA according to its defining dimensions (i.e., applied, behavioral, analytic, technological, etc.).

If you know of an ABA practitioner who has impressed you as having made an exceptional contribution through the use of applied behavior analysis, describe in no more than 1000 words, the contribution they have made and why you feel they should be nominated for the award. In your description, try to emphasize the role ABA has played in this accomplishment. Self-nominations are acceptable.

The winning nominee will receive free registration to the BABAT conference, attend the speaker's dinner on Thursday evening at the conference where they will have the opportunity to talk to some of the leading researchers in ABA, and receive an award at the dinner commemorating their accomplishment.

All nominations must be received no later than 9/15/2011 and include the nominee's and your name, e-mail address, phone number and work location and address. Finalists will be contacted by phone for a brief interview on their project and asked to provide some form of permanent product on their contribution (e.g., data, protocol, etc.).

Please submit your nominations to gdefalco@evergrenctr.org by September 15, 2011.



Students: Don't forget to submit your poster!

The 2011 Student Poster Award

Application Deadline: September 8, 2011

The B. F. Skinner Foundation, in association with the Student Relations Committee of The Berkshire Association for Behavior Analysis and Therapy (BABAT), sponsors this poster competition for student research. An award of \$500 is available. Winners will be given the award at the annual BABAT conference.

Purpose of the Competition

- » To support and encourage research efforts in behavior analysis among students
- » To promote Skinnerian science
- » To boost the overall quality of academic research in behavior analysis
- » To provide recognition for students conducting behavior analytic research (through a publication in the online newsletter Operants)

Submission Guidelines

- » Any current student (undergraduate or graduate) or recent graduate (less than one calendar year after graduation) may submit a poster based



upon research that was conducted while the student was enrolled.

- » The student must be the first and primary author of the paper. The submission must be accompanied by a letter (or email) from the student's advisor indicating that the student met the criteria for first authorship as outlined by the APA guidelines.
- » An applicant should submit her or his poster to BABAT as indicated in the Call for Papers: www.babat.org. The applicant should then send all required information in an email to StudentRelations@babat.org. This should include: title, abstract, corresponding contact, statement of assurance, poster submission category, and depiction of findings and data reliability.
- » The Submission deadline is September 8, 2011. Submissions received after this date will not be considered.

Send submissions to StudentRelations@babat.org



Online Graduate Programs in Behavioral Intervention in Autism

UMass Lowell and UMass Medical School's Eunice Kennedy Shriver Center are expanding the online graduate autism program and are looking for qualified behavior analysts and autism intervention specialists to teach part-time in their online autism program. This program is one of the very few programs in the country available entirely online for individuals interested in expanding their knowledge of behavioral treatment for this developmental disorder.

- **An Online Graduate Certificate Program in Behavioral Intervention in Autism**
- **An Online Program Leading to Board Certification as Behavior Analyst**
- **An Online Master's Degree in Curriculum & Instruction: Autism Studies Option, M.Ed.**

Winner of Five Sloan-C Excellence Awards for Online Programs

UMass Lowell has won five prestigious national awards for its innovative online education programs from The Sloan Consortium.



UMass Lowell is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action, Title IX, H/V, ADA 1990 University. This ad was produced at no cost to the Commonwealth.

ATTENTION BEHAVIOR ANALYSTS:

Interested in **Teaching** online in our award-winning Autism Program?

Applicants must hold a doctoral degree with specialization in behavior analysis, and have significant experience in designing and providing behavioral intervention with persons with ASD or developmental disability. They must also have experience in training and supervising personnel. Experience teaching at the college level and familiarity with Blackboard and/or online teaching is preferred. Certification at the BCBA-D level is preferred. Please send resumes to:

Dr. Richard Fleming
E. K. Shriver Center
UMASS Medical School
200 Trapelo Road
Waltham, MA 02452
richard.fleming@umassmed.edu



University of Massachusetts Lowell

A collaborative program between UMass Lowell and The Eunice Kennedy Shriver Center

For more information, visit <http://continuinged.uml.edu/online/autism.htm>

THE BERKSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS AND THERAPY (BABAT)

About BABAT

The Berkshire Association for Behavior Analysis and Therapy (BABAT) is an affiliated chapter of the Association for Behavior Analysis International and of the Association of Professional Behavior Analysts.

Formed in 1979, BABAT is perhaps best known for the annual conferences it has hosted at UMass (Amherst) every year for over 30 years. This conference is for professionals, teachers, students, and persons interested in the areas of behavior analysis, autism, developmental disabilities, ethics, behavioral medicine, staff development, and more.

BABAT is more than an organization that hosts an annual conference, however. We also serve as a resource for behavior analysts and those interested in behavior analysis in the region. To find out more about our activities, sign up here for emails and newsletters, check us out on Facebook, and come back to this website periodically for updates.

BABAT Mission Statement

BABAT supports and promotes the professional practice of applied behavior analysis in Massachusetts. To accomplish this goal, we...

- » Conduct an annual conference of international scholars, researchers, and practitioners
- » Provide continuing education opportunities for behavior analysts
- » Disseminate professional practice advisory policies
- » Alert members to regional and national issues affecting the practice of ABA
- » Encourage student development and scholarship in ABA
- » Recognize the leaders in the field and their enduring contributions
- » Support legislative advocacy for the professional practice of applied behavior analysis

Have ideas for future newsletter content?

Contact BABAT's Media Chair, Stacie Bancroft, at sbancroft@necc.org.

BABAT on Facebook



Visit BABAT on Facebook and "Like" it to receive a weekly update on your wall!

Be up to date on the latest BABAT news and events. Be a connected member of your professional organization.

Like us on Facebook and you'll have opportunities to initiate and join discussions with other members, get sneak peeks of upcoming BABAT conference speakers, see and share pictures from BABAT events, and much more.

See you on Facebook!



Support for and Challenges to the Practice Rights of Board Certified Behavior Analysts in Massachusetts and Beyond

Continued from Page 6

cators, special educators, speech/language pathologists, psychologists, and other fields that provide socially meaningful service via applying the science of behavior. The BACB's model licensing act provides an excellent definition of the ABA. The "(p)ractice of behavior analysis' means the design, implementation, and evaluation of instructional and environmental modifications by a behavior analyst to produce socially significant improvements in human behavior. It includes the empirical identification of functional relations between behavior and environmental factors, known as functional assessment and analysis. Applied behavior analysis interventions are based on scientific research and the direct observation and measurement of behavior and environment. They utilize contextual factors, establishing operations, antecedent stimuli, positive reinforcement, and other consequences to help people develop new behaviors, increase or decrease existing behaviors, and emit behaviors under specific environmental conditions." This is a clear statement that accurately describes our field. It is not confined to or defined by a population. Our practice rights, as behavior analysts, lies in balance and it is up to us to advocate for those rights. BABAT's Board of Directors implores you to closely follow these developments and act on these important matters as you see fit. BABAT endeavors to continue to work with our fellow behavior analysts, our strong supporters (like Rep. Scibak, Judith Ursitti and Lorri Unumb of Autism Votes), and our members to advocate for the practice rights of behavior analysts. 