



Alabama Association for Behavior Analysis
20th Annual Convention

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2011 Executive Committee

President-Elect

James Carr (Auburn University, Behavior Analyst Certification Board)

President

Susan Ford (Alabama Department of Mental Health)

Past-President

Sabrina Franks (Alabama Department of Human Resources)

Members-at-Large

Linda LeBlanc (Auburn University)

Leigh Ann Strain (The Learning Tree, Inc.)

Paige McKerchar (Jacksonville State University)

Amanda Pack (East Alabama Mental Health Center)

Student-at-Large

Kaneen Geiger (Auburn University)

Executive Director

Jennifer Gillis (Auburn University)

We are currently accepting nominations for the following Executive Committee positions:

President-Elect (3-year term)

Member-at-Large (3-year term)

Student-at-Large (minimum 1-year term)

ALABA members may nominate a full member for one or more positions. Use the Executive Committee Nomination form to nominate people. Nominations must be submitted by October 15, 2011. Executive Committee terms start January 2012.

About ALABA

The Alabama Association for Behavior Analysis (ALABA) serves as a scientific and professional reference group that embraces the principles and practices of behavior analysis. Our goal is to promote research that will advance the understanding of behavior and to identify and promote the use of effective and humane behavioral procedures that meet the educational and rehabilitative needs of individuals. In addition, ALABA strives to serve as a resource for political, legislative, and policy-making bodies in Alabama in ways that support the scientific and professional interests of behavior analysis.

ALABA is a nonprofit membership organization that provides an annual convention as a forum for presentation of scientific and technological achievements. The association is an affiliate chapter of the Association for Behavior Analysis, Inc.

Our Mission

The Alabama Association for Behavior Analysis was founded in 1992 to promote the ethical, humane and effective application of behavior principles in all segments of Alabama society, including education, rehabilitation, developmental disabilities, business, industry, and government.

Membership

To become a member of ALABA, please visit us online at AlabamaABA@gmail.com and click on the “Membership” link.

Convention Information

Cancellations and Refunds

Cancellations are subject to a 25% cancellation fee. All refund requests must be submitted to AlabamaABA@gmail.com by 10/1/2011. After 10/1/2011, refund requests will not be honored. A substitute participant may be designated in place of the registrant who is unable to attend. For more information or special accommodations, contact ALABA at AlabamaABA@gmail.com.

Continuing Education Units (CEU)

ALABA offers continuing education units for BCBA's, BCaBA's, Social Workers, Nurses, and other professionals. If requesting CEU credit for Social Work, General, and/or Nursing you must complete an additional application form provided by AUM and submit an additional \$15 processing fee. All individuals wishing to earn continuing education units must complete all appropriate paperwork prior to the conclusion of the convention. Continuing education units are \$10 per hour and must be paid either on the ALABA website prior to the convention or on-site at the convention.

Continuing education fees must be paid in cash.

In order to receive a CEU for an event you must have attended the entire event and had the Continuing Education Verification Form signed at the beginning and end of the event. Signatures will not be provided for attendees who arrive more than 10 minutes late or leave more than 10 minutes early. Signatures will also not be provided retroactively.

ALABA 2011 Convention Schedule

Wednesday, October 5, 2011

Time	Activity	CEU
7:45 – 2:00	Registration	
8:30 – 11:30	Workshop 1: <i>Assessment and Treatment of Pediatric Feeding Disorders</i> Cathleen C. Piazza	3
11:30 – 1:30	Lunch on your own	
1:30 – 4:30	Workshop 2: <i>Functional Analysis and Treatment of Aberrant Behavior in Autism</i> Wayne Fisher	3

Thursday, October 6, 2011

Time	Activity	CEU
7:45– 3:00	Registration	
8:45 – 9:00	Opening Remarks President: Susan Ford	
9:00 – 10:00	Symposium: <i>Evolution and Outcomes of Statewide Initiatives in the Alabama Child Welfare System</i> Sabrina Franks, Franseca Mata, Erin Wofford	1
10:00 – 11:30	Symposium: <i>Stimulus Control Issues during Verbal Behavior Instruction</i> Amber Valentino, Crystal Bowen, Linda LeBlanc, Carrie Zuckerman	1.5
11:30 – 12:30	Keynote Address: <i>Bio-Behavioral Approaches to the Assessment and Treatment of Autism</i> Wayne Fisher	1
12:30 – 2:00	Lunch on your own	
2:00 – 3:00	Paper: <i>Appropriate and Inappropriate Sexual Behavior of Children and Youth</i> Susan Ford, Patricia McClanahan	1
3:00 – 4:00	Keynote Address: <i>A Summary of the Effectiveness of Treatments for Pediatric Feeding Disorders</i> Cathleen Piazza	1
4 :30 – 6:00	Business Meeting and Cocktail Reception	

Friday, October 7, 2011

Time	Activity	CEU
7:45– 3:00	Registration	
8:30 – 9:30	Symposium: <i>Maintaining and Expanding Professional Behavior-Analytic Repertoires</i> James Carr, Megan Heinicke	1*
9:30 – 10:30	Symposium: <i>Adaptive Behavior: Functional and Social Skills</i> Linda LeBlanc, Nicole Hanney, Melina Sevlever	1
10:30 – 11:30	Symposium: <i>Teaching Elementary Students with Disabilities to Mand through Naturalistic Instruction and a Communication Aid</i> Sara Bicard, Rebecca James, David Bicard	1
11:30 – 1:30	Lunch on your own	
1:30 – 3:00	Symposium: <i>Training Parents to Manage Disruptive Behaviors of Children with Autism</i> Kimberly Zlomke, Natalie Cook, Brenda Beverly	1.5
3:00 – 4:00	Presidential Address: <i>Recommendations for Facilitating Ethical Behavior in the Workplace</i> President-Elect: James Carr	1*

* Ethics and professional development continuing education unit for BCBA-D, BCBA, and BCaBA.

Wednesday, October 5, 2011
Workshop Sessions

8:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Assessment and Treatment of Pediatric Feeding Disorders

CATHLEEN C. PIAZZA (University of Nebraska Medical Center's Munroe-Meyer Institute)

CE units offered: 3

Feeding disorders are common in children and may be exhibited as a variety of topographies (e.g., food selectivity, food refusal). These problems may result in inadequate nutritional status and may be related to long-term developmental and behavioral sequelae. The purpose of this workshop will be to discuss methods of evaluating how specific behaviors can be defined and measured to allow quantification of variables related to the topographies of feeding disorders displayed by children with autism. A second purpose will be to review how this data-based approach can be used to prescribe and evaluate the effectiveness of treatment.

Learning Objectives:

1. Set objective, measurable goals for treatment of pediatric feeding disorders.
 2. Write objective, measurable definitions of behavior related to pediatric feeding disorders.
 3. Use at least one method to measure observable behavior.
 4. Identify methods for graphing objectively-measured behavior.
 5. Identify methods for using objectively-measured data to prescribe treatment for pediatric feeding disorders.
 6. Identify methods for evaluating whether treatments are effective.
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1:30 PM – 4:30 PM

Functional Analysis and Treatment of Aberrant Behavior in Autism

WAYNE FISHER (University of Nebraska Medical Center's Munroe-Meyer Institute)

CE units offered: 3

Functional analysis (FA) is an individualized assessment designed to evaluate a person's problem behavior in relation to environmental events that may affect the future probability of that behavior. Functional analysis is designed to identify (a) the environmental contexts in which problem behavior is likely and unlikely to occur; (b) the consequences that reinforce problem in those contexts; and (c) specific interventions that are likely to effectively reduce the individual's problem behavior. In this workshop, I will show how FA methods have (a) increased our understanding of how environmental antecedents and consequences affect problem behavior in children with autism; (b) facilitated the development of novel and effective treatments, and (c) produced simpler and more efficient interventions for problem behavior. Finally, I will also show how descriptive data can be used to develop alternative functional analyses for idiosyncratic functions of problem behavior displayed by individuals with autism.

Learning Objectives:

1. Distinguish between topographical and functional approaches to categorizing aberrant behavior.
2. Identify the strengths and limitations of indirect and direct functional assessments and formal functional analyses.
3. Identify potentially effective behavioral interventions based on the results of a formal functional analysis.

Thursday, October 6, 2011
Convention Sessions

8:45 AM – 9:00 AM

Opening Remarks

Current President of ALABA: SUSAN FORD (Alabama Department of Mental Health)

9:00 AM – 10:00 AM

Evolution and Outcomes of Statewide Initiatives in the Alabama Child Welfare System

SABRINA FRANKS, FRANSECA MATA, and ERIN WOFFORD, (State of Alabama Department of Human Resources)

CE units offered: 1

10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

Symposium: Stimulus Control Issues during Verbal Behavior Instruction

CE units offered: 1.5

Use of the Cues-Pause-Point Procedure to Decrease Echolalia and Increase Correct Echoic Responses in a Child with Autism

AMBER L. VALENTINO (Marcus Autism Center) and M. Alice Shillingsburg (Marcus Autism Center and Emory University School of Medicine)

Evaluating the Effects of Vocal Discriminative Stimuli during Mand Training

CRYSTAL N. BOWEN (Marcus Autism Center), James E. Carr (Auburn University), and M. Alice Shillingsburg (Marcus Autism Center & Emory University School of Medicine)

Evaluating the Effects of Vocal Instructions during Tact Training

LINDA A. LEBLANC, James E. Carr (Auburn University), Nancy M. Marchese, and Tiffany Rosati (Kinark Child and Family Services)

A Comparison of Tact and Echoic Prompts on the Acquisition and Maintenance of Intraverbal Behavior in Children With Autism

CARRIE K. ZUCKERMAN (Auburn University) and Henry Schlinger (California State University – Los Angeles)

11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Bio-Behavioral Approaches to the Assessment and Treatment of Autism

DR. WAYNE FISHER

University of Nebraska Medical Center's Munroe-Meyer Institute

CE units offered: 1

Presenter Bio:

Wayne W. Fisher, Ph.D. is the H.B. Munroe Professor of Behavioral Research in the Munroe-Meyer Institute and the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. He is also the Director of the Center for Autism Spectrum Disorders at the Munroe-Meyer Institute, a board certified behavior analyst at the doctoral level (BCBA-D), and a licensed psychologist. He was previously a Professor of Psychiatry at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and served as Executive Director of the Neurobehavioral Programs at the Kennedy Krieger Institute (Baltimore) and the Marcus Behavior Center at the Marcus Institute (Atlanta), where he built clinical-research programs in autism and developmental disabilities with national reputations for excellence. Dr. Fisher's methodologically sophisticated research has focused on several intersecting lines, including preference, choice, and the assessment and treatment of autism and severe behavior disorders, that have been notable for the creative use of concurrent schedules of reinforcement, which have become more commonplace in clinical research primarily as a result of his influence. He has published over 130 peer-reviewed research studies in 28 different behavioral and/or medical journals, including: (a) the Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis, (b) Psychological Reports, (c) American Journal on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, (d) Pediatrics, (e) the Journal of Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics, and (f) The Lancet. Dr. Fisher is a past Editor of the Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis, a Fellow in the Association for Behavior Analysis, and recipient of the Bush Leadership Award and the APA (Division 25) award for distinguished contributions to applied behavioral research.

Abstract:

Functional analysis procedures have been used to assess and treat a wide variety of behavior problems. Interventions developed from the results of functional analyses tend to be more efficient and effective than other treatments. However, it is often assumed that the environmental variables assessed during a functional analysis have little influence on aberrant behavior associated with complex psychiatric and neurological disorders. In this presentation, I will show how functional analyses and related behavioral assessment strategies can be adapted to improve our understanding of complex psychiatric disorders, such as rapid-cycling bipolar disorder. Similarly, I will show how behavioral assessment methods can be used to characterize unusual patterns of aberrant behavior associated with complicated seizure disorders, such as force normalization.

12:30 PM – 2:00 PM

LUNCH ON YOUR OWN

2:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Paper Session: Appropriate and Inappropriate Sexual Behavior of Children and Youth

Susan Ford and PATRICIA MCCLANAHAN (Alabama Department of Mental Health)

CE units offered: 1

3:00 PM – 4:00 PM

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

A Summary of the Effectiveness of Treatments for Pediatric Feeding Disorders

DR. CATHLEEN PIAZZA

University of Nebraska Medical Center's Munroe-Meyer Institute

CE units offered: 1

Presenter Bio:

Dr. Cathleen Piazza received her doctorate degree from Tulane University. She completed her pre-doctoral internship and a post-doctoral fellowship at the Kennedy Krieger Institute and the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in Baltimore, MD. After her training, Dr. Piazza continued as a faculty member at the Kennedy Krieger Institute and Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine where she served as the Director of the Severe Behavior Unit, the Chief Psychologist of the Neurobehavioral Unit, and the Director of the Pediatric Behavioral Sleep Clinic. In 1996, Dr. Piazza was appointed the Director of Training for the Department of Behavioral Psychology. In 1997, she was appointed the Director of the Pediatric Feeding Disorders Program. In 1999, the Kennedy Krieger and Marcus Institutes became affiliates, and Dr. Piazza moved to Atlanta to initiate the Pediatric Feeding Disorders Program at the Marcus Institute. She also served as the Director of Training for the Marcus Institute.

Dr. Piazza is a former Book Editor, a former Associate Editor, a former board member, and a former Editor of the *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*. In 2002, Dr. Piazza was named a Woman of Distinction by the Chron's and Colitis Association. She also was identified as the most productive female researcher and one of the top 5 researchers in the world in the areas of behavior analysis and behavior therapy in the 1990's. Dr. Piazza has served as a mentor to over 50 pre-doctoral interns and post-doctoral fellows who have trained at the Kennedy Krieger, Marcus, and Munroe-Meyer Institutes. Dr. Piazza is currently a Professor and the Director of the Pediatric Feeding Disorders Program at the University of Nebraska Medical Center's Munroe-Meyer Institute and Department of Pediatrics

Abstract:

Previous research has demonstrated that escape extinction (EE) is a necessary component of treatment for pediatric feeding disorders in most cases (e.g., Ahearn, Kerwin, Eicher, Shantz, & Swearingin, 1996; Patel, Piazza, Martinez, Volkert, & Santana, 2001; Reed, Piazza, Patel, Layer, Bachmeyer, Bethke, & Gutshall, 2004). Our clinical experience is that EE is not always effective when used alone, which necessitates the use of alternative and/or additional procedures. Although researchers have evaluated the effectiveness of treatment procedures individually, the overall effectiveness of these procedures has not been evaluated on a large scale. In the present paper, we examined 135 data sets from children referred for treatment of a pediatric feeding disorder. We analyzed how often EE-based procedures were effective in increasing acceptance and mouth clean (a product measure of swallowing) and decreasing inappropriate mealtime behavior. We also analyzed how often it was necessary to use alternative and/or additional procedures when EE was not effective. We identified the procedures that were used and evaluated their effectiveness in treating the target behaviors noted above.

4:30 PM – 6:00 PM

Business Meeting and Cocktail Reception

JENNIFER M. GILLIS (Auburn University)

Please join us after the business meeting for a reception where you can socialize with your colleagues. A cash bar and light hors d'oeuvres will be provided.

ALABA's annual business meeting is an opportunity for members to discuss issues related to behavior analysis in Alabama and the surrounding states with the Executive Committee and other members. The Executive Committee will present this year's goals for our organization and invite you to be an important part of the planning process. ALABA's mission is fulfilled by the active participation of our members. We hope to see you there!



Friday, October 7, 2011
Convention Sessions

8:30 AM – 9:30 AM

Symposium: Maintaining and Expanding Professional Behavior-Analytic Repertoires

CE units offered: 1 (Ethics and Professional Development)

Strategies for Making Regular Contact with the Scholarly Literature

JAMES E. CARR (Auburn University, Behavior Analyst Certification Board) and Adam M. Briggs (University of Kansas)

Expanding Your Consumer Base for Behavior-Analytic Services: Meeting the Needs of Consumers in the 21st Century

Linda A. LeBlanc (Auburn University), MEGAN R. HEINICKE (Auburn University), & Jonathan C. Baker (Southern Illinois University)

9:30 AM – 10:30 AM

Symposium: Adaptive Behavior: Functional and Social Skills

CE units offered: 1

Intensive Behavioral Treatment of Primary Incontinence of Children with Autism: An Archival Data Analysis

NICOLE HANNEY (Auburn University), Candice Jostad (Monroe-Meyer Institute), James E. Carr and Linda A. LeBlanc (Auburn University)

Teaching Abduction-Prevention Skills to Children with Autism

Kristen Gunby (Central East Autism Program, Kinark), James E. Carr (Auburn University) and LINDA A. LEBLANC (Auburn University)

Improving Sportsmanship Skills in Children with ASD using Wii© Sports

MELINA SEVLEVER, Bill R. Ferguson, & Jennifer M. Gillis (Auburn University)

10:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Symposium: Teaching Elementary Students with Disabilities to Mand through Naturalistic Instruction and a Communication Aid

SARA BICARD (Auburn University Montgomery), REBECCA JAMES (Shelby County Schools, TN), DAVID F. BICARD (Behavior Analysts of Central Alabama, LLC)

CE units offered: 1

11:30 PM – 1:30 PM

LUNCH ON YOUR OWN

1:30 PM – 3:00 PM

Symposium: Training Parents to Manage Disruptive Behaviors of Children with Autism

CE units offered: 1.5

Overview of and Evidence for Parent Child Interaction Therapy

NATALIE COOK (University of South Alabama)

Modification of Parent-Child Interaction Therapy for Children with Autism

KIMBERLY ZLOMKE (University of South Alabama)

PCIT: A Natural Vehicle for Parent-Mediated Language Stimulation

BRENDA L. BEVERLY (University of South Alabama)

3:00 PM – 4:00 PM

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

Recommendations for Facilitating Ethical Behavior in the Workplace

DR. JAMES E. CARR

Auburn University, Behavior Analyst Certification Board

CE units offered: 1 (Ethics and Professional Development)

The profession of applied behavior analysis has grown substantially in recent years, as evidenced by the development of behavior analysis credentialing programs, a new practitioner organization (Association of Professional Behavior Analysts), a new practitioner journal (Behavior Analysis in Practice), and new funding streams for services. Given this growth, it is imperative that practitioners maintain the highest standards of professionalism and ethicality in their work to protect the consumers they serve. The purpose of this presentation is to provide practical solutions for facilitating ethical behavior in the workplace, with special emphasis placed on designing effective professional service agreements and training staff in relevant ethical guidelines. The presentation will also include highlights from the current versions of the BACB Guidelines for Professional Conduct for Behavior Analysts and the BACB Professional Disciplinary and Ethical Standards.

Special Thanks

ALABA would like to thank all its members for supporting our goals and mission. Specifically, we would like to thank those who helped make this year's convention successful.

Keynote Speakers

Cathleen Piazza

Wayne Fisher

Presenters

Brenda Beverly

David Bicard

Sara Bicard

Crystal Bowen

James Carr

Natalie Cook

Susan Ford

Sabrina Franks

Nicole Hanney

Megan Heinicke

Rebecca James

Linda LeBlanc

Franseca Mata

Patricia McClanahan

Melina Sevlever

Amber Valentino

Erin Wofford

Kimberly Zlomke

Carrie Zuckerman

Volunteers

Lauren Anderson

Shawn Bohanan

Kerrienne Castleberry

Echo Chan

Natalie Cook

Nina Deese

Kaneen Geiger

Tyler Godsey

Ashton Hamner

Nicole Hanney

Meg Heinicke

Courtney Peppers-Owen

Anna Marie Pruitt

Stephanie Roberts

Melina Sevlever

Anna Shafovaloff

Lauren Smith

Lindsey Smith

Taylor Sweatt

Melissa Thompson

Angela Vargas

Sarah Veazey

Elizabeth Walsh

Jesse Yarger

Carrie Zuckerman