

AUGUST, 2015

# North Carolina Association for Behavior Analysis

**2016 Call for Papers!** - submit online now at [www.nc-aba.com](http://www.nc-aba.com)

## 2016 Conference Announcement

The Executive Council of the North Carolina Association for Behavior Analysis (NCABA) is very pleased to announce that the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference is to be held in Wilmington at the Riverside Hilton, Wednesday February 24<sup>th</sup> through Friday February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2016. The Riverside Hilton is a landmark on the Wilmington Riverfront in downtown Wilmington, North Carolina that delivers a blend of historic charm, modern comfort and Southern hospitality. Located on the Cape Fear Riverfront in Wilmington's famed historic district, the hotel is an easy walk to popular attractions including the Battleship North Carolina, Henrietta III sightseeing cruise, Ghost Walk of Old Wilmington, shopping, dining and nightlife. Wilmington is also home to University of North Carolina Wilmington which offers the state's only Master's degree in Applied Behavior Analysis.

Speakers from within North Carolina and across the country will present behavior analytic research and applications. We are very fortunate to have a number of extremely talented behavior analysis professionals, researchers, and scholars who have agreed to present at the conference. Among the invited speakers are Dr. Jim Johnston (Auburn University), Dr. Jim Carr (BACB), Dr. Pat Friman (Boys Town), Dr. Cynthia Anderson (Appalachian State University), Molly Piney (Global Autism Project), Adam Ventura (World Evolve, COEBO). Dr. Jim Johnston, Dr. Cynthia Anderson, Dr. Pat Friman, and Dr. Dennis Reid (Carolina Behavior Analysis and Support Center) are confirmed presenters of a variety of both pre-and post-conference workshops. A more complete listing of the conference and workshop presenters will be announced soon. A Vendor/Poster Session will again be held with cash awards for best posters in the undergraduate student, graduate student, and professional categories. The NCABA Social with refreshments, music, and dancing will round out the conference events. BCBA and NCPA Psychology credits will be available for approved conference and workshop sessions. A general certificate of credit will also be provided to all attendees. In an effort to support student participation and attendance, opportunities for the conference registration fee to be waived will be available to student members again this year. Opportunities to sponsor students in supporting their attendance to the 2016 Annual Conference will also be available. Please look out for future announcements for more details.

Information about the NCABA 27th Annual Conference, including direct links to the hotel booking pages, is available at [www.nc-aba.com](http://www.nc-aba.com). Updates on the conference will be posted on the website as planning continues and will be included in the December newsletter sent to all members. Please mark your calendar for this upcoming event. We very much look forward to seeing you in Wilmington in February of 2016!

~Callie Plattner, President~

Volume 26, Issue 1

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### NCABA 2015 Elected Officials

- **President**  
Callie Plattner
- **Past President**  
Kristie Thompson
- **President Elect**  
Melanie Bachmeyer
- **Vice President**  
Whitney Luffman
- **Secretary**  
Beth Schmitt
- **Treasurer**  
Nancy Poteet
- **Members-at-Large**  
Selene Johnson,  
Kristi Toward
- **Student Representative**  
Brad Stevenson

Visit us at:

[www.nc-aba.com](http://www.nc-aba.com)

## Nominations Sought

NCABA is seeking nominations for **Vice President, Member at Large, Secretary, and Student Representative** to serve on the executive committee. Nominations are also being taken for the Fred S. Keller Excellence in Behavior Analysis Award, the Technical Utilization Award and the Student Scholarship Award to be presented at the conference. All nominations for awards and executive committee positions must be postmarked by January 1, 2016.

Please submit nominations to Kristi Toward at:

406 Provincial Street  
Raleigh, NC 27603  
kristi.toward@gmail.com  
Phone: (724) 986-3961

### ~Executive Committee Positions~

Nominations for these positions are open to all NCABA full members, and may be made by self-nomination or nomination by another person. A description of each of the positions can be found on our website at [www.nc-aba.com](http://www.nc-aba.com)

### ~Fred Keller Excellence in Behavior Analysis Award~

The purpose of this award is to recognize a person who has made an outstanding contribution to the field of behavior analysis in North Carolina and whose work demonstrates the highest quality in the application of behavior analytic principles.

### ~Technical Utilization Award~

The recipient will receive complimentary conference registration to the NCABA conference in February, 2017, and a \$100.00 stipend toward conference expenses. To qualify, the candidate must not have received formal, graduate level training in behavior analysis, but have demonstrated proficiency in applying behavioral technology in his or her work.

### ~Student Scholarship Award~

The award includes a complimentary conference registration to the 2017 NCABA Annual conference and a \$100 stipend to defray costs. The award will be granted to a student who has advanced course work and practical experience in behavior analysis, and who would benefit from attending the conference. The sponsor who nominates the student should be a faculty member or internship supervisor who can briefly indicate how the student's work demonstrates potential for behavior analysis application in North Carolina.

## 2015 Award Recipients

**Fred S. Keller Excellence in Behavior Analysis Award**  
Ya-yu Lo, University of North Carolina Charlotte

### Technical Utilization Award

Adrienne Covington, University of Cincinnati

### "Do Things" Award

Frank Wells, Caswell Developmental Center

### Student Scholarship Award

Caitlin Kirkwood, University of North Carolina Wilmington

### Professional Poster Award

Cliff Cowan, St. Gerard House

*Further Analysis of the Inhibition of Vocal Stereotypy Using Music*

### Graduate Student Poster Award

Caitlin A. Kirkwood, University of North Carolina Wilmington

*A Comparison of Two Methods of a Functional Analysis of Inappropriate Mealtime Behavior*

### Undergraduate Student Poster Awards

Allison Usher, University of North Carolina Wilmington  
*Usage of Behavior Modification Strategies to Increase Steps Taken Daily and Decrease Meals Eaten Out*

## NCABA Membership & Conference Attendance

### Membership 2015

Full Members	Para-professional	Student
172	24	64

### Conference 2015

Full Member	Paraprofessional	Student	Non-Member
133	21	59	23

## NCABA Officials Elected in 2015

- **Whitney Luffman**, *Autism Society of North Carolina*, Vice President
- **Nancy Poteet**, *Self-Employed*, Treasurer
- **Kristi Toward**, *Carolina Center for ABA*, Member at Large
- **Brad Stevenson**, *University of North Carolina Charlotte*, Student Representative

## NCABA Financial Report

Cash 01-01-15	\$29,252.70
Total Revenue	\$28,250.38
Total Cash 2015	\$57,503.08
2015 Expenses	\$21,878.29
Balance July 31, 2015	\$35,624.79

## 2015 Conference Summary

The NCABA Executive Committee would like to extend a big thank you for supporting and attending the NCABA 26th Annual Conference that was held in Asheville, NC at the Crowne Plaza Tennis and Golf Resort February 11<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>, 2015. The conference included three pre-conference workshops, two post-conference workshops, nine invited addresses, a student symposium and twelve concurrent sessions devoted to the topic of behavior analysis, as well as our annual poster session and social.

There were a wide variety of topics presented at the conference workshops including consultation to schools (Tina Demis-Gill, M.A., BCBA, Director, Behavioral Consulting, Inc. & Rachel Lally, M.A., BCBA, Behavioral Consultant, ENACT Learning Technologies), behavioral assessment and treatment of feeding disorders (Melanie Bachmeyer, Ph.D., BCBA-D, Assistant Professor, University of North Carolina Wilmington), challenges in providing behavioral services to children with ASD (Rachel Bowman, Ph.D., Assistant Professor & Psychologist, Holly Moses, M.S., LPA, LPC, BCBA, Psychologist, & Purnima Valdez, M.D., Assistant Clinical Professor, Duke University Medical Center), ethics and cultural coherence in providing services to military service personnel, (Kent A. Corso, Psy.D., BCBA-D, President, NCR Behavioral Health, LLC), and behavior management case studies in a zoo (Julie Grimes, Ph.D., Behavior Management Consultant, Animal-works, LLC & Faculty, Davidson County Community College).

A total of 52 people participated in the pre-conference workshops and 36 participated in the post-conference workshops. Each workshop provided 3 CEUs for Psychologists and Board Certified Behavior Analysts.

A total of 236 people attended the 2015 conference. We were extremely fortunate to have a number of individuals preeminent in the field in attendance and several provided invited addresses that were well attended. This year NCABA was able to offer 9 hours of Category A credit for the attendance at these invited addresses. Special appreciation is given to our invited speakers including Frank Symons from the University of Minnesota, Jim Bodfish from Vanderbilt University, Adrian Sandler from the Olson Huff Center, Kent Corso from NCR Behavioral Health, LLC, Dennis H. Reid from The Carolina Behavior Analysis & Support

Center, Melanie Bachmeyer from UNC-Wilmington, Ruth Hurst from Central Regional Hospital, Wendy Donlin Washington from UNC-Wilmington, Tina Demis-Gill from Behavioral Consulting, Inc. and Julie Grimes from Animalworks LLC & Davidson County Community College.

We were fortunate to have a wonderful array of topics presented during twelve concurrent sessions. Presenters included Beth Gartland and Dana Webber (Learning Services Neurobehavioral Institute), Kelly Stamey (Beacon Transitions), Tina Demis-Gill (Behavioral Consulting, Inc.) and Rachel Lally (ENACT Learning Technologies), Alicia Saunders, Ya-yu Lo, Kimberly Bunch-Crump, Caryn Allison, Jenny Root, Fred Spooner, Amy Kemp-Inman and Luann Ley-Davis (University of North Carolina Charlotte), Kristie Thompson (OptumHealth Behavioral Solutions), Jeannie Golden, Emmi Scott, Kay Exum, Leigh Patterson, Krystal Trout and Maribeth Wicoff (East Carolina University), Michelle Turner (Davie County Schools) and David Rotholz (Center for Disability Resources in the University of South Carolina School of Medicine).

At the opening of the conference, Vicki Harper acknowledged the many ongoing contributions of the NCABA Board Members with respect to making NCABA a vital organization and in putting the 2015 conference together. Some very deserving individuals received awards and a big round of applause during the opening session. Ya-yu Lo (University of North Carolina Charlotte) received the Fred Keller Excellence in Behavior Analysis Award, Adrienne Covington (University of Cincinnati) received the Technical Utilization Award, Caitlin Kirkwood (University North Carolina Wilmington) received the Student Scholarship Award, and Frank Wells (Caswell Developmental Center) received the "Do Things" Award. Congratulations to all award recipients!

The NCABA Student Representative, Kimberly Bunch-Crump from the University of North Carolina Charlotte, did a wonderful job of organizing and chairing our Student Symposium. Student presenters included Jenny Root (University of North Carolina Charlotte), Billie Jean Klein (University of North Carolina Wilmington), Luann Ley-Davis (University of North Carolina at Charlotte) and Tosha Owens (University of North Carolina Charlotte). Following the business meeting on Thursday,

*(Continued on page 4)*

## 2015 Conference Summary (continued)

*(Continued from page 3)*

a student gathering was held to provide time for students to network with other students and meet and talk with Student Representative candidates prior to voting.

The poster session included posters from undergraduate and graduate student researchers as well as practicing professionals. This year, we awarded prizes to outstanding posters in three categories: undergraduate, graduate and professional. The winning poster presenters are listed in the NCABA History along with the other Award recipients for 2015. During our annual NCABA Business Meeting, newly elected officers were announced and are listed on our website along with a link you can use to contact them by email. The Board welcomes Whitney Luffman in the position of Vice President, Kristi Toward in the position of Member at Large and Bradley Stevenson in the position of Student Representative. Deserving special mention are Jamie Clary, Ruth Hurst, Fred Spooner, and Duke Schell who serve non-voting, but essential functions for the NCABA Board. Jamie Clary is a non-voting Board member serving as our NCABA Web Editor. Ruth Hurst will remain on the Executive Council as the University Liaison and to share with us any progress regarding the state's licensing issues. Fred Spooner will continue to serve as the Senior NCABA Board Advisor, and Duke Schell will remain as our liaison to ABAI and other related groups. Kristi Thompson has agreed to stay on and fill the role of Past President for one more term. I want to thank outgoing board members Chris Wensil, Member at Large and Kimberly Bunch-Crump, Student Representative for all they have done to improve NCABA during their terms.

A big thank you to Bad Ash Band, for providing the entertainment, getting our attendees dancing, and for giving us an outstanding social!

Last but not least, I would like to send special appreciation to all of the members of the Executive Council who worked so hard to make the NCABA 26th Annual Conference a successful event for all. Without their help, the conference would not have been a success! On behalf of the NCABA Executive Council, we hope to see you (both old and new faces) next year for the NCABA 27th Annual Conference in Wilmington NC.

~Beth Schmitt, Secretary

## Update on Legislative Issues

The current behavior analyst licensure bill, [HB714](#), was filed on April 14, 2015. In the past, behavior analyst licensure language has been included within autism insurance bills. The current bill is a stand-alone behavior analyst licensure bill and it was written with input from, and has the support of, the North Carolina Psychological Association (NCPA) and well-renowned behavior analysts, including James "Jim" Carr, Ph.D., BCBA-D [chief executive officer of the Behavior Analyst Certification Board (BACB)] and Gina Green, Ph.D., BCBA-D [executive director of the Association for Professional Behavior Analysts (APBA)], who have worked on national model licensure bills and specific bills in other states. This bill sets up a state licensure board (with board members appointed by Senators, Representatives, and the Governor), which would specifically license behavior analysts and assistant behavior analysts so that they could practice independently; of course, assistant behavior analysts must meet supervision requirements under the national certifying board (BACB). The behavior analyst licensure bill HB 714 passed through House committees and ultimately the full House vote on June 22. The bill is now in the Senate rules committee. At this time, we do not know whether it will be heard in the Senate.

The autism insurance bill, [SB676](#), was filed in the Senate on March 26, 2015. This bill passed through Senate committees and passed the full Senate on April 28. The bill was then passed to the House Insurance Committee, where it passed on June 30<sup>th</sup>. There is some debate in the autism community – including among parents as well as providers - about some components of the bill, including the mental health parity exemption and the fact that behavior analysts are not listed as providers. At this time, we do not know when it will be heard on the House floor.

~Selene Johnson, Member at Large



## Student Corner

- ◆ Join NCABA as a student member. NCABA provides reduced rates for students who are enrolled in a minimum of six credit hours. Membership is only \$10 (a \$10 savings) and conference registration is only \$15 (a \$50 savings).
- ◆ Student members can get involved in a number of ways:
  - Student Representative: run for the position of student representative and serve on the NCABA board. It is a one year term and a great way to make an impact.
  - Student Symposium: submit a proposal to present your research in the student symposium. If accepted you would provide a 15-20 minute presentation of your work along with other students. It is a great opportunity to network with other students, receive feedback from experts in the field, and interact with leaders in ABA in North Carolina.
  - Poster Session: submit a proposal and present your research during the poster session. Two \$50 awards will be given out, one for the best graduate poster and one for the best undergraduate poster.
- ◆ Interested in attending the conference but have concerns about the costs? Consider one of the follow options:
  - Student Scholarship Award: The winner will receive \$100. In addition, the conference fee the following year is waived. Candidates need to have advanced coursework and practical experience in behavior analysis and need to be nominated by a faculty member or internship supervisor by January 1st.
  - Work the Registration Booth: NCABA will be waiving the registration fees for the first 30 students who volunteer to work one hour at the registration booth during the conference.
- ◆ NCABA Students are on facebook. If you are a student member and would like to join the facebook group, simply search “North Carolina Association for Behavior Analysis – Student Members.” It is a closed group, so once you find the group simply submit a request to join to gain access.
- ◆ Make plans now to attend the entire conference. In addition to great opportunities to learn and network there will also be opportunities for *free beer* for those over 21 at various conference events!

~Brad Stevenson, Student Representative

## 2016 Conference Hotel Information

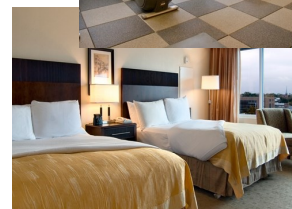
**\*Make your reservations by January 22, 2016 to assure that you receive NCABA Rates!**

The conference will be held at the Hilton Riverside in Wilmington, NC. Located on the Cape Fear Riverfront in Wilmington's famed historic district, our hotel is an easy walk to popular Wilmington, NC attractions, including the Battleship North Carolina, Henrietta III sightseeing cruise, Ghost Walk of Old Wilmington, shopping, dining and nightlife. Our downtown Wilmington hotel is just 7 miles from Wilmington International Airport (ILM).



<u>Room type</u>	<u>Rate</u>
Double	\$119 per night
King	\$119 per night
*Overnight Parking \$5 per day	

301 North Water Street  
Wilmington NC 28401  
Phone: 888-324-8170



Hilton Riverside Reservations Office hours are Monday through Friday between 8:00am and 5:00pm.  
To book your reservation, call: Local: (910) 763-5900 or Toll Free: 1-888-324-8170

## Continuing Education Credit Opportunities at the 2016 Conference

A certificate will be provided for all participants indicating the number of hours for conference attendance and conference workshop attendance. Category A Continuing Education Credit for NC psychologists is currently being sought for workshops and conference presentations. In addition, Type II BCBA CEUs are being sought for applicable presentations (typically 10-16 Type II BCBA CEUs are obtainable at the conference). Information on the number of credits available will be included in the December newsletter and will be posted at [www.nc-aba.com](http://www.nc-aba.com) when the application process is complete.

### Posters are being solicited for the conference

Monetary awards for Best Undergraduate Student Poster, Best Graduate Student Poster, and Best Professional Poster will be given. Anyone interested should contact Whitney Luffman at:

[whitneyluffman@gmail.com](mailto:whitneyluffman@gmail.com)  
or log on to our website [www.nc-aba.com](http://www.nc-aba.com)

### Interested in Becoming a Vendor at the 2016 Conference?

Information about the many opportunities available can be found by going to the website at [www.nc-aba.com](http://www.nc-aba.com) and clicking on the Sponsorship button on the left. Options available include:

- presenting a vendor poster at the poster session
- setting up a vendor table for one or more conference days
- placing an insert in the conference packet funding a refreshment break or meet and greet session

Contact [help@nc-aba.com](mailto:help@nc-aba.com) to discuss your sponsorship options

## Call for Papers!

Submit your proposal to present at the 2016 conference to be held in Wilmington, NC February 24th - 26th.

The deadline for submitting a paper presentation is **October 1st, 2015**.

You can submit your proposal online by going to our website at <http://www.nc-aba.com> and selecting the "Paper/Poster Submission" button on the left side.

### Submit an Article for our Newsletter

NCABA's change to a more environmentally friendly and cost effective electronic newsletter has allowed our membership to have the opportunity to submit articles for future newsletters.

*~Have you had success with a technique?~  
~Have you had a well established technique fail?~  
~Do you have an idea that you want to share?~*

The NCABA Executive Committee would like to include articles in the newsletter on varied topics related to behavior analysis and the practice of behavior analysis in North Carolina. Examples of appropriate topics are:

- innovative techniques
- case studies
- staff management/training/OBM issues
- legal and legislative issues (e.g., BCBAs in NC)
- theoretical topics
- educational applications
- getting certified (BCBA, BCaBA)
- helpful tips for practitioners
- descriptions or reviews of North Carolina programs utilizing behavior analysis
- reviews or applications of books or articles related to behavior analysis
- experimental analysis

The NCABA newsletter is published semi-annually in August and December. For your submission to be considered it should be received by July 15th for the August newsletter and November 15th for the December newsletter. The NCABA Executive Committee reserves the right to accept, reject, or request revisions to any article submitted for the NCABA newsletter.

Articles should be sent as an email attachment in a Word file to:  
[help@nc-aba.com](mailto:help@nc-aba.com)



Autism Society  
of NORTH CAROLINA

**The Autism Society of North Carolina  
has launched an exciting new direct  
service program for lifelong learners  
with autism.**

The Life Long Interventions Program is an intensive teaching service available for individuals with autism spectrum disorder, across the lifespan. The service delivery model will be rooted in the principles of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA).

## *Join Us.*

We are excited to announce new employment opportunities in both the Triangle and Charlotte areas for qualified individuals with experience or an interest in ABA as Behavior Technicians with our Life Long Interventions program.

Benefits of joining the ASNC team include:

- Direct training and supervision provided by board certified behavior analysts (BCBAs) and experts in the field of autism treatment.
- Opportunities to work one-on-one with individuals and their families, across home and community environments.
- Flexible work schedule and competitive hourly rates.
- The opportunity to climb a career ladder within the ASNC organization.

**If you're interested in joining our team of qualified service providers, follow these steps to access our online application:**

- 1. Visit [www.autismsociety-nc.org](http://www.autismsociety-nc.org)**
- 2. Select "Careers" section from our dropdown menu under the heading "About Us"**
- 3. Click "Apply"**

## **\*Employment Opportunity\***

### **Staff Psychologist Positions**

J. Iverson Riddle Developmental Center

Morganton, NC 28655

[www.jirdc.org](http://www.jirdc.org)

August, 2015

The Riddle Developmental Center is a public residential facility serving approximately 300 adults with significant intellectual disorders and related developmental disabilities, such as autism. The Center is an ICF/IID facility located about 50 miles east of Asheville, NC in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains. The psychology department has a longstanding history of the support of behavior analysis to improve the lives of our clients and staff, including both everyday clinical skills and participation in applied research.

Under supervision of a Licensed Psychologist and Board Certified Behavior Analyst, the Staff Psychologist provides psychological and behavior analysis and support services to about 25 residents. These positions work within a department of 16 clinicians and an administrative support staff. The psychology department has regular meetings of staff to review current assessment and treatment literature in behavior analysis and intellectual disorders and to review individual cases before the clinical staff.

Applicants must have working knowledge of psychology and applied behavior analysis in the assessment and treatment of behavioral and other disorders, and in the training of habilitative skills for residents. In addition the Staff Psychologist positions are regularly involved in training of direct support staff. Staff Psychologists are assigned to residences and work within interdisciplinary teams.

Minimum education and experience requirements include a Masters/specialist degree in Psychology from an accredited institution and be eligible for licensure in NC as a Licensed Psychological Associate or LPA in accordance with the NC Psychology Practice Act ([www.ncpsychologyboard.org](http://www.ncpsychologyboard.org)).

By history we prefer applicants with skills in behavior analysis as well as interest in applied research.

**For more information contact:**

**R.M. "Duke" Schell, PhD, LP, BCBA-D**

**Director of Psychology**

**828-433-2658**

**[Duke.schell@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:Duke.schell@dhhs.nc.gov)**