

October, 2019

# North Carolina Association for Behavior Analysis

## 31st Annual NCABA Conference Announcement

Volume 28, Issue 3

Come join us at the 31<sup>st</sup> Annual NCABA Conference **February 19-21, 2020** in Raleigh, NC at the DoubleTree by Hilton® Hotel Raleigh - Brownstone - University. The location is steps away from many dining options and only minutes from downtown!

We're honored to be hosting an exciting lineup of speakers, including invited speakers: Patrick Friman (Boys Town), Patrick McGreevy (author of *Essential for Living*), Adel Najdowski (Pepperdine University, author of *Flexible and Focused!*), Tyra Sellers (Behavior Analyst Certification Board), Terry Page (Bancroft), Kelsey Ruppel (FTP Behavioral Consulting), Robert Pennington (UNC-C), Melanie Bachmeyer (UNC-W), and Raymond Pitts (UNC-W).

Pre-conference workshops will be held on Wednesday morning with a presentation provided by Patrick McGreevy and a presentation related to a home-based parent training program designed to prevent problem behavior by Kelsey Ruppel. Post-conference workshops will be held on Friday afternoon with a presentation by Patrick Friman and a presentation on supervision by Tyra Sellers. Several BACB and NCPA credits will be available throughout our invited, concurrent, and workshop presentations. Additional conference events include a student symposium, a poster session, and the annual NCABA social!

Conference registration will be opening in December. In the meantime, secure the special NCABA hotel rate using the information found on page 3. Mark your calendars and reserve your rooms for a conference you won't want to miss!

~Kristi Toward, President

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### NCABA 2019 Elected Officials

- **President**  
Kristi Toward
- **Past President**  
Selene Johnson
- **President Elect**  
Callie Plattner
- **Vice President**  
Monique Baker
- **Secretary**  
Leigh Ann Strain
- **Treasurer**  
Nancy Poteet
- **Members-at-Large**  
Aleck Myers,  
Leica Anzaldo
- **Student Representative**  
Erin Moran

## Submit your Proposal to Present a Paper or Poster at the NCABA Annual Conference

Share your work with others at our annual conference by presenting a paper in a one hour session Thursday morning or by presenting the information in poster form at our poster session on the first evening of the conference. Monetary awards are given for Best Undergraduate Student Poster, Best Graduate Student Poster, and Best Professional Poster. The deadline for paper submissions is **December 2nd, 2019** and the deadline for poster submissions is **January 7th, 2020**. You can submit your proposal online now by clicking on the link below:

<https://www.nc-aba.com/proposals/>

## CEU Helper Coming to 2020 Annual Conference!

Get prepared for exciting new changes in how your continuing education credits are verified and issued. Following a successful trial use of a program called CEU helper at the Autism Conference in August, we will be going fully electronic for the 2020 Annual Conference in February.

Anyone wishing to obtain CEs for attending the conference will need to bring a personal device, such as a phone or tablet, with the free CEU Helper app installed (available in your app store). A free CEU Helper account must also be established within the app, so be sure to create an account if you do not already have one. Your prepared device will allow you to scan in and out of sessions, maintain a record of your CEs, and even issue certain CEs instantly following the conference!

Get prepared for this exciting change using the instructions found at the link below:

<https://ceuhelper.com/info>

Visit us at:

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

## Spotlight: Applied Behavior Analysis and PTSD

ABAI’s Autism Special Interest Group (SIG) has the largest membership of any SIG and provides up-to-date information about autism research and clinical practice. Some of the objectives of the SIG include promoting evidence-based practices, protecting individuals with ASD and their families from ineffective treatments, and serving as a scientific reference for its group members.

Most recently, the Autism SIG has taken action to address a research publication linking exposure to ABA therapy with increased PTSD symptoms. In the study, Kupferstein surveyed 460 autistic adults who reported receiving ABA therapy as children. The study found that nearly half of the ABA-exposed participants reported posttraumatic stress symptoms. The results of this study have been widely discussed on social media platforms and have contributed to ongoing controversy surrounding autism treatment. This publication has now been used as evidence of the harmful consequences of treatments based on the principles of ABA, despite the study having serious methodological and conceptual flaws.

To address this, members of the Autism SIG’s executive board recently published a response. Leaf and colleagues sought to “evaluate the methodological rigor with respect to the use of hypothesis testing, use of indirect measures, selection of respondents, ambiguity of definitions, measurement system, and framing of the experimental question when conducting the correlation analysis.” Their analysis found several issues with the study and recommends that Kupferstein’s results be viewed with extreme caution. This paper may serve as a reference point, should any providers or individual clinicians be provided with Kupferstein’s article as evidence of ABA causing PTSD.

~Erin Moran, Student Representative

Leaf, J. B., Ross, E. K., Cihon, J. H., Weiss, M. J. (2018) Evaluating Kupferstein’s claims of the relationship of behavioral intervention to PTSS for individuals with autism. *Advances in Autism*, 4(3), 122-129.

Kupferstain, H. (2018). Evidence of increased PTSD symptoms in autistics exposed to applied behavior analysis. *Advances in Autism*, 4(1), 19-29.

### Changes in Conference Registration Costs

An increase in conference registration rates will occur for the 2020 Annual Conference to cover rising conference costs. After lengthy discussion, the NCABA Executive Committee voted to increase all conference registration fees by \$20.00. In the chart below you can see that the fee for our 3 day conference remains low in an effort to continue to encourage people to seek behavior analytic knowledge and expand their network of colleagues.

Member Status	Time Of Registration	2019 Conference Registration Rates	2020 Conference Registration Rates
Full	Early	\$65.00	\$85.00
	Regular	\$85.00	\$105.00
Para/Parent	Early	\$35.00	\$55.00
	Regular	\$55.00	\$75.00
Student	Early	\$15.00	\$35.00
	Regular	\$35.00	\$55.00
Non-Member	Early	\$95.00	\$115.00
	Regular	\$115.00	\$135.00

### Interested in Becoming an Exhibitor at the 31st Annual NCABA Conference?

- Provide printed materials (or other items) containing your exhibitor information to all conference attendees
- Set up an exhibitor table for one or more of the conference days
- Sponsor a break or the food or drinks at the NCABA Social

Exhibitor space is limited so be sure to reserve your space early by completing the form at the link below:

<https://www.nc-aba.com/exhibitor-form/>

## Student Corner

- ◆ Student members can get involved in a number of ways:
  - Student Representative: run for the position of student representative and serve on the NCABA Executive Council. 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 following 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 7th.
  - Work the Registration Booth: NCABA will be waiving the registration fees for the first 30 student members who volunteer to work one hour at the registration booth during the conference. If you are a student member then plan to register as soon as registration opens in December and select the volunteer option.

## Conference Hotel Information

**\*Make your reservations by January 28th, 2020 to assure you receive NCABA Rates!**

Experience the best of 'The City of the Oaks', beginning with your stay at the stylish, renovated DoubleTree by Hilton® Hotel Raleigh - Brownstone - University, located just steps away from NC State, shopping, dining, and more. Start your trip to Raleigh, NC with a freshly baked chocolate chip cookie and exceptional service.

### DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Raleigh—Brownstone—University

Relax in this stylish guest room complete with two queen-sized beds and convenient amenities. Catch up on business at the desk with ergonomic chair and browse online using complimentary Wi-Fi, or unwind with a movie on your 37-inch TV.

***\$129.00 per night***  
*(includes parking)*

1707 Hillsborough Street  
Raleigh, NC 27605

Make reservations online at the group rate by clicking the link below and using the group code ABA:  
[Hilton NCABA Group Rate](#)

Or call for reservations  
and ask for the NCABA group rate.  
(919) 828-0811



## Award Nominations Sought

At each annual conference awards are given to recognize individuals who have demonstrated outstanding work in the field of behavior analysis. If you know of someone like this, please take time to nominate them for one of the three awards described below. Nominations received online by **January 7th** will be considered by the NCABA Executive Council as they determine the award winners. Click on the link below to go directly to award nomination form.

<https://www.nc-aba.com/award-nomination/>

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

Given to 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~*

Given to a person who has not been formally trained in behavior analysis, but who has excelled at applying behavioral technology in their work. To qualify, the candidate must not have received formal, graduate level training in behavior analysis. The recipient of this award will receive complimentary conference registration to the next annual conference and a \$100.00 stipend toward conference expenses.

### *~Student Scholarship Award~*

Given to a student who has excelled in their advanced course work and who has demonstrated excellent behavior analytic skills in their 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. The recipient of this award will receive complimentary conference registration to the next annual conference and a \$100.00 stipend toward conference expenses.

## Join the NCABA Executive Board

NCABA is seeking nominations for people interested in serving on the Executive Committee. Nominations are being sought for the following positions:

**Vice President**  
**Secretary**  
**Member at Large**  
**Student Representative**

You will find a full description for each of the positions and the form to nominate someone willing to serve at the link below. Nominations must be received by **January 7th** in order for the person to run for office.

<https://www.nc-aba.com/ec-nomination/>

## Submit an Article for our Newsletter

*~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 Council 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., BCBA's 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 will typically be published quarterly in March, June, September and December. For your submission to be considered it should be received by the 15th of the month prior to the publication month. The NCABA Executive Council reserves the right to accept, reject, or request revisions to any article submitted for the NCABA newsletter.

Articles should be in Word format and should be emailed to [help@nc-aba.com](mailto:help@nc-aba.com) as an attachment.