

April, 2020

North Carolina Association for Behavior Analysis

2020 Annual Conference Review

Volume 29, Issue 2

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On behalf of the NCABA Executive Committee, I would like to thank our attendees, speakers, and membership for supporting our 31st Annual Conference in Raleigh February 19-21, 2020. We were honored to host incredible speakers who shared their expertise in two pre-conference workshops, two post-conference workshops, nine invited addresses, a student symposium, nine concurrent sessions, and a poster session.

Our attendees had the opportunity to learn from nine invited speakers who traveled across the state and country to present on a variety of topics such as: behavior analytic equations (Cary Trump, PhD, BCBA-D, University of Northern Colorado); transferring skill-based treatment to caregivers (Kelsey Ruppel, PhD, BCBA, LABA, FTF Behavioral Consulting); behaving analytically in the provision of school supports (Robert Pennington, PhD, BCBA-D, UNC Charlotte); ethical issues in the treatment of feeding difficulties in children (Melanie Bachmeyer, PhD, LP, BCBA-D, UNC Wilmington); teaching perspective-taking skills to individuals with autism (Adel Najdowski, PhD, BCBA-D, Pepperdine University); moving from 1:1 intervention to small group instruction (Patrick McGreevy, PhD, BCBA-D, Patrick McGreevy & Associates); update from the BACB Ethics Department (Tyra Sellers, JD, PhD, BCBA-D and Sara Lichtenberger, PhD, BCBA-D, BACB); behavior analysis in the mainstream of daily life (Patrick Friman, PhD, ABPP, Boys Town); and behavioral pharmacology of impulsive and risky choice (Raymond Pitts, PhD, UNC Wilmington).

Our 147 pre-conference workshop attendees enjoyed presentations on teaching functional life skills (Patrick McGreevy, PhD, BCBA-D, Patrick McGreevy & Associates) and Balance which is a home-based collaborative approach to addressing emerging behavior problems (Kelsey Ruppel, PhD, BCBA, LABA, FTF Behavioral Consulting). We also had a total of 103 attendees at our post-conference workshops on public speaking by behavior analysts (Patrick Friman, PhD, ABPP, Boys Town) and strategies for providing high quality supervision (Tyra Sellers, JD, PhD, BCBA-D and Sara Lichtenberger, PhD, BCBA-D, BACB).

The nine concurrent sessions covered an extensive variety of topics, and were presented by local and national professionals: Monique Baker, Kat Tinker, & Breana Dutcher (Effective Interventions); Shanun Kunnavatana, Casey Clay, & Kristen Kelley (Easterseals UCP of NC & VA); John Keller (The Geriatric Behavior Laboratory - GerBL); Tracy Vail, Amy Swaim, & Jean Jarrett (Let's Talk Speech and Language Services); Kellie Syfan & Aakriti Tripathi (Carolina Center for ABA); Holly Moses (Crossvine Clinical Group); Jeannie Golden, Corbett Hall, Drenee Bryant, & Kristin Spruill (East Carolina University); and Patrick O'Leary & Rebecca Cardillo (Positive Behavior Supports Corp.).

A record high of 475 people registered for the 2020 conference. We thank each and every one of you for your attendance at the invited and concurrent addresses. Because

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NCABA 2020 Elected Officials

- **President**
Callie Plattner
- **Past President**
Kristi Toward
- **President Elect**
Monique Baker
- **Vice President**
Shanun Kunnavatana
- **Secretary**
Leigh Ann Strain
- **Treasurer**
Nancy Poteet
- **Members-at-Large**
Leica Anzaldo,
Mark Stafford
- **Student Representative**
Ashley Neagle

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2020 Annual Conference Summary

of your continued support, our speakers were able to deliver meaningful content and promote research within the field of behavior analysis. NCABA offered both NCPA and BACB continuing education credits, including supervision and ethics credits, for the invited and concurrent presentations and both pre- and post-conference workshops. This year, more than 3000 BACB continuing education credits were awarded. Though the process was new to all, I'd like to thank the attendees and board members for their patience and assistance with the new system.

After recognizing the members of the NCABA Executive Council for their continued efforts to grow and uphold the organization's mission, awards were presented to several well-deserving individuals. NC State Representative Chuck McGrady (NC House of Representatives) was awarded the NCABA "Do Things" Award; Selene Johnson (ABC of NC) was awarded the Fred Keller Excellence in Behavior Analysis Award; Emily Hardy (Effective Interventions) received the Technical Utilization Award, and Shelby King (Autism Society of North Carolina) was awarded the J. Iverson Riddle Student Scholarship. A special award of appreciation was given to Jim Phillips (Autism Society of North Carolina), a long-time supporter and founding board member of NCABA. This is only the second time this award has been given by the organization and recognizes Jim's major contribution to the field and the organization.

Our student symposium was organized by NCABA's Student Representative, Erin Moran from the University College London, and included presentations by: T. Kristina Mosely (UNC Wilmington), Amy Clausen (UNC Charlotte), and Melissa Tapp (UNC Charlotte).

Our lively poster session consisted of graduate student and professional research. The Professional Poster Award went to Connor Sheehan (Pediatric Feeding Clinic, UNC Wilmington) while the Graduate Student Award went to Richelle Hurtado (UNC Wilmington).

Thank you to all who attended our business meeting that focused on the status of practice issues for behavior analysts in North Carolina. Selene Johnson provided an update from the Public and Professional Relations Committee and the current status of HB671. The newly elected officers were announced and are listed on our website, along with a link that members can use to contact them by email.

The Board welcomes Shanun Kunnavatana into the position of Vice President, Mark Stafford into the position of Member-at-Large, and Ashley Neagle into the position of Student Representative. Leigh Ann Strain was re-elected into the position of Secretary.

The knowledge and support from our non-voting members are essential to the NCABA Board. Thank you to Jamie Clary, our Web Editor; Ruth Hurst, our ACE Coordinator and liaison to ABAI and other groups; and Duke Schell and Fred Spooner, our Senior NCABA Board Advisors. I would like to sincerely thank out-going board members Selene Johnson (Past President) and Erin Moran (Student Representative) for their notable support for NCABA during their terms.

In addition to the knowledge gained from distinguished professionals, we hope you all enjoyed the entertainment provided at our social. Thank you to Mike from High Impact Entertainment for providing the music we needed to celebrate a great conference and even better colleagues. Follow this [link](#) for fun photos captured at the photo booth!

Finally, I would like to sincerely thank the entire Executive Council. Your diligence and advocacy for NCABA is undeniable and does not go unnoticed. This conference would not be possible without your dedication to this organization.

On behalf of the entire NCABA Executive Council, thank you and we hope to see you all again next year for our 32nd Annual Conference in Winston-Salem!

~Kristi Toward, Past-President

COVID-19 Resources

Thank you to all the national and state organizations who have provided critical resources to help others navigate through the COVID-19 pandemic. These resources have been compiled for ease of accessibility, and do not serve as legal advice or endorsements for any organization. Most importantly, the NCABA Executive Council hopes you all remain safe during these unprecedented times.

DATA-BASED GUIDANCE~

[Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)
[World Health Organization](#)

BACB

Updates: <https://www.bacb.com/bacb-covid-19-updates/>

ABAI

Telehealth and Ethics Resources:

<https://www.abainternational.org/constituents/practitioners/covid-19-resources.aspx>

APBA

[Guidelines for Practicing Applied Behavior Analysis during the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

<https://www.apbahome.net/page/practiceguidelines>

CASP

[Telehealth and Crisis Management Guidelines](#)
<https://casproviders.org/coronavirus-resources/>

BHCOE

FAQ for ABA Providers:

<https://bhcoe.org/resources/covid-19-faqs-for-aba-providers/>

Evident-Based Practice in the time of COVID-19:

<https://bhcoe.org/2020/03/telehealth-aba-therapy-ebp-covid-19/>

ABA BILLING CODES COMMISSION

<https://www.ababillingcodes.com/resources/important-covid-19-update-use-of-telehealth-2/?fbclid=IwAR1MBhFo5Tjncckba7fK2tqu0kh5Lylg8S3hxriGomRyyvJmTAHRJPyfrKs>

CALABA

<https://calaba.org/news-and-events/2020/updates-from-calaba-on-response-to-covid-19>

SCABA

<https://www.sc-aba.org/covid-19-resources.html>

UTABA

<https://www.ut-aba.org/covid-19-resources>

CENTRAL REACH

Free CEUS: <https://centralreach.com/centralreach-opens-entire-ceu-library-for-free-access-to-all-bcbas-2/>

Advances in Continuing Education

All in attendance at the 31st Annual NCABA Conference in February experienced a new method of checking into the conference and signing in and out of individual sessions. The attempt to move from the very outdated paper and pencil version of this process showed great promise and was well received by attendees. Some of the issues we ran into were longer lines than we would like to see and an evaluation method that was a little more effort than we wish for attendees to have to put forth. There were also some issues on the administration end of things that were not ideal. We have learned a great deal and are already seeking ways to improve the methods used for the future.

BACB CE documentation has been sent via email to all those seeking this type of CE. If you have not received your documentation and you feel this is in error, please contact our ACE Coordinator, Dr. Ruth Hurst. You may contact her directly at Ruth.Hurst@dhhs.nc.gov.

NCPA CE documentation has still not been sent out, but should be sent to the email account on file by the end of May. Please contact the secretary at secretary@nc-aba.com for questions about NCPA CEs.

Save the Date!

5th Annual Autism Conference

Friday, August 14th, 2020

COVID-19 continues to impact how we come together and learn. We are currently researching ways to provide an interactive and dynamic digital learning experience for the 5th Annual Autism Conference that can be more widely accessible to all of our members. We will provide more information to members as conference planning continues.

NC Members Elected to ABAI Council

Two of NCABA's long time members and supporters were recently elected to serve a 3 year term on the ABAI Executive Council. Dr. Carol Pilgrim (University of North Carolina Wilmington) was elected to the President-elect position and Dr. Christine Hughes (University of North Carolina Wilmington) was elected to the position of experimental representative.. Thank you both for your continued service to our organization!

2020 Award Recipients

Fred S. Keller Excellence in Behavior Analysis Award
Selene Johnson, ABC of NC

Technical Utilization Award
Emily Hardy, Effective Interventions

“Do Things” Award
Chuck McGrady, NC House of Representatives

Student Scholarship Award
Shelby King, Florida Institute of Technology

Professional Poster Award
Connor M. Sheehan, Center for Pediatric Behavioral Health & University of North Carolina Wilmington
A Comparison of a Food Chaining Approach to an Applied Behavior-Analytic Approach in the Treatment of Food Selectivity in Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder

Graduate Student Poster Award
Richelle Hurtado, University of North Carolina Wilmington
Compound Class-Specific Consequences and Equivalence Class Formation: Does the Composition of the Compound Matter?

NCABA Membership & Conference Attendance

<i>Membership 2020</i>			
Full Members	Para-professional	Student	
529	44	116	
<i>Conference 2020</i>			
Full Member	Paraprofessional	Student	Non-Member
350	23	74	21

NCABA Officials Elected in 2020

- **Shanun Kunnavatana**, *Easterseals UCP of NC & VA*, Vice President
- **Leigh Ann Strain**, *Effective Interventions*, Secretary
- **Mark Stafford**, *Butterfly Effects*, Member-at-Large
- **Ashley Neagle**, *Ball State University*, Student Representative

NCABA Financial Report

Cash 01-01-19 (all sources)	\$100,789.32
2019 Income (all sources)	\$82,829.03
-General Income	\$78,046.03
-Donations to PPRF*	\$4,783.00
2019 Expenses (all sources)	\$99,996.94
-General Expenses	\$59,936.94
-PPRF* Expenses	\$40,060.00
Cash 12-31-19 (all sources)	\$83,621.41
2019 EOY Total NCABA Cash	\$82,478.41
2019 EOY Total PPRF Fund	\$1,143.00

*Public & Professional Relations Fund (PPRF)

Submit an Article for our Newsletter

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
- helpful tips for practitioners
- descriptions or reviews of North Carolina programs utilizing behavior 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 Committee 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 as an attachment:
help@nc-aba.com