

November, 2020

North Carolina Association for Behavior Analysis

32nd Annual NCABA Conference Announcement

Volume 29 Issue 4

Join us *virtually* for the 32nd Annual NCABA conference **February 26th, 2021**. Moving to a virtual conference was a difficult but necessary decision and we are grateful that we will still have the chance to connect and learn together. Our best efforts are being made to ensure the day is packed with amazing speakers, a wide range of topics and a little bit of fun!

We are honored to be hosting an exciting lineup of invited speakers including: Matthew Normand (University of the Pacific), Tim Courtney (ClearPath Billing), Shawn Capell (Covenant 15:16 LLC), and Christine Hughes (UNCW). Topics range from the Experimental Analysis of Behavior to Cultural Competence with, of course, Ethics and Supervision along the way. Additionally, we will have a pre-conference workshop Friday morning with Matthew Brodhead (Michigan State University). We are excited and grateful for the opportunity to have Dr. Brodhead speak to us about a Behavioral Systems Approach to Ethics Training and Supervision. BACB and NCPA credits will be sought for all workshops and invited addresses. Additional conference events include a student symposium and NCABA Annual Business Meeting.

We look forward to “seeing” each of you in February and we are grateful for your continued support of the organization. Conference registration will be opening in December and will include a custom snack box you can enjoy during our virtual breaks! Please mark your calendars for a conference you won’t want to miss!

Callie Plattner, NCABA President

Annual Conference Tentative Schedule:

8:00am-11:00am	Workshop: Matthew Brodhead - <i>A Behavioral Systems Approach to Ethics Training and Supervision</i>
11:30am-12:00pm	Welcome/Awards: Callie Plattner
12:00pm-1:00pm	Lunch Break
1:00pm-2:00pm	Invited Address: Christine Hughes - <i>Operant Principles Rich-to-Lean Transitions: The Dark Side of Positive Reinforcement</i>
2:15pm-3:15pm	Invited Address: Matthew Normand - <i>Don't Wag the Dog: How and Why We Should Extend the Reach of Applied Behavior Analysis</i>
3:30pm-4:30pm	Invited Address: Tim Courtney - <i>Who is My Supervisor? Why Technicians and BCBA's Need a Leader</i>
4:45pm-5:45pm	Invited Address: Shawn Capell - <i>The Field of Applied Behavior Analysis: Moving Forward with Competence and Diversity</i>
5:45pm-6:15pm	Business Meeting
6:30pm-7:30pm	Student Symposium

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Statement

After review of the feedback provided by our membership following August’s Autism Conference, the Executive Council developed the statement below, which will be included in correspondence with all future invited conference presenters.

NCABA is committed to embracing diversity and inclusion, and promoting equity across all aspects of our organization. We believe a diverse, inclusive, and equitable world is one in which all people, whatever their gender (including identity or expression), race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, age, sexual orientation or identity, neuro-divergence, disability, or level of education feel valued, respected, and included. In an effort to increase accessibility and acceptance within the field of behavior analysis, we strive to create events that bring these values to the forefront and challenge existing frameworks that intentionally or unintentionally oppress those we serve. We ask our presenters to support us in this cause and uphold these efforts during presentations.

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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,
Jacqueline Hamilton
- **Student Representative**
Ashley Neagle

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www.nc-aba.com

Spotlight: Supporting BCBA/BCaBA Students Despite COVID-19

Many BCBA's help support and supervise students pursuing board certification as a BCBA or BCaBA in addition to supervising treatment for clients. As client services may currently be disrupted based on client preference, clinic locations being closed temporarily, and/or company policy decisions as a result of COVID-19, students are likely facing significantly fewer opportunities to accrue unrestricted hours as well as lacking the ability to learn from a variety of clinicians and clients for the time being. Consider incorporating these options into your current supervision structure to help students you support accrue unrestricted hours in our current circumstances.

Review case studies. Both clinical progress case studies as well as ethical scenarios can provide students with a great basis for practicing problem solving as well as making hypothetical treatment decisions. This will also likely lead to great conversations regarding situations they may not have encountered in actual practice.

Consider using a supervision curriculum and/or resources that will provide structured supervision activities that can be completed. This will also provide a great basis for conversations based in sound theory and foundational principles. The recently published book Building and Sustaining Meaningful and Effective Relationships as a Supervisor and Mentor (LeBlanc et al., 2020) provides a wonderful basis for just this.

Allow students to shadow BCBA's by observing telehealth sessions. Believe it or not, shadowing BCBA's, and learning from their practice, can still be feasible while embracing telehealth. With the proper consents in place this would be a great way to allow students to not only learn from a variety of BCBA's' clinical decisions, but also learn how to embrace best practice when providing services via telehealth.

When in doubt – turn towards the task list! Use this additional time to focus on conceptual conversations rooted in the basics. Begin working through the task list, focusing on areas the student hasn't had exposure to in their coursework or fieldwork.

As BCBA's, we've got an obligation to adapt and provide effective services for our clients to the best of our ability in our current climate, and we've got the same obligation to those we have agreed to supervise, train and support. It's my hope that these ideas may help your supervision of current students, even if this looks different for the time being.

~Sarah Pope, M.S., BCBA

Fronapfel, B. & Demchak, M. (2020). School's Out for COVID-19: 50 Ways BCBA Trainees in Special Education Settings Can Accrue Independent Fieldwork Experience Hours During the Pandemic. *Behavior Analysis in Practice*, 13: 312-320.

Hajiaghamseni, Z., Drasgow, E. & Wolfe, K. (2020). Supervision Behaviors of Board Certified Behavior Analysts With Trainees. *Behavior Analysis in Practice*, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40617-020-00492-1>.

LeBlanc, L., Sellers, T., & Ala'i, S (2020). *Building and Sustaining Meaningful and Effective Relationships as a Supervisor and Mentor*. Cornwall on Hudson: Sloan Publishing.

2020 Annual Autism Conference Review

The NCABA Executive Committee would like to thank the membership for supporting and attending our 5th Annual Conference, held digitally on August 14th, 2020. The conference included two workshops: *Ethical Approaches to Teaching Social Skills for Individuals Diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder* (Dr. Justin Leaf) and *Social Determinants of Health and Applied Behavior Analysis* (Dr. Patricia Wright). We had a total of 55 attendees between both sessions and were able to offer both BACB and NCPA CEs for both events. This was our first digital conference and we want to thank our five sponsors who helped to keep the cost low and bring these great speakers to our members. We want to also recognize the work that our volunteer board put into preparing for this virtual event and specifically recognize Jamie Clary for all that she did to ensure the event and CE process were handled smoothly. We appreciate all who attended and the feedback that was given following the event. We are excited to be able to continue to offer virtual events in the future.

Student Corner

Attention Students: Get involved!!

Student Symposium: It's been a challenging year; get a pat on the back! Submit a proposal to the board to present your research. If you are selected, you will have 15 minutes to present your hard work. What a fantastic way to practice your presentation skills, receive feedback from colleagues, and converse with the NC leaders in ABA.

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

Student Representative: Do you want some insight into ABA in your state? Run for Student Representative! Serve on the NCABA Executive Council with voting privileges for a one-year term. It's an excellent way to participate and advocate in your area.

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

Student Scholarship Award: This \$100 award is given to a student who has excelled in advanced course work and has exhibited excellent, practical behavior analytic skills. Nominations should be provided by an internship supervisor or faculty member.

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

Interested in Becoming a Sponsor for NCABA's 32nd Annual Conference?

Choose between 3 unique levels of sponsorship

1. Gold - \$2500 (limit 3)

- 1 SWAG item in each attendee's break box
- Personalized recognition in each attendee's registration email
- Break advertisements
- Digital branding
- Box branding on each attendee's break box

2. Silver - \$1500 (limit 3)

- Break advertisements
- Digital branding
- Box branding on each attendee's break box

3. Bronze - \$750 (unlimited)

- Digital branding
- Box branding on each attendee's break box

All sponsorship levels have the opportunity for a one-page flyer to be posted on NCABA's Facebook page and website.

Please click the link below for details about these sponsorship options:

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

Join the NCABA Executive Board

NCABA is seeking nominations for people interested in serving on the Executive Committee. We were thrilled with the interest last year and hope this year to have as many if not more nominees. Nominations are being sought for the following positions:

Vice President
Member at Large
Treasurer

Student Representative

To nominate someone for a board position you must first discuss the general requirements and duties (which are listed within the link below) of that position with the person and they must agree to fulfill all obligations.

You can also choose to nominate yourself if you are willing to fulfill all obligations. 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 8th** for the person to run for office.

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

Change in Board Composition

Ruth Hurst has retired from her position as NCABA's ABAI liaison and BACB CEU coordinator. We are grateful to Ruth for her exemplary service to the board and our membership over the last several years. Sarah Pope has been appointed to fulfill the duties of this role. Please join us in welcoming her.

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 by the deadline of **January 8th** are reviewed by the NCABA Executive Council and the winner is determined by a simple majority vote of that council. Click on the link below to go directly to the 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. Former recipients have been BT/RBTs, teachers, SLPs etc. 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 practical experience in the field. 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 the application of behavior analysis 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.

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 as an attachment.

In Memoriam:
Jack Michael
January 16, 1926 - November 12, 2020

Jack Michael had a passion for living life to the fullest. He was known by all as a scholar, but what may not have been so widely known is just how kind and generous he was as he did whatever he could to help everyone succeed. He shared much of his life with his love, Alyce, and it was easy to see that he adored her. A longtime resident of Kalamazoo, Jack will be sorely missed by all who knew.

Jack's journey began during a time that was as vibrant as he was. It was the Roaring Twenties. During this exciting time, Lioniel and Willie (Murphey) Michael welcomed John Lester, known as Jack, on January 16, 1926, into their hearts and home in Los Angeles, California. He grew up in center city Los Angeles, embracing all the city had to offer, even being a member of a Hispanic gang. Luckily, the other gang members kept him away from their fights because they needed his smarts to help with their schoolwork. Jack had a love for reading from the time he was young, thanks to his mother who would take him to the library on Saturdays. After graduating from high school, he attended UCLA where he participated in gymnastics.

After the attack on Pearl Harbor in December of 1941, Jack became one of the countless individuals who were called to serve. He was drafted into the Army in 1943. Upon discharge, he returned to UCLA where he switched his major from chemistry to psychology due to books he asked his mother to send him while he was a soldier. Interestingly, Jack's career in psychology began with a fascination of the writings of Sigmund Freud and Carl Jung. Jack put his GI Bill to good work, earning his bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees from UCLA, finishing his studies in 1955.

Jack accepted a position teaching statistics at the University of Kansas, but he soon became interested in the teachings of B.F. Skinner. For the rest of his career, Jack was dedicated to promoting behavioral psychology. He would later accept teaching positions at the University of Houston and then Arizona State University, known at the time as Fort Skinner in the Desert. With his reputation growing throughout the field of behavioral psychology, he was enticed to move to Kalamazoo and become part of the faculty at Western Michigan University in 1967. Jack always considered himself a teacher first and foremost and had a reputation of being tough but fair. He cultivated passion for behavior analysis, sharing his excitement and igniting that excitement in his students. Jack was one of the founders of the Association of Behavior Analysis International and served as its president in 1979. He received many awards for his achievements including the Distinguished Faculty Scholar Award from WMU, teaching awards from the American Psychological Association and WMU's Alumni Association, and lifetime service awards from ABAI and the Society for the Experimental Analysis of Behavior. In 2012, Jack was the first recipient of an award named in his honor by the Verbal Behavior Special Interest Group affiliated with ABAI.

In addition to being known for his work as an educator, Jack was a well-respected speaker and author. In 1959 he and his student, Ted Ayllon, published what many consider to be the first applied behavior analysis article in the field. He spent much of his academic career concerned with the technical terminology of behavior analysis, and basic theory regarding verbal behavior, and motivation. Over the years Jack taught generations of leaders in the field of behavior analysis. Jack loved to talk about behavior analysis and a simple question would turn into a lengthy answer. Jack retired from teaching in 2003 but continued to remain active in the field.

Jack's life changed when he met Alyce Dickinson. They met in 1980 when Jack was teaching at WMU. With a desire to spend the rest of their lives together, Jack and Alyce were married on May 8, 1989 by Alyce's father who was a Methodist minister. It was easy to see that she was the light of Jack's life. Jack treated Alyce like a queen with flowers, kindness and respect. Alyce never had any reservations that Jack loved her each and every single day.

Throughout his life Jack enjoyed so many things. He was an admired dancer, a great ping-pong player and a connoisseur of wine. Many of the vacations that he and Alyce took were to conferences, but he came to enjoy relaxing at the beach. He loved all kinds of music including jazz, opera, folk, rock and even some country. His favorite song was, "Brown Eyed Girl," by Van Morrison. Alyce was his brown-eyed girl. Jack never strayed from doing things his own way and has been compared to a September salmon. Jack was a rogue and a rascal but had a heart of gold and would do anything to help a student in need, inside or outside the classroom.

In 2004, Jack began showing signs of dementia. Alyce cared for him with love for several years. Even with his diminishing cognitive skills, Jack never lost his love for reading and knowledge and he could still give a mean lecture on verbal behavior. His eyes would twinkle and his face would light up whenever Alyce would enter the room.

With his quick wit, sarcastic sense of humor, and fearless courage, Jack Michael was an inspiration to those around him in many ways. He worked hard but also embraced each and every day he was given while holding the people and things he was passionate about near and dear. Jack leaves behind a priceless collection of achievements that will continue to enrich the lives of so many for generations to come.

In Jack's words, he "done good" and "didn't do nothin' wrong."

Jack Michael Obituary. (2020, November). Betzler Life Story Funeral Homes. Retrieved November 24, 2020, from <https://betzlerlifestory.com/obituaries/jackmichael.133657?fbclid=IwAR0dQi47FVygflLkVS7gmPUQWDgWuKb5W65HuINnvtezQhLlmUi a6IZ0aPDI>