A MESSAGE FROM THE OFFICERS

Welcome members!

Behavior gerontologists are hard at work this year, with several scheduled to present symposiums, papers, and posters at ABAI 2015 in San Antonio, TX. Student presenters are encouraged to submit their ABAI research to the SIG for the annual Student Presenter Award.

Inside, also find out about a new grant opportunity for students interested in gerontology and verbal behavior. On Page 6, find a Call For Papers from Behavior Analysis: Research and Practice. This journal will publish a special issue in gerontology, so send in your manuscripts today!

Happy Aging, Your Officers

Behavior Therapy Makes The News

How Behavior Analysts Can Help To Manage Challenging Behaviors

In early March, National Public Radio produced the story, “Behavior Therapy Helps More Than Drugs For Dementia Patients.” The report was based on the findings from a meta-analysis of assessments and interventions for behavior symptoms of dementia (BSD; e.g., repeated verbals, wandering), completed by Kales, Gitlin, & Lyketsos (2015) and published in The BMJ (doi: 10.1136/bmj.h369). To summarize their findings, Kales et al. suggested that behavior symptoms can (a) be influenced by the environment, (b) interventions should not be one-size-fits-all, and (c) that non-pharmacological interventions are safer and more effective than their pharmacological counterpart — antipsychotics. Unfortunately, the authors did not describe functional behavioral assessments and continued to rely to tradition topographical assessments for the evaluation of environmental influences.

Behavior gerontologists should use this report as a stepping stone in dissemination, but can help further the field by promoting more behavior analytic dimensions to measure, assess, and intervention on BSD.
We are thrilled to see several presentations in behavioral gerontology at ABAI 2015. Read Pages 2-4 for a full list of these presentations.

Add GERONTOLOGY to your schedule this year!
Provide intellectual, clinical, and organizational support to other professionals interested in aging

ABAI EXPO
Saturday, May 23
# 112(132)
Exhibit Hall C
8:00-10:00pm

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Saturday, May 23
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8:00-10:00pm

Business Meeting
Tuesday, May 26
# 437
006C (CC)
8:00-8:50am

MEET YOUR OFFICERS
Jonathan C. Baker
Allison Ilem
Hanna Steinunn
Maranda A. Trahan
Yash Manchand
ABAI 2015

Saturday, May 23
1:00pm-2:50pm

#23 Symposium
Grand Ballroom C2 (CC)
Chair: Ellie Kazemi

Staff Training For Human Service Settings: Analyses and Evaluations

- Pyramidal Training For Supervisors and Caregivers of Aging Adults
  Rocky Haynes, Jonathan C. Baker, & Hannah Ritchie (SIUC)

Saturday, May 23
2:00pm-3:50pm

#44 Symposium
008A (CC)
Chair: Jennifer Laude

The Role of Conditioned Reinforcement in Learning and Memory Processes: Implications for Drug Addiction

- Acute Effects of Alcohol on Encoding and Consolidation of Memory for Alcohol-Related Stimuli
  Jessica Weaver, David Gallo, & Harriet de Wit (University of Chicago)

- Alcohol-Conditioned Contexts Alter Cognitive Function, Alcohol Subjective Experiences, and Increase Alcohol Drinking
  Emma Childs & Harriet de Wit (University of Chicago)

5:00pm-7:00pm

# 87(38)

Poster Session
Exhibit Hall C (CC)

Measuring Quality of Life Variables in Older Adults with Dementia in a Special Care Unit
Christopher Walmsley, Erin Watkins, Alan Poling (Western Michigan University)
ABAI 2015: Sunday, May 24

9:00-10:50am

#143 Symposium
Texas Ballroom Salon E (GH)

Stimulus Control & Older Adults: Basic & Applied Research

- The Effects of Different Step Sizes in a Titrating Delayed Matching-To-Sample Procedure in a Patient with Neurocognitive Disorder
- Using Stimulus Equivalence to Teach Face, Relationship to Older Adults
- Effects of Programmed Discriminative Stimuli Used in a Functional Analysis on Language Disruptions of Elderly Adults with Neurocognitive Disorder
- Evaluating Transfer of Stimulus Control Methods for Verbal Behavior Interventions with Older Adults

11:00-11:50am

#174 Symposium
214D (CC)

Collaboration of Psychiatry & ABA: Systematic Evaluation of Treatment Packages, Medication, & Emotional States

- Psychotropic Medications and Neurocognitive Disorder: The Impact of Medication on Behavior Assessment and Treatment Among Older Adults

3:00-4:50am

#224 Symposium
Texas Ballroom Salon D (GH)

MultiCultural Approach: Behavior Interventions, US & Japan

- The relation between knee extension strength and lower extremity behaviors
- Motor cortex-evoked activity correlates with reinforcement of trial-and-error learning
- Toilet training in the geroontological and neurologically-challenged populations: Sensory and behavior implications
- Predicting behavioral independence and disturbances in patients with dementia

7:00pm-9:00pm

Poster Session

# 266(6) Stimulus Equivalence & Neurocognitive Disorders
Student Researcher Award

Every year the Behavioral Gerontology SIG provides one student researcher with a cash award for $50 at the annual Association of Behavior Analysis International conference.

Graduate or undergraduate students who are first author on a behavioral gerontology related talk or poster are invited to submit their presentations for consideration.

Submit a one-page description of your poster or presentation to bg sig.web@gmail.com. Include: purpose, methods, results, conclusions, data.

Award entries are due Friday: May 22, 2015

Student Research Grant

For the first time in our SIG’s history, we are partnering with the other Special Interest group to support a student research grant competition!!

Dr. Jack Michael encouraged the Verbal Behavior SIG to partner with emerging SIGs to develop research initiatives. President Dr. Judah Axe agreed with other Verbal Behavior SIG officers that the Behavioral Gerontology SIG could become a great partner.

Proposals are being accepted NOW! The winner will be selected at the end of Summer 2015 and announced in the Fall 2015 Newsletter.

See flyer on Page 8 for more details on the application process.

Grant entries are due Friday: August 14, 2015
Behavior Analysis: Research and Practice
Section: Behavior Consultation and Therapy
SPECIAL ISSUE: “Behavior Analysis and Aging”
CALL FOR PAPERS

We* are inviting you to submit a manuscript to that will be published in a special issue of Behavior Consultation and Therapy, a section of the new APA journal, Behavior Analysis: Research and Practice. Behavior Consultation and Therapy addresses clinical and other applied applications of behavior analysis.

Special Issue Editor
Jeffrey Buchanan, Ph.D.

Submission deadline
September 18, 2015

Details
We are soliciting manuscripts to be featured in a special issue “Behavior Analysis and Aging” published in Behavior Analysis: Research and Practice. We are particularly interested in works that offer new or innovative perspectives on a number of important topics including: behavioral assessment, dissemination of evidence-based procedures, staff training, behavior analytic-based intervention, behavioral medicine intervention, conceptual work. Although we are open to considering all types of scientific submissions, we are particularly interested in those that have a strong empirical basis.

All submissions for the special issue will undergo the same review process as any other manuscript submitted to Behavior Analysis: Research and Practice. Please submit manuscripts though the manuscript portal: http://www.apa.org/pubs/journals/bar/

Because there are other special issues in progress, it is important to appreciate that it may take six to twelve months before this special issue is published.

We sincerely hope that you submit a manuscript to the special issue of Behavior Consultation and Therapy. During the submission process, please be sure to select the Behavior Consultation and Therapy section of the journal. Also, please invite a colleague to submit work to be included in the regular sections of the journal. More information about the type of manuscripts accepted by the journal is available at http://www.apa.org/pubs/journals/BAR/.

Please contact the special issue editor if you have further questions.

Regards,
Duane A. Lundervold Editor, Behavior Consultation and Therapy (lundervold@ucmo.edu)
Jeffrey Buchanan, Ph.D. Behavior Consultation and Therapy, Special Issue: Behavior Analysis and Aging jeffrey.buchanan@mnsu.edu

*Re-published from APA flyer received April 13, 2015
Resources in Behavioral Gerontology

bgsig.wordpress.com/resources

Behavioral & Gerontological Professional Organizations • Programs & Labs • Job Opportunities & PostDoc Positions • Training Opportunities • Grants, Scholarships & Awards • Publications & Presentations • Journals, Books, & Blogs

Membership

Please send your contact information and dues ($5/year) to Allison Jay (bgsig.web@gmail.com). Dues can be paid in the form of cash (at the annual business meeting), money order, or through PayPal: bgsig.web@gmail.com.

Please include the following contact information:

• Name
• Email
• Affiliation

www.facebook.com/behavioralgerontology

@BGSIG
bgsig.web@gmail.com

TheBGSIG
Grant Background
For the first time in our SIG’s history, we are partnering with the another Special Interest group to support a student research grant competition!! At ABAI 2013, Dr. Jack Michael encouraged the Verbal Behavior SIG to partner with emerging SIGs to develop research initiatives. In 2014, VB-SIG President Dr. Judah Axe agreed with other Verbal Behavior SIG officers that the Behavioral Gerontology SIG could become a great partner.

Grant Objective
To provide monetary support for empirical research in verbal behavior and older adults to undergraduate or graduate students. Proposals may include any verbal behavior topic (e.g., assessment, intervention, acquisition) as long as adults over the age of 65 are included as the primary participants. The competition winner may receive up to $300 for research-related expenses. One proposal may receive the full grant amount, or the $300 may be divided up into two dominations to fund multiple student research projects.

Proposal Format
1. Cover Page: Title, affiliation, author and advisor, mailing address, email, and phone number.
2. Project Plan (1-3 pages double-spaced MAXIMUM)
   1. Specific Aims: A clear statement of purpose that include specific objectives
   2. Background Information: A description on why the research question needs to be addressed
   3. Design: Which single-subject or group design will be used
   4. Methods: General plan of work; activities to be completed to meet specific aims
   5. Expected results: A graphical and written depiction of potential and expected results
3. Timeline: Briefly describe your timeline needed to complete project. (0.5-1page MAXIMUM)
4. Budget: Briefly describe the resources needed to complete this project, including total amount of funds needed; List amount of money you are requesting and how it would be used (0.5-1page MAXIMUM)
5. Letter of support: From your advisor listed on cover page. Letter must state (a) that student is a full- or part-time graduate or undergraduate student, (b) confirm that the student will be the primary investigator in study, and (c) that the advisor is indeed the student's advisor.

Submissions
All submissions are due Friday, August 14, 2015. All sections (cover page, project plan, timeline, budget, and letter of support) MUST be submitted together in a package. Proposals that do not have one or more sections will NOT be considered. Submissions should be emailed to the Behavior Gerontology Special Interest Group at bgsg.sig.web@gmail.com

Final Report
Awardees must submit evidence of project completion by May 15, 2016 (e.g., brief report, conference presentations). As a professional courtesy, any publications or presentations resulting from funded project(s) should acknowledge the support provided by the VB and BG SIG.