

# ONTABA & QcABA Conference

October 1st & 2nd, 2016

Carleton University: River Building, room 2220-2224



**QcABA and ONTABA are pleased to invite you to their first ever joint conference...**

### Schedule (Day 1)

- 8h00 - 9h00: Registration (light breakfast served)
- 9h00 - 10h30: Brian Iwata; Elimination of Problem Behaviour and Extinction
- 10h30 - 10h45: Break (coffee and tea served)
- 10h45 - 12h00: Michelle Turan; Cultural Considerations in ABA
- 12h00 - 13h15: Lunch (buffet lunch served)
- 13h15 - 14h30: Marc Lanovaz; Empirically-Supported Interventions for Stereotypy
- 14h30 - 14h45: Break (coffee and tea served)
- 14h45 - 16h00: Ethics panel; Treating Problem Behaviour
- 16h15 - 17h30: Poster session (refreshments served)

### Schedule (Day 2)

- 8h30 to 9h00: Registration (coffee and tea served)
- 9h00 to 12h00: Workshop with Brian Iwata; Clinical Challenges to FA Methodology  
(Refreshments served midway through morning)



## Brian A. Iwata

Brian Iwata received his PhD in Psychology from Florida State University. He previously held faculty appointments at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and at Western Michigan University and is currently Distinguished Professor in Psychology and Psychiatry at the University of Florida. Brian's major area of interest is disorders of learning and behavior. He has published over 250 articles and chapters in this area, and he developed the first general model for conducting a functional (experimental) analysis of problem behavior. He is the former chief editor of the *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, a fellow in four societies, and former president of the five societies, including the Association for Behavior Analysis. In 2015, he received the APA Foundation Gold Medal for Lifetime Achievement in the Application of Psychology.

## Presentation (Day 1) Can We Eliminate Problem Behavior Without Extinguishing It?

Extinction is the most direct and effective method for reducing the frequency of problem behaviour and is a key component of intervention programs. Practical constraints, however, occasionally preclude the use of extinction, raising the question of whether we can decrease problem behaviour while it continues to be reinforced. This presentation will illustrate situations in which extinction cannot be used and will review a small but growing body of research describing procedures that might be effective in overriding the effects of ongoing reinforcement.

## Workshop (Day 2) Clinical Challenges to Functional Analysis Methodology

Although functional analysis (FA) methodology is regarded as the standard for assessment in both clinical research and practice, it is not the most common approach used by most clinicians. This presentation will review the key characteristics of the FA, describe practical constraints to assessment (complexity, time, setting, response severity, low-rate behavior, mixed results) as well as variations in FA methodology that have been designed to address each of these problems, resolve ethical concerns, and discuss barriers to implementation.

### Learning objectives:

1. Participants will be able to describe the key features of a functional analysis of problem behavior.
2. Participants will be able to describe the major challenges to conducting a functional analysis and strategies for resolving these problems.
3. Participants will be able to address ethical concerns often raised about the use of functional analyses.



**Michelle Turan**

Michelle Turan, PhD, BCBA, and Professor at Mohawk College has been working in the field of behaviour analysis for 20 years teaching and consulting internationally, particularly in the field of behaviour analysis and autism. Michelle has travelled to India with the Global Autism Project to collaborate with a school for children with special needs and to supervise Canadian students in their teaching of evidence-based practices and functional assessment to teachers. In 2016, Michelle was awarded a Mohawk College ARIE grant to evaluate the changes in intercultural and citizenship skills of faculty and students who travelled with her to Guatemala and India in the spring of 2016. Michelle is a published researcher but prefers to spend most of her professional time training others.

### **Cultural Considerations in ABA**

Behaviour Analysis is a science-based field and emphasis is placed on objectiveness in the collection of data to inform or deliver treatment. Consideration of the context has always been a necessary feature of ABA treatment delivery, and is an area that allows for much interpretation on the part of the Behaviour Analyst. For example, when suggesting a treatment procedure be run at home from the onset, the Behaviour Analyst must consider whether this procedure is feasible for the particular family, given their current environment or lifestyle. The literature in ABA currently pays relatively little attention to contextual considerations, and the impact that this can have on treatment. The focus of this presentation will be on reviewing the literature on contextual and cultural considerations in ABA treatment, the impact this can have on treatment delivery, and considerations for practitioners when planning behavioural treatments for families in diverse environments.



**Marc J. Lanovaz**

Marc J. Lanovaz, Ph.D., BCBA-D, is an Assistant Professor at the École de psychoéducation of the Université de Montréal and was the founding president of the Québec Association for Behavior Analysis. His research program has been funded by many major granting agencies in Canada such as the Canadian Institutes for Health Research, the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, the Fonds de recherche du Québec, and the Office des personnes handicapées du Québec. Dr. Lanovaz has authored more than a dozen peer-reviewed articles and two chapters on the assessment and treatment in stereotypy in children, adolescents, and adults with developmental disabilities.

### **Identifying Empirically-Supported Interventions to Support Clinical Decisions: What Works With Stereotypy?**

Many children, adolescents, and adults with developmental disabilities engage in stereotypy, which are repetitive vocal and motor behaviors that have no apparent social function. Despite being physically harmless, stereotypy often interferes with social integration, daily functioning, and learning. The purpose of the presentation is to examine empirically-supported interventions designed to reduce engagement in stereotypy. To this end, Dr. Lanovaz will explore the notion of empirical support from single-case experimental designs; he will review the definition, prevalence, and functions of stereotypy in individuals with developmental disabilities; and finally he will present intervention strategies that are considered as “empirically supported.” by the research literature.

## Panel discussion: The Ethics of Treating Problem Behavior



Behaviour analysts are tasked with assessing, analyzing, and treating problem behaviours with diverse populations every day. Outside of simply knowing how to treat them, these professionals must also look at the multitude of ethical questions underlying the chosen treatment options. Our panel of experts will include our conference presenters as well as local experts from Quebec and Ontario. Together they will respond to questions and dilemmas that have been submitted in advance by the audience, and share some of their own case studies to illustrate how to achieve an ethically sound outcome to complex situations.

To submit a question or case study for this panel, please use this anonymous form:  
<http://www.qcaba.org/ethical-dilemma.html>

**Poster Session & Social  
Saturday October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016  
4:15 - 5:30pm**

Come and mingle while checking out some of the work being done by our local researchers and students... Enjoy a bite to eat and start up a conversation with one of your cross-province counterparts!

To submit a poster for review please use this form:

<http://www.qcaba.org/poster.html>  
Limit date: August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016

## Rates

Member status	Day 1 only **(6 CEUs)	Day 2 only **(3 CEUs)	Day 1 & 2 **(9 CEUs)
Student member (ONTABA or QcABA)*	\$150	\$65	\$175
Other membership type (ONTABA or QcABA)*	\$175	\$85	\$200
Non-members	\$200	\$100	\$250

**All prices increase by \$25 on the 1<sup>st</sup> of September, 2016: Register Early!**

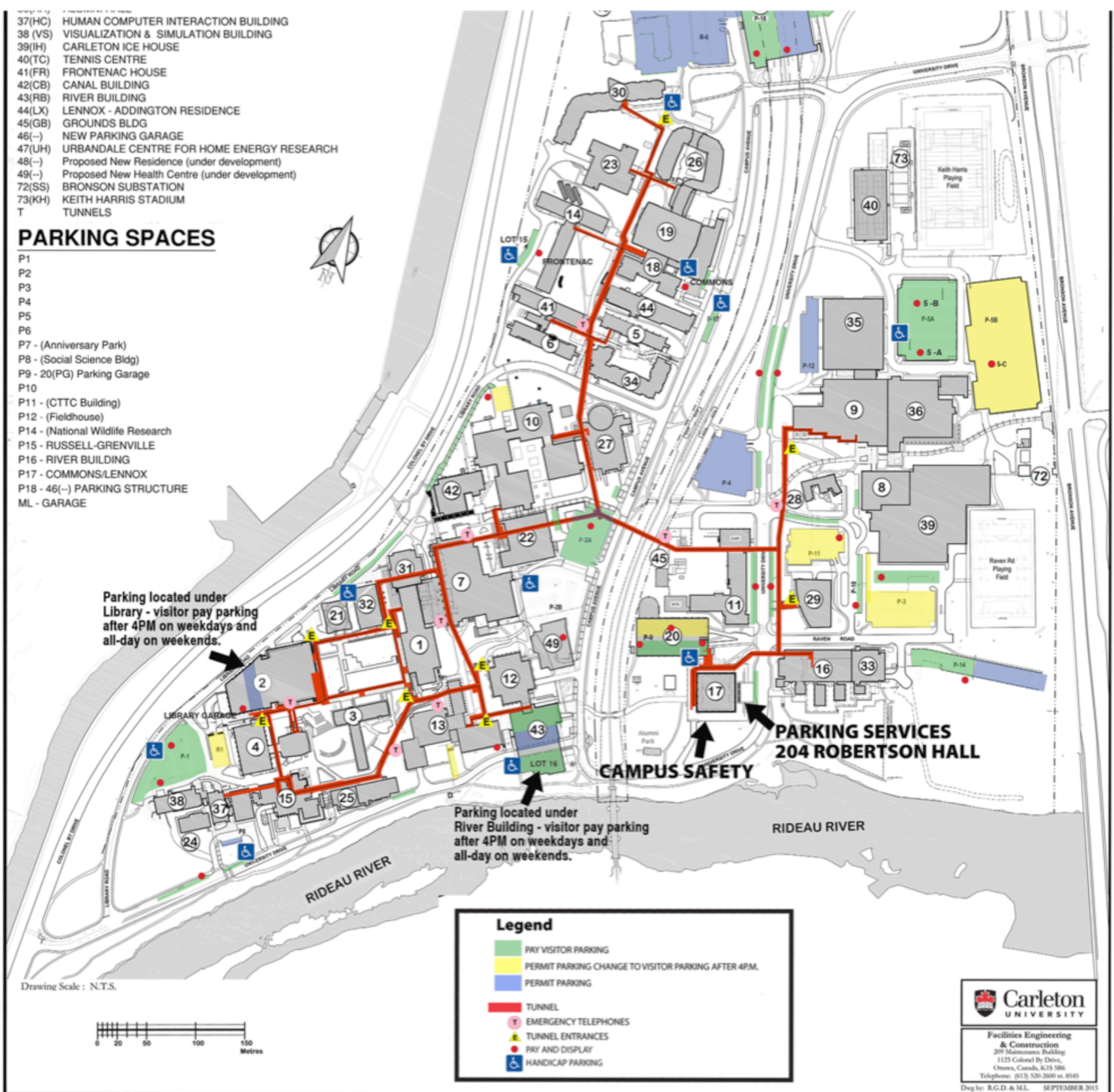
\*Proof of membership will be required during online registration. For QcABA members this proof will be in the form of the code given during registration (and then sent by email), and for ONTABA members this proof will be in the form of a pdf file available to each member on their online portal. Please have this proof ready at the time of online registration.

**To register for the conference:** <http://www.qcaba.org/events.html>

**To submit a poster:** <http://www.qcaba.org/poster.html>

**To submit a question/case study for the panel discussion:**  
<http://www.qcaba.org/ethical-dilemma.html>





## Location

Conference will be held in the **River Building** (no.43 on the map above), rooms **2220-2224**. For an interactive map of the campus, follow this link: <http://carleton.ca/campus/map/#RB>

## Parking

Closest parking is underneath the building (**P16**), open as a paid visitors parking on weekends. Also close is **P9**, across the street from the River Building. See the following link for rates: <http://carleton.ca/parking/visitors/parking-rates/>

## Public Transit

For information about how to get to Carleton University using public transport, follow this link: [http://www.octranspo1.com/routes/universities\\_and\\_colleges#routes\\_header1](http://www.octranspo1.com/routes/universities_and_colleges#routes_header1)

**Questions?** [info@qcaba.org](mailto:info@qcaba.org)