

BRINGING APPLIED BEHAVIOUR ANALYSIS OUT OF THE TRENCHES



Joel Hundert
President, ONTABA

It is interesting to examine the participants in the research articles appearing in the *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*. Most of the research reported in JABA is conducted with persons with developmental disabilities, primarily from state facilities (All 5 of the 5 research articles in the most recent JABA volume - 32:2 were conducted with people with developmental disabilities). Similarly, a brief scan of the ONTABA membership list also reflects a high proportion of individuals in the field of developmental disabilities. Applied behaviour analysis has a strong hold in the area of developmental disabilities but has limited penetration in fields dealing with other populations. (Please forgive the military analogy).

In 1968, Sidney Bijou gave an invited address at the American Psychological Association entitled, "What Does Psychology Have to Offer Education - Now?". Remember, 1968 was the first year that JABA was published and the beginnings of the interest in applied behaviour analysis. In this article, Bijou argued that the unique contribution of psychology was its focus on the application and evaluation of the scientific study of behaviour-environmental relationships to socially relevant change of behaviour (i.e. applied behaviour analysis). The emphasis was on an empirically-based methodology for discovering what works to change behaviours and gain knowledge of functional relationships affecting behaviour. Bijou reminded us not only that behaviour analysis has its roots in psychology, but arguably its most significant contribution is its empirical base for examining changes in individuals. The methodology of behaviour analysis can be used to study not just the application of behaviour interventions, but almost any problem associated with human behaviour, including the effects of drugs on human attention, or whether moon phases alter human behaviour (both of which have been reported in JABA articles). If applied behaviour analysis has the potential to be used in a wide range of situations with various populations, why then has it not been accepted more strongly outside of the field of developmental disabilities (and perhaps acquired brain injury)?

We need to look strategically at; a) what are the factors that hamper the adoption of applied behaviour analysis more broadly; and b) how to strengthen the use of applied behaviour analysis in fields other than developmental disabilities. One reason is that unfortunately, consumers do not base their decisions about psychological interventions on empirical evidence. There is a myriad of treatment approaches that have little or no research support but have had general acceptance at least for a period of time (e.g., facilitated communication). The lack of reliance on data-based decisions can also be

(Continued on page 2)

the ONTABA ANALYST

ONTABA

The Ontario Association for
Behaviour Analysis

An Affiliate Chapter of
The Association for Behavior
Analysis International

Carol Drummond
Editor, Production Manager

Gerald Bernicky
Associate Editor, Submissions

Contents

Bringing A.B.A. out of The Trenches	pg. 1	Joel Hundert
Employment Opportunity / Connections	pg. 3	Various
"From the Inside"	pg. 4	Membership & Recruitment
Student Corner	pg. 5	Rosemary Condillac
Would we benefit from the U.S. Certification process?	pg. 6	G. Bernicky & C. Drummond
Certification Committee Update	pg. 8	Bill Kirby
Behaviour Analysis on the World Wide Web	pg. 9	Gerald Bernicky
Nominations for ONTABA Board Members	insert	Elections Committee

TRENCHES(Continued from page 1)

found in actions taken by managers and service providers. Bigelow (1975) asked managers of children's mental health agencies to rank the factors that influenced their decisions on what services to offer. Empirical substantiation of the effectiveness of the intervention was ranked 9th out of 10 possible factors. The literature on teacher adoption of behaviour change strategies suggests that ease of implementation, consistency with philosophy, and popularity with colleagues are more influential than empirical evidence of effectiveness. Treatment intervention are adopted in the same manner as we seem to purchase detergent (i.e. packaging, image).

I am astonished with how little work has been done to understand factors that influence adoption, fidelity and continuation of treatment interventions by "mediators". As I have indicated in a previous article in this newsletter, one cannot provide effective consultation to others without a working understanding of factors affecting the likelihood of mediators implementing the recommended intervention. The field of behaviour analysis has evolved from work that has been conducted under optimal conditions with the implementers typically provided by the experimenter. This trend continues today. The likelihood of these interventions being implemented by teachers, parents, staff under more natural conditions is unclear.

At this point, I have mentioned characteristics of consumers that affect adoption of ABA. Such is the "nature of the beast". It is more productive to view our failure to influence the habits of consumers as reflective of our skill-deficits, than blame consumers for their decisions not to use ABA. We can only affect our actions, through which influence of consumers is possible. A former professor of mine, Jerry Willis, a number of years ago published a very interesting paper showing the trends of articles on behavioural approaches in the popular press over decades. It showed a clear decline in public interest in behaviour approaches into the sixties and seventies. He attributed some of the reason for the decline in the negative public image that developed around the use of behaviour intervention. Behavioural interventions are seen as harsh, punishment oriented, lacking in sensitivity and caring about individuals, and removing free choice. These negative

images persist in the popular press today.

Our jargon is often viewed as harsh is de-personalizing. A few years ago, I was in a restaurant while attending an ABA International conference and overheard two behaviour analysts talking about their experiences as fathers raising their young children. One said to the other, "I'm losing my effectiveness as an SD. I need to find strategies to pair my presence with reinforcement". Although technically this may have been an accurate description of what the individual wanted to convey, as an onlooker in a casual setting, I thought that the language seemed dispassionate and cold. When consulting our language and terminology need to be more friendly to consumers and convey a sense of caring and humanness. Similar challenges are faced by other scientists. I am sure physicists tolerate the public's description of a beautiful sunrise without issuing a correction that it is not the sun that is rising but the earth that is turning. We need to be mindful of the impact of our language which can turn people off. We need to act and be seen as acting in a manner that is person-centered, positive and sensitive.

Partially, because of this negative image of behaviour interventions as punishment-oriented and narrow, a number of prominent behaviour analysts (e.g., Dunlap, Carr, Horner, Koegel, etc.) are promoting what they call a new field of Positive Behaviour Support with a supporting journal. They examine system-level and antecedent-oriented arrangements on behaviour change. This is a wonderful step in improving the image of applied behaviour analysis.

We need to use collaborative consultation methods that involve the consumer in the development as well as the implementation of the intervention. Programs can be presented as "prototypes" open to selective modification to fit better the situation and the perspective of the consumer. Our consultation becomes more flexible, engaging and practical. We provide information on the ingredients that are necessary to make a program work and allow the consumer to help craft the product.

We need to look at how to present ourselves
(Continued on page 5)

ONTABA

President:

Dr. Joel Hundert

Nov. 15, 1987- 1999

Past Presidents:

Dr. Maurice Feldman

1986 - 1987

Dr. Wanda Smith

1993 - 1995

Founder and

Member Emeritus

Dr. Larry Williams

Members of the
Board:

President:

Dr. Joel Hundert

President-Elect:

Bill Kirby

Secretary:

Caroline Benkovic

Treasurer:

Brad Littleproud

Members at Large:

Dr. Ken Hranchuk

Sherril Hunt

Dr. Jane Summers

Dr. Nicole Walton-Allen

Student

Representatives:

Rosemary Condillac

Amy Smith

Membership:

Amy McParland

Employment Opportunity



HEALTH CENTRE

Position: *Behaviour Therapist*

Status: *Full Time Contract Position
March 1, 1999 - March 31, 2000*

Department: *Peel Behavioural Services
Trillium Health Centre*

Hours of Work: *37.5 Hours per week
Flexible hours of work*

Duties: *Brief Intervention
Conduct Behavioural Assessments
Develop Individual Behaviour
Programs in homes and community
settings
Provide Educational Sessions*

Skills: *Degree in Psychology
Experience in Applied Behavioural
Analysis
Experience working with persons
with Developmental Disabilities
Good Written and Verbal
Communication Skills
Able to work independently*

Must have a valid driver's license and access to a dependable vehicle

Qualified applicants are invited to apply in writing with complete resume to:

**Leanne Baldwin, Manager,
Peel Behavioural Services,
Trillium Health Centre,
100 Queensway West, Mississauga, Ontario,
L5B 1B8**

**or
fax to: (905) 279-9180**

Getting Connected

ONTABA HOME PAGE

Internet address:
<http://www.stlawrencecc.on.ca/guests/ontaba/ontaba.htm>

E-mail Bill Kirby at:
BKIRBY@SLCSL.stlawrencecc.on.ca

CONTACTING ONTABA

If you have questions, information you want to share, or need to contact ONTABA for any reason,

Phone #: **(416) 410-6141** (voice mail)
E-mail : ONTABA@bestnet.org

ONTABA Analyst Submissions

Your newsletter is only as good as your contributions. The *ONTABA Analyst* is a forum for us to stay connected in many ways. All members are encouraged to submit articles on topics related to behaviour analysis; theoretical, practical or topical issues, perspectives from different regions, jobs or schools, research accounts, news, announcements, your biography, reviews, student practicums, etc. Job ads in the *ONTABA Analyst* are placed for a fee payable to ONTABA (\$50.00 1/4 pg., \$100.00 1/2 pg., \$200.00 full pg.).

Article submissions: We reserve the right to edit without changing the intent of an article, request further editing by the author, publish articles relative to the content of the current Newsletter, publish them at a later date with due respect to the timeliness of a given article, or refuse an article. You will be informed of acceptance, rewrite, or refusal of an article. Announcements will be published at the discretion of the editor. *ONTABA* is not responsible for the views and opinions of *ONTABA Analyst* contributors.

Submissions for the next *ONTABA Analyst* must arrive to Gerald Bernicky by Sept. 15, to meet the Oct. 15, 1999, mail out deadline.

E-mail (preferred): bernicky@interlog.com

"From The Inside"

Membership Update:

As of August 23, 1999, ONTABA has a total of 166 paid memberships (120 full members, 24 sustaining members, 20 student members, 1 affiliate member, and 1 member emeritus - Dr. W. Larry Williams, University of Nevada-Reno). Of the 166 members, 71 are new members to ONTABA with the remaining 95 being membership renewals. We are close to meeting the 1999 goal of obtaining 100 new members and 100 renewals, but we still need your help. If you have colleagues interested in joining our Association please give them the contact information provided below.

The 7th Annual ONTABA Conference is just around the corner (November 18 – 19, 1999), and with the conference comes the 1999 edition of the ONTABA Membership Directory. If there have been any changes to the information you provided ONTABA (such as position, contact number, or organization), please contact any of the Membership and Recruitment Committee members to update your information. Do not hesitate to contact us at any time to ensure that your information we maintain within our database is correct. For those members who requested that their information not be included in the Membership Directory, we will review the consents carefully prior to producing the Membership Directory. For those individuals who will be attending the Annual Conference, we will have the 1999 Membership Directories available for you at that time and the remainder will be mailed. The Membership and Recruitment Committee will be set up at the conference to begin the recruitment of members for the year 2000.

The Committee has scheduled a presentation at a local community agency in early September and look forward to sharing what ONTABA has to offer to potential new members. We have looked into developing packages to be distributed to employees at interested organizations if scheduling does not permit presentations.

The Membership and Recruitment Committee looks forward to completing another book draw in September, so get those membership forms in !!!!!

If your organization or agency is interested in having an informative presentation on the goals, benefits, and areas of focus of ONTABA, please contact Amy McParland at (416) 243-3600, ext. 2605, or by email at amcparla@westpark.org.

Amy McParland,
Gerald Bernicky, and
Angela Burgess

Upcoming Events:

AABT, Association for the Advancement of Behavior Therapy
November 11-14, 1999
Sheraton Centre Hotel, Toronto
(212) 647-1890 or www.aabt.org/aabt

10th Annual Rotman Research Institute Conference
The Frontal Lobes
March 20-24, 2000
Metro Toronto Convention Centre
(416) 785- 2500 ext. 3550



TRENCHES (Continued from page 2)

and our field in ways that maximize acceptance and then follow-through with an intervention that works. We also need to recognize that we are competing with other interventions that although not supported by data, may catch the fancy of consumers.

To move out of the trenches of serving primarily people with developmental disabilities to other populations and issues, we shall need to adopt marketing and business practices that may be foreign to many of us. We also need to use our single-subject designs to study non-behavioural interventions that are of broad interest.

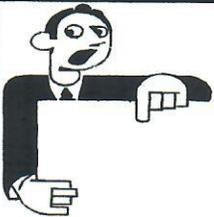
Joel Hundert

Bigelow, D. A. (1975). The impact of therapeutic effectiveness data on community mental health centre management: The systems evaluation project. *Community Mental Health Journal*, 11, 64-73.

Bijou, S. W. (1971) What psychology has to offer education - Now. In W. C. Becker (Ed.) *An Empirical Basis for Change in Education*. Chicago. SRA.

ONTABA ANNUAL CONFERENCE
NOVEMBER 18 & 19, 1999

KEYNOTE SPEAKER:
DR. GLEN DUNLAP
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA
NOVEMBER 18, 1999



Student Corner
Rosemary A. Condillac, M.A.

Book Review

Antecedent Control: Innovative Approaches to Behavioural Supports.
James K. Luiselli & Michael J Cameron
ISBN: 1-55766-334-3

Published by Paul H. Brooks, this edited volume provides an excellent overview of the theory, methodology, and application of stimulus-control strategies to the education and treatment of individuals with developmental disabilities. This book is a timely response to the growing trend in behavioural intervention to shift our emphasis from consequence-based behaviour elimination programs to antecedent-based prevention strategies. Contributing authors include Ted Carr, Glen Dunlap, Robert Koegel, Lynn Koegel, Ray Miltenberger, Jeff Sigafos, Nirbay Singh, Tim Vollmer, & David Wacker.

The strength of this book lies in the broad range of stimulus-control strategies presented. As Carr and his colleagues describe in the first chapter, those treating problem behaviour need to be aware of both the specific molecular antecedents (e.g., task demands, presence of inaccessible reinforcers) and molar antecedents (e.g., social, biological, and environmental context). The topics covered include assessment strategies, physical and medical influences, language based approaches, and other eco-behavioural strategies (e.g., curricular modifications, lifestyle enrichment, changing routines, and prompting compliance). As the volume was written for professionals, many chapters require the reader to be well versed in behaviour-analytic terminology. This book would certainly be a rich resource for training behaviour analysts and is a "must read" for those behaviour analysts already practicing in the field of developmental disabilities.

ONTABA NOMINATION BALLOT 1999

Please read articles IV and V of the Ontaba Bylaws which describe the "rules" for electing members of the Board of Directors of ONTABA. As the length of members terms vary by position, please note the term length for each position listed.

Any ONTABA member may nominate up to 4 persons for each of the positions. All nominees for positions on the Board of Directors must be full ONTABA members as well as members in good standing of ABA International at the time of election. Any nominee not meeting these criteria who wishes his/her name to stand for a position, must become a full member of ONTABA and be able to provide proof (on request) of membership prior to the distribution of election ballots.

We are asking that in addition to returning your nomination ballot, please have your nominee sign and return the attached form to ONTABA directly. Please return the nomination ballot to ONTABA by September 24, 1999.

Please detach



ONTABA 2000 Board of Directors Nomination Ballot

Currently held by Bill Kirby

President-Elect (2 years)
1.
2.
3.
4.

Currently held by Caroline Benkovic

Secretary (2 years)
1.
2.
3.
4.

Currently held by Nicole Walton-Allen

Member-at-large (2 years)
1.
2.
3.
4.

Currently held by Ken Hbranchuk

Member-at-large (2 years)
1.
2.
3.
4.

Currently held by Rosemary Condillac

Student (2 years)
1.
2.
3.
4.

Nominating Member Information

Name:

Phone:

email:

ONTABA Nominee Information Form 1999

Please return this nomination ballot to ONTABA at P.O. Box 44, 3541/2 Yonge St., Toronto, M5B 1S5 or fax to Caroline Benkovic at (905) 383-5744. Must be submitted by September 24, 1999.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

Nominated by _____

Position(s):

- President Elect (2 years)
- Secretary (2 years)
- Member at Large (2 years)
- Student (2 years)

Brief Biography for the election ballot: _____

I agree to stand for election for the ONTABA Board of Directors Position(s) checked above.

Nominee's Signature

Date

Would we benefit from the current American Certification process?

We would like to commend the Certification Task Force and Committee of ONTABA for all the work completed to date, and the Board of ONTABA for supporting initiatives in this direction.

After reading the two articles about certification, in the last issue of the ONTABA ANALYST (vol. 5, iss. 2) we were left with wanting to know more about the status of the certification process. In these articles, it states that the committee debated the pros and cons of creating it's own "Made in Canada" product and process, that discussions with several key Americans involved in that certification process occurred, and that it was not feasible to develop our own capacity for testing an applicant's knowledge. We were left asking, "What were the content and outcomes of these debates and discussions, and why is it not possible to develop a written exam in Ontario?"

In Dr. Hundert's article he asks us several times whether our situation in Ontario is unique enough to pursue separate eligibility criteria from the Certification Board? In response to this, we must say 'Yes', our situation here in Ontario is unique enough at this time to pursue either a) a separate eligibility criteria to write the American exam and be certified within the American model, or b) further discussions toward the development of a 'Made in Ontario' certification or accreditation process.

We agree that we want the highest standards possible for ourselves and certainly for our consumers, however, we disagree that such a certification process need be recognized around the world.

What is the uniqueness of our situation here in Ontario?

1. *Our existing educational infrastructure.* As stated in the articles mentioned, and as most ONTABA members are well aware of, in Ontario, we do not have under-graduate or graduate programs in Applied Behaviour Analysis. Since the 1960s, the American educational system easily supports the certification model. For more than 20 years, Ontario has had a 3 year College program in applied behaviour analysis and there is movement toward the creation of another in the college system. Such programs are not presently supported within the existing certification model, therefore, none of these graduates would be eligible to be certified. The Florida state eligibility criteria, which is being proposed to be used by the newly developed national board, states that the BA requirement for certification at the associate or lowest level of certification, must include 90 hours of classroom instruction in basic principles of behavior analysis, applications of these basic principles and ethical issues related to the delivery of behavior analysis services, or the equivalent of board approved non-university courses. This criterion would exclude all of the BA graduates in Ontario, unless they also took the BST program at St. Lawrence College. What would such criterion for certification have on the future enrollment of these college programs, if the graduates were unable to be certified as Associate Behavior Analysts? With the rising costs of university education, how many could afford to be educated or upgrade their education to become certified?

2. *Presently employed Behaviour Analysts.* Another unique aspect here in Ontario are the number of behaviour analysts who have worked many years in positions without having the American prerequisite formal education. We can think of many practicing behaviour therapists, consultants, program managers, and even directors of behavioural services who do not meet the American certification eligibility requirements for the Certified Behavior Analyst or Associate Behavior Analyst. These individuals have obtained these positions and held them based on competency (knowledge, experience, and contributions to the field), not access to educational opportunities. What would happen to these individuals in these positions? Would Americans who are certified

(Continued on page 7)

BENEFIT?(Continued from page 6)

take our future jobs? Would only those who could "afford" it, be in these positions?

With the likelihood that the present 166 paid members of ONTABA is a higher than average representative sample of Behaviour Analysts across Ontario, and taking into consideration only the mandatory educational requirements in the American certification process, only 53 or 31% of ONTABA members might be eligible to write the American examination for either level. What is to happen to the remaining almost 70% of members?

In principle, certification is a good thing. It protects consumers and analysts as well as bolsters the image and legitimacy of the discipline. Unfortunately, if the educational infrastructure is not available to those who are practicing, and competency and experience are not able to be equated with some level of education, simply adopting this American process will put those who are some of our best, in an extremely disadvantaged position. Clearly our certification process needs to be representative of the Behaviour Analysts who work in Ontario and formed and support this organization. We believe this process needs to be inclusive and not exclusive for our members and Analysts in Ontario.

We propose that eligibility for certification or accreditation in Ontario should include some form of the following:

- ◆ educational background, including our existing College System, and "other" educational opportunities
- ◆ experience in a position where behaviour analysis use is a significant requirement
- ◆ contributions made to the field (research, publications, workshops, presentations, educating others etc.)
- ◆ knowledge of behavioural principles and how to apply them (formal examination)

Members of ONTABA developed, and the Board approved a document titled 'Standards of Practice for Behaviour Analysts in Ontario', not the 'American Standards of Practice for Behaviour Analysts in Ontario'. We should do the same for certification.

Gerald Bernicky and Caroll Drummond,
Founding Members of ONTABA, ineligible for certification within the American model.

WORKSHOP

Practical Assessment and Intervention Methods for Reducing Problem Behaviour in People with Developmental Disabilities

Dr. Ted Carr,

Professor, State University of New York at Stony Brook

Clinician, researcher and author of numerous behavioural publications, including,

"Communication-Based Intervention For Problem Behavior"

presented by The Behaviour Institute, Hamilton, Ontario

When: September 22, 1999 1:30 pm to 4:00 p.m.
Where: Royal Connaught Howard Johnson Plaza Hotel,
112E King St., Hamilton
Cost: \$75.00

To register, contact Nadine Smith or Nicole Conrad at the Behaviour Institute
Phone: (905) 570-0777 Fax: (905) 570-0778 email: behaviourist@globalserve.net

MEMBERS:

To view the proposed eligibility requirements for the National Behavior Analyst Certification Board, Inc., **NOT FORMALLY APPROVED** go to this site,

<http://www.bacb.com>

or request a copy of the Florida and New York approved eligibility criteria from the Secretary of ONTABA
Caroline Benkovic,

ONTABA
P.O. Box 44,
354 1/2 Yonge Street,
Toronto, Ontario
M5B 1S5

Certification Committee Update

August 26, 1999

Bill Kirby, Certification Committee

As you may know, we held a discussion session at the ABA Conference in May where we met with behaviourists from other provinces. Soon we will continue to dialogue with them about our activities. It was determined that the Quebec Affiliate Chapter of ABA is about to cease functioning and that no other province besides Ontario has an active Chapter with ABA.

Dr. Wanda Smith and myself had an opportunity to meet with both Michael Hemingway and Dr. Gerry Shook from the Behaviour Analyst Certification Board, Inc. which is developing the certification process for all of the United States. They are extremely busy working to establish the new board and respond to issues and initiatives within their country.

In a follow-up phone call to Michael in August, it became clear that the board will not be in a position to discuss International issues until sometime in the year 2000. To what extent they can accommodate changes to their model is unknown until they have had more time to debate the principles of any changes and research the legal implications of them.

At our August meeting the Committee decided to explore two options. The first is the "Made in Ontario" process. Research is underway to look at models used with other health care professionals such as Social Workers, Child and Youth Workers, Nurses, etc. Given that the creation of a written exam is seen as a Herculean undertaking, are there other certification processes that require only a review of your portfolio and/ or coursework?

The other option is to see if we can eventually negotiate an agreement with the Behavior Analyst Certification Board, Inc. (BACB). Prior to such negotiations, we would need to determine ONTABA's position regarding a number of issues.

Eligibility to write their exam for either of the two levels of certification is clearly the most complicated and controversial. For full certification their requirements are restricted to those with at least an M.A. in Psychology, although the content of that degree can vary substantially. A practical experience is also necessary, although within narrowly defined criteria. There is also no process by which one may move from the Associate level to the Behavior Analyst level without the necessary M.A. regardless of subsequent training or experience. Is this aspect of the model one which we wish to adopt?

In addition, there is the issue of flexibility of eligibility that will determine if certification can accommodate exceptional circumstances and by whom would such be determined. Finally, we would need to determine the sharing of fees to write the exam, approval of continuing educational requirements, and the renewal process. All of these would need to be incorporated into an overall business plan to determine their initial and long term liability.

All members are encouraged to review this model carefully. Copies of the eligibility requirements for the states of Florida and New York are available by request to Caroline Benkovic, ONTABA Secretary or can be viewed at <http://www.bacb.com>. Committee members also welcome your input prior to the September 28th conference call.

The members are:

Dr. Joel Hundert	Ph. (905) 570-0777	hundert@fhs.mcmaster.ca
Bill Kirby	Ph. (613) 544-5532 ext. 1127	wmkirby@netscape.net
Dr. Wanda Smith	Ph. (905) 304-7098	smithwa@fhs.mcmaster.ca
Dr. Ken Hranchuk	Ph. (613) 839-2263	srpos@wonder.ca
Andrew McNamara	Ph. (416) 698-7351	andrew.mcnamara@sympatico.ca
Jim Reaume	Ph. (905) 436-0061 ext. 222	lrcss@whisp.com
Amy Smith	N/A	amysmith1@hotmail.com

The committee has asked for time at our annual conference in November to discuss these issues with the general membership. I would encourage all who can at least to attend this part of the conference. The decisions about to be made are the most significant ones the organization has ever undertaken. Their outcome will impact not only on the future post-secondary education programs within Ontario but also your working future within the field of Applied Behaviour Analysis.

See you in November!

Behaviour Analysis on the World Wide Web

Gerald R Bernicky, BST, ARP
GRB Information & Performance Management Group

In this issue of the ONTABA ANALYST, I will present a short list of Internet websites dedicated to the education, research, and provision of resources pertaining to Autism. In recent years, the treatment of autism, especially in early intervention has grown tremendously. Applied behaviour analysis as one treatment approach that has seen a resurgence. I now receive calls from parents actually asking for help developing behavioural interventions for their children, whereas in the past, I spent much of my initial assessment time just explaining what behaviour analysis is. This increase in awareness of parents of children with autism may be based on many variables, one of those being information obtained on the world wide web. At the sites listed below, other important variables are addressed such as, effectiveness of treatment options, parent support mechanisms, public education, resources including research and publications, and information about government and funding supports.

For members of ONTABA working with individuals with autism, I share my frequently accessed websites. I hope these will be of interest, unless you have already discovered them on your own!

www.autism99.com

This is a very exciting site and web event. You can sign up now for a free online Internet conference about autism being held in November. You can go to this site, register to join, and then enter to view all of its contents. This site encompasses what I see as the true goal of the www which is to provide free access and the exchange of information in a format that is user-friendly and visually interesting. This site provides descriptions of autism and summaries of existing treatments. From reviewing the list of presenters and their papers, I foresee a few late evenings spent enjoying and learning. I encourage everyone to visit this site and participate in this event to make it successful. It is important that this on-line event be successful so we can see it happen again and in other areas.

www.feat.org

This extensive site is from Families for Early Autism Treatment based in California, and is a must visit for parents and other professionals helping those with autism and related disorders. This site provides clear descriptions about autism and treatments from a variety of sources (biological, environmental, and psychological). From the list of other www links and resources, you can spend many hours obtaining useful information about autism from all across North America. One link I have accessed and obtained information several times is the link to Damian Porcari's website which contains an extensive collection of discrete trial training materials.

www.autism.com

Another very informative site providing information and links to autism and related disorders such as Aspergers, Angelman Syndrome and PDD, to name but a few. This site provides another extensive list of links to other sites and resources.



Contact: ONTABA Board Members and Committee Chairs

President: Joel Hundert
ph. (905) 570-0777
fax (905) 257-2416
e-mail: hundert@fhs.mcmaster.ca

President-Elect: Bill Kirby
ph. (613) 544-5532 ext.1127
fax (613) 545-3920
e-mail: BKIRBY@SLCSSL.StLawrenceC.on.ca

Treasurer: Brad Littleproud
ph. (416) 925-5141
fax (416) 923-8476
e-mail: littlepr@aracnet.net

Secretary: Caroline Benkovic
ph. (905) 521-2100 ext.7532
fax (905) 383-5744
e-mail: carolineb@networx.on.ca

Student Representatives:
Rosemary Condillac
ph. (416) 769-2910
fax (416) 769-6127
e-mail: rcondillac@oise.utoronto.ca

Amy Smith
e-mail: amysmith1@hotmail.com

Membership / Recruitment:
Amy McParland
ph. (416) 243-3600 ext.2605
fax (416) 243-0832
e-mail: amcparla@westpark.org

Members at Large:
Ken Hranchuk
ph. (613) 839-2263
fax (613) 839-2263
e-mail: srpos@wonder.ca

Sherrill Hunt
ph. (613)-735-8660 ext.565
fax (613) 735-3046

Jane Summers
ph. (905) 521-2100
fax (905) 383-5744
e-mail: jsommers@ihis.omh.on.ca

Nicole Walton-Allen
ph. (905) 570-0777
fax (905) 257-2416
e-mail: behaviourist@globalserve.net

Promotions: Jane Summers *

The ONTABA ANALYST
Editor /Production Manager:
Caroll Drummond
ph. (416) 925- 5141 ext.259
fax (416) 923- 8476
e-mail: carolld@interlog.com

Associate Editor/Submissions :
Gerald Bernicky
ph. (416) 724-7481
fax (416) 243-0832
e-mail: bernicky@interlog.com

Conference:
Henrietta Penny
ph. (905) 521-2100
fax (905) 383-5744

Member Emeritus
Larry Williams

1999 Sustaining Members

Francisco Barrera
John Davis
Maurice Feldman
Bill Kirby
Jay Nixon
Jane Summers

Gary A. Bernfeld
Caroll Drummond
Nancy Freeman
Debra Laframboise
Jeffery Parks
Ali Uzunoz

Cynthia Byrne
Karin Earle-Williams
Joel Hundert
Mary McMillian
Ron Settrington
Nicole Walton-Allen

Colleen Cairns
John Eby
Sherrill Hunt
Riaz Mostaghim
Wanda Smith
Ron Wiesman

ONTABA, the Ontario Association for Behaviour Analysis,
is an affiliate Chapter of the Association for Behavior Analysis International.
ONTABA currently has members from professions such as
education, nursing, health care, and psychology.

The objectives of ONTABA are to promote behaviour analysis in the province of Ontario,
to facilitate interactions between professionals engaged in behavioural activities,
to monitor and participate in legal and professional issues related to behaviour analysis,
and to initiate standardized practices and certification of Behaviour Analysts.

ONTABA
P.O. Box 44, 354 1/2 Yonge Street,
Toronto, Ontario
M5B 1S5

Phone: (416) 410-6141 (voice mail)
<http://www.stlawrencecc.on.ca/guests/ontaba/ontaba.htm>

ONTABA is not responsible for the views and opinions of ANALYST contributors