Greetings Iowa ABA Members!
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Happenings in the State of Iowa

Many significant events have taken place this past legislative session and many policies continue to be influencing the future of behavior analysis in the state. First, the state legislature appropriated $250,000 to fund Iowan residents’ attendance to graduate programs to receive their BCBA’s. The Department of Public Health is currently in the process of writing the rules and regulations for how the funds are to be spent. We look forward to sharing the results of the process and contribute to growing the number of behavior analysts in the state.

Second, Iowa ABA wrote a position letter to the Regional Autism Assistance Program in response to the proposed language for provider qualifications section outlined in Iowa’s State Plan Amendment (SPA) approved 3/11/2015. Specifically, our position was that the qualifications required for those delivering treatment be focused on the skills required to complete the training rather than any particular degree major (e.g., Bachelor’s in psychology) or credential (e.g., Registered Behavior Technician). Iowa ABA is watching the outcome of this process and will update the membership once the rules and regulations for this amendment have been written.

Iowa ABA’s 3rd Annual Conference

Please save the date for Iowa ABA’s 3rd Annual Conference to be held on Friday, November 6th at the Hilton Garden Inn West Des Moines (near Jordan Creek Mall). We are very excited about this year’s speakers. Please see the schedule below:

- 8:00am: Registration
- 8:45am: Opening remarks
- 9:00-9:50am: SungWoo Kahng, Ph.D., BCBA-D, LBA, A Simplified Outcome Measure for Use During Treatment Evaluations
- 10:00-10:50am: Kevin Luczynski, Ph.D., BCBA-D, Overcoming Measurement and Geographic Barriers to Providing Home-based Services in Applied Behavior Analysis
- 11:00-11:50am: Jennifer McComas, Ph.D., Functional Behavior Assessment: Quantitative Data Analysis for Effective Intervention of Problem Behavior in Middle School Math Classes
- 12:00-1:30pm: Lunch (on your own)
- 1:30-2:00pm: All member meeting
- 2:00-2:50pm: Nicole Rodriguez, Ph.D., BCBA-D, Behavioral Variability and Autism
- 3:00-3:50pm: Corey Stocco, Ph.D., BCBA-D, Interview Skills Training for College Students AND Stephanie Hood, Ph.D., BCBA, An Individualized Approach to Teach Greeting and Conversation Skills to Persons with Autism: Efficacy, Generalization, and Social Acceptability Outcomes
- 4:00 pm: Closing remarks
For more information about the conference, please visit our website. Registration is opening soon, so keep an eye out for upcoming emails!

Block room rates are available now and can be reserved through the following link: http://hiltongardeninn.hilton.com/en/gi/groups/personalized/D/DSMWHGI-IAV-20151105/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG

Call for Nominations

Iowa ABA is seeking nominations for two positions on the Executive Board. Descriptions of the open positions are below. Please review them and nominate yourself or your colleagues who you believe could contribute to Iowa ABA’s continued growth. To be eligible for a position on the Iowa ABA Executive Board, a candidate must be full members, and must have been a member of Iowa ABA in good standing for at least a year (i.e., current membership during 2014-2015 year, membership is included in the conference registration fee or can be applied for separately by completing the form found at http://iowaaba.com/membership.html).

The first open position is President-Elect (term to begin in 2016) and the second is a Member-at-Large position (a 2 year term 2016-2018). President-Elect position shall be one year with that individual assuming the office of president the following year followed by a year in the capacity of past president. Members at large shall serve as committee members and chairs, and shall participate in activities of the board as voting members.

Please send names and contact information of nominees to Todd Knealing, President of Iowa ABA, at Todd.Knealing@briarcliff.edu

Survey Results

As you all may recall, in January the Iowa ABA Board of Directors began the process of developing a strategic plan for our organization. A series of surveys have been mailed out to the membership in February (response of 10), April (response of 17), and finally in July (response of 31). The survey in July was conducted after Dr. Gina Green, Ph.D., BCBA-D, Executive Director of the Association for Professional Behavior Analysts, conducted a webinar to discuss the implications of legislative issues, such as licensure, in the state of Iowa. Please use following link to view the webinar: https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B3AijCOIBM_1U9NaNF0T3dRUNM/view?usp=sharing

During the “All Member Meeting” at the annual conference, Iowa ABA will present the results of the survey and the implications of the results.

Members’ Corner

We want to hear from you! If you have information you would like to share, new behavior analysts to welcome to the state, information regarding opportunities for behavior analysts, anything, please share them with us for inclusion in our newsletter. You can reach Iowa ABA via at: iowa.behavior.analysis@gmail.com

Thank you for reading! Please forward this newsletter and encourage colleagues to join our growing and vital organization!