

THE MISSISSIPPI BEHAVIOR ANALYST

VOLUME 4/ ISSUE 4



UPCOMING EVENTS

*ABAI 13th Autism Conference
January 18-2019 San Francisco*

*ABA Day at the Capital
March 19, 2019*

*BAAMS 3rd Annual Conference
March 20-21, 2019 Flowood*

*APBA Annual Conference
April 11-13 Atlanta*

*ABAI 2019 Annual convention
May 23-27 Chicago*

2018 BAAMS EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

President: Dannell Roberts
President-Elect: Breanna Newborne
Secretary - Dorothy Scattone
Treasurer - Janelle Upthegrove
APBA Representative - Kimberly Bellipanni Hargrove
ABAI Representative – Meleah Ackley
Region 1 Representative - Bailey King
Region 2 Representative - Brittany Bell
Region 3 Representative - Katie Boozer
Region 4 Representative - Kelly Walker
Past President - Neelima Duncan

BAAMS EXECUTIVE COUNCIL NOMINATION

FULL MEMBERS MAY VOTE FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITION IN MID-DECEMBER

President Elect. The President-Elect provides assistance to the President in conducting the business of the association. The President may delegate duties as needed to the President-Elect, or his/her designate. Finally, the President-Elect fills the role of President and all associated responsibilities in the absence of the President. This role automatically roles over into the President for 2020.

Secretary (2-year appointment). The Secretary assumes responsibility for maintaining the Association’s records, including those pertaining to the actions taken at the Business Meeting, membership and convention registration. The Secretary reports to the members at the Business Meeting. The Secretary records and reports the minutes of all Executive Council and Business meetings.

Please check your email for more details and vote by sending your nominations to info@baams.org.

TRAINING

Dr. Jim Moore will be giving a PEAK Level 1 Training in Jackson, MS on November 30 and December 1. More information can be found at the link below. Please feel free to share the word with anyone you think may be interested.

<https://peakabasolutions.com/product/peak-aba-level-1-training-jackson-ms/>

BAAMS Third Annual Conference – March 20-21, 2019



Save the Date!! BAAMS 2019 is going to be a truly amazing Conference! Nationally renowned speakers -- Gina Green, Melissa Nostik, Valerie Volkert, and Sarah Troutman-Esfinger -- are scheduled to present workshops and give talks. Registration is open on our website at www.baams.org. Check the website for more information!

The Conference will be held in Flowood, Mississippi at the Table 100 restaurant, a perfect venue for our Third BAAMS Conference.

BAAMS Conference 2019 Paper or Poster Proposal

The deadline for proposals is right around the corner! Please consider submitting a Paper or Poster for the 2019 Conference.

Single paper submissions are also encouraged. The 20-minute presentations may be focused on either empirical research or conceptual, philosophical, historical, or methodological issues. Accepted papers will be organized into symposia by the conference committee.

Posters usually report empirical research and will be organized into one session, during which attendees will be invited to review the research presented and discuss findings with poster presenters. Presenters must

be at their poster during their assigned time of the poster session and may choose to provide handouts.

Note: Papers not accepted will be considered for poster acceptance.

REGIONS 2 MEET-AND-GREET

Welcome New BCBA's

On November 8, an education social was held at Canopy Children's Solutions' administrative office welcoming new BCBA's to the field and providing a valuable networking and education opportunity with other BAAMS Region 2 members. Special thanks to Brittany Bell, Region 2 State Representative, for the celebratory "BCBA" cookies. The event was marked by fellowship and a continuing education talk given by Canopy's Director of Autism Solutions, Dr. Jim Moore, regarding self-care as a behavior analyst.

ABA DAY AT THE CAPITOL EVENT

The Mississippi Autism Board and the Behavior Analyst Association of Mississippi are hosting an Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) Capitol Day at the Mississippi State Capitol on Tuesday, March 19, 2019, from 8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. on the 1st Floor of the Capitol Rotunda. This year's Day at the Capitol will kick off our annual conference. Please make plans to attend this event to meet state legislators and promote our field. To reserve a table, email Anna Moak (Anna.Moak@sos.ms.gov) or Leah Smith (Leah.Smith@sos.ms.gov) from the Secretary of State's Office.

The Day at the Capitol event is a way for BAAMS and other stakeholders to promote ABA and allows for ABA providers to network with statewide legislators and other elected officials. It gives us a great opportunity to share information about the current state of behavior analytic services in Mississippi as well as engage in discussions with our legislators to help our profession grow. Save the dates will be going out soon and you will be hearing more information from BAAMS in the coming months!

**Mississippi State Capitol (Jackson, MS)
400 High Street, Jackson, Mississippi 39201**

BEHAVIOR ANALYST SPOTLIGHT



The Autism Center of North MS is excited to welcome their new Clinical Director to the team. Sheila Williamson, Ph.D., is a Clinical Psychologist and a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA-D). She comes to the Autism Center from Integrated Health in Southaven.

For over 25 years, she has worked with children with Autism Spectrum Disorders, emotional concerns, attention issues, severe behavioral concerns, and developmental disabilities. She has been blessed to provide services in the clinic, home, hospital and school settings. In addition, she has worked in exceptional programs like Rutgers Autism Program and the Kennedy Krieger Institute at Johns Hopkins Hospital.

Dr. Williamson is committed to providing comprehensive assessments to guide treatment, as well as exceptional clinical treatment services including behavioral-oriented therapy, social skills therapy, Applied Behavior Analysis, and parent training. Her main goal is to allow the children and young adults she works with to obtain their fullest potential while developing meaningful and relationships.

She lives in Belden, Mississippi with her husband Michael and enjoys spending time with their adult children. She looks forward to expanding the array of services provided at the Autism Center to serve persons through young adulthood and via group skills training.

USM SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY PROGRAM

The USM School Psychology program has just received approval from the BACB as a verified course sequence!! Contact Dr. Evan Dart at USM for more info!!

LOCAL BUSINESSES

Autism Under the Canopy

Canopy Children's Solutions is excited about the growing opportunities to help serve children and families in Mississippi affected by autism. Earlier this fall, Canopy's Early Intervention Autism Clinic relocated into a new space within the new Center of Excellence located at 1513 Lakeland Drive in Jackson. Canopy has also expanded to the Jean Austin Bagley Campus on West Street serving students from the CARES School and surrounding area with particular focus on offering ABA solutions to school-aged youth. Canopy is also completing final preparations for a new clinic opening in Hattiesburg, which will likely occur just after the New Year.

With so much expansion, Canopy is excited to see positive growth in the ABA professional workforce. In August, four former Canopy interns, all of which accepted full-time employment with the organization, all passed the BACB exam and became Licensed Behavior Analysts in the State of Mississippi. This now gives Canopy a total of 9 LBAs, making Canopy the single largest employer of BCBAs/LBAs in the state. The Autism Solutions team welcomed Dr. Chris Furlow, BCBA-D, as the new Clinic Manager who joined Canopy after completing a post-doctoral fellowship at Johns Hopkins University.

During the month of November, Canopy is hosting intern Doris Duan-Young who is observing and training in the PEAK Relational System used at the early intervention clinic. Originally from China, Doris earned her BCBA in 2000 and manages autism clinics in Dubai and hopes to bring serves to her home country, where there is a significant ABA workforce shortage.





Client-Oriented Research

A major focus of all programs within Canopy Autism Solutions is to equip practitioners with cutting-edge client-oriented research that helps to bridge the research-to-practice gap. Toward these efforts, all BCBA's within Canopy are challenged to disseminate their work through journal publications and conference presentations. In 2018, members of the Canopy team saw 8 papers accepted for publication in the following journals: *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, *Behavior Analysis in Practice*, *Journal of Organizational Behavior Management*, *Focus on Autism and Other Developmental Disabilities*, and *Journal of Behavioral Education*. Dr. Moore also gave an invited talk at the recent Autism Law Summit in San Antonio, TX. Canopy also served as a co-sponsor for the first annual Haley Rose Gunter Autism Conference at Mississippi College. Dr. Moore, Dr. Furlow, BreAnna Newborne, Nicole Thomason, and Laura-Katherine Barker served as featured presenters at the conference.



Save the Date!! BAAMS 2019 is going to be a great conference. We have nationally renowned speakers for our workshops and invited presentations. Stay tuned for more information about travel and registration!

If you would like to advertise your business, post job listings, write an article, share a recent publication, share research endeavors or have something you'd like to share in the next Newsletter, contact Dorothy Scattone at info@baams.org.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings from the presidency!

It is hard to believe we are entering the last month of 2018! This year has flown by and I am very proud of the direction our organization is heading. I have thoroughly enjoyed my role as President this year and look forward to stepping into Past President and welcoming our new president Breanna Newborne in 2019 as your new President. Thank you all for your support and assistance this year in making behavior analysis a strong force in Mississippi! As 2018 comes to an end, the focus for BAAMS is on elections and the upcoming conference. I hope you all will consider nominating your co-workers or yourselves for the two open positions. Being in the leadership of BAAMS has been very rewarding and a lot of fun!

Please see your emails for details on voting, submissions for BAAMS conference, and registration information. Registration is open on our website so register today! Also, information about travel and sponsorship is also posted on the events page. If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions about the conference please email me at info@baams.org.

Thank you,
Dannell Roberts, Ph.D., BCBA-D
President – BAAMS