



Blue Jay Behavioral Bulletin



Hello and thank you for reading the fifth issue of the *Blue Jay Behavioral Bulletin*!

To say the Spring 2020 semester year was unique is an understatement! Most importantly, we hope you and yours are safe and healthy. COVID-19 forced us to significantly change our everyday life. Despite it all, the entire USJ ABA program, students and faculty included, met the challenge of an abrupt transition to online instruction, virtual scholarship, and meaningful telehealth and service activities. Congratulations to all for your perseverance during this time! There are several notable “firsts” this year. Dr. Kimball finished his first year as a full-time faculty member and we are thrilled to have him as part of our team. I also finished my first year as Program Director, and what a year it’s been! A big thank you to Dr. Courtemanche for her incredible work as program director these past few years and for creating the first issue of the *Blue Jay Bulletin*. Please feel free to reach out to me this summer with any general questions or concerns, and to Dr. Mann with any of your supervision or practicum related questions. Lastly, to make your summers a bit more behavioral, we have created a summer reading list and group to explore several non-textbook ways to stay connected to the field (see attached fliers). Have a wonderful summer and hopefully we’ll see you in person this fall!

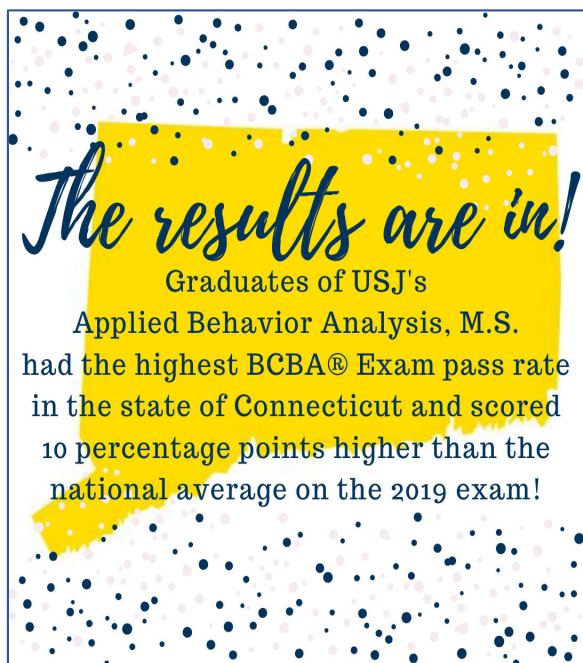
-Laura B. Turner, Ph.D. BCBA-D, LBA, ABA Program Director-

Cheers to the Graduating Class of 2020!

In lieu of the annual Hooding Ceremony, the USJ Faculty wished all students a socially distant, virtual congratulations. Several students and faculty also participated in a Zoom toast to their accomplishments. Best of luck to the graduating students and future behavior analysts! Don’t forget to join our Facebook Group, *University of Saint Joseph - Autism and Applied Behavior Analysis Alumni*



Cheers to the new BCBAs!



Academic Excellence

Danica Ackerman-Perrier
Caitlin Emerson
Katherine Dussan
Brianna Keegan
Amanda Wedge



A Special Thank You

We would also like to extend a huge thank you to Linda Lohmeyer for all of her work for the program over the last 2 years. Linda will be moving on and will not be with us next year. We are very sad to see her go!

USJ STUDENT PRESENTATIONS

Ainsworth, A., Courtemanche, A.B., & Brewer, A. (2019, October). *Perceived stress, impulsive decision making, and procedural fidelity in staff members*. Poster presented at the Berkshire Association for Behavior Analysis and Therapy annual conference, Worcester, MA.

Bevis, J. & Courtemanche, A.B. *Effects of parent stress on choices of treatment outcomes for their children with problem behaviors*. Accepted for USJ Symposium Day.

Fiaschetti, J., Courtemanche, A. B., & Groskreutz, N. (2019, October). *An evaluation of goal setting and feedback on increasing physical activity*. Poster presented at the Berkshire Association for Behavior Analysis and Therapy annual conference, Worcester, MA.

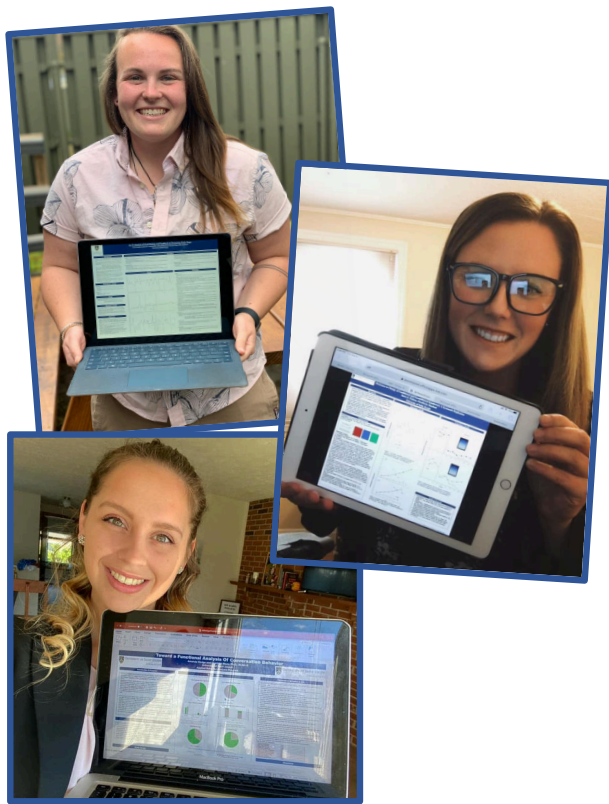
Grant, G. & Mann, C.C. An Evaluation of behavioral skills training on improving golf performance. Poster accepted to USJ Symposium Day.

Rapuano, E. & Courtemanche, A. B. *Topographical differences in self-injurious behaviors as an indicator o pain in individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities*. Accepted for USJ Symposium Day.

Wood, J., & Mann, C.C.. (March, 2020). Examining the impact of conditioning social stimuli as reinforcers for social responses. Poster presented at Connecticut Association for Behavior Analysis Conference Uncasville, CT.

Yanke, L., Mann, C.C., & Courtemanche A. An evaluation of goal-setting and feedback on increasing physical activity. Poster accepted to USJ Symposium Day.

CONGRATULATIONS on the successful *virtual* defense of all Master's Theses!



Dr. Courtemanche

Eric Rapuano
Jillian Bevis
Katherine Dussan
Carter Lauder
Sarah Lemelin
Amanda Upchurch
Ashley Cotto

Dr. Kimball

Danica Ackerman-
Perrier
John Silveira
Sara Fulton
Emily Wininger
Chris Jones

Dr. Mann

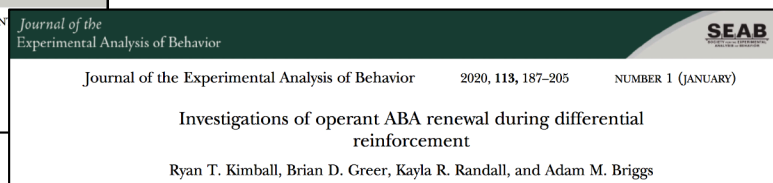
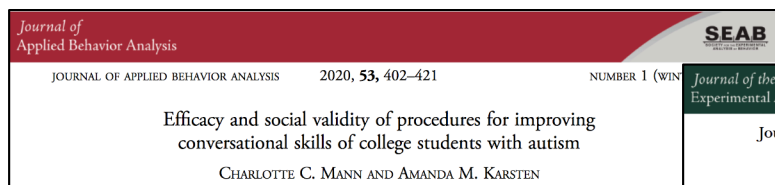
Amanda Wedge
Briana Bogrette
Crissy Sarenas
Ginni Smith
Christina Torres
Sharon Bucciarelli
Gina Grant
Lindsay Yanke

Dr. Turner

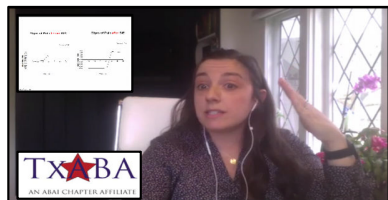
Alycen Aigner
Caitlyn Campagna
Caitlin Emerson
Michelle Keaney
Brianna Keegan
Annika Simmons

***Congratulations to* Amanda Upchurch and Jillian Bevis** for being awarded USJ Student Research Grants to help support their thesis projects, and **Gina Grant** for applying for a \$500 grant through the Behavior Analysis in Health, Sport, and Fitness Special Interest Group

USJ FACULTY PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS



Courtemanche, A.B. (2020, April). *Stress, pain, and problem behavior among individuals with and without disabilities*. Invited presentation at the Texas Association for Behavior Analysis (virtual presentation due to COVID-19).



Kimball, R. T., Greer, B. D., Randall, K. R., & Briggs, A. M. (2020). Investigations of operant ABA renewal during differential reinforcement. Special Issue on Relapse: *Journal of the Experimental Analysis of Behavior*, 113, 187-205

Mann, C.C. (November 2019). Using a problem-solving approach to help individuals with ASD navigate the social world. Invited presentation at the 1st annual Atlantic Provinces Autism Conference. Univ. of New Brunswick, Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada

Mann, C. C., Karsten, A.M., Jurgens, H., Baker, J., & Kisamore, A. (conference cancelled originally scheduled for March 27th 2019). Walk in my shoes: Supervisor on essential knowledge, skills, and abilities of early career BCBAs. Panel discussion at the Association for Professional Behavior Analysts Conference. Denver, CO.

Mann, C.C. & Karsten, A.K. (2020). Efficacy and social validity of procedures for improving conversational skills of college students with autism. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, 53(1), 402-421.

Mann, C.C. & Kimball, R. T. (January, 2020). Programming for Generalization: Our Unspoken Ethical Responsibility, Parts I & II. Continuing Education/Recruitment Event hosted by the Department of Counseling and Applied Behavioral Studies at the University of Saint Joseph, West Hartford, CT.

Mitteer, D. R., Greer, B. D., Randall, K. R., **Kimball, R. T.**, & Smith, S. (2020, May). Effects of combining contextual changes, omission errors, and commission errors on target and alternative behavior [Symposium canceled due to COVID-19]. 46th Association for Behavior Analysis International Annual Conference, Washington, D.C.

Randall, K. R., Greer, B. D., **Kimball, R. T.**, & Smith, S. (2020, May). Sustaining behavior reduction by transitioning the topography of the functional communication response during FCT [Symposium canceled due to COVID-19]. 46th Association for Behavior Analysis International Annual Conference, Washington, D.C.

Turner, L. (2020, April). *Research Ethics in Behavior Analytic Practice*. Presented as an invited address at the Berkshire Association for Behavior Analysis and Therapy Annual Social Event (virtual presentation due to COVID-19).

Turner, L. (2019, December). *Emotional Learning in ASD*. Presented as an Invited brown bag at Child Study Center, Yale University, New Haven, CT.



Turner, L. (2019, October). *Behavioral Processes Underlying Fear Responses in Individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder: Implications for Practice*. Presented as an invited address at the Berkshire Association for Behavior Analysis and Therapy 40th Annual Conference, Springfield, MA.

Turner, L. (2019, October). Using an Evidence-Based Practice Model to Teach Behavior Analytic Supervisees Advanced, Problem-Solving and Decision-Making Skills. Presented as an invited workshop at the Berkshire Association for Behavior Analysis and Therapy 40th Annual Conference, Springfield, MA.



Hello and thank you for reading the fourth issue of the *Blue Jay Behavioral Bulletin*!

Congratulations on finishing the 2018-2019 academic year in the graduate programs in applied behavior analysis (ABA) at USJ! We have some exciting changes we'd like to announce. First, we would like to welcome Dr. Ryan Kimball! Dr. Kimball will be joining the ABA faculty starting Fall 2019. He joins us from the Munroe Meyer Institute (Omaha, NE). Please introduce yourself to Dr. Kimball when he arrives in August. I'd also like to inform you that I will be stepping down from my role as program director of the ABA program starting this fall. I am pleased to announce that Dr. Laura Turner will be assuming the role as program director (and your academic advisor) beginning Fall 2019. As we make this transition, please feel free to reach out to either me or Dr. Turner with any questions or concerns you may have. Please continue to reach out to Dr. Mann with any of your supervision or practicum related questions. Have a wonderful summer!

-Andrea B. Courtemanche, Ph.D. BCBA-D, LBA

Congrats to the Graduating Class of 2018-2019!

The fourth annual Applied Behavior Analysis Hooding Ceremony was held on May 09, 2019. We'd like to thank Katie Jacobs, MS BCBA, who served as this year's alumni speaker. Best of luck to the graduating students and future behavior analysts!



Academic Excellence Award

Recipients

Ashley Ainsworth
Shannon Aquila
Alea Bowman
Alyssa Hopson
Melissa Walker

Thesis Award Recipients

Erica Martino **Advisors: Dr. Laura Turner & Dr. Charlotte Mann**
Comparing Different Methodologies of Response Cost Procedures and Evaluating Choice in Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder

Alyssa Hopson **Advisor: Dr. Andrea Courtemanche**
An Evaluation of Daily Challenges and Rewards on Fitness Session Attendance

Julie Fiaschetti **Advisor: Dr. Andrea Courtemanche**
An Evaluation of Goal Setting and Feedback on Increasing Physical Activity

Alea Bowman **Advisor: Dr. John Molteni**
Comparing Stimulus-Stimulus and Response-Stimulus Pairing Procedures to Establish Tokens as Conditioned Reinforcers

USJ STUDENT PRESENTATIONS

Ainsworth, A., Courtemanche, A.B., & Brewer, A. (2019, April). *Perceived stress, impulsive decision making, and procedural fidelity in staff members*. Poster presented at the University of Saint Joseph Symposium Day, West Hartford, CT.

Fiaschetti, J., Courtemanche, A. B., & Groskreutz, N. (2019, April). *An evaluation of goal setting and feedback on increasing physical activity*. Poster presented at the University of Saint Joseph Symposium Day, West Hartford, CT.

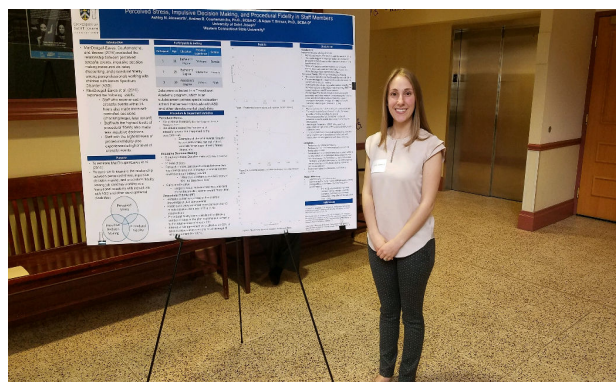
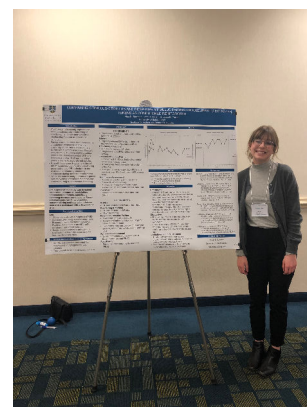
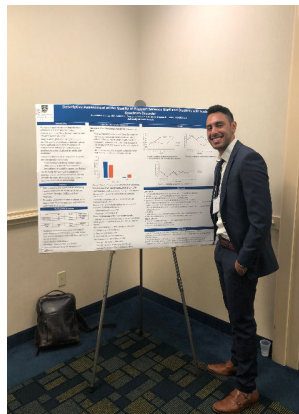
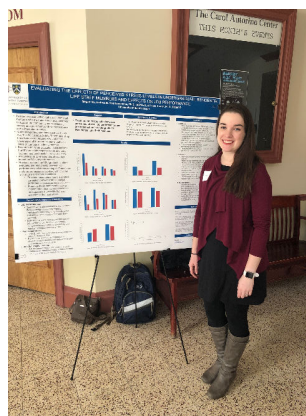
Vo, M., Courtemanche, A.B., & Turner, L. (2019, April). *Evaluating the effects of perceived stress levels in undergraduate residential life staff members and effects on job performance*. Poster presented at the University of Saint Joseph Symposium Day, West Hartford, CT.

Bowman, A., Molteni, J., & Turner, L. (2019, March). *Comparing stimulus-stimulus and response-stimulus pairing procedures to establish tokens as conditioned reinforcers*. Poster presented at the 15th annual convention of the Connecticut Association for Behavior Analysis in Cromwell, CT.

Hauslaib, S., Courtemanche, A. B., & Brewer, A. (2019, March). *Evaluating the relationship among daily stress, job satisfaction, and decision making in group home staff*. Poster presented at the 15th annual Connecticut Association for Behavior Analysis conference, Cromwell, CT.

Hopson, A., Courtemanche, A. B., & Groskreutz, N. (2019, March). *An evaluation of daily challenges and rewards on fitness session attendance*. Poster presented at the 15th annual Connecticut Association for Behavior Analysis conference, Cromwell, CT.

Sanchez, J., Courtemanche, A. B., & Turner, L. (2019, March). *Descriptive assessment of the quality of rapport between staff and students with autism spectrum disorder*. Poster presented at the 15th annual Connecticut Association for Behavior Analysis conference, Cromwell, CT.



USJ Faculty Publications

Courtemanche, A.B., Piersma, D., & Valdovinos, M. (2019). Evaluating the relationship between the rate and temporal distribution of self-injurious behavior. *Behavior Analysis: Research and Practice*, 19, 72-80. doi.org/10.1037/bar0000151

Mann, C.C., & Karsten, A.M. Efficacy and social validity of procedures for improving conversational skills of college students with autism (*Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, accepted April, 2019)

Acknowledgements

Congratulations to:

Samuel Hauslaib for being awarded the *Excellence in Empirical Design Award* at the 15th Annual Connecticut Association for Behavior Analysis Conference.

Alyssa Hopson for being awarded the *Exceptional Contribution to Behavior Analytic Research In Applied Context Award* at the 15th Annual Connecticut Association for Behavior Analysis Conference.

Shannon Aquila, Julie Fiaschetti, and Melissa Walker for being awarded USJ Student Research Grants to help support their thesis projects.

Dr. Turner and Dr. Courtemanche for celebrating their 5-year anniversaries at USJ.

Dr. Courtemanche for being nominated for the *Father John Stack Teaching Excellence Award* for the second consecutive year.



Congrats to the new BCBAs!

In 2018, 28 USJ graduates took the BACB exam and 18 graduates passed on their first attempt.

A Special Thank You

The ABA faculty would like to extend a huge thank you to Linda Lohmeyer for all of her work that she completed for the program throughout the year.



Hello and thank you for reading the third issue of the *Blue Jay Behavioral Bulletin*!

Congratulations on finishing the 2017-2018 academic year in the graduate programs in applied behavior analysis (ABA) at USJ. We'd like to welcome Dr. Mann again in her role as Practicum Coordinator for our graduate programs. Dr. Mann (cmann@usj.edu) is available to answer questions about BACB experience hours or the practicum opportunities at the Gengras Center School. Feel free to reach out with any questions and concerns and have a wonderful summer!

-Andrea B. Courtemanche, Ph.D. BCBA-D

Congrats to the Graduating Class of 2017-2018!

The third annual Autism and Applied Behavior Analysis Hooding Ceremony was held on May 11, 2018. Thank you to Kimberly MacDougall Eaves, MS BCBA for her words of wisdom as this year's alumni speaker. Best of luck to the graduating students and future behavior analysts!



Thesis Award Recipients

Michaela Moebius

Advisor: Dr. Laura Turner

The Impact of Mindfulness on Stress Among Special Educators

Jon Peterson

Advisor: Dr. Andrea Courtemanche

The Effects of Environmental Enrichment and Choice on Stereotypy among Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder

Katie Falvey

Advisor: Dr. Nicole Groskreutz

Teaching Prepositions to Children with Autism using Matrix Training

Katie Jacobs

Advisor: Dr. Charlotte Mann

Teaching Adolescents with ASD to use Self-Questioning as a Problem-Solving Strategy for Answering Questions of Past Recall

Academic Excellence Award Recipients

Katie Jacobs

Christina Sabo

Jennifer Wood

USJ STUDENT PRESENTATIONS

Conti, J., & Groskreutz, N. C., & Groskreutz, M. P. (2018, March). *Evaluating systematic preference assessments to identify activity reinforcers in individuals with autism*. Poster presented at the 14th annual Connecticut Association for Behavior Analysis conference, Hartford, CT.

Dean, S., Turner, L. & Fischer, A. (2017, October). *Using video modeling plus video performance feedback to train general education teachers to use a naturalistic teaching procedure for students with autism spectrum disorder*. Paper presented at the Berkshire Association for Behavior Analysis and Therapy 38th Annual Conference, Amherst, MA.

DiCiccio, J., Turner, L. & Molteni, J.D. (2017, October). *Using video models to teach preference assessments effectively and efficiently to general education teachers: Comparing multiple exemplars to non-exemplars*. Paper presented at the 38th Annual Conference of the Berkshire Association for Behavior Analysis and Therapy. Amherst, MA.

Hatfield, N., Courtemanche, A. B., & Turner, L. (2018, March). *Teacher preference for performance feedback modalities and effects on the delivery of praise*. Poster presented at the 14th annual Connecticut Association for Behavior Analysis conference, Hartford, CT.

Haggerty, H. & Mann, C.C. (April, 2018). *Assessing the impact of literacy promotion on the rate and quality of parent-to-child speech*. Poster presented at the University of Saint Joseph Symposium Day, West Hartford, CT.

Joseph, J., Courtemanche, A.B., MacDougall Eaves, K., & Brewer, A. (2018, March). *Assessing the relationship between teacher stress and impulsive decision making*. Poster presented at the 14th annual Connecticut Association for Behavior Analysis conference, Hartford, CT.

Madore, R., Groskreutz, N.C., Molteni, J.D., Lessard, S., & Turner, L. (2018, May). *Generalization of problem solving skills to vocational and educational settings by individuals with high functioning autism*. Paper presented at the 44th Annual Convention of the Association for Behavior Analysis International. San Diego, CA.

Moebius, M. & Turner, L. (2017, April). *How meditating impacts stress of teachers in special education settings as indicated by self-report, heart rate, and interpersonal behavior*. Poster presented at the University of Saint Joseph's Annual Symposium Day, West Hartford, CT.

Pare, E. & Turner, L. (2017, October). *The effects of rate feedback versus quality feedback on task completion*. Poster presented at the Berkshire Association for Behavior Analysis and Therapy 38th Annual Conference, Amherst, MA.

Peterson, J., Courtemanche, A.B., Groskreutz, N. & Mias, J. (2018, March). *Competing with stereotypy: An evaluation of matched, unmatched, and choice of items*. Poster presented at the 14th annual Connecticut Association for Behavior Analysis conference, Hartford, CT.

Peterson, J., Courtemanche, A.B., Groskreutz, N. & Mias, J. (2018, May). *Competing with stereotypy: An evaluation of matched, unmatched, and choice of items*. Poster presented at the 44th annual Association for Behavior Analysis International conference, San Diego, CA.



USJ Faculty Publications

Brewer, A., Li, A., Leon, Y., Pritchard, J., Turner, L., & Richman, D. (*in press*). Toward a better basic understanding of operant respondent interactions: translational research on phobias. *Behavior Analysis: Research and Practice*.

Courtemanche A.B., Lloyd B., & Tapp, J. (2018). A descriptive analysis of self-injury in community settings: Exploring behaviour-behaviour contingencies. *Journal of Intellectual Disability Research*. doi:10.1111/jir.12485

Hatzenbuehler, E., Molteni, J.D., & Axe, J. (Accepted). Increasing play skills in children with autism spectrum disorder via peer-mediated matrix training. *Education and Treatment of Children*.

Gelbar, N.W., Bruder, M.B., Debiase, E., & Molteni, J.D. (Accepted). A retrospective chart review of children with ASD's: Individual Education Plans compared to subsequent independent psychological evaluations. *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*.

Molteni, J. (2018). Teaching skills to adolescents using Applied Behavior Analysis. In N. W. Gelbar (Ed.), *Adolescents with Autism Spectrum Disorder*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Turner, L. (2017). Behavior Analytic Supervision. In Luiselli, J. (Ed.), *Applied Behavior Analysis Advanced Guidebook*. Atlanta, GA: Elsevier Publishing.

News and Announcements

Congratulations to:

Katie Jacobs for being awarded the *Rachel D'Avino Memorial Outstanding Student Award* at 14th Annual Connecticut Association for Behavior Analysis Conference.

Julie Conti for being awarded the *Exceptional Contribution to Behavior Analytic Research in Applied Context* award at the 14th Annual Connecticut Association for Behavior Analysis Conference.

Hannah Haggerty for being awarded the University of Saint Joseph Symposium Day Poster Award for her project entitled, *Assessing the Impact of Literacy Promotion on the Rate and Quality of Parent-to-Child Speech*.

Hannah Haggerty and Michaela Moebius for being awarded USJ Student Research Grants to help support their thesis projects.

Dr. John Molteni for his 10-year anniversary at USJ.

Dr. Andrea Courtemanche and Dr. John Molteni for being nominated for the Father John Stack Teaching Excellence Award at USJ.

Congrats to the new BCBAs!

In 2017, 27 USJ graduates took the BACB exam and 19 graduates passed on their first attempt (70% pass rate). The national average pass rate for 2017 was 65%.

A Special Thank You

The ABA faculty would like to extend a huge thank you to Kathleen Hunter for all of her work that she completed for the program throughout the year. Kathleen retired this year after dedicating many years to the Department of Counseling and Applied Behavioral Studies. She will be greatly missed.





Hello and thank you for reading the second issue of the *Blue Jay Behavioral Bulletin*!

I am thrilled to finish the 2016-2017 academic year in my role as program director of the graduate programs in applied behavior analysis at USJ. In addition to sharing the great contributions of our USJ students and IABS colleagues, I wanted to share with you some changes that are underway in our program. Beginning August 2017, the Masters of Science in Autism and Applied Behavior Analysis degree will change to a Masters of Science in Applied Behavior Analysis. The major changes to the degree include changing the name, new courses in basic and applied research, and built-in practicum opportunities for students to obtain approved supervision opportunities. The updated program will continue to be 45 credits and will take three years to complete. Our goal is to continue to provide our students with a broad education in basic, translational, and applied applications of the science of behavior. Feel free to reach out with any questions and concerns and have a wonderful summer!

Andrea B. Courtemanche, Ph.D. BCBA-D

Congrats to the Class of 2016-2017

The second annual Autism and Applied Behavior Analysis Master's Hooding Ceremony was held on May 12, 2017. Thank you to Elizabeth Hatzenbuehler for her inspiring words as this year's alumni speaker. Best of luck to the graduating students and future behavior analysts!



Thesis Award Recipients

Erica Pare

Advisor: Dr. Laura Turner

The Effects of Rate Feedback Versus Quality Feedback on Task Completion

Kimberly MacDougall-Eaves

Advisor: Dr. Andrea Courtemanche

Perceived Stress, Impulsive Decision Making, and Procedural Fidelity in Staff Members

Melissa Gecaj

Advisor: Dr. John Molteni

The Effects of Precision Teaching and Discrete Trial Instruction on the Retention, Endurance, Stability, and Application of Tacts in Pre-School Children with Developmental Disabilities

Julie Conti

Advisor: Dr. Nicole Groskreutz

Evaluating Systematic Vocal Preference Assessments to Identify Activity Reinforcers in Individuals with Autism

Katherine Dubowsky

Advisor: Dr. Charlotte Mann

Teaching Multiply Controlling Responding to Social Questions to Children with ASD who Communicate not Exclusively with Speech Using a Differential Observing Response

Academic Achievement Award Recipients

Sarah Dean

Elizabeth Hines

Kimberly MacDougall-Eaves

USJ STUDENT PRESENTATIONS

Crossley, S. & Turner, L. (October, 2016). *Using non-invasive prompts to increase teacher's use of descriptive praise*. Poster presented at the Berkshire Association for Behavior Analysis and Therapy 37th Annual Conference, Amherst, MA.

Dziura, A. & Turner, L. (April, 2017). *Helping parents build rapport with their children with autism spectrum disorder through play-based skill teaching*. Presentation given at the University of Saint Joseph's Annual Symposium Day, West Hartford, CT.

Hines, E., Groskreutz, N., & Groskreutz, M. (2017, April). *The role of preference and competition in the treatment of vocal stereotypy through auditory stimulation*. Poster presented at the 2017 Symposium Day at the University of Saint Joseph. West Hartford, CT.

Kask, C., Groskreutz, N., & Mann, C. (2017, April). *Identification of necessary prerequisite skills to produce emergent relations in children with autism using complex auditory-visual samples*. Poster presented at the 2017 Symposium Day at the University of Saint Joseph. West Hartford, CT.

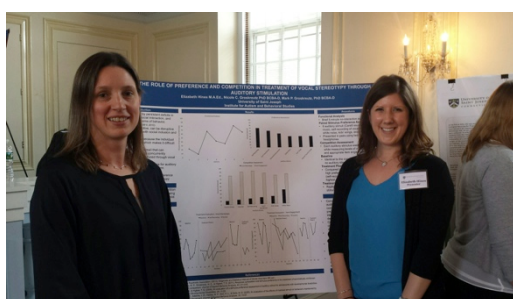
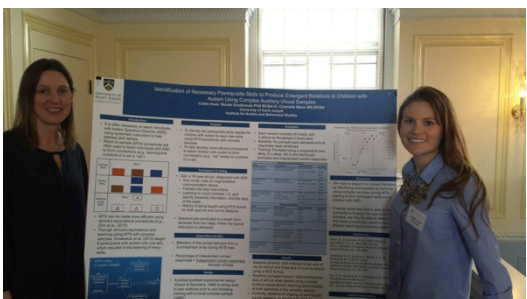
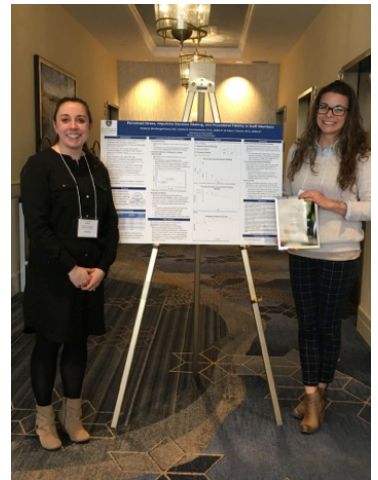
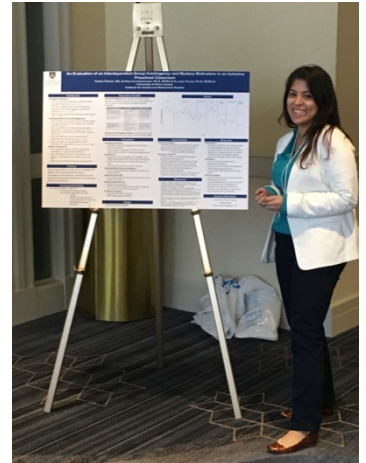
MacDougall Eaves, K., Courtemanche, A.B., & Brewer, A. (2017, March). *Perceived stress, impulsive decision making, and procedural fidelity in staff members*. Poster presented at the 13th annual Connecticut Association for Behavior Analysis conference, Hartford, CT.

Nadeau, B., Courtemanche, A.B., & Groskreutz, N. (2017, March). *Student or teacher selected tasks and its effects on on-task behavior*. Poster presented at the 13th annual Connecticut Association for Behavior Analysis conference, Hartford, CT.

Palmer, F., Courtemanche, A.B., & Turner, L. (2017, March). *An evaluation of an interdependent group contingency and mystery motivators in an inclusive preschool classroom*. Poster presented at the 13th annual Connecticut Association for Behavior Analysis conference, Hartford, CT.

Smith, M. & Turner, L. (October, 2016). *The recycling initiative: A comparative analysis to evaluate effective low response effort recycling interventions*. Poster presented at the Berkshire Association for Behavior Analysis and Therapy 37th Annual Conference, Amherst, MA.

Wong, S., Turner, L., & Eisenhour, R. (April, 2017). *Assessing the generalization of robot-assisted social skills instruction to children with autism spectrum disorder*. Poster presented at the University of Saint Joseph's Annual Symposium Day, West Hartford, CT



Faculty Publications

Courtemanche, A.B., Wendland, M., Fenikile, T., & Ellerbeck, K., (in press). Using a multi-disciplinary algorithm to treat self-injurious behavior in a young boy with developmental delays. *Journal of Child and Adolescent Psychopharmacology*.

Kisamore, A. N., Karsten, A. M., & Mann, C. C. (2016). Teaching multiply controlled intraverbals to children and adolescents with autism spectrum disorders. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, 49, 826-847.

Parker, M.L., & Molteni, J.D. (2017). Structural family therapy and autism spectrum disorder: Bridging the disciplinary divide. *The American Journal of Family Therapy*. DOI: 10.1080/01926187.2017.1303653

Turner, L. (in press). Behavior Analytic Supervision. In Luiselli, J. (Ed.), *Applied Behavior Analysis Advanced Guidebook*. Atlanta, GA: Elsevier Publishing.

News and Announcements

Congratulations to:

Kimberly MacDougall Eaves for being awarded the *Excellence in Empirical Design Award* at the 13th Annual Connecticut Association for Behavior Analysis Conference.

Briana Nadeau for being awarded the *Exceptional Contribution to Behavior Analytic Research In Applied Context Award* at the 13th Annual Connecticut Association for Behavior Analysis Conference.

Nicole Berger, Elizabeth Hines, Sherry Wong, and Ashley Dziura for being awarded USJ Student Research Grants to help support their thesis projects.

We'd like to acknowledge:

Sherry Crossley and Mackenzie Smith for being finalists in the *Student Poster Competition* at the 2016 Berkshire Association for Behavior Analysis and Therapy Conference.

Tara Bellefleur and Christina Kiley for being featured in the Fall 2016 issue of the Florida Association for Behavior Analysis' *Observer*.

Kimberly MacDougall-Eaves for being the Graduate Student Speaker at the 2017 USJ Commencement.

Congrats to the new BCBAs!

The BACB pass rates for 2016 were released in March 2017. Twelve USJ graduates took the exam in 2016 and nine passed the exam on their first attempt (75% pass rate). The national average pass rate for 2016 was 66%.



A Special Thank You

The ABA faculty would like to extend a huge thank you to Kathleen Hunter for all of her work that she completed for the program throughout the year.

We would also like to thank Thomas Hebert and Katelyn Blair for their help as the ABA graduate assistants for the 2016-2017 academic year.



Blue Jay Behavioral Bulletin



Hello and thank you for reading the first ever issue of the *Blue Jay Behavioral Bulletin*!

I am delighted to finish the 2015-2016 academic year in my new role as program director of the graduate programs in applied behavior analysis at USJ. I hope you enjoy reading about the great contributions of our USJ students and IABS colleagues.

Have a wonderful summer!

Andrea B. Courtemanche, Ph.D. BCBA-D

Congrats
Class of
2015-2016!

The first annual Autism and Applied Behavior Analysis Master's Hooding Ceremony was held on May 6, 2016. Thank you to Kimberly Lachowicz for sharing her lessons learned as a first year BCBA. Best of luck to the graduating students and future behavior analysts!



Thesis Award Recipients

Mackenzie Smith

"The Recycling Initiative: A Comparative Analysis to Evaluate Effective Low Effort Recycling Interventions"

Thesis Advisor: Dr. Laura Turner

Christie Acosta

"An Evaluation of Fixed versus Variable-Time Exchange Schedules of Reinforcement Using a Classroom-Wide Token Economy"

Thesis Advisor: Dr. Andrea Courtemanche

Elizabeth Hatzenbuehler

"Increasing Sociodramatic Play Skills in Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder via Peer Mediated Matrix Training"

Thesis Advisor: Dr. John Molteni

Research Spotlight

Student Presentations

Bauer, E. & Molteni, J.D. (2016, May). *Evaluating the results of multiple stimulus without replacement (MSWO) preference assessment using difference schedules of reinforcement*. Paper presented at the 42nd Annual Association for Behavior analysis Convention, Chicago, IL.



Acosta, S. & Turner, L., (2016, April). *Evaluating antecedent interventions on novice rock climbers*. Paper presented at Symposium Day at the University of Saint Joseph, West Hartford, CT

Crossley, S. & Turner, L., (2016, April). *Using non-invasive prompts to increase teacher's use of descriptive praise*. Paper presented at Symposium Day at the University of Saint Joseph, West Hartford, CT

Hatzenbuhler, E. & Molteni, J.D. (2016, April). *Increasing sociodramatic play skills in children with autism spectrum disorder via peer mediated matrix training*. Paper presented at Symposium Day at the University of Saint Joseph, West Hartford, CT.

Acosta, C., Courtemanche, A., & Molteni, J.D. (2016, March). *An evaluation of fixed versus variable time exchange schedules of reinforcement using a classroom-wide token economy*. Poster presented at the Connecticut Association for Applied Behavior Analysis annual conference, New Haven, CT.

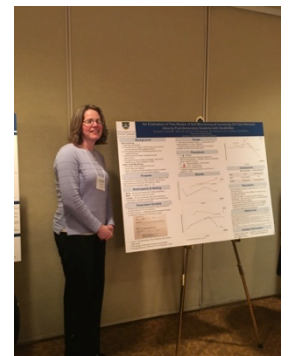
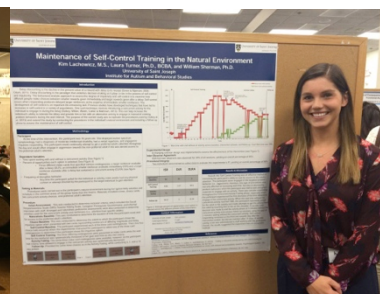
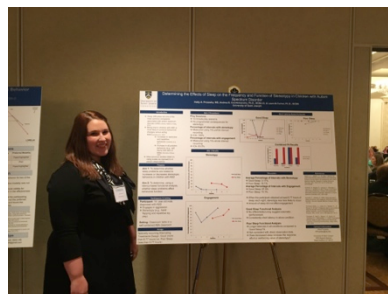
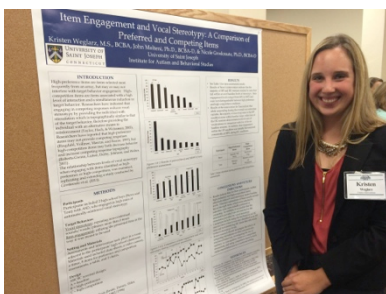
Ellsworth, E.A., Courtemanche, A.B., & Molteni, J.D. (2016, March). *An evaluation of two modes of self-monitoring at increasing on-task behavior among post-secondary students with disabilities*. Poster presented at the Connecticut Association for Behavior Analysis annual conference, New Haven, CT.

Prozesky, H.A., Courtemanche, A. B. & Turner, L.B. (2016, March). *Determining the effects of sleep on frequency and function of stereotypy in children with autism spectrum disorder*. Poster presented at the Connecticut Association of Behavior Analysis annual conference, New Haven, CT.

Bauer, E. & Molteni, J. D. (2015, October). *Evaluating the results of multiple stimulus without replacement (MSWO) preference assessment using difference schedules of reinforcement*. Paper presented at the Berkshire Association for Behavior Analysis and Therapy annual conference, Amherst, MA.

Lachowicz, K., Turner, L., & Sherman, W. (2015, October). *Maintenance of self-control training the natural environment*. Poster presented at the Berkshire Association for Behavior Analysis and Therapy annual conference, Amherst, MA.

Weglarz, K., Molteni, J.D., & Groskreutz, N. (2015, October). *Item engagement and vocal stereotypy: A comparison of preferred and competing items*. Poster presented at the Berkshire Association for Behavior Analysis and Therapy annual conference, Amherst, MA.



IABS Faculty Publications

Courtemanche, A. & Turner, L. (in press). *Intellectual Disability: Gender and Sex Differences*. In Wenzel, A. (Ed.). SAGE Encyclopedia of Abnormal and Clinical Psychology

Turner, L., Fischer, A., & Luiselli, J. (2016). Towards a competency-based, ethical and socially valid approach to the supervision of applied behavior analytic trainees. *Behavior Analysis in Practice*, 9, 1-12. doi:[10.1007/s40617-016-0121-4](https://doi.org/10.1007/s40617-016-0121-4)

Courtemanche, A., Black, W. & Reese, R. (2016). The relationship between pain, self-injury and other problem behaviors in young children with autism and other developmental disabilities. *American Journal of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities*, 121, 194-203.

Courtemanche, A. & Black, W. (2016). Everyday expressions of pain in children with and without autism spectrum disorder. *Research in Autism Spectrum Disorder*, 26, 65-70.

Upcoming Dates

July 28-End of Summer 2016 semester

Aug. 29-First day of Fall 2016

Oct. 12-14-Berkshire Association for Behavior Analysis and Therapy Conference

Dec. 7 & 14-Thesis Defenses

Dec. 17-End of Fall 2016 semester

News and Announcements

A Warm Welcome

We are pleased to welcome two new full-time faculty members beginning this fall. Dr. Nicole Groskreutz earned her Ph.D. from Utah State University and has been acting as a Visiting Assistant Professor in the ABA program for the last year. Dr. Charlotte Mann earned her Ph.D. at Western New England University and will join us starting Fall 2016.

Awards and Accolades

Congratulations to Elizabeth Hatzenbuehler for earning the Academic Excellence Award for her coursework at USJ.

Christie Acosta was awarded the Excellence in Empirical Design Award at the 12th Annual Connecticut Association for Behavior Analysis Conference.



Congrats to the new BCBAs!

The BACB pass rates for 2015 were released in May 2016. Twenty USJ graduates took the exam, and 65% passed the exam on their first attempt. The national average pass rate was also 65%. USJ has increased their average pass rate of the national certification exam by 17% since 2013. More information can be found here: <http://bacb.com/2015-acb-pass-rates-now-available/>



A Special Thank You

The ABA faculty would like to extend a huge thank you to Kathleen Hunter for all of her work that she completed for the program throughout the year.

We would also like to thank Sherry Crossley for her enthusiastic help as the ABA graduate assistant for the 2015-2016 academic year.