



Rowan Reinforcement Record

Newsletter for Specialization in Behavioral Services for Children & Families

Accent on Alumni

By Lauren Lee

Rowan University

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As a December 2006 graduate from Rowan University, I received my Bachelor's degree in Psychology. I also pursued the specialization in Child Behavior Services beginning my sophomore year. During this time my interest in developmental disabilities grew and I contacted Dr. Kerwin to learn more about becoming certified in Applied Behavior Analysis. Through the specialization I was able to complete course work necessary to begin accumulating hours towards certification at the associate level.

In spring 2007 I began interning at AdvoServ, an agency that provides residential and day program services to individuals with severe behavioral disorders. I have had the privilege to work under the supervision of Behavior Analysts, Dr. Cheryl Ecott and Kellie Goldberg. AdvoServ gave me the opportunity to assist in writing behavior plans, collect and chart data, work with residents, and gain more experience with managing difficult behaviors.

This past summer I also worked as a teacher's assis-

tant in a preschool autistic classroom in East Brunswick. Here I was able to use skills I have learned in classroom activities as well as private home instruction.

Upon my return to Rowan this Fall I will begin my Master's degree in School Psychology. I am confident that being a Board Certified Associate Behavior Analyst will benefit my career greatly. Until then I look forward to new challenges and opportunities during my graduate studies.



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Anticipatory Advisement for Undergraduates: Spring 2008

If you want to take Field Experience in Spring 07, you need to apply by

October 1.

Blank applications are located on Dr. LaMastro's office door. Also email Dr. Kerwin that you are applying for Field Experience.

Applied Behavior Analysis	M 4:45-7:15
Research in Learning & Behavior	TR 4:45-7:15
Learning & Behavior	T 4:45-7:15
Developmental Psychopathology	MW 1:45-3:00
Field Experience	R 4:45-7:15

Announcing the Certificate of Graduate Studies (COGS) in ABA

The Certificate of Graduate Study (COGS) in Applied Behavior Analysis was approved by the university in June 2007. The COGS in ABA is designed to provide students with the necessary coursework required to apply for certification as a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA). In addition to post-baccalaureate coursework, the BCBA certification requires a Masters degree (field of study is not specified) and between 750-1500 hours of supervised practice (the number of hours required is determined by the amount and frequency of supervision in the set-



ting so that students receiving more frequent and more hours of supervision/week require fewer number of hours). The 5 courses comprising the COGS in ABA have been approved by the Behavior Analyst Certification Board, Inc. For more information about the supervised experience and other requirements for the BCBA, please see Behavior Analyst Board Certification, Inc. standards at www.bacb.com.

To read more about the COGS click [here](#)

COGS in ABA Coursework

The Behavior Analyst Certification Board, Inc. has approved the following course sequence as meeting the coursework requirements for the Board Certified Behavior Analyst Examination. Applicants will have to meet additional requirements to qualify:

- Basic Principles of Behavior (3 credits)
- Research Methods in Behavior

Analysis (3 credits)

- Applied Behavior Analysis (PSY 02.610) (3 credits)*
- Behavioral Assessment & Functional Analysis (3 credits)
- Practicum in ABA (3 credits)**

*There is an undergraduate level course with this same name. Students wishing to pursue certification as a BCBA must take the graduate level course.

** The Behavior Analyst Certification Board, Inc. requires 750-1500 hours of supervised hours depending upon the amount and frequency of supervision in the setting so that students receiving more frequent and more hours of supervision/week require fewer number of hours. The Practicum course is designed to be provided in coordination with settings that employ the appropriately credentialed BCBA field supervisor.

Great Graduates: Spring 2007



Excellence in Service:
Laura Storms, B.A.

Each spring, the faculty throw a celebratory party for those seniors graduating. The highlight of this celebration is the awards ceremony. Graduating seniors are nominated for these awards by faculty and/or students. This past year, three graduating seniors received awards. Congratulations!!!



Highest Academic Achievement:
Julianne Clement, B.A.



Excellence in Research: Kristen

Update from Behavior Analyst Certification Board, Inc.

The practice of certifying behavior analysts at two different levels grew out of the pioneering State of Florida behavior analyst certification program. The BACB followed this example when it began its certification program, using the term "Associate" to identify the lower-level certification. Over the years, we have found this term to be troublesome when dealing with individuals outside of the field of behavior analysis. We feel it is necessary to ensure that consumers, legislators and funding agencies all are able to easily comprehend the role that both BCABAs and BCABAs play in the lives of their clients. To that end, we are preparing to clarify

these roles by ceasing the use of the confusing "Associate" term and replacing it with "Assistant." This change will go into effect January 1, 2009. At that time, BCABAs will begin representing themselves as "Board Certified Assistant Behavior Analysts" or "BCaBAs." Over the next year and a half, certificants will begin to see announcements about the new title on www.BACB.com, as well as renewal and recertification forms and exam application forms. We believe this will be a positive change that allows anyone interacting with a BCaBA to quickly understand the individual's level of certification and role in service delivery.

"Effective January 1, 2009... BCABAs will begin representing themselves as "Board Certified Assistant Behavior Analysts" or "BCaBAs."

Important Change in BCABA: Required Supervision

After careful consideration of the available information and task force recommendations, the BACB has decided to implement a requirement that all BCABAs practice under the supervision of a BCBA. This requirement will not take effect until January 1, 2009. **At that time, BCaBAs will be required to have at least one hour of supervision from a**

BCBA every month.

The new requirements for certification can be found below. These requirements, as well as other details such as reporting and documentation requirements will be posted on www.BACB.com and included in future newsletters. We also expect to offer a new function on the Certificant Registry in the future that will allow

BCBAs willing to supervise to indicate that fact, making it easier for those in need of supervision to find a supervisor.

To read more about these important changes and the proposed guidelines for supervision, see Summer 2007 [newsletter](#).

Did You Know New Jersey has the highest rate of autism in US?

According to data published February 2007 from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, New Jersey has the highest autism rate in the country, with one in 94 children affected, NJ Department of Education statistics suggest that students with autism increased 15% in 2006-2007. As a result, NJ Senate passed five pieces of legislation in June 2007 to help this population.

One bill would establish a statewide autism registry, so researchers could identify potential trends by region. Another bill would create the Adults with Autism Task Force, to examine housing, education and job opportunities. A third bill would encourage doctors to look for signs of autism in young children. A fourth bill would mandate teacher training. A fifth bill would make the

Governor's Council on Autism a permanent fixture, with ongoing funding from \$1 surcharges on motor-vehicle fines. The council, which underwrites research at New Jersey-based institutes, has distributed more than \$10 million in grants in its first five years.

Excerpt from The Record (Bergen Co., NJ)/Staff Writer Elise Young. Reprinted with permission.

Rowan University

MaryLouise E. Kerwin, Ph.D., BCBA
Program Advisor
Department of Psychology
201 Mullica Hill Road
Glassboro, NJ 08028
Phone: 856-256-4500 x3521
Fax: 856-256-4892
E-mail: kerwin@rowan.edu



Profile of a Placement: Bancroft NeuroHealth

Bancroft NeuroHealth has long been a leader in the neurological disabilities field. Founded in 1883 as one of the first schools for children with developmental disabilities, today Bancroft is a large, multi-faceted organization serving people of all ages.

The Lindens in Haddonfield is one of Bancroft's most innovative programs. This intensive "neurobehavioral stabilization" program helps children and young adults with neurological disabilities overcome severe behavioral crises. The program is so effective that most individuals successfully return to less restrictive environments within a short time. Moreover, individuals experience a 70-percent reduction in maladaptive behavior, on average, during their stay at the Lindens.

The Lindens consists of three large, one-story homes on Bancroft's main campus in picturesque Haddonfield.

Each home has five bedrooms, a living room, dining room, kitchen and laundry room. All homes have rooms for individual therapy sessions and group instruction. A variety of safety systems minimize potential injuries to residents and staff members.

The Lindens uses an interdisciplinary approach consisting of applied behavior analysis, psychiatry, neuropsychology, and other ancillary therapies to determine the causes of an individual's behavior problems and develop interventions to eliminate or greatly reduce them. As individuals overcome their behavior difficulties, the Lindens' staff also teaches them daily-living and functional skills to further prepare them for their return home or to less restrictive programs. Such training includes appropriate social behavior, communication, personal care, cooking, cleaning, self-advocacy, and academic and vocational skills.

Bancroft encourages professional development among staff. In fact, Bancroft offers tuition-paid graduate courses in applied behavioral analysis as well supervision and training that can lead to becoming a board-certified behavior analyst (BCBA). Lindens staff members are frequently invited to present their original research at professional conferences and publish their work in scientific journals. The program's clinicians have published and presented more than 300 scientific works.

In addition to the Lindens, Bancroft operates a wide range of day and residential programs in South Jersey and Delaware. For more information, visit www.bancroftneurohealth.org or call Bancroft's human resources department at 856-348-1137.