

May 29, 2005

PBS SIG Meeting @ ABA Convention

Introduction and Presentation

Suggestions

- Instead of approaching JABA, could approach Behavior Analyst because it has a wider audience and tends to publish position papers on a wider variety of topics.

What initiatives should the SIG pursue in 2005-2006?

- Pursue the development of a PBS conference theme and having some control over the content of that theme
- Move discussion away from the negative/reactionary PBS vs ABA conversation to a positive, proactive discussion
- Establishing conference theme is difficult (sports SIG has had previous experience). Perhaps a new approach or different approach is necessary
  - No one clear as to what the actual process is, not in bylaws.
- Include a flyer in conference materials that lists all the PBS associated presentations
- Ensure there are a series of pre-conference workshops
- Use PBS explicitly in titles of presentations we are doing
- From the parent partnership SIG, they emailed the conference presentations relevant to their membership
- Do a point-counter point/invited commentary in behavior journal
- Invite a huge debate to address issue head on rather than having it occur in a variety of sessions over time, perhaps a presidential debate idea
- Submit our definition in article to publication as the SIG
- Easier to get CEUs when there is a formal agreement between conference/association and the BCBA beforehand
- SIG could get the message out to members on how to get CEUs when attending workshops
- Find a way to ensure that PBS sessions are methodologically sound and data based, so that we are not opening ourselves up to criticisms.
  - Provide well defined guidelines/criteria for submissions or studies to submit and be associated with SIG
  - Link submissions that meet this criteria with official recognition with SIG
  - How do we balance this with encouraging presentations and not being too stringent or aversive?
  - This criteria should be linked to our definition
- Defining PBS is a priority but also a difficult challenge
- Are we looking at an operational definition or (Larry) is it to set out the purpose of PBS and several key features/critical components
  - Rise of PBS is directly related to decline of mediator model (Larry)

- Capitalize on the opinion that ABA needs to do more things that relate to the real world.
- Use the definition of PBS that is used on the APBS website or at the very least work closely with them to make sure that we are aligned
- Website from USF [www.challengingbehavior.org](http://www.challengingbehavior.org)
- [www.apbs.org](http://www.apbs.org)
- [www.pbis.org](http://www.pbis.org)
- [www.kpbis.org](http://www.kpbis.org)
- Matt's definition of PBS:
  - PBS is focused on meaningful lifestyle change of individuals with disabilities and/or challenging behavior, based in science of applied behavior analysis, importance of contextual fit is critical for implementation and sustainability,
- PBS has started a ripple effect where they are separating themselves from ABA and what we need to do is make sure that we, as the SIG, related our definition to Baer, Wolff, and Risley and ground ourselves firmly in ABA.
- Recognition that buy in is important and in order to achieve this we may need to compromise some immediate behavior change goals in order to achieve long term change (Stakeholder buy in)
- Also, another critical feature is the focus on prevention although that does not preclude the use of consequences
- Confusion on how this definition is different from ABA, isn't this how ABA is supposed to be done?
  - Not the experience of many ABA practitioners
- One benefit of APBS is it's inclusion of the school community and professionals and the emphasis on systems change
- ABA focus is behavior change – end goal
- PBS looks beyond this to life goals and systems change
- The difference between individual change and taking behavior analysis to scale
- This still goes back to the beginnings of ABA and M. Wolf with social validity
- Returning to the seven dimensions of ABA is useful but we need to make sure we don't say PBS is no different than ABA
- The teaching of replacement skills is a critical difference, not just the extinction (for example) of a problem behavior
- ABA does not program for generalization very well nor does it focus on programming instruction for others to help themselves or help their children and affect wide spread change
  - Moving away from the expert approach
  - In clinical work, we often focus only on the immediate effect
- Accountability is an important issue to address
- Use of the ABA vocabulary is important in maintaining the link between the fields, bring concepts together so that there is not a deeper division
- ABA as a field has been engaged in a discussion on the definition of ABA, presentations are grouped into one of three categories
- Maybe PBS is really applied applied behavior analysis

- Should we play up the school angle as the key division between ABA and PBS
- Follow the model of the OBM SIG, another non-traditional model. OBM has found a way to have the conversations they want to have without it being a major divisive issue
- We need to lead by example, increase our positive exemplars, do not use antagonistic or divisive language.