

# SOCIETY FOR QUANTITATIVE ANALYSES OF BEHAVIOR

# DEVELOPMENTS

Volume 15, Number 1, Issue 1, May 22, 2008

## Society for the Quantitative Analyses of Behavior (SQAB)

The past year was a year of development and strengthening of Sqab. For example, the SQAB email list has grown to 350 members. A student council with nine members has been established. A large number of Wikipedia entries have been written. See [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Society\\_for\\_Quantitative\\_Analysis\\_of\\_Behavior](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Society_for_Quantitative_Analysis_of_Behavior) for the overall one. Both Joana Arantes and Christopher A. Podlesnikh wrote wikis. An additional poster session has been organized due to the great popularity of the posters. We are in the process of overhauling the SQAB website. We have a website designer to assist with the changes and coordinate with Don Walter. Online registrants will get receipts. There will be a webform for submission of both invited speaker and poster abstracts. Changes in the future will go through the website committee. We will discuss this at the meeting.

### Student Council Members

Joana Arantes University of Canterbury & University of  
Minho  
Cassandra D. Gipson  
Jade C. Hill Arizona State University  
Joseph D. Jacobs, Queens College; Graduate Center, City  
University of New York  
Liz Kyonka University of Canterbury  
Christopher A. Podlesnikh Utah State University  
Eric A. Thraikill Utah State University  
Rachelle Yankelevitz University of Florida

### Changes to the Board

Randolph Grace will continue to serve as president, and Alliston K. Reid as Program Chair until 2009. Timothy A. Shahan, Utah State University, has been nominated to be the next Program Chair after 2009, at which time Alliston Reid will then become President

### Board of Directors Meeting Notes 2007

Randolf Grace presided. Randolph Grace and Alliston Reid will co-edit proceedings for the journal, *Behavioral Processes*. We expect to again publish a number of posters. Maybe Timothy A. Shahan can help review and edit the

posters., We expect to publish the keynote speakers' addresses (or a related paper) along with BBS-like commentaries.

Heidi Eyre has made a significant contribution to the running of the meeting. The board proposed that she be named Membership and Registration Coordinator.

There was discussion of promoting more interaction with other fields. To that end Peter Killeen and Michael Lampert Commons suggested organizing sessions at Psychonomic Science and at Mathematical Psychology.

### A Second Poster Session

The Board discussed the increasing effectiveness of poster sessions. Because there are now so many posters, we therefore are having a poster session on Thursday night. Also we are considering whether to include a participant panel as part of the evening poster sessions. This could allow for some lively group discussions on the topics of the posters. The board recommended that a subcommittee, consisting of Randolph Grace, Darlene Crone-Todd, Alliston Reid and William Palya go forward with this.

The Associate Treasurer (Patrice Marie Miller) reminds everyone that SQAB is an official 501(c)(3) organization that files yearly tax returns (Form 990). A copy of this form can be obtained by contacting the treasurer. Also donations are tax deductible.

### Fixing the email list

This year Heidi L. Eyre, who is acting associate treasurer, has been fixing the e-mail list, [SQAB@yahoogroups.com](mailto:SQAB@yahoogroups.com). She will be nominated to become associate treasure

### Journal

The journal is doing very well. Its visibility seems to be going up. Our arrangement with Elsevier is quite good. This will be the second year in which we publish some extended abstracts for the posters. It would be a good opportunity for students, post-docs and others. There is a word limitation for these submissions. Details will be put on the SQAB website.

There was some discussion of how to make the journal more accessible as well.

## **Business Meeting**

Attending: Joanna Arantes, William Baum, Mark Berg, Michael Commons, Darlene Crone-Todd, Michael Davison, Heidi Eyre, Cassandra Gipson, Randolph Grace, Jade Hill, Peter Killeen, Liz Kyonka, Joseph Jacobs, Robert Johnson,

Victor Laties, Armando Machado, Jack Marr, James Mazur, James McDonall, William Palya, Alliston Reid, Frederico Sanabria, Tim Shahan, Eric Thraikill, Joao Todorov, Clive Wynne, Rachelle Yankelevitz, Tom Zentall

Randolph Grace conducted the meeting. He made the following report on issues discussed at the Board meeting: To edit proceedings for Behavioral Processes: Alliston Reid and Randy Grace (Membership approved). Some additional assistance may be needed, so they may be contacting others to help edit papers.

Heidi Eyre has made a significant contribution as acting Membership and Registration Coordinator. Hence, she was named Membership and Registration Coordinator (approved)

**ABA Expo** Jack Marr mentioned that there is the ABA Expo event. He suggested that SQAB might want to look into using such a venue for an event. Informal talks with ABA members suggested that they would be interested in this kind of thing (re: Darlene Crone-Todd).

William Palya mentioned that there is a group called OTH (which stands for other). It could be called something like synthesis posters or synthesis symposium. The OTH group could sponsor this.

**Workshop of Applied ABA people** Another suggestion was to have a workshop where ABA members with applied data could submit that data and work with SQAB members to develop a model of those data. It would result in a kind of a symposium. A reason given for doing this, is to help applied areas to become more systematic. Randolph Grace said it would be worth trying something, it might work. It will increase the impact that we have on ABA. To encourage the applied people to pay attention what we are doing, if its useful for them and helps them solve problems, that would be good.

William Palya suggested that maybe a carefully crafted short article in the ABA newsletter would be good. William Palya moved to have Randolph Grace e-mail Jack McDowell and that will culminate in a short article in the ABA newsletter.

SQAB has been growing. The 220 or more registrants was higher than ever this year.

**Student Council** Other groups that are of similar size, such as APA Division 3 have a student representative. Students need to come forward and tell us they are interested. Their

primary role would be to provide feedback. The student representative might poll students or canvas students. For example, "Do students feel they can get up and ask a question?" "How could SQAB be a better experience for them?" "Are there ways we can find them jobs?" It is important for us to know how decisions effect students. The group chose having two students whose terms are staggered. We will start with one, and then nominate another one next year. Darlene Crone-Todd will send out an e-mail about this. She will hear how many students are interested. The student council was formed at the Business meeting because those present at the meeting today may be among the most

motivated. People self-nominated at this meeting. Several people were nominated. Darlene Crone-Todd will be in touch with them. Michael Commons and Darlene Crone-Todd created a [SqabStudent@Yahoogroups.com](mailto:SqabStudent@Yahoogroups.com) email listserv. We decided that those who wrote Wikipedia entries should serve.

**Membership fees.** A couple of issues: the Board recommends that an additional \$20.00 be charged for on site registration (rather than the current \$10.00 additional). This is so as to really encourage online registration. We will send out e-mails to remind people to register ahead of time. This will hopefully ease some of the accounting and the registration burden. (Approved by the membership.)

Registration fees for students: What board recommends is that students who are first authors on a poster OR co-author on a talk can get free registration for the conference. They can pay \$20.00 for membership. The reasoning is to encourage more posters. There was extensive discussion of this issue, and no final consensus. Proposals discussed included: giving students free memberships, but requiring them to register. Decreasing student costs by an overall 25% across the board, and others. Because this could not be decided, a committee was formed: Heidi Eyre, Darlene Crone-Todd, Peter Killeen, Randolph Grace.

Treasurer's reports are below. Whereas, for 2006, there was a loss of 1066.06 due to refunds to ABA for people who did not attend ABA, last year in San Diego there seemed to have been a small surplus. Also, last year, there were at 225 people. Surplus or a loss varies greatly with the particular location, because costs are much higher in certain cities.

**General business:** William Palya suggests that because APS meets at same time as ABA next year, we should try to draw people into SQAB from APS. Maybe we could think about doing something jointly with them. ABA is also looking into that (for example, doing same symposium at both groups). Tom Critchfield is the one spearheading this. Alliston Reid would be glad to work on this.

## **Treasurer's Report: 2007**

SQAB Financial Report: January 1 - December 31, 2007

Symposium Registrations	April 29	\$ 385.00
	June 5	\$ 5682.00
	June 5	\$ 1150.00
	June 5	\$ 1700.00
	Subtotal	\$ 8917.00
Symposium Expenses		
Food & Beverage		\$ 3671.43
Audio-Visual		\$ 3024.76
Copying		\$ 324.50
Poster Boards		\$ 450.00
Subtotal		\$ 7470.69
Other Expenses		
Annual reports, Accountant, book-keeping		\$ 830.00

### Officers and Executive Board 2007-2008

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Marr	Past Board Member	
Dianne McCarthy	Past Board Member	
Howard Rachlin	Past Board Member	
Allan R. Wagner	Past Board Member	
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