

INTRODUCING THE BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS AND TECHNOLOGY SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

PRESENTACIÓN DEL GRUPO DE INTERÉS ESPECIAL ANÁLISIS DE LA CONDUCTA Y TECNOLOGÍA

DOUGLAS A. JOHNSON
WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

Abstract

This article provides a brief overview of the mission and structure of the newly formed Behavior Analysis and Technology Special Interest Group.

Keywords: behavior analysis, technology

Resumen

Este artículo describe brevemente la misión y estructura del recientemente formado Grupo de Interés Especial: Análisis de la Conducta y Tecnología.

Palabras clave: análisis de la conducta, tecnología

In early 2014, the Association for Behavior Analysis International created a new Special Interest Group known as the Behavior Analysis and Technology Special Interest Group (BATEch SIG). It was initiated by the efforts of individuals such as Zachary Morford and Janet Twyman who were interested in seeing an increased focus on how behavior analysts interact with technology. The stated mission of the BATEch SIG is to “advance the science of behavior through the development, dissemination, and application of technology in basic and applied settings” (“Behavior Analysis and Technology,” 2014). It is hoped that the BATEch SIG can help guide research into hardware, software, tools, techniques, and machinery to enable behavior analysts to better con-

Douglas A. Johnson, Department of Psychology, Western Michigan University.

Correspondence concerning this article should be addressed to Behavior Analysis and Technology Special Interest Group. Website: <http://batechsig.com/>

duct research or better implement interventions. It is a fairly unique special interest group in that there is high potential for collaboration with behavior analysts from a variety of specializations. As further stated in the mission, the organization shall:

- Serve as a scientific and professional reference and networking group for its members.
- Disseminate information to inform its membership and promote its mission to a wider audience.
- Organize an annual meeting to provide a forum for discussion of the affairs of the SIG.

Membership is open to all individuals within the behavior analysis community who are interested in the dissemination, development, and application of technology. Voting, affiliate, and student membership types are available. Voting membership requires a minimum of a Master's degree in behavior analysis (or related discipline) and current membership in the Association for Behavior Analysis International. Affiliate membership only requires an interest in the mission of the BATEch SIG, but does not carry voting privileges. Student memberships require full-time enrollment in an academic, internship, or residency program.

The BATEch SIG is coordinated by officers elected by the voting membership. The inaugural list of officers includes:

- Chair: Douglas A. Johnson
- Chair-elect: Kenneth J. Killingsworth
- Secretary/Treasurer: Jonathan Friedel
- Membership Coordinator: Rogelio Escobar
- Website Coordinator: Melinda Sota

Behavior analysts can not only benefit from technology, but can utilize the science of behavior to design new technologies and better uses of technology. Furthermore, behavior analysts can help guide the sensible use of technology (to better serve clients and hone practices), rather than using technology for its own sake. Examples of technology could include data collection apps, wireless technology for feedback, educational eLearning, computer-assisted therapy, and much more. Individuals interested in becoming more involved in this area are encouraged to visit the website (<http://batechsig.com/>) and become a member.

References

Behavior Analysis and Technology. (2014). Retrieved July 31, 2014, from <http://batechsig.com/about/>