

# New Advisors - Voted in on Tuesday, May 31, 2022



## CAMBRIDGE CENTER FOR BEHAVIORAL STUDIES

2022 Annual Meeting of the Trustees

Tuesday, May 31

Northeastern University Boston Campus and Virtual

Abigail Blackman, PhD, BCBA  
Claudia L. Dozier, PhD, BCBA-D  
Eduardo J. Fernandez, PhD  
Adrienne Fitzer, PhD, BCBA  
Chunying S. Jin, PhD, BCBA-D  
Anna M. Linnehan, PhD, BCBA, LABA

Sarah C. Mead Jasperse, PhD, BCBA-D  
Pamela L. Neidert, PhD, BCBA-D  
Alice Shillingsburg, PhD, BCBA-D  
Andressa Sleiman, PhD, BCBA-D  
Amber Valentino, PsyD, BCBA-D  
Jomella Watson-Thompson, PhD

### Abigail Blackman, PhD, BCBA

Director of Customer Success, Behavior Science Technology



Abigail Blackman, a Board Certified Behavior Analyst, is the Director of Customer Success at Behavior Science Technology. She earned her PhD in Behavioral Psychology at the University of Kansas, under the supervision of Dr. Florence DiGennaro Reed, PhD, BCBA-D. Her training is in Applied Behavior Analysis and Organizational Behavior Management. Her passion lies in improving clients' lives by equipping staff and supervisors with the tools to carry out their job responsibilities successfully. She has several years of experience consulting with human-service organizations to assist with their training and systems-level initiatives. Abigail enjoys conducting research to evaluate effective procedures to improve the repertoires of staff and supervisors and the influence of staff integrity on consumer outcomes.

Dr. Blackman previously served the Cambridge Center as a Distinguished Scholar.

### Claudia L. Dozier, PhD, BCBA-D

Associate Professor, Department of Applied Behavioral Science at the University of Kansas



Dr. Claudia Dozier is a Professor in the Department of Applied Behavioral Science at the University of Kansas. Dr. Dozier received her bachelor's degree from Florida State University, master's degree from University of Nevada, Reno, and her doctoral degree from the University of Florida. Dr. Dozier's areas of research include assessment, treatment, and prevention of behavior disorders, as well as schedules of reinforcement, and preference for and reinforcer efficacy of stimuli (e.g., social interaction). Dr. Dozier is Co-Director of the Edna A. Hill Child Development Center at the University of Kansas. In addition, she and her graduate students provide consultation services to a large residential program serving adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities where they also have a clinical research lab. She has served as an associate editor for the *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis* and serves on the editorial boards of several other behavioral journals.

In 2020, Dr. Dozier received the Steeples Service to Kansans Award for her service to the people of Kansas as a purposeful extension of her teaching and research. Recently, she and her colleagues received a \$2.5 million federal grant to provide telehealth services to families with children with autism who engage in disruptive repetitive behavior.

## Eduardo J. Fernandez, PhD

Senior Lecturer, Applied Animal Behaviour & Welfare, School of Animal & Veterinary Sciences, University of Adelaide



Eduardo J. Fernandez is a Senior Lecturer of Applied Animal Behaviour and Welfare in the School of Animal and Veterinary Sciences at the University of Adelaide (Australia). He received his Ph.D. in Psychology (minors in Neuroscience and Animal Behavior) from Indiana University, where he worked with the Indianapolis and Cincinnati Zoo. He received his M.S. in Behavior Analysis from the University of North Texas, where he founded the Organization for Reinforcement Contingencies with Animals (ORCA). Most of his past and current work involves behavioral research applied to the welfare and training of zoo, aquarium, and companion animals. His past positions include a Visiting Professorship in the School of Behavior Analysis at the Florida Institute of Technology, an Affiliate Professorship with the Psychology Department at Trinity Lutheran College, an Affiliate Assistant Professorship in the Psychology Department at the University of Washington, a Research Fellowship with Woodland Park Zoo, and a National Science Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship. While working with UW and the Woodland Park Zoo, he started the Behavioral Enrichment Animal

Research (BEAR) group, which conducted welfare research with many of the species and exhibits located throughout the zoo. He currently runs the Operant Welfare Lab (OWL), which is dedicated to the use of learning principles to improve the lives of animals across many settings, including exotic animals in zoos and companion animals in homes and shelters. OWL is part of the broader Animal Behaviour, Welfare, and Anthrozoology Lab (ABWAL; [abwal.com](http://abwal.com)). Many of Eduardo's past publications, research projects, and presentations can be found on his ResearchGate profile: [https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Eduardo\\_Fernandez18](https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Eduardo_Fernandez18)

## Adrienne Fitzer, PhD, BCBA

Founder and CEO, The Applied Behavior Analysis Center, LLC (ABAC)



Dr. Adrienne Fitzer is the founder and CEO of The Applied Behavior Analysis Center, LLC, an online continuing education and professional development program provider, and functions as ABAC's Director of Continuing Education. She received her doctorate in psychology with a specialization in behavior analysis under the advisement of Bertram Ploog, PhD at The Graduate Center, City University of New York, her master's degree in psychology under the supervision of Lanny Fields, PhD at Queens College, City University of New York, and has been a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) since 2003. As a student at the University of Maryland, she entered the field of behavior analysis in 1996 working with children with autism in the Washington DC Metro Area. In 1998, she moved back to NJ to work at Alpine Learning Group for one year before deciding to apply to graduate school. Adrienne left school "all but dissertation" (ABD) in 2008 with publications in the *Journal of Experimental Analysis of Behavior* and having co-edited *Autism Spectrum Disorders: Applied Behavior Analysis, Evidence and Practice* with Peter Sturmey, PhD, which was published

by Pro-ed in 2007. In 2009, she and Professor Sturmey co-edited their second book together, *Language and Autism: Applied Behavior Analysis, Evidence and Practice*, also published by Pro-Ed, while pursuing a career as a behavior analyst in public schools. In 2013, Adrienne left full-time work and started The Applied Behavior Analysis Center, LLC (ABAC). When this first iteration of the business failed, Adrienne decided to leave the field for the first time in almost twenty years to work as a nature teacher at a camp and then at a local farm, doing whatever she was asked to do. Soon she was providing behavior skills training to teach others how to operate the doughnut machine and running farm tours with preschool and kindergarten age children (which she continues to do when asked). At the beginning of 2015, Adrienne returned to ABAC with renewed energy and the great idea to provide high-quality instructional opportunities to professionals on a global level. Her mission since the beginning has been to share valuable information about, and provide personalized, high-quality training in, ethical, effective, and evidence-based solutions that improve performance, communication, safety, and quality of life, to professionals who work in the fields of behavioral health, mental health, education, business, and beyond. Behind the scenes ABAC has developed systems to ensure the quality of their programming and as of May 1, 2022, The Applied Behavior Analysis Center, LLC (ABAC) is accredited by the International Accreditors for Continuing Education and Training (IACET) and offers IACET CEUs for its learning events that comply with the ANSI/IACET Continuing Education and Training Standard. IACET is recognized internationally as a standard development organization and accrediting body that promotes quality of continuing education and training.

**Adrienne Fitzer** *continued*

Since ABAC's early years, Adrienne has committed to giving back to the community. In addition to raising money for various charities through the ABACGives Webinar Series, Adrienne enjoys mentoring students and early professionals, and writing "Fitzer's Corner" a blog that primarily focuses on the ethical use of information and communication technology for behavioral and mental health professionals, business ethics, and inspiring others to step back and take the road less traveled. In addition, since 2020, she offers free coaching to graduate students who are presenting at a conference for the first time.

Since 2015, Adrienne has curated the highly regarded ABAC webinars and workshops, coached presenters, moderated over 500 live public and private online events (with over 1000 hours of live online hosting and moderating experience) and has succeeded in building a strong strategic partnership with the Cambridge Center for Behavioral Studies. Together, they developed the ABACLive Cambridge Center Series Webinars, full length instructional webinars presented by CCBS board members, trustees, advisors, and friends, which have disseminated behavior analysis to thousands of students and professionals.

**Chunying S. Jin, PhD, BCBA-D**

Lecturer, Department of Psychology, California State University, Northridge



Chunying Jin PhD, BCBA-D currently serves as a lecturer at the department of psychology at California State University, Northridge and teaches for the M.S. ABA program at CSUN. Dr. Jin received her undergraduate training in behavioral psychology at the University of California, San Diego and received her doctoral degree in Behavior Analysis under the mentorship of Dr. Gregory Hanley at Western New England University. Prior to her current post at CSUN, Dr. Jin resided in New England and served as an assistant professor of psychology at Eastern Connecticut State University and a teaching fellow at Western New England University. She has been applying the principles of learning to improve the lives of individuals of typical development and individuals with developmental disabilities for over 10 years. Dr. Jin has published in areas such as the assessment and treatment of sleep problems in young children and function-based interventions for severe problem behavior associated with autism. Her research and clinical interests include assessment and treatment of sleep problems, behavioral pediatrics, child development and early life skills,

pedagogical tactics in higher education, and function-based interventions.

**Anna M. Linnehan, PhD, BCBA, LABA**

Associate Director of Practicum and Supervision, Endicott College, Program of Applied Behavior Analysis



Anna M. Linnehan, PhD, BCBA, LABA is the Associate Director of Practicum and Supervision in the program of Applied Behavior Analysis at Endicott College. Anna earned her masters and doctoral degrees in Applied Behavior Analysis from Endicott College. She began her career as a professional chemist and has a passion for improving the lives of others through science. Her doctoral dissertation, *Variables in Tacting Emotions, A Programming Contingency Analysis*, utilized the Goldiamond-Layng Theory to teach emotional concepts using a contingency analytic framework. Her research interests include using contingency analysis paired with instructional design to develop programs to help individuals identify and problem solve their own emotions and emotional behavior. Anna is also interested in the application of signal detection theory to analyze decisions and decision-making behavior. Additionally, she is passionate in the dissemination of non-linear contingency analysis and programming based on Israel Goldiamond's constructional approach. She recently co-authored a book, *Decisions and Judgments in Ambiguous Situations: A*

*Conceptual Introduction to Signal Detection Theory*, with Dr. T. V. Joe Layng.

**Sarah C. Mead Jasperse, PhD, BCBA-D**

Assistant Professor, Counseling, Special Education, and Neuroscience Division  
Emirates College for Advanced Education



Dr. Sarah C. Mead Jasperse is an Assistant Professor in the Counseling, Special Education, and Neuroscience Division at Emirates College for Advanced Education in the United Arab Emirates and is a Board Certified Behavior Analyst-Doctoral (BCBA-D). She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Psychological and Brain Sciences from Dartmouth College, a Master of Education from Harvard University, and a Doctor of Philosophy in Psychology from the University of Florida, where she completed her doctoral degree under the supervision of Dr. Brian Iwata. She has been licensed as an elementary school teacher in the USA since 2005 and has been board certified as a behavior analyst since 2011. Dr. Mead Jasperse's primary line of research addresses the prevention, assessment, and treatment of severe and dangerous challenging behavior (e.g., aggression and self-injurious behavior), especially in individuals diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder. She also conducts and supervises applied research in the areas of functional skill acquisition, staff training and supervision, and school-based behavior analytic strategies. She has served on the executive committees of the Kansas Association for Behavior Analysis, the Mid-American Association for Behavior Analysis, and the Illinois Association for Behavior Analysis and serves on the Editorial Board of the *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis and Education and Treatment of Children*.

**Pamela L. Neidert, PhD, BCBA-D**

Associate Professor, Department of Applied Behavioral Science at the University of Kansas



My experience prior to joining the KU Faculty in 2008 generally has involved assessment and treatment of problem behavior and skill acquisition in children and adults with developmental disabilities. As a result, I am very interested in early intervention and prevention. Currently, my research focuses on strategies to facilitate development of critical skills in very young children and evaluate the effects of proactive approaches to prevent the emergence of problem behavior. Specific areas of interest include facilitative strategies for the development of language, social skills (imitation/attention), and self-help skills (sleeping, toileting, feeding) in both typically developing children and those at risk for, or diagnosed with, disabilities.

**Alice Shillingsburg, PhD, BCBA-D**

Senior Vice President, Children's Clinical Services and Training, May Institute



Dr. Shillingsburg serves as Senior Vice President of Children's Clinical Services and Training at May Institute, providing clinical leadership to all children's programs including the May Center Schools and our home- and center-based services. She holds a joint appointment as Assistant Director of the National Autism Center at May Institute.

Dr. Shillingsburg received her PhD in clinical psychology from Auburn University and completed her pre-doctoral internship and post-doctoral fellowship at the Marcus Autism Center. She previously served as the Director of the Language and Learning Clinic at the Marcus Autism Center and was Associate Professor at Emory University in the Division of Autism and Related Developmental Disabilities.

Dr. Shillingsburg is a licensed psychologist and Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) at the doctoral level. Her clinical expertise includes the development of language and behavioral programming to address a variety of behavioral difficulties and social communication deficits associated with autism and other developmental disabilities.

Dr. Shillingsburg has published over 45 empirical papers on interventions for children with developmental disabilities. She is currently an Associate Editor of the *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis* and an editorial board member for *Focus on Autism and Other Developmental Disabilities*. She is a former Associate Editor of *The Analysis of Verbal Behavior*.

## Andressa Sleiman, PhD, BCBA-D

Faculty, Psychology Department, Florida State University



Andressa Sleiman PhD, BCBA-D, holds a faculty appointment at Florida State University in the psychology department, where she manages an online master's degree program in organizational behavior management and communications (OMC) and teaches in-person psychology courses to undergraduates. Andressa has published over 20 articles and book chapters in scientific journals, including an intervention package to increase doctor-patient-bedside nurse communication while rounding to ultimately increase communication, patient adherence to treatment, and decrease medical errors. In 2021, she was awarded the Behavior Analysis Gerber Award, and in 2022 she was awarded the Pioneer award for her outstanding research contributions as a UF graduate student. Andressa's research interests include behavioral safety, healthcare procedural adherence and related outcomes, and conditions that promote feedback effectiveness. In addition to research, she has taught courses that support practitioners in applying behavioral science in their business to improve performance and outcomes and is passionate about applying the science of human behavior to create safer workplaces. Andressa has consulted in the refining industry and worked closely with their behavior-based safety team and conducted trainings site-wide to teach front-line leader techniques to engage their workforce.

Dr. Blackman previously served the Cambridge Center as a Distinguished Scholar.

## Amber Valentino, PsyD, BCBA-D

Chief Clinical Officer, Trumpet Behavioral Health



Dr. Valentino is the Chief Clinical Officer for Trumpet Behavior Health where she develops workplace culture initiatives, supports clinical services, leads all research and training activities, and builds clinical standards. Her research and clinical work span a variety of topics including verbal behavior, ways to connect the research to practice gap, professional ethics, and effective supervision. She has published several peer-reviewed research articles, invited book chapters, and she recently published a book in partnership with New Harbinger Publications titled: *Applied Behavior Analysis Research Made Easy: A Handbook for Practitioners Conducting Research Post-Certification*. Dr. Valentino serves as an Associate Editor for *Behavior Analysis in Practice* and previously served as an Associate Editor for *The Analysis of Verbal Behavior*. She is on the editorial board for the *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis (JABA)* and serves as a frequent reviewer for several behavior analytic journals. She works to support dissemination of behavior analysis to the general parent population through her personal website, [behavior-mom.com](http://behavior-mom.com).

## Jomella Watson-Thompson, PhD

Associate Professor, Department of Applied Behavioral Science at the University of Kansas



Dr. Thompson holds a PhD in Behavioral Psychology and a Masters of Urban Planning from the University of Kansas. She applies behavioral science methods and interventions to improve how communities address issues related to community health and development. Her research has focused on neighborhood development, healthy youth development, and prevention, including substance abuse and violence prevention. Dr. Thompson supports community capacity-building efforts to address social determinants of health through community-based participatory research in urban neighborhoods and disparate communities. She has researched the effects of community-based processes and intervention to promote mobilization and change in communities. Dr. Thompson has extensive experience providing training, technical support and evaluation for community-based initiatives. Dr. Thompson has co-authored articles on community capacity-building, youth development, and prevention. She has been a consultant for several community

coalitions and community-based initiatives.