EDITORIAL

Encore

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Most of us have attended a spectacular music or theatrical event, that upon its conclusion, we yearned for an encore. The scheduled event left us desiring more, and we would have been disappointed if the momentum stopped so abruptly. The cultural practice of the encore serves as a final source of additional reinforcement and the discriminative signal that an end unfortunately will come. Regardless if it is rapper Jay Z yelling “*Can I get an encore, do you want more?*”, or the philosopher Plato noting “*there is no harm in repeating a good thing*”, an encore has huge expectations. It must exceed the former performance and deliver big things to all awaiting more.

Welcome to my encore with Behavior Analysis in Practice (BAP). A second term as Editor has begun, and I promise continued excitement as I lead the journal for three more years. Four issues will be published annually, special sections will appear regularly, and the scope of what defines “behavior analysis in practice” will be expanding. Six new Associate Editors are in place, and a lengthened editorial board will be announced soon. BAP has never been in better shape. We received over 100 manuscript submissions during 2015, soon will be applying for an impact factor, and have witnessed an exponential increase in subscriptions and single article downloads.

As you browse the pages of this first issue of 2016, take note of the newly articulated manuscript submission categories which I feel will provide potential authors with even more choices on how best to communicate their message to our

readership. Seasoned researchers and clinicians should use the *Research Article* category as the vehicle to publish their most impressive original empirical findings that broaden the knowledge of our science, the applications of clinical practice, and systems change procedures. *Discussion/Review* papers allow for an in depth exploration of a single topic or procedure, some of which will be accompanied with invited commentaries from peers in the field. *Technical/Tutorials* can help readers understand a complex procedure, or even provide exact instructions for developing specific software solutions, data analyses, or report generating. The *Brief Practice* category will continue to allow novice and expert practitioners and researchers to disseminate clinical demonstrations, innovative exploratory research outcomes, translational research, and best practices. Finally, the *Book/Product Review* category now will include the author’s ranking from 1 to 5 “stars” to allow readers an at-a-glance appraisal of the quality of the material discussed. Together, these submission categories offer a wide variety of mechanisms to deliver manuscript content to our readers.

Over the next year, BAP will be soliciting manuscripts for three different Special Section features of the journal. The first installment seeks manuscripts that describe, review, or demonstrate best practices in supervision. Papers might entail supervision of front-line staff, behavior analysts, teaching practices of supervision, or manipulating staff contingencies to improve consumer outcomes. The next Special Section will focus on relational frame theory (RFT) and its applications. I encourage a wide range of submissions on this paradigm-shifting approach to behavior analysis. Ideal manuscripts might include teaching language using derived relational procedures, a clinician’s guide to understanding RFT, theoretical explanations of behavior produced as a result of derived relations, and demonstrations of the many applications of RFT’s clinical wing termed “Acceptance and Commitment Therapy”

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(ACT). The last of the topical areas will focus on Educating Behavior Analysts. Submissions might include comparisons of teaching pedagogues on learner outcomes, conceptual papers on education, professional development advice, or descriptions of technological advances. It is my hope that these special topical sections of the journal will find their way into classrooms across the globe as instructors prepare the next generation of behavior analysts for practice.

I hope you are pleased with the diversity of topics found within this current issue of BAP. For example, Rehfeldt and colleagues' paper on the discipline's first free-online course in behavior analysis explores the interesting and uncharted waters of this latest version of the digital classroom. Hoffmann et al. provide an elegant narrative on the value Acceptance and

Commitment Therapy can have for persons with intellectual disabilities, and Leef et al. show us how very simple modifications to game play can improve participation for person with autism. Additional topics within this issue include guidelines for cultural awareness, using technology in our assessments, and decision-making strategies for determining behavior management techniques. In total, the practice of behavior analysis is alive and well, and its breadth is represented in the pages of this first of four issues of BAP for 2016.

Please join me, my new editorial team, and the growing list of BAP authors with enthusiasm as we celebrate the metamorphosis of BAP from two to four issues annually. I predict my 3 years ahead to be a nothing less than an amazing encore.