Society for the Quantitative Analyses of Behavior (SQAB)

This past two years have been momentous in SQAB's life. First, after 11 years, the Association for Behavior Analysis (ABA) asked us to change our status with respect to the overall organization. SQAB was founded, and continues as an independent, nonprofit organization. When it began meeting at ABA, it also became a special interest group within that larger organization. At ABA, we have always met during the pre-meeting time, and have provided tutorials during the regular meeting. One of the major features of the agreement that took effect last year was that all attendees at SQAB were required to also register for ABA, whether they were attending ABA or not. SQAB was granted the right to allow up to 10 individuals to attend its meeting without an ABA registration, and beyond that number, SQAB paid a fee for each attendee who did not themselves register for ABA. There was concern with the rules following the 2005 meeting in Chicago, because attendance at SQAB was down by quite a bit, despite the fact that the overall ABA meeting attendance was up. The Executive Board considered alternative venues for holding SQAB including the pre-meeting of Psychonomic Science. However, for a variety of reasons, the Board was interested in also renegotiating the agreement with ABA. After many negotiations with ABA and discussions within the Executive Board, we reached an agreement. To bring the members up to date, the newest 2006 document resulting from a series of meetings between William Baum and Darlene Crone-Todd and representatives of ABA is included. The Executive Board of SQAB approved the new verison of the Collaborative Relationship.

In the last year there have also been some changes in the Board. During the 2005 business meeting, Jennifer Higa was elected to the board. William Baum was elected to serve a full term as president and is now finishing that term. Randolph Grace and Michael Lamport Commons have been nominated to be co-Presidents, and Alliston K. Reid is the new program director. Michael Davison has been nominated to serve on the Board of Directors.

Memorandum of Understanding

Date: May 8, 2006

SQAB and ABA are autonomous scholarly societies that share in the mission of advancing behavior science. It is mutually beneficial for these groups, while retaining their unique identities and missions, to collaborate on the scheduling of their respective conventions. In the spirit of collegial interdisciplinary cooperation, each organization encourages the participation of its members in the events of the other, according to the provisions of this document and in accordance with the separate policies of each organization.

In order to continue the relationship between SQAB and ABA, we agree on the following terms, to apply to the groups' meetings in 2007 through 2011. This agreement may be extended indefinitely upon mutual consent. At the same time, we recognize that during the period of this agreement changes in either organization's convention model might render the present terms unsatisfactory. Both SQAB and ABA pledge to provide two years' advance notice of any desire to modify or terminate the agreement.

1. Convention scheduling

(a) SQAB will hold its annual meeting just before ABA's, at the same convention site. Compared to the practice of holding separate meetings, this expands both the range of basic-science programming available to ABA members at the convention site and the size of the potential audience for SQAB.

(b) Except as specified below, all aspects of the two conventions remain the independent provenance of the respective sponsoring organizations.

2. Logistics

(a) ABA will make suitable space available to SQAB in a principal convention hotel immediately prior to the ABA convention. SQAB will communicate with ABA about its needs for each year by specifying attendance from the previous year and explaining attendance projections for the coming year. ABA will communicate with SQAB about any unusual constraints that may be imposed by the configuration, policies, or other aspects of the host hotel.

(b) As it has done in the past, ABA will ask the hotel and third-party audiovisual vendors to offer any discounts that they can make available to SQAB as an ABA affiliate, on sleeping room rates, food and beverage services, and audiovisual services. SQAB will contract separately for food and beverage and audiovisual services.

c) SQAB will provide for its own audio-visual equipment in accordance with the policies of the host hotel.

(d) SQAB will handle its own registration before and during the SQAB meeting. SQAB registrants will display a unique form of identification (e.g., a badge) valid only for attendance at the SQAB meeting.

(e) SQAB will be expected to approach ABA if it desires any presentations during its meeting to carry continuing education credit. For SQAB presentations approved for ABA's continuing education program, ABA will provide the necessary staff support for assigning continuing education credit.

(f) To emphasize the collaborative nature of this venture, the SQAB program book will include the following statement: "SQAB thanks the Association for Behavior Analysis (ABA) International for generous support that helped to make this meeting possible, and encourages SQAB participants to take advantage of the ABA convention that begins immediately following the SQAB program. The ABA Program includes many presentations on experimental and applied behavior science. A separate registration fee and badge are required to attend the ABA meeting."

3. Tutorials

(a) SQAB will organize up to four tutorials to be presented as a component of the ABA program. Except as noted below, an ABA registration badge will be required for admission to the tutorials.

(b) ABA will make every effort to schedule the tutorials in the period immediately after the main SQAB meeting; in the unlikely event that host hotel constraints interfere with this, ABA will, in consultation with SQAB, decide whether to reschedule or reduce the number of tutorials.

© As a courtesy, ABA will provide gratis registration of up to 10 Guests if needed. At its discretion, SQAB will pay the ABA one-day registration fee for any further SQAB members who do wish to attend the tutorials but do not wish to pay the ABA registration fee. Should a Guest be scheduled as a tutorial speaker, ABA will provide gratis registration that does not count in this matching arrangement.

(d) SQAB retains rights to the production, distribution, sales, and ownership of the content of these tutorials (e.g., via video recordings).

(e) To emphasize the collaborative nature of this venture, the ABA program book will include the following statement: "ABA thanks the Society for Quantitative Analysis of Behavior (SQAB) for sponsoring tutorials focusing on quantitative analysis. ABA encourages its members to take advantage of the SQAB program that occurs immediately before the ABA program. The SQAB program includes many presentations on quantitative applications in behavior science. A separate registration fee and badge are required to attend the SQAB meeting."

4. Other responsibilities

(a) SQAB will have no general liabilities should ABA fail to fulfill its contractual obligations with the hotel. SQAB will assume liabilities for any events associated with its meeting (e.g., damage).

(b) SQAB presentations will conform to general ABA convention guidelines (e.g., no demonstration with live non-human animals, in tradition of learned society, etc).

© The SQAB program committee will encourage invited speakers to present at the ABA convention. (d) SQAB will handle its own registration before and during the SQAB meeting. SQAB registrants will display a unique form of identification (e.g., a badge) valid only for attendance at the SQAB meeting.

William M. Baum,	Frances M. McSweeney, ABA
SQAB President	President
on behalf of SQAB	on behalf of the ABA Council

Board of Directors: Meeting Notes 2005

There was a short meeting. William Baum went over the 2004 agreement with ABA. It was announced that Randolph Grace will co-edit proceedings for the journal, Behavioral Processes. He is working on getting another co-editor. Randolph Grace suggested that to promote more interaction with other fields, he expects to publish the keynote speakers' address (or a related paper) along with BBS-like commentaries.

William Baum will serve out his full term as President. He let us know that he had but one more year to serve.

SQAB Business Meeting Notes: 05-27-2005

Present: William Baum, David Eckerman, Alliston Reid, Randolph Grace, Suzanne Mitchell, Mark Reilly, Cynthia Pietras, Gene Heyman, Michael Commons, Darlene Crone-Todd, Armando Machado, William Palya, James Mazur, James MacDonall, Heidi Eyre, Joel Meyerson, Len Green, Vic Laties, Patrice Miller

William Baum called the meeting to order at 6:47pm

He will serve as the President for another year. That way, he will be able to see the organization through the next negotiation with ABA. Current agreement is for 2005 and 2006. Next Spring will negotiate what will happen with 2007.

Randolph Grace agreed to go on for another year as the program chair. Will need another program chair in 2007. That person will need to be named before next year's meeting. William Baum will be looking for nominations, including self nominations. The Board will be doing this among the executive committee. There was a request for nominations, but none were received at the time of the meeting.

Randolph Grace and Jack Marr will be editing the next Behavioral Processes.

Treasurer's report: The amount of money was somewhat constant, at least for the last year 2004-2005. The biggest expense is for symposium food supplied by the hotel. We are hoping it will be about the same this year – 2005.

The Associate Treasurer (Patrice Marie Miller) announced 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 deductions are tax deductible.

Re: For the years 2005-2006 as in the SQAB-ABA agreement, SQAB is treated as if it were a workshop for ABA fee purposes. Each person who is only coming to SQAB and who is not a member of ABA and not attending ABA is for accounting purposes treated like a workshop attendee. It is 'free' for that person, but SQAB pays a workshop fee for that person. We are thinking that the amount we will have to pay ABA may work out about the same as we used to pay for Audio Visual. Logistics have been a little bit difficult this time, but this is the first time we are doing this. Any observations? Someone commented that downstairs at ABA registration they did not seem to know what was happening. We could try and get information about who is attending SQAB but not intending to attend ABA ahead of time by making that a question on the website. Maybe we could post some signs giving SQAB people more direction.

Randolph Grace wanted to know whether the number of registrants was down this year, 2005. It is clear that they are down for 2005 as shown by Peter Killeen's (February 18, 2006) graph below. The one dot below the line is for 2005.
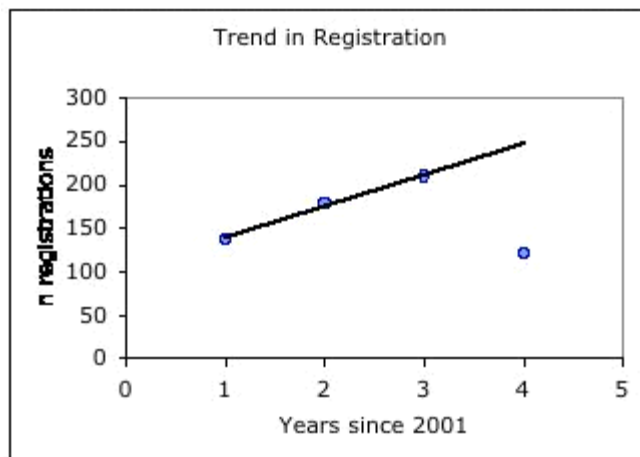
There may have been an effect from having special speakers. We had Nobel Prize winners, for example. Remember that the free registrations may be causing a decrease in the paid ones. This year's data should be illuminating.

There was some confusion as to what people should do to register just for SQAB. Again, we could remedy some of that by putting information on the website.

One of the problems we are now having is that the e-mail list is out of date. We need to fix it. Maybe we could have a separate membership category where people, for 30.00 could get the journal mailed to them.

A question was asked about what is the process for the ABA SQAB future relationship? William Baum's response was that the executive board works on that negotiating. That group authorized William Baum to negotiate with the president of ABA and eventually we voted to accept an agreement that was proposed. Michael Lamport Commons feels that the board is open to input from outside. That is one reason we handed out the questionnaires, asking for input. William Baum says he is very open to any communication; please e-mail him.

Randolph Grace reported about the program and discussed what is involved in putting together the proceedings with a target article in it. The schedule is very tight, so it is hard to get this done. For this year, Michael Kubovy has agreed to write a target article for this issue. It was suggested that SQAB attendees try and interact with him as much as possible so that he can find out more about some of the other work being done. If anyone would like to contribute commentary, they should let Randolph Grace know.

Secondly, is that there will be an attempt to publish at least some extended abstracts for the posters. Our arrangement with Elsevier is quite good. It would be a good opportunity to offer for students, post-docs and others. There would be word limitations, text would be streamlined, but SQAB website could contain some of the details. If we did go in that direction, we probably would need another person to help edit, since there would need to be reviews. The editing would be too much for just two people. This would require a third person. Some of the other authors could review as well. The journal is doing really well. Its visibility seems to be going up. There was some discussion of how to make the journal more accessible as well.

For this year's proceedings, if we wanted to invite people to submit extended abstracts, there needs to be someone who agrees to edit them. There was some concern that this would prevent further submission of the abstract as a longer paper. Motion proposed by Randolph Grace to go ahead and publish the proceedings in Behavioral Processes (seconded by Michael Commons). The motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 6:25pm.

Treasurer's Report: May, 2006
Unaudited, May 22, 2006, Prepared by Margaret Ellis Miller

Beginning Balance January 30, 2005

Income

Interest	16.67
Membership only	245.00
Registration and Membership	4,840.00
Sale of Videos	1,253.03

Total income

Expenses

Fees: Paypal	208.00
Bookkeeping	150.00
Speaker	300.00
Tax Prep	700.00
Division Of Public Charities	35.00
Symposium	
Expenses, posters, etc	476.78
Chicago Hilton	922.20
Fees for non-registered attendees (to ABA)	1,430.00
Hotel (Banquet)	2,836.00
Postage for Videos	31.62
Journals	1,125.00

Total Expense

Ending Balance December 31, 2005

Treasurer's Report for 2004-2005

Unaudited, May 20, 2005, Prepared by Margaret Ellis Miller

Balance brought forward	**10,274.17**

Income

Book sales	75.00
Registration & Membership	10,476.88
Membership only	20.00
Interest earned	20.72
Sale of videos	290.00
Total income	**11,443.52**

Expenses

Fees (bookkeeping)	350.00
Helpers at symposium	125.00
Hotel (banquet, bartenders)	4,477.67
Postage	56.87
Speakers	500.00
Symposium expenses (copying, paper, badges)	302.93
Tax preparation	625.00
Video duplication	512.50
Viper Trading (posterboard rental)	400.00
Total expenses	**7,349.97**

Year's balance	**4,126.91**
Ending Bank Balance	**$10,798.31**

Officers and Executive Board 2006

Name	Role	Email
William Baum	Out Going President	wbaum@sbcglobal.net
Randolph Grace	Program Chair, Incoming co-President	randolph.grace@canterbury.ac.nz
Alliston K. Reid	Incoming Program Chair	reidak@wofford.edu
Darlene Crone-Todd	Executive Coordinator	dctodd@deltastate.edu
Michael Lamport Commons	Co-Treasurer, Newsletter Editor, Incoming Co-President	commons@tiac.net
Patrice Marie Miller	Co-Treasurer	patricemariemiller@comcast.net
William Palya	Media, Pre-eminent Tutorials Coordinator	palya@jsucc.jsu.edu
Leonard Green	Board Member	lgreen@artsci.wustl.edu
Jennifer Higa	Board Member	J.Higa@tcu.edu
James Mazur	Board Member	mazurj1@southernct.edu
Michael Davison	Incoming & Past Board Member	mdavison@auckland.ac.nz
Armando Machado	Past President	armandom@iep.uminho.pt
Peter Killeen	Past President	killeen@asu.edu
Tony Nevin	Past President	jnevin@cisunix.unh.edu

Past Officers

Name	Role	Email
Timothy D. Hackenberg	Past Board Member	hack1@ufl.edu
Edmund Fantino	Past Board Member	
M. J. Marr	Past Board Member	
Dianne McCarthy	Past Board Member	
Howard Rachlin	Past Board Member	
Richard Herrnstein	Past President	