

Center for Behavioral Education and Research (CBER) Newsletter

Edition 1.3
October 7, 2009

CBER News Feed

Upcoming events

Thursday, October 8: CBER GA Meeting at 9 – 9:30AM in Room 131 CUE

Monday, October 19: CBER Brown-Bag Discussion at 9AM (Location TBD)

Wednesday, October 28: CBER Research Collaborative from 8:30 – 10:30AM in Room 304A Student Union

Friday, November 13: 5th Annual Forum on Positive Behavior Support at the Four Points by Sheraton in Norwood, MA. The theme is "PBS: Research to Practice," and Dr. Tim Lewis (University of Missouri) and Dr. Brandi Simonsen (UConn) will be keynote presenters. Go to www.mayinstitute.org for information.

News

A warm hello to new CBER GA, Justin Byron. He will be working with Michael Faggella-Luby on his Transition Survey project. Welcome, Justin!

Michael Faggella-Luby won the Vegetarian Chili category in the Neag School of Education Chili Cook -Off last Friday, October 2! Congrats, Michael! See his award-winning recipe on Page 2. YUM!

Project ATTACK, an IES Goal Two grant with Michael Faggella-Luby acting as PI and involving RS' Sandy, Lisa and Natalie, has been submitted. Special thanks to Meg and Dan from Michael for some very timely help with the project!

Announcements

A recent manuscript written by Michael Faggella-Luby, and GAs Sharon Ware and Ashley Capozzoli has been accepted for publication in the *Journal of Literacy Research*. Congrats!

Check out George's most recent publication on www.cber.org: Sugai, G., & Preciado, J. (2009). L'estat actual i els avenços en el suport conductual positiu a nivell d'escola. *SUPORTS: Revista Catalana d'Educació Inclusiva*, 13, 4-19.

FYI: The current CBER Newsletter will be posted on the CBER homepage upon its release. Prior issues will be archived on the site for reference.

Important Travel Information for Graduate Assistants

Many of you will be traveling to conferences in the next year. The University supports travel for graduate assistants for two reasons, presentations won through a competitive process or traveling to present research papers from funds set aside for those purposes. If you are traveling on grant funds for any other reason you must get approval. You are responsible for your travel form submission. When you know you are presenting, please fill out a travel form ASAP. Here is a link to the travel form <http://www.audit.uconn.edu/ethicslinks.htm>. If you are presenting by means of a competed process, please include that information on the form. Ask your advisor/PI what account they want you to travel on and how much they are willing to pay. This information needs to be included on the form. If you have any questions about this, please contact Meg. The form will need Swami's and the Dean's signature and in some cases the Provost's office signature. You can leave the form with Cheryl or Joanne to get Swami's signature and they will send the form up to the Dean's office. More than likely Meg will receive your signed form and will contact you. If you receive your signed form please include it with your receipts from your travel. Lastly we recently learned a graduate assistant from another department was denied payment because the graduate assistant did not get approval before traveling not because there was not funding. We hope this won't happen to a CBER graduate assistant.

Sandy Chafouleas Invited to Join SSSP

This past summer, RS Sandy Chafouleas was asked to join The Society for the Study of School Psychology (SSSP), a not-for-profit group. The SSSP has a unique role among school psychology organizations, a mission that is devoted exclusively to promoting and recognizing scholarship and research. The goals of the organization are to advance basic and applied scientific research in all aspects of school psychology, disseminate important research results to the general public, scientists, academicians, and practitioners concerning school psychology, and to foster communication about the profession of school psychology.

Membership is lifetime and selective; no more than 110 professionals can be active members. Notable members include Alan Kazdin, Bob Pianta, John Bergan, Tom Power, Jim Ysseldyke and Neag School of Education's own Tom Kehle and Melissa Bray. Congrats, Sandy! Check out the website: <http://www1.elsevier.com/homepage/sal/sssp/about.html>.

Michael's Award Winning Vegetarian Chili Recipe!

Ingredients:

½ Yellow Onion
1 Zucchini (medium)
1 Yellow/Summer Squash (medium)
2 Red or Green Bell Peppers
28oz. Diced Tomatoes
22oz. Whole Kernel Corn with Peppers
30oz. Black Beans (drained)
32oz. Red Kidney Beans
14oz. Salsa (medium)
12oz. Textured Vegetable Protein (TVP) Crumbles (add during last hour)

Season to Taste:

Chili Powder; Garlic & Herbs; Garlic Salt; Garlic Powder; Basil; Oregano; Salt; Celery Flakes;

Recipe:

Mix all ingredients in a crock-pot. Set for the maximum time you have available. Award-winning batch was 10 hours.

Best Served with:

Dollop of sour cream and shredded sharp cheddar cheese. We like our served with cornbread (Johnny Cake).

Meet CBER Research Scientist, Brandi Simonsen



What will be your primary focus this year? "My primary focus will be conducting a series of small (single-subject) studies to examine an efficient way to help teachers increase their use of classroom management skills (e.g., delivering praise). Across the studies, we're planning to investigate teachers' use of self management."

What do you find most interesting about engaging in research? "I find it interesting that each study that is done to address one (or more) research question(s) seems to uncover even more questions."

Did you do anything fun this summer? "On my honeymoon, [my husband and I] went horseback riding for one of the first times. We rode on trails and on the beach in O'ahu. It was really fun! I found that it's a little harder to "manage" horse behavior when all the snacks they want (i.e., reinforcers) are readily available on a trail."

Practice Tip from George:

Use a "precorrection" (Colvin, Sugai, & Patching, 1993) to prevent displays of predictable problem behaviors. A precorrection is an antecedent strategy in which the individual is given a prompt or request about a more acceptable response to practice before moving into a situation or engaging in an activity where the likelihood of a problem behavior occurrence is high. Example: "Chandra, we are going into the cafeteria, tell me what you might do if one of the girls at your table start dissin' on you?...That's a good idea, saying 'whatever,' and moving to another table."

Colvin, G., Sugai, G., & Patching, W. (1993). Pre-correction: An instructional strategy for managing predictable behavior problems. *Intervention in School and Clinic, 28*, 143-150.

Doctoral Student Extraordinary Expense Award

Up to \$500 is available to defray extraordinary expenses involved with completion of your dissertation research. Extraordinary expenses include those related to collecting/analyzing data, such as printing and mailing of questionnaires, fees paid to subjects, fees paid for the transcription of recorded research material, travel necessary to administer questionnaires, to interview subjects, or to do research at libraries and sites away from the campus, and unusual items of equipment or supplies that your academic program may not have. You may receive only one of these awards during your doctoral studies. Eligibility requirements are the same as those of the Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship, except that there is no income limit. Application for the Extraordinary Expense Award must be made *before* the expense(s) to be covered are incurred.

Doctoral Student Travel Award

If you are in a doctoral program, once you complete your General Examination you become eligible for a \$1000 travel allowance. This travel fund is made available through your major advisor and can be used for travel to the professional meeting or conference of your and your major advisor's choice. All doctoral students are eligible for this award. The details of the rules governing the program are available graduate center website. Please check out this link http://grad.uconn.edu/funding_resources.html for more information.

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