



The Federation of Behavioral, Psychological, and Cognitive Sciences
and
The Association for Behavior Analysis

“Using Science as a Basis for Behavior Change”
April 10, 2003

Speaker information

Edmund Fantino, PhD, is Professor of Psychology and the Neurosciences Group at the University of California, San Diego (USCD). He did his undergraduate work at Cornell University, graduating with a major in mathematics in 1961. He obtained a doctoral degree from Harvard University in 1964, with a dissertation that explored variables controlling gambling in the pigeon. He was an Assistant Professor of Psychology at Yale University (1964-1967), until he moved to his present position. His interest in non-optimal decision-making, developed in his studies of self-control and gambling at Harvard, has continued to the present (with uninterrupted research grant support from NSF and/or NIMH from 1965 through 2006). His research interest is focused on choice, conditioned reinforcement, and sources of multiple stimulus control in humans and in pigeons. Currently he is interested in human reasoning, especially illogical thinking, problem solving, especially as it relates to education, and in human observing, including the conditions under which information reinforces human behavior. A second major interest involves operant analogues to foraging behavior, including assessment of behavioral ecology theories with operant choice technology and optimal choice in humans and pigeons. He has served as the Editor of the Journal of the Experimental Analysis of Behavior (1987-1991) and as President of the Society for the Experimental Analysis of Behavior (1985-1987). He believes that by studying the variables that lead to non-optimal decisions, to illogical decisions, to inflexible problem solving, and to impulsive behavior, we will be able to develop better strategies to deal with these fundamental problems.

Michael Perone, PhD, is professor and chair of the Department of Psychology at West Virginia University, where he has worked since 1984. He was educated at the University of Maryland (B.S., 1975) and the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (M.A., 1977; PhD, 1981). He conducts basic research with rats, pigeons, and people in the areas of positive and negative reinforcement, schedule control, and conditioned reinforcement, with particular attention to bridging human and animal work. Perone also is interested in research methodology and recently co-edited, with Kennon A. Lattal, the Handbook of Research Methods in Human Operant Behavior (Plenum, 1998). His work has been supported by grants from NSF, NIOSH, and NICHD. He has served as President and Chair of the Board of Directors of the Society for the Experimental Analysis of Behavior, Associate Editor of the Journal of the Experimental Analysis of Behavior, co-chair of the Association for Behavior Analysis (ABA) Convention Program Committee, and co-editor of the Experimental Analysis of Human Behavior Bulletin. He is a Fellow of the American Psychological Association. He currently serves as President of the Association for Behavior Analysis.

Kate Saunders, PhD, is currently Senior Scientist at the Mental Retardation Research Center at the University of Kansas. She received her PhD in Psychology in 1986, from the University of Florida. She then went to the University of Kansas as a postdoctoral fellow, funded by an NICHD Institutional Research Service Award. Subsequent to her 2-year fellowship, she became an Assistant Scientist in the Mental Retardation Research Center at the University of Kansas. She has remained with the KU Research Center, where she is now a Senior Scientist. She also maintains an adjunct appointment with the Department of Human Development and Family Life. Her work has been funded by NIH since 1990. Saunders has served on the editorial boards of the Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis, The Behavior Analyst, and the Journal of the Experimental Analysis of Behavior. She has served as an Associate Editor for the latter. She is a fellow of Division 25 of the American Psychological Association.