

**NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY**

Curriculum Vitae

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**TARA SHEEHAN, PhD, BCBA**

Office Address: 3301 College Avenue  
Nova Southeastern University  
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Education: 2006-2014  
Ph.D., Psychology  
Florida International University  
Miami, Florida

2002-2006  
M.S., Psychology  
Florida International University  
Miami, Florida

1996-2000  
B.S., Psychology  
B.A., English  
State University of New York at Albany  
Albany, New York

Certification: 2006-Present  
Board Certified Behavior Analyst  
Certificant 1-06-3070

Professional Experience:

2015- Present      Clinical Supervisor  
Unicorn Children's Foundation Clinics  
Nova Southeastern University  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida

2007-Present	Adjunct Professor College of Psychology Fischler College of Education Nova Southeastern University Fort Lauderdale, Florida
2013-2015	Behavior Analyst Severe Behavior Disorders Program Nova Southeastern University Fort Lauderdale, Florida
2012-2013	Research Scientist Severe Behavior Disorders Program Nova Southeastern University Fort Lauderdale, Florida
2010-2012	Academics Program Coordinator Mailman Segal Center for Human Development Nova Southeastern University Fort Lauderdale, Florida
2007-2010	Autism Consortium Program Coordinator Mailman Segal Center for Human Development Nova Southeastern University Fort Lauderdale, Florida
2006-2007	Adjunct Professor Department of Psychology Florida International University Miami, FL
2004-2007	Graduate Assistant Behavior Analysis Program Coordinator Department of Psychology Florida International University Miami, FL
2002-2007	Behavior Analyst Private Consultant Pompano Beach, Florida
2001-2002	Behavior Therapist Rockland ARC Congers, New York

2000-2001	Teacher's Assistant Rockland ARC Congers, New York
2000-2002	Training Instructor Score Educational Learning Center Scarsdale, New York
1999-2000	Teacher's Assistant Mont Pleasant Middle School Mont Pleasant, New York

Research Experience

*Translational Analyses of Chronic Aberrant Behavior Across the Life Span*; 1PO1HD055456-01A2.  
Eunice K. Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD)

*Behavioral persistence: Basic, translational and clinical studies*. RO1 HD064576 Eunice K. Shriver  
National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD)

Membership in Academic and Scientific Societies:

2008-Present	Interdisciplinary Council for the Study of Autism Nova Southeastern University Active member
2006-Present	Delta Epsilon Iota Academic Honor Society Lifetime member
2004-2007	Developmental Mental Health Student Association Florida International University Social/Colloquium Chair
2004-Present	Florida Association for Behavior Analysis Active member
2003-Present	Developmental Special Interest Group Association for Behavior Analysis International Active member
2002-Present	Association for Behavior Analysis International Active member

### Publications:

- Nevin, J.A., Mace, F.C., DeLeon, I.G., Shahan, T.A., Shamlan, K.D., Lit, K., Sheehan, T., Frank-Crawford, M., Trauschke, S.L., Sweeney, M.M., Tarver, D.R., & Craig, A.R. (2016). Effects of signaled and unsignaled alternative reinforcement on persistence and relapse in children and pigeons. *Journal of the Experimental Analysis of Behavior*, 106: 34-57.
- Ocanto, R., Levi-Minzi, M. A., Chung, J., Sheehan, T., Padilla, O., & Brimlow, D. (2020). The development and implementation of a training program for pediatric dentistry residents working with patients diagnosed with ASD in a special needs dental clinic. *Journal of Dental Education*, 84: 397-408.

### Webinars:

- Padilla, O. & Sheehan, T (2018, August). *Management of Challenging Behaviors of Patients with Autism Spectrum Disorders*. Paper presented as part of the American Dental Education Association Leading Conversations webinar series.

### Conference Presentations:

- Sheehan, T. & Padilla, O. (2020, June). *Increasing Access to Dental Care for Patients with Autism Spectrum Disorder through Collaboration with Applied Behavior Analysts*. Paper presented at the 18<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the American Academy of Developmental Medicine and Dentistry, Pittsburgh, PA.
- Pasumarthy, S; Cirion, M., & Sheehan, T. (2019, April). *Applied Behavior Analysis for Patients with Autism Spectrum Disorder*. Paper presented at the 31<sup>st</sup> annual meeting of the Special Care Dentistry Association, Atlanta, GA.
- Sheehan, T., Padilla, O., & Chung, J (2018, September). *Improving Access to Dental Care for Individuals with ASD through Interdisciplinary Collaboration with Dental Professionals*. Paper presented at the 38<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Florida Association for Behavior Analysis, Bonita Springs, FL.
- Padilla, O. & Sheehan, T. (2018, March). *Managing Challenging Behaviors of Patients with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD)*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Dental Education Association, Orlando, FL.
- Mace, F.C., Craig, A.R., DeLeon, I.G., Shahan, T.A., & Sheehan, T. (2017, May). *Signaling alternative reinforcers in multiple schedules with varied reinforcer rates*. Symposium conducted at the 43<sup>rd</sup> annual meeting of the Association for Behavior Analysis International, Denver, CO.

- Sheehan, T., Ahearn, W.H., DeLeon, I.G., Drugan-Eppich, & Mace, F.C. (2017, May). *Applying the Contingency Management paradigm to children's problem behavior using multiple-schedule and successive-conditions designs*. Symposium conducted at the 43<sup>rd</sup> annual meeting of the Association for Behavior Analysis International, Denver, CO.
- Padilla, O. & Sheehan, T. (2017, March). *Providing quality dental care to an underserved population: pediatric and adolescent patients with autism spectrum disorder (ASD)*. Poster presented at the 29<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Special Care Dentistry Association, Charlotte, NC.
- Sheehan, T (2017, January). *RUBI Autism Network parent training manual for disruptive behavior disorders*. Paper presented at the 24<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Center for Autism and Related Disabilities, Orlando, FL.
- Cordova, K., Padilla, O., & Sheehan, T. (2016, September). *Evaluating the effects of video modeling and visual supports on preschoolers' compliance with dental procedures*. Paper presented at the 36<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Florida Association for Behavior Analysis, Fort Lauderdale, FL.
- Sheehan, T. (2015, September). Behavior Momentum Theory and Behavior Economics: Frameworks for Analysis of Behavioral Persistence and Choice. In Sheehan, T (Chair), *Examining Basic Behavioral Processes and Clinical Applications of Behavior Momentum Theory and Behavior Economics*. Symposium conducted at the 35<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Florida Association for Behavior Analysis Convention, Daytona, FL.
- Lit, K., Mace, F.C., Sheehan, T., Benson, J., Borgen, J., Cavanaugh, B., Tarver, D., & Trauschke, S. (2014, May). Correlating Reinforcer Magnitude and Response Rate to Assess the Operant Component of Inattention. In Cooper, L. (Chair), *Extensions in empirical methods of behavioral assessment*. Symposium conducted at the 40<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Association for Behavior Analysis International convention, Chicago, IL.
- Benson, J., Lit, K., Trauschke, S., Shamlan, K., Sheehan, T., & Mace, F.C. (2013, September). Cumulative record versus latency to first occurrence to analyze a response class hierarchy. In Shamlan, K. (Chair). *Extensions in empirical methods for assessment of severe problem behavior*. Symposium conducted at the 33<sup>rd</sup> annual meeting of the Florida Association for Behavior Analysis convention, Daytona Beach, FL.
- Borgen, J; Cavanaugh, B; Lit, K; Trauschke, S; Benson, J; Shamlan, K, Sheehan, T; & Mace, F (2013). *Response class hierarchy analysis performed on 20 clients in an outpatient setting*. Presented at the Association for Behavior Analysis International, Minneapolis, MN.

- Borgen, J., Lit, K., Sheehan, T.M., Benson, J., Cavanaugh, B., Cruz, Y., O'Brien, H., Trauschke, S., & Mace, F.C. (2013, May). *Measuring strength of the instruction-compliance contingency to determine instruction type to deliver*. Symposium presented at 39<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Association of Behavior Analysis International convention, Minneapolis, MN.
- Boules, I., Lit, K., Shamlan, K., Sheehan, T., & Mace, F.C. (2013, September). *The effect of staff evaluations on clinic productivity*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Florida Association for Behavior Analysis convention, Daytona, FL.
- Boules, I., Sheehan, T., & Mace, F.C. (2013, September). *The effect of performance management on patient chart compliance behavior*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Florida Association for Behavior Analysis convention, Daytona, FL.
- Lit, K., Mace, F.C., Sheehan, T., Benson, J., Borgen, J., Cavanaugh, B., Tarver, D., & Trauschke, S. (2013, September). *A novel intervention maximizes the power of the Premack principle*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Florida Association for Behavior Analysis convention, Daytona, FL.
- Sheehan, T; Edmonds, S; & Kabot, S (2012, September). *Strategies for increasing engagement in classroom activities in children with autism and visual impairment*. Presented at the Florida Association for Behavior Analysis, Jacksonville, FL.
- Trauschke, S., Borgen, J., Sheehan, T., Lit, K., Benson, J., O'Brien, H., Cruz, Y., Boules, I., and Mace, F. C. (2012, September). *Behavioral assessment of the strength of the S-R contingency and the probability of compliance to low-p instructions*. Symposium conducted at the 32<sup>nd</sup> annual meeting for the Florida Association for Behavior Analysis, Jacksonville, FL.
- Cruz, Y & Sheehan, T (2009, May). *An exploratory analysis of the fidelity of the applied behavior analysis supervision handbook*. Presented at the Association for Behavior Analysis International, San Antonio, TX.
- Reeve, C; Cordova, K; Sheehan, T; & O'Brien, H (2009, September). *A structured approach to ethical supervision in applied behavior analysis*. Presented at the Florida Association for Behavior Analysis, Daytona, FL.
- Kabot, S; Sheehan, T & O'Brien, H (2008, November). *Starting Right: A parent-child, classroom-based intervention model for 18-36 month Old children with ASD*. Presented at the Network of Autism Training and Technical Assistance Programs, Columbus, OH.
- O'Brien, H; Dietsch, L; Sheehan, T; DeVincentis, M & Ruf, H (2008, September). *Evaluating the effectiveness of a parent training procedure to increase frequency of eye contact in young children with autism spectrum disorder: Implications for development of social referencing*. Presented at the Florida Association for Behavior Analysis, Bonita Springs, FL.

- Sheehan, T; Gewirtz, J & Pelaez, M. (2008, May). *Social referencing as a learned process*. Presented at the Association for Behavior Analysis, Chicago, IL.
- Sheehan, T; O'Brien, H; Ruf, H; Dietsch, L & DeVincentis, M. (2008, May). *Training parents to evoke and reinforce social referencing behavior in their young child with autism spectrum disorder*. Presented at the Association for Behavior Analysis, Chicago, IL.
- Crooks, N.; Sheehan, T.; Russell, J.D.; Safko, D.L. & Branscum, E. (2007, May). *The behavior analyst – Alone again, naturally: Forging alliances in the community*. Panel Discussion at Association for Behavior Analysis, San Diego, CA.
- Sheehan, T. (2006, May). *Training echoic rehearsal strategies improves discriminated responding controlled jointly by two verbal operants*. Presented at the Association for Behavior Analysis, Atlanta, GA.
- Sheehan, T.; Ramos-Toca, I.; Mira, S. & Finley, G. (2006, November). *Parental nurturance and child academic outcomes: An exploratory analysis*. Presented at the National Council of Family Relations, Minneapolis, MN.
- Sheehan, T (2004, May). *A comparison of Vygotsky's social-historical theory of cognitive development and behavior analysis*. Presented at the Association for Behavior Analysis, Boston, MA.
- Sheehan, T (2004, May). *The Chomsky/Skinner debate: Is grammar a learned process?* Presented at Association for Behavior Analysis, Boston, MA.