Dear Students,

Welcome to the beginning of your graduate research project! The first step is matching students with a research advisor. Please read the attached information about each faculty/staff member, complete this form, and return it via email by **5pm, July 1st.** (use the email subject: “research advisor”). Students will be matched with advisors based on a number of factors, and you may not get your first choice. If you have questions, please contact me via email.

Thank you,   
Dr. Denise Kerth, Coordinator of Graduate Programs in ABA

[marzullo@rowan.edu](mailto:marzullo@rowan.edu)

1. Your name:
2. Briefly describe your research interests:
3. List the faculty/staff in order of your preference (1= highest preference)

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

1. Provide any additional relevant information regarding your potential research project (e.g., whether you would like to conduct your project at your place of employment, etc.):

# MaryLouise Kerwin, PhD, BCBA-D

# Dr. Kerwin’s areas of expertise include behavior analytic treatment of pediatric feeding disorders, autism, and parenting issues among adults with drug and alcohol addiction. Students who wish to work with Dr. Kerwin will do so through participation in grant-funded projects here at Rowan, therefor schedule flexibility is important.

# Michelle Soreth, PhD, BCBA-D

# Master’s students may have the opportunity to join Dr. Soreth’s current applied projects including: 1S) Parent-led interventions for preschool-aged children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD); 2S) Interventions for young children with ASD based on Skinner’s analysis of verbal behavior; 3S) Technology-based interventions for verbally-fluent adolescents with ASD; 4S) pediatric healthcare delivery models for children with externalizing problem behavior 5S) training physicians and caregivers to use behavior analytic techniques in the treatment/management of dementia in the elderly (i.e., behavioral gerontology). Master’s students may also design their research projects in 6S) the pigeon lab, where we examine basic behavior-environment relations including choice behavior, "risk-taking," and preference for situations with delayed or probabilistic outcomes. Please indicate the number of your project of interest if you would like to work with Dr. Soreth. Meetings for most projects occur once per week. Please be aware that expectations when working for Dr. Soreth will be high and admission into the lab is competitive, as your project will most likely be part of deadline-driven, grant-funded projects and spots are limited. Students with flexibility in their schedules for daytime hours and the ability to travel throughout southern New Jersey will be strongly preferred. Please indicate your daytime and travel availability on the application if you are interested in working with Dr. Soreth.

# Bethany Raiff, PhD, BCBA-D

# Contingency management (CM) is a powerful, empirically verified behavioral intervention that consists of delivering incentives (e.g., money) to individuals contingent on objective evidence of meeting behavior change goals. To overcome some of the barriers to conducting CM and other effective behavioral interventions, this lab is focused on introducing technological innovations (e.g., smartphones, tablets, videogames, etc) for implementing the interventions. Thus, the aim of this lab is to use technology to implement behavioral interventions to promote healthy behavior, such as smoking abstinence, diabetes management, weight management, and physical activity. For example, Dr. Raiff’s lab is currently developing a smartphone-phone intervention that will verify smoking abstinence and delivery incentives remotely to under-served populations and is also in the process of developing a videogame where smokers will be able to earn game-based incentives, rather than monetary incentives, contingent on objective evidence of smoking abstinence to address the issue of cost. The location for the research depends on the population with whom the students end up conducting their research.

# Denise Kerth, PhD, BCBA-D

Dr. Kerth’s research interests are broad and vary from equivalence-based instruction for college-level students, to skill acquisition and behavior reduction in children with autism and related disabilities. Potential research projects include using equivalence-based instruction to teach academic concepts to college students (for example teaching concepts of ABA to undergraduate students via computer instruction), or to younger individuals with developmental disabilities (for example teaching students to receptively identify concepts through match-to-sample training); teaching play or prosocial skills to individuals with developmental disabilities. Dr. Kerth is also open to students with research interests different from those listed above. Students may also have the opportunity to conduct research under Dr. Kerth’s supervision in a number of our new partnership locations including working with adults with developmental disabilities, individuals with acquired brain injuries, and students with behavioral disorders. Meeting dates and times are flexible and will vary based on the student, however frequent email communication is expected.

**Kimberly C. Kirby, Ph.D, BCBA-D**

Dr. Kirby’s areas of expertise includeApplied Behavior Analysis, Addictive Behaviors, Contingency Management, Community Reinforcement Approach, Translational Research, Families & Addiction. Her research interests include development and evaluation of behavioral treatments for substance use disorders, translating and disseminating efficacious behavioral treatments for use by community treatment providers, and interventions for family members of individuals with substance use disorders.