**P****resentation Title:** Revisiting the Relationship between Science, Skepticism, and Applied Behavior Analysis

**Presenter:** Dr. Mychal Machado

**Presentation Abstract:** The essential tension in dealing with pseudoscientific claims is navigating the line between total commitment to the status quo and blind pursuit of new ideas. As behavior analysts, we are not strangers to pseudoscientific claims, and we often find ourselves in positions where we must meet credulity and subjectivity with skepticism and objectivity. In this talk, we will revisit the standards of evidence for a science, how to spot pseudoscience, and the relationship of skepticism to behavior analysis. We will focus on claims most commonly encountered by applied behavior analysts, and discuss old and new ways to promote skepticism in our field.

**Learning Objectives**:

1. Participants will be able to describe the standards of evident for a science
2. Participants will be able to describe some characteristics of pseudoscience
3. Participants will be able to describe the relationship of science and skepticism to issues concerning behavior analysts
4. Participants will be able to describe at least one way to promote skepticism