



Message from the NaBITA President

April 1, 2016

Dear NaBITA Members,

The 8th NaBITA Annual Conference will be upon us very shortly. Be sure to mark your calendars to be in San Antonio, TX on November 13-17, 2016. While this year's program is already filling up with featured speakers and noted experts in the field, we need to hear from you as well. You and your BIT are on the front lines every day making our campuses safe; you are the experts in the field and the membership needs your stories, your wisdom, and your innovative ideas. Visit the [Conference site](#) where we have put out the [2016 Call for Programs](#).

Your 2017 NaBITA President-elect Carolyn Reinach Wolf is working hard to craft legislation that we hope to present to a member of Congress very soon. This would require all institutions of higher education to establish and operate a behavioral intervention team on their campus. To support this committee's effort, let me ask each of you once again to send me stories of successful intervention by your school's BIT. We will use these stories to impress upon Congress the effectiveness and necessity of BITs.

NaBITA Advisory Board member Peggy Scott has been directing the Awards and Recognition Committee in our efforts to honor you, the NaBITA membership. In addition to longevity recognition by presenting members with lapel pins for attendance at NaBITA Conferences for 3 and 5 years, we will be honoring those few who have attended all 8 conferences with a Founders Pin. The Committee has also developed two awards for best practice and research in the field of behavior intervention. The first is the *Best Practice/Institutional Impact Award* - to recognize a practice or program that can be modeled by other institutions as a best practice and has been shown to have significant evidence-based impact on the originating institution. The second award is *Innovation in Research and Publication* - to recognize research that is innovative in its topic, methodology, or program(s) studied. The research can be specific to the functioning of a BIT or programs that serve to educate, provide interventions for or reduce risk among target populations. Selected winners will be honored at the national conference, presented their award, and included or highlighted in the NaBITA Journal, *J-BIT*. For complete details on submissions and nominations, [click here](#).

Let me encourage you to bring a new member with you this year, possibly a sister institution who is just beginning to build their BIT. They will thank you for giving them the jump start their Team needs. When a first time conference attendee identifies you on their registration form as having invited them, you will receive a \$100.00 voucher at the Conferences Bookstore during your time at the 2016 conference.

Let me hear from you.



Sincerely,

Chip Reese, Ed.D.
President, NaBITA