Florida State University, Panama City Campus  
4750 Collegiate Drive  
Panama City, Florida 32405

Dear Dr. Leah Koehler,

It is with great pleasure that I write you on behalf of the Association for Behavior Analysis International (ABAI) Accreditation Board to inform you that the Board has granted the Master of Science in Psychology Applied Behavior Analysis Program at Florida State University’s Panama City Campus full accreditation through December 31, 2024.

During this period, your program is required to share its accreditation status and display the ABAI Accreditation Board masters-level accreditation seal in compliance with the Board’s policy on public disclosure of accreditation status. To maintain accreditation, your program must remain in compliance with the Board’s policies and procedures, including the submission of an annual report and annual accreditation fees, during the first quarter each year the program is accredited. If your program chooses to re-apply for accreditation before the current term expires, a new self-study will need to be submitted to the Board before April 1, 2024. More information about the policies and procedures relevant to maintaining accreditation can be found on the Board’s website: https://accreditation.abainternational.org

Accreditation is specifically designed to convey information about a training program’s comprehensiveness, rigor, and quality. Its purpose is to promote quality control within the discipline’s training programs. The Board would like to extend its appreciation to your program for helping to preserve the integrity of the field’s training programs.

The site visitors raised question as to whether items 2-110, 4-103, 7-103, and 9-109 were met. After reviewing the self-study, site visit report, and your program’s response, the Board is satisfied with your response to the questions about transfer credit, administration of the program, and student progress in practica. With regard to meeting the thesis equivalency standard, we believe that the options you labeled as “a: research proposal” and “b: capstone case” in your program’s response letter are satisfactory. We do not agree with option “c: extended research project.” It is important that the thesis equivalency standard be met independently of course work. If a student develops an idea as part of a course-related research project and wishes to expand it to meet the thesis equivalency standard, the student should be able to do so by pursuing option “a” or “b.” The Board appreciates the collegial nature of the response to the site visit report and the clearly developed plans to implement changes, some of which are already in effect.
If you have any questions about accreditation, please do not hesitate to contact me. Additionally, if your program assigns a new Program Administrator during the current term, please notify the Board immediately so we may update our records.

Sincerely,

Jenna Mrljak, Ph.D., BCBA
Education Manager
Association for Behavior Analysis International
ABAIaccreditation@ABAInternational.org

cc: Michael Perone, Ph.D., ABAI Accreditation Board Chair