

## Psychologists at OCD Louisiana Hold Walk For Awareness Oct 20

OCD Louisiana will hold the 2nd Annual 1 Million Steps 4 OCD Walk on October 20, at City Park in New Orleans. OCD Louisiana is an official affiliate of the International OCD Foundation with the goal of furthering the Foundation's mission in the state of Louisiana.



(Courtesy image)

OCD Louisiana program's aim is to support all those affected by OCD, and to further educate the greater community about what it means to live with OCD and/or a related disorder. Melissa Dufrene, PsyD, Licensed Clinical Psychologist with Algiers Neurobehavioral Resource and Secretary for OCD Louisiana said, "This is our first fully official walk as an IOCDF affiliate. We are thrilled to be establishing our organization in the community and we consider this to be the most basic step of doing so."

OCD Louisiana's President is Kristin Fitch, PhD, Vice-President is Leslie Higgins, PsyD, Treasurer is Michele Carroll, PsyD, and Secretary is Melissa Dufrene, Psy.D. Suzanne Chabaud, PhD and Gail Pesses, MSW, LCSW, are Board Members.

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## Cerwonka vs LSBEP Reset from Bench Trial to Jury Trial in June 2020

In a lawsuit alleging violations of his Constitutional Rights, filed by Dr. Eric Cerwonka in 2017, the defendant, psychology board Executive Director Jamie Monic, and her attorneys at the state have requested a jury trial.

According to the civil docket, Judge Michael J. Juneau granted the unopposed Motion to reset the Bench Trial to a Jury Trial, and scheduled the matter for June 4, 2020 in Lafayette.

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Thursday, Oct 10

## Psychology Board to Hold Rules Critique and Long-Range Meeting

On Thursday, October 10, the state psychology board will hold a hearing so that the public can give feedback on the Louisiana Administrative Law affecting licensed psychologists, also known as "Rules." Thursday afternoon will

include the board's annual discussion about long-range plans.

The board gave notice for the Rule's critique session stating that the "... purpose of allowing any interested person the opportunity to comment on any rule of the agency

Cont'd pg 3



New LSBEP Chair, Dr. Koren Bogg, says she may want to consider returning to the older, traditional Continuing Education model.

(Dr. Greg Gormanous in foreground.)



Dr. Bonnie Kaplan  
(courtesy photo)

Science & Education

## LPA to Host Dr. Kaplan, Recipient of the 2019 Award for Excellence in Alternative Medicine

Invited speaker at the Fall/Winter Workshop of the Louisiana Psychological Association, Clinical Psychologist Dr. Bonnie Kaplan, has been recognized for Excellence in Complementary and Alternative Medicine, with an award of \$250,000.

Dr. Kaplan lectures internationally on the importance of improving nutrient intake to prevent and treat psychiatric symptoms. She has also established two charitable funds in support of nutrient research, so far distributing \$750,000 for clinical trials at universities in

Canada, the United States and New Zealand, noted the announcement.

Dr. Kaplan will join local experts including McNeese's Dr. Linda Brannon, author of the popular textbook, *Health Psychology*, Dr. Susan Andrews, author of *Stress Solutions for Pregnant Moms*, and Dr. Charles Frey, IV, expert in chronic pain conditions, for a conference on November 1. The one-day event, "Advances in Health Psychology," will be held at The Lake House on Old Hammond Highway in Baton Rouge.

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Governor and LDH Release Plan to Deal with "Rapid Escalation" in Opioid Crisis

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"An Atheist, a Priest, and a Jungian Analyst Walk into a Bar"

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# Editorials and Opinions

## Rules, Regulations & Damn Bangs

by Julie Nelson

In our culture of never-ending new regulations, it is refreshing that some legislator, specifically Representative Mark Wright, thought it would be a good idea to require the regulatory boards to remove unnecessary, outdated, and burdensome regulations.

Wright's law requires a critique from those shouldering the weight of these regulations. Of course, most psychologists are far too busy to read over volumes of rules and frame some complaints, but when I was age 13, I had ample time and energy to critique my parent's rule—about the length of my bangs.

The style was to wear bangs that hung exactly at the level of the eyes, probably promulgated by Twiggy, whose greater crime by far was to create a culture of starvation dieting.

The bangs drove the parental units crazy. My mother suffered the most from my constant fidgeting and swiping hair out of my face. She

would try logical persuasion, "Can you even see where you're going?" and some assertion, "Please cut those bangs," to occasional manipulation, "I can't see your beautiful eyes."

There was absolutely no choice for a teenage girl in 1965 but to keep the bangs. So, Mom and I engaged in a low-intensity, chronic power struggle with constant bickering about my bangs. Whether my father actually cared or not I don't know, but he would occasionally enter the fray on my mother's side, probably out of simple common sense.

One day, my father, after returning from the Shakespeare class he was taking for fun at Northwestern State, announced an Executive Opinion.

Somewhere in his after-the-class-philosophical-male-bonding time with his favorite professor, probably between deciding whether the ghost in *Hamlet* was real or a hallucination, and the second shared Irish Whiskey, my father apparently complained to his professor friend about my bangs.

"Why do you care?" asked the professor.

"Because she looks silly and is always brushing her bangs out of her eyes," said my father.

"Does she make good grades?" Yes.

"Does she do her chores?" Yes.

"Does she cause any trouble?" No.

"Then forget about the damn bangs."

And that was the end of it. My father announced that I could have the bangs the way I wanted (no I didn't get rid of them at that point) and my mother let it go, mostly.

The professor performed a three-item, criterion related validity study, albeit with restricted application and without a theory. Does the length of bangs relate to job performance? Probably not—or at least not in the expected direction.

Hooray for Representative Wright. Now, a few clear-thinking citizens can add their side to the equation, hopefully.

The hidden burden of regulations in the U.S. is said to reach \$1.9 trillion yearly in lost economic productivity (*Ten Thousand Commandments*, Competitive Enterprise Institute, 2019), something we in applied psychology should be helping understand and correct.

As for power, control and bangs, when my children were in adolescence, it came out of my mouth: "Are you wearing *that* to school?" "Why so much eye make-up?" And, because Mother Nature likes a good joke, "Would you please cut those bangs?"



[Julie Nelson is a licensed psychologist, journalist, organizational consultant, and publisher of the Times. She also holds other various positions in the community. However, her opinions here are those of her own, and do not represent any group or association. She and the Times receive no compensation other than paid advertising. Email her at [drj@drjulienelson.com](mailto:drj@drjulienelson.com). —she welcomes feedback.]

## The Psychology Times

Member, Louisiana Press Association

Published monthly  
by Nelson News, LLC.

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We welcome ideas for news, features, Letters to the Editor, photos, and other material related to psychological community of Louisiana. Editorials and commentary reflect the opinions of this newspaper. Columns and Letters to the Editor express the opinions of the writers and not necessarily those of *The Psychology Times*. All materials copyrighted by J. Nelson unless otherwise noted.

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## Corrections & Clarifications

We did not receive corrections for last month's issue.  
Send your corrections to:  
[psychologytimes@drjulienelson.com](mailto:psychologytimes@drjulienelson.com)

## State & National News

Thursday, Oct 10

# Psychology Board to Hold Rules Critique and Long-Range Meeting

which the person believes is contrary to law, outdated, unnecessary, overly complex, or burdensome," said the notice from the board.

The hearing to critique old Rules is mandated by a law passed in 2018 and authored by Representative Mark Wright. The law notes that an agency shall consider fully all written and oral comments and submissions concerning its rules. The agency is to advise persons who provide oral comments that in order to be submitted to the legislative oversight committees, comments must be submitted in writing. The law also states that the agency is to issue a response to each submission describing the principal advantages and disadvantages of the rule changes suggested in the submission.

According to the Louisiana Psychological Association's Chair of Professional Affairs, Dr. Kim VanGeffen, "In 2018, the Louisiana Legislature passed a law—Act 454—which requires Louisiana public agencies, such as our licensing board, to hold periodic public hearings to allow any interested person the opportunity to comment on any of the agencies rules which it believes may be 'contrary to law, outdated, unnecessary, overly complex, or burdensome,'" VanGeffen said last month to members of the state psychology association. "The Board will also receive written comments to be submitted into the record until Wednesday, October 9th, 2019."

In the afternoon, explained VanGeffen, the Board will hold its long range planning meeting and discuss issues which affect psychology licensure and enforcement matters likely in the coming year or years.

"Topics to be addressed include revisions to the oral examination process, the EPPP2 and several potential rule changes—specialty designations, continuing education requirements, the jurisprudence examination, tele psychology/tele supervision, and the adjudication process," VanGeffen said.

According to the July minutes, the new Board Chair, Dr. Koren Boggs "... discussed the goals and objectives she would like accomplished for her final year on the Board stating that there are a lot of items that have been ongoing discussions that she would like to see through including oral exam procedures, resolving or refining procedures related to recognizing program specialties versus health service provider versus whether we have any designations at all; conducting a thorough review of our regulations to make sure our

procedures are in line with how the statutes and rules are written; review regulations and procedures for determining degree equivalency; and review procedures and regulations for assessing competencies."

The board considered changes to the Continuing Professional Development Rules in October last year and some in the community objected, saying that the change would broaden the board's authority to approve providers of professional training. After a follow-up meeting, the issues were tabled until further study.

According to the May 2019 minutes, "The board reviewed CPD rules and discussed the current rules, problems with current rules, administrating current rules, previous rules. The board focused their discussion on minimum

requirements necessary to maintain and develop their knowledge, skills and competence in order to keep pace with trending or developing areas of practice for public protection versus requiring maximum standards to force development of personal qualities, attitudes, capabilities, or professional socialization, and how such maximum requirements actually play a role in public protection or the board's ability to regulate such requirements.

"Following extensive discussion, Dr. Lambert called for motions on setting a direction for revising the CPD Rules. Dr. Boggs moved in favor of researching the option of returning to the basic model of continuing education requirements and reducing the number of biannual hours to 20 and requiring formal approved sponsored activities (quality over quantity)."

In July, Ms. Monic provided the Board with draft rules based on LSBEP original Continuing Education rules which were in place prior to initiating new requirements based on ASPPB's Continuing Professional Development model.

To attend the upcoming public meeting, Executive Director announced that, "Individuals may confirm their attendance via USPS at 4334 S. Sherwood Forest Blvd., Suite C-150, Baton Rouge, LA 70816 or via email at Jaime.Monic@la.gov. This will assist LSBEP with planning for an adequate venue."

All Rules can be found on the licensing board website under "Laws, Rules and Guidelines," or on the state's website for Louisiana Administrative Code. All meetings are open to the public, except during certain executive sessions.



## Governor and LDH Release Plan for Response to "Rapid Escalation" in Opioid Prescriptions and Deaths

On September 24, the Louisiana Department of Health released Louisiana's Opioid Response Plan, the first of its kind for the state, noted officials. The plan aims to successfully reduce Louisiana's opioid epidemic by implementing strategies to address the under-reporting of opioid deaths, enhance monitoring of opioid prescriptions and increase access to treatment services.

Louisiana saw more than 450 opioid-related deaths in 2018, which points to the need for coordinated and comprehensive action. Officials said that Louisiana has seen a rapid escalation in the opioid prescription rate and the drug overdose rate, prompting the Department to collaborate with partners on the Opioid Response Plan. The Department of Health, through its organizational makeup, is in a unique position to address the opioid epidemic from multiple angles, all under the purview of a single state agency, but with acute awareness of the need to collaborate across agency lines and systems and branches of government.

The Plan can be found at <http://ldh.la.gov/assets/opioid/LaOpioidResponsePlan2019.pdf>

The Plan describes the initiatives, campaigns and strategic activities currently underway to reduce opioid abuse in Louisiana, as well as those planned, along with the laws, regulations, policies and guidelines, and also incorporates feedback from experts and public comments.

"This ambitious plan takes aim at a devastating public health epidemic that touches every corner of our communities, destroys lives and tears families apart," said Dr. Rebekah Gee, secretary of the Department of Health. "Through this plan, the Department of Health is committing anew its resources, data, wisdom and partnerships toward reducing the burgeoning opioid crisis in Louisiana."

The plan's response is built upon five pillars — surveillance, prevention, intervention, treatment and recovery — allowing the Department to address not only health, but also the social and economic consequences of opioid misuse and addiction.

"By approaching the opioid crisis with the five pillars, we can address this epidemic at all levels: socially, emotionally, physically and intellectually. We're also setting people up with a continuum of care that supports a lifetime of recovery," Gee said. "With widespread public education, aggressive prevention

campaigns, recovery support services, quality treatment services and a robust network of partnerships working together, we have the tools to eradicate opioid misuse in Louisiana."

"While we continue taking a number of positive steps forward in the battle against opioid addiction in Louisiana, we still have much work to do," said Gov. Edwards. "As a result of more comprehensive data collection, we are better able to understand the challenges of those suffering from this addiction and develop a new, innovative and coordinated state response efforts. Our people are Louisiana's most valuable resource and the opioid response plan outlines the steps we will take to ensure that we increase access to the best standards of care and treatment."

## Higher Ed Budgets Holding Steady After 10 Years of Cuts

The financial outlook for Louisiana's colleges and universities is the best it has been in the past decade, Commissioner of Administration Jay Dardenne said Tuesday, as reported by Will Sentell of *The Advocate*.

"It went from being cut every year to not being cut in our first two years and being plussed up in our third year," Dardenne said. "So it is clearly better than it has been for the past decade," he said. "It is not where we want it to be, but we are making progress." Higher education previously underwent 16 budget cuts over 10 years.

Dardenne addressed the Louisiana Board of Regents, which began budget hearings the 2020 Legislature.

According to the *Advocate* report, state aid for colleges and universities rose by \$47.3 million for the financial year that began July 1. The increase for the LSU system was \$10 million, to \$362 million, or 3%. Aid for the Southern University system rose \$2.7 million, to \$45.9 million, or 6%.

LSU President F. King Alexander told the regents that faculty pay remains a concern, the report said.

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# FIRST

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# Cerwonka vs LSBEP Reset from Bench Trial to Jury Trial for June 2020, continued

Dr. Eric Cerwonka filed a lawsuit in August 2017 in the United States District Court Western District of Louisiana Lafayette division. In his complaint, Cerwonka and his attorneys allege that the board acted on an interim basis before any hearing had taken place, that Cerwonka was denied a proper opportunity to defend himself against specific charges, that an emergency action was taken because he exercised his right to free speech, and that evidence was manipulated and obtained illegally. Among these and other violations of his rights, he and his attorneys also state that the prosecuting attorney for the board had previously represented Cerwonka in a hotly contested custody battle and that the attorney had information that, allegedly, was used in the board's prosecution.

In January 2018, Cerwonka and his attorneys amended the complaint to include Executive Director Jamie Monic, along with the state psychology board.

In March 2018, Magistrate Judge Carol B. Whitehurst recommended dismissal based on lack of federal jurisdiction, writing, "The Eleventh Amendment bars an individual from suing a state in federal court unless the state consents or Congress has clearly and validly abrogated the state's sovereign immunity."

United States District Judge Robert G. James agreed, and issued a Judgment on April 18, 2018, stating, "After an independent review of the record, and consideration of the objections filed, this Court concludes that the Magistrate Judge's report and recommendation is correct and adopts the findings and conclusions therein as its own." Therefore, Judge James was dismissed on the grounds that the state is immune. However, a second aspect of the suit continued, naming the Executive Director as an individual.

In December 2018 the case was reassigned to a newly appointed judge, Judge Michael J. Juneau, and a scheduling conference held in January and oral

arguments set for April to arrange trial dates.

During this time, the state attorney representing Ms. Monic, Jeremiah Sams, was replaced by state attorney Jared Elijah-Akeem Nelson.

On April 18, this year, in response to another Motion to Dismiss, Judge Juneau ordered that a Motion to Dismiss was partly granted and partly denied.

As noted in the docket, Judge Juneau wrote: "IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED and DECREED that Defendants Motion to Dismiss (26) is GRANTED in part and DENIED in

part; IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED and DECREED that the Defendants Motion to Dismiss for Lack of Jurisdiction is GRANTED as to the claims against Jaime Monic in her official capacity and that all claims against Jaime Monic in her official capacity are hereby DISMISSED WITHOUT PREJUDICE; IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED and DECREED that Defendants Motion to Dismiss (26) is DENIED as to the claims against Jaime Monic in her individual capacity, without prejudice and subject to the requirement that Plaintiff amend his Complaint by May 15, 2019

to more specifically allege facts in support of his claim; IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that each party bear its own costs relative to Defendants Motion to Dismiss; [...]"

In August, Judge Juneau granted the defendant's unopposed motion for a jury trial rather than bench trial.

President Donald Trump nominated Juneau on January 8, 2018, to the seat on the United States District Court for the Western District of Louisiana vacated by Richard Haik. The U.S. Senate confirmed Juneau to the seat in October 2018.

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## Louisiana's Criminal Justice Reform Highlighted on NBC's "Life Inside"

Louisiana's criminal justice reform efforts were highlighted nationally in a special one-hour episode of Dateline NBC, as part of the "Justice for All" series reported by NBC Nightly News Anchor Lester Holt. Dateline NBC's "Life Inside" aired Friday, Sept. 6 at 10 p.m. ET on NBC, announced the Governor's Office last month.

The program was filmed over a period of months at Louisiana State Penitentiary, commonly referred to as Angola, and Holt delved into the impact of the historic criminal justice reform legislation Gov. Edwards signed into law in 2017 and why this issue has garnered national attention.

For nearly 20 years, Louisiana was known as the nation's incarceration capital. The state's mandatory sentencing laws and restrictive parole policies gave Louisiana the highest imprisonment rate in the country, nearly double the national average. Despite this approach, Louisiana was still among the top 10 states with the highest crime rate.

In addition, by 2017 Louisiana was spending roughly \$700 million annually on corrections – more than any other line item except education and health care. This was a huge burden on Louisiana taxpayers without a good return on investment in terms of public safety: one in three released inmates were returning to prison within three years. Louisiana's approach wasn't working, and the state needed an enlightened, data-driven strategy to help it move forward.

Following lessons learned from successful criminal justice reform efforts in other southern states as well as the best available research, Louisiana developed a comprehensive, data-driven and bipartisan plan. This was designed to steer people convicted of less serious crimes away from prison, strengthen alternatives to incarceration, reduce prison terms for those who can be safely supervised in the community and remove barriers to successful reentry.

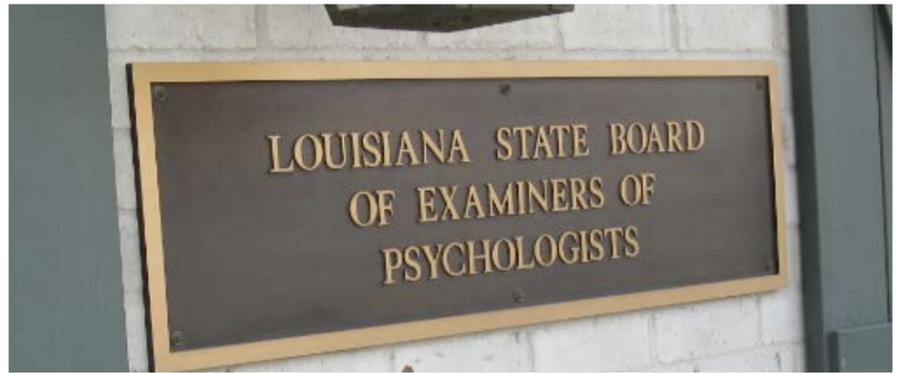
"Justice for All" began as an NBC Nightly News series, is now a network-wide initiative,

following the years of work that Holt and Dateline producer Dan Slepian have been doing on criminal justice reform.

Reforming our prison system is something that has impacted all of us, and by working together in a bipartisan fashion, Louisiana has taken tremendous steps to become smarter on crime and improve public safety," said Gov. Edwards. "Louisiana no longer has the highest imprisonment rate in the nation, and we have reinvested the millions of dollars saved by the reforms back into programs to help fortify victim services and reduce recidivism. Our evidence-based reforms are having a positive impact and the early results mirror the federal FIRST STEP initiative supported by President Trump. We must continue to move forward and realize the full potential of the reforms that we have seen in other southern conservative states like ours. I'm confident that we are headed in the right direction, and I was pleased to share how far we have come thanks to the commitment and hard work of many people of diverse backgrounds, faiths, and experiences."

The JRI legislation mandates that 70% of the savings be reinvested into programs to reduce recidivism and support victims.

Results in Louisiana so far include: Reduced Prison Population: Louisiana's total prison population has fallen from a peak of 40,583 individuals in 2012 to 31,409 individuals as of the end of July 2019. As a result, Louisiana no longer has the highest imprisonment rate in the nation. Sentence Length Down for Nonviolent Offenses: The State has seen significant decreases in sentence length for nonviolent offenses. Drug offenses have seen the largest decrease by the end of 2018 with a drop of 17%, followed by property offenses with an 8.3% decrease. The sentence reductions are based on research findings that longer sentences for nonviolent offenses do not make people less likely to re-offend or strengthen public safety. Savings for fiscal year 2018 totaled \$12.2 million, projections, while savings in the most recent fiscal year, 2019, totaled \$17.8 million.



## From the Minutes

### Selected Items from August Minutes of the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists

**CURRENT LITIGATION/LEGAL [R.S. 42:17(A)(2)]:** The Board received a status and discussed legal strategies in the following cases:

1. Richard A. Marksbury, Ph.D. vs LSBEP, Petition for Judicial Review, 19th JDC, EBR Parish, State of Louisiana, No. C-682294 Sec. 21/D – LSBEP's Opposition - No Cause of Action to be heard on August 26, 2019 before Judge Janice Clark.
2. Frank Ford Cosey, vs. Darrel Vannoy, Warden LSP Angola LA; State of Louisiana 19th JDC EBR Parish No. 07-90-0596 Sec. VII (Amicus Brief RE Practice of Psychology/Licensure) – Opposition to LSBEP's Amicus Brief filed. The Board reviewed the opposition and approved funding for Ms. Newton to file an answer.
3. Glenn W. Ahava, Ph.D. v. LSBEP, On Appeal from September 18, 2015, Opinion and Order of the LSBEP 19TH JDC; Parish of East Baton Rouge, State of Louisiana, Div. D, No. 643,369, pending final order from Judge Janice Clark in the 19th JDC.

**Executive Director Report** – Ms. Monic reported that the Board's mandated contribution to LASERS increased from 37.5% to 40.7% not optional, will substantially impact the budget. Ms. Monic has been meeting with LBAB Director to discuss staff sharing and development.

**Long Range Planning** – Dr. Gibson reported the LRP Meeting was scheduled for October 10-11, 2019 at the LSBEP Office.

**Continuing Professional Development** – Dr. Henke reported that continuing education reviews were wrapping up; she granted 5 extensions this renewal period; and the more prominent issues with every paper review she conducted was that no one properly coded their CPD report correctly.

**Jurisprudence Examination** – Dr. Henke reported that she continues to work on revisions and it is her goal to see that this gets developed as an online examination.

#### DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

##### 1. RULEMAKING -

- a. Dr. Moore presented objectives for developing guidelines to enable supervision via telepsychology. The Board discussed the objectives and Dr. Moore will continue to investigate the matter to address functional authority; the appropriate settings and application of tele-supervision (practicum, internship, postdoctoral, unlicensed assistants); limitations/restrictions; differentiating tele-supervision from that of a consulting relationship; and, supervision conducted by out-of-state psychologists; preapproval.

The remaining rulemaking items were tabled due to time, and assigned for oversight to as follows:

- Complaint Adjudication and Definitions (Henke); Continuing Education (Henke and Moore)** 2. **EPPP-2** – The Board reviewed information provided by ASPPB regarding the EPPP2 and Validity, Early Adoption, Why is EPPP needed? Henke voiced her concerns about limiting individuals applying for licensure through Louisiana to only the EPPP1 and not allowing them to take the EPPP2. 3. **Attendance at ASPPB 59TH Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, Minnesota October 16-20, 2019 and Voting Delegate.** The Board discussed and affirmed the approval of funds for registration, travel, hotel and meals for Ms. Monic and Dr. Gormanous to attend this meeting. 4. **ASPPB Survey Regarding Issues the Board has faced** - The Board discussed this survey and by motion of Dr. Boggs, delegated authority to Ms. Monic to provide answers as discussed. 5. **PPM: Sexual Harassment Policy**- The Board reviewed the final draft of the Sexual Harassment Policy mandated by the legislature. Dr. Henke moved in favor of accepting the policy as drafted. The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote as follows: Boggs- YEA, Henke – YEA, Moore - YEA.

## State News

# Psychologists at OCD Louisiana Hold Walk for Awareness Oct 20, continued

The annual *1 Million Steps 4 OCD Walk* is Co-hosted by the International OCD Foundation (IOCDF) and its Local Affiliates. According to the news release, the event, *1 Million Steps 4 OCD Walk*, is the nation's largest grassroots awareness-building and fundraising campaign to highlight obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD) and related disorders, including body dysmorphic disorder (BDD), hoarding disorder (HD), and body-focused repetitive disorders (BFRBs). Funds raised at the walk support the important programs of the International OCD Foundation and its partnering Local Affiliates, including OCD Louisiana. These programs aim to drive change through advocacy, education, research, and resources that improve the lives of those living with OCD and related disorders.

"OCD Louisiana invites all members of the community to join the *1 Million Steps 4 OCD Walk* this October 20 at City Park, New Orleans to raise awareness, funds, and hope. We will be meeting by the Reunion Pavilion and Outdoor Classroom at the Big Lake. Participation is free."

Dr. Dufrene said, "Our next project is to establish support groups that are accessible to the OCD community. The funding we raise with the walk will help us do that and more!"

President Dr. Kristin Fitch pointed out: "OCD Louisiana is an official affiliate of the International OCD Foundation. OCD Louisiana aims to provide education, resources, and support to the local

community to increase access to effective treatment and promote awareness about OCD and related disorders [Hoarding Disorder, Body Dysmorphic Disorder, Trichotillomania (Hair-Pulling Disorder), Excoriation (Skin-Picking) Disorder, and other related disorders. We hope to develop a community for those affected by OCD and related disorders and the professionals who treat them.

"Like our parent organization, OCD Louisiana is a donor-supported nonprofit organization run by volunteers. We welcome individuals who suffer from one of these conditions, their family members and friends, mental health professionals, researchers, educators, religious leaders, and/or other interested community members to become involved or attend any of our events.

"It's estimated that 1 in 100 adults and 1 in 200 children live with OCD. Despite its prevalence, OCD is often misunderstood and misrepresented in the media as a personality quirk or helpful trait that keeps people organized. In reality, OCD is debilitating and severely impacts those living with the disorder, as well as their friends and family. The World Health Organization (WHO) has ranked OCD in the top ten of the most disabling illnesses of any kind in terms of lost earnings and diminished quality of life."

Dr. Suzanne Chabaud, New Orleans clinical psychologist, is a Board Member at the OCD Louisiana, and an expert in hoarding. Chabaud earned national

recognition for her work with the A&E television show, *Hoarders*, one of the first of these reality-type shows. In this captivating series, Dr. Chabaud and other experts, consulted with the show's producers to help hoarders and their families accomplish the complex task of transforming how they think of themselves, their relationship to objects, and to change their lives.

The *Times* previously interviewed Chadaud about her work. "I am fascinated by hoarders' real life journey through a world of stuff—what I call hoards," Chabaud said. She noted that compulsive hoarding cannot be neatly defined or easily placed in the taxonomy of mental disorders. "It is a multidimensional disorder that affects and is affected by difficulties with emotional, cognitive, and sensory processes. Along with compulsive hoarding, clients can have symptoms in a number of overlapping categories, such as OCD, depression, dementia and even anorexia."

Even though she had treated OCD intensely for many years and 70 percent of her clients have it, "... many clients are just beginning to admit their hoarding behavior," she said.

Similar to other severe mental illnesses, the whole family can acquire symptoms. "Children become lonely and embarrassed, and can not bring home friends. If they are lucky, they

Cont'd next pg

*Dr. Suzanne Chabaud is an expert in OCD and hoarding, and a board member for OCD Louisiana.*

*This photo, of Dr. Chabaud and a client, is courtesy of A&E and was taken for the television show Hoarders.*



## Psychologists at OCD Louisiana, continued

find comfort and friendship in other people's homes. Some stay overly close to the hoarding parent. These children watch the other parent become consumed by the disorder or distance from the home. I have seen the spouse of a hoarder work two jobs to support the hoarders purchases and sleep on the sofa because the hoarder took over every bedroom in the house."

Her work extended to treat children of hoarders and in 2011, ABC's prime time news magazine, *20/20*, included Chabaud as part of a special report about children of hoarders and the psychological impact that they must manage as adults.

In an interview with WWL-TV in New Orleans, Dr. Chabaud commented, "Children of hoarders' lives are deprived in so many ways. It's not just the unhealthy environment; it's the emotional contact with a significant adult. It's the loss of skills for just maintaining their lives, down to bathing, making beds, organizing their belongings," she said. "You just can't put these children in foster homes. There has to be a program to help them through this."

For those wanting more information about OCD Louisiana, Dr. Fitch invites interested psychologists to visit the website at [ocdlouisiana.org](http://ocdlouisiana.org) and follow on facebook ([facebook.com/ocdlouisiana](https://facebook.com/ocdlouisiana)), instagram ([instagram.com/ocdlouisiana](https://instagram.com/ocdlouisiana)), and twitter ([twitter.com/LouisianaOcd](https://twitter.com/LouisianaOcd)).



OCD Louisiana will hold the 2nd Annual 1 Million Steps 4 OCD Walk on October 20th at City Park, in New Orleans. OCD Louisiana is an official affiliate of the International OCD Foundation with the goal of furthering the Foundation's mission in the state of Louisiana. (Courtesy photo)

## "Strategies for Policing Innovation" Grant Announced for Baton Rouge

The City of Baton Rouge will receive a federal, Strategies for Policing Innovation (SPI) grant through the U.S. Department of Justice, announced Congressman Garret Graves last month. The \$699,831 reward will help Baton Rouge law enforcement implement new tactics and emerging technology to fight crime and improve safety across our community.

"Right now in Baton Rouge, the statistics show you have a 1 in 96 chance of becoming the victim of violent crime compared to 1 in 180 statewide, and a 1 in 17 chance of becoming a victim of property crime – that's not okay," said Graves. "This funding is going to provide the Baton Rouge Police Department additional resources to help enhance their operations, allow them to use new, strategic and data-driven approaches and social media to prevent and fight violent crime, and support our law enforcement in the work they do every single day to make Baton Rouge safer."

The City of Baton Rouge will use award funds to test the utilization of risk terrain modeling as a mechanism for reducing violent crime risks in Baton Rouge; utilize emerging social media

technology to engage the community, enhance community/police relations, and elicit investigative support by residents.

### Project Description:

Strategies for Policing Innovation (SPI), Purpose Area 1: Innovative Approaches provides resources to support projects to implement and test innovative approaches to operational challenges and violent crime reduction. SPI grant recipients will develop innovative, data driven approaches to challenges currently confronting law enforcement agencies. Recipients must: 1) describe the innovative, data-driven approach to be implemented; 2) create an action plan to evaluate the effectiveness of the approach, for which an applicant may engage a research partner to create the plan; 3) identify a specific violent crime problem to address; 4) develop a prevention, mitigation, or response strategy to address the problem; 5) evaluate the project; and 6) assess and report the results to BJA for public availability.

The evaluation design must include outcome measures capable of informing a credible assessment of the effectiveness of the strategies.

## LPC Board Publishes New Rules in September

The Louisiana Licensed Professional Counselors Board of Examiners amended chapters 31 and 33 of the Rules, published in September, having to do with Definitions for Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists and Provisional Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists

Including in the new language was: "Active Supervision—the process by which a supervisee receives one hour of face-to-face supervision with his/her board-approved supervisor for every 20 hours of direct client contact. The supervisor and supervisee must meet at least one hour within a three-month period." [...] And for Chapter 33, Academic Requirements for MFT Licensure or Provisional Licensure, new language included four academic options for those applying. Full text is available at *The Louisiana Register*.

## Louisiana Personal Income at Record High Says Governor Edwards

Gov. John Bel Edwards issued the following statement on Louisiana's personal income growth, released September 24 by the federal Bureau of Economic Analysis. Louisiana's quarterly personal income for the second quarter of 2019 is \$224.43 billion, a 4.9 percent increase, and the highest on record.

## LPA to Host Dr. Kaplan, Recipient of the 2019 Award for Excellence in Alternative Medicine, continued

Dr. Kaplan is a professor emerita in the Cumming School of Medicine at the University of Calgary. In the late 1990's, she challenged the conventional model of psychiatric research by studying the role of nutrition in mental illness and brain disorders. She dealt with skepticism and attacks on her work for over fifteen years, resolutely meeting and exceeding calls for evidence. Her research provided the initial groundbreaking data showing that treatment with a broad spectrum of micronutrients, carefully formulated, could be used instead of psychotropic drugs to treat bipolar disorder and ADHD, noted the announcement.

As a researcher, she questioned the longstanding paradigm of single nutrient research to establish the scientific basis for a broad spectrum micronutrient approach, eschewing industry funding in order to safeguard the integrity of her research. She has published widely on the biological basis of developmental disorders and mental health – particularly, the contribution of nutrition to brain development and brain function. She was the founding principal investigator of the Alberta Pregnancy Outcomes and Nutrition (APrON) study, an

ongoing \$5 million study tracking the development of several thousand children to analyze the relationship between maternal nutrient status and child health and development. She is a founding member of the International Society for Nutritional Psychiatry Research, which disseminates information and research about nutritional approaches to mental health. Her empirical research has resulted in over 170 peer-reviewed publications.

Joining the afternoon session for the conference will be Linda Brannon, PhD, licensed psychologist and professor in the Department of Psychology at McNeese State University in Lake Charles. In the early 1980s, she and colleague Jess Feist became interested in the developing field of health psychology, which led to their co-authorship of the first edition of *Health Psychology: An Introduction to Behavior and Health*. The field of health psychology grew, and subsequent editions of the book appeared. Health psychologist John Updegraff became a coauthor for the 8<sup>th</sup> edition and stayed for the 9<sup>th</sup> edition, which is a bestseller in its category on Amazon. A 10<sup>th</sup> edition is scheduled for 2021. In addition to teaching courses, she has also

authored *Psychology* (9th edition, with Lester Lefton) and *Gender: Psychological Perspectives* (5th edition). Dr. Brannon was named the 1998 MSU Alumni Association's Distinguished Professor.

Susan Andrews, PhD, is a Clinical Neuropsychologist, an award-winning writer/author (her book *Stress Solutions for Pregnant Moms*, published in 2013, has been translated into Chinese,) and 2016 Distinguished Psychologist of the Louisiana Psychological Association, will also join in for the panel. She previously served as Clinical Assistant Professor, LSU Health Sciences Center, Department of Medicine and Psychiatry, engaged in a Phase III study on HBOT and Persistent PostConcussion Syndrome.

F. Charles Frey, IV, PhD, ABPP, board-certified in clinical psychology, will also participate. He specializes in psychological evaluation and treatment of patients with chronic pain conditions. He adopts empirically supported evaluation and treatment methods and has provided expert testimony in state and federal courts.

For registration go to the LPA website.

### Stress Solutions

by Susan Andrews, PhD

#### Stress Inhibits Spatial Perception

For years, stress was considered to contribute mostly to psychosomatic-type illnesses. Then, slowly the research began to accumulate that indicates stress is not simply one of those "mental" or "emotional" problems. Stress is making headlines now in ways that really seems to contribute to what we now call the mind-body connection. Stress has even been shown to be passed from one generation to the next by the mechanism of a chronically non-stress resilient woman who is pregnant. Her unborn child will come into the world as not as able to recover easily in stressful situations as children whose moms are less stressed and possibly more stress-resilient. Cortisol has been tagged as one of the mechanisms responsible for how stress can have lasting effects on the body.

Today, I am reporting on research<sup>1</sup> conducted at the Collaborative Research Center 874 at the Ruhr-Universitaet-Bochum showing that stress can interfere with how we see and interpret visual-spatial information. Neuroscientists at the Collaborative Research Center 874 compared the findings of stressed participants to unstressed (the control group) participants in how stress affected their perception of scenes and faces (complex spatial information).

Earlier work out of the Collaborative Research Center 874 was able to show how the release of the stress hormone cortisol can influence long-term memory in the hippocampus. The hippocampus is also involved in the perception of scenes. Discrimination of faces was included in the study as faces are processed in the adjacent region of the temporal lobes.

The cold-pressor test was used to stress young men by having them immerse one of their hands in ice water for up to three minutes while being obviously filmed by a female researcher. This is a well-known method of establishing stress in research.

The stressed participants did less well in the discrimination of complex scenes than the non-stressed participants. However, there was no effect of the stress-induced cortisol on the participants' ability to discriminate faces. This was the predicted outcome of the study. They reasoned that stress affects the hippocampus in the area of memory and complex spatial perception, but stress/cortisol does not also affect the workings of the adjacent temporal lobe at least as regards the perception of faces.

Further research was planned to look into the activity patterns of the hippocampus when it is under stress using MRI technology.

<sup>1</sup> M. Paul, R. K. Lech, J. Scheil, A.M. Dierolf, B. Suchan, O.T. Wolf. Acute Stress influences the discrimination of complex scenes and complex faces in young healthy men. *Psychoneuroendocrinology*, 2016; 66: 125.



Dr. Susan Andrews is a Clinical Neuropsychologist, an award-winning writer/author (her book *Stress Solutions for Pregnant Moms*, published in 2013, has been translated into Chinese,) and 2016 Distinguished Psychologist of the Louisiana Psychological Association.

## Science & Education

# Psychology Gumbo

by Julie Nelson

[Editor's Note: This column comes from a previous issue. Dr. Brannon is an invited speaker this at the state psychology session, to be held Nov. 1, Advances in Health Psychology.]

Even after thirty years you never forget meeting Hans Eysenck. Except for a slightly impish look to him, as if he thought everything was just a bit amusing, the great Eysenck seemed fairly normal. He should have had ray beams shooting from his forehead. Hans Eysenck was the most cited psychologist of his lifetime, one of the most prolific, and definitely one of the most courageous.

Dr. Eysenck had been coaxed by LSU's Ralph Dreger to come to New Orleans to present at Louisiana Psychological Association. We were all at the first evening reception, cruising down the lovely Mississippi on a riverboat which was delightful. The next day Eysenck would speak about a fascinating topic, death. He shared his research on predicting who died of what disease, and it was something to remember in and of itself.

Because of Eysenck's visit to the Big Easy, I've always taken note when this type of research comes up, like the recent Purdue study on cancer and child abuse. But a recent article on Medscape, "No Such Thing as a Cancer-Prone Personality, Study Shows," left a lot to be desired in methods. And, the lack of results included even those to known risk factors, and we all know what that means.

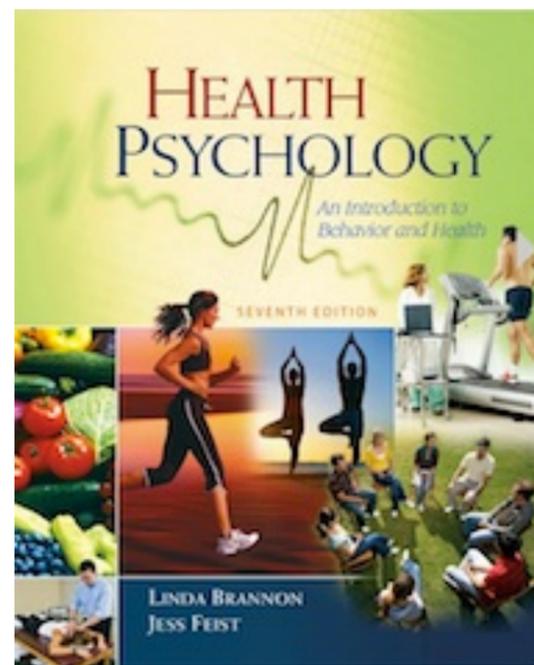
So I asked Dr. Linda Brannon, McNeese professor, health psychology expert, and author, to take a look for us.

### **Comment: Dr. Linda Brannon, McNeese Professor, Health Psychology**

Does Personality Play a Role in Cancer?

Students have consulted me many times concerning research projects they were planning, and many of these students have some research topic involving personality traits or factors. That situation shouldn't be surprising—these students are, after all, psychology students. Psychologists are interested in personality.

What has surprised me over the years is how rarely research has confirmed the value of personality factors in understanding or predicting behavior. So, it comes as less of a surprise to me than to many psychologists that little evidence exists for personality as a factor in developing cancer.



Linda Brannon, PhD, licensed psychologist and professor in the Department of Psychology at McNeese State University in Lake Charles is co-author of *Health Psychology: An Introduction to Behavior and Health*, a bestseller in its category on Amazon, and headed to its 10<sup>th</sup> edition. (Courtesy images)

Indeed, the widely publicized Type A Behavior Pattern is 1) not a personality type and 2) not a very good predictor of cardiovascular disease. The Type A Behavior Pattern, originated by cardiologists Friedman and Rosenman in the 1970s, was really a combination of factors, some of which related to personality (such as hostility and impatience) and some of which did not (feelings of time pressure and concern with acquiring money). That concept gained a lot of publicity as a result of a large-scale study on middle-aged, at-risk men, but further research on more diverse populations has led to less enthusiasm for this concept.

The Cancer Prone Personality concept has less supporting evidence and has generated more controversy. Most studies find no link or only a very weak association between any type of psychosocial factors and the development or progression of cancer. In studies that reviewed and evaluated the size of effects for many other studies (Garssen, 2004; Petticrew, Bell, & Hunter, 2002), the conclusions were that the evidence is weak. The best of these weak predictors involve unhealthy emotional expression, most often the tendency to deny or repress emotion.

In an interesting contrast, psychologist Hans Eysenck and his colleague Ronald Grossarth-Maticke published a series of articles during the 1990s that showed a strong link between personality and the development of cancer (Eysenck, 1990, 1993; Grossarth-Maticke & Eysenck, 1990; Grossarth-Maticke et al., 1990). They described their findings in terms of a cancer-prone personality, which prominently featured the concept of difficulty in dealing with emotion. Those studies seemed, as some other

## Dr. Ashworth Helps Lead ULM Project for Seniors

Endowed Professor of Gerontology in the School of Allied Health at University of Louisiana Monroe, Dr. Burt Ashworth participated in a signing of a Memorandum of Understanding to work together with the Department of Health to improve the lives of senior citizens, on Wednesday, Aug. 21, 2019. The project links efforts between the University of Louisiana Monroe and Northeast Delta Human Services Authority.

As reported by ULM News, Northeast Delta HSA is a division of the Office of Behavioral Health of the Louisiana Department of Health. The Department's "Operation Golden Years" initiative focuses on serving citizens ages 60 and above with information, support and services.

Endowed Professor of Gerontology Dr. Burton Ashworth will work directly with the project, and said, "My focus was on 65 years old and up." He then realized the project was a much larger population according to LDH officials.

President of Academic Affairs Dr. Alberto Ruiz thanked the ULM and Northeast Delta HSA leaders whose dedication led to the MOU. "If it were not for people like you in this room, we could not move Northeast Louisiana forward. It is critical that we do that because we have got to invest in the communities in Northeast Louisiana."

Dr. Ashworth is also organizer for the Annual PARC 2019 "Elderly & Addiction II" symposium on Nov. 4, 2019, at Bayou Pointe Event Center. He is co-editor of Contemporary Southern Psychology, along with Drs. Bill McCown and McKay Bonner.

researcher put it, too good to be true, and these critics accused Eysenck of scientific fraud. Eysenck and his colleagues (Grossarth-Maticke, Eysenck & Barrett, 1993), of course, defended themselves vigorously, claiming that the studies that failed to replicate his results didn't administer the personality tests properly.

The controversy continues, with an interesting split: Researchers in the United States tend to find little evidence that psychosocial factors play much of a role in cancer development or progression, but researchers in other part of the world find stronger evidence. For example, the Eysenck and

Grossarth-Maticke research was conducted in Europe. In addition, an Australian author (Benjamin, 2010) argued recently that psychotherapy interventions compare favorably with radiation and chemotherapy as treatments for cancer.

So, where does all that controversy leave the concept of personality factors in cancer? I think it leaves psychologists in the United States seeming like quacks if we argue that personality plays a role in cancer; we have no support from research credible to U.S. medical experts to back up those claims. What is the real role of personality in cancer? We just don't know.

## Science & Education

# Alexandria VAHCS Pre-Doctoral Internship Earns APA Accreditation

Dr. Lauren Vines, Co-Director of Psychology Training, Health Behavior Coordinator, and Clinical Psychologist at the Alexandria VA Health Care System, noted to the *Times* that the internship program, started in 2015, has now received accreditation from the American Psychological Association.

"We will be offering three full-time positions for the next training year," Dr. Vines said. "The AVAHCS and the New Orleans VAMC are the only two accredited VA internships in Louisiana," she explained.

Dr. Leslie Drew, is Co-Director of Training for Psychology Training Program. Drew is also a clinical psychologist who has served as PTSD Program Coordinator.

The Alexandria VA Health Care System (AVAHCS) first funded the new pre-doctoral psychology internship program in 2015. The AVAHCS is located in Pineville, Louisiana, with four community based

outpatient clinics (CBOCs) in Jennings, Lafayette, Natchitoches, and Fort Polk, Louisiana.

At its start-up, the internship training program included a generalist focus and fosters a general competence in trainees, over various areas of specialization. The goals of the program support the view that recovery-oriented, comprehensive, generalist skills are the foundation for competent, independent, professional services. The model of the training program is practitioner-scholar.

Innovative programs such as PTSD Awareness Month, National PTSD Screening Day, and the Gathering Program have been part of the comprehensive programs that interns may take part in at the VA. "The Gathering program is a recovery-oriented, social event for veterans to learn to tolerate their anxiety associated with large groups of people," Drew previously explained to the *Times*.

The *Times* previously reported that the AVAHCS is also a teaching hospital with training programs for a number of disciplines and provides state-of-the-art technology and education. The Psychology Service at the AVAHCS has provided without compensation training to psychology students for the past 24 years. It also provided a training rotation as part of an APA accredited pre-doctoral internship consortium with Central State Hospital and Pinecrest Rehabilitation Center for several years.

AVAHCS psychologists are regular presenters at state conferences. Dr. Drew and colleague Dr. Kelley Pears have presented numerous training workshops for others around the state, including workshops on Prolonged Exposure Therapy and PTSD topics. Dr. Pears has served as a Post Traumatic Stress Disorder/ Substance Use Disorders psychologist at the AVAHCS.

## Dr. Chaney Speaks at LSU Psychology Brown Bag Seminar

Dr. Courtland Chaney spoke at the Psychology Department's Brown Bag event held September 13 at the Louisiana State University Baton Rouge Campus. Professor Emily Elliot arranged for Chaney, an industrial-organizational (I-O) psychologist, to speak at the event involving both the cognitive-brain sciences and I-O psychology faculty and graduate students.

Dr. Chaney's presented, "Thinking and Decision-Making: Can Two Complex, But Fundamental Psychological Processes Explain All Rational Behavior," based on his experiences teaching disaster and crisis management at LSU and conducting safety leadership training in industrial settings.

"Since my current professional activities exclusively involve working with people in organizational settings, it's great to interact with the scholars continuing to engage in psychological research," commented Chaney.

Cont'd pg 14

From our files: Dr. John Fanning (L) speaking with psychologists from the AVAHCS, Dr. Kelley Pears (C) and Dr. Leslie Drew (R).

The AVAHCS post-doctoral internship at the AVSHCS has recently earned APA Accreditation.



# A Shrink at the Flicks

## *The Peanut Butter Falcon*

### A Review

by Alvin G. Burstein, PhD

This 2019 movie is a striking contrast to the currency of splatter films, special effects and shock. It is a frankly feel-good film with a focus on character and motivation. Many of its reviewers characterize it as a riff on Mark Twain's *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*. In the Twain classic Huck and Jim, a Black slave, become companions on a raft voyage down the Mississippi. Huck is fleeing an abusive father, Jim, his owner's threat to sell him to an exploitative slave trader. On their voyage, they encounter a host of characters. Huck struggles with the conflict between his liking and admiration for Jim and his enmeshment in the slave culture of blacks as property. Jim, throughout, demonstrates characteristics of generosity and loyalty to his friend. Two of the central features of the book are its implied critique of the "peculiar institution" of slavery and the carnivalesque roster of characters it features.

*The Peanut Butter Falcon*, too, is set in the deep South, and much of the action takes place on a raft on the river. Two of its central characters are, like Huck and Jim, trying to escape. Zak is a Down syndrome man who has been inappropriately confined in a nursing home for the aged for several years. His companion, Tyler, is a small-time outlaw, trying to escape the kangaroo court consequences of his misdeeds. Both are prisoners. Zak, of assumptions that his ambition to become a professional wrestler is foolish, Tyler, of his feeling that the grip of hard scrabble poverty and the guilt he feels about his brother's death are inescapable.

Guest Columnist,  
Dr. Alvin Burstein

Burstein, a psychologist and psychoanalyst, is a professor emeritus at the University of Tennessee and a former faculty member of the New Orleans-Birmingham Psychoanalytic Center with numerous scholarly works to his credit.



courtesy photo

He is also a member of Inklings, a Mandeville critique group that meets weekly to review its members' imaginative writings. Burstein has published flash fiction and autobiographical pieces in e-zines; *The Owl*, his first novelette, is available at Amazon. He is, in addition to being a movie fan, a committed Francophile, unsurprisingly a lover of fine cheese and wine, and an unrepentant cruciverbalist.



Like Huck and Jim, Zac and Tyler forge a strong bond. The two companionships are alike in that they have a nominal leader, Tyler in the first case, and Huck in Twain's account. And in both cases the other partner, Zak, in the movie, and Jim, in the book, is portrayed as intellectually limited, but at the same time admirably loyal. And, like Huck and Jim, Tyler and Zac meet an array of striking characters: Winki, a blind preacher; The Salt Water Redneck, a decrepit wrestling coach; Ratboy, a vindictive pursuer; and Sam, a fifty-year-old pro wrestler; to mention a few. A critical difference is that Zak and Tyler are joined by a third companion on their voyage. Eleanor, the social worker who had been working with Zak at the nursing home, and who was assigned to bring him back, decides, at least initially as a strategic ploy, to join the duo.

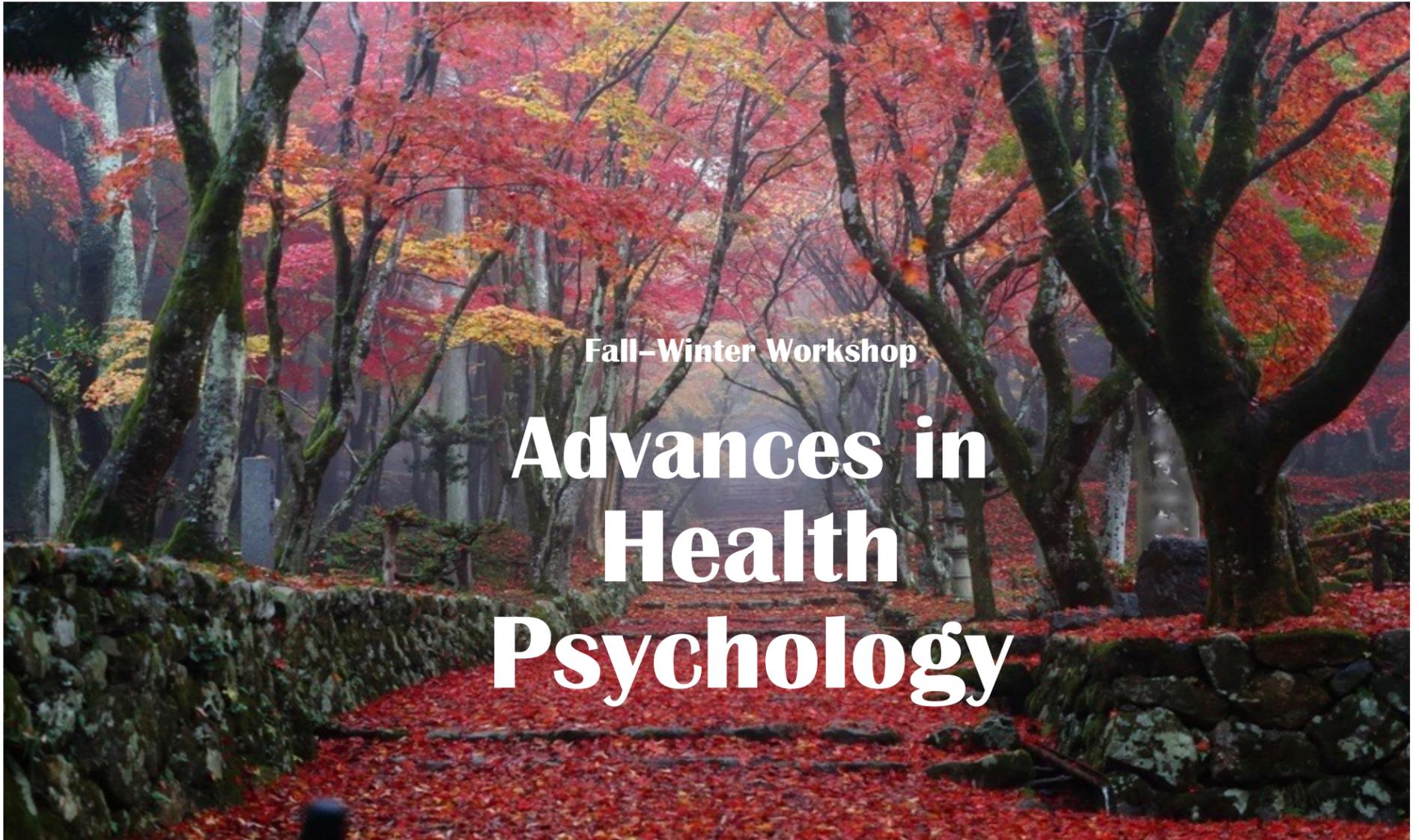
While Twain's critique is aimed at the institution of slavery, it seems clear the movie wants to bring into question the issue of personhood for those with Down syndrome. Assuming a degree of intellectual limitation, to what degree should they be entitled to pursue chosen goals? The British 2005 Mental Capacity Act states that anyone over the age of sixteen must be presumed able to make decisions for themselves absent a court finding about that individual to the contrary. The World Health Organization takes a similar position. United States laws are unclear. The movie raises the question of whether Zak should have the freedom to try to become a professional wrestler.

At the risk of verging on a spoiler, I will reveal that Eleanor decides to join Tyler and Zak on a permanent basis, forming a *ménage à trois*. The movie avoids considering the Oedipal complications of Zak's finding Tyler and Eleanor's bedroom door closed to him. How will that affect the brotherhood? And more generally, what special questions, if any, should arise with regard to the sexual interests of those with Down syndrome?

Oh, and about the movie's title—you will have to see the film.



# The Louisiana Psychological Association's



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## People

### "An Atheist, a Priest, and a Jungian Analyst Walk into a Bar" – Dr. McNeely's 2nd Play for C.G.Jung Society N.O.

"An Atheist, a Priest, and a Jungian Analyst Walk into a Bar," a one-act play, written and directed by Dr. Deldon McNeely, was performed on September 13, 2019, as a fund raiser for the C.G.Jung Society of New Orleans. The actors, all volunteers, gave a staged reading at the First Unitarian Universalist Church of New Orleans where the Jung Society programs are held.

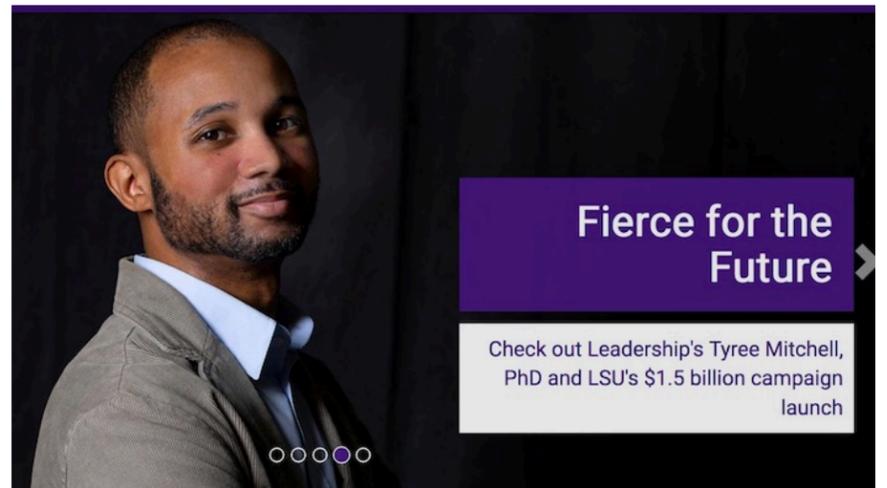
The play puts forth ideas about many controversial topics in the public awareness today, explained Dr. McNeely. Examples are: the existence of God; the status of women; attitudes toward abortion, the clergy and celibacy; college politics; student disquietude; intolerance of different religions and races; the importance of imagination.

"The characters, who we learn meet regularly at Molly's Pub for conversation, represent and voice different views on the topics with passion, tempered with goodwill. At the end, the characters come together to solve an unexpected problem. The ultimate message is that it is possible—necessary—to have lively debate with differences of

opinion and remain respectful, fair, and even capable of having fun together," said McNeely.

This was the second play written and directed by Deldon McNeely, as a fund raiser for the Jung Society. "Visions of Genius: Jung, Joyce and Lucia," was performed March 18, 2016, by most of the same actors—Jillian Richmann, Eduardo Silva, Peggy Sanders, David Romero, Oneal Isaac, and Ronnie Bergeron. This play examines the complicated and ultimately tragic factors in the relationships of Jung, James Joyce, and Lucia Joyce, daughter of Joyce and patient of Jung, as each character struggles with conflicting complexes of their own.

Deldon McNeely, Ph.D., is a Clinical Psychologist and Jungian Psychoanalyst in private practice in Abita Springs. She has published several books on Jungian themes and a memoir about living several years in the USSR.



Dr. Tyree Mitchell (image courtesy of LSU)

### Dr. Tyree Mitchell Highlighted at LSU

Psychology's Tyree Mitchell is being highlighted in Louisiana State University's "Fierce for the Future Campaign." The effort aims to better life for all citizens in Louisiana and use the pillars of Arts and Culture; Coast, Energy, and Environment; Research and Economic Development; Health and Well-being; Education; and Leadership. "Tyree Mitchell, PhD, is fierce for developing strong leaders who will drive our world forward. Dr. Mitchell, an assistant professor in the LSU College of Human Sciences & Education, focuses on how we influence each other at work to accomplish shared goals. He also oversees the Live Leadership Simulation, a collection of activities that resemble a day in the life of a leader."

### Dr. Chaney Speaks at LSU, continued

About 40 psychology faculty and graduate students attended the session and a dozen graduate students from both Industrial-Organizational psychology and cognitive disciplines stayed after the presentation for a question and discussion session.

"I think it is so very important for psychologists who are primarily working in private practice to interact with research psychologists. We can all benefit from the contact. [...] "Dr. Chaney is Co-Chair of Public Affairs for the Louisiana Psychological Association.

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