

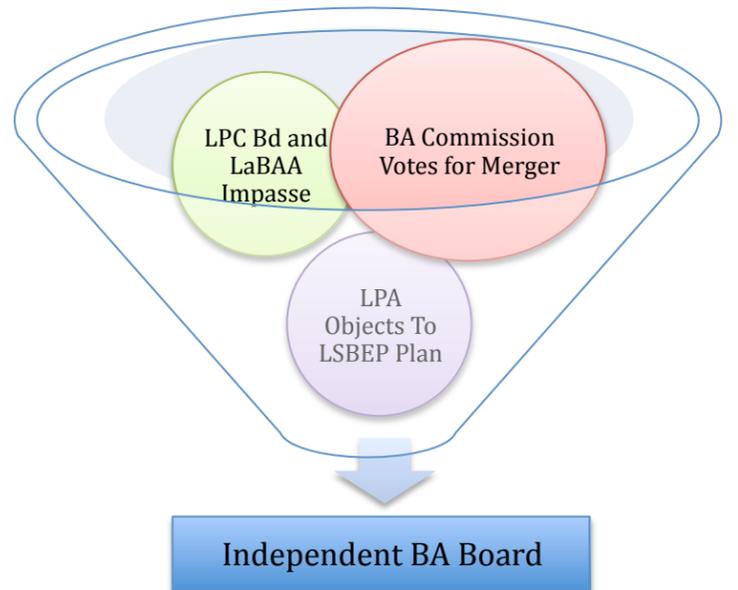
Round and round she goes

LPC Board Rescinds Offer; LPA Nixes LSBEP Plan; Sen. Morrell Moves Forward with BA Bd



LPC board at March meeting in Baton Rouge. (L to R clockwise) Mark Reynaud, Raelene McCarthy (staff member), Penny Millhollon (partly visible), Mary Alice Olsan, Kathy Lammert, Dr. Ernie Cowger, Dr. Laura Chote, Dr. David Legendre, and Dr. Kathy Steele. The board voted to rescind a previous motion to merge with the Behavior Analysts.

LPC Board, LaBAA Disagree on One Item Of "Substantially Equivalent" Language



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Legislative Session Begins

901 Bills Filed Friday

The legislative session begins next Monday and according to the Louisiana News Bureau state lawmakers filed 901 bills by Friday's deadline. Bills of interest to the community include Senate Bill 134 to establish a new board for behavior analysts (see story this page).

Proposed for this session is a bill for mental health courts, a bill to create a license for all behavioral health providers under the Department of Health and Hospitals, a bill to criminalize sex with clients for all psychotherapists, and a bill to allow the LPC board to change their fees. Here we highlight some bills with excerpts from legislative digests.

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LSBEP to Form Task Force For School Psych Specialist

During the recent Long-Range Planning meeting of the state psychology board, Dr. Steven Welsh spoke to board members about the specialist in school psychology. Dr. Welsh, retired Dean of Education at Nicholls State University and licensed school psychologist, outlined for board members certain issues during the agenda topic, "Multi-Level Licensure." Dr. Welsh was an invited speaker at the March 14 meeting.

Following Welsh's presentation and general discussion the board decided to form a task group of key individuals to examine ideas of a certification or license opportunity for school psychology specialists under the state psychology board.

Last week the *Times* asked Executive Director of the psychology board, Kelly Parker, about the plans for the task force. "Dr. Culross is going to be the lead for the Board," Parker noted. "Dr. Connie

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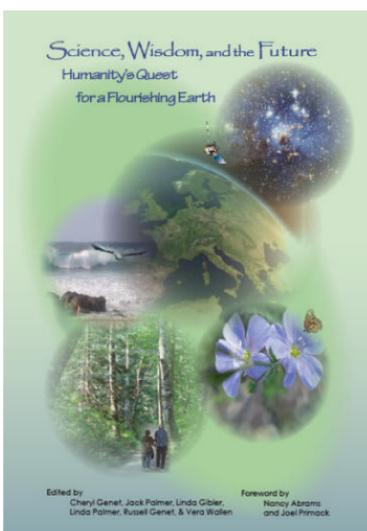
A decision to place behavior analysts (BAs) with the state board for licensed professional counselors, thrashed out over six months of meetings in the BA Study Commission, was abandoned sometime in late February after negotiations reached an impasse. Representatives of the Louisiana Behavior Analysis Association held firm on an issue regarding the national certification, and the LPC board held to their need for "equivalent" language to allow them flexibility in certain situations.

This impasse necessitated that a fallback option to be worked out by Senator J. P. Morrell's office and wife Catherine Morrell, who served as Vice Chair for the Commission. The fallback option was to merge the BAs with the psychology board, an option that had been put forth by the LSBEP (Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists) during rapid and heated negotiations in November 2012.

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Dr. Steven Welsh speaks to the psychology board about the specialist in school psychology. Dr. Janet Matthews listens.



Editorial Page

Collaboration Begins with Openness

Kudos to the psychology board for its open, participative climate at their recent Long-Range Planning Meeting.

Maybe it's just me, but some things seem very different in the board's group climate, in comparison to say, 2009, when I first started watching the board and trying to report on issues in the community.

In the March planning meeting, Chair Dr. Lee Matthews led the discussion in a candid, open, participative style. This style seemed comfortably supported by other board members and something tells me that the Executive Director Kelly Parker had a hand in developing the more engaging and open style of this meeting.

No telling how many bureaucratic rules they were breaking by this effort at participative creativity. I kept waiting for someone to bring out a copy of Robert's Rules of Order and hit someone else over the head with it, but they never did. People just talked, and listened.

It certainly must have helped to lower the anxiety in the room by having most of the public attendees –there weren't all that many unfortunately– to be past board members like Drs. Janet Matthews, Darlyne Nemeth, and Joe Comaty. But still, the group climate appeared to me to be designed to be more collaborative and open toward whatever community stakeholders showed up.

And something really amazing happened.

Dr. Steven Welsh came to speak about school psychology during the discussion of multi-level licensing. He said that this was the first time in 30 years that he or someone from the Louisiana School Psychological Association had been officially asked to talk with the psychology board.

I hear that the president of LPA, Bryan Gros, went over and talked with the counselor's association.

It seems that a collaborative approach, with some appreciation for diversity and also open communication, is taking hold with a new wave of leaders.

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We welcome ideas for news, features, Letters to the Editor, photos, and other material related to psychological community of Louisiana.

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Letter to the Editor

(Editor's note: In our February 2013 issue we reprinted a Letter to the Editor from Dr. Tom Hannie to the Baton Rouge Advocate. Below, Dr. David Williams wrote the Times regarding Dr. Hannie's views. We thank both gentlemen for their contributions.

*Photo by NASA, Cassiopeia
– a supernova remnant*



March 24, 2013

RE: Letter to the Editor

In Dr. Hannie's recent editorial, he stated that religion is religion, science is science, evolution is within science, and intelligent design is within religion. Dr. Hannie asserted that because intelligent design is within the set of religion and that since evolution is within the set of science, evolution but not intelligent design should be taught in school. I maintain that Dr. Hannie confused ontology (order of being) with epistemology (order of knowing) which led to a category error. From this error, he generated erroneous conclusions about what should be taught to students.

Whether or not there is an intelligent designer of the natural world is an ontological question while what is science is an epistemological set that necessarily flows from either one or the other of those possible worlds. Therefore, the question of whether or not there is a designer is "first order" and the method and data of science (the theories and processes of how knowledge is obtained) is "second order." In other words, science is a discipline and method based on metaphysical assumptions where the goal is to investigate our world to derive an understanding of reality.

Consider that one primary presupposition for 'knowing' is that whatever corresponds to reality can be considered true. Further, people hold beliefs about what is and is not true. The question is not is there such a thing as religion or science. We universally accept that both concepts exist. The question is whether or not the physical universe was designed. When these ideas of reality and belief are applied to design, one can imagine a matrix where the y-axis is defined as what is actually true and the x-axis is defined by belief of what is true. Along the y-axis, there are two possibilities: either it is reality that there is an intelligent designer or it is reality that there is not an intelligent designer. Along the x-axis, there are two possibilities: either one believes or does not believe in an intelligent designer.

So it follows that science and religion exist in either a reality that was designed or in a reality that was not designed. Science and religion make truth claims. These truth claims either do or do not correspond to reality. Furthermore, evolution is a concept identified by scientists. For the purpose of this article, I will not get into the macro vs. micro evolution debate, but will suffice it to say that evolution is a mechanism by which organisms adapt to survive that occurs independently of what one believes to be true about science or religion, but not independently of what is reality. Therefore, science is part of reality, religion is part of reality, and evolution is a part of reality. Reality is either defined by an intelligent designer or it is not.

Therefore, it is apparent that Dr. Hannie put forth a false dichotomy. Science is science and religion is religion; however, reality is reality. Science and religion are subsets within what is reality, so they are not mutually exclusive in so far as what is true about reality permeates both. So, school policy makers are well within their epistemological rights to teach first order hypotheses about reality as students are trained in the scientific disciplines. In fact, failing to teach both possible worlds can lead to the absurdity where students are trained to use science to discover reality while denying ad hoc the possible reality where there actually is an intelligent designer. A better solution for policy makers would be for them to include training on the metaphysics behind our scientific method along with courses on logic to facilitate a truly open minded and free thinking exploration of both possible worlds to best understand what is reality.

David J. Williams, PhD, MP
Advanced Practice Medical Psychologist
Monroe

Rescinds

Cont'd

However this option was nixed when it failed to gain the support of the Louisiana Psychological Association (LPA) after President Dr. Bryan Gros and Legislative Chair Dr. Alicia Pellegrin asked members for their opinions. Members expressed concerns about non-psychologists on the psychology board.

This sequence of events led Senator Morrell and Ms. Morrell to shift to the third option, that of an independent BA board. Senator Morrell filed Senate Bill 134 last Thursday, coauthored with Senator Heitmeier, to establish the Louisiana Behavior Analyst Board.

The option for an independent BA board had been championed by Dr. Grant Gautreaux, president of the Louisiana Behavior Analysts Association (LaBAA) throughout the discussions of the BA Study Commission. He presented that option in November to Commission members. However in December the members voted 15 to 0 against the independent board option, amid views that the BAs numbers (about 65) could not sustain a board.

The impasse between LaBAA and the LPC board took some by surprise, because of the detailed work of the Study Commission. When asked about this, Commission Vice Chair Catherine Morrell told the *Times*, "We thought we had it covered in the report. If you defer to the national board and if you put it in the law, it is very difficult to handle." She explained, "My point of view is that it can be handled in the rules."

Mary Alice Olsan, Executive Director of the LPC board, noted to the *Times*, "We regret being unable to come to a solid consensus with the representatives of LaBAA and other stakeholders regarding the need for 'substantially equivalent' language to be included in the proposed BA bill to ensure the protection of the public."

"Unfortunately, the inclusion of this language was the Board's one non-negotiable issue that arose during the negotiation process," she said. "We believe that the inclusion of 'substantially equivalent' language in the bill is essential, as we feel we cannot adequately protect the public if restricted by a national organization when



Photo by M. Dooley

LPC Executive Director Mary Alice Olsan (center) listens to discussion at the Behavior Analyst Study Commission. Left is Dr. Mary Christian and right is Michael Malinowski. The LPC Board could not reach consensus with the BA leaders over including equivalent language for a national credential. Because of this the LPC board and BA leaders could not comply with the Commission recommendation.

determining how best to regulate the profession."

Olsan explained that the LPC board did not want to be in a position of having to revoke someone's license based on a national BA credential, such as when the national board might cease to exist or make dramatic changes. So at the March 15 meeting of the LPC board they rescinded their motion to approve the merger.

However, the version of SB 134 filed last week includes the language, "... *substantial equivalent* (italics added) to credential professional

"Unfortunately, the inclusion of this language was the Board's one non-negotiable issue that arose during the negotiation process. We believe that the inclusion of 'substantially equivalent' language in the bill is essential, ..."

Mary Alice Olsan
LPC Board Ex. Director

practitioners of behavior analysis related to the principles and practice of the profession of behavior analysis that is approved by the board."

Dr. Grant Gautreaux, president of LaBAA could not be reached for comment.

LSBEP Go, LPA Stop

When the LPC board rescinded their offer the LSBEP renewed it's offer to merge with BAs.

This option had been crafted by the psychology board last November following the BA Commission's Chair Ashley Munn's and Vice Chair Catherine Morrell's presentation and proposal for BAs to join the LPC. A hurried and unprecedented offer from the LSBEP for a similar arrangement between the BAs and the LSBEP was put forth to place BAs on the psychology board, including a masters professional. This was the only time such an offer had been made in board's 49 year history.

However, the offer was voted down by the Commission in a 10 to 5 vote in December 2012, amid what seemed to be negative sentiments toward the LSBEP and psychologists in general.

Unlike the December 2012 negotiations, this time LPA officials asked for LPA members feedback before giving the go ahead.

In a message that followed, LPA President Dr. Bryan Gros posted an explanation to members. "The LSBEP is the regulatory body for those who have obtained the highest level of practice of Psychology (doctoral level Psychologists) and therefore, has only had doctoral level Psychologists serve on the Board. LPA believes that the proposed bill as it now stands would allow non doctoral level professionals to have full voting authority and we do not believe this to be in

keeping with the history of LSBEP governance, nor do we believe to be in the best interest of psychology in Louisiana."

However, he noted, "LPA strongly supports the notion that the Behavior Analysts should have the best chance of becoming self regulating in as expeditious a manner as possible." He explained that LPA could not agree to a bill that "fundamentally changes the governance of Psychology." He said that an Advisory Committee or BA psychologists serving on the board, would also be supported by LPA.

Speaking for the LSBEP, Executive Director Kelly Parker told the *Times* that the psychology board supported the measure.

"We did not think the merged board structure was negotiable, but trusted that

"We thought we had it covered in the report. If you defer to the national board and if you put it in the law, it is very difficult to handle."

"My point of view is that it can be handled in the rules."

– Catherine Morrell

LPCs Rescinds Offer, LPA Nixes LSBEP Plan; Sen. Morrell Goes With BA Board

Cont'd

the roles of the BA board members would be worked out to everyone's satisfaction," Parker noted. "We believe Senator Morrell understood our concerns. It was our impression that the BAs would not be voting on psychology issues nor did they want to vote on psychology issues."

"We were confident that it would be worked out and we understood the concerns of the LPA members regarding opening the board, but we felt we could work it out to everyone's satisfaction."

Commission Vice Chair Catherine Morrell told the *Times*, "The point was to get the BAs up and running and to help them deal with the learning curve. It would be like sister boards, with one member of the psychology board serving ex officio on the BA board. The LSBEP voted to support it and both sides are happy with it."

According to all sources, the current bill for an independent BA board will be supported by the various groups.

President Gros explained to the *Times*, "After input from LPA members and a robust discussion with our legislative team, LPA reversed its previous stance and made the decision that it could not support a merged board that would allow non-psychologists to have full seats on LSBEP. This led to a change in the thrust and direction of negotiations with the BA's and LSBEP. Catherine Morrell, who played an integral role in communications between all the parties, indicated to me a common goal – an agreement that all parties could support. It would only be counter-productive if all weren't on board," he said.

"LPA absolutely remained in the negotiations," Gros said. "Before first meeting with representatives from LSBEP, then separately with representatives from the BA's, Ms. Morrell was in on-going contact with me for feedback and reactions to a new proposal. We agreed that this

"... LPA strongly supports the notion that the Behavior Analysts should have the best chance of becoming self-regulating in as expeditious a manner as possible. We have publicly stated that we are in favor of the LSBEP assisting their profession move towards autonomy. What we cannot agree to is a bill that fundamentally changes the governance of Psychology."

*Dr. Bryan Gros, President, LPA
Dr. Alicia Pellegrin, Secretary, Legislative Chair, LPA*

negotiation approach would probably lead to more efficient and less defensive postures and hopefully a bill draft that all could initially support. From follow-up communication with Ms. Morrell, the ideas were well received by all parties."

Catherine Morrell said to the *Times*, "This is the best compromise and all parties involved are happy."

"The work of the commission was important because we fleshed out all the details and most of the ideas are still in the bill," she said. "It was educational, and we got into the meat of it and got much of the work done. Without it we would have never gotten to this point," she said.

"I think all sides have learned from the experience."

Gros said, "Our legislative chair and my initial reactions to the bill draft were very positive, as were a number of our EC members'. Based on initial feedback, we believe that while protecting the practice of psychology, which is our primary goal, it also provides the necessary structure to assist

the BA's in gaining an autonomous and self-regulating profession."

Some Specifics from Senate Bill 134

SB 134 creates the Louisiana Behavior Analyst Board. Five behavior analysts, to be appointed by the governor, will serve for 3, 4 or 5 years. The LSBEP shall appoint a member to serve as an ex officio, non-voting member of the board. The BA board is to regulate behavior analysts, assistant behavior analysts, and to register line-technicians. SB 134 outlines definitions and scope of practice. Other professionals who practice under other boards are exempted, as long as they do not use the title. The board automatically sunsets in July 2018.

The board can, "Accept grants, donations, or gifts of money or services from public or private individuals or organizations or from any other sources to be utilized for the purposes of the board."

"Proof that the applicant passed a nationally recognized examination administered by a nonprofit organization accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies, the National Standards Institute, or a substantial equivalent to credential professional practitioners of behavior analysis related to the principles and practice of the profession of behavior analysis that is approved by the board."

The bill also notes, "The standards and requirements in this Chapter shall be separate and unique from the standards and requirements for practicing psychology and pertain to the practice of applied behavior analysis."

And, "There shall be no requirement for individuals practicing under this Chapter to be supervised by members of other professions."

Exemptions include, "Other human service professionals who are licensed, certified, or registered by the state of Louisiana, provided such individuals are working within the scope of practice of their profession and the scope of their training and competence."

And, "An individual who provides general applied behavior analysis services to an organization, so long as those services are for the benefit of such organization and does not involve direct services to an individual."

The bill exempts "An individual licensed to practice psychology within the state, so long as the applied behavior analysis services provided by the licensed psychologist are within the licensed psychologist's education, training, and expertise and provided he does not represent himself as behavior analysts, assistant behavior analysts, licensed behavior analysts, or state certified assistant behavior analysts without being duly licensed or state certified."

The act will make it a misdemeanor for those not licensed or certified to represent themselves as a behavior analyst, assistant or line technician, and this includes, "To employ as a line technician, a line technician who is not registered pursuant to this Chapter."



Photo by M. Dooley

BA Study Commission Vice Chair Catherine Morrell (L) and Chair Ashley Munn at the December meeting of the Commission. The members voted to place the Behavior Analysts with the LPC Board, but during final arrangements "equivalent language" for the national credential could not be agreed on with BA leaders.

LSBEP Forms Task Force for School Psychology Multi-Licensure

Cont'd

Patterson and Dr. Steven Welsh will also be on the school specialist task force along with an LPA representative. There may be a couple other members as well," she said.

At the Long-Range meeting, Dr. Welsh spoke about several issues. "Access to these school psychology services is an issue," he said, noting to the board members that access in schools across the state and especially in the charter schools is of concern to many.

He explained that there is a regression to the "old model" where people may come in and do testing without a broader understanding of the theory and practice of psychology, and that there was a need for correction in this trend.

He identified problems with Medicaid reimbursement and pointed to benefits for schools and students, as well as

psychologists, if changes could be made in this area.

The psychology board briefly discussed the Texas Licensed School Specialist approach, and Welsh said that this model was not the best one in his view.

This was the first time in 30 years, Welsh said, that he or someone from the Louisiana School Psychological Association had been officially asked to talk with the psychology board.

Currently there is no avenue for the independent practice of the specialist in school psychology in Louisiana.

The specialist degree in school psychology is offered by LSU-Shreveport and by Nicholls State University.

The specialist in school psychologist requires 72 hours of graduate training and 1200 hours supervised practice.

"Access to these school psychology services is an issue ..."

"There is a regression to an old model ..."

– Dr. Steven Welsh
Retired Nicholls Dean
Licensed School Psychologist

Dr. Welsh has served as Department head for the Department of Psychology and Counselor Education at Nicholls. And more recently, he served as interim Dean of the College of Education.

LSBEP Executive Director Parker noted that she anticipates the task force will begin in June or July this year.

Psych Board Okays New Cont' Ed Topics

Removes restrictions about percentages

After almost two years of discussions about possible changes in the continuing education rules, the state psychology board appears to be getting closure on changes for continuing development for licensed psychologists.

At their Long-Range Planning meeting on March 14, and after review of some of the public comments received last year, and discussion with those attending, the board members indicated that they would remove the percentages from the new options outlined in the rules they proposed in August 2012.

From the recent discussion, the board will retain their original plan to increase CE hours from 30 to 40 for the two-year reporting period. They also decided to retain the new types of training options, outlined in their Notice of Intent last year. These include new activities such as peer consultation, client monitoring, and publications.

However, board members decided to drop the requirements for certain percentages in each type of activity, and instead will only require that licensees submit at least two different types of continuing development.

The need for at least two categories emerged in the discussion with Vice Chair Dr. Rita Culross who noted that some psychologists obtained all their continuing education from home study. Culross said that this seemed likely to limit the value of the training. Dr. Janet Matthews, who was in attendance, agreed. Matthews commented that she felt



Psychology board Vice Chair Dr. Rita Culross and Chair Dr. Lee Matthews at the recent long-range planning meeting. The board invited the public to give ideas and feedback on several topics of importance.

it was often the interaction with colleagues during conferences that could be of the most value.

Board member Dr. Darla Burnet noted her concern that in some of the new categories for development, a person could receive 100 percent of their credits from serving on a board.

In discussing exactly how to determine the number of continuing education units, to be called continuing professional development units, the board members struggled with how they would to set the limits on which types of training. This led to the suggestion that they remove all the limitations and require a minimum of two methods.

Public attendee Dr. Darlyne Nemeth voiced the concern that many others had voiced, about any restrictions to traditional training at conferences. Nemeth said to the group, "I strongly disagree with limiting the traditional training." When Dr. Burnett asked her how much was acceptable, Nemeth said, "I want 100 percent."

Executive Director Kelly Parker told the *Times* last week that the ideas expressed at the planning session were going forward. "Dr. Culross is working on the wording and there were no other changes following the decisions at the Long-Range Planning meeting," Parker said.

Corrections & Clarifications

In the early edition of the March issue story, "U.S. Senator Coburn Takes Science's Flag to Social Security Administration," we wrote that Dr. Chafetz: "He holds multiple board certifications at both the state and national levels." Dr. Chafetz immediately contacted us to say he did not consider his state licenses as board certifications and felt the statement could be misleading. The publisher agreed to clarify the sentence as, "He is licensed in two states and board certified in clinical neuropsychology." This is how it appears in later editions that day.

The *Times* regrets any confusion we may have caused.

MFT Advisory Committee Confirms New Handbook For Supervisors of Interns

Members of the Marriage and Family Therapy Advisory Committee (MFTAC) moved to have the new supervisory handbook placed on the LPC board's website, at their March 15 meeting in Baton Rouge. This step confirms a January decision to adopt the language of the handbook, as a main resource for supervisors of interns in marriage and family therapy.

"We just had a big rule change," said Chair Mark Reynaud. In the marriage and family tradition, just having a course in supervision does not qualify you to be a supervisor," he told the *Times*.

The supervisor's handbook outlines the interlocking roles and responsibilities of the three components of the supervisory system: the Board, the supervisor, and the intern therapist. In clarifying these interlocking roles and responsibilities, the MFTAC believes its primary function of protection of the public is better served, Reynaud explained.

"We view supervision as a specific skill, just as other specific therapeutic skills," he said.

At the March Committee meeting, members discussed the need for additional guidelines for supervisors of therapists. "We found that supervisors were not always aware of the rules," he told committee members, "and so, we created a handbook."

The board requires that supervisors take an orientation course, and then retake the course again when they renew to be a supervisor.

Reynaud explained to the *Times* that the Marriage and Family Therapy tradition places particular emphasis on looking at the social context in which the problems brought into the therapy room are occurring. "The MFT profession has always been multidisciplinary, including psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, and counselors," he said. "What binds us as a profession is how we view problem formation and resolution. We start by looking at the context in which problems are occurring. That context must be taken into account in any intervention used."

Because of this approach, the supervisory relationship is also viewed from the social systems perspective, he explained. "We are attempting to define the various relationships in the supervisory system," Reynaud said. "What is the board's responsibility to the supervisor and to the therapist? What is the supervisor's responsibility to the board and the intern? What are the intern's responsibilities?" – are some of the questions stemming from this perspective," he said.

All supervisors must currently take a course in supervision for marriage and family therapists, consisting of a 15-hour didactic component and a 15-hour interactive component. Also, supervisors must complete 36 hours of 'supervision of supervision.'

The MFTAC conducted its first supervisor's orientation course at the Louisiana Association of Marriage and Family Therapy Annual Conference in Baton Rouge this past February.

The new handbook will be available on the LPC Board's website in the near future.



The Medical Psychology Advisory Committee met last month in Baton Rouge. Above, members attend a previous meeting in 2012. (L to R) Dr. James Quillin, Dr. Robert Marier, Dr. Glenn Ally, and Dr. Warren Lowe.

Medical Psychology Advisory Committee Meets March 7, 2013

The Medical Psychology Advisory Committee met on March 7, 2013, at the Neuromedical Center on Park Rowe Avenue in Baton Rouge.

According to the posted agenda, the group was scheduled to discuss an Advisory Opinion regarding "Single System Psychiatric Exam by Medical Psychologists."

Although no one could be reached for explanation, online discussions about

changes in coding involves 90862, pharmacologic management. This code no longer exists and practitioners are advised by the American Psychiatric Association (APA) to familiarize themselves with evaluation and management codes such as 99212 or 99213. Unlike psychotherapy codes, these are not timed. These codes are "generally chosen based on the complexity of the presenting problem, the intensity of the examination required, and the difficulty of the medical decision making ..." noted the APA in an online publication.

The Advisory Committee was also scheduled to review the final report of the Behavior Analysts Licensure and Regulation Commission.

The group also listed on their agenda that they would approve the minutes of their last meeting, which was held July 27, 2012. And they attended to new business and identified those for Certificates of Advanced Practice.

Jim Quillin, PhD, MP, is Chair and Glenn Ally, PhD, MP, is secretary treasurer. Also serving is Warren Lowe, PhD, MP, John Bolter, PhD, MP, and James Blackburn, MD. Robert Marier, MD and executive director of the state medical board is a member.

No one on the committee could be reached for comment.



Chair of the Marriage and Family Therapy Advisory Committee, Mark Reynaud, MA, LPC, LMFT, and Vice Chair Penny Millhollon, MA, LPC, LMFT, look over information at a recent meeting of the advisory committee. Both are also members of the LPC board and Ms. Millhollon is the LPC Board Secretary.

Legislative Session Begins Monday, 901 Bills Filed So Far, cont'd

HB 71 Creates Mental Health Courts

HB 71 by Broom: "Proposed law authorizes mental health court treatment programs in Louisiana."

"Provides findings relative to the impact of mental illness and substance abuse issues on the criminal justice system.

"Proposed law provides definitions for terms related to mental health court treatment programs, including mental health court program, mental health court professional, both pre- and post-adjudicatory mental health court programs, combination programs, and co-occurring mental illness and substance abuse issues.

"Proposed law provides relative to eligibility for mental health court programs.

"Proposed law provides criteria for exclusion from mental health court programs, including enumerated crimes which require such exclusion: (1) First and second degree murder (2) Aggravated or criminal sexual assault (including sexual assault of a child). (3) Armed robbery (4) Arson (5) Stalking (6) Any offense involving discharge of a firearm.

"Proposed law provides procedures to be utilized in operating a mental health court treatment program, including a regimen of graduated requirements, rewards, and sanctions.

"Proposed law provides for mental health court treatment programs to maintain or collaborate with a network of programs which deal with mental illness and co-occurring mental illness and substance abuse issues."

From the bill: " 'Mental health court' or 'mental health court program' means a structured judicial intervention process for mental health treatment of eligible criminal defendants that includes mental health court professionals, local social programs, and intensive judicial monitoring in support of such defendants.

" 'Mental health court professional' means a member of the mental health court team, including but not limited to a judge, prosecutor, defense attorney, probation officer, coordinator, treatment provider, or peer recovery.

"The Legislature of Louisiana recognizes that a significant percentage of criminal defendants have a diagnosable mental illness. B. The legislature further recognizes that such mental illnesses tend to have a negative effect on the criminal justice system in the state of Louisiana. C. The legislature further recognizes that mental illness and substance abuse issues co-occur in a substantial percentage of criminal

defendants. D. The legislature further recognizes the critical need for a program within the criminal justice system designed to reduce the number of defendants with either mental illness issues or co-occurring mental illness and substance issues. E. Such programs would also seek to address recidivism percentages among criminal defendants dealing with both mental illness and co-occurring mental illness and substance abuse issues thus reducing the incidence of crimes committed as a result of mental illness and co-occurring mental illness and substance abuse issues. F. It is therefore the intent of the Legislature of Louisiana to provide for the creation of specialized mental health courts with the necessary flexibility to address the issues of criminal defendants with either mental illness or co-occurring mental illness and substance abuse difficulties."

HB 281 Creates New Behavioral Health License

House Bill 281 by Simon creates a single license for behavioral health services providers. The digest notes, "Proposed law establishes the behavioral health services provider license for providers of mental health services, substance abuse/addiction treatment services, or a combination of such services.

"Proposed law requires all behavioral health services providers to be licensed.

"Proposed law requires Dept. of Health and Hospitals (DHH) to promulgate and publish rules, regulations, and licensing standards to provide for the licensure of behavioral health services providers, to provide for the health, safety, and welfare of persons receiving care and services from providers, and to provide for the safe operation and maintenance of providers. Proposed law prohibits a behavioral health services provider from operating without a license issued by DHH, authorizes DHH to seek an injunction, and establishes criminal penalties."

HB 226 Criminalizes Sex with Psychotherapy Clients

House Bill 226 by Richard "Creates the crime of prohibited sexual contact by a psychotherapist and provides for elements of the crime, definitions, exceptions, and criminal penalties for the commission of the offense.

"Proposed law provides that it shall be unlawful for any psychotherapist, or any person who fraudulently represents himself as or purports to be a psychotherapist, to engage in sexual contact

with either of the following: (1) A client or patient. (2) A former client or patient, when the relationship was terminated primarily for the purpose of engaging in the sexual contact.

"When the victim is a former client or former patient, proposed law provides that the sexual contact is not prohibited if it occurs more than one year after the termination of the relationship and the psychotherapist has referred the former patient or former client to an independent and objective psychotherapist, recommended by a third-party psychotherapist, for treatment.

"Proposed law provides that the consent of the patient or client shall not be a defense. Proposed law provides definitions for 'psychotherapist,' 'sexual contact,' and 'therapeutic deception.'

"Proposed law provides for the following penalties: (1) Imprisonment for not more than 10 years, fined not more than \$10,000, or both. (2) If the sexual contact occurs by means of

'therapeutic deception' - imprisonment for not more than 15 years, fined not more than \$20,000, or both."

SB Bill 86 Sets New Range for LPC License Fees

Senate Bill 86 by Morrell updates the LPC fees. "Proposed law provides the maximum amount of each fee the board may collect as follows: Fees established and collected by the board pursuant to this Chapter shall be set by rule and shall not exceed the following maximum amounts: (a) Application of privilege, credential, or registration \$200 (b) Application of licensure \$325 (c) Renewal of privilege, credential, registration, or license \$300 (d) Examination or reexamination \$250 [...]

"Proposed law provides that the board shall not increase any fee by more than a total of 15% over a consecutive three year period."



Fotolia

Legislative Session Begins, Cont'd

HB 284 Transfers State Hospitals from LSU to Human Service Districts

HB 284 "Transfers governance and control of state hospitals from LSU to human services districts and authorities and provides for delivery and financing of health services by such districts and authorities.

"Proposed law deletes present law which authorizes Louisiana State University (LSU), through its Board of Supervisors, to govern and manage state hospitals. Proposed law revises present law to provide that the LSU Health Sciences Center at New Orleans and the LSU Health Sciences Center at Shreveport shall be comprised exclusively of medical and related health schools and programs.

"Proposed law provides that the human services districts and authorities of the state shall assume governance and management of all state hospitals heretofore under the control of the LSU Board of Supervisors.

"Proposed law makes technical changes throughout present law to reflect the transfer of governance and management of state hospitals to human services districts and authorities as provided in proposed law.

"Proposed law provides that all employees engaged in the performance of duties relating to the functions of a facility transferred from LSU to a human services district or authority shall be transferred to the respective district or authority to carry out the functions of the district or authority and its facilities.

HB 540 Removes Deadline for School Counselors and School Psychologists regarding Stipend

House Bill 540 by Jones "Removes a deadline for school teachers, counselors, and psychologists to receive professional credentials in order to qualify for a stipend.

Present law relative to school teachers, counselors, and psychologists who have appropriate credentials from the state of La. and a national board, provides for an annual salary supplement, [...] "Present law provides that all such salary supplements are subject to appropriation of funds for the purpose and provides for reimbursement of the appropriate school board by the Dept. of Education from appropriated funds.

Proposed law retains present law. "Present law requires initial receipt of the applicable certificate or credential by July 1, 2013, for any individual to be eligible for the salary supplement. Proposed law repeals present law."

SB 88 Strengthens Laws for Human Trafficking and Creates Sexually Exploited Children's Special Fund with Forfeited Property of Traffickers

SB 88 by Broom: "Present law establishes and provides for the crimes prostitution, prostitution by massage, massage; sexual conduct prohibited, and crime against nature by solicitation. Proposed law retains present law and adds that if it is determined, after a reasonable detention for investigative purposes, that a person suspected of or charged with a violation of any of these offenses is a person under the age of 18, there shall be a presumption that the person is a victim of child sex trafficking and should be treated as a child in need of care pursuant to Ch.C. Art. 606.

"Present law provides for the disposition and allocation of forfeited property related to certain sex crimes, and provides exemptions. Proposed law retains present law and also provides that where the property to be forfeited is related to human trafficking (R.S. 14:46.2) or trafficking of children for sexual purposes (R.S. 14:46.3), the proceeds of the public sale or auction shall be applied first to any restitution granted to the victim, after the costs of the public sale or auction, court costs, or fees related to seizure and storage have been satisfied. Any remaining proceeds shall be distributed in the following manner: (1) 25% to the seizing agency or agencies in an equitable manner. (2) 25% to the prosecuting agency. (3) 50% to the Sexually Exploited Children's Special Fund."

"Proposed law creates in the state treasury the Sexually Exploited Children's Special Fund. Appropriations by the legislature and all monetary assessments paid and interest accrued on funds collected as provided below shall be deposited into the fund. Monies in the fund shall be used for providing services and treatment administered by the

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Dr. Robert Marier, current Ex. Director of the state Medical Board at 2012 meeting of the Medical Psychology Advisory Committee.

Dr. Robert Marier To Retire in June

Dr. Robert Marier, current Executive Director, announced that he intends to retire at the end of June, according to a memo on the board's website. Marier has served as executive director since 2006. The board expressed appreciation and listed many of Dr. Marier's contributions.

The announcement noted that Dr. C. Mouton would succeed Marier and she was appointed in order to make for a smooth transition. The notice said that Dr. Mouton has served the Board as Director of Investigations for many years. She has served as interim Executive Director. "The Board noted that she was well qualified for the increase in responsibilities and enjoys the trust of the Board, according to the posted memo.

Stubblefield Ekes by Brown in Bid To Fill One-Year Spot Psychology Board

Three candidates ran to serve on the psychology board to fill an unexpired term caused by Dr. John Courtney's resignation in December 2012.

Ballots were counted last month and according to Dr. Bryan Gros, President of the Louisiana Psychological Association, Dr. Beverly Stubblefield received 59 votes, Dr. Jessica Brown received 54 votes, and Dr. Thomas Fain received 31 votes.

Dr. Stubblefield is a clinical psychologist from Slidell, Louisiana, who been licensed in Louisiana since 1987 and Mississippi since 1989. She has

served previously on the LSBEP, as investigator and supervisor of impaired psychologists for the board.

Brown has worked for the Department of Health and Hospitals in Behavioral Health, and is in transition to the Neuromedical Center, in Baton Rouge, as a staff psychologist.

Dr. Fain is a clinical and medical psychologist, who is in private practice in Baton Rouge. He is licensed to practice in Louisiana and Texas. He has served twice as president of the Louisiana Psychological Association.

American Board of Medical Psychology



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Legislative Session Begins, Cont'd

Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), such as securing residential housing, health services, and social services, to sexually exploited children. The department may also use the funds for grants or to provide services for sexually exploited children.

HB 21 Requires Mental Health Information Be Reported to Public Safety

Requires certain types of information regarding a person's mental health to be collected and sent to DPS&C and the FBI.

Proposed law provides that "prohibited person information" means information that identifies an individual as any of the following: (1) A person ordered by a court to be judicially committed, receive involuntary outpatient treatment, or receive mental health treatment or services. (2) A person who has been interdicted by a court of competent jurisdiction. (3) A person determined to lack the mental capacity to proceed with a criminal trial. (4) A person acquitted in a criminal case by reason of insanity. (5) A person who has been denied a concealed handgun permit pursuant to present law for reasons involving his mental capacity. (6) A person who has been ordered by a court from possessing a firearm or had his use of a firearm restricted pursuant to a court order.

HB 572 Establishes the Fatherhood Initiative

HB 572 by Bishop establishes the "Fatherhood First Initiative."

"Present law establishes a program to be known as the "Fatherhood Initiative" to promote the positive involvement and interaction of fathers with their children with an emphasis on children eligible or formerly eligible for services funded by the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) block grant. Proposed law retains present law but renames the program to the "Fatherhood First Initiative".

"Present law requires the program to identify those services that effectively encourage and enhance responsible and skillful parenting and those services that increase the ability of fathers to meet the financial and medical needs of their children through employment services and child support enforcement measures. The objectives of the program shall be to: (1) Promote public education concerning the financial and emotional responsibilities of fatherhood. (2) Assist men in preparation for the legal, financial, and emotional responsibilities of fatherhood. (3) Promote the establishment of paternity at childbirth. (4) Encourage fathers, regardless of marital status, to foster their emotional connections to and financial support of their children. (5) Establish support mechanisms for fathers in their relationships with their children, regardless of their marital and financial status. (6) Integrate state and local services available for families.

"Proposed law retains present law and adds the objective to promote public education concerning and increase public awareness of resources for the following areas: (1) Substance abuse and addiction. (2) Anger management and conflict resolution. (3) Fiscal awareness and financial literacy. (4) Parenting skills, child developments, and family studies. Proposed law requires the secretary of the Dept. of Children and Family Services (DCFS) to convene and chair a Fatherhood First Council no later than Oct. 1, 2013. The secretary shall seek the advice and participation of any person, organization, or state or federal agency deemed necessary to carry out the provisions of proposed law."

School Safety Bills

HB 79, HB 155, HB 326 and HB 212 have to do with various aspects of school safety. HB 79 "Provides relative to the preparation, content, rehearsal, review, revision, and approval of school crisis management and response plans." HB 155 "Provides relative to school emergency plans and to the definition, preparation, content, review, revision, and provision of copies thereof; requires in-service training, applicable to all public schools, including charter schools."

HB 326 "Provides relative to the preparation, content, rehearsal, review, revision, and approval of school crisis management and response plans; requires school boards to provide for school resource officers at public schools and that such officers be armed."

And HB 212 "Authorizes the creation of a statewide planning and mapping system for nonpublic schools, proprietary schools, and nonpublic colleges and universities to assist first responders in a disaster or emergency."

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Science & Education



Dr. Cunningham spoke on "Promoting Education Resilience in African American Adolescents," at the annual meeting of the Louisiana School Psychological Association. He is being honored in April by the Society for Research in Child Development for his contributions in research.

Dr. Cunningham Honored For Distinguished Contributions

Dr. Michael Cunningham, Tulane Professor and Provost for the Center of Engaged Learning and Teaching, will receive the award for *Distinguished Contributions to the Society for Research in Child Development*, noted a recent Tulane announcement. Cunningham will receive the award at the Society's Biennial Meeting this month. The Society recognizes distinguished contributions over a sustained period of time.

His recent work includes, "Parental monitoring as a protective factor for African American adolescents," *Urban Education*, in press, and also, "Educational resilience in African American adolescents," *Journal of Negro Education*, in press.

The Society recognizes distinguished contributions over a sustained period of time. Dr. Cunningham's research focuses on resilience and vulnerability in adolescent populations. HE is the Suzanne and Stephen Weiss Presidential Fellow in the Psychology Department at Tulane. He holds a joint appointment in the African and African Diaspora Studies Program at Tulane, a program offering interdisciplinary study relating to Africans, people of African descent, and the context of the African Diaspora.

Tulane's Dr. Nastasi Awarded LSPA Lifetime Achievement

Dr. Bonnie Nastasi, Full Professor in the school psychology program at Tulane University, received the 2012 Lifetime Achievement Award from the Louisiana School Psychological Association, awarded at the annual conference last fall. The award highlights distinguished service and dedication to the school psychologists in Louisiana.

Nastasi is an Associate of the International Institute of Child Rights & Development, Centre for Global Studies, University of Victoria, British Columbia. She has served as president of APA Division of School Psychology and is currently a member of the APA committee on International Relations in Psychology.





Psychology Gumbo

by Julie Nelson

Because of the Easter vacation and spring breaks happening all over the state, I'm going to have to write the Gumbo column all by myself this month. (There was of course some lack of planning ahead on my part, also. "Easter is when?!")

But this gives me an opportunity to pound on the desk about a topic near and dear to my heart: Conflict.

I'm generally comfortable with conflict under most conditions, and so I'm a supporter of collaborating (not the same as compromising) and I also find that my temperament is poorly suited to any situation where conflict is to be glossed over.

So when I see an article validating my position I jump on it.

• **"Conflict Cultures in Organizations: How Leaders Shape Conflict Cultures and Their Organizational-Level Consequences"** – *Journal of Applied Psychology*, Vol 97, No. 6 2012.

Gelfand and others provide a fine offering when they look at leaders and employees in 92 branches of a large bank. They identified the three "conflict cultures" that correspond to what we know are individual conflict styles: collaborative, dominating, and avoidant. They build on Lewin, Lippitt and White's 1939 work and find that leaders' conflict styles influence their groups, creating a "conflict culture."

Probably what is more important, Gelfand's results show that conflict cultures have implications for organizational results.

"Another contribution of this research is that we uncovered relationships between distinct conflict cultures, on the one hand, and indicators of organizational viability and effectiveness, on the other. Avoidant cultures negatively related to branch-level creativity, whereas dominating cultures negatively associated with customer service and cohesion. Reversely, collaborative conflict cultures positively related to organizational viability— cohesion and potency—and lower levels of burnout."

The authors also found some interesting convergent/divergent validity with climate variables:

	Collaborative	Dominating	Avoidant
Psychological safety	.56**	-.57**	-.20*
Distributive justice	.42**	-.34**	-.20*
Procedural justice	.41**	-.33**	-.07
Interpersonal justice	.31**	-.33**	-.06
Learning orientation	.64**	-.57**	-.32**
Performance orientation	.03	.11	-.08

* <.05, ** <.01

Dr. Palmer Heads Up Psychology At ULM

Dr. Jack Palmer began serving as the chair of the psychology program at the University of Louisiana at Monroe (ULM) during the summer of 2012. One of his goals as chair has been to increase the scope of the ULM psychology graduate program. Toward that end, he promoted the development of a fully online curriculum for the master's degree in psychology, which recently received state approval. ULM students pursuing a master's degree with a concentration in forensic psychology can now complete all of their coursework via internet access.

Over the past few years, Dr. Palmer has developed many of the online courses for the undergraduate psychology program. Students can earn a bachelor's degree in psychology from ULM completely online.

In addition to his administrative duties, Dr. Palmer continues teaching Positive Psychology, Physiological Psychology, Neurophysiology, and Evolutionary Psychology. Now in his 23rd year of serving ULM, his research and teaching continue to be dedicated to helping others understand the complexities of scientific psychology and the ways in which humanity can optimize its potential through this knowledge. He has both a personal and professional

interest in the effects of belief and lifestyle on physical and psychological health. Currently he is investigating several aspects of human behavior including the underlying basis of altruistic tendencies, the influence of context on logical reasoning, and the personality characteristics of those who have a heightened ability for detecting lies in others.

Most recently, Dr. Palmer has developed a survey instrument that examines different categories of human altruistic behavior – the Costly Signals Questionnaire (CSQ). He and his co-investigators gave the CSQ to over 200 participants to determine the relative strength of commitment elicited by different categories of altruism, i.e., kin-based, reciprocal, group, or ideal. Participants also completed the Moral Foundations Questionnaire (MFQ). Dr. Palmer and his co-researchers are examining the association between altruistic tendencies and moral beliefs and preparing a journal manuscript titled "The Dominant Role of Kinship in Human Altruistic Behavior."

See "Bookshelf" this issue for a review of co-authored book, *Science, Wisdom, and the Future*.

Dr. Tramontana Presenter at American Society of Clinical Hypnosis in March

Dr. Joseph Tramontana, recently elected President of the New Orleans Society for Clinical Hypnosis, again served on the faculty for the American Society of Clinical Hypnosis (ASCH) at its annual convention held in Louisville, KY, March 15-19.

Tramontana co-presented an advanced workshop, "Peak Performance Enhancement in Sports and Life through Hypnosis and Self-hypnosis Training," with Mitch Smith, LCSW. Smith has a clinical practice in Baltimore, MD and specializes in peak performance training. The two have presented this topic for both the Society for Clinical and Experimental Hypnosis (SCEH) international meeting in New Orleans in 2011 and the national ASCH annual meeting in 2012. Dr. Tramontana is the author of *Sports Hypnosis in Practice: Scripts, Strategies, and Case Examples*, 2011.



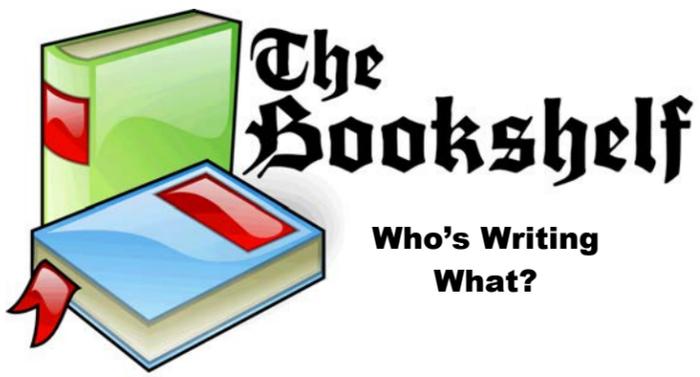
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Science, Wisdom, and the Future

Humanity's Quest for a Flourishing Earth

Edited by Cheryl Genet, Jack Palmer, Linda Gibler, Linda Palmer, Russell Genet, & Vera Wallen

Collins Foundation Press, 2012

Science, Wisdom, and the Future: Humanity's Quest for a Flourishing Earth is a collection of essays emerging from participants at a 2009 conference in California, organized by the Collins Educational Foundation. Collins' mission is to provide leadership in "humanity's efforts to live sustainably on Earth."

The essays take the reader on a journey through the practical, scientific, and philosophical perspectives, as the authors lay out their ideas in an interdisciplinary frame. The important and sometimes a little frightening message is: human beings keep outpacing their own level of wisdom in the burgeoning technologies they create and because of this the survival of all living things on our planet is in doubt.

The text provides a clarion call to wake up about the quickly approaching environmental cliff, while pushing for awareness and action. The contributors give some fascinating reasons why we can't seem to function logically when it comes to the environment and lay out ideas for solutions.

Roughly matching the sections in the text, author Russell Genet, sets out general solutions in the introduction: 1) to increase our understanding of ecology, ourselves, and cultural evolution; 2) to develop and implement plans to change our trajectory; 3) to make corporations sustainable; and 4) to raise our evolutionary consciousness through our evolutionary story.

Topics match these ideas and are organized into Part I,

Understanding Ourselves and Our Cultural Evolution; Part II, Changing Our Evolutionary Trajectory; Part III, Making Corporations Sustainable; Part IV, Raising our Evolutionary Consciousness.

Dr. Jack Palmer, psychology chair at University of Louisiana–Monroe, and wife Linda Palmer, writer and author, are contributors. The pair also did the heavy lifting in getting the text edited and organized, no small effort with 41 authors. (The Palmers have authored *Evolutionary Psychology* together, and Linda Palmer was author and editor for the second in this series, "*The Evolutionary Epic Science's Story and Humanity's Response*.")

Science, Wisdom, and the Future includes the salient theme that humans and their way of life have impacted all living systems on the planet. This focus runs throughout the book and in different authors and voices. It is both a warning and call to action.

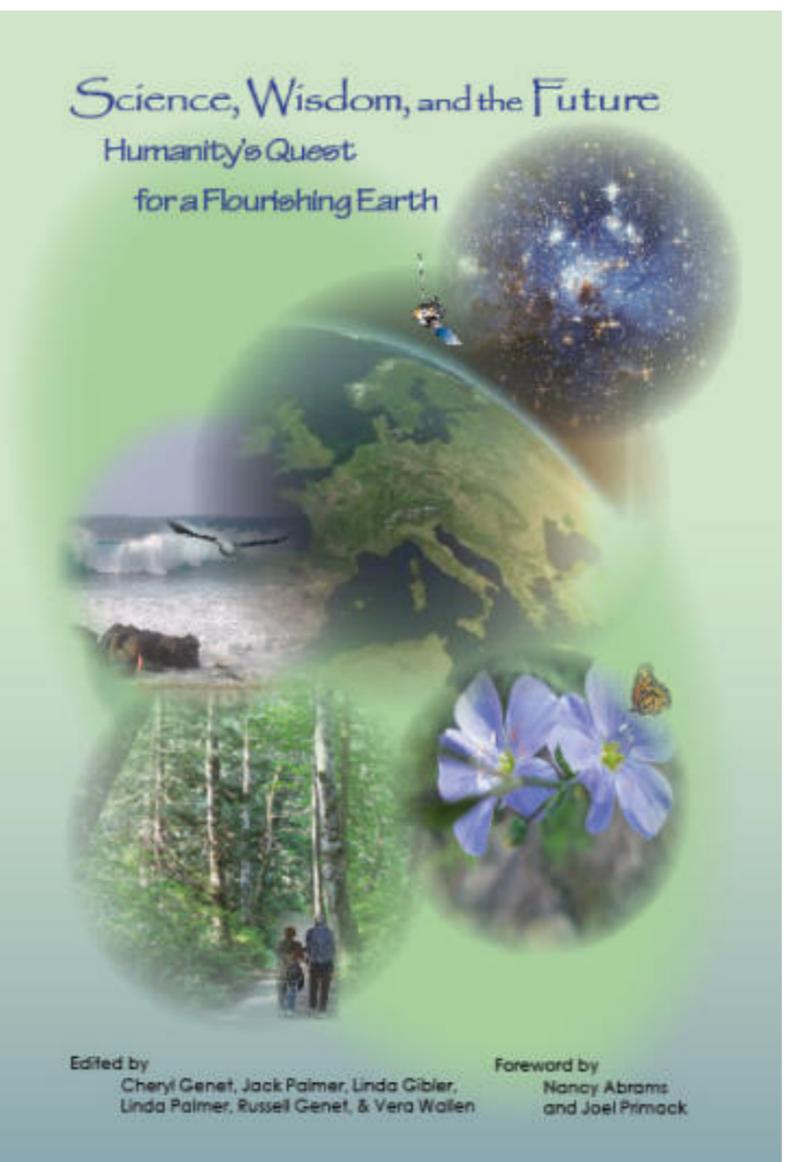
Throughout the chapters the authors ask the question, "What is happening that we don't wake to the larger reality?" And they try to answer, "What can be done to halt or slow the speed of environmental change and our race to the tipping point?"

Their answers include ideas from evolution, cultural evolution, and the nature of wisdom.

Students of human nature will enjoy the variety and breath of topics. From Riane Eisler (*The Chalice and the Blade*) in a chapter on human nature and social organization, to Linda and Jack Palmer on "The

"Humanity is conducting an unprecedented and possibly irreversible experiment on the gas composition of our atmosphere. Our descendants will live with the consequences of this experiment for centuries to come. Never before have so many people been called upon to make such sweeping changes in so little time."

–Peter Hess



Wisdom of Virtue," to Pauline Le Bel in "Sing Two Songs and Call Me in the Morning: Science and the Healing Power of Music," the text provides the reader with ideas that intrigue and push the imagination. John Gowan's "A Space-Time Map of the Universe" pushes it with bells on.

While focusing on humankind's accelerated consumption of the earth's resources and the issue of conscious awareness and decision-making, the book also is a collection of very individual voices, perspectives, and creative offerings.

In the introduction Russell Genet writes that human's runaway success in evolution could likely end the same way as in all biological cases of extraordinary evolutionary success: Our species will eventually exceed the resources, "bringing on a sudden crash to oblivion." The message comes across with some chilling discussions in "Time is Up!" by Duane Elgin and "Climate Change," by Peter Hess.

Hess writes, "Humanity is conducting an unprecedented and possibly irreversible experiment on the gas composition of our atmosphere. Our descendants will live with the consequences of this experiment for centuries to come." Elgin says, "Never before have so many people been called upon to make such sweeping changes in so little time."

The need to reassess the meaning of the "good life," is another theme woven into the essays, connecting the definition of consciousness, wisdom, and human choice. In helping find our way, say the authors, the value of science and the interconnectedness of all things are essential.

Part I, "Understanding Ourselves and Our Cultural Evolution," includes the Palmers' contributions as authors, "The Wisdom of Virtue." Bringing together aspects of the field of positive psychology, evolutionary theory, and the study of virtue, they present an overview of three traits that can impact humanity and the planet: honesty/integrity, humility, and altruism/universal love.

Part I also includes Shani Robins' "Wisdom Therapy: Developing Wisdom Sooner Rather Than Later and the Impact of the Emotions." She points out that wisdom is positively correlated with age (although not a guarantee). Robins walks the reader through a model of wisdom: fewer cognitive distortions, increased humility, mindfulness, empathy, gratitude, compassion, and emotional intelligence.

Other offerings in this section include science mixed with philosophy by Paul Fast, "Evolution is More than Genetic

Cont'd next pg

Bookshelf, cont'd

Determinism,” and “A comparison of the Development of Life on Earth and the Human Embryo.”

A chapter by Jack Palmer, “Power and Restraint: The Question of Human Genetic Engineering,” takes us in a time-machine forward to when the choices will include genetic enhancements. He warns that the gap between human and artificially modified humans may become greater and greater.

The spiritual and metaphysical theme appears in chapters such as Eve Baumohl Neuhaus, “Ganesh Bab’s Cycle of Synthesis: A Blend of Ancient Wisdom and Modern Science,” and in Heather Mendel’s “Eve, God, and the Quantum Age.”

Ideas about action and hope characterize much of the next essays, beginning with Part II, “Changing Our Evolutionary Trajectory.”

“This section opens a window into the magnitude of human ingenuity and creativity,” writes Cheryl Genet. “The authors search in every corner of our understanding of the world for solutions to the challenges that humanity faces...”

Duane Elgin writes about “New Ways of Living,” outlining the need for and value of simplicity. “Vision without action is a recipe for frustration and failure,” he writes. “To transform adversity into opportunity, we must act in ways that genuinely respond to the unprecedented challenges facing humanity.” He describes that we must make a “collective shift toward simpler, more sustainable and satisfying ways of living.”

Essays include “Voluntary Simplicity: Cool Lifestyle for a Hot Planet” and “Simplicity Is Not Sacrifice.” Elgin gives specifics and points out in convincing words that sacrifice is “investing long hours doing work that is neither meaningful nor satisfying,” and “sacrifice is the stress of commuting long distances and coping with traffic” and “sacrifice is the massive extinction of plants and animals and a dramatically impoverished biosphere.”

In “A Garden of Simplicity,” he describes uncluttered simplicity, ecological simplicity, family simplicity, compassionate simplicity, soulful simplicity, business simplicity, civic simplicity, frugal simplicity.

Jack Palmer writes the short essay introduction on “Positive Psychology” and then lays out twelve specific practices, beginning with developing gratitude, focusing on good things, savoring life’s simple joys, counting one’s blessings, identifying and using personal strengths, developing strong and positive relationships with friends and family.

The science between music and song, is described in Le Bel’s chapter, “Sing Two Songs and Call Me in the Moring: Science and Healing Power of Music.”

Louis Herman points out the challenge of conscious living in “Future Primal: A Politics for Evolving Humanity.” He writes that Earth’s ecosystems are collapsing and that we are living in the greatest mass extinction since the dinosaurs of 65 millions years ago. Truth and wisdom have disappeared from universities and government, he says, and he calls for this to change.

More about changing patterns of behavior come in a chapter on plant-based diets, by Linda Palmer, Jack Palmer, and Nani Palmer, “Vision for the Future: The Wisdom of a Plant-Based Diet for Humans.” The authors point to the health benefits of a plant-based diet, including fewer heart attacks, strokes, lower blood pressure, reductions in cancer, diabetes, and obesity from less consumption of meat and greater consumption of whole foods. They also list the benefits to the environment, showing how concentrated animal feeding operations add intense demands environmentally. “The difference between the vegetarian and beef versions of the meal is about the same as driving an average car for 35 miles,” the authors point out.

Part III, “Making Corporations Sustainable,” brings the focus on the industrial aspects of modern life, with editor Genet noting in the introduction that helping corporations become more sustainable and more responsible is one of the most difficult challenges, calling on social and political awareness to develop new ethics and motivations in the corporate world.

Three traits can impact humanity and the planet:

- **honesty/integrity,**
- **humility, and**
- **altruism/universal love**

– From Dr. Jack and Linda Palmer’s chapter “The Wisdom of Virtue”

“I am concerned that we are running out of time,” he writes. “Leading climate scientists say we have 10 to 20 years before we reach an irreversible tipping point, maybe less,” Bob Willard begins in “How to Lead a Transformation to a Sustainable Enterprise ... From the Middle.”

“What is the ‘Good Life’ in a Finite World? Engaging Chinese Scholars with a Pragmatic Approach to Economics,” is Ron Nahser’s look at how better decisions may come from the moral philosophy of pragmatism.

The final section, “Raising our Evolutionary Consciousness,” lays out the idea that if humankind can fully understand its evolutionary past and the “cultural evolutionary trajectory,” then we will have the best chances for positive changes.

Duane Elgin lays out archetypes as evolutionary tools, in “The New Story for the Human Journey.” For a maturing and heroic species we need to create a new story that helps guide the global community, he writes.

Richard Trowbridge in “Wisdom: The Highest Part of the Mind” and Josefina Burgos in “The Necessary Flow of Wisdom” outline the need for awareness and collective insight.

A fascinating and different chapter, “A Space-Time Map of the Universe,” by John Gowan, casts the problems into the largest perspective conceivable. This chapter deserves (and requires) a re-reading, and to absorb what I think was the message, other than what might be as metaphor, I had to visit his website. Gowan explains the universe and our place in it, being embedded in the flow of time and space, as defined by our particular intersection of space, time, light, and matter. We mold our future with a mixture of “karmic” influence from the past, physical contact with present matter, and free-will action embedded in the ever-moving entropic flow of time and space.”

Another must read chapter is Tom Lombardo’s “Wisdom, Enlightenment, Science, and the Future.” He blends the topics again between consciousness and the future of human life, and links it with character virtues, wisdom being central.

While at times a bit disjointed, and sometimes a bit heady, the work is a fascinating collection of big minds thinking. They are passionate visionaries who are looking into the crystal ball and pointing. They provide a compelling invitation for us to wake up and follow them. To save the planet. And to save ourselves in the process.

Science, Wisdom, and the Future can be purchased Collins Foundation Press at www.CollinsFoundationPress.org.



Authors Linda and Dr. Jack Palmer traveling in Hawaii. They have also authored *Evolutionary Psychology: The Ultimate Origins of Human Behavior*.
(Courtesy photo)

Salcedos Work To Rescue Sex-Trafficked Children

Dr. Rafael Salcedo, licensed psychologist, and wife Beth Salcedo, licensed speech-language pathologist, will soon be taking another step in their on-going efforts to help rescue children from sexual exploitation.

Soon and in an undisclosed location in the New Orleans metropolitan area, the couple will be opening a therapeutic, group home for victims of child sex trafficking. The “Free Indeed Home” will give young girls the chance to break the psychological, emotional and physical bonds that trap them in the fast-growing, criminal industry of sex trafficking.

The Salcedos are the founders of the non-profit, advocacy group, called The Louisiana Coalition Against Human Trafficking. The Coalition is an organization the couple developed after becoming aware of the depth and tragedy surrounding child sex trafficking.

“People don’t know this is going on,” Beth Salcedo told the *Times*. “I first thought, ‘This can’t be true. Surely this is not true. It must just

“I came to realize that no rational adolescent girl would ever choose a life of being sexually traumatized. I began to see that this was a form of modern-day slavery.”

– Dr. Rafael Salcedo

be one borderline individual.’ But then I began to study the issue and to see consistency. And it was so consistent across these girls,” she said. “When you know what to look for, it is everywhere.”

Dr. Rafael Salcedo said, “The impact of human sex-trafficking on the adolescent’s emotional development is catastrophic.”

He explained that he had once viewed this as delinquency. But, “I came to realize that no rational adolescent girl would ever choose a life of being sexually traumatized. I began to see that this was a form of modern-day slavery,” he said.

Child sex trafficking is a subset of human trafficking, considered to be the second fastest growing criminal industry in the world. Drug trafficking is first.

Current estimates are that 100,000 children in the United States are sex trafficked each year, sold into prostitution, and used for pornography and other commercial sexual acts.

The Salcedos and the Louisiana Coalition Against Human Trafficking started efforts to help reduce human trafficking through community training, law enforcement, judicial education, and helping with rescue and restore efforts. The Free-Indeed Home is an extension of the Coalition’s efforts.

Beth Salcedo told the *Times* that

Current estimates are that 100,000 children in the United States are sex trafficked each year, sold into prostitution, and used for pornography and other commercial sexual acts. But there are less than 100 beds nationally for these children.

The captives are so afraid and intimidated that they rarely speak out against their traffickers, and do not escape when they have the opportunity to do so, i.e. Stockholm Syndrome.

– LA Coalition Against Human Trafficking

the Baton Rouge and New Orleans metropolitan area is one of the top 10 areas in the U.S. for human trafficking. The FBI focuses efforts in Louisiana due to the Interstate 10 corridor, and the high rates of illegal immigration between Texas and Mississippi along I-10.

In their presentations to government and law enforcement agencies, the Salcedos explain that most Americans believe sex trafficking in the United States involves young women from foreign lands. But, the vast majority of teens caught in the sex trade in the US are American girls, they note.

“The sex trafficker is incredibly astute when it comes to human behavior,” Beth Salcedo explained. “They tell us exactly how they find the girls. They tell us, ‘My sure fire way is to complement the girl. If she puts her head down, she’s mine. It’s just a matter of time.’”

“They go to junior high schools,” Salcedo said, “and find a boy, who’s on the edge. They give him \$1,000. The boy is told to make the little girl think he is her boyfriend. Then the boy leads her to the pimp.”

The girl is taken and subjected to mass rape, drugging, and psychological trauma to break her down, Salcedo explained. Eventually she has no psychological resources left to fight the process. “They manipulate them. It is similar to the Stockholm Syndrome,” said Salcedo.

Women and children that are sold to traffickers are locked in rooms or brothels for weeks or months, drugged, terrorized, and raped repeatedly. The continual abuse makes it easier for the traffickers to establish mental control over their victims.

Most people do not understand the depth of child sex trafficking. “The reality is that people don’t want to hear it, it’s too painful,” said Beth Salcedo.

According to Polaris, an international organization to combat trafficking, “Sex traffickers frequently target vulnerable people with histories

of abuse and then use violence, threats, lies, false promises, debt bondage, or other forms of control and manipulation to keep victims involved in the sex industry.

But in Louisiana laws are ahead of most states. “Governor Jindal put a mandate on the issue, and told officials they had to do something about it,” explained Salcedo.

Dr. Raphael Salcedo first saw the problem as he worked in the legal and forensic area in New Orleans, slowly become more and more aware of the depth and tragedy of the problem, and the traumatized girls.

The Free-Indeed Home will be the rescue and restore extension of the Coalition’s efforts. It is designed as an 18-month rehabilitation program to be licensed by the Department of Children and Family Services under the Therapeutic Group Home model.

Intensive therapeutic efforts are needed for these children because the captives are so intimidated that they rarely speak out against their victimizers, and they do not escape the trafficker when they have the chance.

Traffickers and pimps use physical, emotional and psychological abuse to coerce young women and girls into a life of sex trafficking. Traffickers are master manipulators and employ tactics to create a trauma bond between the victim and trafficker. Traffickers often use the threat of violence against the victim or a victim’s loved one to secure their submission, explained Beth Salcedo to the *Times*.

Because of the need for intensive therapy to break the traumatic bonds created by the abuse of the trafficker, the guidelines for the home are very stringent. No more than eight girls will be at the Home at any one time. A psychologist or psychiatrist will serve as Clinical Director. The Home is required to be located in a community that will enhance reintegration of the children into normal community life.



Beth Salcedo and Dr. Raphael Salcedo at a conference in 2010. The Salcedos are helping to rescue children trapped in human sex-trafficking, which some estimate to be the second fastest growing crime industry.



Dr. Kim VanGeffen
Folk Art

The *Times* caught up with Dr. Kim VanGeffen at one of the board meetings and she happened to have handy some of her current work.

She is working on a cross-stitch piece (see photo) of New Orleans architecture. The images will characterize the houses of the city. From top row left to right are Creole Townhouse, Creole Townhouse Business-Residential, and Italiante House. From the middle row left to right are Greek Revival Shotgun, Victorial House, and Creole Cottage. And from bottom row left to right are Victorian Shotgun, Creole Cottage, Victorian Shotgun Double.

She has also been making some Easter art, including the YoYo Bunny and Chick (see photo) she and friends made for the recent International Quilting Day. She and her friends also created some Easter eggs from scraps of felt, ribbon, sequins and beads, Kim said.

Kim has greatly enjoyed making quilts and has followed the time honored tradition of quilters world wide; creating works of folk art that embrace meaning, memories and the traditions of one's family or group, and that last through generations.

The first quilt Kim ever made was a lap quilt in various shades of blue that she gave to her mother at Christmas 1981. After her mother died, the quilt came back to Kim. She told the *Times*, "I am thrilled to have it."

She has enjoyed craft activities since a young girl, starting in Brownies and Girl Scouts. "When I was in high school," she said, "my mother and several of her friends opened a needlework shop in New Orleans. They featured crafts such



Folk artist Dr. Kim VanGeffen displays some of her current work, a piece that contains images of New Orleans architect. From top row left to right are Creole Townhouse, Creole Townhouse Business-Residential, and Italiante House. From the middle row left to right are Greek Revival Shotgun, Victorial House, and Creole Cottage. And from bottom row left to right are Victorian Shotgun, Creole Cottage, Victorian Shotgun Double.

as needlepoint, counted cross-stitch, knitting and quilting. I began to take classes and fell in love with all of these creative activities." In recent years, Kim has done mostly counted cross-stitch and quilting. "I find these activities to be very relaxing because they absorb your full attention."

Decompressing is an important task in modern life. Kim's hobby not only provides her an outlet for creativity and a little precious solitude, but works well for putting the concerns of a busy, dedicated psychologist away for some well-deserved leisure time.



Kim created this YoYo Bunny and Chick to celebrate International Quilting Day and Easter with some quilting friends. (Courtesy photo)



Dr. Tom Stigall took this image on a recent stopover in Paris. He calls it "Homeless in the City of Light," and considers it an example of "street photography" or photojournalism.

Dr. Tom Stigall
Photography

Our own Dr. Tom Stigall recently exhibited some of his work at the gallery of the Coates Guest House in the Baton Rouge area. The exhibition was part of the Louisiana Photography Society and Tom's work was combined with that of three other photographers.

The report from the Society's newsletter noted:

"Tom Stigall is a retired psychologist whose approach to photography is guided by a desire to create images that are meaningful, not only for himself, but for others as well. He seeks to preserve images that will be experienced by the viewer as aesthetically pleasing, sympathetic and nurturing, awe-inspiring, or arresting."

The work of the photographers was well received, said the Society's review. The Guest House is also the venue for the LPS juried show to be held in April. For information go to laphotosociety.com,

Other State and National News

Louisiana's Health Secretary Greenstein Resigns March 30

The Secretary of Health, Bruce Greenstein, has said that he will resign, announced Governor Jindal's office last week.

Greenstein did not explain his decision in a two-page resignation letter, but rather focused on his affection for the state and its people. "This state's gracious people and generous culture have left a permanent and meaningful impact on the lives of my family and me," he wrote.

Greenstein has been involved in controversy surrounding the awarding of a Medicaid contract to a company where he once worked. Governor Jindal's administration canceled the contract with the Maryland based firm after reports of a federal grand jury subpoena involving the contract was leaked, according to the Baton Rouge *Advocate*.

Report Links Folic Acid To Lower Risk of Autism

A study from Norway published in the February Journal of the American Medical Association suggests that women who took folic acid supplements prior and during pregnancy were about 40 percent less likely to have their child later diagnosed with autism.

The researchers had physicians ask pregnant women about their supplement use via a questionnaire, and then followed up with the over 85,000 children born from 2002 to 2008.

According to a USA Today report, the critical time period for the women to take the supplement was from four weeks before conception through the eight week of pregnancy.

Other LA Bills of Interest

HB 89

"Excepts a student deemed to be gifted or talented from certain provisions relative to the use of seclusion and restraint unless he has been dually identified as also having a disability." [...] "Proposed law provides that present law, relative both to BESE's preparation and adoption of such rules and guidelines and public school governing authorities' provision of such guidelines and procedures to parents, shall not be applicable to a student who has been deemed to be gifted or talented unless he has been identified as also having a disability."

HB 417

"Increases the tax on cigars, cigarettes, smoking tobacco, and smokeless tobacco and dedicates the revenue from the tax increase. [...] Proposed law creates a special fund within the state treasury to be called the "Louisiana Healthier Families Fund" ... Tax funds are to be distributed to Medicaid, Louisiana State Employee's and Teachers' Retirement Systems, to the office of addictive disorders in DHH, Pennington, and other recipients."

HB 642

"Establishes the Special Education Scholarship Program, to provide for regional special education schools, admission of students to such schools, and scholarships for students to attend such schools."

HB 107

"Proposed law provides for the Improved Outcomes for At-Risk Youth Act and [...] creates the Integrated Case Management Planning System as a single, targeted case management system to better track "crossover youths" who are in need of mental health services or have experienced involvement in the child welfare system."



Dr. Joe Comaty, who previously served on the state psychology board and who is currently on a list awaiting the Governor's choice of appointment to the board, speaks at the recent Long-Range Planning meeting of the psychology board. Dr. Darlyne Nemeth looks on.

Psychology Board Continues To Review The Conundrum of Telepractice Issues

After a detailed discussion regarding a variety of situations a psychologist might encounter in delivering a service via telepsychology, Chair Dr. Lee Matthews concluded that the board would look into updating the current Opinion Number 13 regarding electronic communications, known as telepsychology or telepractice. This discussion occurred at the recent planning meeting of the board.

"If we can get the Opinion to a place where it reflects what we want it to," he said, "that will give us further information, so that down the road we can deal with the rules and regulations. Opinions are there to help."

Matthews came to this after a lengthy discussion from both board members and attendees regarding a number of complex situations regarding telepsychology were described, which did not easily fit into a simple directive.

Those discussing the issue presented situations where a Louisiana licensed psychology would be required to counsel a patient by phone who resided in another state, such as individuals who had recently moved from the state, or students who were temporarily living away, or if a client

who typically travels into Louisiana for treatment requires a telephone conference on an emergency basis.

Dr. Joe Comaty, who authored the 2012 telepsychology opinion, reminded the group that it was issued as a generic opinion "... to make psychologists aware."

Discussion about general applied psychology services led to Dr. Janet Matthews suggesting that the opinion should include the term 'health service.' This could exempt those who practice general applied psychology, such as Industrial-Organizational or research psychologists, and others who do not practice healthcare.

The discussion of how to define who is a resident, where services actually happen—at the provider's location or the client's location—which state board is responsible for what, and what does "domicile" mean, plus other conundrums, led the board decide to look at making simple changes in the opinion that can help as a general guide only.

Dr. Darlene Nemeth, the Louisiana Psychological Association delegate to the American Psychological Association, provided handouts to the group of the "Guidelines for the Practice of Telepsychology." This is a draft document that is being worked on at the national level, Nemeth said.

New Jersey, Massachusetts May Ban Conversion Therapy

The *National Psychologist* reported in their March/April issue that two more states will consider banning the controversial approach for changing sexual orientation, called conversion therapy. New Jersey and Massachusetts have put forth bills to prohibit psychologists and mental health professionals from the approach, while California's law to block the use of the therapy is being reviewed in the Ninth District Federal Court.

The *NP* report notes that the New Jersey bill is supported by the New Jersey Psychological Association. The New Jersey association's president describes the therapy as "... very harmful," noted the report.

Up-Coming Events



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Annual Mindfulness Day April 6 in Baton Rouge

The 4th Annual Mindfulness Day will be held this coming April 6 in Baton Rouge. Presenters Thay Dao Quang, M.Ed., John W. Pickering, Ph.D., David T. Weibel, Ph.D., and W. Sumner Davis, M.S., will offer a workshop for mental health professionals Saturday from 8 am to 5 pm. The workshop, "Integrating Mindfulness Practices into your Psychotherapy: A Day of Mindfulness for Mental Health Professionals," will be held at the Tam Bao Meditation Hall, 975 Monterrey Blvd, in Baton Rouge.

The cost is \$75 for the day-long workshop, which includes lunch. Sessions include Introduction to Meditation and Mindfulness, Mindfulness, Buddha and Psychotherapy, and Integrating Mindfulness Practices into Your Therapy: Some specifics. The training is available for continuing education for Licensed Professional Counselors, Psychologists, and Social Workers.

Throughout the day attendees will be able to participate in guided sitting meditation. Toward the end of the day, the workshop concludes with group discussions. Lunch experience will include Nobel Silence and Mindfulness Eating.

Louisiana Counseling Assn Calls for Proposals – April 15

The Louisiana Counseling Association is calling for proposals for its Annual Conference, to be held September 15-17, 2013 at the New Orleans Intercontinental Hotel in New Orleans. The 2013 theme is "The Professional Counselor: It is OUR time: to reflect, to renew, to refocus."

Proposals must be received by Monday, April 15, 2013. See the LCA web site for information on program proposal guidelines.

Professional Training Resources to Present "DSM-5 Overview" in May

Professional Training Resources and Dr. John Simoneaux will present "DSM-5 Overview: Making the Transition" on May 3 in Baton Rouge at the Marriot Hotel. He will present the workshop also in Lafayette, at the Holiday Inn, on May 17, and again in Shreveport, at the Holiday Inn, on May 24.

The workshop is designed to help mental health professionals to analyze the history of the diagnostic manual and to describe the major new differences in DSM-5 structure, diagnostic criteria, and in other features. The workshop will include a review of the new diagnostic classifications that have been altered since DSM-IV and a look at major revisions in personality disorders. A discussion of controversial issues is included. The workshop runs from 8 am to 4. Contact PTR for additional information on go online at www.professionaltrainingresourcesinc.com.

Tulane

Lessons from the Darker Side of Forensic Psychiatry April 12 – 14, New Orleans

The Tulane University Center for Continuing Education and Tulane University School of Medicine, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences will present "NOTORIOUS: Lessons from the Darker Side of Forensic Psychiatry," on April 12 to 14, 2013. The conference will be held at the Westin Canal Place Hotel in New Orleans.

The three-day training experience is intended to help participants understand the most current classification systems used to identify serial killers and assassins, current risk assessment measures used to determine a patient's dangerousness, and to describe the "culture of silence" and its influence on reporting child sexual abuse.

Topics include "See No Evil, Hear No Evil, Speak No Evil: Sandusky and the Culture of Silence;" "American Assassins: A Typological Review;" "Crime of Singular Atrocity: The Leopold and Loeb Case and the Birth of Modern Forensic Psychiatry," and "Firearms, the Mentally Ill and the Law." The Fourteenth Chester B. Scrignar, MD Lecture will be "Scale of Evil," presented by Michael Stone, MD.

The Tulane Forensic Behavioral Science Institute is a non-profit interdisciplinary program to promote research in forensic behavioral sciences and opportunities for professional development in the community. John Thompson, Jr. MD is the Institute's Executive Director and Gina Manguno-Mire, PhD is the Director.

Fees are \$350 for physicians, attorneys and psychologists, \$250 for Health Society Members, \$275 for Allied Health individuals.

For more information contact Tulane U. Center for Continuing Education or register

Mark Calendars

Association for Psychological Science
25th Annual Convention May 23 to 26
Washington, DC

Louisiana Psychological Association
Annual Convention May 30 and 31
Crown Plaza Hotel, Baton Rouge

The Psychology Times

CLASSIFIED ADS

Position Wanted: Research Associate, Health Psychology. Accomplished and dynamic masters level professional with degree in health psychology. Competencies include: Health Care · Patient Assessments · Patient Relations · Health & Safety Regulation · Care Coordination Policies / Procedures Compliance · Time Management · Needs Assessment · Email for more info at Neurology579@yahoo.com

Psychology Practice looking for professionals interested in joining our practice in **Metairie**. Two fully furnished offices in beautiful atrium building available 3 days per week. Rental includes telephone, fax, wireless internet, basic office supplies and receptionist. Contact Lynn at 504-455-0109.

Professional Shared Office Space for Rent: **Baton Rouge and Kenner** professional office space for rent by the hour, day, week, or month. Group room available upon request. No sublease required for part-time use. Utilities included. Support staff, services, and supplies available upon request and prior arrangements. Affordable rates. Please call 225-769-2533 for details.

Private Office Space for Rent in complex with other mental health professionals: **Baton Rouge, South Sherwood area**. Single office space with individual private waiting room. Entry door to waiting room and exit door from treatment room allows for your clients' privacy. Utilities included. \$650 per month. Call 850-564-0077 for more information.

Positions Posted USAjobs.gov



Clinical Psychologist
Department of Veterans Affairs, Fort Polk, Louisiana
Salary: \$81,823.00 - \$106,369.00 /Year
Open Period: 12/7/2012 to 9/30/2013

The Psychology Times

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