

2013 Year In Review

We covered the political musical chairs played out in the first part of 2013 over the regulatory home for the behavior analysts. This was the main political drama of the year.

The legislative session was relatively tame without large conflicts.

Perhaps one outcome of the goings-on of the Behavior Analysts Study Commission was a move by the psychology board for multi-level licensing for school specialists, an historic change, at least symbolically, if it goes forward.

In higher education, termination of programs and changes continued to tell the story of cutbacks in state budgets.

Individuals in their different silos continued to make the news, some made very big news. And as usual for our community, there was a wealth of educational activities all around.

The tone of a more cooperative and connected community was apparent in the subtext of what happened in 2013; multi-disciplinary relationships springing up here and there, a refreshing trend.

Here is our review of much of what the *Times* covered in 2013. For complete stories see our back issues, available on our website.

JANUARY

Commission Favors LPC Board Over LSBEP Coming at the end of 2012, the continuing struggle about where the behavior analysts would end up, *appeared* to have been decided when the Behavioral Analysts Licensure and Regulation Study Commission members voted 10 to 5 to place the analysts with the Licensed Professional Counselors



2013 started off with political maneuvering that made things spin. The failed 2012 attempt to bring behavior analysts under the state psychology board lead to 2013 discussions for representatives across the mental health community in a study commission. Mary Alice Olsan (C), Executive Director of LPC board, Dr. Elizabeth Christian (R) and Mr. Michael Malinowski from LSU Law Center (L) listen to the discussion. Dr. John Courtney can also be seen partly, in back.

Board. The Commission also voted unanimously to approve a “merged” board structure for behavior analysts, in contrast to either a new, independent board, or an “umbrella” type subcommittee. It was not going to be.

Louisiana Praised For Therapy Programs In Juvenile Justice The Association for the Advancement of Evidence-Based Practice, a watchdog group for crime prevention, said Louisiana is among the top five states for its rapid and successful implementation of proven

Also in this issue

- Medicaid Asks for Ideas – 3
- Duckman Draws Line –3
- Dr. Stewart’s New Grant – 4
- Dept of Ed on LSBEP Plan– 5
- LaTech and LaCVP – 6

Cont pg 7

The Psychology Times 2013 COMMUNITY AWARDS

What makes a community thrive? What characteristics help make a community satisfying for its citizens, and at the same time innovative and productive?

The *Times* staff conceived of our Community Awards around principles of organizational and community psychology, and we looked at the 2013 news makers for matches with these principles.

We took into account things like win-win problem solving, concern for the rights of others, openness, creativity, and courage.

Congratulations to all our winners and runners up. Thank you for your work, wisdom, and vision. We noticed.

The first annual Community Awards are included in boxes in our 2013 Year in Review feature, starting on page 7. Happy New Year.

Editorial Page

Free Speech is More Important Than Even Ducks

by J. Nelson

Growing up in a household where my mother would warn, "If you don't have anything nice to say, don't say anything at all," it was hard to believe that she had gone out of her way to marry my father. He was a passionate, eccentric Irishman, and everyone knows what that means. As a journalist his opinion about openness was, "If the door won't open, kick it in."

I blame most of my neurosis on those mixed messages. These days tempered by my Libertarian leanings and training in community psychology, I see the clash of subgroups caused by Duckman Phil Robertson's comments as a wealth of information about the wonders of the United States.

First, as my mother tried to teach me—unsuccessfully—there's probably always a better way to say your truth than when you just spit it out. This seems especially likely if you're driving along in a pick-up with a Gentlemen's Quarterly interviewer, talking about hunting, weapons, and sex.

Which brings up the question to A&E executives, "Have you met Phil Robertson?" "Have you watched the show?"

It's interesting that Phil's comments are like a Rorschach test. Different people are seeing and hearing different things depending on their beliefs and backgrounds. Perhaps psychologists and counselors should work harder to teach others about perceptions, how emotions influence how we think. And while we're at it, we might help with the differences between tolerance, acceptance, and support.

We can thank Phil, GLAAD, and A&E for raising the level of awareness about freedom of speech. It is no small thing that the

framers of the Constitution figured this out for us with the First Amendment. It is one of the main values of our culture, one of our country's social norms, and it is central in protecting other liberties.

One of the most obvious benefits is that freedom of speech and information help us to detect injustice, complain, and alert others as needed. It's very hard for someone to cheat us when we're telling the whole world about it. Sunshine is the best disinfectant.

And free speech helps us avoid groupthink. The back and forth discussion in the media and on the web about Phil's comments, including just about anyone who had a computer, helped us all think a little more deeply and look a bit more carefully at the issues.

From the other side of the equation, the norm tells us that if we don't like what someone else has to say, well, buck up. Deal with it. Sticks and stones. The right of free speech tells us that we must be independent, that maturity and responsibility are required for us to have freedom.

So when subgroups clash over matters that relate to differences in beliefs and lifestyles, we can be grateful that an abstract, principle of social order has already been provided for us. We can put some trust in it, that it truly works as a corrective measure, to help check and balance.

For anyone who grew up in a household where the mom told us to just be quiet about it, how can we fail to appreciate this example of the right and importance of free speech? No door kicking needed.

What a country.

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

Editorials and commentary reflect the opinions of this newspaper. Columns and Letters to the Editor express the opinions of the writers and not necessarily those of *The Psychology Times*.

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From the staff at
The Psychology Times

Corrections & Clarifications

No corrections or clarifications were received for our December issue of the *Times*. However, here are two for previous issues.

Dr. Jessica Brown is now listed on the Medical Board verifications site as having graduated with her psychopharmacology degree in 2012. It was previously listed on the site as 2010, which we reported in our story about Brown's connections to the medical psychology.

Dr. Courtland Chaney made minor corrections to our article about the reunion of LSU doctoral psychology students. We corrected it for the evening issue.

La DHH Medicaid Seeks Ideas to Help Modernize Program

In a December Request for Innovations, Bill Perkins, Project Director for Medicaid Modernization, asked for ideas regarding improvements to the Louisiana Medicaid system. The Bureau of Health Services Financing (BHSF) under DHH is the administrative agency responsible for the Medicaid program. Currently, approximately 1.4 million people are enrolled in Medicaid in Louisiana, according to the communication.

Perkins listed technical components that vendors might offer ideas about, which included components: Asset Verification, Business rules engine, Call center, Case management, Clinical program integrity, Clinical quality assurance and management, Configuration management/rules engine, Data warehouse, Document management, Electronic Health Record, and many other components. Perkins also wrote that the policies, procedures, and standards related to these components would also be central to success.

"The focus of this RFI," wrote Perkins, "is to learn about innovative ways of managing all aspects Medicaid from business processes to the systems that support our efforts. Currently, the fiscal intermediary manages both the core functions of claims processing as well as a whole host of clinical management aspects. DHH is interested in modernizing these functions, organizational approach, and evaluating the ways in which they can be executed including whether they can and should be done by separate entities."

Perkins also wrote that the long-term vision of the project is to "cultivate a healthcare economy that promotes health outcomes and where business and information technology (IT) assets and resources are cost-effectively managed across the Medicaid Enterprise."

The memo noted that in 2013 approximately 42.4 million Fee-for-Service Medicaid claims were processed and approved for a total of nearly \$5.6 billion in provider payments. An additional 16.2 million encounter claims were received from the three Managed Care Organizations operating Bayou Health and the Prepaid Inpatient Health Plan (PIHP) operating the Louisiana Behavioral Health Partnership.

One of the keys, wrote Perkins, is the implementation of a "centralized architectural strategy." He said that the architecture "is the prerequisite to implement systems which can communicate effectively, reduce the time and cost required for system changes, minimize the cost of service delivery and maintenance and provide consolidated analytics for informed decision making."

Vendors are to respond by close of business on January 31, 2014. The notice said that the Request for Innovation is for planning purposes only and is not a Request for Proposal (RFP).

In a related story, the Louisiana Legislative auditor, Daryl Purpera, released a report in October 2013 noting that DHH paid approximately \$1.85 million in participant feed for 1,727 deceased individuals in the Louisiana Behavioral Health Partnership and Bayou Health programs between February 2012 and June 2013.



Phil Robertson (center) at family dinner. His comments drew criticism and a suspension from A&E, which was later reversed. About the reversal, Governor Jindal said "Today is a good day for the freedoms of speech and religious liberty."

Photo by Zach Dilgard. Courtesy of A&E.

Governor Jindal Comments

Popular Duckman Draws Criticism And a Line in Sand With Comments

The popular personality on A&E's *Duck Dynasty*, family patriarch Phil Robertson, came under criticism for his comments to a GQ Magazine reporter last month. *Duck Dynasty* is a show filmed in West Monroe, Louisiana, and is the number one rated reality show.

The comments prompted the gay rights group GLAAD (formerly Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation) to complain to the A&E Network about the comments. GLAAD's Director of News, Ross Murray, wrote on the website, "GQ Magazine's profile of Phil Robertson included some of the vilest and most extreme statements uttered against LGBT people in a mainstream publication."

GQ had quoted Robertson as saying, "It seems like, to me, a vagina—as a man—would be more desirable than a man's anus." Also, Robertson included homosexuality with adultery, prostitution, and bestiality, saying these behaviors would keep people from inheriting the kingdom of God.

A&E "suspended" Robertson indefinitely. This caused an outcry from the show's fans. Religious and conservative groups accused A&E of attacking Christian values and free speech.

In a statement posted on the Duck Commander website, Willie Robertson confirmed the Robertsons' support of Phil, saying that while some of his comments were "coarse," Phil's beliefs are grounded in the Bible, not hate.

Willie Robertson also said, "...as a family, we cannot imagine the show going forward without our patriarch at the helm."

Phil Robertson defended his comments as coming from the Bible and said he would not back off from his "path."

On Dec 19, Gov. Jindal released a statement about the suspension, titled, "I Remember When TV Networks Believed in 1st Amendment."

Jindal said, "Phil Robertson and his family are great citizens of the State of Louisiana. The politically correct crowd is tolerant of all viewpoints, except those they disagree with. I don't agree with quite a bit of stuff I read in magazine interviews or see on TV. In fact, come to think of it, I find a good bit of it offensive. But I also acknowledge that this is a free country and everyone is entitled to express their views. In fact, I remember when TV networks believed in the First Amendment. It is a messed up situation when Miley Cyrus gets a laugh, and Phil Robertson gets suspended."

On December 27, A&E reversed their decision and lifted the suspension.

Governor Jindal released a statement, "Today is a Good Day for the Freedoms of Speech and Religious Liberty"

"I am glad to hear that the folks at A&E came to their senses and recognized that tolerance of religious views is more important than political correctness. Today is a good day for the freedoms of speech and religious liberty."

"The left is going to have to get accustomed to the fact that it does not have a monopoly on free speech and is not the only group who is permitted to voice its opinion in the public square. The left may control Hollywood, but they don't control the hearts and minds of a majority of Americans."

State News

Emergency Rule Prohibits Providers “Steering” Clients

A recent announcement from Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH) said the agency adopted an emergency rule, effective Dec. 1, to comply with federal regulations, and protect Medicaid enrollees' right to choose how they receive their healthcare. The emergency rule prohibits providers from “steering” people to certain plans.

Provider steering as any conduct intended to recommend whether or not to enroll in a managed care health plan or Medicaid fee-for-service (legacy Medicaid), or to enroll in a specific managed care health plan over another health plan. This conduct is prohibited by any health care provider enrolled with Medicaid or a managed care health plan, or any Medicaid contracted managed care entity or health plan, including shared savings plans and capitated plans.

Examples of provider steering include, but are not limited to, offering enrollees incentives for selecting one managed care

health plan over another plan, and allowing an enrollee to use a provider's fax, office telephone, or computer to enroll into a specific managed care health plan.

Providers may inform enrollees of the health plans they accept and the benefits, services and specialty care services offered through those health plans. However, they must disclose information on all the health plans they accept.

Through the Bayou Health program, enrollees can now choose to receive their healthcare through one of the five managed care health plans or, when eligible, through the Medicaid fee-for-service program. The Emergency Rule supplements the existing Coordinated Care Network Rule.

Sanctions can include disenrollment from the Medicaid Program, recoup of payments, and fines.

DHH Paid \$1.85 Million For Deceased Clients Says Legislative Auditor

The Legislative Auditor, Daryl Purpera, found that the Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH) paid Medicaid fees for individuals who were deceased. A report to John A. Alario, Jr., President of the Senate, and Charles E. “Chuck” Kleckley, Speaker of the House of Representatives, noted “DHH paid approximately \$1.85 million in participant fees for 1,727 deceased individuals in the Louisiana Behavioral Health Partnership and Bayou Health programs between February 1, 2012, and June 30, 2013.”

The report provided the results of the analysis on Medicaid participant fees paid by the Department of Health and Hospitals for deceased individuals. Purpera's group obtained payments made by DHH for participants in the Louisiana Behavioral Health Partnership and Bayou Health programs and compared them to the listing of deceased individuals obtained from the DHH - Center of State Registrar and Vital Records (Vital Records).

Based on the results of our analysis, DHH does not have a sufficient process in place for

identifying deceased Medicaid participants in a timely manner.

Since February 2012, DHH has paid the entities administering the plans within the programs \$1,849,474 in participant fees for deceased individuals. Of this \$1,849,474, Magellan Health Services which is associated with the Louisiana Behavioral Health Partnership received \$257,964 (14%) and the five entities associated with the Bayou Health program received \$1,591,510 (86%), noted the report.

Based on the results of our analysis, DHH does not have a sufficient process in place for identifying deceased Medicaid participants in a timely manner.

Ruth Kennedy, Medicaid Director, said she concurred with the report. She also said that the \$1.85 million overpayment identified by Purpera's office “represents a tenth of one percent of the total per member per month (PMPM) premiums paid during the review period...”

She said the office would recoup the payments from the Managed Care Organizations by March 31, 2014.



U.S. Army Chief Warrant Officer 2 Amanda Combs prepares her AH-64 Apache helicopter in Afghanistan's Logar province. The military have special challenges in health while deployed around the world. Pennington's Dr. Tiffany Stewart will lead a research group to use technology to support Warfighters wherever they are in the world.
(US Army photo by Capt. Peter Smedberg)

Pennington Biomedical

Dr. Tiffany Stewart Leads Project On Military and Health

Dr. Tiffany Stewart will direct one of two military health studies, totaling nearly \$16 million, awarded to the Pennington Biomedical Research Center by the United States Department of Defense, according to a December news release from Pennington.

Dr. Stewart, a psychologist, is the Director of the Behavior Technology Laboratory at Pennington and will lead a team of 15 research associates in one of the projects. Stewart will be in charge of The Weight Measurements and Standards for Soldiers 2 grant and the Army H.E.A.L.T.H. program

According to the press release, Stewart explained, "The mission of the H.E.A.L.T.H. program is to translate evidenced-based concepts into a nutrition and fitness tool that Soldiers can use to not only improve Warfighter health and performance, but the overall health well-being of their family members."

The Weights, Measurements, and Standards for Soldiers 2 grant is a \$8.2 million grant and a six year study, according to the announcement. The work will continue to 2016 and aims to ensure the health, readiness, performance, and resilience of US Warfighters.

The approach includes novel nutrition and fitness technology, incorporating cutting edge interactive technology with elements that are portable, like programs on the Internet and Smartphones. Soldiers and their family members can use these new tools to help manage nutrition, fitness, and weight, no matter where they are living in the world.

Because the study demanded a randomized component, part of the work began with a group of soldiers in 2010. As part of the project, the Army Healthy Eating, Activity, and Lifestyle Training Headquarters (Army H.E.A.L.T.H.) program was developed by Pennington Biomedical.

The Army H.E.A.L.T.H. Internet and Smartphone application will be introduced for immediate use for soldiers, retirees, and their family members, across the country. The H.E.A.L.T.H. initiative was developed and tested as part of a series of Department of Defense-funded grants in active duty and reserves personnel to Pennington Biomedical, explained the announcement.

The second grant is the CROWN 2 study and is a \$7.3 million grant. This is an extension of an earlier grant program. It begins in 2014 and will be conducted through 2017 under the direction of Jennifer Rood, Ph.D., Associate Executive Director for Cores and Resources, with a staff of 20 research associates.

The project's research goals are to help to improve Warfighter nutrition, by examining energy balance, stress effects, inflammation and nutritional status under extreme environmental conditions, according to the news release.

State News

Three in Race For Psychology Board

Three psychologists are running for the Louisiana Board of Examiners of Psychologists in an election that is currently in progress. These are Dr. Joe Comaty, retired from the Department of Health and Hospitals, Dr. Robin Chapman, currently at St. Thomas Community Health Center, and Dr. Connie Patterson, Professor of Practice in Psychology at Tulane.

Dr. Joe Comaty is a medical psychologist currently working as a consultant in teaching and training. He presents in numerous topics in psychology and medical psychology, as noted in his application. Comaty earned his doctorate in 1992 from Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science.

Comaty as served previously on the board and notes that he has "...experience with the national organization of regulatory boards," and he is "aware of the current and most pressing regulatory issues including the proper regulation of telepsychology; maintenance of competence; masters level practice of psychology; mobility; standards for licensure; and proper supervision ..."

Also running is Dr. Robin Chapman who works in Health Psychology and who graduated with a PsyD degree from the Illinois School of Professional Psychology in 1990. Chapman was licensed in 2012 in Louisiana according to his application, and before that in Massachusetts. He works in institutional practice, he noted, at the St. Thomas CHC in New Orleans.

Chapman noted that his goal would include advocating for the roles of psychologists in health care, substance abuse, and in the treatment of persons with developmental disabilities.

Dr. Constance Patterson is a Professor of Practice in the Department of Psychology at Tulane. She earned her PhD from Illinois State University in 1999. She completed her internship and postdoctoral education at LSU Health Sciences Center, and was licensed in 2004. She is currently serving on the LSBEP's School Specialist Task Force.

Patterson noted on her application, "I would like to help facilitate more understanding and coalition among various specialties in psychology. We are increasingly asked to do more with shrinking resources. I believe we can serve our profession and our clients best when we collaborate and share our expertise, and we all have a similar goal of providing excellent prevention, intervention and treatment services to the citizens of Louisiana."

Ballots were mailed to all licensed psychologists in Louisiana, during the Christmas holiday.



Members of the School Specialist Task Force, created by the psychology board to study issues about school psychology. The Department of Education has given a "blessing" to the idea of the school specialist license. Above (clockwise from bottom) Dr. Rita Culross (looking away), Chair of the board, E. Francoise Parr, President of the La. School Psychological Association, Dr. Steven Welsh, retired Dean from Nicholls, Dr. Carmen Broussard, Professor from Nicholls, Dr. Connie Patterson, Professor from Tulane, and Executive Director, Kelly Parker.

Dept of Education Gives Okay to Psychology Board's Plan for School Specialist Credential

Members of the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists met with representatives of the Louisiana Department of Education recently to discuss the possibility of the "Licensed Specialist in School Psychology."

"Basically, they gave us their blessing," said Executive Director of the Board, Kelly Parker, about the outcome of the discussions.

The meeting included Dr. Culross, Executive Director Parker, legislative counsel Deborah Harkins, the Assistant Superintendent of Special Education, and the management representative in charge of credentialing at the Department of Education.

Parker told the *Times* that while it wasn't a long meeting, it was encouraging. The Department of Education

representatives expressed a positive view of the board's plan, which if it goes forward, will create a school specialist license under the psychology board.

"They said they thought it was a great thing," Parker told the *Times*. "We intend on staying in contact with them as the legislation gets drafted and we hope they will actually support us at the table."

LPC Board Posts Emergency Rule

At the September 2013 meeting of the Licensed Professional Counselors Board of Examiners, Laura Choate presented an error discovered in the current rules having to do with client confidentiality and client records. The board decided to correct confusing language with an emergency rule, according to the minutes. The emergency rule was published in the October *Louisiana Register*.

It corrects confusing language in Chapter 21, Section 2105(A)(6)(f).

The section in consideration is "Chapter 21. Code of Conduct for Licensed Professional Counselors," and "§2105. Confidentiality, Privileged Communication, and Privacy."

The section reads:

"f. Disclosure or Transfer. Unless exceptions to confidentiality exist, counselors obtain written permission from clients to disclose or transfer records to legitimate third parties. Steps are taken to ensure that receivers of counseling records are sensitive to their confidential nature. If a client who is under the active care of a practitioner licensed by the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners is diagnosed with a "serious mental illness" and refuses to sign a release of information in order for the counselor to consult with that practitioner, then the counselor must terminate the relationship in accordance with §2103.11 and refer the client to another mental health professional."

The Emergency Rule was needed to so that licensed professional counselors disclose or transfer client records in accordance with state law, said the explanation accompanying the Emergency Rule.

The new wording is "A. - A.6.e. ... f. Disclosure or Transfer. Unless exceptions to confidentiality exist, counselors obtain written permission from clients to disclose or transfer records to legitimate third parties. Steps are taken to ensure that receivers of counseling records are sensitive to their confidential nature."

"All existing rules or parts thereof are hereby superseded," noted the regulation, "and amended to the extent that they specifically conflict with these emergency rules. Existing board rules shall be revised and re-codified at such time as the final board rules implementing Act 173 are adopted."

Group to Use Science Tools In Training Professionals for Violence Prevention

Members of the Coalition for Violence Prevention are working with Louisiana Tech professor Dr. Frank Igou and a team of Industrial Organizational (I-O) doctoral graduate students to develop a scientifically based training method for skills in violence risk prediction.

"From the beginning, we have been committed to developing a scientifically rigorous process and product," said Dr. McKay Bonner, newest member of the steering committee for the Coalition. "We want something that is more than just 'feel good.' We want, as the ultimate goal, a tangible product with appropriate metrics that can make a difference in the real world," she said.

Often methods and outcomes of continuing professional education are left to chance, even by the large associations such as the American Psychological Association, the American Counseling Association, or the American Medical Association.

This is why the group sought out Dr. Frank Igou, I-O psychologist and professor at Louisiana Tech. He and his research team have been working to develop an instrument that aids in measuring the ability of mental health professionals to estimate if someone might act in a violent manner. And the work also supports the goal of understanding if training has been successful in teaching the skill set needed.

Dr. John Simoneaux, steering committee member, thinks this has been essential. "Rather than simply accepting as truth our assumption that mental health professionals know little about the science of risk assessment," said Simoneaux, "we asked Frank and his colleagues at Louisiana Tech to help us to identify specifically where those deficiencies might exist."

"This will hopefully allow us to direct our eventual training efforts to the areas where educational needs are most salient," Simoneaux said. "Our I-O colleagues know much more about how to correctly approach these concerns, and Dr. Igou has been gracious and generous in his willingness to help."

The group is developing a set of scientifically constructed items that will allow mental health professionals to better understand what they know and don't know about their skill in the prediction of violent behavior. The research team is currently isolating characteristics and content, and beginning to work with Subject Matter Experts to analyze the information. Several hundred characteristics have been reviewed and condensed to prepare for the next phases of the study.

The team from Louisiana Tech, headed by Igou, includes Louisiana Tech graduate students Lindsey Anderson, Bharati Bekwalkar, Scott Hines, Michael Knot, and William Scanu. Scanu is the graduate student team leader.

"We appreciate the work of Dr. Igou and his students who are assisting us with this project," said Dr. Bonner. "They are incorporating some newer technologies which will facilitate data collection and analysis. Subject matter experts (SMEs) will be contributing their knowledge and experience as well," she noted.

Igou explained that one software program he would be using was Qualtrics. "Qualtrics performs some statistical procedures in real time," Igou said, "and we will be able to go in and check progress with SMEs responses at anytime after the survey goes live."

While necessary for valid training programs, all of this can be cumbersome. "Unfortunately, this is very time and effort intensive," Dr. Bonner explained. "But the end result will allow for greater support from professionals in all fields as well as the public."

The Coalition came together last year after the Sandy Hook shootings, noting that often violent behavior was related to untreated mental health problems and that many mental health professionals and those in the lay public are ill-equipped to identify the danger and get help.

The Coalition members decided to design training that is scientifically sound and that would be a foundation for community programs to build a safety net so that potentially violent people are accurately identified and given mental health assistance.

"Our hope with Louisiana Coalition for Violence Prevention is to approach this effort as scientists who have a sincere interest in using our knowledge and expertise to solve what we consider to be a significant social ill," Simoneaux said.

Psychology Bd May Study "Supervision" By Med Psychologists

In their agenda for the December 2013 meeting, the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists noted that under "Committee Reports," that the committee for Supervision/ Credential Reviews may discuss the issue of supervision by medical psychologists.

The agenda noted, "The board will review credentials and supervision plans of applicants for licensure. The Board may also discuss the issue of Medical Psychologists supervising post doc students." The two members on this committee are Drs. Darla Burnett and Jessica Brown, who are both Medical Psychologists.

The supervision of candidates for a license in psychology by Medical Psychologists who have dropped their license under the state psychology board, has been a controversial issue in the community. Louisiana is the only state where this is the case.

In a June 13, 2011 decision the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists (LSBEP) reversed their October 2010 opinion (#012) that said only psychologists licensed under the LSBEP would qualify as supervisors of students, interns, or post-doctoral individuals who seek licensure as a psychologist.

The reversal came after Dr. John Bolter, a medical psychologist representing the Medical Psychology Advisory Committee (MPAC), and Dr. Robert Marier, Executive Director of the state medical board, sent requests to the Chair, Dr. Joe Comaty, also a medical psychologist, and asked that the LSBEP reconsider their opinion, according to the published statements.



Members of the Louisiana Coalition for Violence Prevention. (Standing left to right) Dr. Bryan Gros, Cindy Nardini, LPC, and Dr. John Simoneaux. The group is currently working with Dr. Frank Igou and doctoral graduate students from Louisiana Tech to design and test a training method that will help mental health professionals deal with people who may become violent.

2013 Year In Review

Continued

programs for juvenile offenders. *Models for Change* contributors Drs. Paul Frick, Tiffany Simpson, and Jana Sutton helped achieve the milestone.

Dean and Licensed Professional Counselor Sharon Hornsby Named *Champion for Change*
The John. D. & Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation's *Models for Change* initiative recognized Sharon Hornsby, dean of the Northshore Technical Community College Florida Parishes Campus, as a "Champion for Change" in juvenile justice reform efforts.

Three Vie for Spot on LSBEP Dr. Joe Comaty, Dr. Phil Griffin, and Dr. Lynn Schechter took a shot at serving on the board. Griffin captured the most votes and was appointed by the governor.

Tulane's Dr. Janet Ruscher was highlighted in the Association for Psychological Science's *Observer* Dr. Janet B. Ruscher, past Chair of the Tulane Psychology Department and current Associate Dean for Graduate Programs in Tulane's School of Science and Engineering, was interviewed in the *Observer*.

We Remember: Dr. Ivory L. Toldson As educator, clinician, philosopher, friend and colleague, Dr. Ivory Toldson illuminated the paths of African-American men and

women with his wisdom and humanity. He passed away unexpectedly in late December.

FEBRUARY

Magellan's Fee Schedule Draws Attention and Questions Representatives from the Louisiana Psychological Association asked for explanations about the reimbursement schedule of Magellan Health Services, the company managing behavioral health services for the state. One question was why medical psychologists and psychologists were scheduled to be reimbursed at different rates for the same service. This was considered to be an error and was later resolved by LPA's legislative team. From a further analysis of the fee schedule by the *Times*, other questions appeared: why are physicians reimbursed for hypnosis but not psychologists, social workers, or counselors? Why is there higher pay for pharmaceutical services compared to prevention services? And why are there different pay rates between professionals for exactly the same services?

University of New Orleans Biopsychologist Dr. Gerald

LaHoste and team Discover Way to Stall Huntington's Disease Dr. Gerald LaHoste and his team of researchers from the Applied Biopsychology Program of the Psychology Department at University of New Orleans have discovered a way that could help delay behavioral decline in patients with Huntington's Disease. LaHoste and graduate student Brandon Baiamonte conceived the experiment, with support of Franklin Lee, Steve Brewer, and Daniela Spano.

Outcomes-Informed Research
The *Times* featured Dr. David Kidder's work who uses Value Options client monitoring tools to provide better services. We talked with national outcomes researcher Dr. Jeb Brown of the Center for Clinical Informatics about Kidder's results and the newest research in this area.

Pennington Researcher Looks at TV, Kids, and Health Dr. Amanda E. Staiano looked at television, body fat, and cardiometabolic risk in children and adolescents, published in the *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*.

Dr. Lucinda DeGrange chosen Diversity Delegate to the American Psychological Association. APA chose Louisiana's Dr. Lucinda DeGrange as a fully supported Diversity Delegate.

American Group Psychotherapy Association Met in New Orleans

"Overcoming Obstacles: The Power of Group," was the theme for the annual meeting of the American Group Psychotherapy Association held in New Orleans. The event was heavily supported by the Louisiana affiliate, Louisiana Group Psychotherapy Society. Louisiana presenters included Douglas Greve, MD, Susanne Jensen, PhD, Darlyne Nemeth, PhD, MP, Marvin Clifford, PhD, LCSW, and Toni Bankston, LCSW, Jose Calderon-Abbo, MD, Therese Close, RN, Mindy Milam, LCSW, Marie O'Neil, LCSW, all from the Mind- Body Center of Louisiana, New Orleans.

MARCH

U.S. Senator Tom Coburn Takes Science's Flag to Social Security Administration The U.S. Senator known for confronting government waste and inefficiency, Oklahoma's Dr. Tom Coburn, challenged the Social Security Administration's anti-scientific approach to detecting malingering in its disability claims. Senator

Cont'd next pg

The Psychology Times

2013

COMMUNITY AWARD

INNOVATION

**Gerald LaHoste, Brandon Baiamonte,
and UNO Biopsychologists**



"Imagination is more important than knowledge," said Einstein. The Innovation Award recognizes that creativity is an important ingredient for major leaps in science, practice and human productivity.

We were completely impressed with the innovations of Dr. Denise Batton from the Alexandria VA who developed a health program for women veterans that integrated body, mind, and spirit, so often missing in health approaches.

But we had to give the 2013 Award to Dr. Gerald LaHoste, graduate student Brandon Baiamonte, and the team of researchers from the University of New Orleans Applied Biopsychology Program, for their discovery of genetic relationships in the Rhes gene.

The group uncovered a possible mechanism which could delay or prevent the emergence of behavioral symptoms in Huntington's Disease, an illness that is presently incurable, debilitating, and fatal.

2013 Year In Review

Continued

Coburn had help in understanding the science behind these complex issues from New Orleans clinical and neuropsychologist, Dr. Michael Chafetz.

Members from Behavioral Health Step Up for Violence Prevention In part prompted by the tragedy at Sandy Hook, professionals formed a multidisciplinary coalition to promote safety in Louisiana by strengthening early identification of those at risk of violence. Steering committee members of the group, named the Louisiana Coalition for Violence Prevention, included Drs. John Simoneaux and Bryan Gros, Cindy Nardini, LPC, Bobette Laurendine, LCSW, and Dr. Yael Banai, certified school psychology specialist.

Dr. Tucker's Program Finds New Home Psychologist Dr. Susan Tucker and her nationally recognized treatment program survived the state cutbacks and the closing of Forcht Wade Correctional Center in Keithville, relocating to the Bossier Sherriff Facility.

Psychologist Designed Teacher Assessment Program Moves Into Full Swing Across State Data from a project that uncovered the links between teachers, teacher preparation, and student outcomes, laid out in the 2010 Act 54, took full effect in 2013. LSU professor and school psychologist Dr. George Noell lead the earlier program, called the Value-Added Teacher Preparation Program Assessment Model. Under Act 54, 50 percent of teacher evaluation information comes from the assessment of the growth and learning displayed by the individual students of that particular teacher.

New Members of the MFT Advisory Committee Appointed Dr. Kathryn "Kathy" Steele of Metairie and Dr. David Legendre' of Lafayette were appointed to the Advisory Committee for Marriage and Family Therapy by the Governor.

Reduction in School Counselors Avoided For Now Through testimony from school counselors, counselors, Louisiana Association of Principals, Louisiana State Superintendents, and others, the Louisiana Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) decided against removing language from a regulation that maintains a ratio of one school counselor for every 450 students.

Three Offer To Fill One-Year Spot LSBEP Dr. Jessica Brown, Dr. Thomas Fain, and Dr. Beverly Stubblefield ran for a spot on the psychology board. While Stubblefield eked out a win over Brown, the governor appointed Brown in April, keeping the psychology board with a majority of medical psychologists.

Louisiana School Psychological Association Welcomes New Officers Outgoing President Yael Banai, PhD, welcomed the new President, Francoise Parr, and new President-Elect Candace Dozier.

Dr. Thomason is First in Louisiana to Use Data-Referenced EEG Technology A new, physiologically based measurement system, using EEG results and norms is said to help doctors and nurses choose the right medications for their patients and avoid trial and error prescribing. Dr. David Thomason, a medical prescriber practicing in Monroe, is the first person in Louisiana using the new methodology.

Louisiana Tech's new Industrial-Organizational Psychology Program is Thriving The I-O psychology program at Louisiana Tech, although in its infancy, has already become a fast growing, internationally recognized, applied research program.

LSU Researchers Join To Help Baton Rouge Police Fight Violence & Crime LSU School of Social Work professors Drs. Cecile Guin and Juan Barthelemy linked up with the East Baton Rouge Parish law enforcement project, called BRAVE, along with industrial-organizational psychologist Dr. Tracey Rizutto from the School of Human Resource Education and Workforce Development.

Pennington's Dr. Martin Co-Designing Smartphone Imaging for Food Intake Dr. Cory Martin, Associate Professor at Pennington Biomedical Research Center and Director of the Ingestive Behavior Laboratory, is working with Dr. Bahadir Gunturk of LSU School of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, to build a device that allows dieters to know more about what they are really eating.

Southeastern's Dr. LeBlanc Joins with LSU Kinesiology to Understand Kids, Anxiety, & Activity Assistant professor of psychology at Southeastern Louisiana University, Dr. Monique LeBlanc teamed up with Dr. Birgitta Baker of the Kinesiology Department at LSU to investigate physical activity and anxiety in children.

Southeastern Psychological Assn met in Atlanta. Louisiana researchers presented a variety of presentations at the regional psychological conference.

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The Psychology Times
2013
COMMUNITY AWARD
COURAGE
Michael Chafetz

This award could have been named the Galileo award. The Holy Office punished Galileo for finding out that it was the earth that orbited the sun, which apparently was quite threatening to some people.

The *Times'* Courage Award is given to those in science or practice that go up against the behemoths of status quo, where they are likely to be punished or ostracized. It is for the Davids, for the people with the slingshot who whack Goliath in the nose anyway.

A very close contender was Dr. George Noell, whose research connecting schools, teachers, and student performance, is continuing to impact the entire state as Act 54 rolls along.

But we have to give the 2013 Courage Award to the neuropsychologist researcher Dr. Michael Chafetz, who, with very little help or support, has taken on the Social Security Administration and their inappropriate prohibition against symptom validity assessment in disability claims.



2013 Year In Review

Continued

Drs. Chaney and Sauley Present for LSU Leadership Institute Dr. Courtland Chaney and Dr. Kerry Sauley, industrial-organizational psychology instructors, presented "Developing Your Managerial Effectiveness," for LSU Continuing Education Management & Leadership Institute.

New Orleans–Birmingham Psychoanalytic Center Film Series *The Fisher King*, a training event by Dale Firestone, LCSW, was presented for its Film Series, *Mourning and Melancholia*. The

Film Series is organized by Travis Tanner, PhD

Mindfulness Day Held For Mental Health Professionals The 4th Annual Mindfulness Day was held in Baton Rouge. Presenters were Thay Dao Quang, MEd., John W. Pickering, PhD, David T. Weibel, PhD., and W. Sumner Davis, MS.

APRIL

Political Musical Chairs: Counselor's Board Rescinds Offer to Merge; LPA Nixes

Psychology Board's Plan to Merge; and Sen. Morrell Moves Forward with Behavior Analyst Board After the Behavior Analyst Commission spent half the year working out a plan to place behavior analysts with the counselor board, a strange impasse collapses the deal, making hash out of the Commission's votes in late 2012. The plan B option was a merger with the psychology board, but this also failed, under fire by members of the state psychology association, as being to radical a change from its nearly 50 year history. Backroom talks and negotiations by Senator Morrell and wife Catherine, who served as the Commission's Vice Chair, put forth the goal of an independent board. Commission members had previously unanimously voted down this option, but the bill sailed through the legislature.

The Psychology Board Forms Task Force For School Psych Specialist Dr. Steven Welsh, retired Dean of Education at Nicholls State University and licensed school psychologist, outlined for psychology board members certain issues about credentials for school psychology specialist. 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.

Legislative Session Begins with 901 Bills Filed Bills included Mental Health Courts, Criminalizing Sex with Psychotherapy Clients, New Behavioral Health License, New Rates for LPC License Fees, Sex Trafficking, and others.

MFT Advisory Committee Confirms New Handbook For Supervisors of Interns Members of the Marriage and Family Therapy Advisory Committee confirmed the new supervisory handbook as a main resource for supervisors of interns in marriage and family therapy.

Dr. Cunningham Honored for Distinguished Contributions Tulane Professor and Provost for the Center of Engaged Learning and Teaching, Dr. Michael Cunningham, received the award for *Distinguished Contributions* from the Society for Research in Child Development.

Dr. Jack Palmer Heads Up Psychology At University of Louisiana Monroe New chair of psychology at University of

Louisiana Monroe, Dr. Jack Palmer is promoting the online curriculum and other efforts to increase the scope of the ULM psychology graduate department.

Salcedos Work To Rescue Sex-Trafficked Children Dr. Rafael Salcedo, licensed psychologist, and wife Beth Salcedo, licensed speech-language pathologist, founders of the non-profit, advocacy group called the Louisiana Coalition Against Human Trafficking, plan on another step in their on-going efforts to help rescue children from sexual exploitation. 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.

Dr. Nastasi Awarded LSPA Lifetime Achievement by Louisiana School Psychological Association Dr. Bonnie Nastasi, Professor in the school psychology program at Tulane University, received the 2012 Lifetime Achievement Award from the Louisiana School Psychological Association.

Dr. Tramontana Presents at American Society of Clinical Hypnosis Dr. Joseph Tramontana, recently elected President of the New Orleans Society for Clinical Hypnosis, served on the faculty for the American Society of Clinical Hypnosis' annual convention.

MAY

Legislature in Full Swing. Bills having to do with behavior analyst board, with mental health courts, and a new DHH License for mental health service providers, to criminalize sex with psychotherapy clients, were among the many initiatives pushing through the legislative session.

La Researchers Present their Work at Association of Psychological Science Undergraduates, graduate students, and professors in psychology from Centenary, LaTech, Loyola, Tulane, U. of Louisiana–Lafayette, U. of New Orleans, and Xavier University demonstrated their research skill and contributions for what is becoming the premier scientific organization for those in psychology.

Psychology Times Takes Home 11 Louisiana Press Assn Awards *Times* staff took home

The Psychology Times
2013
COMMUNITY AWARD
ALTRUISM

Raphael and Beth Salcedo

Love is patient, kind, not puffed up. It must also be steadfast and determined. This year's winners of the Altruism Award epitomize all of these.

Dr. Raphael Salcedo and wife Beth Salcedo have embraced the heart-wrenching tragedy of child sex trafficking. They continue to push for change and to attempt to help these young victims who are trapped by the darkest elements of society. Louisiana is one of the more progressive states in legislative reforms that fight this crime, because of the Salcedos and others like them.

This year's Altruism Award goes to Raphael and Beth Salcedo for their courage, unselfishness, and determination to stop child sex trafficking and to offer genuine help to these youngsters.



2013 Year In Review

Continued

11 awards, including 8 first places, at the 133rd Annual Louisiana Press Association Convention.

LPC Board Publishes 26 Pages of Updated Rules The Board of Examiners for Licensed Professional Counselors published new proposed rules in the *Louisiana Register*. The revisions and additions were needed to implement Act 276 and Act 636 of the 2012 session, and also to update the LPC Code of Conduct with the latest edition of the American Counseling Association Code of Ethics.

Dr. Steele Brings Multi-Cultural Focus to Teaching, Counseling Dr. Kathryn Steele helps train counselors in Havana, Cuba, in her role as Director and Professor of Counseling Professors Training Program for the Baptist Seminary. The bilingual, associate professor from the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, brings a diverse background and multi-cultural focus to all her duties.

Drs. Nemeth and Ray Organize Ecopsychology for World Council of Psychotherapy Drs. Darlyne Nemeth and Kelly Ray, officers in the U.S. Chapter of the World Council on Psychotherapy, organized the WCP conference about environmental trauma.

Dr. Andrews Earns Gold For Stress Solutions Dr. Susan

Andrews won the Gold Award in her category from Independent Publishers Book Awards for her *Stress Solutions for Pregnant Moms: How Breaking Free from Stress Can boost Your Baby's Potential*.

North Louisiana Behavioral & Social Sciences Conference Held at LaTech The Counseling Psychology Doctoral Student Organization of Louisiana Tech University organized and hosted the first annual North Louisiana Behavioral & Social Sciences Conference.

National Counselors Board Awards UNO Doctoral Student \$20,000 Minority Fellowship Grant Tamia Randolph-Alvarez, a University of New Orleans doctoral student in the UNO College of Education and Human Development's Counselor Education Graduate program, was named a 2013 Minority Fellow by the National Board for Certified Counselors.

JUNE

BA Bill Passes Senator J. P. Morrell's SB 134 to establish an independent board for Behavior Analysts, headed for the Governor.

Tulane's Dr. Ruscher Chairs Another Hit Convention for

Association for Psychological Science For the third time, Tulane's Dr. Janet Ruscher served as Committee Chair of the Association for Psychological Science Convention, and wrapped up another success for the APS 2013 Annual Convention.

Dr. Chafetz Presents Research Facts for Social Security Inspector General Dr. Michael Chafetz presented his research to members of the Inspector General's Office of the Social Security Administration. Chafetz's research was cited in a letter by Senator Thomas Coburn of Oklahoma, sent to the SSA in March, which prompted the OIG to learn more about the science behind this tense political issue.

Louisiana Psychological Association Holds Annual Convention LPA hosted multiple tracks and topics for its annual convention in Baton Rouge. Presenters included Dr. Michelle Moore with colleague Kate Cuno, M.A., Dr. Susan Andrews, Dr. Sherry Desselle, and popular presenters Dr. Kelley Pears and Dr. Leslie Drew from the Alexandria Veterans Administration Medical Center. Also Dr. Michael Chafetz, Drs. Jesse Lambert, R. Stokes, Robert Storer, and Carolyn Weyand, presented on dangerousness.

Dr. Tramontana Named LPA 2013 Distinguished Psychologist Dr. Joe Tramontana was selected by the Executive Committee of the Louisiana Psychological Association as the 2013 Distinguished Psychologist.

Core Competencies To Be Focus For Marriage & Family Therapy Supervisors The Marriage and Family Therapy Advisory Committee looked to the national Marriage and Family Therapy Core Competencies © tool for supervisors to rate interns' performance.

All Psychologists Should Have Professional Wills, Says LSBEP The Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists issued an Opinion indicating that all licensees should prepare and execute a "Professional Will."

Medical Board Says Med Psychologists Can Bill For Eval & Management Codes The state medical board issued an Advisory Opinion requested by Dr. Jim Quillin, Chair of the Medical Psychology Advisory Committee. The Opinion confirmed that medical psychologists could use Evaluation and Management Codes, typically used by

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The Psychology Times
2013
COMMUNITY AWARD

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

John Simoneaux, Cindy Nardini, Bryan Gros, Yael Banai, Bobette Laurendine, and MKay Bonner



Things don't happen unless people work together to make them happen. We could have called this the community psychology award. It goes to the individual or group that transcended the typical politics and subgroup differences, to bring people together in a positive way. The award recognizes the importance of team effort, mutual respect, and the diversity that is key to innovation and productivity.

This year's award goes to members of the multi-disciplinary Louisiana Coalition for Violence Prevention, who have reached across the mental health disciplines in Louisiana. Dr. John Simoneaux, Cindy Nardini, LPC, Dr. Bryan Gros, Dr. Yael Banai, Bobette Laurendine, LCSW, and Dr. MKay Bonner.

2013 Year In Review

Continued

physicians for short services involving medication checks.

UNO Undergraduate Psychology Students Win Research Grants Skylar Hicks, Shannin Moody, and Florencia Iturri together won almost \$15,000 for research by participating in the 3rd Annual Supervised Undergraduate Research Experience competition, hosted by the Board of Regents. The students will be working with Assistant Professor of Psychology Monica Marsee, Assistant Professor of Psychology Cornelia Lamm, and Early Research Professor of Psychology Birdie Shirtcliff.

LSU Alums Plan Informal Reunion Richard Maples and Dr.

Courtland Chaney are planning an informal reunion of Louisiana State University Baton Rouge psychology doctoral students for the summer of 2014.

“Things We Keep: A Short Interview With Dr. Yael Banai” The *Times* offered a feature story on Dr. Yael Banai and her early days in the Israeli army.

Professional Training Resources Held its 11th Annual Mental Health Summer Symposium The Summer Symposium, a multidisciplinary event for counselors, substance abuse counselors, social workers, psychologists, and others, was presented by the training company, PTR, owned by Dr. John Simoneaux.

2nd Annual Louisiana School Climate Institute The 2nd Annual Louisiana School Climate Institute, sponsored by the Louisiana Department of Education, presented “Creating Safe and Positive School Climates,” in Shreveport. Speakers included Dr. Scott Poland, Dr. Johathan Cohen, Dr. Charles Williams, and Cheri Lovre, Dr. David Brooks, Jamie Keith, Jon Guice, JD, Kelly Wells, Sandy Williamson, Dr. Barbara Dietsch, and Dr. Jean Hollenshead.

JULY

Community Leaders Gathered to Discuss Violence Prevention The Louisiana Coalition for Violence Prevention hosted a meeting and training session for key community members. Approximately 40 attendees from around the state represented psychology, counseling, social work, school psychology, psychiatry, law enforcement, legal, ministry, and research scientists.

Task Force To Survey School Psychologists The first meeting of the School Specialist Task Force was held and work began on a survey to seek input from the community of school psychologists certified through the state.

Hoarders’ Dr. Chabaud Hosts Summit in New Orleans Dr. Suzanne Chabaud, Louisiana licensed clinical and developmental psychologist, hosted individuals from around the country for the second Adult Children of Hoarders Summit. Chabaud is Director of the Obsessive Compulsive Disorders Institute of Greater New Orleans and expert in 33 episodes of the award-winning A&E television show, *Hoarders*.

Dr. Gintner Presents At Ohio Psych Assn Dr. Gary Gintner, Associate Professor and Program Leader of the Counseling Program at Louisiana State University, presented at the Ohio Psychological Association. The workshop, “DSM-5: A User’s Guide Workshop,” was hosted by *The National Psychologist* and the Ohio Psychological Association.

VA Clinicians Help Raise PTSD Awareness Staff at the Alexandria Veterans Affairs Medical Center held an open house to help promote awareness about PTSD, part of

a national effort to educate and reduce the stigma of seeking help for this disorder. Dr. Leslie Drew is clinical psychologist and PTSD Program Coordinator at Alexandria Veterans Affairs Health Care System.

Dr. Sandoz and Louisiana Contextual Science Researchers Present at Assn of Behavior Analysis Dr. Emily Sandoz and members of the Louisiana Contextual Science Research Group from the University of Louisiana–Lafayette presented their work and chaired activities at the 39th Annual Convention of the Association for Behavior Analysis International.

New Lake Charles Internship Acquires APPIC Membership The Predoctoral Internship Program in Professional Psychology located in Lake Charles, Louisiana acquired membership in Association of Psychology Postdoctoral and Internship Centers. Supervising faculty include Andrew Thrasher, Ph.D., Allyson Bennett, Ph.D., Ray Hawkins, Ph.D., ABPP, Larry Dilks, Ph.D., Darrell Turner, Ph.D., and Jerry Whiteman, Ph.D.

Louisiana Professors and Researchers Attend APA in Honolulu Louisiana researchers presented at the American Psychological Association. Included this year were Tulane’s Dr. Stacy Overstreet and Dr. Bonnie Nastasi, University of Louisiana Monroe’s Dr. Karen Kopera-Frye and Dr. Bill McCown, Dr. Darlyne Nemeth, Dr. Lee Matthews, Loyola’s Dr. Janet Matthews, Drs. Greg Gormanous and Warren Lowe, Dr. Kelly Ray, and a number from LaTech including Drs. Guler Boyraz, Mary M. Livingston, Walter Buboltz, Janelle McDaniell, and Steve Jenkins.

AUGUST

Behavior Analysts Board Members Named Governor Jindal named Emily Bellaci, M.A., BCBA, Cassie Bradford, BCBA, Ellen Brocato, MS, BCBA, Kathy Chovanec, MA, LPC, LMFT, BCBA, and Jennifer Longwell, BCBA, to the new board for behavior analysts.

The Psychology Times 2013 COMMUNITY AWARD

MEDIA

Suzanne Chabaud

After it was first discovered that x-rays harmed a baby in the womb, it took another 25 years for that knowledge to reach physicians in a way that protected women and their unborn children.

The Media Award acknowledges that for an idea to make a difference, it has to reach people in a meaningful way. Dr. Suzanne Chabaud continued her efforts to reach out and help, this time hosting a Summit for the Children of Hoarders at her firm in New Orleans. Chabaud has been collecting scientific information about generational issues for those growing up in the home of a hoarder. Chabaud serves as an expert for the award-winning A&E TV show *Hoarders*. (Photo courtesy of A&E.)



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2013 Year In Review

Continued

Dr. Tucker Appointed Dr. Susan Tucker, Chief Psychologist and Assistant Warden at the Bossier Sherriff Medium Correctional Facility in Plain Dealing, was appointed by the governor to Louisiana's Commission on Addictive Disorders.

LSU's Dr. Buckner Helps Discover New Treatments for Dual Diagnosis Dr. Julia Buckner and her team at Louisiana State University's Anxiety and Addictive Behaviors Laboratory & Clinic began work to develop a new treatment for those struggling with a combination of anxiety and marijuana dependency.

Dr. Scaramella Named New NIH Chair University of New Orleans Psychology Professor, Dr. Laura Scaramella was named Chairperson of the National Institute of Health peer review group to oversee the Psychosocial Development, Risk and Prevention study section of the Center for Scientific Review.

LPC Rules Clarify "When Medication May Be Indicated" A 26-page revision of regulations governing counselors was published in the *Louisiana Register*, including changes to a 2011 law requiring counselors engage in an ongoing consultation with someone licensed to provide medication. The news rules specify changes from a 2012 Act 636 that removed a requirement for a client to be also under the care of this other provider, and leaves it up to the counselor to make decisions about consultation based on best practices

New Proposed Continuing Ed Changes Published in Register After almost three years of discussions about changes, prompted by recommendations from the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards, and first discussed in 2011, the psychology board is presented final proposal for changes. The new rules greatly expand the types of learning activities that qualify to meet licensing requirements for on-going professional development.

Mixed Opinions On New DSM-5 The *Times* reporter Shane Lowery spoke with Dr. William McCown of the University of Louisiana- Monroe, Dr. Tony Young of Louisiana Tech, and Dr. Gary Gintner of LSU Counseling, to learn more about the controversial changes surrounding the new DSM-5.

Dr. Curry Named Interim Associate Dean Dr. Jennifer Curry was named Interim Associate Dean for Programs and Services, College of Human Sciences & Education at LSU, Baton Rouge. Curry formerly served as the coordinator of the school counseling program within the College of Human Sciences & Education.

Changes Coming For Baton Rouge Speech & Hearing Dr. Brian Esteve and his colleagues at Baton Rouge Speech & Hearing Foundation are getting ready for big changes. The Foundation broke ground at Innovation Park, LSU's new complex, and will open in the spring 2014.

Galbraith Takes Reigns Of Louisiana Counseling Assn The Louisiana Counseling Association announced new officers: Bruce Galbraith, President, John Crawford President-Elect, and Paul Ceasar, Past President. The group celebrated 45 years as the state's professional association for counselors.

Dr. Gary Gintner Highlighted in National Psychologist Dr. Gary Gintner, LSU Associate Professor and Program Leader of the Counseling Program at Louisiana State University, was featured in the lead story for the July/August issue of *The National Psychologist*.

SEPTEMBER

School Specialist Discussion Taking Shape After Survey Results The psychology board received responses from school psychologists and school psychology specialists regarding multi-level licensing for the specialist in school psychology. It was the largest response for a survey, said the Board's Executive Director. The responses will help guide the decisions of the task force.

BP Programs In 2nd Year; Vulnerabilities In Coastal Residents The oil spill catastrophe generated a number of projects to help those impacted, including projects funded by the legal settlement with BP. The *Times* reviewed one of these, the "Mental and Behavioral Health Capacity Project."

The Psychology Behind A&E's Hit, Duck Dynasty The *Times* talked with experts about the

psychology and appeal of the West Monroe reality show, *Duck Dynasty*. The fourth season premier aired last month and broke all cable television records with a 11.8 million viewers.

New LSBEP Member Now Listed as Medical Psychologist The state medical board listed Dr. Jessica Brown as qualifying for the medical psychologist certificate, coming as a surprise to some in the Louisiana Psychological Association where Brown had served as Legislative Chair.

Violence Prevention Group Teams Up With Louisiana Tech's Dr. Igou The Louisiana Coalition for Violence Prevention teamed up with Dr. Frank Igou and his group from Louisiana Tech to design training systems for the Coalition's program. Dr. Igou is Associate Professor of Industrial-Organizational Psychology in the LaTech Department of Psychology and Behavioral Sciences. The goal is to improve clinicians' ability to accurately detect those who could become violent and help ensure public safety.

LSU I-O is "Gone for Good" Says Psychology Chair Due to cutbacks and restrictions, the LSU Psychologist Department ends the 60-year running Industrial-Organization Psychology program. "Gone for good," current psychology chair Dr. Bob Mathews told the *Times*. The program was one of the oldest, continuously running I-O programs in the United States.

APA Accredits LAS*PIC While Funding Struggles Continue Amid funding cuts that seriously endanger the future of Louisiana's premier training internship for school psychology, the American Psychological Association has renewed the accreditation of the program for seven more years. The Louisiana School Psychology Consortium, called LAS*PIC, is a program of the Human Development Center of the LSU Health Sciences Center in New Orleans.

Dr. Weyand is President-Elect for China-American Psychoanalytic Alliance Dr. Carolyn Weyand, psychologist, psychoanalyst, and faculty member with the New Orleans-Birmingham Psychoanalytic

Institute, is taking on the duties as President-Elect for the China American Psychoanalytic Alliance.

American Psychology-Law Society announced its 2014 Conference in New Orleans LSU's Dr. Sean Lane reminded readers of the submission deadlines.

OCTOBER

OIG Shakes Its Finger at SSA Investigation Finds SSA Policy Prohibiting Tests for Malingering Runs Counter to Good Science, Practice The Office of Inspector General for the Social Security Administration pointed to flaws in the agency's prohibition against using psychological tests of malingering in disability claims. These flaws could account for over \$20 billion waste per year in adult mental disorder claimants alone. The Office of Inspector General (OIG) is the agency of the Social Security Administration (SSA) charged with quality control, waste, and fraud problems within SSA. In the report, investigators noted that the SSA runs contrary to scientific and medical consensus, other federal agencies. In the middle of the debate was Louisiana neuropsychologist, Dr. Michael Chafetz.

Did SSA Try To Kill the Messenger? Piecing together information from a series of internal documents, the *Times* discovered that the state Disability Determination Services officials stopped using New Orleans neuropsychologist Dr. Michael Chafetz shortly after he published results about malingering in Social Security claimants and potential problems.

Record Number Attend Louisiana Counseling Assn Convention The Louisiana Counseling Association hosted 963 attendees, a record number, at its 45th Annual Conference. Conference organizers weren't sure of why the growth, but the engaging the multiple divisions of the association was clear in the upbeat, "something for everyone" agenda.

LAMP Creates New Non-Profit Corporation The Louisiana Academy of Medical Psychologists formed a new organization and they have registered with the Secretary of State. The new name is "Louisiana Academy of Medical Psychologists, Inc."

2013 Year In Review

Continued

DHH Outlines \$26M in Cuts for 2014 Budget The Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals outlined reductions to cope with the \$25.9 million state general fund shortfall that came in the state's final operating budget for 2014.

Hammond Physician Joins LPC Board Dr. James Nelson, physician from Hammond, was appointed to the Licensed Professional Counselors Board. Nelson is a general surgeon at Surgical Associates in Hammond, has served as the Chief Medical Officer at North Oaks Health System.

By the Numbers: Professionals Licensed by Certain State Licensing Boards The *Times* reported on some of who is licensed in the community: Licensed Social Workers, 6,499; Licensed Professional Counselors 2,772; Licensed Marriage & Family Therapists, 822 (638 also have LPC); Licensed Psychologists 655 (685 if counting medical

psychologists with psychology board license); Licensed Addiction Counselors and Prevention Professionals 572; 70 Licensed Medical Psychologists (30 dual licensed under psychology board).

Obamacare Corner: Putting Behavioral Health into the New Health Care Equation
A Talk with Health Psychologist Dr. Michele Larzelere

Tulane Professor Dr. Larrieu Named to La Children's Bd Gov. Jindal appointed Dr. Julie Larrieu to the Louisiana Children's Trust Fund Board. Larrieu is a Professor of Clinical Psychiatry and Pediatrics and Director of Training, Clinical Psychology, at the Tulane University School of Medicine.

NOVEMBER

Dr. Kirsch Stuns Audience with Facts on Science, Politics and Anti-Depressant Drug Industry; FDA Approvals Skewed to Favor Drug Companies The Louisiana Psychological Association and Tulane jointly sponsored a training event with international expert in placebo research, Dr. Irving Kirsch. In a review of scientific research showing that the main reason anti-depressants appear to work is due to their placebo effects, Harvard's Kirsch, laid out the damning evidence that drug companies and the FDA skew research to approve drugs that have little actual value.

Innovation Key In Health Program for Women Vets at Alexandria VA Dr. Denise Batton designed an innovative health program, the "Healthy Women Are Active" Program, for women veterans at the Alexandria VA. The new program is a comprehensive,

creative approach for helping the veterans served by the Alexandria VA Medical Center and the surrounding Community Based Outpatient Clinics.

Dr. Chafetz Reviews Science for Another US Senator & Staff Dr. Michael Chafetz, New Orleans neuropsychologist, was called upon again to present his research about malingering, this time to United States Senator Tom Carper's office, the US Senator from Delaware and Deputy Whip. He is chair of the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee.

LSU's Dr. Curry Honored by La. Counseling Assn LSU College of Human Science and Education faculty member Dr. Jennifer Curry received the Advocacy Award from the Louisiana Counseling Association.

La. Office of Juvenile Justice Publishes Its Strategic Plan

Cont'd next pg

The Psychology Times
2013
**COMMUNITY AWARD
INVOLVEMENT**

**Bruce Galbraith, Paul Ceasar,
Tim Fields, Joan Fischer, Diane
Austin, and others in LCA**

Eighty percent of success is showing up, we've all heard. To be able to get people out of their offices and off their couches, to get them excited and involved, to inspire them, takes a special type of talent.

The La Counseling Association's leadership team was somehow able to balance and meet the needs of 11 growing divisions, each an association in its own right. It led to an overflowing, excitement filled convention, and a satisfied, engaged membership that continues to grow and contribute to the state's counseling needs.

This year's Involvement Award goes to the Louisiana Counseling Association leadership team, with President Bruce Galbraith, Past President Paul Ceasar, President Elect Tim Fields, Professional Development Chair, Joan Fischer, Executive Director Diane Austin, and others.



2013 Year In Review

Continued

The Office of Juvenile Justice published its strategic plan for 2014 and wrote, “Ensuring youth with mental health needs are appropriately diverted to the mental health system.”

Behavior Analysis Assn Holds First Annual Conference

The Louisiana Behavior Analysis Association held its inaugural Gulf Coast Applied Behavior Analysis Conference. Presenters included Drs. Dolleen-Day Keohane, Grant Gautreaux, and Jenny Cronier Zeringue from Nicholls State University. Also Drs. Lauren Becnel from Nicholls State University, and Drs. Ken Denny and G. Richmond Mancil from Louisiana Tech University, presented. Drs. Elise Baker, Meredith Harris, George Noell, Sarah Miller, Jessica Alvarez, and Michael Schafer from Louisiana State University also were among the presenters.

Behavior Analyst Board Publishes Emergency Rules in Oct Register The new Behavior Analyst Board published emergency rules to address license application procedures, standards, and fees, for Behavior Analysts, Certified Assistant Behavior Analysts, and registration for Line Technicians.

Obamacare Corner: Prevention and Wellness in the ACA The *Times* talked with author and Health Psychologist Expert, Dr. Linda Brannon from McNeese University.

The 33rd Annual Conference of the La School Psychological Association “Our School, Our Community, Our Future,” was the theme of Louisiana School Psychological Assn. John White gave the Keynote Address. Presentations included the President of the National Association of School Psychology, Sally Baas, EdD who spoke on “Building Meaningful Community Partnerships.” Among those presenting were LSU’s Dr. Frank Gresham, Tulane’s Drs. Connie Patterson and Stacy Overstreet, and Dr. Chavez Phelps.

Dr. Dammers Comments in Business Report on Stress

Dr. Paul Dammers, medical psychologist and neuropsychologist was interviewed for the *Baton Rouge Business Report’s* “It’s a mad mad, mad, mad world.”

Psychology at the Movies Guest Columnist, Dr. Alvin Burstein Professor emeritus, UTK reviews *Suspicion*, the 1941 Hitchcock thriller.

South River Stories On Cox, Tuesdays Dr. Susan Dardard, aka Susie Marie PhD, starred in a new reality television show set in rural Louisiana, called *South River Stories®*.

Human Development Center Offers Help for those Serving Schools and Children Prompted by what appeared to be a decline in quality of assessments, the LSUHSC Human Development Center offered training sessions: “Critical Issues in Implementing Response to Intervention (RtI) in Schools,” and “Stay Out of I.D.E.A. Jail: Ensuring Your Evaluations are 1508 Compliant.” Presenters included Dr. Amanda VanDerHeyden, and members of the TIERS group, Holly Paczak, Drs. Jennifer Maynard, George Hebert, and Jennifer Koehler, and Director Dr. Alan Coulter.

DECEMBER

Psychology Board Moves Toward Specialist License In what some consider a historic move, the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists advanced plans to create an optional license for school specialists under the state psychology board, creating a multi-level license for the first time ever. The credential, to be named the

The Psychology Times 2013 COMMUNITY AWARD STATESMANSHIP

**Steven Welsh, Rita Culross,
Connie Patterson, Carmen
Broussard, Susan Ratterree,
E. Francoise Parr, Kelly Parker
also Lee Matthews**

The Statesmanship Award goes to the person or group that embraces win-win problem solving in government or legislative areas. It involves the respect for diversity and genuine efforts to engage those with different views. But also, the award involves maintaining excellence in decisions and outcomes, not just compromises.

True statesmen and stateswomen preserve the best principles and values of the larger society, while at the same time creating a light bulb—something that produces a lot of value, but at an insignificant or small cost, either material or social.

This year’s Statesmanship Award goes to members of the School Specialist Task Force. After 30 years, the group developed a bridge that could help serve the school children of Louisiana who have very little access to school psychology services.

Winners are Dr. Rita Culross, Dr. Connie Patterson, Dr. Carmen Broussard, Susan Ratterree, E. Francoise Parr, and Kelly Parker. Also, and perhaps especially Dr. Steven Welsh, who floated the idea. Chair Dr. Lee Matthews, who embraced it, is also named by the *Times’* staff.



Cont'd next pg

2013 Year In Review

Continued

Licensed Specialist in School Psychology, would open up opportunities for school psychology specialists in private and charter schools that have previously been closed to the specialists. The Task Team reported that with a population of 690,000 students in Louisiana schools, the ratio of certified school psychologists to Louisiana students is 1 to 2875, and the ratio of licensed school psychologists is less than 1 to 10,000.

Dr. McCown to Help Lead College of Business & Social Sciences at ULM Dr. Bill McCown will help lead the newly formed College of Business and Social Sciences at the University of Louisiana Monroe as Associate Dean.

LGPS Honors Dr. Sue Jensen with Lifetime Achievement, Jensen Presents to Group Psychotherapists The Louisiana Group Psychotherapy Society honored Baton Rouge psychologist, Dr. Susanne Jensen, with their Lifetime Achievement Award. The award was presented at the Fall Institute of the Society where Jensen presented, "Finding Your Own Style as a Group Psychotherapist." Many of those attending have been students of Dr. Jensen over the last three decades.

Psych Board Reviews Emeritus Status The psychology board discussed possible changes to the Emeritus license for psychologists.

Will The Real LAMP Please Stand Up? The *Times* investigated the confusion in the 2010 Act 251 which wrote into law educational and regulatory issues that were supposedly managed by a the Louisiana Academy of Medical Psychologists Political Action Committee.

'Tis the Season for Stress The *Times* talked with six Louisiana experts about stress and topics of neuropsychology (Dr. Susan Andrews), meditation (Dr. John Pickering), sleep (Dr. Denise Sharon), acupuncture (Dr. David Thomason), and relationships (Drs. Molly and David Govener) to give us some ideas how to cope with the downside of the season.

Mental Health Parity Final Rules Published The final rules for the Paul Wellstone and Pete Domenici Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008 were published, closing the last steps to ensure that mental health and substance abuse is covered the same as physical conditions.

Untreated Mental Health Problems Noted in Report On Sandy Hook Shootings The report on the Sandy Hook shooting suggests that Adam Lanza was not adequately treated for mental disturbance, characterized by his focus on the Columbine shootings and also on weapons.

We Remember Dr. Robert "Bob" Davis

Dr. Bob Davis is remembered by his colleagues as a remarkably competent, compassionate person with unfaltering support for others, and the ability to generously share his endearing wit and humor with his friends and associates.

Psychology at the Movies, "Bah Humbug" Guest columnist Dr. Alvin Burstein reviews *A Christmas Carol*.

Smiles to Tears and Back Again

Dr. Joe McGahan shared a personal Christmas story with *Times* readers. He is Professor of Social Psychology and Co-Director of The Social Science Research Lab at the University of Louisiana at Monroe.

Cathedral of Notre Dame in Paris, Photos and comment by Dr. Tom Stigall from a visit to the famous cathedral.

Medical News of 2013

Medscape summarized the some of the most important medical news from the year in their review for 2013. Below are some of the highlights.

- **Overtesting and Overtreating**

Medical societies noted 90 common but often unnecessary tests and procedures, and many of these are ordered for asymptomatic patients. Medscape authors pointed to the results of a national summit where authorities agreed to the top five overused treatments that harm patients. These are "antibiotics for the common cold, blood transfusions, ear tubes for children, early-scheduled births, and cardiac stents."

- **DSM-5 Released**

Medscape authors noted that the DSM-5 was released with some "searing controversy," after 10 years of development. They quoted the chair of the DSM-IV task force as saying to use the new manual "Cautiously, if at all."

- **Obesity declared a disease**

Physicians at the American Medical Association 2013 Annual Meeting voted overwhelmingly to label obesity a disease, noted Medscape authors. "The decision could have implications for provider reimbursement, public policy, patient stigma, and International Classification of Diseases coding."

- **New dietary guidelines for the prevention of Alzheimer's disease** were developed by the Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine. These include minimizing saturated fats and trans fats, eating more vegetables, legumes, fruits and whole grains, eating one ounce of nuts or seeds daily for vitamin E, getting enough B12, watch out for iron, copper, and aluminium, and engage in aerobic exercise 40 minutes 3 times a week.

- **The Sunshine Act**, part of the ACA, requires drug makers to disclose gifts to doctors.

See Medscape for complete article.

American Board of Medical Psychology



The Specialty for the Coming Integrated Care Models in Primary Care Centers and Hospitals

Medical Psychologists are post doctorate trained and licensed psychologists with training in psychopharmacology, behavioral medicine, and health psychology. A medical psychologist is more than a psychopharmacologist and clinical psychologist and they are prepared for the mainstream healthcare system.

They have passed a national oral and written examination and have completed a preceptorship.

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The Psychology Times

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Naomi Pittman interprets for a presentation at the Louisiana Counseling Association Convention held last year. Ms. Pittman works with Lighthouse Louisiana, a group providing services, training, employment and advocacy for persons with vision loss and also hearing impairments. Mr. Clinton LaBerge, Deaf Services Manager, explained to the *Times* that Lighthouse has been providing services in New Orleans since 1915. In 2012 they expanded services to include individuals with hearing loss.

Office space available for mental health professionals in Metairie (517 N. Causeway Blvd). Contact Marian Arnoult-Jackson (504)250-8202.

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

Private Office Space for Rent in complex with other mental health professionals: **Baton Rouge, South Sherwood area**. Utilities included. \$650 per month. Call 850-564-0077 for more information.

Psychologist Opportunity

Busy, multidisciplinary, fee-for-service, mental health practice located in the Garden District of New Orleans, Louisiana

is currently seeking an experienced, licensed psychologist interested in providing assessment and psychotherapy services to adolescents and adults. Neuropsychology specialty skills are encouraged.

Please submit a letter of interest along with a curriculum vitae to pkmkirkhart@bellsouth.net

The Psychology Times

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The *Times* offers information, entertainment, and networking for those in this Louisiana community.

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