

No more final hearings conducted by boards

SB75 Poised for Sweeping Changes to State Boards

If passed, Senator Fred Mills' proposal will bring sweeping changes to Louisiana healthcare boards, fueled in part by the 2015 anti-trust decision of the Supreme Court, and Mills' own views that boards have "virtually no detectable oversight."

The measure, SB 75, was muscled through the Senate on April 24, with a vote of 27 yeas and 5 nays, following numerous amendments.

Mills previously explained to the *Times*, "... there has to be a place for consumers and practitioners to go when they feel they haven't gotten a fair shake from their boards."

If passed, one major change SB 75 will cause is in the composition of all boards. The measure will require all boards to include a consumer member. "Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, effective January 1, 2018, each board shall have a consumer member."

The individual will not have, or have had in the past, a material financial interest in the healthcare profession. "The consumer member shall be a full voting member of the board with all rights and privileges conferred on board members, except that the consumer member shall not participate in the grading of individual examinations."

Additionally all of the 25 healthcare boards will be transferred to the Louisiana Department of Health and the Department would be required to conduct reviews and audits of all boards' budgets.

Included under the new financial restrictions, SB 75 states that no contract for legal services with an attorney or law firm shall be approved if the contracted hourly rate is more than that of the board's in-house counsel or the hourly rate for a state civil service attorney. The proposed law also establishes a

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Senator J.P. Morrell speaks to Senator Fred Mills about removing clause requiring Counselors and Marriage & Family Therapists to consult with prescribers under the medical board. LPC Board Executive Director Mary Alice Olson (L) and Ms. Cindy Nardini (R) listen to discussion. The bill passed out of the Senate committee last week.

Slows down on way to Senate Floor

SB38 Passes Senate H&W Unanimously

Senator J.P. Morrell's bill to delete language requiring counselors to consult with someone under the medical board or nursing board, who prescribes psychiatric medications when treating individuals with serious mental conditions, passed unanimously out of the Senate Health and Welfare committee on April 26. It was scheduled for the Senate Floor for May 1

but is now scheduled for May 8 and subject to call.

The measure is opposed by the Louisiana Medical Association and the Louisiana Psychological Association. While not public, sources indicate that the Louisiana Academy of Medical Psychologists, are also lobbying against the measure.

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Lt. Gov. Billy Nungesser to Speak at Louisiana Psychological Association Annual Convention, June 2-3 in New Orleans



Courtesy, Office of Lt. Governor

The Louisiana Psychological Association will host Lt. Governor William (Billy) Nungesser at its annual convention, to be held June 2-3 at the DoubleTree New Orleans Airport Hotel.

The Lt. Governor will speak on current issues in Louisiana and help explore the overlap between Louisiana's needs and psychology's contributions, in "The Evolving Role of Today's Psychologist: Leveraging the science of psychology to help people, organizations and society." The Lt. Gov. will speak on Friday, the first day of the two-day event, immediately following the Scientific Poster Session and continental breakfast.

Chair of the association's Community Psychology Committee, Dr. Raphael Salcedo, said, "We are fortunate to have Billy Nungesser, Lt. Governor for the state, to help us kick off this exciting conference. Mr. Nungesser will be sharing with us his top five priorities for the state of Louisiana. He is also interested in learning how we, as psychologists, are addressing the needs of citizens across the state."

Louisiana Life Magazine named Nungesser one of the state's top CEOs, for his ground-up development of General Marine Leasing Company. After Nungesser and his wife Cher rode out Hurricane Katrina at their ranch in Plaquemines Parish, which then became ground zero for the impacts of Deepwater Horizon, he became "the first face of Louisiana's frustration" for the challenges faced by citizens. He wanted to work for all Louisiana and was elected second in command for the state in 2015.

According to the planners for the 2017 Annual Convention of the Louisiana Psychological Association (LPA) highlights also include Thompson Davis, III, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Psychology and Director of the Psychological Services Center at LSU. He will present on "One-Session Treatment of Specific Phobias: An Introduction to Rapid Cognitive-Behavioral Exposure Therapy for Youth."

Dr. Davis is an international expert on the science of one-session CBT treatment and

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Editorial – Opinions

Show Me the Money Evidence

by Times publisher, J. Nelson

I was reading one of my APS journals and ran across a study on first-mover *disadvantage*. The study had to do with negotiation and a host of related psychological factors—anchoring, judgment, interpersonal interactions, and so forth.

The authors were controlling for SVO—social value orientation. SVO varies from the *proself* side (self-centered and egotistic) to the *prosocial* side (altruistic). As we might expect, this is a mediating variable in negotiations. The interesting thing to me was the author's reference to other findings that those high in *proself* characteristics aren't as high in problem-solving. This is not surprising of course, stated as win-win and win-lose.

Since it is the political season I've been watching the Legislature—a combination of negotiation, poker, hypnosis and hide the thimble. I began to wonder what percentage of the people (probably most, especially of those who are there by choice) fall into the *proself* group.

While I think that, at least on the surface, these men and women are endeavoring to solve problems, I'm not convinced that they have a process that can: 1) identify the right problems to solve; 2) generate alternative solutions that can be reviewed without motivated reasoning; 3) analyze the impact of a solution on people (including the invisibles); and 4) measure the results and see if there is any actual evidence for a decision.

I watched Senator Morrell say he wanted some evidence, and it was a sobering question.

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

The Psychology Times

Member, Louisiana Press Association

Published monthly
by Nelson News, LLC.

psychologytimes@drjulienelson.com

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Poised for Sweeping Changes

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mechanism for the public to submit complaints about board action or inaction to the department.

Perhaps the most dramatic change is in disciplinary hearings. SB 75 would remove final adjudicatory hearing authority from the board transfer that to the division of administrative law. The Division of Administrative Law will preside over hearings in which a final action of the licensee is being pursued by the board.

“... final adjudicatory proceedings shall be transferred to the division of administrative law, that administrative hearings shall be held in the administrative law location closest in proximity to the licensee, and that venue for appeal of the administrative law judge's ruling shall be the district court for the parish in which the licensee is domiciled.”

Specific language notes: “Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, effective January 1, 2018, licensing boards shall conduct investigations in accordance with their respective practice act provisions regarding investigatory procedures. If a board determines, upon conclusion of an investigation, to proceed with adverse or disciplinary action against a licensee, notice to the licensee shall include: (a) A plain and concise written statement of the facts constituting the alleged violation. (b) The official citation of the statute or administrative rule which is alleged to have been violated. (c) The right of the licensee to request an informal reconsideration by the board. The licensee shall have thirty days to request an informal reconsideration or may immediately file for a hearing with the division of administrative law. (d) The right to enter into a consent decree with the board if both parties can agree on consent terms. The consent decree shall not require approval of an administrative law judge. If the licensee does not wish to negotiate a consent decree he may immediately file for a hearing with the division of administrative law. (e) The right to a hearing conducted before an independent third-party adjudicator with the division of administrative law, including informing the licensee that he shall have the right to be represented by an attorney, cross-examine witnesses, call witnesses, and present evidence on his own behalf.

“The licensee shall have thirty days from the date of receipt of the notice of adverse or disciplinary action by the board to file for a hearing with the division of administrative law. Such appeal shall be suspensive. (2) Boards shall ensure that their rules, regulations, notices and documentation are updated to comply with the provisions of this Subsection. (3) Each board is responsible for payment of costs associated with utilization of the division of administrative law. Each board shall enter into a memorandum of understanding with the division of administrative law to comply with the provisions of this Subsection.”

While SB 75 easily passed the Senate, the measure took heavy amendments both in committee and on the Floor.

One of Mills' efforts aimed to restrict board investigations to a one-year time limit. “If a board does not issue notice of an adverse or disciplinary action within one year from the date upon which a sworn complaint is received or, if no sworn complaint is received, within one year from the date the board voted to commence an investigation, the matter shall be dismissed. The one-year period shall be prescriptive.”

This effort was the opposite direction of the bill put forth by the state psychology board, SB 37, which seeks to eliminate the one-year limit for investigations, noted in the psychology practice act.

However, Mills' language to force investigations to one year was eliminated on the Senate Floor.

Most of his changes, aimed at oversight and feedback mechanisms remained in the current version of SB 75.

Twenty-five boards fall under these new guidelines, if the bill is passed. These include boards for behavior analysts, dentistry,

Cont next pg

Corrections & Clarifications

Nancy Arnold, the Administrative Coordinator for Graduate Studies at LSU Psychology strikes again. This time she pointed out that in the article on Dr. Beck (page 10 in our April issue), we reported that Rebecca Goldstein was a graduate student. However, Ms. Arnold informed us that Goldstein received her PhD in 2016. We are sorry for any confusion regarding Dr. Goldstein's credentials and thank Ms. Arnold once again.

Please send corrections or clarifications to the *Times*
psychologytimes@drjulienelson.com

SB75 Poised for Sweeping Changes to State Boards, continued

practical nurses, optometry, veterinary medicine, physical therapy, hearing aid dealers, nursing facility administrators, speech-language pathology and audiology, chiropractors, the addictive disorders and others. The state medical board is also instructed to add a consumer member, increasing it from seven to eight members.

The state medical board became highly visible after the Medical Society pulled them to the Legislature in 2015, a move that resulted in major changes to the medical board's complaints and discipline processes. Sources indicate that the dental board also may have been noticed by legislators. And the psychology board, one state official indicated, was also noticed as having problems, especially through 2014–2016.

In the 2016 Legislative Session, Senator Fred Mills called for the creation of a "Task Force on Meaningful Oversight." His Resolution noted: "WHEREAS, there are twenty-five professional healthcare licensing boards statutorily created within the Department of Health and Hospitals; and WHEREAS, the boards operate autonomously from the department with virtually no detectable oversight; ..."

The measure passed and the task force published its report in December 2016, titled "Meaningful Oversight of State Regulatory Boards: Task Force Recommendations to Acquire State Action Immunity." The task force recommended that the state create an oversight panel to review critical decisions by state boards, in particular those that involve anti-trust concerns.

Senator Mills observed that citizens had nowhere to go when they feel harassed or treated unfairly. "I've gotten complaints from people regulated by the boards, and there are a lot of personalities involved. But, there has to be a place for consumers and practitioners to go when they feel they haven't gotten a fair shake from their boards," he said. "Also, if a board that they're not regulated under, tells them that they are not within their practice standards, there is nowhere that person can go."

And the department will conduct reviews of all board budgets. And specifically, "Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, effective January 1, 2018, no contract for legal services with an attorney or law firm by a board for outside counsel services shall be approved if the contracted hourly rate is more than the board's in-house counsel or more than a state civil service attorney with



Senator Mills SB 75 may result in final hearings being moved to the Division of Administrative Law who then will preside over hearings in which a final action of the licensee is being "pursued by the board." Above is a hearing that was held in January but which now appears to be being appealed. Standing, board prosecutor Mr. Jim Raines. Seated in back, left to right, are board members Dr. Darla Burnett, Dr. Koran Boggs, and Dr. Jesse Lambert.

comparable years of experience, whichever is greater."

The Senate Committee on Health and Welfare made several changes in the original proposal.

The members deleted provisions that required a licensee to get advance notice of an investigation; clarified that if the board does not proceed with disciplinary or adverse action after an investigation, the records or materials collected pursuant to the investigation shall be destroyed; created an exemption from the one year time line for investigation and conclusion on disciplinary or adverse action determination if there is federal agency involvement and the federal agency requests that the board not take action on the licensee pending their investigation; established that proposed law does not change the scope of practice of the individuals licensed by each of the boards and does not impact the board's ability to conduct exams, conduct investigations, promulgate rules, negotiate settlements or enter into consent decrees with a licensee, or conduct hearings in matters that are not disciplinary or adverse.

Senators on the Floor passed the following changes in amendments:

- Clarifies that the division of administrative law will only preside over hearings in which final action of the licensee is being pursued by the board, that the hearing will be held in a location in closest proximity to the licensee, and the licensee can appeal the decision of the administrative law judge to the district court in the parish of his domicile.
- Removes all provisions in proposed law regarding investigations and reverts to the current practices of the boards regarding investigations.
- Clarifies that a consent decree entered into between the board and the licensee does not need to be approved by the administrative law judge.
- Clarifies that the approval of attorney contracts is not the responsibility of the Louisiana Department of Health, but rather a condition of contract approval in accordance with state procurement protocol.
- Provides clarification that the consumer member of the Louisiana Behavior Analyst Board shall not have a material financial interest in the healthcare profession.

Bill Prohibiting Corporal Punishment of Disabled Youngsters Advances

A measure proposed by Representative Franklin Foil, prohibiting the use of corporal punishment in all public elementary and secondary schools for students with exceptionalities, except gifted and talented students.

The measure has passed the House with a vote of 96 yeas and 0 nays, after leaving the committee with a 10 to 0 favorable vote. It will next go to the Senate and is scheduled for May 8.

According to the digest, present law allows local school boards discretion in the use of corporal punishment for students and requires the boards to adopt rules and regulations to implement and control its use. Proposed law prohibits the administration of corporal punishment to students with exceptionalities, except gifted and talented students, and makes present law and proposed law applicable to charter schools.

SB38 Passes Senate continued

The wording to be deleted by SB38 is: “However, nothing in this Chapter shall be construed to authorize any person licensed under the provisions of this Chapter to assess, diagnose, or provide treatment to any individual suffering from a serious mental illness, as defined by this Section, when medication may be indicated, except when a licensed professional counselor, in accordance with industry best practices, consults and collaborates with a practitioner who holds a license or permit with the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners or an advanced practice registered nurse licensed by the Louisiana State Board of Nursing who is certified as a psychiatric nurse practitioner.”

The language was added in 2011 when Senator Willie Mount advanced a measure, Act 320, that clarified Licensed Professional Counselors (LPCs) to assess, diagnose and treat those with serious mental disorders. Then in 2012, a bill by Senator Fred Mills passed, amended the 2011 language by adding “when medication may be indicated” and removed wording that required the patient be under “active care” of the consultant. Also added in 2012 was language about best practices. Nurses and the state Board of Nursing were added.

Submitting green cards for support were Cindy Nardini, Jackie Mims, Howard Brownell, and Tom Moore, from the Louisiana Counseling Association and the Louisiana Association for Marriage and Family Therapy. Jamee Steel and David Tatam from Tatam Group, and Eric Sunstrom, also noted cards in support.

Cards in opposition were Kevin Hayes from the Louisiana Psychological Association, and representatives of the Louisiana Medical Society, Dr. Bill Clark, David Broussard, Jeff Williams and Jennifer Marusak.

Present for information only were Dr. Darla Burnett from the LSBEP and Mary Alice Olsan for the LPC board.

Introducing the bill at last week’s Senate Health & Welfare Committee hearing, Senator Morrell said, “Essentially what the bill seeks to do, is, we erroneously amended the practice act a couple of years back and restricted the ability of mental health counselors and family therapists to provide mental health services.

“As you know in the state we always have the challenge of having services available, and rather than create a funnel with gatekeepers to prevent people having direct access to mental health counselors, as well as qualified family therapists, this seeks to free them up to provide those robust services across the state as we need them.”

Senator Claitor asked, “Will this in any way, make access to care, particularly as to drug abuse issues, more accessible in the prison environment?”

Cindy Nardini, with Louisiana Counseling Association replied, “... Yes, we do believe that the language that Senator Morrell was speaking of that was put in 2011 and 2012, did in fact decrease access to care. So that would include especially the rural and uninsured, so that would be rural clinics, that would be prisons...”



Senator Fred Mills listens to Mr. Kevin Hayes, who serves in governmental relations for the Louisiana Psychological Association. In the top left, Senator Morrell and Ms. Cindy Nardini, who spoke for the Louisiana Counseling Association.

Sen. Claitor said, “My issue is that, we’ve, so far we’ve locked people up and that’s where you get your mental health treatment, but you really don’t get your mental health treatment there. And if we could improve access there this would be a step in the right direction, ...”

Testifying on behalf of the Louisiana Psychological Association, Mr. Kevin Hayes said, “Mr. Chairman you know this issue very well, for many years you in the house and Senator Mount in the Senate worked on these issues, and what this bill attempts to do is concerning to us. And we appreciate the author, Senator Morrell, has agreed to work with us after this meeting to try and get the stakeholders together.

“What is concerning to us, that the two pieces of the bill that’s being repealed, what’s being repealed is the provision that mental health counselors may not assess, diagnose, provide treatment to any individual suffering from a serious mental illness—that provision is being repealed, as well as the definition of what serious mental illness is.”

Mr. Hayes then listed some of the conditions—schizophrenia, bipolar, autism, and others. “So in fact what the bill is going to do, it’s going to allow mental health counselors to diagnose and treat those severe mental illnesses,” he said. “So our concern is, like I know it is in this committee to make sure the qualifications and training of these providers are sufficient to treat.”

Chair Senator Mills invited Senator Morrell to close.

“Just one point of clarification,” Morrell said. “The reason why this language was so problematic, when it, that was passed in 2012 was that, prior to 2012, in the practice act of these groups, they could already address these issues.

“What happened in 2012 is we put language in the law that created a conflict between their practice act and their ability to address those different mental issues.

“And as Senator Mills knows, because we both have this, we’ve both dealt with this in nursing field. I take great umbrage at instances in which I believe one group creates a gatekeeper effect, where in order for a group to provide services they’re qualified to provide to do, they have to go through somebody else.

“And what I feel like this language did in 2012, I feel like it created it. It said, ‘Hey, you counselors can provide these services, but if you want to, you have to collaborate with psychologists.’

“It is very similar, and you guys know my position on this, where dealing with doctors and nurse practitioners. That we’ve created a system of clinics across the state where nurse practitioners are doing what they are trained to do, but they have to collaborate with a doctor that basically gets paid some cash just to sign off on what they normally do.”

Senator Morrell said he was committed to working with Mr. Hayes, but also indicated that

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SB38 Passes Senate continued

the issue might not be resolved. He said he challenges groups to give him an example of a negative outcome. "They always say, 'So and so is not qualified to do it.' 'Give me a case—give me a case where you had a counselor treat someone for schizophrenia and there was a bad outcome. In reality these don't exist. It's a boogeyman effect."

According to documents from the Louisiana Psychological Association, members of the Legislative Affairs Committee have voiced concerns that the "recommended" training of an LPC is not sufficient to establish the privilege of diagnosing serious mental illnesses. Current law requires only one semester of abnormal psychology in order to become an LPC, noted the statements from the association. An LPC is currently able to function and perform to the full scope of their training and ability under their current statutory authority and there is no need to change it, according to the Committee members. There are also concerns related to psychological testing.

LPA representatives were not available for comment.

Dr. Mary Feduccia, past President of the Louisiana Counseling Association and Government Relations chair for LCA said, "Our bill, SB38, seeks to amend current law and remove the requirement that we consult and collaborate with a medical professional, either a psychiatrist, medical psychologist, psychiatric nurse practitioner, or a regular physician, when we have a client with one of 12 "serious mental illnesses". This has created an access to care issue for citizens needing to avail themselves of the services of an LPC or LMFT. It takes the client's wishes out of the process of treatment."

Mr. Howie Brownell, LAMFT Government Relations Chair explained, "This law has not improved the welfare of clients or the therapists and counselors who serve them. The LPC Board gets regular calls dealing with the confusion and misperceptions generated by the SMI language. This law will not stop collaboration among mental health professionals on the client's behalf. That consultation and collaboration is required by their respective professional ethical codes. This bill will just allow the therapist and their client to decide what's in the client's best interest, together."

Some of the objections to SB38 are related to misinterpretations of the intent of the bill, Dr. Feduccia said. "Some psychologists have opposed the bill because they are not convinced that LPCs and LMFTs have the competencies to deal with clients with serious mental illnesses. This bill has nothing to do with the competency level of the counselor. The authority to assess, diagnose, and treat clients with one of the twelve identified serious mental illnesses will not be changed by passage of this bill."

Another misinterpretation relates to psychological testing. "This bill is not intended to provide the capability to use psychological tests for diagnosis, nor do counselors want to do that," Feduccia said. "It is realized and accepted that psychologists will continue to provide the psychological testing when needed."

Some psychologists who are not prescribers, have expressed complaints about the language that Morrell hopes to delete. One remarked that the LPC that works in their office is required to consult with a medical psychologist but not with a regular psychologist, who is qualified to make decisions about when to refer for medication consults.



Dr. Lacey Seymour (L), Dr. Lucinda DeGrange (C), and Ms. Cindy Bishop attending the 4th Annual Behavioral Health Legislative Forum, in late March, and representing the Louisiana Psychological Association. The Forum was first organized to help various groups in the behavioral health services to engage in resolving differences before going in front of the legislators.

Bill to Create Commission on Human Trafficking Passes Senate Floor 33-0

Senator Ronnie Johns' measure to create the Louisiana Human Trafficking Prevention Commission and Advisory Board in the Office of the Governor, SB 42 passed the Senate Floor on April 17 with 33 yeas and 0 nays. It is pending in the House committee for Administration of Criminal Justice.

The bill seeks to assist state and local leaders in developing and coordinating human trafficking prevention programs, and asks that officials conduct a continuing comprehensive review of all existing public and private human trafficking programs to identify gaps in prevention and intervention services.

The text also indicates the need to increase coordination among public and private programs to strengthen prevention and intervention services.

The new board is to make recommendations with respect to human trafficking prevention and intervention and also develop a state needs assessment and a comprehensive and integrated service delivery approach that meets the needs of all human trafficking victims.

Another goal is to establish a method to transition human trafficking service providers toward evidence-based national best practices focusing on outreach and prevention.

The need is to develop mechanisms to promote public awareness of human trafficking, including promotion of the

national twenty-four-hour toll-free hotline telephone service on human trafficking.

This goal includes promoting training courses and other educational materials for use by persons required to undergo training on the handling of, and response procedures for, suspected human trafficking activities, and to develop a framework to collect and integrate data and measure program outcomes.

Measure to Change Value-Added Program Not Moving Forward

A bill seeking to remove requirements for the use of a value-added assessment model in determinations made with regard to school and district accountability and teacher evaluations remains pending in the House Education Committee.

HB 532 would change the use of a value-added assessment model for school and district accountability and teacher evaluations, a program designed in part by psychologist and professor, Dr. George Noell. The Value-Added Teacher Preparation Program Assessment Model was shown to have predictive validity for children's successes. During 2003 through 2008, the Board of Regents worked with Dr. Noell, who researched and developed aspects of the program.

State News



Dr. Susan Tucker speaking to television news reporter after a graduation ceremony of her Steve Hoyle Intensive Substance Abuse Program which has earned national recognition for excellence. She was recently named to the Prevention Systems Committee.

Dr. Tucker to Represent DOC on Prevention Systems Committee

Licensed Clinical Psychologist Dr. Susan Tucker will represent the Department of Corrections on the Prevention Systems Committee, announced Raman Singh, MD, in March.

The Prevention Systems Committee (PSC) is a state level advisory committee of the Drug Policy Board, a group that make recommendations regarding effective programs, policies and practices regarding resources and capacity issues in prevention across the state. The PSC also works to develop a framework to build an advocacy network.

Dr. Tucker and other members of the PSC will be working on the Louisiana Strategic Plan during the next months. This effort helps guides the PSC as well as the State Epidemiology Workgroup, noted Quanda Charles, MPA, Project Leader of the Louisiana Partnerships for Success (LaPFS) a group in the Governor's Office of Drug Policy.

According to the website, the Drug Policy Board was created through legislation in 1990 to address substance abuse prevention, treatment and enforcement. The board supports prevention efforts, specifically the LaPFS. The State Epidemiology Workgroup and the Prevention Systems Committee were formed as subcommittees of the Drug Policy Board using the Strategic Prevention Framework-State Incentive Grant.

Louisiana Partnerships for Success initiatives aim to

reduce underage drinking and prescription drug misuse and abuse in Louisiana, and strengthen prevention programs at the state and community level.

Dr. Susan C. Tucker is a Licensed Clinical Psychologist and the Assistant Warden at the Bossier Parish Medium Security Facility. She developed the Steve Hoyle Intensive Substance Abuse Program which has earned national recognition for excellence.

In 2016 the Louisiana Legislature commended Tucker and her team in a House Concurrent Resolution (HCR3), pointing to multi-million dollar cost savings to the state because of shorter incarceration times of those offenders who participated in the psychological programs designed and delivered by Tucker.

Dr. Tucker also serves as the Louisiana state-wide Sex Offender Treatment Program Coordinator and the Louisiana state-wide Substance Abuse Program Coordinator. She also serves on the Interagency Council on the Prevention of Sex Offenses.

She will present in June at the Louisiana Psychological Association 2017 Annual Convention, on her work and *"How to Design Complex, Comprehensive Behavioral Change Programs"*

She has been honored by the Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation of the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University and the Vera Institute of Justice and a frequent invited speaker across the nation.

LSBEP Measure Amended, Moves to Senate Floor Next

The Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists' (LSBEP) proposed legislation, Senate Bill 37, authored by Senator Daniel Martiny, was heard this week in the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and International Affairs. It is scheduled for the Senate Floor on May 8.

The measure removes a restriction that investigations be limited: "... no disciplinary proceeding shall be commenced more than one year after the date upon which the board knows or should know of the act or omission upon which the disciplinary action is based." If passed, SB 37 would delete this language.

While the original language would have exempted the LSBEP from time limits set out in administrative law, the Commerce Committee passed an amendment to bring the

investigations under the current Chapter 1-A of Title 37.

"(1) If the nature of the complaint is based on negligence or gross negligence, no proceeding may be initiated after two years from discovery by the complainant. However, under no circumstances shall such a proceeding be initiated more than five years from the date of the act or omission."

The language was also amended in committee so that the new fees for a "resolution" of a disciplinary issue are capped at \$10,000.

Also the wording to charge for staff was amended from "its legal fees, stenographer, investigator, staff, and witness fees," to read "its investigator, staff, and legal fees."

The Louisiana Psychological Association filed a card in support. No one spoke in opposition.

Collaboration Clause Put In Physician Assistant PEC Bill

A measure introduced by Senator Tarver to authorize physician assistants to execute an emergency certificate, was amended in Committee to include the language "in collaboration with their supervising physician." The measure moves to the Senate Floor.

Present law authorizes any physician, psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner, or psychologist to execute an emergency certificate after an actual examination of a person alleged to be mentally ill or suffering from substance abuse who is determined to be in need of immediate care and treatment in a treatment facility because the person is determined to be dangerous to self or others or to be gravely disabled. Senator Tarver proposes to expand this authority to physician assistants. The amendment instructs that action to be in collaboration with the PAs supervising physician.

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State News

HCR Designates June 2017 as PTSD Awareness Month

Representative Hoffman offered a House Concurrent Resolution (HCR 16) to recognize June 2017 as Post-Traumatic Stress Injury Awareness Month.

His resolution urged the Louisiana Department of Health and the Department of Veterans Affairs to increase efforts to educate survivors of abuse, crime, and natural disaster; service members; veterans and their families; and the general public about the causes, symptoms, and treatment of post-traumatic stress injury.

He noted that “the brave men and women of the United States Armed Forces who proudly serve this great nation risk their lives to protect our freedom and that combat stress has historically been viewed incorrectly as a mental illness caused by a pre-existing flaw of character or ability, and the word “disorder” carries a stigma that perpetuates this misconception.

In the resolution, Hoffman also wrote that post-traumatic stress injury (PTSD) can occur as a result of severely traumatic events including, without limitation, sexual assault, child abuse, high-impact collisions and crashes, natural disasters, acts of terrorism, and military combat; and PTSD is a common injury to the brain that is treatable and repairable.

He noted that referring to the complications from post-traumatic stress as a disorder perpetuates the stigma of and bias against mental illness, and this stigma can discourage the injured from seeking proper and timely medical treatment.

Destigmatizing PTSD and honoring the bravery of persons recovering from this injury can favorably influence those affected and encourage them to seek help without fear of retribution or shame; and proper and timely treatment can improve health outcomes and diminish rates of suicide among people with PTSD, he wrote.

Measure Requiring Some Rehab Providers to be Licensed Advances

HB 159 by Representative Dustin Miller has easily moved forward, passing the House 97 to 0. The measure would require mental health rehabilitation providers meeting certain criteria to be licensed in accordance with the Behavioral Health Services Provider Licensing Law.

The measure updates parts of present law known as the Behavioral Health Services Provider Licensing Law, R.S. 40:2151 et seq., authorizes the La. Dept. of Health (LDH) to provide for the health, safety, and welfare of persons receiving behavioral health services through licensure and regulation of behavioral health services providers.

Senate Oversight Rejects Emergency Rule Eliminating Psychosocial Rehab Services

As published in the Louisiana Register for April, Rebekah E. Gee MD, Secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health, published an Emergency Rule, noting a budget shortfall and the elimination of psychosocial rehabilitation services for youth, in the Medicaid Program.

Gee wrote, “As the result of a budgetary shortfall in SFY 2017, the Department now proposes to amend the provisions governing children’s behavioral health services in order to terminate coverage and reimbursement of psychosocial rehabilitation services to youth. This action is being taken to avoid a budget deficit in the Medical Assistance Program. It is estimated that implementation of this Emergency Rule will reduce expenditures in the Medicaid Program by approximately \$5,844,004 for state fiscal year 2016-2017.”

She wrote that effective April 1, 2017, the Department would amend the provisions governing children’s behavioral health services to eliminate coverage and reimbursement for psychosocial rehabilitation services to youth.

The Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing and the Office of Behavioral Health, through collaborative efforts, provide coverage of behavioral health services for children

and youth through a comprehensive system of delivery covered under the Medicaid Program, noted the rule.

On March 22, the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare held an oversight hearing and nullified the Emergency Rule.

Senator Fred Mills wrote, “The committee held that the Emergency Rule was not in conformity with the intent and scope of the enabling legislation, was not in conformity to all applicable provisions of law and of the constitution, is lacking in merit, and is unacceptable. The committee further held that the Emergency Rule caused imminent peril to the public health, safety, and welfare of more than 40,000 children with significant behavioral health needs.”

He wrote that after a “thorough hearing on the matter, including a presentation by the department and public testimony, the committee, by unanimous vote, rejected the Emergency Rule on the grounds set forth in R.S. 49:953(B)(1) and R.S. 49:968(D)(3).”

“By transmittal of this written report of committee action and pursuant to R.S. 49:953(B)(4)(c) the Emergency Rule eliminating the psychosocial rehabilitation services for youth program on April 1, 2018 shall hereby be null and without effect.”



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Twists and Turns Over Turf Between Psychologists and Counselors

by J. Nelson

Senate Bill 38 appears to be triggering some old turf issues between the counseling and at least some segments of licensed psychology. Over the last decades these turf issues have included diagnosis of the more serious disorders and psychological testing.

One of the most dramatic issues regarding testing resulted in the Louisiana State Board of Examiners filing a lawsuit in 1995 against Boyd J. Atterberry, a licensed professional counselor from Houma. Mr. Atterberry used tests such as the Wechsler, the Bender Gestalt, and the Woodcock-Johnson, saying that his actions fell within the counselors practice act.

Mr. Atterberry argued that the counselor practice act supported his actions. He pointed to the definition of the practice of mental health counseling, sections on "Appraisal," which include tests of language, educational and achievement tests, adaptive behavioral tests, and symptoms screening checklists or instruments, as well as tests of abilities, interests, and aptitudes, as noted in the act.

The counselor practice act also states "...nothing in this Chapter shall be construed to authorize any person licensed hereunder to administer or interpret tests in accordance with the provisions of R.S. 37:2352(5), except as provided by Title 46, Part LXIII, Chapter 17, Section 1702(E) of the Louisiana Administrative Code, or engage in the practice of psychology."

The trial judge determined that Atterberry was in violation of the psychology practice act.

Skirmishes continued. In 2008, the Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) board proposed rules that included assessment and the use of the term "psychological." This drew strong objections from the psychology board.

But by 2009 the LPC board had adopted a policy to clarify boundaries in a "Position Statement on Appraisal Activities: Clarification of the Distinction between Appraisals and Psychological Tests." LPCs may not perform intellectual, personality/emotional, or neuropsychological testing. But those qualified by the counselor board can be authorized to use tests of language, education and

achievement; adaptive behavioral tests; symptom checklists; and tests of abilities, interests and aptitude.

For many psychologists this truce is working.

However, the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists (LSBEP), Chair Darla Burnett, PhD, MP, published an agenda for discussion of SB 38 which included an item, "Review and Discuss SB 38 MORRELL – Relative to potential concerns regarding privileges for Licensed Professional Counselors to perform psychological testing and diagnose severe mental health disorders." This view seems to have triggered some in the psychology community to view that SB 38 was aimed at psychological testing.

However, SB 38 does in fact have to do with the second turf conflict area, independent diagnosis and treatment of serious mental conditions.

The original practice act of the mental health counselors contains some circular and sometimes vague language. "Mental health counseling services" means those acts and behaviors coming within the practice of mental health counseling as defined in this Chapter,..."

And, "(10) "Practice of mental health counseling" means rendering or offering to individuals, groups, organizations, or the general public by a licensed professional counselor, any service consistent with his professional training ..."

Both sides have interpreted the language to support its own view. In the psychology community the objections have often been voiced by Dr. Joe Comaty, who has held positions of authority in state government and also on the psychology board. Comaty, a medical psychologist, has taken a firm stand at times on qualifications of LPCs.

In a 2012 newsletter the Legislative Affairs Chair of the Louisiana Association for Marriage and Family Therapy noted to members, "Dr. Joseph Comaty has been the main psychologist advocating against

LPCs and LMFTs in Louisiana." The author also expressed concerns that the psychology board had allowed this, pointing to ethical requirements for a public board to remain neutral.

So strong were these sentiments that in 2015 Dr. Comaty failed to be confirmed to a second term on the state psychology board. While no group acknowledged blocking his Senate confirmation, it was reported that the counselors were a factor in that action.

In 2010, resolving these conflicts by clarifying the counselors' scope of practice became the goal of Senator Willie Mount, who put forth a bill to remove some of the vague language in the counselors' practice act.

Mount offered a bill that would have changed the definition of "mental health counseling" from "assisting an individual or group, through psychotherapy and the counseling relationship, to develop an understanding of personal problems, to define goals, and to plan actions reflecting his or their interests, abilities, aptitudes, and needs as these are related to personal and social concerns, educational progress, and occupations and careers ..."

The new language defined mental health counseling, "...includes facilitating human development and wellness throughout the lifespan, and the prevention, assessment, diagnosis, treatment planning and treatment, including psychotherapy, of mental, emotional, behavioral, social and addiction disorders.

The bill never made it to committee. So instead, Senator Mount created the Behavioral Health Professionals Working Group and told psychologists and counselors to resolve their scope of practice differences and develop areas of collaboration. She also directed them to "Identify any additional recommendations which may expand public access to presently absent behavioral health services while avoiding service duplication and redundancy."

The group failed to meet the goals. Over nine meetings and interim discussions no solutions were reached.

According to the Working Group's final report, the core of differences revolved around diagnosing mental illness. "The counselors believe that the current statute authorizes counselors to diagnose and treat mental and emotional disorders." However, the authors wrote, "The psychologists disagree and hold that the current practice act for counselors granted a limited diagnostic scope of practice to counselors that is commensurate with their current master's degree level of training."

The psychologists serving where all affiliated with medical psychology and included Dr. Comaty, Dr. Darla Burnett, and Dr. Jessica Brown. They suggested that LPCs place themselves under the psychology board, an idea that was met with dismay by LPCs. Later Comaty wrote to the Senate Committee saying "... LSBEP's patient efforts to bring its legitimate concerns to the attention of the LPC board have been met with intransigence."



In 2014 Dr. John Fanning (L) spoke for the Louisiana Psychological Association and Dr. Jacqueline Mims, LPC (R) also testified regarding qualifications. Representative James is center.

Cont next pg

SB38 Triggering Old Turf Issues, continued

Senator Mount said in a hearing that her goal in establishing the Working Group "...was simply to provide the most optimal starting point possible which would maximize the chances of successful compromise and collaboration." However the participants of the working group were not successful, "to my dismay," she said.

The failure of the Working Group prompted the Senator to send a letter to both communities criticizing the lack of a clear resolution and warning them that she would submit a bill to consolidate the boards in order to force cooperation.

"The constant bickering between these two boards is not in the best interest of either profession. Psychologists and LPCs have a real opportunity to develop some innovative practice techniques if the two regulatory boards would spend even half the time collaborating on how to make their professions better as they have spent on senselessly fighting with each other," Mount wrote.

"With the history of senseless conflict and fighting and the failure of the professions to take advantage of the opportunity provided by the working group, I am left with no other options other than to introduce legislation to consolidate these boards."

Mount made good on her threat and proposed a bill for consolidating the psychology and LPC board, SB 268. It was strongly opposed by both sides.

During the same time, important testimony from Department of Health and Hospitals Deputy Secretary Kathy Kliebert was included in hearings, regarding LPCs diagnosing.

Senator Cheek asked Ms. Kliebert, "Can an LPC bill Medicaid?" Kliebert said "...individual practitioners are not able to bill for those services." She continued, "One of the things we're doing in developing our new Louisiana Behavioral Health Care Partnership is developing a system that would allow the individual practitioners to bill in accordance with their scope of practice."

Senator Cheek commented about the gap in services in the state and asked if an "all hands on deck" approach was what was needed? To this Kliebert said, "I totally agree. We have problems in terms of getting the provider capacity we need for mental health in Louisiana. We know that. Whatever we can do to get people the right level of services and the right credentialed counselor works for everybody."

"That is one of the things we're trying to do in our reform of our managed behavioral care that we're moving to, is to be able to do that," Kliebert said. "To be able to allow them—the practitioners—to bill in those individual locations, at schools, in home services, where they need those services, vs. us having to provide more expensive clinic-based services or more expensive institutional services."

Senator Cheek asked, "Can LPCs diagnose across the full spectrum?" Kliebert said, "No, not according to their current scope of practice... That clarification of the scope of practice would certainly help in our future, because we're quoting what is in scope of practice."

Mount backed off the effort to consolidate the boards, which some viewed later to be a maneuver to lay the foundation for the counselor bill. Others considered it a sincere effort to

increase providers for the Medicaid system.

The measure, SB 268, passed and became Act 320. But along with clarifying the counselors' scope of practice, behind the scenes negotiations resulted in a collaboration and consultation clause, for psychiatric prescribers under the medical board.

Psychologists were not included in those that could provide consultation and collaboration to LPCs. The Legislative Chair for LPA at the time was Dr. Brown, who handled negotiations. Shortly afterward Brown quit LPA and was listed as a medical psychologist on the state medical board list.

In 2012, the counselors engaged Senator Mills to help soften the language through SB216. The paragraph was amended to include "when medication may be indicated." The language requiring that the patient be under "active care" of a medical professional was deleted. Also

the requirement for consulting was softened with "in accordance with industry best practices, consults and collaborates..."

And advanced practice registered psychiatric nurse practitioners were added, "licensed by the Louisiana State Board of Nursing."

In 2014 the Marriage & Family Therapists clarified their scope of practice, and the same consultation and collaboration language, for medication, was added.

There have been no known recent turf battles over psychological testing between psychologists and counselors. However, recently a physician asked the medical board if she could sign off on psychological testing and the medical board agreed, if the physician judged herself as qualified.

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Just Returned from UK

Dr. Thompson Davis Named LSU Distinguished Faculty

Dr. Thompson (Tom) Davis, III, has been named Distinguished Faculty and will be recognized at the awards presentation May 3 at the Lod Cook Alumni Center at Louisiana State University. The announcement was made in an April 18 letter from Senior Vice Provost, Dr. Jane Cassidy, to officials at the university.

The Distinguished Faculty Award recognizes faculty members with a sustained reputation for excellence in research, teaching, and service, or a combination of these achievements.

Dr. Davis is Associate Professor of Psychology at Louisiana State University (LSU) and Director of the Psychological Services Center. He is also Director for Anxiety, Phobia, & Internalizing Disorder Studies, and has authored numerous articles and books, including the *Handbook of Autism and Anxiety*. He is one of the few experts in the world on one-session treatments for children with phobias. One of Dr. Davis' books is *Intensive One-Session Treatment of Specific Phobias*, published by Springer, is considered to be the treatment manual for this approach.

Last year Dr. Davis was contacted by research scientists in the United Kingdom to be part of the \$2 million research program and grant from the U.K. National Institute for

Health Research. Researchers will examine the relative benefits of two different types of treatments for specific phobias, which are intense fears, in children in the U.K. Community-based practitioners will administer the different types of treatment, with the goal of finding out which is more effective and which is more cost-effective.

Dr. Davis just returned from the UK where he worked to help coordinate the research. "I was in York for the majority of the time, but went to Newcastle for a day of workshops too. I ended up training clinicians and supervisors mostly from London on north."

"... the bulk of my time was spent doing several eight to nine hour workshops on one-session treatment. I also did half-day workshops on phobia diagnostic assessment, the behavioral assessment of phobias, and training experienced cognitive-behavioral clinicians in helping to supervise others in doing one session treatment," he said.

"We're gearing up to begin participant recruitment in the coming months. We are tentatively planning for me to go to England to train therapist and examiners in the next couple of months," he said



Dr. Thompson (Tom) Davis, III, has been named Distinguished Faculty at Louisiana State University and he recently returned from the United Kingdom where he has been working with the U.K. National Institute for Health. Dr. Davis is an international expert in on-session cognitive behavioral therapy for phobias. He will be presenting at the upcoming Annual Convention of the Louisiana Psychological Association, to be held June 2 and 3 at the DoubleTree Hotel in Kenner.

October Designated Dyslexia Awareness Month by Legislature

In a House Concurrent Resolution (HCR 28) Representatives Hoffman, and Senators Thompson and Walsworth, put forth the motion to recognize October 2017 as Dyslexia Awareness Month and urged and requested schools and state and local educational agencies to address the significant educational implications of dyslexia.

The authors wrote, "... dyslexia is the most common learning disability and affects between eighty to ninety percent of all individuals who have a learning disability;" and that "... dyslexia is highly prevalent and persistent; it affects one out of every five persons; and"

"... the paradox of dyslexia is that individuals who have the disability may have weaknesses in decoding that result in difficulties in accurate or fluent word recognition, yet these individuals may exhibit strengths in the higher-level cognitive functions of reasoning, critical thinking, concept formation, or problem solving; and

"... great progress has been made in understanding dyslexia on a scientific level, including the epidemiology and cognitive and neurobiological bases of dyslexia;

"... early screening and diagnosis of dyslexia are critical to ensure that individuals with dyslexia receive focused, evidence-based intervention that leads to fluent reading, promotion of self-awareness and self-empowerment, and the provision of necessary accommodations to ensure school and life success."

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Professor Janna Glozman Brings Alexander Luria to Life at UMCNO

by Susan Andrews, PhD

Professor Alexander Luria's Successor, Professor Janna Glozman, volunteered a day of her New Orleans vacation to talk to a small, but dedicated, group of interested neuropsychologists on April 28, 2017. Professor Glozman was a student of Alexander Luria and later took over his position as Research Director of the Centre of Developmental Neuropsychology. She is also a Professor of Psychology and Leading Researcher at Moscow State University.

Dr. Darlyne Nemeth had the good fortune to be introduced to Dr. Glozman by Dr. Tony Puente last year when she was invited to speak at an international conference in Moscow. Dr. Nemeth toured Luria's lab and discovered that Dr. Glozman planned to visit New Orleans for 3 days in late April as part of a cruise she was taking.

Dr. Glozman brought with her a Powerpoint presentation that described Alexander Luria's "Life and Contribution to Psychology in the 20th and 21st Century." Many of us know of Luria's important contributions to the emerging field of neuropsychology during WW2. I think I can speak for the entire group this past Friday that none of us had any idea how far reaching his other contributions were to Psychology in general. This informal presentation turned out to be one of the most exciting days I have ever spent. I had to keep pinching myself as she showed us pictures of letters from Freud to Luria, pictures of Luria, herself, and luminaries as Piaget, Vygotsky, Pavlov, Picasso, Pribram, and Tony Puente. Several of us were frankly – "star struck."

Luria was greatly influenced early in his career by psychoanalytic theory. His first book published in 1922 was *Principles of Real Psychology*. Luria became interested in the old word association test and in measuring the length of time before the subject makes a response to different words. This became the origin of the Lie Detector test. Dr. Glozman mentioned the KGB several times in her presentation and how several times Luria came close to being imprisoned. He even entered medical school and became a neurologist to avoid prison at one point.

Ivon Pavlov held Russian Psychology firmly in his grasp and nothing could be published without his approval. So, Luria's book *Nature of Human Conflict* was published in English in 1932 but not in Russian. It was finally published in Russian in



Enjoying a piece of neuropsychology history with Professor Janna Glozman. Bottom left and clockwise is Dr. Paul Harch, Patricia McElroy, Dr. Don Nemeth, Glozman's friend, Dr. Janna Glozman, Dr. Darlyne Nemeth, and Dr. Susan Andrews on bottom right. Dr. Glozman was a student of Alexander Luria. (Photos courtesy of Dr. Andrews.)

2012. Pavlov said it was too "subjective."

Luria became interested in Art Psychology due to his first wife, an actress, who introduced him to many artists. Later he became interested in Genetic studies and he was the first to use the twin method to study genetics. Genetics was declared a "False Science" in Russia in 1935. During this same period (1924 to 1935) Luria had started a program with Vygotsky of neuropsychological studies and they established the first lab of neuropsychology in the world at an old neurology hospital in Moscow. Each Monday, since 1924, Luria would assess medical patients with students. Dr. Glozman continues this tradition to this day. At one point, Luria had seen a number of Parkinson's Disease patients and, with his genius for observation (like Piaget, for example), he observed that while the patients could not walk easily, they could climb stairs. He reasoned that this was because the walking was automatic and not much at the conscious level while one has to pay attention when climbing stairs.

Luria developed his battery of Neuropsychological tests between 1935 and 45. He finished his PhD in 1937 and entered medical school. He graduated with a diploma as a neurologist in 2 years and interned at the Institute of Neurosurgery. During World War II he was appointed Chief/Director of a Neurosurgical Hospital. His books on acquired traumatic aphasia come from his

work in this period. When the war was almost over, he returned to Moscow and was decorated with the Order of Lenin in 1943 for his work in neuropsychological/neurological rehabilitation.

In the 1950's, Luria became interested in Developmental Neuropsychology. He took over the Directorship of the Institute of Mental Retardation. Dr. Glozman continues this work today and described what she and Luria call "remediation" instead of "rehabilitation" of children who had never developed many of the skills or cognitive stages. Her recently

published book, *Developmental Neuropsychology* was written in English and describes these techniques in detail. The book is available on Amazon.

In 1958, Luria became President of the International Neuropsychological Society. He only began to study memory in the 1970's. He died of heart problems in 1977, leaving a huge legacy of psychological work. Dr. Glozman is President of the Luria Congress and has invited us all to this years congress in Russia on October 13-16; <http://luria-congress.urfu.ru>. I think she genuinely means it.



Dr. Paula Glozman
(Photo courtesy Dr. Andrews)

A Shrink at the Flicks



Get Out: A Review

by Alvin G. Burstein, PhD

Jordan Peele, well known for acting in comedy skits for fifteen years, has earned his chops as director in his first film, *Get Out*.

The film is a tasty dish, an innovative combination of horror, comedy and social commentary. The film opens with an *amuse bouche*, the relationship of which to the main story line is not clarified until later in the film. A young black man is walking alone down an affluent suburban street late at night. He becomes frightened by a car tailing him and is ultimately attacked and manhandled into the trunk of the car which, to end the episode, speeds off. A mood of danger and racial tension is set.

One of the strengths of the film is Peele's artful invocation of mood changes. The first switch is the opening of the main story. An attractive young interracial couple, Rose and Chris, undertake a visit to introduce her black boyfriend, a talented photographer, to her upper class white parents. When he expresses mild concerns about their reaction to his race, she reassures him about their liberal views—they would have voted for a third term of Obama's presidency.

Fright interrupts their drive when their car hits a deer; a hostile policeman called to the scene finally sends the couple on their way. At the parents' palatial home, as the visit unfolds, manifest expressions of welcome are punctuated by an increasing tempo of eerily peculiar events. Odd behavior by black servants, a maid and a yard

man; the girlfriend's brother; and a bevy of white, upper class friends, which includes one black man married to an older white woman, all combine to introduce a thickening sense of dangerous tension.

The weirdness ratchets up when Rose's mother, a psychiatrist, asks Chris about his past and learns about his mother's death, run over in a car accident when he was young. Rose's mother goes on to hypnotize an unwilling Chris to eliminate his cigarette addiction. She uses the sound of stirring her cup of tea to induce a deep trance that sends Chris spinning into a deep, dimensionless space. In the trance Chris recovers a memory of sitting at home watching television, unaware, while his mother is dying.

Uneasy, Chris makes a phone call to his roommate, a black TSA officer who is dog-sitting Chris' pet. The officer introduces comic relief warning Chris about the dangers of relating to white women based on slapstick fears of being made a sex slave.

Finally, unsettled to the point that he decides to follow his roommate's advice to get out, Chris tries to leave, to learn that Rose and her family are involved in a bizarre scheme of using the bodies of black people as vessels for the brains of white people whose bodies are compromised in some way. Chris is wanted to provide a body to replace that of a white photographer who has become blind and needs Chris' photographer's eyes and talent. It would be a spoiler to reveal the outcome of Chris's struggle to escape this fate.

A psychoanalyst, Charles Brenner, has argued that there are three central fears of childhood: abandonment, loss of love, and physical injury/castration, at the hands of parents. Much of the horrific impact of Peele's film inheres in the impact of all three on Chris: his mother's abandonment of him is echoed by his girlfriend's transformation from a lover to something worse. That concatenation is heightened by another archaic dread, the fear of losing control of one's self.

Early in the film, Chris' TSA roommate comically talks about hypnosis in those terms: a hypnotist can make you bark like a dog. Behind that comic distortion is the fear of an alien possession of one's body, represented in religious terms by demonic possession and in psychiatric terms by identity disorders.

Peele serves us a dish in which that fear is pictured in racial terms—black bodies utilized by white minds. He suggests, I think, a metaphor for slavery and perhaps, some aspects of professional athletics.

Guest
Columnist,
Dr. Alvin
Burstein

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



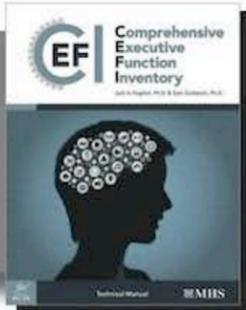
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scholarly works to his credit. He is also a member of Inklings, a Mandeville critique group that meets weekly to review its members' imaginative writings. Burstein has published flash fiction and autobiographical pieces in e-zines; *The Owl*, his first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



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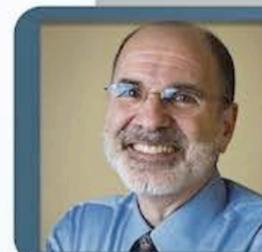
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Up-Coming Events

Lt. Gov. Billy Nungesser to Speak at Louisiana Psychological Association Annual Convention, June 2–3 in New Orleans

Continued

his book, *Intensive One-Session Treatment of Specific Phobias*, is considered to be the treatment manual for this approach. He is currently working with research scientists in the United Kingdom as part of a multimillion-dollar research program with the U.K. National Institute for Health Research on CBT approaches.

Susan Tucker, PhD, will present, “How to Design Complex, Comprehensive Behavioral Change Programs.” Dr. Tucker is Assistant Warden at the Bossier Parish Medium Security Facility and has earned national recognition for excellence in her programs for offenders. In 2016 the Louisiana Legislature commended Tucker and her team in a House Concurrent Resolution, pointing to multi-million dollar cost savings for the state. She has been honored by the Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation of the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

Tulane’s Gary Dohanich, Ph.D., Professor, Department of Psychology, will present on “Updates in the Neuroscience of Stress: ‘What’s Happening Inside My Brain?’” Dohanich is the co-founder of Tulane’s major and masters programs in Neuroscience, and is the current director of Tulane’s doctoral program in Neuroscience. He has received Tulane University’s highest teaching awards, including the 1996 Sheldon Hackney Award for Excellence in Teaching and the 2014 President’s Award for Excellence in Graduate Teaching.

Visiting expert, Jack Naglieri, PhD, will provide a Saturday plenary session workshop in assessment of executive functioning. Dr. Naglieri is a well-known teacher, researcher, author and test developer, and will describe a five-dimensional model of executive function: intelligence, observable behaviors, social-emotional skills, academic achievement, and impairment. Naglieri is the author or co-author of more than 300 scholarly papers, books, and tests, Senior Research Scientist at the Devereux Center for Resilient Children, and Emeritus Professor of Psychology at George Mason University.

Courtland M. Chaney, PhD, SPHR, SHRM-SCP, licensed industrial-organizational psychologist, retired instructor, LSU Department of Management, LSU Continuing Education, will present on how psychologists can build upon their competencies to work with teams, whether in healthcare, business, or other settings, in “The Psychologist as a Consultant and Facilitator: A Perspective for Psychologists to Facilitate Group and Organizational Success.”

Chair of the LPA Speakers Bureau, Chaney will also present, “Unethical Behavior: Understanding Why Good People Do and



A recent Dr. Jennifer Voltz (L), Dr. Jim Van Hook, and Lauren Jordan from Southeastern, review Ms. Jordan’s and Dr. Matt Rosanno’s research presentation at the 2016 Convention. This year the Scientific Poster Session is combined with continental breakfast and continuing education. The event is chaired by Dr. Ashley Jefferson.

Repeat Bad Things,” a presentation that is back by popular demand.

Janet R. Matthews, PhD, ABPP-CL, Professor Emerita, Department of Psychological Science, Loyola University, and Associate Editor of *Professional Psychology: Research and Practice*, will chair “Telepsychology.” She is joined by Phillip Griffin, PhD, LSBPE; Julia D. Lott, PhD, Alexandria Veteran’s Health Care System; and Christopher Parkinson, PhD, Southeastern Louisiana VA Health Care System.

Dr. Matthews as served as on the APA Board of Directors, as Chair of APA Board of Educational Affairs, Board of Professional Affairs, and President of both APA Division 2 and 31, among many other duties. She received the LPA’s Distinguished Psychologist Award in 2011. She was action editor for two special sections on telepractice for *Professional Psychology: Research and Practice*.

In “Advancements in Psychopharmacology,” Chair of the LPA Medical Psychology Committee, Marc Zimmermann, PhD, MP, will engage panelists Sean Ransom, PhD, MP;

Thomas Maestri, Pharm.D, Clinical Assistant Professor in the Xavier University of Louisiana College of Pharmacy, Xavier School of Pharmacy; and Tom Buchmann, ND, to examine the various classes of medications useful in mental health, including a review of new developments in psychopharmacology and how medications may be combined with behavioral treatments.

Also in the Medical Psychology tract, Dr. Zimmermann, Tom Buchmann, ND, and Amy Cavanaugh, PhD, MP, Acadiana Medical Psychological Services, will present on “Balancing Medical and Behavioral Treatment Options in ADHD.”

ValaRay Irvin, PhD, Senior Director, University Counseling Center at Southern University Baton Rouge, and member of the LPA Diversity Committee will present, “Ethical Issues in Serving Racially Diverse Clients.” Her talk will include understanding racism in the context of psychotherapy and explore issues of race-based trauma.

In “Child Neglect in High-Conflict Divorce,” presenter is Alan Taylor, PhD,

Up-Coming Events

Louisiana Psychological Association Annual Convention

continued

Alan Taylor & Associates, Inc., will present an overview of key issues in high-conflict divorce, where child welfare and child neglect may go under-recognized to the untrained eye.

The LPA Committee for Early Career Psychologists will present a series of sessions on Friday, tailored to the needs of students, interns, postdocs, and early career psychologists.

Michelle Moore, PsyD, Assistant Professor, LSUHSC, and Amy Henke, PsyD, Assistant Professor, LSUHSC, Children's Hospital, will present "Early Career Psychologist Panel – From Student to ECP: The Creation of a Psychologist."

"Business Strategies for a Successful Psychology Practice" will follow, chaired by William Costelloe, Costelloe & Associates, PhD, and joined by Julie Nelson, PhD, PSI, Inc., and Michael Dooley, MBA, Sigma Consulting Engineers. Dr. Costelloe is a licensed I-O psychologist and consultant to both public and private corporations, and Chair of the LPA I-O and Consulting Psychology Committee.

"Early Career Psychologist Workshop Blast," with Jacquelyn Braud, PhD, The Psychology Clinic, Jennifer Hughes, PhD, Assistant Professor Department of Psychiatry,

LSUHSC, and Melissa Dufrene, PsyD, Algiers Neurobehavioral Resources, will explore strategies and methods for succeeding and enjoying early career opportunities and challenges in Louisiana.

Saturday begins with the plenary session on assessment, "A Five Dimensional Model of Executive Function: Cognition, Behavior, Social-Emotional, Academics, & Impairment," presented by Jack A. Naglieri, PhD, followed by breakout sessions.

Chris Leonhard, PhD, ABPP, Department Chair, TCSP at Xavier and the Chair for the LPA Health Psychology Committee will present, "Evolving Role of Health Psychology within Interprofessional/Medical Environments." Dr. Leonhard is joined by Erin Reuther, PhD, ABPP, Children's Hospital, Missy Bonnell, PhD, Southeast Louisiana Veterans Health Care System; and Robin Chapman, PsyD, St. Thomas Community Health Center. In this panel symposium, presenters will report on their applied and research work as psychologists working in interprofessional environments and focus on innovations, opportunities and challenges.

"Updates in the Neuroscience of Stress" will be presented by Gary Dohanich, PhD, Professor of Psychology and Neuroscience, Tulane University.

Rafael F. Salcedo, PhD, and Beth Salcedo, MA, both with Louisiana Coalition Against Human Trafficking, will present "Diagnosing PTSD, Complex PTSD, and Other Adolescent Psychiatric Disorders Commonly Encountered in Victims of Sex Trafficking." Attendees will develop an understanding of the complex psychological dynamics involved in adolescent sex trafficking.

In, "Some eHealth Tools for Behavior Change: There's an App for That," Chair, Jennifer L. Maynard, PhD, LSUHSC - HDC, TIERS; will be joined by presenters Jamil Gilliam, Whitney Kleinert, Erin McClure, Kristen Pearson, Tiffany Sellars, Myeshia Smith, who are all with LSUHSC/Louisiana School Psychology Internship Consortium. Panelists will review and demonstrate some of the most popular apps for use in health, mental health, lifestyle, education, and general well-being. Presenters will examine when and how to use eTools and when to avoid them or limit their use.

Members of the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists will present various issues in "Laws & Ethics Review." Presenters are Phillip Griffin, PhD, Jesse Lambert, PsyD, and Koren Boggs, PhD, and will provide a review of newest Rules for the ethical practice of psychology, including continuing education, standards, a review of Opinions, and insights into the issues of

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complaints. Attendees will have an opportunity of Q&A with board members.

In Saturday mini-conference for I-O psychology and business professionals, Courtland Chaney, PhD will also present on “Emotional Intelligence,” followed by “Understanding and Managing Organizational Culture.”

Are We Implementing and Modeling Our I-O Competencies?” will be presented by Melinda Stallings, MA, who will explore the top five competencies identified as critical (verbal communication, ethical behavior, critical thinking, integrity and trustworthiness) and how the competencies impact the management consultant, project consultant, or research consultant roles.

Richard M. Flicker, PhD, licensed I-O psychologist will lead “They Pay Us For Our Advice As Consultants, Not To Be The Deciders.” Workshop participants will complete a short survey and review results as to how they see the consultant’s role in the client-consultant relationship.

For the afternoon sessions, Don C. Zhang, PhD, will chair and be joined by John-Luke McCord and Amber LeBlanc for “Horse-sized duck or duck-sized horses? An examination of the utility and applicant reaction to ‘odd-ball pre-employment interview questions.”

“Current developments/issues in the practice of I-O psychology” includes panelist Courtland Chaney, PhD, William (Gig) Costelloe, PhD, Richard M. Flicker, PhD, and Don C. Zhang, PhD, who will examine current developments or issues in the practice of I-O psychology and engage audience in further discussion.

Attendees will join in a facilitated, small-group experiential exercise with those in similar specialty or interest area in a Lunch&Learn format on both days where participants can engage in problem-identification and analysis of key issues for professional psychology.

The conference offers 18 CPD units of in-class training, lunch on both days and a continental breakfast on Friday. For more information or to register go to www.louisianapsychologist.org/

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