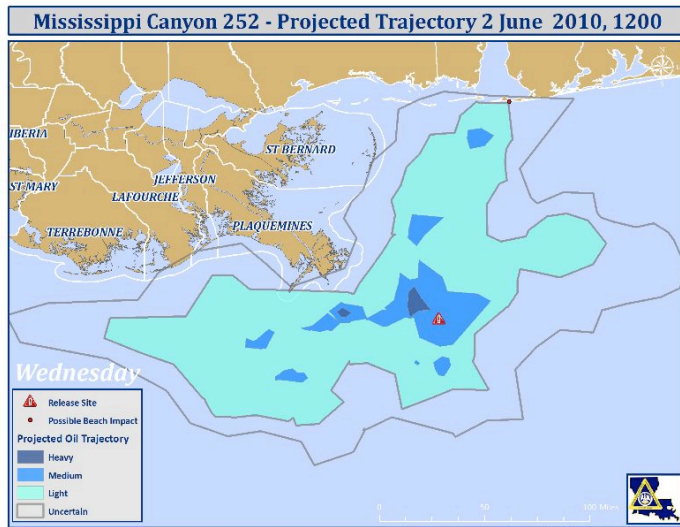


## Psychology Community Prepares

### Louisiana Braces for Another Catastrophe



The psychology community is bracing for economic, environmental, and emotional impacts of cascading effects from disastrous pollution of Louisiana's coastal regions and the Gulf waters.

"From my vantage point, people are afraid," said Dr. Clarence Bergeron, a psychologist living and practicing in Houma, a city in coastal Terrebonne Parish. He added that one of the biggest fears he sees in community leaders is the risk that storms from the Gulf will throw oil further into marshes, killing the ecosystem that holds the land together. "It's already in the marshes, and nothing comes out of there," he said. "There is no way to clean up a marsh."

Con't pg 3



Governor Jindal holds up net full of oil in his tour of Pass A Loutre. Photos courtesy of Governor's Office and GOHSEP.

### Interdivisional Group Thinks Act 251 Could Confuse Public

The Interdivisional Healthcare Committee (IHC), a group of representatives from seven APA divisions, published a list of concerns about Act 251, citing issues about confusing the public as to meaning of "medical

psychologist." Also noted were issues about psychologists falling under medical boards, and problems about 251 creates internal to the profession in regard to unfair competition. The authors call for action by three APA bodies: Committee for the Advancement of Professional Practice (CAPP), Bd of Psychological Affairs (BPA), and Bd of Educational Affairs (BEA).

Con't pg 4

### Dr. Nemeth Named LPA Distinguished Psychologist

Dr. Darlyne Nemeth was named Distinguished Psychologist by the Louisiana Psychological Association at the April annual convention.

Dr. Nemeth manages a broad-spectrum practice at the Neuropsychology Center of Louisiana in Baton Rouge.

Con't pg 6

### Board Member Notes Concerns with *Times* Report, Publisher

In a May 7<sup>th</sup> email to the *Times*, Dr. Joseph Comaty, Vice Chair of the LSBEP, raised several concerns about a story in the May edition, "LSBEP Presents at LPA, Act 251 Not Addressed." In his email, copied to all board members, he indicated several

Con't pg 12

### Dr. Culross Appointed To Board

On May 18<sup>th</sup> Governor Jindal announced his appointment of Dr. Rita Culross to the Psychology Board. Dr. Culross will replace

Con't pg 7



Dr. Culross

# Editorial Page

## Leaders Wanted

by Julie Nelson

We have new leaders taking positions in our community (three new board members, five new directors in the state association), it's Memorial Day, and Louisiana has a catastrophe coming. I want to connect these three.

In the 80s I had the privilege of working with some top managers who were in that group of men who came home from WWII, started families, and went to work. By the 80s some had achieved top leadership roles. They had the traits of good leaders: effective communication, strong critical-thinking skills, motivation, etc.

But anecdotally I kept seeing something else that set them apart, especially from many of today's leaders. The WWII group seemed to be more immune than others to the corrupting influence of power. (Power Increases Hypocrisy: Moralizing in Reasoning, Immorality in Behavior. *Psychological Science*, May, APS.)

I always attributed it (rightly or wrongly) to what it must have been like to sit next to someone in a foxhole, some guy from nowhere special, and then depend on him, and him on you, to live or die. I think that could install equality into one's heart and mind, and moral system, and help to fight off the seductive, nonconscious tendency we all have toward self-deception, the handmaiden of selfishness.

Time passed, these men retired, more time passed, their protégés retired, and now today, I sometimes feel that we are all searching for someone we can trust. I heard of a poll recently where the majority of voters would rather have a random name out of a phone book than the incumbent.

I hope our new leaders will help the psychological community to be more open, self-correcting, creative and respectful of its own diversity, so we can help Louisiana and ourselves. Because all of us are in this particular foxhole together.

## Letter to the Editor

Let us know what you think.  
Write a letter to the editor.

All,

I appreciate Dr. Nelson sending me a copy of Dr. Comaty's letter in which I was accused of "ambushing" him after the LSBEP meeting.

In every LSBEP presentation given at an LPA meeting that I have ever attended, or presided over, or in which I was a presenter as a board member, there was an opportunity given for questions to be asked of the board. In the meeting in question we were treated to serial monologues with no such opportunity. Questions by Dr. Nelson and myself were asked at the first opportunity we were given, at the end of a long one-way message. We were given no other opportunity to interact with LSBEP members. I don't recall the meeting being ended although the monologues took up the allotted time and the audience began leaving for the LPA Annual Business Meeting.

As to the questions posed, how could they not have been anticipated and addressed in the presentation? This was the most controversial issue in LPA since the initial licensing act, and I was attending LPA meetings before the LSBEP even came into existence.

Act 251 changed psychology. Psychologists, and even LSBEP members, have apparently resigned their LSBEP licenses and LSBEP Board membership as a result of changes due to Act 251. Non-psychologists (physicians) will now regulate all aspects of the practice of psychologists, dealing with issues in which they lack the basic scientific training. The board's history with, and view of, Act 251 deserved (begged?) discussion.

**Tom Hannie**  
**Past President of LPA**  
**Past Member of LSBEP**

### LA Braces...

Dr. Bergeron's executive assistant, Gina, has lived her life on the bayou, boating, swimming, and fishing from a pirogue. "That's the scary part," she said. "It's here. It's not capped. Even once it's capped, we still have years ahead. It's going to change our way of life."

Dr. Bergeron explained to the *Times* that Houma started out as a fishing village. "The current economy base is oil, fishing, and medical," he said. "If the fishing goes, that's all we have. The romance of Houma is going to be gone."

Dr. Kim VanGeffen, a psychologist from New Orleans, has been a board member for over ten years for the nonprofit, service agency known as Via Link. This summer she begins a two-year presidency. She explained that the agency has been handling calls about the oil spill for weeks, mostly regarding "volunteer opportunities, employment inquiries, BP claims, emergency food, questions about air and seafood quality..."

"At this point," Dr. VanGeffen told the *Times*, "there are several needs that Via Link anticipates coming from the oil spill. The most likely impact," she noted, "will be the financial one on the many citizens whose livelihoods depend on the Gulf."

Via Link serves a twelve parish area with an emergency 211 number, and includes the coastal parishes of St. Bernard, Plaquemines, Jefferson, and Lafourche. Residents in these and other parishes in southeast Louisiana can call 211 at any time for information, referrals, and crisis intervention.

"Via Link is also getting calls from people with questions such as the safety of water supplies and seafood," noted Dr. VanGeffen. "They are also providing telephone numbers of BP departments that people need to contact. They also anticipate crisis/suicide calls related to the oil spill much as we experienced after Katrina."

Psychologists along the coast will be



Dr. Tracey Rizzuto (L) industrial-organizational professor from LSU working with Laura Maloney, ED of LA SPCA.

working to try and fill service gaps. Mississippi Psychological Association (MPA) contacted LPA to ask for assistance with the large community of Vietnamese fishermen impacted by the closing of fishing waters. "We are worried about the language barrier," the executive director, Ms. Tracey Curtis, told the *Times*. Along with the Red Cross, Mississippi psychologists are hoping to find practitioners to help with stress, but also to locate anyone knowledgeable about Vietnamese culture and language.

Dr. Tracey Rizzuto, assistant professor of industrial-organizational psychology, LSU-BR, used her talents to help businesses in the aftermath of Katrina, called the Katrina Aid and Relief Effort (KARE). "KARE was a volunteer group of psychology professionals," she told the *Times*, "who came together to assist the state in recovery." The group "...worked to assist Louisiana businesses after hurricanes Katrina and Rita, and was a joint effort by APA divisions 13 and 14," she said. (Division 13 is Society of Consulting Psychology. Division 14 is Society for Industrial and Organizational Psychology.)

Modeled in part after her work in KARE, Dr. Rizzuto is involved in coordinating with others now to prepare for future disasters. "Efforts are underway," she said, "to formalize a long-term partnership between APA Divisions 13 and 14." She again hopes to help put together the people who can deliver organizational recovery efforts and help rebuild businesses after catastrophic disasters.



Brown Pelican, covered with oil, found near Bayou Rigaud. (Photo courtesy La Dept Wildlife & Fisheries.)

### Braces...

Then there is the unfolding psychological impact. Dr. April Newlin, a psychologist and nature writer, said about why she studies nature and writes about it, "...to give voice to the beauty and wonder of the natural world, to remind people of their connection to place, and to invite them into that way of being in the world." (*Bookshelf, PT #4*).

Psychologists are documenting these connections. In "This Side of Paradise: Discovering Why the Human Mind Needs Nature" (*Observer*, May/June, APS), the author cites work showing how contact with nature restores mental attention. Dr. Newlin spent weeks in solitude on Horn Island, a wilderness island ten miles off the Mississippi coast, to write her book, *Horn of Plenty: Seasons in an Island Wilderness*.



When the *Times* asked how she felt about the oil spill off the coast she said, "Grieving ... most describes my feelings about the Gulf."

---

Oiled waters.  
(Photo courtesy of Governor's Office.)

### IHC Report...

Dr. Rob Glueckauf, Chair of IHC, told the *Times* last week that the position statement and action requests were unanimously supported by representatives from all seven divisions. He stated, "We have submitted the report to CAPP, BEA, and BPA. CAPP has already taken action. They have a working group that is investigating the current and long-term practice implications of the legislation [Act 251], as well as the consequences of licensing prescribing psychologists under state medical boards. Both BEA and BPA have said they would seriously review and consider the information."

IHC is independent of APA, but is composed of two representatives from each of the APA divisions of Health Psychology, Rehabilitation Psychology, Clinical Neuropsychology, Society of Pediatric Psychology, Society of Clinical Psychology/Clinical Geropsychology, Counseling Psychology, and Family Psychology.

According to Dr. Daniel Bruns, IHC member and lead author of the report, members from the APA Division of Health Psychology prepared the initial draft, and then IHC completed the analysis. He said that IHC "functions as a think tank for those in psychology who use psychological methods to treat individuals with physical illness." He pointed out that the IHC is "best known for its development of the Health & Behavior codes. These are the billing codes that allow a traditional medical psychologist to be reimbursed for treating diabetes with behavioral methods, for example."

A main concern cited in the IHC report is that Act 251 writes into law a different definition of what it means to be a medical psychologist. The report notes that for eighty years the term medical psychologist has been used to describe a practitioner who applies psychological modalities to treat patients with physical problems, such as diabetes, brain injury, asthma or obesity.

The report goes on to describe that with Act 251, the same term, "...refers to a psychologist who has been trained to treat psychiatric disorders with medications." And that, "This will confuse the public and other professionals."

Dr. Bruns commented to the *Times* that Act 251 has "...almost reversed the definition of the term medical psychology."

Authors of the IHC document also wrote that Louisiana's new law, "... excludes almost all traditional medical psychologists, and may misrepresent what prescribing psychologists actually do..." And that, "...A person trained in RxP and called a Medical Psychologist would

**Con't pg 5**

**IHC report...**

appear to have expertise in rehabilitation psychology, clinical neuropsychology, health psychology, primary care psychology, etc. Further, by virtue of being licensed by the medical board, MPs would appear to be more qualified than traditional medical psychologists, without having training in these other disciplines.”

In July 2009, Dr. James Childerston, President of both the Academy of Medical Psychology (AMP) and American Board of Medical Psychology (ABMP), raised similar objections in a letter to Louisiana’s attorney general.

The IHC report listed concerns about the move of psychologists to medicine. “Act 251 transfers control of credentialing, training requirements, scope of practice and oversight of the medical psychology profession to the medical board, and this is a radical paradigm shift involving some loss of control over our own profession. Similarly, Act 251 creates two classes of paraprofessionals (psychometricians and psychological assistants) whose credentialing, training requirements, scope of practice and oversight fall under the auspices of the medical board.”

The IHC authors also pointed to concerns about unfair economic advantages that appear created by 251, citing examples such as authorizing medical tests and hiring psychometricians. They give an example of an MP ordering an MRI where a traditional neuro-psychologist may not, even though he/she may be more qualified than the MP. This, the authors noted, “...could lead to unfair competitive advantage...”

Find full report at <http://www.healthpsych.com/ihc/medpsych.pdf>



Mr. Todd Lobrano was awarded first place for his poster presentation about stress and personality in students, at LPA. Left, President-Elect Dr. Kelly Ray presents Todd with award. (Photos courtesy of LPA Newsletter.)

## **LA Tech Grad Student Mr. Todd Lobrano Wins Award**

Mr. Todd Lobrano, a doctoral student in counseling psychology at Louisiana Tech was awarded the first place honor for his research, “The Ability of Personality Traits to Predict Vulnerability to Stress in College Students.” Dr. Eric Deemer, a faculty member at LaTech, worked with Mr. Lobrano on the research. Todd investigated how certain personality traits and demographic variables predict

a student’s vulnerability to stress. He gave 253 participants five factor personality measures and the Student-life Stress Inventory, and calculated a hierarchical regression. He found “gender, grade level, GPA, and expected performance were the only significant predictors of vulnerability to stress when conscientiousness was present. Alternatively, neuroticism and its interactions with GPA and expected performance was an effective predictor of stress when conscientiousness was removed from the equation.” (LPA Newsletter, 1, 2.)

## **Pull Down Your Drawers To Read *Psychology Times***

Some readers are still scrolling through the pages which makes reading the *Times* harder than it needs to be. The **PDF format** for the *Times* makes shifting between pages easy. Mac users open “drawers” by clicking on top right side of the document. PC users must find the “pages” symbol (often at the top left) that offers you thumbnail images. These thumbnails line up so that you can shift easily from page to page without having to scroll.

## Nemeth...

Her accomplishments include 26 professional papers, 32 publications, and she has presented at scientific conferences more than 58 times. She has served as President of LPA, Delegate, Secretary, Chairs of Legislative & Social Issues, and Professional Affairs. She has written two book chapters, and with colleagues Dr. Kelly Ray and Maydel Schexnayder coauthored, *Helping Your Angry Child*.

Darlyne serves as Vice President for the World Council for Psychotherapy (WCP) and is their Delegate to the United Nations, where she chairs an International WCP Committee for the development of a worldwide Disaster/Trauma Relief professional certification process.

Darlyne has been nationally and internationally recognized for her Hurricane Anniversary Wellness Workshops, and was invited by Peking University, the Chinese Psychological Society, and Chinese Association for Mental Health to present a workshop at the '08 World Congress for Psychotherapy in Beijing. There she trained 3,000 psychiatrists,



Mentor, author, and now LPA Distinguished Psychologist award winner Dr. Darlyne Nemeth, center, celebrates at the convention with colleagues and students (left to right) Alex Steger, Taighlor Whittington, Traci Olivier, Dr. Susan Dardard, Dr. Darlyne Nemeth, Natasha May, Dr. Joseph Tramontana, and John Hamilton. (Photo courtesy of Dardard Media.)

psychologists and social workers in anniversary reaction interventions.

Darlyne has been a pioneer in the area of Clinical Neuropsychology, and was first in Louisiana to establish a private practice neuropsychology laboratory. She was the first Clinical Neuropsychologist from Louisiana to be elected to Div 40 Fellowship status. At that time, she was one of only 108 individuals to achieve this honor, of more than 4500 members.

She has been affiliated with the Psychology Department at Southeastern,

teaching Cognitive Neuroscience and Functional Neuroanatomy, and with Our Lady of the Lake College. In January the *Times* asked her about her future goals. One of her goals is to continue, "...as a mentor to students who have completed their

undergraduate degree and need an interim practicum experience in order to be competitive for doctoral level admissions."

Dr. Nemeth and her team will be presenting "Group Interventions for Disaster/Trauma Anniversary Reactions" in Long Beach, MS, June 4-5.



### Group Interventions for Disaster/Trauma Anniversary Reactions

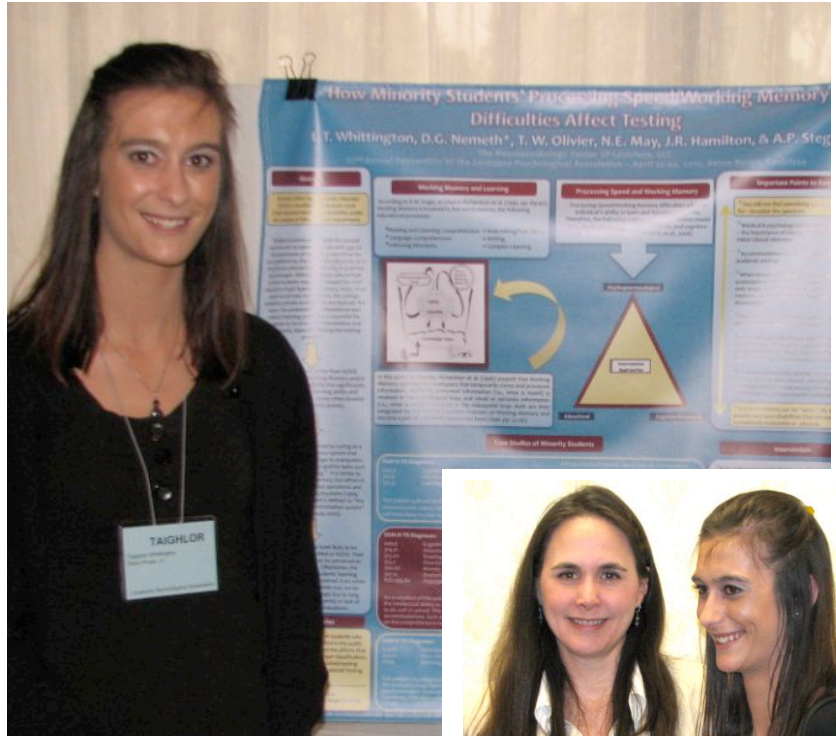
Nemeth, D.<sup>1</sup>, Kurlansky, J.<sup>2</sup>, Olivier, T.<sup>1</sup>, Whittington, L.<sup>1</sup>, May, N.<sup>1</sup>, Hamilton, J.<sup>1</sup>, Steger, A.<sup>1</sup>  
Neuropsychology Center of Louisiana, LLC<sup>1</sup> and Columbia University<sup>2</sup>

Returning to Katrina - Bringing Hurricane Katrina Research Back to the Community  
University of Southern Mississippi - Center for Policy and Resilience  
Long Beach, Mississippi  
June 4-5, 2010

## Taighlor Whittingham Wins Poster Research Undergraduate Division

Ms. Taighlor Whittingham holds a bachelor's degree in psychology from LSU and is an extern with Dr. Darlyne Nemeth at the Neuropsychology Center of Louisiana in Baton Rouge. Her poster, titled, "How Minority Students' Processing Speed/Working Memory Difficulties Affect Testing," was presented with Dr. Nemeth, T. Olivier, N. May, J. Hamilton, and A. Steger.

Taighlor presented case histories of individuals who were not properly identified or classified in educational systems. She described and defined ADHD, working memory, and processing speed, and related these concepts to performance and performance anxiety, pointing out that "Minority students are least likely to be correctly identified/classified ADHD." And that often, "...the etiology of minority students' learning difficulties simply goes unnoticed." (LPA Newsletter, 1, 2.)



Taighlor Whittingham accepts award for undergraduate research poster, from President-Elect, Dr. Kelly Ray. (Photos courtesy of LPA Newsletter.)



## Dr. Culross...

Dr. Jillandra Rovaris whose normal term expires this month.

Dr. Culross is a Jo Ellen Levy Yates Professor with the Department of Educational Theory, Policy, & Practice in the College of Education at LSU, Baton Rouge. She received her doctorate from Purdue University.

In her statement for nomination, Dr. Culross wrote, "With the passage of new legislation regarding the practice of Medical Psychology there is a need for experienced psychologists to volunteer for service on the Board. I believe the Board serves the profession and the public best if the membership reflects the

broad array of work settings and specialties in psychology. I would bring the perspective of a trainer with more than 30 years as a licensed psychologist. In addition, I would work to expand continuing education activities for all specialties and would lend my expertise gained working on programs of continuing education."

This is the final of three appointments that licensees voted on last November. Other recent appointments include Dr. Tony Young, appointed in March to fill the position left open by the resignation of Dr. Glen Ally. Dr. Young will serve until 2012. Dr. John Simoneaux was appointed in April to fill a position left open by Dr. Paul Dammers, and will serve until 2013.

## Public Interest Award Named for Tulane's Dr. Barbara Moely

Tulane's Psychology Department has created the "Barbara E. Moely Award for Psychology in the Public Interest," honoring the graduating senior who exhibits exceptional public service.

The award is named for Professor Emerita Barbara Moely, who began service-learning at Tulane.

Dr. Moely, authored *Creating Our Identities in Service-Learning and Community Engagement*, published by Information Age Publishing.

# Close-UP

## Dr. Thomas Fain

Dr. Thomas Fain has been part of the psychological community in Louisiana for thirty years. Some who know him well think that he marches to his own drummer. While that's at least partly true, his background brings to mind the classical training, breadth of knowledge, and interest in the human experience, that is the heart and soul of psychology.

He came to Louisiana in 1981 from his position as clinical psychologist at Atascadero State Hospital in California, accepting a position as Chief of Psychological Services at Feliciana Forensic Facility in Jackson. It was not the first time this Texan had wound up in the bayou state. He had followed the flow of where life, and the Dallas draft board, had led him.

During the Viet Nam conflict, and as a graduate student, Thomas went to his draft board, asking what additional deferments were available after graduation. "Mrs. Hansen was the executive secretary," Thomas explained. "She looked at me and said, 'Are you a farmer?' I said no. 'Are you a preacher?' I said no. 'Are you a physician?' I said no. She said, 'You're going.' I said, 'Well, what if I were working at the state mental hospital?' She cocked her head and looked at me and said, 'You know, we've never had one of those before.' She said, 'Do you want to go before the draft board and ask them if they'll give you a deferment?' I said, 'Sure I do.' I got in there with about five Billy Bobs, flat tops, burr heads. Finally, the chair announced, 'I'll tell you what boy, if you keep those crazies off the street,

you've got a deferment.'"

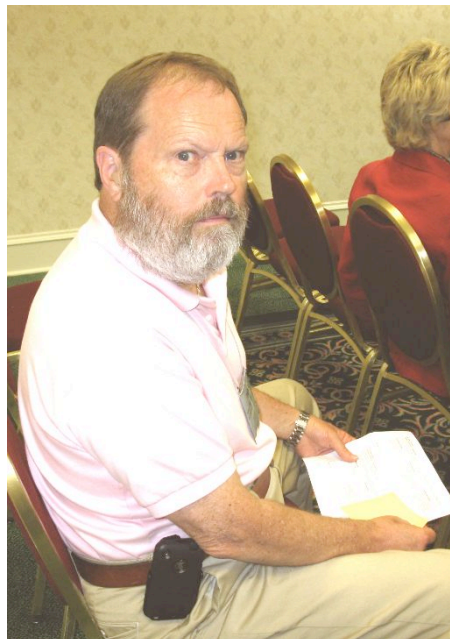
So Thomas went to Central Louisiana State Hospital, working with Dr. Ron Pryor. But it was Gerald Fisher who told Thomas that he was *really* good at psychology, and that he should pursue his doctorate. "That was the turning point," Thomas said. While he had started college as an English major—and he loved it—he found that his writing style was not what they wanted. "So," he explained, "I went to the counseling center and they gave me the Strong Campbell." Five areas continued to appear: newspaper reporter, editor of newspaper, psychologist, lawyer and physician. "Guess what I do now? I write reports all the time. I edit reports, I edit medical records, disability, joint commission surveyor..." His training at Central helped prepare him

for his doctoral studies, but also to be the most experienced of all the interns at Malcolm Bliss Mental Health Center, Washington University Medical School.

For nine years at Feliciana Forensic, he supervised a department of twelve, designing the assessment batteries and services for court ordered mental health issues. He also worked as Director of Human Relations, handling staffing, program design, EEO, quality assurance, research, and ancillary occupations. During that time he also practiced independently in Baton Rouge, in clinical, forensic, consulting and teaching, crystallizing his training into a specialized set of skills that would remain with him throughout his career path.

Today, Thomas holds the diplomat in Clinical/Forensic Psychology from the American Board of Professional Psychology. He is certified as a school psychologist

Con't pg 9



Dr. Thomas Fain, now and then. L: At recent meeting of state association bylaws vote. R: Photo from Dr. Tom Stigall's collection, 1986. Dr. Fain will have served a total of 13 years in LPA positions, twice as president.

Fain...

and for the treatment of alcohol and substance use disorders through the APA College of Professional Psychology. And, he holds the license for Advanced Practice as a medical psychologist from the medical board.

His contributions have included Director of Psychological Services at Meadow Wood, Consultant Surveyor of Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, Consultant Psychologist at Renaissance Rehabilitation Hospital, Consultant Training Psychologist to Office of Community Services and Child Protective Services, and Consultant Clinical and Forensic Psychologist to the Behavioral Health Clinic. He was appointed to represent LPA as a clinical/forensic psychologist to the State of Louisiana Legislative Task Force.

Always willing to share his knowledge, he has presented numerous times on a variety of topics, often in the area of forensics and ethics. He has presented to the Louisiana Public Defenders Association and to the Louisiana State Bar Association, with topics such as: "The Mental Health Professional in the Courtroom," "Psychologists Executing Civil Commitments," "Use of Psychological Test in Custody Evaluations," and "Understanding Mental Impairments for SSA/ALJ Hearings."

Thomas' natural social interest also extends to his community of colleagues. Twice, he has served as president of the Louisiana Psychological Association, each term a commitment of three years. He has served as treasurer and in committee chairs. By the end of his new term as treasurer, Thomas will have served thirteen years in LPA.

His philosophy for a productive career? "I have found it has served me well throughout my life to go with the flow... the serendipity of the flow," he said. "It's very important not to fight the flow, but to go with it. Life leads us to places... Whether the draft board with Mrs. Hanson or the work with Gerald Fisher, or the job situation, or whatever... you've got to go with the flow."

His advice to younger psychologists follows this reasoning. "Actually," he explained, "it's more of you've got to *grow* with the flow." Also, he said, "Stay ethical and honest. Do good work. If you stay steady with the ethics and do good work, it'll be recognized and you'll get the largesse, the product of that effort."

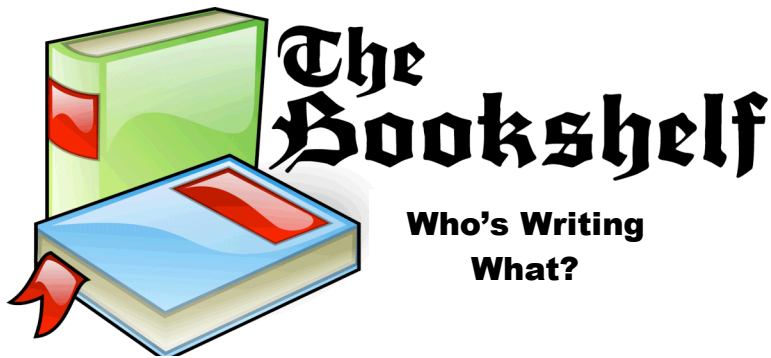
"I truly like the occupation," he said. "I'm not sure if someone who's going into the profession for the profit motive—I'm not sure that's the right direction. You have to go into this because you're interested in it, because you're academically curious, because you like the research, because you like all of that... Someone coming to this now, with the cheapening of the education, cheapening of the advocacy for the profession, in the breakdown of the moral fiber we have in the country... I'm not sure that the investment required to get a Ph.D., will pay, money wise that is."

With his special blend of interest and experience, a meshing of scientific and clinical approaches, and his genuine care for others, perhaps this is how Dr. Thomas Fain stays so young ("I'm older than I look.") Or maybe it's his Mark Twain sense of humor, and willingness to go wherever life leads.

Seems like excellent advice.



Dr. Judith Levy, out-going president of LPA receives award and appreciation from her colleagues on the executive committee and members at convention.

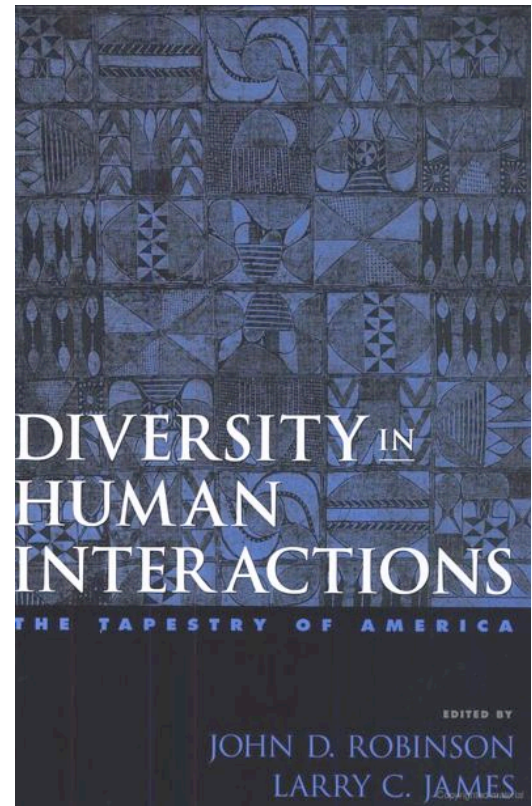


## Diversity in Human Interactions The Tapestry of America

*Drs. John D. Robinson  
and Larry James, Editors*

Oxford University Press, 2003

"...Our population is becoming increasingly diverse, so we will increasingly face problems brought about by differences. This book is about communications; about crossing the divide that cultures and society sometimes widens rather than lessens. We hope this book will teach you how not to be afraid to talk to each other and to understand our uniqueness. We believe that only through frank and honest discussions can we become fully aware of the differences that make us unique. Only then can we



By permission Oxford University Press  
[www.oup.com](http://www.oup.com)

really enjoy the beauty and richness of the multicultural artwork that is the human tapestry of America." (From *Diversity*, "Introduction: Weaving the Tapestry," by Dr. John Robinson and Larry C. James.)

In this book, Drs. John Robinson and Larry James organize the ideas and insights of the best and brightest thinkers into an intimate and compelling tour of diversity in race, ethnic differences, aging, sexual orientation, disability, and religion. Each chapter is written by a member of that group, and is also a renowned scholar or educator. The writing is clean, with an economy of words and theory that brings the information into sharp, meaningful focus. The reader is let into the inner circle, in a frank and honest way, to grasp the experience of another.

John told the *Times* that this readability did not come easily. "When I wrote it, Larry was at Walter Reed, because he's military. We would get a chapter, I'd go over to Walter Reed and get a private or a sergeant, and have them read it. If they could understand, it was okay. If they couldn't, it went back to the author. I wanted the man on the street to be able to read it and say, 'Oh, I got that, I didn't know that.'"

"We had some very high level academic people writing those chapters and to try to convince them to write a non-academic style was hard. I sent it back not because of the academic rigor, but because it was too rigorous."

*Diversity in Human Interactions* can be used as a tool for human-relations training or college textbook. But anyone with an interest in social interactions will find it a fascinating tour through human experience, and a treasure chest of insights about differences.

"It is used by the military and several universities," John noted. "It's used by a few corporations, when they do their diversity training. Because I did not want a theoretical book, when you read it you won't see theory. You'll see what it's like to be, for instance, Asian. What do Asians want to be called? What do Hispanics want to be called?"

### Bookshelf...

A chapter by Diane Willis and Dolores Subia Bigfoot, titled "On Native Soil: The Forgotten Race: American Indians," explains how the Chippewa call themselves Ojibway, The Dine' people are called Navajo, and the Tis-Tsis-Tsas are called Cheyenne. The Winnebago recently returned to their original name, Tohono O'Odham, moving away from the name thrust on them by others and history books.

"Native American is one of the worse terms we have," John explained. "Indians don't like to be called Native Americans. They want to be called Cherokee or Choctaw or even American Indians. Because Native American was a congressional term, it included Alaskans, Native Hawaiians, and American Indians. So American Indians loss their identity in that term," he explained.

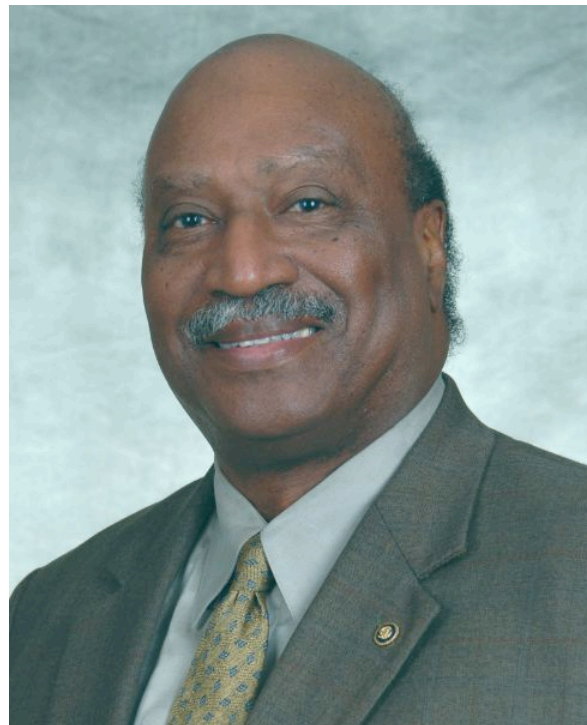
"Na Kanaka Maoli: The Indigenous People of Hawai'i," a chapter on Hawaiians, is written in a different style, with a different voice, than other chapters. John, who travels to Hawaii regularly said, "It's one of the few books that has a chapter on Native Hawaiians. And when you read it, the style of writing is completely different from the other chapters."

"What Difference Does A Difference Make?" by Beverly Greene, "... sets up the whole thing," John said. She writes about why people want to see differences, the positives and the negatives, and deeper insights into the understanding people have of others.

How did John conceive the book? "It was because of Anne Rice," he said, an author he admires and would occasionally cross paths with in New Orleans. "Anne Rice wrote a book called *Feast of All Saints*," he said, "which is about New Orleans, antebellum era, pre and post." Her book explained the diversity of the city for John. "From there I said, humm... I need to write something a little more academic, that people could use."

"The big publishing companies came after it when we told people what we were interested in doing," John noted. "Larry and I were approached by about six different publishing companies. We chose Oxford University Press, because of the name and they offered us the most assistance with the most autonomy."

"It's still selling extremely well," he said. "Frequently I'm getting notes from Oxford saying, 'Did you know that some University or corporation picked it up?' Because of the way it was written. It can be used by anyone. The guy in the mailroom can read it, as well as the CEO of the company. It's timeless."



Dr. John Robinson, author of *Diversity In Human Interactions*, came to Louisiana in the 80s and now is professor at Howard U. Medical School, in D.C. He is Vice Chair of the Psychology Bd there, and holds the ABPP in Clinical Health Psychology.

## Nutrition and Health

Chromium is a trace element important in blood sugar regulation. In older adults with cognitive decline, chromium picolinate supplementation for 12 weeks improved performance on learning, memory, and recall tasks as well as increased cerebral activation (as measured by MRI). Chromium supplementation may be important in cases of reduced cognitive-cerebral function.

*Improved cognitive-cerebral function in older adults with chromium supplementation," Krikorian R, Shidler MD, et al, Nutr Neurosci, 2010; 13(3): 116-22*



Sharing Paths to Health  
with Functional Testing

<http://www.metamatrixinstitute.org/>

### Bd Member...

matters: that the *Times'* summary of the board's interactions with the LPC board was misleading; that he had "ethical concerns" about the content and method of how he was questioned by Dr. Julie Nelson, (*Times'* publisher); and that the tone of the article was biased. Nelson answered his concerns in an email on May 11<sup>th</sup>.

In his email Dr. Comaty wrote, "At no time did the LSBEP refuse to meet with the LPC Board as the *Times'* statement implies. In fact, LSBEP had for years been advising the LPC Board on the defining line between 'appraisal' and psychological testing as defined in the law..." On this first point, Nelson wrote back that she saw how "a two-sentence summary about the board's interaction with the LPC board could leave much to the imagination of the reader," and invited him to clarify in a future edition.

Dr. Comaty also wrote that he was questioned inappropriately, because it was at the end of the presentation and that Nelson did not identify herself. Nelson wrote back that she had assumed he understood her role with the *Psychology Times* based on previous contacts, but since it was an open, public meeting, and there was no private conversation between them, then there was no breach of ethics.

Dr. Comaty concluded with a concern that "the whole tone of the article, including the subtitle 'Act 251 Not Addressed' represents a bias in the report." He also wrote, "The purpose of the meeting, is to inform the public of the activities of the Board. Act 251 is the law and the Board has had no activity or issues with Act 251 since its implementation."

Nelson responded, "I regard the



Returning from the San Antonio Roll & Roll Marathon are NSU's Psychology Department running team members: L to R: Dr. Patrice Moulton, Mr. Jody Biscoe, Dr. Susan Thorson-Barnett, graduate student Ms. Marline Pruden, and undergraduate Ms. Jennifer Duhon. Lanay Baldrige, administrative assistant, told the *Times* that she reminded the team that the wheel has been invented, but they're not listening.

*Times'* treatment of this event as a reasonable report of the board's lack of attention to a matter that is arguably one of the most contentious among psychologists in Louisiana in recent history. It was newsworthy that at a meeting billed as, "Meet with representatives of the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists to discuss the activities of the Board during the last year," there was in fact no opportunity to engage in such a discussion..."

A specific question that concerned Dr. Comaty was when Nelson asked him about the response of the board's attorney, Mr. Lunceford. As reported in the February edition of the *Times*, the psychology board addressed Act 251 on May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2009. At that time, Dr. Glen Ally, the then legislative chair for the board, brought up the bill in his report.

The minutes of that meeting noted, "...Concerns over the effects of this Bill on the financial and regulatory operations of the Board, the practice of psychology, and the practice of medical psychology were discussed by all present. The LSBEP elected to request a legal opinion from Attorney Lloyd Lunceford concerning the impact on the LSBEP for future consideration by the Board."

Information about this opinion has not been obtained and it is not known if the psychology community has a right to Mr. Lunceford's analysis or not.

The Psychology board placed *Psychology Times* on its May 14<sup>th</sup> agenda for discussion, but the publisher discovered this too late to attend.

No response from Dr. Comaty has been received as of publication deadline.

## The Psychology Times

Published monthly  
by Nelson News, LLC.  
[psychologytimes@drjulienelson.com](mailto:psychologytimes@drjulienelson.com)

Publisher: Julie Nelson, Ph.D.  
Member, Louisiana Press Association

Journalism Consultant:  
Robert Holeman

Media Consultant/Columnist:  
Susan Dardard, Ph.D.

Columnist/Reporter:  
Carolyn Weyand, Ph.D.

Cartoonist:  
Jake Nelson-Dooley

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

*All materials copyrighted by J. Nelson  
unless otherwise noted.*

## Up-Coming Events

### Group Interventions for Disaster/Trauma Anniversary Reactions

June 4-5, Long Beach, Mississippi  
University of Southern Mississippi  
Center for Policy and Resilience

### The Heart and Soul of Change: Becoming Better At What We Do

June 17-19 New Orleans  
Sponsored by the  
Louisiana Counseling Association  
[www.heartandsoulofchange.org](http://www.heartandsoulofchange.org)

### American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children, 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Colloquium

June 23-26, New Orleans  
Sheraton New Orleans  
[www.apsac.org](http://www.apsac.org)

### Summer Symposium

July 28-30, Lafayette  
Professional Training Resources  
[www.professionaltrainingresourcesinc.com](http://www.professionaltrainingresourcesinc.com)

### American Psychological Association

August 12-15  
San Diego  
[www.apa.org/convention](http://www.apa.org/convention)



Photo courtesy of Cpl. Daniel Blatter.

O beautiful for heroes proved  
In liberating strife.  
Who more than self their country loved  
And mercy more than life!  
America! America!  
May God thy gold refine  
Till all success be nobleness  
And every gain divine.

From "America the Beautiful."  
Lyrics Katherine Lee Bates

## Memorial Day 2010

The Psychology Times

# Media Matters

by Dr. Susan Dardard



The National Association of Professional Psychology Providers (NAPPP) is preparing to launch a massive national media campaign. They understand media. They have retained the services of a consulting group to help “design and implement a major public awareness program” that will roll out systematically over time, subsequent to having sufficient funding in place.

What distinguishes this professional media campaign from one run by amateurs? First, those in need of publicity have the good sense to hire media experts to oversee the entire project. Second, they rely on the experts to lay out a comprehensive plan to reach the public. Third, they realize they need to pay the experts and have put in place plans to raise the money to do so.

NAPPP is smart enough to realize that the volunteer outreach of psychologists needs to take place under the guidance of and within the framework of media professionals. NAPPP also is smart enough to engage psychologists early in the process of developing a major public awareness campaign, by sending out a well-packaged announcement to its members, along with a sample newspaper ad.

Psychologists who want the public to see them as best qualified to diagnose and treat their mental health problems need to realize that selling the public on this perception requires an entirely different set of skills from those that they as clinicians use privately in their offices and clinics.

NAPPP sets an excellent example of what to do when you need help outside your realm of expertise. In contrast to more short-sighted public education efforts, the NAPPP campaign appears to be putting everyone in the right place. Psychologists are experts in psychology. They need experts in media.

Please email comments to Dr. Dardard at [mediaservices@drsusandardard.com](mailto:mediaservices@drsusandardard.com).

©2010 Dr. Susan Dardard

## NAPPP to Launch Ad Campaign

The National Alliance of Professional Psychology Providers (NAPPP) is planning to launch a public awareness campaign, placing ads with major newspapers such as the *New York Times* and *Wall Street Journal*.

Executive Director, Dr. John Caccavale, told the *Times*, “I am on the final chapter of a white paper that will be the foundation for the campaign. The title is ‘Failure To Serve: A White Paper on The Use of Medications As First Line Treatments And Misuse In Behavioral Interventions.’” He noted, “The paper does what we do best, provide solid research to back up our claims that doctoral level psychologists are the best trained behavioral health providers.”

The ad campaign focuses on the impact of drug companies and the need for patients to have an accurate diagnosis and evaluation by a doctoral level psychologist. In NAPPP’s draft ad, topics include, “Is Your Health Being Shortchanged By Drug Companies and Insurers?” and “Patients Deserve To Be Diagnosed by Doctors Skilled in Diagnosing.” Also included is, “This is How Patients Should Be Treated- 3 Steps To An Effective Treatment Plan.”

### Psychologists

The Public Needs to Meet You

Are You Ready For Your

Newspaper Interview

Radio Discussion

Television Appearance

To Prepare Yourself

Contact Dr. Susan Dardard

**Dr. Susan Dardard**  
**Media Consultant**

[mediaservices@drsusandardard.com](mailto:mediaservices@drsusandardard.com)  
225.635.4555