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2018 Year in Review

The year was relatively calm on the political front, with a budget deal finally being made that took higher education and healthcare off the chopping block. The legislative session produced a bill that restructured state healthcare boards, adding a consumer member to the LSBEP. Two news events continue to unfold: the psychological association and the psychology board dug in their heels about the expanded EPPP-2; and Cerwonka vs LSBEP continued with twists and turns—two of the several items that Judge Caldwell used to vacate the board's decision were reversed at the appeals court, while others were returned to Caldwell. In the

meantime, the state board said it will rework its complaints process. Ongoing positive reports of the prison reforms were frequently in the news, innovations that in part reflect the work of Dr. Susan Tucker. The year was packed full of psychology researchers from all over presenting at conferences around the country, while several famous scientists came here for local continuing education events. Drs. Frick and Matson were named top scientists at year end. The community lost a cherished colleague, Dr. Fred Davis. Even with that sad note, it was a good year in Louisiana psychology.

JANUARY 2018

Dr. Chaney Serving on Governor Edwards' Task Force to Prevent Sexual Harassment and Discrimination Governor Edwards named Industrial-Organizational Psychologist Dr. Courtland Chaney to the Governor's Task Force on Sexual Harassment and Discrimination Policy.

Dr. Angela Breidenstine Appointed to Children's Trust Fund Board The Governor appointed Angela S. Breidenstine, PhD, of New Orleans, to the Louisiana Children's Trust Fund

Cont'd pg 7



The Psychology Times

2018

COMMUNITY AWARDS

The *Times* scanned the year's news and activities and found glowing examples of community contributions and leadership. For our Community Awards we focus on these special people, some new and some regulars, who pushed for excellence in hoping to make our community better, who innovated and persevered, and who made that extra effort to improve our lives and the lives of others. We thank and honor them for their vision and dedication to our community!

Editorials and Opinions

What's the Matter with Psychology?

by Times publisher, J. Nelson

In his recent study of the Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology, known as the EPPP, Dr. Brian Sharpless uncovered some serious problems. His data shows that the New York state psychology board's use of the EPPP has what is called adverse impact. Adverse impact, or "disparate impact," means that the New York board's selection procedures result in differing pass-fail rates for different races.

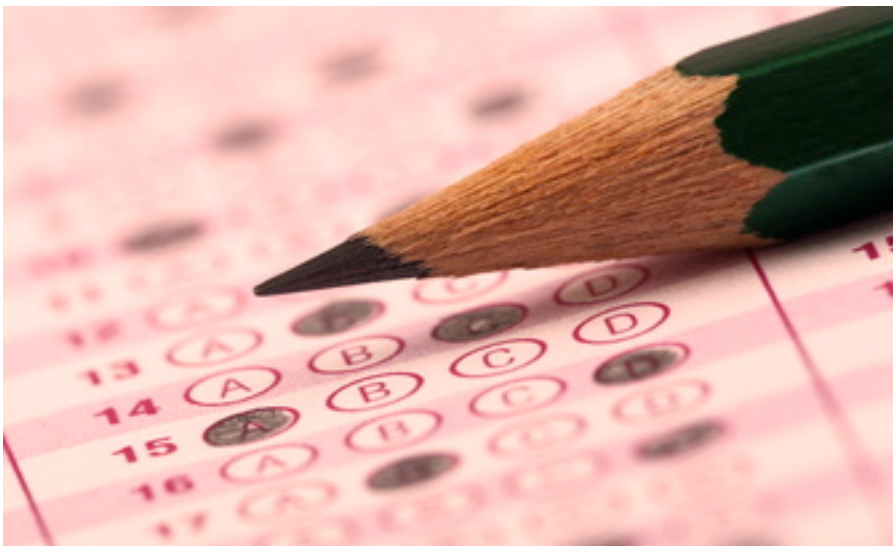
The gaps between the pass-fail rates are large enough for African-Americans and Hispanics to fall into disparate impact discrimination as described in Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which brings the whole process under scrutiny.

The EPPP can be roughly considered a type of selection testing. In the business setting, when a testing program has adverse impact, everything changes. Without adverse impact a company could use tea leaves to predict job performance and it wouldn't matter, only a waste of time and money. When psychologists find these differences in scores they go running around like crazy people to find ways to eliminate the impact, or at least dramatically reduce it.

Dr. Sharpless' findings should not be ignored by state boards. It is reasonable to assume that if New York's use the EPPP produces adverse impact, then other boards, using a similar cut-off, will also have adverse impact on minority candidates.

A strong case of validity, including a study of test bias, is required now in regard to the EPPP especially if the exam score winds up as the single data point for why an African-American or Hispanic candidate is denied a license.

The EPPP is content validated which makes sense *to a point*. It is a way to confirm that the candidate has mastered a body of knowledge, and a double-check on educational requirements. But



the logical leap from that to the goal of "protecting the public" is a task of predicting job performance behaviors, and that is more complex.

Boards aren't employers. Boards don't have the luxury or economic rationale to set the cut-off to exclude average or even poor performers, since lack-luster job performance is not a danger to the public. There is always a bell-shaped curve of performance and boards are focused at the bottom of the distribution, on those behaviors that lead to "gross negligence." Good luck with that. With a base rate of .002 for disciplinary actions, we're going to need it.

Dr. Sharpless' finding calls for scrutiny of methods at the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB). The questions and problems appear to be mounting in regard to their decisions in selection testing, including the new expanded test, EPPP-2. This is no small irony. Psychologists are the elite providers of tests and selection programs. We literally wrote the book on this. If our selection program winds up in court—and fails—there will be egg-on-the-face to go around.

It is not clear to me who is in charge when it comes to the use of the EPPP and the ethical and professional responsibility for the testing program used at the boards. The ASPPB is a non-profit business organization but it's "members" are state boards. Who is legally responsible and who is supposed to fix the problem once identified?

Dr. Sharpless' research finding seems to be the newest example of things that are not going well in psychology, which appear to be failings in our group level problem-solving. I've observed that for us to identify and confront a problem, the issue unfortunately has to reach a crisis level.

What's the matter with psychology?

Why did it take a law suit for the LSBEP to correct its complaints process, which had gone off the tracks years before?

Why did APA hire Hoffman, an attorney with no experience in psychology, to deal with crisis issues at APA that were psychological, professional and organizational in nature?

Why did it take an outsider and a Freedom of Information Act request for us to find out about the adverse impact with the EPPP?

What's the matter with psychology?

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

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

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Corrections & Clarifications

George Hebert pointed out that we typed "guess" speaker rather than guest, in the story about Dr. Matson. Other than that and some other typos pointed out by Ms. Brown, we did not receive corrections for December. Send your corrections to:
psychologytimes@drjulienelson.com

State & National News

Gov. Appoints Mr. Heller To Psychology Board as New Consumer Member

On December 27 the Governor appointed Amitai Heller, of New Orleans, to the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists. Heller is an attorney with the Advocacy Center of Louisiana. He will serve as a private citizen and consumer member on the board, a new reform put forward in the 2018 legislative session by Senator Mills.

Mr. Heller works in the legal division of the Advocacy Center, an organization that serves people with disabilities and senior citizens. According to their website, "The Advocacy Center of Louisiana protects, empowers, and advocates for the human and legal rights of people with disabilities and seniors living in Louisiana, in order that they may live an integrated life in the community, free from abuse, neglect and exploitation."

"The agency was founded pursuant to a federal law establishing protection and advocacy systems in each state and territory in the U.S. The mandate of the protection and advocacy systems is "to pursue legal, administrative, and other appropriate means to ensure the rights of persons with development disabilities in the state." Since 1977, we have added other populations to our client base including persons with other mental and physical disabilities and senior citizens.

LSBEP Nominations Deadline Extended

The Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists extended the nominations period for this year's election, wrote board Executive Director Jaime Monic to licensees on December 10. Nominations will be accepted through January 22, 2019 and opened at the regularly scheduled meeting of the LSBEP in January.

"Although the LSBEP received the self-nominations of two experienced psychologists, those individuals did not meet the statutory requirement of being licensed, specifically in Louisiana, for 5 years," wrote Monic.

Nominations should be send to the board. Candidate requirements are: (1) Citizen of the United States and resident of the state of Louisiana; (2) Have rendered service, teaching, training, or research in psychology for at least five years; (3) Shall have held a doctoral degree in psychology from a school or college as defined in La R.S. Title 37, Chapter 28 for a period of five years, and shall be licensed with the LSBEP for a period of five years; (4) No person shall be eligible to serve as a board member if he is employed by the board, has a contract with the board for services, or within the preceding twelve months of his nomination was employed by the board or had a contract with the board for services, explained the note by Monic.



In December the Governor appointed Amitai Heller to the board as the new consumer member. Mr. Heller is an attorney with the Advocacy Center of Louisiana. Above are (L to R) Drs. Amy Henke, Jesse Lambert, Koren Boggs, and Leah Crouch (facing away). The LSBEP board members discussed concerns at a recent meeting.

\$24M Grant to LDH Rural Health Focus On Opioid Deaths

The Louisiana Department of Health announced in September 2018 that it had received a Federal grant of more than \$24 million toward addressing the opioid epidemic in our state, said Dr. Tiffany Jennings, licensed psychologist in Shreveport, and Louisiana Psychological Association (LPA) Rural Health Coordinator for the American Psychological Association, and chair of the LPA the Rural and TeleHealth Services Committee.

According to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) almost 200 people per day died from drug overdose in 2017, more than 72,000 Americans during the year. The overwhelming majority of these overdose deaths involved an opioid. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said that the rates of drug overdose deaths are rising in rural areas, surpassing the numbers in urban areas.

"This grant was funded from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention and the US Dept. of Health and Human Services," said Dr. Jennings. "The money will be used for improving access to treatment, prevention strategies, improving surveillance data and to enable health centers and other agencies to expand integrated services treatment."

"But we've still got a long way to go," said Jennings. "Mental Health America ranked Louisiana 45th for access to mental health care. In 2016, the Medicaid expansion did provide insurance coverage for more than 430,000 people, it's difficult to obtain mental health services. Many doctors and agencies will not accept Medicaid due to reimbursement issues and low reimbursement rates. Agencies that do take Medicaid have a waiting list," she said.

Dr. Jennings has previously served as a neuropsychologist at Overton Brooks Veterans Administration Medical Center in Shreveport and also neuropsychologist for

the U.S. Army's Traumatic Brain Injury Clinic at Fort Polk in Leesville, Louisiana.

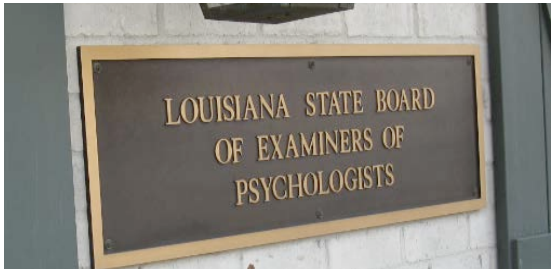
As Rural Health Coordinator for APA and LPA, Dr. Jennings has said that one of the goals of her committee is to "develop an ongoing community where those in rural areas, or who serve rural populations, can collaborate with each other." She said that sharing experiences as to how to set up various telehealth services and also to review current guidelines will be important goals"

"Another objective in mind is initiating and continuing the conversation regarding the opioid crisis," said Dr. Jennings previously. "... it's a major focus of concern."

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Dr. Tiffany Jennings is the Rural Health Coordinator for the American Psychological Association and chair for Rural Health for the Louisiana Psychological Association. Above she is presenting at the 2018 LPA convention.



MINUTES Friday, October 26, 2018
LSBME Memorandum of Understanding – The Board discussed the previous Memorandum of Understanding with the Board of Medical Examiners and the necessity of being able to communicate with regard to individuals who hold dual licenses with other Boards. Other questions were brought up related to information sharing among other agencies such as the Department of Children and Family Services, that may have an interest (or obligation) to investigate matters that fall under their jurisdiction when the board receives such information in the course of its investigation. Ms. Newton participated in this discussion, advising the Board that it could seek the opinion of the Attorney General.

Nineteenth Judicial District; Parish Of East Baton Rouge, State Of Louisiana, Division D, No.: 643,369: Glenn W. Ahava, Ph.D. v. LSBEP, On Appeal From September 18, 2015, Opinion And Order Of The Louisiana State Board Of Examiners Of Psychologists – Ms. Monic reported that Dr. Ahava had filed a motion to set a date for oral argument related to the Appeal of the September 15, 2015 Opinion and Order of the LSBEP. The board discussed appropriate recusal of current board members related to any discussion pertaining to facts or merits of the case and investigation in order to preserve the integrity of any current board member and preserve their ability to sit on future hearing panels, in the event this matter was remanded back to the board for further consideration. It was determined that Drs. Henke and Crouch who were not on the board for the original proceedings, be recused from all discussions related to the investigation and original hearing; and that Drs. Lambert, Boggs and Gormanous representing a majority of the board and having factual knowledge of this matter, serve as the reviewing committee to provide recommendations on proceeding pending the determination and findings of the 19JDC. No further action or discussion was required with this regard.

Rural Health continued

"Telemedicine has been gaining more ground in treatment, particularly for those in rural areas where treatment services may be limited, or non-existent," she said. "University Health in Shreveport was highlighted in the local media (KTBS.com) highlighting the advantages of telemedicine –such as cost, reduced transportation burden—and that telemedicine can be as effective as traditional in-person treatments," said Jennings.

This past fall the USDA launched an interactive data tool aimed to help communities build grassroots strategies to stem the opioid epidemic, to help rural leaders make data-driven decisions for their communities.

The USDA invites leaders to see the [many ways your community can partner with USDA](#) to meet immediate needs in this fight. According to the USDA, their program resources can help rural communities address many of the deeper, systemic, and long-term issues making these places vulnerable to the opioid crisis in the first place, the agency notes. Their [infographic illustrates](#) how USDA can help rural communities respond to the opioid epidemic by addressing some of the root causes.

From the Minutes

Selected Items from October & November Discussions of the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists

MINUTES Thursday, November 29, 2018 and Friday, November 30, 2018
Elections for Board Vacancy occurring June 30, 2019: The Board opened one Self- Nominations from Drs. Tammy Savoie and Thomandra Sam. The Board reviewed their credentials for vetting. Ms. Monic informed the Board that while both applicants had impressive vitas and were licensed for more than 5 years as a psychologist in other jurisdictions, neither candidate had been licensed specifically with the LSBEP for a minimum of 5 years as required under La. R.S. 37:2353. [...] The board also agreed to notify the Governor's office of Boards and Commissions of the delay/reasons for the delay. Dr. Gormanous also recommended that in the future, the heading on the nominations form be changed from "Self-Nomination..." to only "Nominations..."

Licensing and Credentialing: a) Non-applied track toward licensure (i.e. Developmental Psychology; Industrial Organizational; b) Applied Health Care Specialty/Applied General Psychology (previously docketed as: Non-applied Health Care Specialty); c) Tulane School Psychology program serving as a specialty program from school psychology to clinical - The group discussed these items in combination because they were related to the same credentialing and licensing issues that the board is facing. Specifically,

whether to move away from specialty designations toward healthcare, (Applied Health Care Provider [HCP]) or non-healthcare (Applied General Psychology [GP]) designations, which discussion ties into defining scope of practice for the developmental psychologist or individuals who graduate from specialized programs such as Tulane University's school psychology program. Discussion participants favored the development of the HCP/GP designations; however also valued their specialized training programs and the specialty designations. Participants also discussed the problems of trying to set boundaries with specialties when they are so similarly related. Attorney Newton advised that defining the specialty designation as a baseline in the licensing process, as the board does now, is important. Ms. Monic suggested a combined model where the board moves toward an HCP license and a GP license designation and then defines what training models/programs/credentials would be required to be licensed under one or the other. There was also discussion related to respecializing from HCP to GP, or vice versa, and competency development in in practice. With favorable support, Dr. Greg Gormanous moved that the Board begin the process of establishing in principle, and developing a model for the designations of either applied healthcare provider or applied general psychologist. The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote as follows: Lambert – YEA, Boggs- YEA, Henke – YEA, Crouch– YEA, Gormanous - YEA.

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Interview with Dr. Heather Pedersen

Brain–Health a Growing Concern as Boomers Age

The Center for Disease Control (CDC) announced their *State and Local Public Health Partnerships to Address Dementia, The 2018- 2023 Road Map*, as part of the CDC Healthy Brain Initiative. The Road Map helps chart a course for state and local public health agencies to prepare their communities to deal with the ever expanding need for brain-health concerns.

According to CDC and their Healthy Brain Initiative, there are at least five to six million people currently living with age-related dementias in the U.S. This translates into one out of every six women and one out of every 10 men, who live past the age of 55. As the population increases, and more Baby Boomers reach older ages, these numbers are expected to rise.

The CDC wants to stimulate changes in policies, systems, and environments. They convened experts who developed 25 actions for public health leaders to promote brain health, better care for people with cognitive impairment, increased attention to caregivers, and efforts to build public health capacity.

"Dementia is a devastating condition that impacts millions of people annually," said Dr. Heather Pedersen, a board certified clinical neuropsychologist at the Algiers Neurobehavioral Resource, LLC, located in New Orleans.

"Dementia," she said "is a generic term that refers to when an individual is experiencing cognitive problems—such as memory loss, difficulty with logic, or trouble with language—to such an extent that they cannot manage aspects of daily life."

According to the CDC, while there are various forms of dementia,

around 70 percent of cases are due to Alzheimer's and the next most common type is vascular dementia. African Americans, Hispanics, and women are particularly at risk of developing Alzheimer's and other dementias. More than 95% of people with dementia have one or more other chronic conditions. And, one in three Alzheimer's caregivers report their health has become worse due to care responsibilities.

"There are many diseases and conditions that can lead to dementia," Pedersen said, "with Alzheimer's disease being the leading cause of dementia. Per the CDC, the number of adults with Alzheimer's disease is expected to triple over the next 40 years. Alzheimer's disease and other dementia-causing diseases impact individuals, families, friends, caregivers, health-care agencies, and communities in wide-ranging ways," Dr. Pedersen said.

According to the CDC, they seek to promote the use of effective interventions and best practices to protect brain health, address cognitive impairment, and help meet the needs of caregivers for people with dementia. They aim to improve inclusion of healthcare quality measures that address cognitive assessments, improve the delivery of care planning to people with diagnosed dementia, and improve outcomes.

Another of the CDC's goals is to educate public health

professionals about the best available evidence on dementia, including detection. CDC Director Robert R. Redfield, MD, said. "Early diagnosis is key to helping people and their families cope with loss of memory, navigate the health care system, and plan for their care in the future.

"The importance of early detection and intervention for many dementia processes cannot be overstated," Dr. Pedersen explained. "Some medications are more effective when started earlier and compensatory strategies can often be put into place so as to be more useful in the long run. However, in order to be able to put these interventions into place, an individual has to first be diagnosed with dementia."

What are some of the benefits of early diagnosis of dementia?

"Early diagnosis of course allows for individuals to begin appropriate medication earlier on in the process, as there are medications for certain diseases, like Alzheimer's, that can slow down the disease process. But, early diagnosis also allows for individuals and their families to begin to adjust and adapt their lives in ways to make good years last as long as possible," Dr. Pedersen said. "By making slight changes to schedules, home management, or other systems, individuals can maintain independence for as long as possible."



Can neuropsychologists' findings help with treatments and/or treatment planning?

"Absolutely," Pedersen said. "By helping with an accurate diagnosis, neuropsychologists can also help other providers make informed decisions about treatment options. Neuropsychologist evaluations also help by determining individual's cognitive strengths and weaknesses," she said.

"By maximizing strengths to compensate for weaknesses, neuropsychologists can help make suggestions to make tasks more efficient or easier to complete."

Neuropsychologists can often help caregivers better understand issues for their loved ones and better cope with and adjust to the caring role.

"It is often very helpful for caregivers and other family members to understand the basics about what is causing the cognitive problems or dementia," Dr. Pedersen explained. "As part of the evaluation process, clients and loved one's are provided with feedback about what is likely causing their cognitive problems. We spend time discussing the causes, prognosis, treatments, and other strategies that might be helpful in maximizing the client to live their best life."

In today's medical culture, the approach is often the quick screening rather than the comprehensive assessment. Is this a concern?

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Dr. Heather Pedersen hiking in Arizona, a great activity for brain health. Dr. Pedersen is an expert in neuropsychological assessment and helps patients who are dealing with dementias. (Courtesy photo)

Brain–Health a Growing Concern, cont'd

A quick screening may not be able to determine the cause of an individual's cognitive problems, Pedersen explained.

"A comprehensive assessment is critical in the accurate diagnosis of dementia. There are many conditions that can masquerade as dementia and given the permanent, progressive nature of some dementias, it is vital that one isn't falsely diagnosed," she said.

"There are many different diseases and conditions that cause dementia, some of which are treatable and some of which are not. Depression and some metabolic conditions can 'look like' dementia, but in fact are treatable conditions."

The American Academy of Neurology (AAN) has recommended neuropsychological testing since 1996 for patients who may have experienced a traumatic brain injury, a stroke, Parkinson disease, multiple sclerosis, a neurotoxic exposure, or dementia. Neuropsychological testing "is particularly valuable in distinguishing between normal aging and mild dementias," they AAN noted.

Dr. Pedersen, who earned her PhD from the University of North Dakota, and completed her postdoctoral fellowship in clinical neuropsychology at the Memphis Veterans Affairs Medical Center and UT Health Sciences Center Consortium, is licensed in Louisiana, Minnesota, and Arizona.

Among her training and research achievements, Dr. Pedersen has co-authored "The next major neuropsychological and neuropsychiatric breakthrough: Alzheimer's disease," for the *Handbook of Neuropsychiatry Research*. She also co-authored research on concussions for *American Journal of Alzheimer's Disease and Other Dementias*, and co-authored "Later life health optimism, pessimism, and realism: Psychosocial contributors and health correlates," published in *Psychology and Health*.

"Each person who walks through my door is a unique constellation of traits, strengths, and weaknesses, who is looking for some sort of assistance," Dr. Pedersen said. "I find it very satisfying to come along side each client to work with them in their treatment goals."

"That process of collaborating with my clients is a very enjoyable process for me," she said.

Stress Solutions

by Susan Andrews, PhD

New Years’ Resolution: This Year I’ve Got to Manage Stress Better

It’s that special time of the year when we make those statements about our goals for better living for the coming year. I don’t know about you, but every time I make a resolution that involves diet or exercise or work habits, I tend to forget that I even made such a resolution by mid-March. Life happens, and we adapt and move on. The first thing to go for many people is exercise unless you are one of those people who have been focused on exercise and have made it a full-blown *habit*. Stress takes a big toll on most professionals who are building a career. Consider making a 2019 Resolution to manage your stress better this year. It will improve your health and your happiness.

Habits are very stubborn things. It is tough to **break** a habit. But, it is even tougher to build a new habit. A few new books have even been written about how to build good habits and keep them going strong. I recommend *The Power of Habit: Why We Do What We Do in Life and Business*, by Charles Duhigg (2014). This book was a New York Times Bestseller and available many places.

Developing a habit is like making a decision and then working to make it “automatic” behavior, things you do without planning them first or even thinking about them or making a list. Duhigg asked some great beginning questions in the prologue: What is the first thing you do in the morning? Hop in the shower? Brush your teeth? Grab your cell phone and check your messages? Duhigg’s basic message is that habits can be changed if you understand how they work.

William James wrote in 1892: “All of our life, so far as it has definite form, is but a mass of habits.” Whereas many of our habits get in our way and keep us in a loop, developing strong positive habits can make you more productive and effective at what you want to do.

Pick out one or two ways that you want to try to manage your stress better on a daily basis. We have gone over a large number of them. Don’t try to do too many at once. You are more likely to be successful if you start with one or two relaxation techniques that do not take a huge amount of time and that you think will really work for you. If successful, you can always add more down the line.

The key to building any new habit, even taking frequent relaxation breaks, is to repeat the new behavior frequently so that it can become an established pattern or link in your nervous system. Developing a habit basically means that a behavior becomes more or less automatic for you. Various experts offering advice on how long it takes to build a habit agree that it takes frequent repetition for 14 to 21 days. That means you have to be very aware of and conscious of repeating the same behavior each day multiple times. Any person who has made a New Year’s resolution to lose weight or start an exercise regimen knows that if you miss even a few days in the beginning of trying to start a new habit, you are probably not going to succeed. The old expression “just wait till next year” may come from that. There is no time like the present to start building a new habit of working with stress solutions. So, I leave you with the following message: This is a good time to take a relaxation break.



Dr. Susan Andrews, Clinical Neuropsychologist, is currently Clinical Assistant Professor, LSU Health Sciences Center, Department of Medicine and Psychiatry, engaged in a Phase III study on HBOT and Persistent PostConcussion Syndrome. In addition to private clinical practice, Dr. Andrews is an award-winning author (*Stress Solutions for Pregnant Moms*, 2013) and 2016 Distinguished Psychologist of the Louisiana Psychological Association.

2018 Year in Review

Continued

Board. Breidenstine is a licensed clinical psychologist and Assistant Professor at Tulane University School of Medicine's Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry.

State of Louisiana, BRF, Ochsner Health System, LSU Sign Letters of Intent Letters of Intent were signed to create a new, long-term, Public Private Partnership agreement in Shreveport and Monroe.

Baton Rouge Psychologists Participate in the Adopt-A-Teacher Project The Baton Rouge Area Society of Psychologists recently participated in the project named "Adopt-A-Teacher," created by the Exchange Club of Baton Rouge, and managed by psychologist Dr. Richard Flicker.

Gov. Establishes Criminal Justice Reform Oversight Council Baton Rouge - Gov. John Bel Edwards issued an executive order creating the Governor's Justice Implementation Oversight Council as part of the comprehensive sentencing and corrections reforms he signed into law.

Dr. Jennings to Lead Efforts in Rural and TeleHealth Dr. Tiffany Jennings, licensed psychologist in Shreveport, and Louisiana Psychological Association (LPA) Rural Health Coordinator for the American Psychological Association, will chair the recently established Rural and TeleHealth Services Committee for LPA.

"Hoffman Report" Defamation Suit Continues in Washington, DC A dispute involving the ramifications of the "Hoffman Report," a document prepared by the Chicago attorney David Hoffman and commissioned by the American Psychological Association (APA), during conflicts over the role of military psychologists.

Lady Bird: A Review by Alvin G. Burstein, PhD

FEBRUARY

State Facing \$1 Billion Shortfall Says Governor, Offers Tax Plan In a press release January 14, Governor Edwards told Louisiana Legislators to "Act now to address fiscal cliff."

Dr. Greg Gormanous On List for Board Post Votes were tabulated for the election conducted by the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists with the single qualified candidate, Dr. Greg Gormanous, receiving 169 votes, or 80 percent of those casting ballots. Forty-two psychologists abstained.

Records Show EPPP Change Was Surprise Public records and emails obtained from the state psychology board indicate that the Association of State and

Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB) did not alert its members that a major change in policy was to be considered at the it's Board of Directors meeting, held in Waikoloa, Hawaii. Furthermore, the policy change topic did not appear on the agenda for the members' meeting that followed.

Arguments in LSBEP Suit Draw on 2015 Supreme Court Decision A federal lawsuit against the state psychology board is continuing with arguments over exactly who is the Defendant, the psychology board or the state of Louisiana, a matter that takes on importance in light of the 2015 Supreme Court decision ruling that the North Carolina Dental Board did not share in immunity under the Eleventh Amendment. A supplement was filed on January 5, asking to add the board's Executive Director, an employee of the State, as a Defendant. On November 13, counsel for the LSBEP, Attorney General, Jeff Landry, signed for by Jeremiah Sams, Assistant Attorney General, filed a "Motion to Dismiss."

The Psychology of Fat Tuesday We asked some of our experts—Drs. Al Burstein, Matthew Rossano, Judith Miranti, and Bryan Gros—to comment on the psychology of the celebration.

Gov Makes LPC Board Appointment The Governor reappointed Ernest A. Airhia, Ph.D., of New Orleans, to the Louisiana Licensed Professional Counselors Board of Examiners. Airhia is a licensed professional counselor and the President, Chief Executive Officer, and Clinical Director of Greenpath International, Inc.

HOPE Council to Meet Feb 9; Dr. Tucker to Represent DPS&C The Advisory Council on Heroin and Opioid Prevention and Education (HOPE) created by Act 88 of the 2017 Regular Session will meet in February. Dr. Susan Tucker, clinical psychologist for the Department of Public Safety and Corrections will be representing the Department at the Advisory Council meeting. Tucker is President-Elect for the Louisiana Psychological Association, and has national recognition in corrections treatment programs and she has been commented by the Legislature for quality, innovations, and cost savings.

Tulane Launches Health Psychology Program Tulane Psychology will offer a certificate in health psychology to students in the Psychological Science PhD program at the university, beginning in Fall 2019 to be coordinated by Dr. Michael Hoerger.

Governor Proclaimed January as Trafficking Awareness Month Governor Edwards named January as Human Trafficking Awareness Month in Louisiana, a cause that the Governor and Mrs. Edwards have taken on as a key initiative.

Governor Edwards Issues Executive Orders Governor Edwards createf a Council to track and review the implementation of cost-effective,

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The Psychology Times 2018 COMMUNITY AWARD

INNOVATION

Dr. Susan Tucker

We can't say enough about the innovations in prison reforms sweeping the state, that are part of Dr. Susan Tucker's work. She has been commended by the Legislature and by national groups for her innovative treatment reforms for offenders, and now helped the state rid itself of the label of the highest incarceration rate in the US. It is rare to have one psychologist accomplish so much, saving lives and millions of dollars, and showing others that there is a better way by psychological science.



2018 Year in Review

Continued

evidenced-based sentencing and other reforms in corrections, and the “Governor’s Task Force on Sexual Harassment and Discrimination Policy.”

Dr. Garner to Speak on “The Psychotherapeutic Mentality” Christopher Garner, PsyD, CGP, MSCP, will speak on “Effective Psychotherapy: The Psychotherapeutic Mentality™, Part I: Basic Assumptions, The Prime Movers, & A Look at Dream Interpretation,” hosted by the Louisiana Group Psychotherapy Society.

ULL’s Dr. Smith to Lead Academic/ Scientific Committee for LPA Dr. T. Scott Smith from University of Louisiana Lafayette will be heading up the Academic & Scientific Committee for the Louisiana Psychological Association (LPA) and coordinating its Science Café education efforts. Dr. Smith is Assistant Professor in the Psychology Department and leads research in his lab, The Louisiana Applied and Developmental Psychological Sciences Laboratory.

Drs. Nemeth, Brewer Speak at Louisiana College for Memorial Dedication to Honor Dr. George Hearn’s Life Dr. Darlyne Nemeth spoke at the memorial ceremony in honor of psychologist and professor Dr. George Hearn at Louisiana College in a tree-planting ceremony. “Hearn Twin Oaks Ceremony” was a tribute to the long-time professor at the college. Gloria Hearn, Dr. Hearn’s widow noted, “The oak tree represents strength, beauty, grace and on-going life.”

The Louisiana School Psychological Association Names Award Recipients for 2017 at Fall Convention The Louisiana School Psychological Association named it Awards for 2017 at the recent convention in the fall. Awards Chair, Dr. Kim Sherman, noted those honored. Jeremy Babb, from Iberia Parish, was named School Psychologist of the Year and Gordon Upton was named for Lifetime Achievement. Stacey Johnson was named the EC Member of the Year. Amber Boykin was honored with the "Got Your Back" – President’s Award. The Will Bergeron Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Haley Walker from Louisiana State University Shreveport. Katie Simon from Tulane was honored with the Dr. Conni Patterson Scholarship and the Dr. Larry Stout Memorial Scholarship went to Anna Schech from Nicholls. Tulane’s Megan Saybe won Best Poster.

Stress Solutions by Susan Andrews, PhD BASS: The Beliefs about Stress Scale Do laypersons’ beliefs about stress influence their mental and physical health?

The Post: A Review by Alvin G. Burstein, PhD.

MARCH

Legislative Session Begins – Bill for School Violence Prevention Calls for More Mental Health Evaluations Representative Tony Bacala, has submitted a bill, HB511, which seeks to address reporting of threats of violence and mental health issues.

What Happened to Beverly Stubblefield? Investigation into the story behind a respected member of the Louisiana psychology community and past member of the state psychology board, Dr. Beverly Stubblefield, entering a plea agreement of guilty in a Medicare fraud case.

The Psychology Times


2018

COMMUNITY AWARD

PUBLIC EDUCATION

Dr. Courtland Chaney

Getting the word out about what psychology and psychologists can do for others and the community has never been easy for us, but Dr. Courtland Chaney may be helping change that. Everywhere we looked during 2018, there he was, in front of the public or helping others get there. He led the Louisiana Psychological Association's Speakers Bureau, chaired public education, led numerous community projects, and was appointed to the Governor's task team on workplace harassment, speaking himself on LPB. Dr. Chaney was a great ambassador for psychology in 2018.



Dr. John Teal, a Louisiana medical psychologist, also agreed to plead guilty to one count of Conspiracy to Commit Health Care Fraud. These two were part of the high profile case against Mississippi psychologist Dr. Rodney Hesson and his business partner, Gertrude Parker, an occupational therapist and Hesson’s mother.

Representative Falconer Files “La Suicide Prevention Act” Representative Reid Falconer submitted a proposal for a state suicide prevention plan that if passed, is to be called the "Louisiana Suicide Prevention Act.”

LSU’s Dr. Ray Tucker on Suicide Film Panel Dr. Raymond Tucker, member of the Board of Directors, American Association of Suicidology and Assistant Professor of Clinical Psychology at Louisiana State University, helped answer questions at the recent screening of *Suicide: The Ripple Effect*.

Nemeth, Olivier Win Publishers’ PROSE Award Dr. Darlyne Nemeth and Dr. Traci Olivier, coauthors of *Innovative Approaches to Individual and Community Resilience: From Theory to Practice*, had their work chosen for the PROSE Award, sponsored by the Professional and Scholarly Publishing Division of the Association of American Publishers.

Dr. Chaney On LPB—Governor’s Task Force Provides Guidance Governor Edwards created a Task Force to “review current harassment and discrimination policies within every state agency that falls

under the executive branch, as well as research and identify the most effective ways to create work environments that are free from any form of harassment or discrimination.” Louisiana Public Square addressed these issues on “Drawing the Line: Sexual Harassment in Louisiana,” which aired late February on LPB in Baton Rouge and in New Orleans on WLAE. Governor Edwards named Industrial-Organizational Psychologist Dr. Courtland Chaney to the Governor’s Task Force and Chaney was one of the experts interviewed by LPB.

Governor, Attorney General Announce Coordinated Effort Against Opioid Manufacturers Governor John Bel Edwards and Attorney General Jeff Landry coordinate efforts in the State of Louisiana’s litigation against opioid manufacturers, said the Governor’s office on February 20. The suit is to be filed by the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) in the 19th Judicial District Court.

Special Session Accomplished Little The special session adjourned without a significant tax measure. Sources say another special session is planned.

Senator Fred Mills Renews Efforts to Restructure Boards Senator Fred Mills seeks restructure the health care boards, add a consumer member to each board, remove the professional associations from the nomination process, and transfer the extensive list of boards, commissions and agencies to the Louisiana Department of Health.

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Year in Review
Continued

Dr. Chafetz Authors Chapter for Textbook of Clinical Neuropsychology Dr. Michael Chafetz has authored a chapter for the *Textbook of Clinical Neuropsychology*, editors Joel Morgan and Joseph Ricker, published in December by Taylor & Francis. Chafetz contributed the chapter on Disability, in Part III: Forensic, Ethical and Practice Issues. The textbook is considered a standard in the field, in its scope and scholarship.

UNO to Offer New Applied Degree The Department of Psychology at the University of New Orleans (UNO) will offer a new graduate degree option to prepare students to work in a psychology-related, applied field or under the supervision of a licensed psychologist. “We are admitting students into a 12- month, non-thesis master program,” said UNO Department Chair Dr. Laura Scaramella.

The Shape of Water by Alvin G. Burstein, PhD.

APRIL

Legislators Work to Help Improve Louisiana’s Health Once again state legislators hope to make improvements in the state’s overall health and healthcare programs. Last year, *U.S. News & World Report* ranked Louisiana last in all states, a result driven in part by poor scores in health care quality—at 41st, health outcomes— at 44th and health care affordability—at 45th. *The Times* reviews the reasons.

Magistrate Says Lack of Federal Jurisdiction in Cerwonka v LSBEP Magistrate Judge Carol B. Whitehurst of the U.S. District Court Western District has recommended that a federal lawsuit against the state psychology board filed by Dr. Eric Cerwonka, be dismissed based on lack of federal jurisdiction.

LSU’s Dr. Zhang Helps Consulting Psychologists with Data Visualization Louisiana State University Assistant Professor Dr. Don Zhang is taking on a decades old problem—how do psychologists meaningfully communicate their findings to others, so that the value of research is clear and used properly?

Dr. Lewis-Todd, Red Cross Leader, Joins Community Dr. Tracy Lewis-Todd, Disaster Mental Health Regional Lead for the American Red Cross, has joined the Louisiana psychology



The year was packed full of researchers presenting their work, at APA, SWPA, SEPA, NAN, and at LPA. Above is Jessica Grande, PhD (L) presenting her research at a conference with Drs. George Hebert (C) and Alan Coulter (R) discussing the findings.

community, relocating from Illinois to New Orleans over the last year. “Louisiana has historically had an unmet need for Disaster Mental Health staff to serve the clients and communities affected by the many small and large disasters which impact our region,” Dr. Lewis-Todd said.

Suicide Prevention Act Passes House Vote HB 148, the “Louisiana Suicide Prevention Act,” was reported favorably in a 9 to 0 vote out of committee and passed the House in an 85 to 0 vote.

Resolution Asks Law Institute to Study Child Custody Evaluations Senate Resolution 46, authored by Senator Jonathan Perry, requests the Louisiana State Law Institute to review state laws, rules, regulations, policies, and procedures relative to mental health evaluations used in child custody and visitation proceedings. The measure is pending for Senate Judiciary A. The measure notes that Louisiana has two statutes, R.S. 9:331 and 9:355.15, that govern mental health evaluations in child custody and visitation proceedings, and these were enacted in 1993 and 1997.

AG Seeks to Ramp Up Medicaid Fraud Prosecutions In a March 29 press release the Attorney General, Jeff Landry, asked congress to expand the authority of Medicaid Fraud Control Units to “be able to go after Medicaid patient abuse in noninstitutional settings.”

APA Council Reps Votes to Accredited Masters Programs On March 9 at a meeting of the

Council of Representatives for the American Psychological Association, held in Washington DC, delegates passed a motion for the association to seek accreditation of master’s level programs in psychology.

Psychologists and Psychological Scientists Present at Southeastern Psychological Association in Charleston, SC A group of psychological scientists, practitioners, professors and students exhibited their research at the 64th Annual meeting of the Southeastern Psychological Association, held in Charleston, South Carolina. Drs. Michelle Moore, Kristin Callahan, and Jennifer Hughes from LSU Health Sciences Center and Stacy Kurtz, Adelphi University, presented. Also presenting were Jason Hicks, Samantha Spitler, Megan Papesh, Daniella Cash, Samantha Knotts, Bryanna Jones, Hailey Allo, Alora Cleere, Niels Dickson, Sean Lane, Marissa Lass, and Juan Guevara Pinto, all from Louisiana State University. And Laura Gomez, Ana Longo Colon, Erin Dupuis, and Charles Nichols, all from Loyola University New Orleans. And Lisa Molix from Tulane University presented.

SB 411 on Insanity Verdict Reported Favorably Senator White’s measure was reported favorably out of the Committee on Judiciary C. Proposed law retains present law and adds that a recommendation that the person be discharged or released on probation requires a unanimous vote of the panel. Proposed law further provides that the panel must render

specific findings of fact in support of its recommendation.

Dr. Janet Matthews Remembers APA President Ron Fox Dr. Ron Fox, a past president of the American Psychological Association (APA), and whom many consider a key leader and “Founding Father” in psychology, passed away March 14. Louisiana’s Dr. Janet Matthews, came to know Dr. Fox through her long standing involvement and service to APA, including serving on the APA Board of Directors.

Dr. Tramontana Named Fellow of American Society for Clinical Hypnosis Dr. Joseph Tramontana was conferred Fellowship status at the 60th annual convention of the American Society for Clinical Hypnosis (ASCH) in Orlando, Florida, in March

Dr. Bonnie Kaplan to Speak on Nutrients and Mental Health at La Psych Assn Bonnie Kaplan, PhD, Professor Emerita in the Cumming School of Medicine at the University of Calgary, in Calgary, Alberta, Canada, and expert in the field of nutritional mental health, will speak through a virtual presentation format to attendees at the Louisiana Psychological Association, to be held May 18 and 19 at the Sheraton Metairie-N.O.

Stress Solutions by Susan Andrews, PhD. What’s New About Stress?

The Black Panther – A Review by Alvin G. Burstein, PhD.

Year in Review

Continued

MAY

Appeals Court Reverses Judge Caldwell’s “Reeks” Decision in Cerwonka–LSBEP Dispute On April 11 the State of Louisiana First Circuit Court of Appeal reversed Judge Michael Caldwell’s decision that the state psychology board violated Dr. Eric Cerwonka’s rights when the board used attorneys from the same law firm, and when the board’s prosecuting attorney had been previously involved with Cerwonka in a child custody case and fee dispute. The case returns to Judge Caldwell.

ASPPB Presents Their Reasoning for EPPP2 at Psychology Board Steven DeMers, EdD, Chief Executive officer of the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB), spoke as a guest at the regular meeting of the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists, held Friday, April 20, 2018 at the public library in Baton Rouge. Along with board members, Drs. Kim VanGeffen, Marc Zimmerman, Alan Coulter and Greg Gormanous also attended the public meeting and ASPPB presentation. Concerns about price, validity and need for the test, were reported by several of those attending.

HB1 “Not a Serious Attempt” at Solution Says Governor The Governor said he would likely call a second special session in late May or early June to attempt to deal with the on-going financial problems in the state, following a House operating budget bill that squeaked by and that threatens cuts in higher education, hospital closures, and nursing homes beds.

LaTech I-O Psych Graduate Program Grabs Top Ranking The Industrial-Organizational graduate program at Louisiana Tech has been ranked first in the nation in applied development opportunities by a study conducted by the Society for Industrial and Organizational Psychology (SIOP). The top ranking reflects how the faculty help the graduate students engage in research with organizations, consulting opportunities with organizational leaders and stakeholders, and communicate with the public.

"Not Our Jurisdiction," Judge Rules in Federal Court Case United States District Judge Robert G. James issued a Judgment on April 17, confirming the magistrate's suggestion that a federal lawsuit against the state psychology board filed by Dr. Eric Cerwonka, be dismissed based on lack of federal jurisdiction.

Gov. Edwards Establishes Task Force for Improving Employment of Louisianans with Disabilities Governor Edwards announced the formation of the State as a Model Employer Task Force, to develop policies and strategies to improve within state government the rate of hiring, recruitment and retention of Louisianans with disabilities.

Senator Mills’ SB40 Amended, Associations Added Back In Senator Fred Mills’ bill to restructure health care boards has cleared the House Health and Welfare Committee last week, with a 12 to 0 favorable

vote but with amendments, including to add associations back in for handling nominations to the boards.

Secretary of State Asked to Resign In a news release Gov. Edwards said: “Given the serious nature of the allegations, in February, I called on Secretary of State Tom Schedler to resign. In light of the additional information that has been disclosed, I believe this is the best course of action for Tom, his family, and the state of Louisiana.”

5th Legislative Forum Held April 19 in BR The Fifth Annual Mental Health Legislative Forum was held in Baton Rouge, where behavioral health professions met to discuss their various positions on legislative session. It was co-hosted by Louisiana Association for Marriage and Family Therapy and Louisiana Counseling Association, with chairs Howie Brownell and Dr. Mary Feduccia.

Dr. Salcedo Attends Trafficking Prevention Advisory Board Meeting at State Capitol Psychologist Dr. Rafael Salcedo attended the Louisiana Human Trafficking Prevention Advisory Board meeting, held April 9, 2018 in the State Capitol Press Room. First Lady Donna Edwards and Senator Beth Mizell gave opening remarks.

Psychology Board to Propose Rule Changes The Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists sent a memo to licensed psychologists announcing that they would be proposing changes to the Louisiana Administrative Code, also known as Rules.

LSU’s Dr. Katie Cherry Hosted at Louisiana Psychological Association’s “Science Café” Psychological scientists from laboratories around the state will share their scientific work at the “Science Café,” hosted by the Louisiana Psychological Association as part of the 70th Anniversary Convention. The Science Café is Co-Chaired by Dr. T. Scott Smith and Dr. Bridget Sonnier-Hillis.

Human Development Center Hosts 4th MTSS Conference The LSUHSC Human Development Center presented an array of national experts for their 4th Annual Conference on Multi-Tier System of Supports (MTSS) and Response to Intervention. Dr. Alan Coulter was a key in the design and organization of the conference.

LSU Psychology Senior Ms. Anna Madden Named Discover Scholar Ms. Anna Madden, LSU psychology senior and Honors

student, was named with a LSU Discover Scholar Award.

Early Career and Diversity Committees Gather in New Orleans The Louisiana Psychological Association hosted a gathering for its Early Career Psychologist Committee, chaired by Drs. Melissa Dufrene and Ashley Jefferson, and the newly created Diversity Committee, chaired by Dr. Michael Cunningham.

Ready Player One – A Review by Alvin G. Burstein, PhD.

JUNE

No Deal: Special Session Ends In the last 30 minutes of the special session, which had to end at midnight, the House began taking up the budget bill, HB 1, and the revenue bills, HB 12 and HB 27, and the time for a true budget deal ran out.

Lt. Governor, Dr. Scott O. Lilienfeld at 70th La Psych Assn Convention Lt. Governor William (Billy) Nungesser deliver the welcome for the 70th Annual Convention of the Louisiana Psychological Association, and highlight Louisiana’s critical needs, launching the theme for “Psychology: Essential Partner for Solving Critical Problems.” Nationally recognized speaker, Emory Professor Dr. Scott O. Lilienfeld, will continue with “Being the Essential Partner: Understanding and Overcoming Skepticism about Scientific Psychology.”

ULM’s Dr. William McCown Named 2018 Distinguished Psychologist The Louisiana Psychological Association named Dr. William McCown the 2018 Distinguished Psychologist, an honor announced at the group’s award ceremony at the 70th Annual Convention. Dr. McCown is a professor, author, researcher, and currently Associate Dean for Research in the College of Business and Social Sciences and also Coordinator of the Psychology Department at the University of Louisiana–Monroe.

La. Researchers Present at SWPA Professors, psychological scientists, and students presented their work at the recent Convention of the Southwestern Psychological Association held in April in Houston, Texas. Among those supporting the convention as program reviewers were: Burton Ashworth – University of Louisiana Monroe; Brooke Breaux – University of Louisiana at Lafayette; Daniel Chadborn –

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Dr. Michael Cunningham

Tulane Professor and Provost, Dr. Michael Cunningham, never quits providing wise, timely, and generous leadership to others, mentoring and engaging his students, colleagues, and the larger community. His 2018 efforts included serving as the the American Psychological Association Diversity delegate, helping promote the social networking for African-American psychologists and professors, and taking part in numerous programs where he led in ideas and by example. It is no wonder he has been named an “Inspiring Leader,” and recognized for Psychology in the Public Interest.

The Psychology Times 2018 COMMUNITY AWARD

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Year in Review

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Southeastern Louisiana University; Manyu Li – University of Louisiana at Lafayette; Cynthia Lindsey – Northwestern State University; Valanne MacGyvers – University of Louisiana at Lafayette; Janelle McDaniel – University of Louisiana at Monroe; and Seth Tackett – University of Louisiana at Monroe. Teresa Wozencraft, University of Louisiana – Lafayette, was honored as a financial supporter.

Members of the Lake Charles Research Group presented, including Burton Ashworth, Grishma Poudel, Seth Tackett, Melissa Thorne, all University of Louisiana Monroe; Lawrence Dilks and Kimberly Hutchinson, both from Lake Charles Memorial Hospital; Sandra Viggiani, Lake Charles Clinical Trials; and Billie Myers, Lake Charles Memorial Hospital.

Melissa Hawthorne, Louisiana State University-Shreveport; Nathalie Campsen, Dylan Harrell and Walter Buboltz from LaTech; and Kim Ernst and Camila Casaw, both from Loyola University New Orleans, presented,

Bianca Augustine, Linda Brannon, Dena Matzenbacher, Jimmy Trahan, Kane Vest, Kevin Yaudes, and Jessica Taylor, all from McNeese University, presented. Cynthia Lindsey, Northwestern State University, chaired a SWPA Talk Session and Ayla Owens presented. Researchers from the University of Louisiana– Monroe, presented including Mary Elizabeth Bridges, Seth Tackett, Melissa Thorne and Janelle McDaniel and Jack Palmer.

Paula Varnado-Sullivan, Paris Williams, and Frank Mons, all from Southeastern Louisiana University, presented. Also Daniel Chadborn, Southeastern Louisiana University, served as a reviewer but also presented a range of work. Casey Waters, Nicole Thibodeaux, Faith Allen, and Suzanne Booth-Ledoux, presented, all from Southeastern.

The University of La Lafayette included a Finalist in the Student Competition, Alyssa LaCour with Brooke Breaux. Also from ULL, Trey Delcambre, Hanh Vu, Sydney Andrews, Kristine Melancon, Audra Jensen, Michelle Simon, Layne Hardy, and Valanne MacGyvers, and Savannah D'aubin. Laken Mckenzie, Taylor Laviolette, Raven Douglas, Eva Lieberman, Emily Alleman, Dylan John, Aline Gossen, Melanie Schanke and Amy Brown, presented. Also, Andre Rodriguez, Ashley Hughes, Alexis Mayeux, Taylor Mayer, Manyu Li, Sandi Van Lieu, Caitlin Daigle, Elizabeth Bakies, and Theresa Wozencraft, also presented. All from U. of Louisiana Lafayette.

Psychology Board Engages Three Psychologists for Complaints Work According to documents the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists, board members passed three resolutions to retain the services of the current Complaints Coordinator, and also engaged two other psychologists to assist when required, as Complaints



The year was full of researchers and presenters. In November the acclaimed biologist Robert Trivers (L) presented at LPA in New Orleans. Dr. Jack Palmer from ULM (C) and Dr. Matt Rosanno from Southeastern (R) spoke on the panel with Trivers to an audience at the Hotel Monteleone.

Coordinators: Sasha Lambert, PhD, Erin Skaff Vandenweghe, PsyD, and Mark Vigen, PhD.

Dr. Michael Chafetz Receives Award for Scientific Contributions The Louisiana Psychological Association recognized the work of Dr. Michael Chafetz and named him the recipient of the 2018 Contributions in Scientific Psychology Award at their ceremony last month. Chafetz has made national and international news after he and colleagues began studying malingering in disability claimants and publishing research in 2006.

ULM Forensic Psychology Program Ranked in Top Online Programs College Choice Ranking has placed the University of Louisiana – Monroe's Forensic Psychology masters program as one of the top ten for quality training and as first in the country for affordability.

Louisiana Employment Hits All-Time High Louisiana has the lowest unemployment rate in a decade at 4.5 percent. "This is incredible news for our state, and it is further proof that Louisiana moving in the right direction when it comes to job availability and having a workforce that is ready to meet the demands of our growing economy," said Gov. Edwards. The largest gain came in Education & Health Services, with 7,800 jobs added this year so far.

Tulane's Dr. Michael Cunningham Honored for Psychology in Public Interest Dr. Michael Cunningham, Professor of Psychology at Tulane University, and who holds a Joint Appointment as Provost in the African and African Diaspora Studies Program at Tulane, has been named the recipient of the 2018 Award for Psychology in the Public Interest by the Louisiana Psychological Association. "Dr. Cunningham is an outstanding leader in our community in the area of diversity, an African American, a psychologist, educator and scientist who epitomizes excellence and service to his community," said the awards committee.

The Southern Psychologist to Be Reincarnated A team of psychologists aiming to reboot the well-respected, 1980s, regional journal, *The Southern Psychologist*, announced that they are in the final stages of development and will be launching the new publication, currently with the working title of *Contemporary Southern Psychologist*. The Co-Editors are Bill McCown, PhD, MKay Bonner, PhD, and Burt Ashworth, PhD, all from University of Louisiana at Monroe.

Dr. Christopher Parkinson Receives Early Career Honor The Louisiana Psychological Association named Christopher R. L. Parkinson, PhD, as the 2018 Early Career Psychologist. Dr. Parkinson is a licensed Psychologist in the state of Louisiana and is a current staff member at the Southeast Louisiana Veterans Health Care System in New Orleans. He works clinically in the area of Behavioral Medicine and is a core member of his facility's Interdisciplinary Palliative Care Team.

Stress Solutions by Susan Andrews, PhD. De-stressing tips.

A Quiet Place Review by Alvin G. Burstein, PhD.

JULY

Psychologists, Researchers Present at APA Convention A group of psychologists, professors, and research scientists from across the state will present at American Psychological Association, to be held in San Francisco. Jeanne Donaldson and Raymond Tucker, both from Louisiana State University, presented Invited Addresses. Michelle Moore, Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center, New Orleans, was Chair for a Symposium, and participating was Howard J. Osofsky. And Tulane's Bonnie Nastasi, chaired a Symposium. Thomandra Sam, of Eastern Louisiana Mental Health System, Jackson, Louisiana, and Stacey Duhon, of Grambling State University presented. Christina Ledbetter, and Michelle Yetman, Adam Blancher, and Clifton Frilot, all of Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center at Shreveport, presented.

Presenters from Louisiana Tech University included: Melanie Lantz, , TaShara Williams, Lindsey Shamp, Terrill Taylor, Christopher Monceaux, Camille Baker, Danielle Franks, Sarah McConnell, Pedro Derosa, Dena Abbott, Keoshia Harris, Jessica Hawkins, Mallory Bonnette, and Michael Garza, Brandon Waits, Mallory Garza, Yixun Zhu, Guler Boyraz, and Samantha Aarstad-Martin, Megan Cherry, Eric Blankenship, Marcus Cherry, and Taylor Poland, also presented.

Julie R. Arseneau, presented, from Southeast Louisiana Veterans Health Care System.

Year in Review

Continued

From Tulane, presenters included Debbie Kim, Stephanie A. Moberg, Courtney Baker, Whitney Davis, Kathryn Simon, Stacy Overstreet, Virginia Hatch, Hannah Swerbenski, Victoria Parker, Justin Carreras, Sarah Gray, Ashlee Yates, Haley Peele, Veronica Coriano, Lea Petrovic, Elsie Obus,, Sydney Wing, and, Laura Cornell, Raquel Gutierrez, Jarrad Hodge, Paige Goodman, and Joon Ro.

From the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, Manyu Li, Andre Rodriguez, Donaka Autry, Christie Charles, and Amber Knezek presented. Sonia Rubens, University of New Orleans and also Megan Zeringue, and Molly Miller also presented. And from Xavier, Elliott Hammer, Wyndolyn Ludwikowski, Helena Barber and Tatyana Smith presented. Joseph Tramontana, Independent Practice, presented.

Lawmakers Finally Make a Budget Deal After a total of seven special sessions since 2016, and three special sessions this year, Governor Edwards and legislators finally wrestled the budget into some type of order by the passage of an extra .45 percent sales tax, in down to the wire negotiations that sidestepped drastic cuts to public health and higher education.

Focus is on Prevention as Suicide Continues to Rise One of the measures that flew through in the regular 2018 Legislative session, was the “Louisiana Suicide Prevention Act.” The rising rates of suicide has been at the front of the news for some psychologists in the field, and motivated the Louisiana Psychological Association to host suicide prevention expert Dr. April Foreman at their recent state convention. The Times looked at Forman's work and also Dr. Bill Schmitz, Jr., who has served as President of the American Association for Suicidology.

Gov. Edwards Announces Initial Results of State’s Criminal Justice Reform Efforts The Governor announced, “... reform measures now in place have resulted in fewer prison admissions for drug crimes, smaller probation and parole caseloads and enhanced training for officers, and millions of dollars in savings”

Fanning Reappointed Governor Edwards reappointed John T. Fanning, Ph.D., of Jefferson, to the Traumatic Head and Spinal Cord Injury Trust Fund Advisory Board. Fanning is a clinical neuropsychologist in private practice.

Medical Board Back Under Knife The state medical board once again found itself in the hot seat over its investigatory processes, with Act 599 passing.

Act 696 Allows Behavioral Health Providers to See Clients at School Act 696 by Representative Pierre, allows a behavioral health provider to provide behavioral health services to a student at school during school hours if requested by the student's parent or legal guardian.

Online Reporting of Child Abuse Set Forth in Rep. Chaney’s Act 207 Act 207 by Representative Chaney amends the Children’s Code so to provide for additional means by which permitted and mandatory reporters may report suspected cases of child abuse.

The Psychology Times 2018 COMMUNITY AWARD

COURAGE

Dr. Tammy Savoie



We don't know how a person can have more courage than Dr. Tammy Savoie, psychologist and retired Air Force Lieutenant Colonel, who went straight up against the well-funded, incumbent U.S. Rep. Steve Scalise in the 1st Congressional District of Louisiana for U.S. Representative. Savoie did not shy away from the challenge at all, but faced into the effort with a positive and upbeat style that made us all proud to be her colleague. It's how you play the game and she did it with good sense, grace and courage.

Dr. Van Geffen Receives Award for Distinguished Service The Louisiana Psychological Association honored Dr. Kim VanGeffen for Distinguished Service, a clinical and neuropsychologist, leader in the psychology community, and humanitarian in the New Orleans area where she resides.

Dr. Cherry Leading Resilience Project Dr. Katie Cherry, a Louisiana State University psychology professor and Executive Director of the LSU Life Course and Aging Center, is leading the “LSU Disaster Resilience and Recovery Project: The Great Flood of 2016.” Dr. Cherry is working with Dr. Matt Calamia and Dr. Emily Elliott, also from LSU, to understand how disaster stress impacts peoples lives and health.

Dr. Tom Stigall - Photography For our July 4th holiday issue we decided to share again the photography of Dr. Tom Stigall, The LSU Lakes.

Hereditary: A Review by Alvin G. Burstein, PhD.

AUGUST

Dr. Tammy Savoie Aims for Congressional Seat Dr. Tammy Savoie, licensed psychologist and retired Air Force Lieutenant Colonel, will be challenging incumbent U.S. Rep. Steve Scalise in the 1st Congressional District of Louisiana come the November election. Dr. Savoie, a psychologist with a doctoral degree from Emory and an MBA, has served 37 years in the military including 15 years in the Air National Guard and 22 years in the Air Force. She has served in the U.S., Japan, Afghanistan, and the U.K.

We Remember Dr. Fred E. Davis Fred E. Davis, PhD, died on June 30, 2018, following some months of declining health. He was age 80. Dr. Davis was a cherished colleague to many in the state and

especially to those in the New Orleans area. He was known for his wit and sense of humor, his enjoyment of colleagues, his loyalty to psychology and standards of excellence, and his love of both teaching and learning.

Governor Appoints Dr. Gormanous to Psychology Board The Governor announced that he appointed Greg Gormanous, PhD, of Alexandria, to the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists (LSBEP). Dr. Gormanous will fill the position opened by Dr. Phillip Griffin, who has completed his term.

Act 515 - Governor Encourages Citizens to Volunteer to Serve on Healthcare Licensing Boards Gov. Edwards announced that he had signed Act 515 into law and he is calling for volunteers to serve on the boards.

State to Reinvest Justice Reform Savings to Reduce Recidivism The first report outlining savings from criminal justice reform measures announced. Savings for fiscal year 2 was018 totaled \$12.2 million, doubling Pew’s original projections of \$6.1 million.

Munchausen Syndrome by proxy -- Act 193 Taps into Complex Issues in Effort to Limit Diagnostic Errors In the 2018 regular session, House Bill No. 145 placed limitations on who may diagnose the disorder known as "Munchausen Syndrome by proxy," which is known in the DSM-5 as factitious disorder imposed on another or FDIA. The bill, by Representative Kenny Cox, was signed by the Governor and became Act 193.

CMS Releases 2019 Medicare Fee Proposal for Neuropsychological Testing Codes and Fees The American Psychological Association Practice Organization, alerted psychologists that the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) released its proposed rule

Year in Review

Continued

on the 2019 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule.

LSBEP Budget Better But Still Digging Out According to the online reporting for Louisiana Boards & Commissions, the Psychology Board is on track for 2018 spending totaling \$290,063. This represents a substantial decrease from the expenditures in 2017 which came to \$400,388. The boards fund balance for 2018 is listed as a negative \$346,800, representing spending from legal fees that had been mounting up for a number of years.

New Tulane Professorship Endowed in Dr. Dohanich's Honor, Dr. Daniel Appointed An alumnus who was inspired with a "thirst for knowledge" and helped to set new priorities in his life by Professor Gary Dohanich, established the "Gary P. Dohanich Professor in Brain Sciences," in the Tulane Brain Institute. Dr. Jill Daniel has been named the inaugural appointee for the position. Dr. Daniel is Professor in the Tulane Psychology Department and Director of the Neuroscience Program at Tulane.

LSU's Dr. Tracey Rizzuto Named Jacobs Professor of Excellence Dr. Tracey Rizzuto, industrial-organizational psychologist and Associate Professor at the LSU School of Leadership and Human Resource Development was named the recipient of the 2018 Jacobs Professor of Excellence Award.

Times Sweeps Investigative Reporting at Press Assn For the fourth time in five years, *The Psychology Times* swept 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place awards in its Division, for Best Investigative Reporting, at the La Press Assn.

Stress Solutions by Susan Andrews, PhD. Thoughts.

Three Identical Strangers: A Review by Alvin G. Burstein, PhD.

SEPTEMBER

ASPPB Rescinds Decision to Make EPPP-2 Mandatory--LSBEP Sends Blistering Critique to Psych Boards in US & Canada On August 17, President of the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB), Sharon Lightfoot, PhD, announced that the ASPPB Board of Directors voted to rescind their 2017 decision, a

decision which would have essentially mandated a second exam for those seeking a license in psychology. "Based on your input this summer and our own priority-setting," wrote Lightfoot, "the ASPPB Board of Directors on Sunday August 12, passed a motion to rescind our decision of August 2017 and announced to you in October that made the Enhanced EPPP (including both knowledge and skills portions) as the single licensure exam offered by the ASPPB." Lightfoot's announcement came after a blistering critique of ASPPB's methods, sent July 20 on behalf of the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists.

Gov. Edwards Joined Pres. Trump and Other Governors to Discuss Criminal Justice Reform On August 9, Gov. Edwards joined President Trump, other state governors, and White House cabinet members in a roundtable discussion about the positive impact that criminal justice reform is having across the

nation. Gov. Edwards explained to the President that the package of bipartisan criminal justice reform legislation that Edwards signed into law in 2017 was working.

APA to Develop Blueprint for Accreditation of Master's Programs in Psychology The Board of Educational Affairs at the American Psychological Association (APA) will work on developing a plan for APA to accredit master's programs in health service psychology, said the association this week. The memo stated that the APA Council of Representative decided in August 2017 to study options and issues. This past March the Council of Representatives voted to pursue the accrediting of master's programs. According to the recent announcement, the "Council directed staff and governance, in particular the Board of Educational Affairs, to take steps to develop an accreditation system."

Q&A with Dr. Tammy Savoie Candidate in 1st Congressional District Dr. Tammy Savoie, licensed psychologist and retired Air Force Lieutenant Colonel, is running in the 1st Congressional District of Louisiana for U.S. Representative and going straight up against the well-funded, incumbent U.S. Rep. Steve Scalise. Savoie is not shying away from the challenge at all, but facing into the effort with a positive and upbeat local campaign. She has been called the most viable candidate to challenge Scalise—a view that could be related to her long list of credentials and achievements.

Pennington's Dr. Tiffany Stewart Celebrates with DOD The Pennington Biomedical Research Foundation recently honored their 30-year relationship with the U.S. Defense Department, by hosting a special Scientific

Cont'd next pg

The Psychology Times 2018 COMMUNITY AWARD VISION

Dr. Burt Ashworth, Dr. MKay Bonner, Dr. Bill McCown

How much vision does it take to understand the benefit of reincarnating a great tradition? That's what happened when a team of psychologists rebooted the well-respected, 1980s, regional journal, *The Southern Psychologist*, into the new *Contemporary Southern Psychology*. Co-Editors Drs. Burt Ashworth, MKay Bonner, and Bill McCown did it! Giving the rest of us something to feel proud about and a place to grow our science with a southern regional perspective and identity. Hooray! (Below, Dr. McCown presenting.)



Year in Review

Continued

Dinner. Dr. Tiffany Stewart, the Dudley and Beverly Coates Endowed Associate Professor, and Paula Pennington de la Bretonne, a member of the Pennington Biomedical Research Foundation Board of Directors, joined with leaders of the Louisiana National Guard to celebrate the 140 studies and 100 papers that have come as a result of joint projects and efforts to improve the health of military warfighters.

A Scientific Theory of Our Better Angels --A brief look at reciprocal altruism and talk with its author In the 1970s, a young, eccentric biologist, Dr. Robert Trivers, put forth an unconventional theory about evolved social traits. *Science* calls him, “One of the most influential evolutionary theorists alive today.” *Time* named him one of the top scientific thinkers of the 20th century. Throwing out an older paradigm, Trivers reconceived the nature of altruism.

Guest Editorial – Clinical Psychology and Honky-Tonk, by Alvin G. Burstein, PhD.

Stress Solutions by Susan Andrews, PhD. Growing up in Poverty and Stress Has a Lasting Impact on the Brain.

Mission Impossible –Fallout by Alvin G. Burstein, PhD.

OCTOBER

Board Opens Nominations, Proposes New Regulations The state psychology board is seeking nominations for next year’s opening and proposing changes to rules. Included is a new Emeritus category, clarifying language in the neuropsychology specialty language, and authorizing more training providers.

Southern Psychology Journal Set to Launch in December Psychologists aiming to reboot the well-respected, regional journal, from the 1980s, *The Southern Psychologist*, are planning a December launch, said Dr. Bill McCown, coeditor and Associate Dean for Research in the College of Business and Social Sciences at the University of Louisiana–Monroe (ULM).

State Budget Finally Stable Says Governor Edwards—Stabilized funding for higher education “... Louisiana is projected to have a \$300 million surplus for the fiscal year 2018,” the Governor said.

Life’s Illusions – Psychologists look at ethics and self-deception *The Times* asks two experts, Dr. Jack Palmer and Dr. Matt Rossano, about the concept of self-deception and the upcoming workshop with legendary Robert Trivers. And the experts consider the changing landscape for the scientific study of ethics in human behavior.

Psychologists’ Changing View of the Role of the Master’s Level Provider by Lawrence Dilks, PhD & Burton Ashworth, PhD. As a consequence of many events, our profession, led by the American Psychological Association, is now emphasizing the need to franchise master level providers with a greater role in service delivery. This movement is quickly



The Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists moved their offices to South Sherwood Forest in Baton Rouge, needing more space and privacy for working with candidates. The board was in the news all year long in one matter or another.

gaining momentum and each state must seek to define the responsibilities and the degree of independence to be awarded. Louisiana Psychological Association has formed an investigative committee, which is now evaluating how Louisiana will address this issue in the future.

Gov. Edwards Resists Attorney General Landry’s Decision on Pre-Existing Health Coverage Issues In September the Governor issued a statement, “Attorney General’s Lawsuit threatens health coverage for 849,000 Louisianans with pre-existing conditions.”

State Contracts Cut by 30% Over Last Two Years The Governor has cut state contracts by 3,574 from a high in 2016 of 14,125. In September, Elizabeth Crisp of *The Advocate* reported that after the two years, the contract debate has grown quiet but Gov. Edwards’ administration says that they have curtailed the number of outside consultants, as critics requested, and they continue to try to address the issue.

State of Louisiana, LSU and Ochsner Finalize Hospital Partnership A final Public Private Partnership Agreement in Shreveport and Monroe was signed. Ochsner and LSU Health Shreveport will jointly form Ochsner LSU Health Shreveport to oversee and coordinate activities between the health sciences center and the healthcare delivery system.

LSU’s Dr. Zhang Uncovers the Dark Side in Employment Interviews Louisiana State University Assistant Professor, Dr. Don Zhang and co-authors have uncovered an element of the dark side in seemingly innocent employment interviewing methods. Zhang found that brainteaser questions, frequently used by companies such as Xerox, Microsoft, and Zappos, are related to characteristics of the “Dark Triad.”

Stress Solutions by Susan Andrews, PhD Getting Involved Can Reduce the Stress Caused by Today’s Politics. One psychologist, Dr. Tammy Savoie, has taken those words to heart.

A Simple Favor Review by Alvin G. Burstein, PhD.

NOVEMBER

CMS Publishes New Psychological and Neuropsychological Testing Codes The 2019 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Final Rule was published at the Federal Register this week, and includes major changes in how psychological testing codes will be handled, changes that Dr. Tony Puente, Past-President of the American Psychological Association, says are “...the biggest paradigm shift since the development of testing.” Puente presented at the annual conference of the National Association of Neuropsychology last month held in New Orleans.

ASPPB Decides to Go Forward with EPPP 2 Strategy in Stages, Options On October 24, Sharon Lightfoot, PhD, President, Board of Directors for the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards, wrote to state boards, who are ASPPB’s member jurisdictions, to inform them about decisions that were made at the annual meeting held in Salt Lake City in mid October, to go forward with the EPPP2 in stages.

Psychologists and Students Present at National Assn of Neuropsychology in NO The National Academy of Neuropsychology held its 38th Annual Conference in New Orleans. Dr. Kevin Bianchini spoke on “Pain in the Medicolegal Context. Dr. Lisa Settles, Assistant Professor of Psychiatry & Pediatrics at Tulane University School of Medicine, Tulane Center for Autism and Related Disorders, and Dr. Margaret Hauck, neuropsychologist and Assistant Professor of Psychiatry at Tulane University School of Medicine also presented. From Louisiana State University, presenters of research included Scott Royce, Alyssa De Vito, and Andrea Smith, Peter Castagna and Matthew Calamia, PhD, Assistant Professor in Clinical Psychology.

Can Louisiana Fully Embrace Integrated Healthcare? Louisiana ranks 50th overall with a 45th in healthcare. This pattern of poor health outcomes and high costs reflects the country as a whole. Psychological scientists have

Year in Review

Continued

demonstrated that savings from 30 to 60 percent in medical costs and much better health outcomes are possible if we give up the biomedical model. But can Louisiana make this change?

Gov. Edwards and First Lady Travel to Israel, Meet with Prime Minister Gov. Edwards met with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu as part of a weeklong Louisiana economic development mission in Israel.

October Declared Domestic Violence Awareness Month Gov. Edwards had proclaimed October as Domestic Violence Awareness month in Louisiana.

Gov. Edwards Announces First Round of Reinvestment Grants from Justice Reforms Gov. Edwards announced the first round of reinvestment funds realized through savings from the Justice Reinvestment legislation he signed into law in 2017. Caddo Parish will receive \$912,568 and East Baton Rouge Parish will receive \$1,631,521. Overall, the reform efforts are expected to save the state more than \$262 million over the next decade and mandate that 70 percent of the savings be reinvested into programs that reduce recidivism, support victims and improve public safety.

Act 655 in Effect--Establishes a Citizens Complaints Process for State Boards A measure authored by Sen. Milkovich took affect in August and requires that boards and commissions to accept complaints from licensees and the general public, and report those complaints to the Committee on House and Governmental Affairs, or the Senate Committee on Senate and Governmental Affairs as appropriate.

Stress Solutions by Susan Andrews, PhD – APA Study: Discrimination Leads to Stress

The Sisters Brothers Review by Alvin G. Burstein, PhD.

DECEMBER

LSBEP to Begin Complaints Processing Procedure Updates The Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists will make changes to their disciplinary policies and procedures, including promulgating new rules and regulations if needed, the Board members announced at their recent Long-Range Planning meeting. The meeting was held November 30 at the Board's new offices in Baton Rouge.

New Study Shows EPPP Can Discriminate Against African-Americans, Hispanics A new study demonstrates that the Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology, known as the EPPP, has differing fail and pass rates for different races, and that the difference is large enough for African Americans and Hispanics to fall into "disparate impact" discrimination, as described in Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

LSU's Dr. Frick and Dr. Matson Named World Class Scholars In two separate reports, Louisiana State University Psychology Professors, Dr. Paul Frick and Dr. Johnny Matson, have been designated as top scholars in comparison to all others worldwide. Dr. Frick is one of only four researchers from LSU who achieved an h-index over 100, based on the Google Scholar Citations database. Only 3,160 scholars worldwide reach this level of significance. Dr. Matson, professor of psychology and Distinguished Research Master, was noted for his interdisciplinary achievements, as one of only three LSU researchers who were among the top cited scholars based on a review of journals indexed in the *Web of Science Core*

The Psychology Times

2018

COMMUNITY AWARD

ALTRUISM

Beth and Dr. Rafael Salcedo

There is still no one close to the dedication and personal sacrifice of the Salcedos when it comes to altruism, and the effort they put into saving the most abused children of modern times—sex-trafficked girls. They continue with their Free Indeed Home and Dr. Salcedo was named to the Governor's Advisory Board. Together Beth and Rafael are changing the world, and are the true angels for these lost girls. Below Rafael and Kathleen Richey attend First Lady Donna Edwards' (foreground) meeting.



Collection and a measure takes into account the top 1% within each of 21 broad fields.

CDC Data Points to Higher Psychological Distress in America The CDC reported new numbers last month in both deaths by suicide and drug overdoses that point to the worsening psychological well-being of America's citizens. In its newest report, the CDC notes that the age-adjusted suicide rate increased 33% from 1999 to 2017. And the age-adjusted rate of drug overdose deaths in 2017 was 9.6% higher than the rate in 2016.

ASPPB Uses Carrot & Stick for New EPPP2 Members of the Louisiana State Board of Examiners, at their November 30 meeting in Baton Rouge, discussed how the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB) has adopted a reward and punishment program for those state boards still resisting adopting the controversial second examination a psychology license, the EPPP2.

RxP—Where Are We Now? It was over two decades ago now that the American Psychological Association (APA) endorsed

prescriptive authority, called “RxP,” for psychologists. Louisiana became one of the first test cases. Where are we today after those changes and Act 251?

Psych Board to Revisit Specialty Concepts for Applied Psychologists At their Long-Range Planning Meeting the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists discussed a motion regarding the specialty designations. Dr. Greg Gormanous put forth a motion for the board to study the specialty of "general applied psychology."

Psychologists Launch New E-Journal for Psychology in Southern Region at ULM Psychologists at the University of Louisiana– Monroe (ULM), have launched the new journal, *Contemporary Southern Psychology*, aiming to match the style and contributions of the well-respected, 1980s, *Southern Psychologist*.

Stress Solutions by Susan Andrews, PhD. Improved Sleep Reduces Stress, Improves Health.

Girl in the Spider's Web Review by Alvin G. Burstein, PhD.

A Shrink at the Flicks

Mary Poppins Returns: Supercalifragilisticexpialidocius?

by Alvin G. Burstein, PhD



I viewed the 2018 sequel in the context of two of its predecessors: the 1964 *Mary Poppins* block-buster film featuring Julie Andrews and Dick Van Dyke and the 1934 book by that name written by P. L. Travers.

Set in 1935, the sequel picks up the story of the Banks family twenty-five years after Mary Poppins departure in the first film. Michael, the oldest son, is now widowed and trying, with the help of his sister, Jane and Ellen, the maid, to raise his two children. Having to raise money that his paltry salary is inadequate to meet, he has taken a loan from his employer, the Fidelity Fiduciary Bank, and has fallen behind in re-paying it. As the movie opens, he and the family learn that the Bank is about to repossess their home and evict them. His son, George, finds his father's childhood, about to be discarded kite, and takes it to the park. Once airborne, the kite returns—bearing Mary Poppins. She returns to her nanny duties, involving the children in sundry adventures, and ultimately is central in foiling the threatened dispossession of the family.

Guest Columnist,
Dr. Alvin Burstein

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



courtesy photo

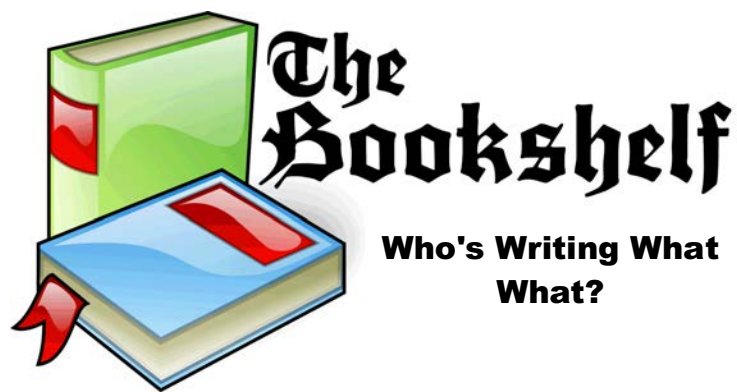
He is also a member of Inklings, a Mandeville critique group that meets weekly to review its members' imaginative writings. Burstein has published flash fiction and autobiographical pieces in e-zines; *The Owl*, his first novelette, is available at Amazon. He is, in addition to being a movie fan, a committed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

Both films are froth, fanciful confections. If you liked the first film, you will like the second. But there are some differences. Though real in a cartoonish sense—think *chim chim cher-ee* and *supercalifragilisticexpialidocius*. Those of the sequel more mood lifting, like Orphan Annie's *Tomorrow*.

Dick Van Dyke, the chalk artist and chimney sweep in the first film, dances with Astaire-like precision; Lin-Manuel Miranda, the lamp-lighter in the sequel, dances with an athleticism that evokes memories of Gene Kelley. Emily Blunt's Mary Poppins displays a taste for exhibitionism and an attachment to her charges that is less prominent than is Julie Andrew's. Both films center on an evolution in the character of the fathers in succeeding generations. In the first film, Mr. Banks becomes less business oriented, more playful and family-centered. In the second film, his son, that Mr. Banks, becomes less depressed and more assertive. Changes in both cases, but quite different ones.

Lastly, doubtless as a function of a heightened contemporary concern about such matters, the second film is much more scrupulous in avoiding invidious racial stereotyping. The second film has Black characters in substantial roles; the first has Admiral Boom, upset at the sight of a group of sooty chimney sweeps cavorting, having his cannon fired at them, referring to them as Hottentots.

Both films differ from the Travers book in important ways. Most important is that the movies' great strength is spectacle, fascinating the audience with an elaborate, intricate, kaleidoscopic firework display. The book, when read, stimulates the imagination. The films distract. The book provokes. The experiences of children reading the book or having it read to them by a parent is vastly different and much richer than that of a child entranced by the film. That is probably true in general of movie watching versus reading. That difference is especially clear in the case of Mary Poppins, who, in Travers book, has a hamadryad in her ancestry and wears a snake skin belt. For readers of any age, that Mary Poppins is darker, more complex, and more compelling than her screen version.



Hectic Happiness

by Gilda Werner
Reed, PhD

University of New Orleans' award-winning faculty member, Dr. Gilda Werner Reed, has condensed 71 years of living and world events into a new book, *Hectic Happiness*.

The work captures the joys, challenges and tragedies of Dr. Reed's life, and the "heart-melting adorableness, enchanting exuberance, delightful antics and jaw-dropping accomplishments" of four sons, three daughters, six grandsons, and eight granddaughters.

Gilda and soul-mate, husband Sam adopted two siblings—special needs babies—when their fifth baby was still in diapers, to give a total of three in diapers at once., and *Hectic Happiness* follows the challenges and joys of a full family life. She includes all the tragedies as well, the loss of two infant grandbabies, healthcare and justice system failures, and drug addiction in an adult child.

Gilda is a native New Orleanian, a public-school advocate, a polio survivor, a member of a third generation U.S. Navy family, and a 2008 U.S. Congressional candidate.

Her work follows the volatile events that shaped the last seven decades in family, career, political and cultural spheres.

Dr. Reed earned her doctorate at University of New Orleans (UNO) in Applied Biological Psychology with a minor in Applied Developmental Psychology while raising her large family. Her dissertation was done on "cute, furry white rats with pink eyes," she said. She injected them with "MIF-1 peptide or morphine and compared behavior using a conditioned place preference paradigm."

Dr. Reed completed the education courses required for Louisiana certification, plus the National Teacher's Exam, and became one of the most popular instructors in the UNO psychology undergraduate program, teaching eight different courses on campus and online. She has taught literally thousands of students since 1994.

In 2012 she was named among the nation's top-rated professors in Princeton Review's *The Best 300 Professors*, and in the top 13 by Huffington Post.

In 2008-2009, Dr. Reed was rated 21st by RateMyProfessors. And the University of New Orleans International Alumni Association named Dr. Reed recipient of its 2011-2012 Excellence in Teaching Award.

The *Times* asked her how she was able to motivate so many students. "I have excellent, inspiring students!"

Hectic Happiness



Gilda Werner Reed, PhD

she said. Dr. Reed also explained that she is a strong advocate of public education and that her students truly want to learn. "Mom and dad aren't paying the bills," she said. "My students really want to be there. They are a joy to teach!" To Dr. Reed, teaching is an honor—not an obligation, she said.

Dr. Reed's involvement in the larger community and her enthusiasm for public life included a bid for the U.S. House of Representatives in 2008 when she won her primary but lost in the general election.

She was named Louisiana Woman of the Year in 2008 by *BayouBuzz* and was named an honorary member of the Jefferson Firefighters Association for her support.

She has been honored with a Trailblazer Banquet Award, served on the Jefferson Parish and the Louisiana Democratic committees.

Hectic Happiness is her first book. From the book and covers:

"With intentions of spawning future volumes, she condenses 7 decades of one life well-lived in an ongoing love story and testament to overcoming adversity. She is a dreamer enamored with JFK, space flights, and Biology.

"She is a sheltered Southern girl with a penchant for civil rights, politics and world events."

"*Hectic Happiness* is a survival story of triumph and tragedy, joy and pain, feistiness and naiveté."

Hectic Happiness is self-published via G W Reed Publishing, LLC.

LSPA Names Rachelle Schuck School Psychologist of Year

The Louisiana School Psychological Association named Rachelle Schuck, of Plaquemines Parish, School Psychologist of the Year, at the association's 38th Annual Conference, held in November.

Keever Hoffmann, Past President, and of Plaquemines Parish, was named the recipient of the Presidential Award.

The association named Amber Boykin, Past President, Lincoln Parish, as Member of the Year.

And Laura Cornell, Tulane University, received the Will Bergeron Memorial Scholarship.

In the Student Poster Competition, Amanda White & Victoria Benson, LSUS, won first place in Research Category. Supervising Faculty was Kevin Jones. In the Translating Research-to-Practice Category there were two winners. Jaycee Hallum, LSUS, with Supervising Faculty, Katherine Wickstrom.

Also winning in Translating Research-to-Practice Category was Andrea Knowles, LSUS. Supervising Faculty was also Katherine Wickstrom.

The theme of the 2018 conference was "Stronger Together," and the association hosted the National Association of School Psychologists President, Lisa Kelly-Vance as Keynote speaker.

More Governor's Appointments

On December 27 the Governor announced that he appointed Philip G. Hunter, of Alexandria, was appointed to the Workers' Compensation Advisory Council. Hunter is an attorney and managing partner at Hunter & Beck. Jerrod D. King, of Pineville, was appointed to the Governor's Task Force on DWI. King is the Chief of the City of Alexandria Police Department and a veteran of the United States Army. Rikki Permenter, Ph.D., of Clinton, a licensed professional counselor and the owner of Bent Tree Counseling, and Tessa Young, of Port Allen, an Information and Referral Specialist with Conduent. were appointed to the Capital Area Human Services District.



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