



Psychologists, LPCs Continue Talks

The "Behavioral Health Professional Working Group," a team composed of psychologists, counselors, and advisory members from social work and medicine, met November 17th to continue discussions. The group meets at the request of the legislature (Senate Concurrent Resolution 100) to develop language to help clarify issues for the Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) legislation.

According to sources, the group worked in a cordial and productive manner, discussing the issue of LPC statute regarding diagnosing. They

Con't pg 3

Inside this issue

- Dr. Tom Hannie,
Close-Up pg 10
- Dr. Peggy Hagan,
Gone Flying, pg 12
- John Hamilton in
Student Focus, pg 14
- Christmas Bookshelf,
pg 15

Bd Nominations Due Dec 6th

Self-nominations to serve on the board are due in to LPA Ex. Dir. Ms. Gail Lowe by this Monday, Dec. 6th.

MP Rules Published

The proposed administrative laws (called "rules") for the practice of medical psychology were published in the November issue of the Louisiana Register. The rules set general

Con't pg 18

LPA Petition Hotlined to LAMP

An LPA member, who agreed to sign a petition for a special meeting, was questioned by a leader in the Louisiana Academy of Medical Psychologists (LAMP) approximately two hours after the petition was submitted to the LPA Executive Council.

The petitioner had agreed to sign the list, with about fifty other LPA members, to call for a special meeting. The petition was organized by Dr. Susan Dardard after the Council had voted down a resolution for the independent

Con't pg 3

APA BEA Notes Concerns

The APA Board of Educational Affairs has joined the Interdivisional Healthcare Committee, the Committee for the Advancement of Professional Psychology, and the Academy of Medical Psychology, in voicing concerns about Louisiana's Act 251.

In a November 3rd letter, Dr. Janet Matthews, Chair of APA Board of Educational Affairs (BEA), responded to Dr. Robert Glueckauf regarding concerns over Louisiana's new law. Dr. Glueckauf Chair, Interdivisional Healthcare Committee (IHC), on April 21st 2010 had issued a report and a call to action for APA's BEA, as well as the Committee for the

Con't pg 4

Psychologists Contribute To Innovative Treatment

Psychologists Dr. Denise Sellers and Dr. Alyson McCain are part of an innovative health care approach, an integrated mobile mental health team, called the Baton Rouge Children's Health Project (BRCHP). The BRCHP is in its fourth year, and works from a design that incorporates medical, behavioral, family and social

Con't pg 8



Members of the BR Children's Health Project get in the Christmas spirit: L to R; Winnie Harris, Driver/Registrar; Shameka Williams, Social Worker; Jeff Soileau; Health Educator; Tracy Parker, Nurse Practitioner; Jennifer Hackler, Art Therapist; Schaun Morgan, Case Manager; Alyson McCain, Psychologist; Shelly Dubriel, Registered Nurse; Linda Lee, Program Administrator; Denise Sellers, Psychologist; and Jimmie Badon, Driver/Registrar.

(Photo courtesy of BRCHP)

Times Publisher Gets the Boot

In a November 4th email, LPA Executive Director Gail Lowe wrote to LPA platinum member and publisher of the *Times*, Dr. Julie Nelson, indicating that Nelson was being warned of a violation of LPA listserv rules and further violations would result in her suspension.

Ms. Lowe noted that a quote from a listserv post by Executive Council member Dr. Robert Storer had been printed in the *Times* without his permission. And, that this had been brought to Lowe's attention and was a violation of listserv rules.

The *Times* quoted Dr. Storer in a front-page story in the November issue, "LPA Council Rejects Resolution." He had commented on listserv about the reasons for his no vote on a resolution asking LPA to support the autonomous regulation of psychology. The *Times* publisher quoted him, "...the prescribing psychologists that I know have stated that they see this statement as a 'slap' against them."

The *Times* article also published LPA President Kelly Ray's explanation regarding her vote about the resolution. She wrote, "...the proposed resolution was not presented to make a public statement that LPA supports psychology, but rather, to build the foundation to take an offensive position against 251, against the medical psychologists, and against the medical board. This is what your EC voted down."

Nelson wrote back to Ms. Lowe saying that the rule prohibiting forwarding of listserv posts was "easy to get around" simply by having someone else forward it to her, which is what she had done. And, that the rule should be rewritten considering that posting to over 200 people could be considered "publishing" one's viewpoints.

Writing on behalf of the Council, Ms. Lowe wrote back to Nelson noting, "Rule #7 states, 'sharing personal content from the listserv posts without prior permission from the original poster will be grounds for dismissal from the listserv.'" She said that Nelson's response regarding a simple way to get around the rule indicated that Nelson was "not willing to abide by the standards set forth by your Executive Council." And that, "Violation of the rules poses a threat to all users," and informed Nelson that she was suspended from the list for six months.

Merry Christmas!



HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY HOLIDAY.

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

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At their November 17th meeting, members of the BHPWG (L to R) Dr. Tony Young, Ms. Jacqueline Shellington, Dr. Robert Maria, and Mr. Michael Gootee review ideas for language for LPC legislation. Sources indicate that testing is “off the table” at this time. *(Photo courtesy of Dr. Susan Dardard)*

Talks...

discussed a plan for LPCs to establish a two-tier level of licensure with the second level being for “Licensed Clinical Professional Counselors.” This level may require additional education, training, and/or supervision.

The discussion at the meeting also included ideas regarding the appropriate examination. The National Clinical Mental Health Counselor Examination, which includes questions on clinical diagnosis, was discussed.

At a previous meeting, October 29th, the LPCs and psychologists proposed ideas to help develop solutions regarding the language of the LPC statute, according to the minutes of that meeting.

At that meeting, the LPCs offered to increase credentialing requirements, set forth a new position statement, and make changes to better document certain aspects of supervision.

The psychologists also proposed changes. The minutes noted that

they described requiring additional formal academic training specific to diagnostic skills for LPCs, requiring specific supervision, and “establishment of an advanced level counselor who meets criteria based on the required training and supervision and on rules to be developed who would then be regulated by the LSBEP [Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists] for this advanced skill/practice.”

At the conclusion of the October 29th meeting, both groups “agreed to take the proposals back to their respective constituencies for comment before the next meeting,” according to the minutes.

The group has been meeting at least once a month since July and will report their findings and conclusions to the Senate and House committees on Health and Welfare by February 1, 2011.

Of concern to many psychologists is the issue of psychological testing. According to two undisclosed sources, this topic appears to be “off the table” at the present time.

Hotlined...

regulation of psychology.

Dardard submitted names to the LPA Executive Council by email at about 4:30 pm on October 29th, according to Dr. Dardard.

By about 6:30 pm that same day the petitioner was contacted by the LAMP official via email and asked if he had in fact signed the petition. Dr. Dardard’s list of names was attached.

The petitioner told the *Times* that he then requested an explanation from the Council as to how a LAMP leader, and non-LPA member, could come to have knowledge of names on the petition in such a short time.

Dr. Kelly Ray, current President of LPA, responded to the petitioner’s question saying that a Council member had called others to inquire about the names on the petition. Dr. Ray wrote that there were many names on the list that were “unknown to us.” And she noted that the Council member had contacted “others” to inquire about these “unknown” persons.

The petitioner told the *Times* that the explanation was confusing, since he should be well known to the Council member. And he was also puzzled as to why anyone questioning his signature on the petition would not verify it with him directly.

The next BHPWG meeting is scheduled for December 8th at 1 pm the Bienville Building near the Capital. The meeting is open to the public.

BEA Concerns...

Advancement of Professional Psychology (CAPP), and the Board of Psychological Affairs (BPA). (*PT*, 1, 10).

In the November 3rd letter, Dr. Matthews responded for her board noting, "BEA members unanimously agreed that these matters were of concern to the education and training community and to all of psychology. Very specifically, BEA was of the opinion that the term "medical psychologists" should not be used exclusively by psychologists with prescriptive authority. BEA noted the historical use of the terms 'medical psychologist' and 'medical psychology' for a broad range of psychologists working in healthcare settings, for names of administrative units, and for describing education and training experiences that are not associated with preparation for practice with prescriptive authority."

Dr. Matthews continued, "In forming this opinion, BEA believes it is consistent with the opinion offered by the Committee for the Advancement of Professional Practice in June 2010 on this same matter."

"BEA also expressed strong concerns about the potential implications of oversight of a psychology licensing board by a nonpsychologist health profession board at the state licensing level. Very specifically, concerns were expressed regarding ultimate oversight by another profession of the evaluation of education and training credentials of psychologists and standards for supervision in clinical training."

In conclusion, Dr. Matthews wrote that it was important to note that these are the BEA's opinions and not policy statements of APA. "However," she wrote, "given the importance of the issues raised to all of psychology, BEA has requested that the APA Board of Directors address these concerns at a policy level and make recommendations to the Council of Representatives as appropriate."

Dr. Glueckauf is Chair of the IHC, a group of seven APA divisions of Health Psychology, Rehabilitation Psychology, Clinical Neuropsychology, Society of Pediatric Psychology, Society of Clinical Psychology/Clinical Geropsychology, Counseling Psychology, and Family Psychology. The IHC may be best known for its development of the "Health and Behavior Codes," which allow a traditional health/medical psychologist to be reimbursed for behavioral methods in treating physical disorders.

In the April 21st letter and report, the IHC authors noted concerns that Act 251 could confuse the public, concerns about psychologists falling under other boards, and unfair competition, among other issues. (*PT*, 1, 10)

In June this year, Chair of CAPP, Dr. Sanford Portnoy, wrote Dr. Glueckauf indicating, "CAPP opposes the use of the term 'medical psychologist' exclusively by psychologists with prescriptive authority." (*PT*, 1, 11)

Dr. James Childerston, President of the Academy of Medical Psychology (AMP) wrote to Louisiana's Attorney General objecting to the restriction of the title, "Medical Psychologist," in July 2009. And in February 2010 the Academy of Medical Psychologists notified its members that maintaining a psychology license was required for the specialty board certification in Medical Psychology. (*PT*, 1, 8)

(Editor's note: The copy of the letter authored by BEA Chair Dr. J. Matthews was given to the Times by sources outside of the state, and not by Dr. Matthews.)

Disgruntled LPA Members Request Special Meeting

Following a no vote on October 22nd by the Executive Council of the Louisiana Psychological Association on a resolution asking the association to support the independent regulation of psychology, some disgruntled LPA members submitted a petition for a special meeting.

Dr. Susan Dardard organized the petition and submitted a list of 55 names to LPA council members on Friday October 29, 2010. She told the *Times* that only 55 names would fit on one page.

According to Dr. Dardard, LPA President Kelly Ray wrote back indicating that any petition for a special meeting must state the exact nature of the business to be conducted. Also, each of the 55 people who agreed to sign for a special meeting will be required to send a separate memo or verification with his or her signature.

Dr. Dardard indicated to the *Times* that some of those signing the petition are presently involved in discussions as to the best and most useful resolutions, including discussion about a proposal for an open forum. She said, this would be facilitated by an IO psychologist and address conflicts regarding Act 251, to help bring the community together.

Medical Bd Keeps Confusing Phrase About “Non-MPs”

The Medical Board is proposing to keep phrasing in their rules for physicians interacting with MPs, which could be misinterpreted as a prohibition against physicians consulting with psychologists who are not MPs.

The phrase currently states, “General Prohibitions,” number “A. 3. A physician shall not consult and collaborate: [...] 3. With a psychologist who is not an MP; [...]”

The phrase and its multiple interpretations were brought to the attention of the psychology board by the *Times* publisher who asked the board to explain its meaning.

At the board’s September 2010 meeting, members discussed that this phrasing could conflict with their past opinions. Past opinions allow psychologists to discuss matters with their patient’s physician, if the psychologist has training in this area and needs to support continuity of care.

Also, psychology board members discussed that the phrasing may be confusing to some, and possibly interpreted as a prohibition against consulting with a psychologist who does not prescribe.

The psychology board suggested to the medical board that the wording be deleted.

However, the medical board declined this suggestion. Their proposed correction is to add the words, “... as defined in §7203 of these rules...” This addition refers back to a specific definition of consult or collaborate, earlier in the document, and to a definition that has to do with MPs only.

The proposed change is published in the November issue of the Louisiana Register. The proposed phrasing is “A physician shall not consult and collaborate, as defined in §7203 of these rules: [...] 3. with a psychologist who is not an MP: ...”

The original wording had been reviewed by Dr. Glenn Ally in 2008, who was then on the LSBEP.



Judges for Southern University’s Twelfth Annual Social and Behavioral Sciences Undergraduate Research Conference are pictured above. Front, L to R: Dr. Richard Flicker, Dr. Doreen Miller and Dr. Susan Dardard. Back: Dr. Reginal Rackley and Dr. Murelle Harrison, licensed IO psychologist and Chair of the Psychology Department.
(Photo courtesy Dr. Susan Dardard)

Southern University BR Holds Student Research Conference

The Department of Psychology at Southern University & A&M College hosted their Twelfth Annual Social and Behavioral Sciences Undergraduate Research Conference, on Friday November 19th, 2010. The event was held at the Royal Cotillion Ballroom at the Smith-Brown Memorial Union at Southern U.

Dr. Murelle G. Harrison, chair of the Psychology Department and licensed I/O psychologist, presented the welcoming address. Dr. Kofi Lomotey, Chancellor of the Baton Rouge Campus, Dr. Michael Stubblefield, Vice Chancellor for Research & Strategic Initiatives, and Dr. Robert H. Miller, Jr., Dean of the College of Sciences, each gave addresses and greeted attendees.

Students presented 17 research projects covering topics including alcohol use, domestic violence, risky behaviors in African American college males, ADHD medication.

Judges for the event were Dr. Doreen Miller, Department of Rehabilitation and Disability Studies, Dr. Richard Flicker, Department of Psychology at Southern and consulting I/O psychologist, and Dr. Susan Dardard, Dardard Media.

Shana Clay and Rayona Sylvan awarded certificates and Josette Williams gave the closing remarks.

Integrative Mental Health Conference Draws High Interest

Two hundred people were turned away from the first “National Integrative Mental Health Conference” held recently in Phoenix, due to unexpectedly high interest.

In a page one story reported in the *National Psychologist* (Nov/Dec), the conference was said to cover the newest “mind-body approaches to treat mood disorders, such as exercise, nutritional strategies, meditation, breathing instruction, hypnosis, resilience training, acupuncture, laughter therapy, and spiritual practices,” according to Andrew Weil, M.D., chair and co-director of the conference.

In the *NP* article, Dr. Weil said that the unexpected attendance was “—indicative of growing dissatisfaction with solely biochemical approaches to mental health treatment.”

APA “Stress In America” Report Available

The 2010 “Stress in America” report is now available on the APA website at www.apa.org. Go to the Press Room/Press Releases.

The report is an annual, nationwide survey and is part of the APA “Mind/Body Health Campaign.” The study measures “attitudes and perceptions of stress among the general public, identifies leading sources of stress, common behaviors used to manage stress and the impact of stress on our lives. The results of the survey draw attention to the serious physical and emotional implications of stress and the inextricable link between the mind and body.”

ASPPB Task Force Completes Study of Psychologists

A task force studying the activities of psychologists across the U.S. and Canada completed its work and published results in September and October 2010. The content-oriented, validity study was sponsored by the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB) and conducted by the Professional Examination Service (PES).

Dr. Greg Gormanous, formerly Chair at LSU-A, participated in the Practice Analysis Advisory Committee, which worked with the Practice Analysis Task Force and PES.

The team studied the activities of licensed psychologists in order to update the licensing exam and to establish competencies and how these competencies can be assessed.

The authors confirmed the eight knowledge domains of the licensing exam and suggested some small changes. “Biological Bases of Behavior” should increase from 11 percent of the test to 12 percent. “Growth and Lifespan Development” should increase from 12 to 13 percent and “Treatment, Intervention, Prevention, and Supervision” should increase from 14 to 15 percent. Three knowledge areas remain the same, “Cognitive-Affective Bases of Behavior” at 13 percent, “Social and Cultural Bases of Behavior” at 12 percent, “Assessment and Diagnosis” at 14 percent, and “Ethical/Legal/Professional Issues” at 15 percent.

The study suggests that “Research Methods and Statistics” will decrease from 8 percent to 7 percent.

The research team surveyed 5,000 licensed psychologists across the

Con’t pg 7



Those in the psychology community gathered to enjoy student research at Southern's 12th Annual Conference. Above Dr. Catrice Tolbert-Hill (standing) assists conference planners and attendees (front, L to R) Chiza Onyenekwu, Ana Toma Harrison, and (back, L to R) Lakeith Lewis and Shawn Allemond.

(Photo courtesy Dr. Susan Dardard)

ASPPB Study...

U.S. and Canada. The return rate was 26 percent. Findings included:

“ • Regardless of country, respondents were more likely to have been trained in the major areas of clinical, counseling, and educational psychology than they were to be currently practicing in those major areas; and were more likely to be currently practicing in the major areas of clinical neuropsychology, forensic psychology, geropsychology, health psychology, and rehabilitation psychology than to have initially been trained in those major areas.”

“• In the U.S., more than one-half of the respondents indicated cognitive/behavioral psychology (58%), and 9% and 11% indicated interpersonal psychology and psychodynamic psychology as their primary orientation, respectively. No more than 6% of the U.S. respondents indicated any of the other four specifically-delineated theoretical orientations as primary. ...”

“• Nearly one-third of the U.S. respondents have participated in formal post-doctoral specialization and/or respecialization and 17% of

Tulane Presents Brain & Behavior Conference Dec 3-4

Tulane University Center for Continuing Ed will present a conference, “Brain & Behavior 2010, 15th Robert G. Heath MD Lecture” on December 3-4 at the Westin Canal Place Hotel in New Orleans. The conference addresses the “importance of interdisciplinary interfacing” and treating patients as the “population and technology advances.”

For more information contact the Center for Continuing Education at 504.988.5466 or cme@tulane.edu.

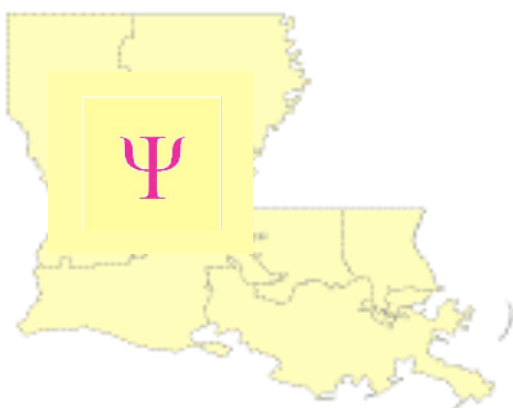
Canadian respondents have done so as well. Recently licensed respondents are more likely to have trained in clinical, clinical child, and school psychology, and less likely to have trained in community, counseling, developmental, educational, experimental, industrial-organizational, and social psychology than less recently licensed/registered respondents.”

One goal of the study was to confirm knowledge areas of the licensing exam. A second goal of the study was to identify “underlying professional competencies

(including but not limited to those related to professional knowledge).”

The researchers noted six competency clusters: 1) Scientific Knowledge (covered in the licensing exam), 2) Evidence-Based Decision Making/Critical Reasoning, 3) Cultural and Interpersonal Competence, 4) Professionalism/Ethics, 5) Assessment, 6) Intervention/Supervision/Consultation.

(Editor's note: The Times will cover findings regarding competency clusters in future editions.)



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Paul Simon, Co-founder of Children's Health Fund, performs for the Fund with Joan Baez. *(Photo courtesy of CHF)*

Innovative...

systems, and an approach that takes services to the doorstep of underserved and disadvantaged children.

BRCHP came into existence after Katrina, explained Linda Lee, LCSW and Program Administrator in Baton Rouge. "The Children's Health Fund is located in New York City," Linda explained, "and was founded by Paul Simon and Dr. Irwin Redlener who became concerned about kids...about the devastation in New Orleans and surrounding areas after Katrina, and sent staff and units within days after the storm to provide medical care to children affected..."

This initial response prompted the creation of permanent mobile units in Baton Rouge, New Orleans and in Gulfport, MS.

The key to the programs' success, Linda noted, are the mobile units and the "integrated delivery of care model. Big blue buses (RVs) are outfitted to address all of a child's needs at once. "The integration of medical and mental health is really the Midas touch," Linda explained.

"The team followed children from Katrina into the trailer villages after the storms, creating a continuity of care, and a comprehensiveness of care, that may have been nearly impossible under any other conditions," Linda said.

Psychologists Denise Sellers and Alyson McCain are Co-Directors for the BRCHP Mental Health Clinic providing assessment and treatment to elementary school age children and their parents. The psychologists conduct individual evaluations (ADHD, learning disorders) and provide treatment for

disorders including behavior disorders, anxiety and depression.

Denise told the *Times*, "We feel that one of the most important aspects of our work is the opportunity to serve an under-served population. We are in a unique position in which we are able to bring our services to the patients—and work with them in the environment where they spend the majority of their time—the school."

The psychologists provide parent training and work with families on issues of adjustment and coping with daily and major life stressors, and lead group treatment for social skills, ADHD, and self-esteem.

"We also work with teachers to develop classroom behavior management plans," Denise said, "and participate in meetings with Pupil Appraisal to design Individual Education Plans for students."

"We find one of the most satisfying aspects of our job to be our participation in a multi-disciplinary team," Alyson noted. "We feel that it is a privilege to be able to consult with each other and other professionals, including social workers, an art therapist, a health educator, a case manager and medical staff."

"It is also fulfilling to watch progress, when we can, as a team, treat the 'whole child,'" Alyson noted.

Medical Director of the BRCHP, Dr. Stewart Gordon told the *Times* that the program's unique benefit comes from integrating the traditional medical care with the behavioral health care into one 'medical home.' "We look at the total child, their medical, school, home, and overall life situation. The medical is important, but we're attuned to their behavioral and social needs as well, which are as important, if not more important, than their medical."

Dr. Stewart Gordon is Chief Pediatrician at LSU Health Services Center, a program at Earl K. Long Medical Center. He has served as Medical Director for the BRCHP for five years.

"In general," he explained, "children get sick quickly and get well quickly," he said. "But we get into their behavioral health and their social health, and that's not something typically 'fixed' with a prescription. The units work in unison, one in medical and one in behavioral. We work with the whole child to improve the outcomes."

Innovative...

The Children's Health Fund, founded in 1987 by singer/songwriter Paul Simon and pediatrician Dr. Irwin Redlener provides mobile-based health care for homeless and low-income children. The Fund's mission is to provide innovative health programs directly to those in need, including responding to health care crises like those from the Gulf Coast Hurricanes and the more recent oil spill.

Co-founder Dr. Redlener, notes on the website that CHF currently has 50 mobile medical clinics serving hundreds of locations across the U.S. The organization has supported more than two million health care visits for disadvantaged children over the last 23 years, delivering care to those who are unlikely to receive health services.

Dr. Gordon said he was grateful to CHF. "It is very nice to work with a national partner that practices what they preach—they stay true to their mission and have done a great job in continuing their support for this community program a full five years after Katrina."

Earlier this year, Administrator Linda Lee was able to attend the Gala fund-raising in New York where Paul Simon and Joan Baez performed. Linda said the experience was "incredible."

The BRCHP received its initial funding from the Children's Health Fund and Fund continues to provide significant support. "We are now in the process of securing additional funding locally to insure that the program continues well into the future, said Linda Lee. "The support from our community at large has been very affirming of our work."

Dr. Denise Sellers and Dr. Alyson McCain both received their Ph.D.s in clinical psychology from LSU. In addition to their work with CHP, they have a private practice (Child and Adolescent Psychological Services) and are Assistant Professors of Pediatrics for LSU, conducting a weekly ADHD Clinic at LSU Mid-City with the Earl K. Long population. ("We spend more time with each other than with our husbands!")



BR Children's Health Project team having some Christmas fun.

Photo courtesy of BRCHP.

Psych Bd Discusses New Ethics Changes

Among items on their October 20th agenda, the members of the psychology board discussed changes needed to adapt administrative law rules for psychologists to the new APA ethics code.

In changes effective June 1, 2010, APA added the language:

"Under no circumstances may this standard be used to justify or defend violating human rights." They made specific changes to certain sections of the code (1.02, Conflicts between Ethics and Law, Regulations, or Other Governing Legal Authority; 1.03, Conflicts Between Ethics and Organizational Demands).

The following sentence was deleted: "If a conflict is unresolvable via such means, psychologists may adhere to the requirements of the law, regulations, or other governing authority."

The change was in part prompted by the recent controversy surrounding military psychologists and methods of interrogation.

The APA amended the code in an attempt to address potential conflicts that psychologists could encounter when caught between professional ethics, organizational demands or legal authority.

The LSBEP discussed amending the rules to reference the current APA code, thereby making future adjustments unnecessary.

Close Up

Dr. Tom Hannie

"I wanted to see some of everything before I went into private practice," Dr. Tom Hannie told the Times. Coming out of the comprehensive doctoral training program at the University of Georgia with a degree in clinical psychology, a minor in industrial/organizational, a minor in sociology, and a sub-specialty in behavior therapy, Tom began his career by gaining experience in a variety of settings and with a variety of clients.

He explained to the Times that he originally worked with executives, with school systems, with preschool children, with alcohol and drug cases, with inpatients, with outpatient clinical cases, and he performed a variety of assessments. He worked as an instructor, trainer, and supervisor in a wide range of settings. He enjoyed teaching for several universities early in his career.

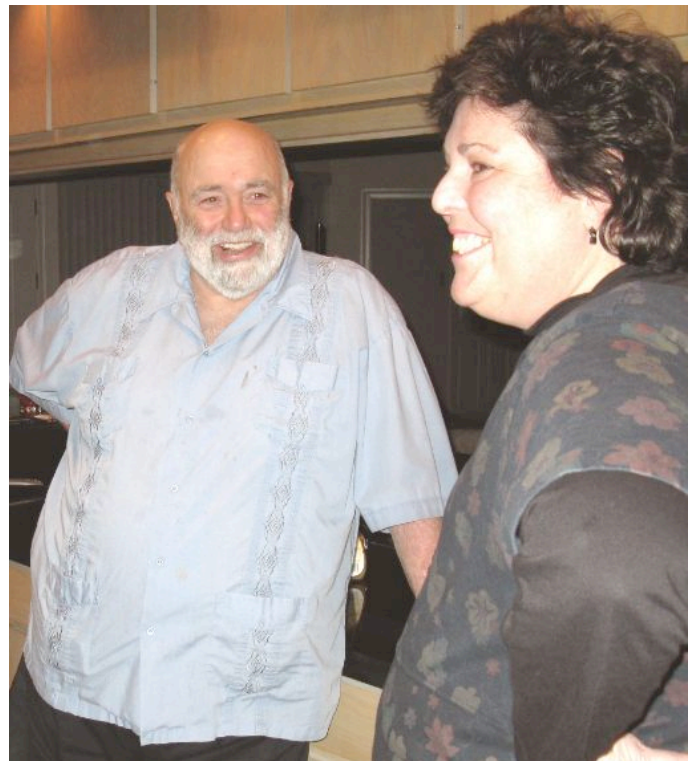
But over time Tom found that he was very well suited to, and took real pleasure in, the work of the forensic psychologist. This role became the "most enjoyable" aspect of his long and distinguished career.

"Every case is like going back to graduate school," Tom said. "You have to be up on the latest research. You have to prepare as if they can bring in the top expert in the nation. It's having to be at the top of what you do. You're investigating and working the puzzle. The basic of the work is that you don't rely on what you're told—you dig it out for yourself. You have to find the inconsistencies in the data."

Tom has consulted in over 2000 criminal cases, and several thousand civil/workman's compensation cases. "Nothing will make you learn how to express yourself like forensics," he said. "If you get out of line, you can get hit—hard." He explained, "You learn how to use few words. They'll rip you up if you don't have things in line."

His primary professional position has been as a consulting psychologist in private practice, in Metairie from 1973 to 2005 and in Baton Rouge from 1989 to 2007.

Tom has served on the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists and was Chair in 1982. He has served as the president of the Orleans Psychological Society, and as president of the New Orleans Society of Clinical Hypnosis.



Dr. Tom Hannie and Dr. Kim VanGeffen.

As a student Tom helped in the successful effort to get the original LA licensing law through the legislature. He served as president of the Louisiana Psychological Association in 1978, and is proud that his year saw the start of the successful drive to rid the licensing law of the clause that allowed psychologists to diagnose and treat only "...in consultation and collaboration with a physician."

Over the years, Tom has been a clinical fellow in the Behavior Therapy & Research Society, and a member of Association for the Advancement of Behavior Therapy, of the New Orleans Behavior Therapy Society, the Southeastern Association for Behavior Therapy, and the American Institute of Stress. He has also been a member of the American Psychology-Law Society, the International Association for the Study of Pain, and the Society for a Science of Clinical Psychology.

He has been a member of APA, LPA, the Southeastern Psychological Association, and the Southwestern Psychological Association. He was also a member of the Confederate Psychological Association, an honor conferred upon him by Dr. Joe Dawson for extracurricular efforts.

Tom is licensed/certified in Louisiana and Texas, and has held the Diplomat from the American Board of Vocational Experts. He has been a

certified School Psychologist from the LA State Department of Education.

Tom has consulted to Feliciana Forensic Facility in Jackson where he evaluated clients for competency to stand trial and provided court testimony related to competency. He has consulted to the Jefferson Parish Juvenile Detention & Probation division regarding evaluations and program development, interventions, and training of the probation staff.

Tom has consulted extensively to assist in the care of disabled individuals and improve their quality of life. He has consulted to numerous group homes and rehabilitation services where he has combined his efforts with evidenced-based treatment, accurate evaluations, staff training, and treatment planning for clients. And he has provided vocational evaluation and planning, rehabilitation, and consultation to counselors relative to the progress of clients.

Tom consulted to St. Charles Parish School System and Jefferson Parish School System where he organized and supervised innovative evaluation and intervention procedures including interagency agreements.

Tom has worked in business and industry particularly in areas that require the interface between clinical and vocational. He has been an associate at Morris & McDaniel and performed personnel evaluations, disability determinations and forensic consultations. He has provided consultation for employee assistance programs (Coca-Cola) and was a supervising psychologist for American Management Psychologists in Dallas, providing training and supervision for career advisors and interview training.

Lately Tom has had more time for one of his main hobbies—playing blackjack. “Since retiring, I have returned to my childhood,” Tom said. “In my previous life I made my living playing poker,” referring to how he lived while an engineering student, soldier and oil rig worker.

“Today,” Tom said, “if it weren’t for the travel required, I’d play more often.” He is a personal friend with many of the people portrayed in the popular movie *21*, a story about the MIT mathematicians who beat the systems in Las Vegas. He noted, “...the most effective system for blackjack was developed by a clinical psychologist! The people I have met through blackjack are some of the brightest, most creative people I know. Most are educated, Ph.D.s in many scientific areas, JDs, MDs. Imagine guys who can walk in a casino, figure out how to make a profit, and do it.”

With more time for volunteer activities, Tom is currently involved with “Americans United for Separation of Church and State,” a group committed to the protection of First Amendment freedoms. He recently organized and moderated a forum held at the Unitarian Church in Baton Rouge, titled, “Same Sex Marriage: Is It A Church—State Issue?”

His volunteer efforts dovetail with his wife Rosemary’s interest in service work; until this year she was the president of the international charity organization Quota International. (Rosemary is a concert pianist who has performed and sung professionally, ran marathons and retired from her top management position in 1999 to devote her time to her charity work.)

Dr. Tom Hannie is a fascinating psychologist whose knowledge and depth of experience is complimented by his sense of humor, his contagious enjoyment in whatever he is doing, and his keen ability to critique a point of law, psychology, or pure logic. While he is just as likely to invite you over for an LSU football party as to correct your thinking on some matter, you’ll count yourself lucky either way.



Dr. Tom Hannie in his LSU decorated Mini-Cooper.



Dr. Peggy Hagan preparing for take-off.

Photo by Joanne Hagan Mabry

Aviation

Dr. Margaret “Peggy” Hagan

Margaret “Peggy” L. Hagan, Ph.D., a psychologist in private practice from Slidell, took her first flying lessons in 1995, but then had to postpone because of other duties. She told the *Times*, “In late 2008, I had a little sit down chat with myself and asked what was the most exciting part of my life, and why wasn’t I still doing that?”

She decided to get her pilot’s license, thinking, “Why not? Flying a plane is pretty exciting...”

Peggy’s father (Bill) was a pilot until 1985, when he felt it might be best to discontinue flying. He took flying lessons at age 16, in 1940, expanding on his keen interest in aviation, evidenced by his building a rudimentary flight simulator when he was only ten years old.

Bill flew a Piper Turbo Arrow for his business during the years Peggy was in college at the University of Illinois. He would pick up Peggy and her brother (a Ph.D. in physics and nuclear engineering) from Champaign-Urbana and fly them home to Omaha.

“...But let me tell you,” Peggy said, “we had some very harrowing flights when he was *Pilot-in-Command*.”

“One Christmas the plane was tossing this way and that,” she recalled. “I kept hitting my head on the top of the plane. It was ferocious.” Peggy remembers her father yelling, “ ‘We’re all going to die!’ ”

“When we came in for a landing,” she said, “the icing on the plane was so bad he had me open my door so he could look out and see the runway.”

When we touched down, there were fire trucks and ambulances. And Dad said ‘I didn’t call a Mayday.’ The tower said, ‘Well, we did. We were sure you wouldn’t make it down.’

They had closed the airport to commercial flights a few hours before,” Peggy said. Bill explained to the *Times* that the plane had accumulated too much ice, and he could only keep the engine just above a stall.

“On the drive from the airport to our house,” Peggy said, “our car swerved into a ditch.”

Even aware that sometimes the excitement can get a little higher than she might want, Peggy returned to her lessons in 2008, determined to earn her license. She trained with two Certified Flight Instructors, Don Pechon at the Slidell airport and Sharon Knight at Hammond. “Two amazing aviators,” she said.

“My first solo flight was on April 13, 2009,” she noted. “We had a flight lesson in the Cessna 150...Don said ‘Okay, go do 2 or 3 touch and go’s. Be careful.’ I was so excited. I let him out and thought I would be a nervous wreck. But like anything, training takes over and I taxied out, made my radio calls, took off and did a couple of –perfect– landings. Quite a thrilling day!”

In November 2009 Peggy completed her solo cross-country requirements—150 miles or more with several landings and take-offs. She flew from Slidell, landed in McComb, and then proceeded to Hattiesburg, announcing, “ ‘Hattiesburg traffic, Cessna 334 is 5 miles west, inbound for landing. Runway one-three, full stop, Hattiesburg.’ ” Peggy landed, talked to some other pilots, called her instructor, and took off back for home. “It was 3.3 hours of solo cross-country. I was really, really thrilled.”

To pass the FAA exam, “I studied my caboose off,” she said. “When I wasn’t in my office, I was found at our local coffee shop where I studied and studied.” The exam requires proficiency in a variety of technical and critical-thinking areas, “...weather conditions, navigation, computing headings and the effect of wind, engine and mechanical workings, decision making, emergencies, etc.,” she explained. “—A vast array of subjects.”



Dr. Peggy Hagan with her father.

Peggy aced the exam, with the help of Sharon Knight. She also aced the three hour oral exam with the FAA examiner. Then Peggy continued her training with Don to prepare for the *checkride*.

"I was nervous about the checkride with the examiner," Peggy said. "You have to do stalls, emergency landings with no power, steep turns, and other maneuvers."

But she successfully completed her checkride on June 19th, 2010, and earned her Private Pilot License. How did she feel about the accomplishment? "It was a blast and a half," she said.

Eight days later, on June 27th, while her father and mother were visiting from San Diego, Peggy surprised her dad by inviting him to go up with her as her first official passenger.

Bill was delighted, telling the *Times*, "The flight was perfect from the smooth take off to

the very smooth slight crosswind landing. She flew me out over Slidell to get me oriented and then out towards the Gulf." He said, "...the view from 2000 feet was excellent." And, "Her communications with the ground the ground and also with the oil company helicopter crew that was getting ready for their daily flight out over the oil spill was flawless."



Photos by Dr. Hagan's daughter, Joanne Hagan Mabry. Joanne recently graduated with a Bachelor's in Family Science and is back at Louisiana Tech taking prerequisite courses to be a Physician's Assistant. Joanne was Peggy's second passenger and said about her mother, "She was so dedicated and determined to obtain her pilot's license," and noted that her mom's efforts in aviation are "inspiring."

Years ago, Bill had taken up his mother for her first trip in an airplane. His first passenger-carrying flight was his wife, Peggy's mom.

On the 27th, Peggy's second passenger that day was her first-born daughter Joanne.

The weather was perfect, Bill and Peggy and Joanne all noted. The sky was blue, the clouds were white, and the sun was shining.

Bill, age 85, said, "All in all, it was a perfect flight."

Peggy told the *Times*, "It was a beautiful day."

Dr. Margaret "Peggy" Hagan has been in private practice in Slidell since 1984. She sees all ages, and specializes in psycho-educational evaluations. Even though she started out in mathematics, she told the *Times*, "I absolutely love my 'job'— I cannot imagine doing anything else."

Student Focus

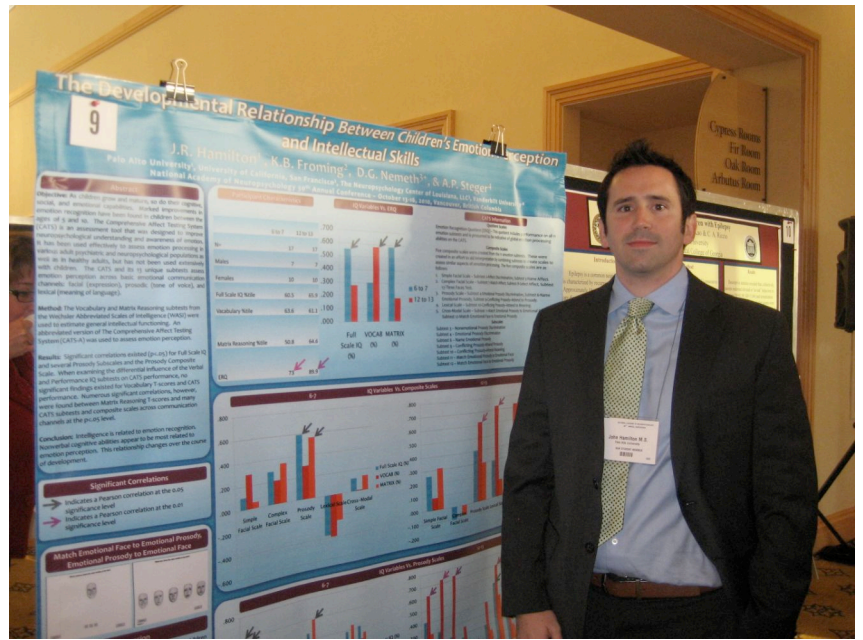
John Hamilton

Psychology graduate student John Hamilton received a top award for his poster presentation at the recent conference of the National Academy of Neuropsychology (NAN) held in Vancouver, October 13-16. The poster was chosen as one of only five first place awards at the conference. This work is part of his dissertation research collected through the Baton Rouge Neuropsychology Center where Dr. Darlyne Nemeth is his on-site research supervisor.

"This all started," John told the *Times*, "because Dr. Nemeth is very active in a lot of organizations." John has been collecting dissertation data and working closely with Dr. Nemeth for two years, having moved back to Baton Rouge, his hometown, from California. This move helped him to get his research "off the ground," he said. When it was time for the NAN conference, "Dr. Nemeth encouraged me to submit something from my dissertation," he said.

John's poster and dissertation involve normative data for children's emotion processing as measured by the Comprehensive Affect Testing System (CATS). He explained that the CATS is an emotion processing assessment battery that measures a variety of subtests such as facial identification and emotional matching. One relationship John is studying is between scores on the CATS and intellectual factors, the "developmental changes in emotion processing abilities..." He has found that "...over the course of development, children use different cognitive skills to understand and cope with emotional stimuli."

John attributes his success at NAN to the many learning experiences through Dr. Nemeth's numerous professional activities. Earlier this year John presented at LPA. "My poster at LPA's spring meeting was to bring awareness to the importance for researchers to be thoughtful when addressing the needs of students, parents, teachers and administrators when working in a school setting." He realized that a collaborative approach was essential to



Doctoral student John Hamilton and his award-winning NAN poster.

gaining support for his data collection, something he did not have in California.

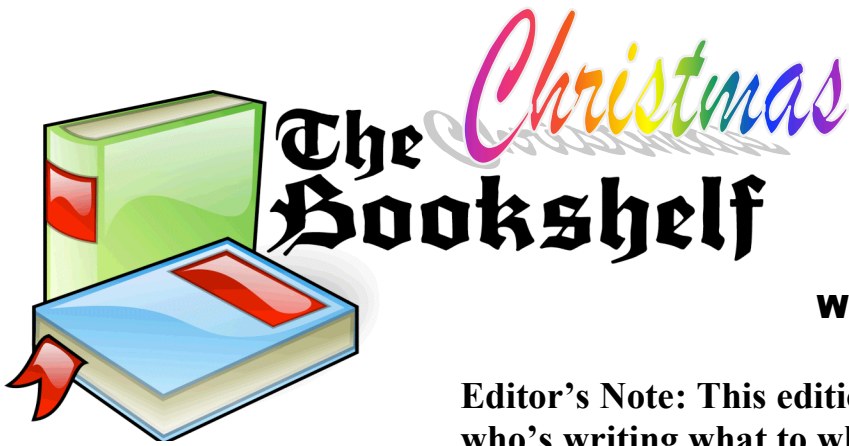
He has also learned a great deal about presentations and research methods. "By doing that poster, I saw the way that Dr. Nemeth and her staff create their posters and I became familiar with the process."

The NAN experience demanded strong presentation skills. John had to quickly communicate to the judges and audience. "...with each speaker given only three minutes to summarize his or her research," John explained.

John had also given a presentation to the Baton Rouge Area Society of Psychologists (BRASP) which also helped him build skills for the NAN competition. And, working closely with Alex Steger, a colleague at the Center who is now a research assistant at Vanderbilt, John improved his quantitative skills.

John explained that there are not very many instruments available to measure the emotional processing in children. "This is the first time the CATS has been used with children," he said. "Ultimately, if the CATS can be used to help identify emotional-social disorders with an emotional-social component, like Asperger's or Autism, the test could itself, or this work might, help with identification and intervention in children."

John Hamilton is currently a doctoral student at Palo Alto University in California. His chair at Palo Alto is Dr. William Forming. John attended Baton Rouge High and then Wofford College in Spartanburg, SC, on a soccer scholarship and he spent some time in Brazil playing professionally. "I ultimately hung up my boots after some time," he said, "and refocused on my degree in psychology and began working with Dr. Nemeth as an extern shortly after graduating college." John is currently applying for internships and will soon defend his dissertation.



Who's READING

What?

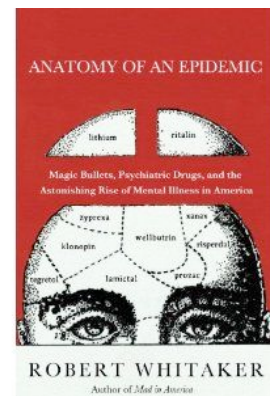
Editor's Note: This edition of Bookshelf shifts the focus from who's writing what to who's reading what.

I asked a few people what books they've read and which ones they would recommend to others. I received some interesting suggestions, and added a few of my own.

Judith Steward, Ph.D.

***Anatomy of An Epidemic: Magic Bullets, Psychiatric Drugs, and the Astonishing Rise of Mental Illness in America*, by Robert Whitaker**

"This is a well-written, well researched, and shocking book. In my opinion all psychologists should read it because it provides insight into the pros and cons of psychotropic medication and provides research on more effective means of helping patients, with important evidence from other countries. It clarifies the role of pharmaceutical companies and physicians in promoting drugs with inaccurate information."



***The TAO of Leadership: Lao Tzu's Tao Te Ching Adapted for a New Age*, by John Heider**

"Wonderfully helped me to let go of my more confrontational methods of coping. And of course, everything changed."

Marsha Redden, Ph.D.

***Psychological Testing and Assessment* by Cohen and Swerdlik**

"Right now I'm reviewing introductory textbooks in preparation to teach a senior seminar course on psychological tests and measures. I've looked at several, but most of the ones with which I (and learned colleagues) am familiar were too advanced and assumed a more in-depth knowledge of psychological theory than can reasonably be expected of an undergraduate, although these students will no doubt go directly to Ph.D. programs. I'm leaning toward *Psychological Testing and Assessment* by Cohen and Swerdlik. I've come to the conclusion we all need to teach a course every 5 years or so."

Mike Chafetz, Ph.D.

One Hundred Years of Solitude, by Gabriel Garcia Marquez.

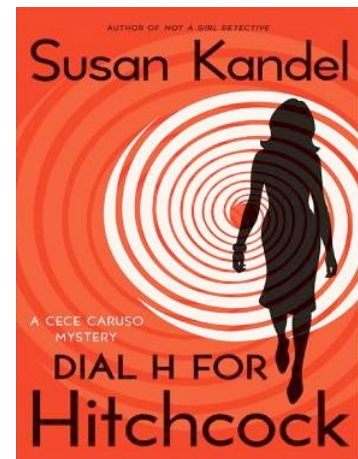
“My favorite book of all time is: *One Hundred Years of Solitude* by Gabriel Garcia Marquez. It is magic! I recently re-read it for about the 10th time, and expect to read it again many more times. It is more nature than nurture, as we wander through the genealogy beginning with Jose Arcadio Buendia and his wife, Ursula, the matriarch of this family who lives over the hundred year period. Her biggest fear is that, through inbreeding, one of the children of the family will be born with the tail of a pig. Colonel Aureliano Buendia starts the book with a future remembrance: ‘Many years later, as he faced the firing squad, Colonel Aureliano Buendia was to remember that distant afternoon when his father took him to discover ice.’ There's plenty more wondrous discoveries in here. “

Kim VanGeffen, Ph.D.

Dial H for Hitchcock, by Susan Kandel

“I grew up reading the Nancy Drew mystery series and I still enjoy reading mysteries. I learned many life lessons following Nancy's adventures such as the importance of being independent and resourceful and of always carrying a flashlight in your car.

The book which I just finished is called “Dial H for Hitchcock” which is the fifth in a series by Susan Kandel. The books follow the adventures of CeCe Caruso who writes biographies of mystery writers. While doing her research, she becomes embroiled in a mystery of her own. I became aware of the series when I read the first one called “Not a Girl Detective” which is about Carolyn Keene, the author of the Nancy Drew series. Other books have profiled writers such as Agatha Christie, Earl Stanley Gardner (of Perry Mason fame) and Dashiell Hammett. In “Dial H for Hitchcock,” the heroine is researching Alfred Hitchcock and becomes involved in a mystery in which many of the clues relate to Hitchcock's movies. This is a fun, light series for mystery fans.”



Penny Dralle, Ph.D.

Letters from Yellowstone, by Diane Smith

“I read it while visiting Yellowstone. It is very interesting that it was done in letters and it is about the efforts to save Yellowstone from being totally commercialized. It is also about the early feminist efforts to be recognized as naturalists.”

Bryan Gros, Ph.D.

Treatments That Work With Children: Empirically Supported Strategies for Managing Childhood Problems, by Edward Christophersen and Susan Mortweet; and ***Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy for Impulsive Children: Therapist Manual***, by Philip Kendall

Marilyn Medoza, Ph.D. (Author, *We Do Not Die Alone*)

Many Lives, Many Masters: The True Story of A Prominent Psychiatrist, His Young Patient and the Past-Life Therapy That Changed Both Their Lives, by Brian Weiss

"It's fascinating. It's about past-life regression and one of my favorites."

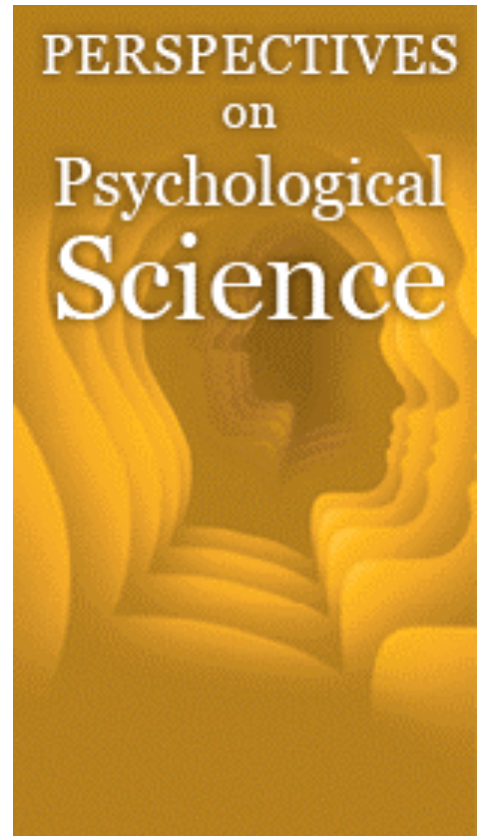
Julie Nelson, Ph.D.

Psychological Science, Current Directions in Psychological Science, Psychological Science in the Public Interest, and Perspectives on Psychological Science, comes with an APS (American Psychological Society) Membership

"For only \$188 a year an APS membership gives you four super journals. You also get the online versions and the searchable database with back issues. It would make a fine present for a close colleague. My favorite is *Perspectives on Psychological Science*, but all four can (almost) keep you up with the explosion in research that's going on".

On Writing Well: The Classic Guide to Writing Nonfiction, by William Zinsser

"This book is fun and provides enormously helpful writing advice. For \$15 it should make a neat gift for colleagues and friends who want to write for the public, or write better. Zinsser sees Americans and maybe especially scholars, as being some of the worse offenders of good writing."



John Adams, by David McCullough

"This Pulitzer winning book is a wonderful study of the man, the times, and the ideas that helped create our country. McCullough is, of course, a marvelous historian, but John Adams thought and wrote about everything. He journaled daily and that, along with his letters to Abigail and Jefferson, gave McCullough much of the raw material used for this very readable 800+ pager. Social and organizational psychologists will find it fascinating."

The Psychology Times

The *Psychology Times* is provided as a community service for those in the practice and science of psychology in Louisiana and related individuals and groups. The *Times* offers information, entertainment, and networking for the Louisiana psychological community.
None of the content is intended as advice for anyone.

Rules...

provisions for the practice of medical psychology including issues of licensure, certification and practice. The full document is available online at <http://doa.louisiana.gov/osr/reg/register.htm>. (See Part IV, "Notices of Intent," under Health and Hospitals.)

The listing in the Register notifies the public that the medical board intends to adopt the rules into law, and covers definitions of medical psychologist (MP), medical psychology, authority and limitations of practice, requirements of consultation with physicians, restriction of the title, and other issues.

The notice indicates that the medical board's revenue from MPs is estimated to be \$17,500 per year with \$2500 additional each year from new licenses.

The rules, following Act 251, give those medical psychologists licensed under the medical board the authority to "order, administer, and prescribe or distribute without charge drugs recognized as customarily used for the management of mental, nervous, emotional, behavioral, substance abuse and cognitive diseases or disorders; and 2. order and interpret routine laboratory studies and other medical diagnostic procedures, as necessary for adequate pretreatment health screening, ..."

The definition of medical psychology includes the practice of psychology as defined by the psychology licensing law: "In addition, the practice of medical psychology shall include the practice of psychology as defined in R. S. 37:2352(5)."

The proposed rules do not address the role of psychological assistants, which Act 251 lists in some detail.

In the notice of proposed rules, wording in the definition of "medical psychologist" appears to be changed to "psychologist practitioner" which is different from the wording in Act 251 of "psychological practitioner."

The proposed rules, and Act 251, establish the Medical Psychology Advisory Committee, composed of one physician and four MPs. The MPs are to be recommended by Louisiana Academy of Medical Psychology (LAMP), and "serve at the pleasure of the medical board."

MPs are required to obtain 35 units of continuing

education, 20 in medical psychology and 15 in psychology. A minimum of twenty-five percent of the continuing education requirements must come from LAMP.

Medical psychologists without a Certificate of Advanced Practice "...shall prescribe only in consultation and collaboration with the patient's primary or attending physician, and with the concurrence of that physician."

Regarding medical psychologists with a Certificate of Advanced Practice, the rules note, "Patients receiving care from a medical psychologist who holds a certificate of advanced practice issued under this Part shall have an established primary, attending or referring physician licensed by the board who shall be responsible for the patient's overall medical care." The MP is to provide the physician with a summary of the treatment plan or copy of initial examination, and follow-up reports.

The document notes, "Interested persons may submit written data, views, arguments, information or comments on the proposed rules to Rita Arceneaux, Confidential Executive Assistant, Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners, at Post Office Box 30250, New Orleans, Louisiana, 70190-0250 (1515 Poydras Street, Suite 2700, New Orleans, LA 70112), (504) 568-6820, Ex. 242. She is responsible for responding to inquiries. Written comments will be accepted until 4 p.m., December 20, 2010."



Whose feet are these? Find out next issue. Or, send your guess to the *Times* at psychologytimes@drjulienelson.com