



Photo by B. Waters

Louisiana Tech Assistant Professor Dr. Janelle McDaniel (L) and graduate student Victoria Felix look over their research team's poster to present at this year's Association for Psychological Science in Washington, DC.

## Researchers from Across State To Present at APS Convention

Researchers from around the state will present their work in poster sessions at the Association for Psychological Science 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention, to be held May 23 to 26, in Washington, DC. Undergraduates, graduate students, and professors in psychology from Centenary, LaTech, Loyola, Tulane, U. of Louisiana–Lafayette, U. of New Orleans, and Xavier University will demonstrate their research skill and contributions for what is becoming the premier scientific organization for those in psychology.

The *Times* talked with Dr. Donna Thomas, Chair at Louisiana Tech about the many presentations the department has this year at APS. "I am thrilled to see the Department of Psychology and Behavioral Sciences making such a strong showing at APS," she said. "We usually have a number of researchers who present there and this year we have more than held our

Cont'd pg 8

### Also This Issue

- Dr. Hannie's Response – page 2
- Confusing HB 281 Goes Forward – page 5
- LPC Board's 26 Page Notice of Intent – page 7
- Dr. Kathy Steele's Multicultural Focus – page 11-12
- People – page 13
- Louisiana Psychological Assn Annual Convention – page 15-16

## Psychology Times Grabs 11 LA Press Assn Awards

The *Psychology Times* and staff took home 11 awards, including 8 first places, at the 133<sup>rd</sup> Annual Louisiana Press Association Convention held in Baton Rouge on April 20.

Seventy-four newspapers, publications, and college/university newspapers submitted 3,561 entries for the contests in the Better Newspaper and Publication competition, explained the association's press release.

The *Times* won first place in Best News Coverage for its division, the Special Interest and Free Publication category.

Publisher Julie Nelson won first in Best Investigative Reporting, for "Who Paid for Act 251 and Why?" and for "Best Continuing Coverage of a Single News Event," for coverage of the Behavior Analyst regulation efforts.

*Times* contributing photographer, Dr. Tom Stigall, won first place in Best Photo Package, for the

Cont pg 6

## Legislature in Full Swing

### Behavior Analyst Bill, Mental Health Courts, and DHH License Go Forward

#### Sen Mills Offers Resolution Commending LA Coalition for Violence Prevention

The Louisiana State Legislature is about halfway through its efforts to determine which of the 900 plus bills should go into law for the 2013 law-making season. The *Times* is watching some of the bills that affect those in the psychology, counseling, and mental health community. Below we report on some of the recent outcomes, which have a way of shifting and changing in a matter of days. Citizens can watch bills at the state legislative website.

### Behavior Analyst Bill Sails Through Senate

While Senate Bill 134 for the creation of a new, independent board for behavioral analysts needed tweaking to the tune of 37 amendments, most minor, it was passed favorably out of committee and easily passed the full Senate on Monday with a vote of 30 to 1.

Janice Huber, Certified Behavior Analyst and Secretary for the Louisiana Behavior Analysis Association (LaBAA), told the *Times*, "We endorse SB 134 as is currently written and are encouraged by it's legislative support and progress."

The bill will create an independent board for behavior analysts and also regulate assistant behavior analysts and

Cont pg 3



Dr. Tom Stigall (standing) views his and other winning entries in the recent Louisiana Press Association contests. *Times* journalism consultant and retired newspaperman, Bob Holeman, looks on.

# Editorial Page

## Overlap of Journalism, IO Psychology Is Important, Says *Times*' Publisher

by Suzanne Booth, M.A.  
*Times*' Intern and doctoral IO psychology student

I have often wondered how does someone with a doctorate degree in psychology, specializing in Clinical and Industrial/Organizational, become the publisher of a news periodical. After having the privilege of chatting with Dr. Julie Nelson, I now know how it all came to be.

Julie Nelson is the creator and publisher of *The Psychology Times*, the embodiment of a lifelong passion. Nelson is the daughter of esteemed journalists Gordon Nelson and Lynn Hunter Nelson. Dr. Nelson grew up in a family that loved all things related to journalism, freedom of speech, and newspaper writing. Some of her earliest memories are from her experiences in developing and printing newspapers with her parents.

Although Nelson did not pursue journalism as a profession, she never lost her appreciation and love of it, and what it meant to her. In September 2009 she published the first issue of the *Psychology Times*.

Because of her background and love for journalism, one might expect that the development of the *Times* would have been a natural progression and blending of her two passions. Contrary to this notion though, when asked if she had planned all along to create the *Times*, Nelson remarked, "The idea [to create the *Times*] just popped into my head one day. Because I was totally frustrated with people in power and with the groupthink. Things changing seemed really bleak," she said. "Since I tend to be an over-functioner, I rarely have the good sense to walk away from something. So, the *Times* gave me an outlet and direction."

Nelson also explained that she took a step back and looked at the psychology community as a whole and realized that "Things weren't

good. Some people didn't seem to even understand the group dynamics" or the role of communication in productivity. At this point, she said to herself, "Whoa. This community needs a community newspaper more than any system I've ever seen."

"The *Times* is my way of waving the flag," she said. "I look around and I see, at all levels of our society, that certain principles are being ignored. One principle that I committed to when I chose a career in psychology was truth. Newspapers push for freedom of information and truth. So it's a fit for me."

The combination of journalism and psychology may not be an intuitive twosome, but Nelson commented, "I've seen a lot of overlap between journalism and organizational psychology since I've been at this. It's been very interesting."

Nelson explained some of what she views as the links between journalism and social psychological phenomena. "... free flow of

Cont'd pg 7

## Letter to the Editor

(Editor's note: In our April 2013 issue, Dr. David Williams wrote regarding a letter by Dr. Tom Hannie, published in our February 2013 issue. Below, Dr. Hannie is writing in answer to Dr. Williams letter. The *Times* appreciates both of these gentlemen's contributions.)

### TO THE EDITOR:

In a letter to the editor in the most recent issue of *Psychology Times*, David J. Williams, PhD, MP, disagreed with my previous letter in which I asserted that evolution was a concept in science and intelligent design was a concept in religion. Thus, evolution is appropriate for science classes in public schools while intelligent design is not.

In the case of *Kitzmiller v. Dover*, this issue was addressed in court by scientists, philosophers, and theologians. Their testimony was based on years of scholarship and critical analysis of intelligent design. The evidence showed irrefutably that intelligent design is creationism, which rests on belief in a supernatural designer. The leading proponents of intelligent design themselves have specified this. The conservative judge also recognized this and ruled accordingly. Thus Dr. Williams' statement that "Reality is either defined by an intelligent designer or it is not" is irrelevant. Given the fact that the hypothesized intelligent designer is admittedly (by those who propose this entity) a supernatural being, its existence can neither be verified nor rejected by science. Thus intelligent design does not belong in a science class; it clearly belongs in a religion class.

Another fact was brought out in court: Since the U.S. Supreme Court had ruled that creationism could not be taught in public schools because it requires belief in supernatural creation, the Discovery Institute tried to promote creationism using the substitute term "intelligent design." But they have been unable to alter the fact that intelligent design is merely a slightly updated version of creation "science." It is still a religious concept.

Intelligent Design lacks empirical support, offers no testable hypotheses, and attempts to describe nature in terms of scientifically untestable supernatural causes. In no way can it be considered to be a scientific concept. Its "scientists" have produced no original data to support any of their claims. They merely reinterpret the scientific data produced by legitimate scientists in an attempt to undermine it.

Numerous court rulings have established that the public schools have no right to teach religion as science. Therefore, the schools cannot teach intelligent design as "reality." Were they to teach a course in philosophy that would address methods for the acquisition of knowledge, they might well teach our young people how to tell the difference between science and religion, which would allow them to understand why evolution is science and intelligent design is not.

Thomas J. Hannie, Jr., PhD  
Psychologist (RETIRED)

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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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# Legislative session news

## Behavior Analyst Bill, cont'd

technicians, who will register with the board. Of the 37 amendments, many were minor. Included is “to provide for injunctive proceedings,” and substitution of “client” for “patient.” Also, “... counseling as treatment modalities” was changed to mental health counseling.”

A more detailed description of criminal background checking was added and also a section describing injunctive proceedings.

A change was made in the exemption for psychologists, so that now language includes those acting under the psychologist: "(9) An individual licensed to practice psychology within the state, so long as the applied behavior analysis services provided by the licensed psychologist are within the licensed psychologist's education, training and expertise. This includes individuals acting under the extended authority and direction of licensed psychologists. Licensed psychologists and those acting under their extended authority are prohibited from representing themselves as behavior analysts,

licensed behavior analysts, assistant behavior analysts, or state certified assistant behavior analysts without being duly licensed or state certified."

An attached note from the Legislative Fiscal Office, suggests that the new board, the Licensed Behavior Analyst Board, will be helped by DHH. "... an unknown amount in startup expenditures for LBAB will have to be borne by DHH since LBAB will have to develop licensure and education requirements in rule before it can collect fees."

And the Office also notes, "It is unclear if there is an impact on Medicaid expenditures as a result of this legislation. Behavior Analysts are not currently eligible for Medicaid reimbursement under the LBHP, and it is unclear if licensing will make them newly eligible for reimbursement for applied behavior analysis (ABA) or the other services they provide."

Senate Bill 134 had its origins last year through a controversial effort on the part of the state psychology board to create a regulatory committee under psychology for the behavior analysts. The

move was strongly opposed by many in autism support groups and in the behavior analyst community, especially the leaders of the LaBAA.

Senator J.P. Morrell emerged as a leader of this opposition which ended in a study commission created by Morrell's resolution. Over six months from July to December last year the commission members thrashed out a decision for the behavior analysts to merge with the state counselors (LPC) board.

But then in late February, 2013, negotiations reached an impasse regarding language about an "equivalent" for the national certification.

This impasse required that a fallback option to be worked out by Senator J. P. Morrell's office and wife Catherine Morrell, who served as Vice Chair for the Commission.

The fallback option was to merge the BAs with the psychology board. However, the Louisiana Psychological Association objected to members of another profession sitting on the psychology board. This left only an independent board, which may have been the preferred option of the LaBAA leaders all along.

# Mental Health Courts - HB 71 Passes Easily

## 30 Yeas — 0 Nays

A bill by Senator Sharon Broome of Baton Rouge passed the Senate floor with a vote of 35 to 0 and was sent to the House on Monday, April 29.

The legislation will authorize mental health court treatment programs in the state, allowing the chief judge of each judicial district to establish a mental health court. The bill defines terms related to the mental health court treatment programs, mental health court professionals, pre- and post-adjudicatory programs, combination programs, and co-occurring mental illness and substance abuse issues.

A mental health court is a structured judicial intervention process for eligible defendants that can include local social and treatment programs, and monitoring by the judges.

***“I’ve seen this work very well in the St. Tammany parish. It provides a way for these people to get help. Instead of sending people to jail, their illness is seen as a mitigating factor and to be treated. We certainly support the concept. It is not clear how it will get funded. The devil is in the details.”***

*Dr. Alicia Pellegrin  
Secretary and the Legislative Chair, LPA*

According to the digest, the “Proposed law provides procedures to be utilized in operating a mental health court treatment program, including a regimen of graduated requirements, rewards, and sanctions.” This may include fines, fees, costs, restitution, incarceration, individual and group therapy, medication, educational or vocational counseling, and other reasonable requirements to complete the program.

“Proposed law provides for mental health court treatment programs to maintain or collaborate with a network of programs which deal with mental illness and co-occurring mental illness and substance abuse issues. Further provides that the mental health court program may designate a court liaison to monitor the progress of defendants in their assigned treatment programs on behalf of the court.”

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Janice Huber, Certified Behavior Analyst and Secretary for the Louisiana Behavior Analysis Association (LaBAA), told the *Times*, “We endorse SB 134 as is currently written and are encouraged by it’s legislative support and progress.” Above, she spoke last fall with members of the psychology board. Board member Dr. Marc Zimmermann listens.

### Corrections & Clarifications

No corrections or clarifications were reported to us for the April 1 issue of the *Psychology Times*.

Legislative News

Mental Health Courts  
cont'd

Certain crimes are excluded from the mental health court: first or second degree murder, aggravated or criminal sexual assault, armed robbery, arson, stalking, and any crime of violence involving discharge of a firearm.

The Fiscal Office notes that a mental health court is “a specialized court docket (like drug courts) that focuses on individuals who have been charged with a crime and also have a mental health illness. For illustrative purposes, the 22<sup>nd</sup> Judicial District Court currently has a mental health court that currently has 30 clients. The current cost of this court is approximately \$50,000 for 1 client administrator and funded entirely with local funds. According to the 22<sup>nd</sup> Judicial District, the mental health services these clients receive are provided by private providers (through private insurance) or state clinics (state expenditures).”

They also note, “For context, the state has 48 drug courts that currently cost approximately \$16 million of which \$10 million is state general fund. The state’s drug courts see approximately 2,800 clients per month.”

“I’ve seen this work very well in the St. Tammany parish,” Dr. Alicia Pellegrin told the *Times*. “It provides a way for these people to get help. Instead of sending people to jail, their illness is seen as a mitigating factor and to be treated,” she said. Pellegrin is currently the Legislative Chair for the state psychological association. “We certainly support the concept. It is not clear how it will get funded. The devil is in the details,” she said.



Dr. Alicia Pellegrin is currently serving as Secretary and Legislative Chair for state psychological association.

Senator Mills Offers Resolution  
Commends the LA Coalition for Violence Prevention

State Senator Fred Mills, from New Iberia, offered a Senate Concurrent Resolution commending the Louisiana Coalition for Violence Prevention for its efforts to help improve the early detection of those at risk for interpersonal violence in the state.

The Resolution, SCR 52, was read in the Senate yesterday. “To commend the Louisiana Coalition for Violence Prevention upon its efforts as an independent, grassroots, multi-disciplinary coalition of behavioral health community members who are committed to the early detection of those at risk for interpersonal violence in order to prevent such violence and the terrible human tragedies that accompany such violence.”

The Coalition includes members of the behavioral health community, a cross section of leaders from school psychology, counseling, psychology, and social work, who formed the coalition to promote safety in Louisiana by strengthening early identification of those at risk of violence.

Senator Mills’ resolution notes, “WHEREAS, the coalition is a multi-disciplinary organization of behavioral health community professionals who believe that early detection and intervention is the best and most effective approach to violence prevention; ...”

And, “... this alliance states as its mission to engage all levels of the behavioral health community to use knowledge and skills that have been judged scientifically effective in order to build skills in early detection to eliminate violence in Louisiana; ...”

Cindy Nardini, steering committee member of the Coalition, noted, “I appreciate the time, assistance, and understanding that Senator Mills gave in the process of obtaining this resolution. He supported the idea and mission from our very first meeting. This resolution will aid in spreading the word about the coalition and our mission to reduce violence in Louisiana.”

Dr. Bryan Gros, also a member of the steering committee, said, “The support and input the coalition has received, especially from Senator Mills, has been very positive and uplifting. As a member of the Coalition, I think the resolution will be very helpful in engaging behavioral health professionals and key players in the community in this important effort to reduce violence.

Nardini is Legislative Chair for the Louisiana Counseling Association and Gros is current president of

the Louisiana Psychological Association, but both are independent in regard to their steering committee membership.

The Coalition is planning a number of projects, each with the theme that better detection and accurate knowledge about the antecedents of violent behavior is a key to addressing problems before they escalate into tragedy. Engaging the mental health community and making sure professionals have the necessary skills for early detection is a major goal of the group.

Dr. John Simoneaux, an expert in forensic psychology and a person who trains mental health professionals, leads the training institute for the Coalition. “Proper risk assessment is analogous to CPR training,” Simoneaux previously told the *Times*, “and should be a basic skill held by virtually all behavioral science professionals and many laypersons.”

In 2011 Senator Mills received the Outstanding Family Advocate Award from the Louisiana Family Forum, honoring the Senator for his dedication to traditional family values, and in 2012 Mills took a lead to curb designer drugs in the state.

Bill To Criminalize Sex with Psychotherapy Clients  
Sent to Committee on Criminal Justice April 8

HB 226 that will create a new crime of prohibited sexual contact between a psychotherapist and a client or patient, was referred to the Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice on April 8. The calendars for debate for this committee do not list HB 226 at this time.

The proposed law prohibits any psychotherapist or any one posing as a psychotherapist, from having sexual contact with a client or patient.

The prohibition includes a former client or former patient, “when the

relationship was terminated for the purpose of engaging in the sexual contact.”

The bill defines psychotherapist as psychiatrist, psychologist, medical psychologist, licensed social worker, mental health counselor, or “Any other person who provides or purports to provide treatment, diagnosis, assessment, evaluation, or counseling of any mental, emotional, behavior, or addictive illnesses, disorders, symptoms, or conditions.”

HB 226 creates punishment of imprisonment of not more than ten years, fined not more

than ten thousand dollars, or both.

The bill specifies that consent of the patient or client shall not be a defense.

The bill also indicates that it will not be a violation “... if the sexual contact between the psychotherapist and the former patient or former client occurs more than one year after the termination of the relationship and the psychotherapist has referred the former patient or former client to an independent and objective psychotherapist, recommended by a third-party psychotherapist, for treatment.”

Legislative News

Criminalize Sex with  
Psychotherapy Clients  
cont'd

In the documents contained with the legislative process, the Legislative Fiscal Office notes indicate the following.

“The exact fiscal impact of the passage of this legislation is indeterminable, since the legislation creates a new crime and it is not known how many individuals will be convicted of the crime. [...] However, any offender sentenced to the custody of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections increases expenditures by \$24.39 per day per offender in local facilities.”

Also, the office notes, “To the extent that offenders are sentenced and housed in state facilities, the cost per day per offender is \$47.74. Therefore, for any offender convicted of this crime, it would cost the state \$17,425 annually (1 offender x \$47.74 per day x 365 days).”

The *Times* asked Cindy Nardini, Legislative Chair for the Louisiana Counseling Association about the bill. She said that while completely opposed to any type of sexual contact between psychotherapists and their clients, she was concerned about creating a new crime, and explained that this issue is covered in the regulations and ethics codes of all the boards.

Dr. Alicia Pellegrin, Legislative Chair for the Louisiana Psychological Association, explained that while LPA was supportive of the bill, one concern with the bill was that language prohibiting certain types of contact with certain body areas, could potentially impact those psychologists who treat sex offenders.



Fotolia

Reported Favorably, with Amendments  
Confusing HB 281 Goes Forward

HS 281 “... establishes the behavioral health services provider license for providers of mental health services, substance abuse/addiction treatment services, or a combination of such services.” And, “... law requires all behavioral health services providers to be licensed.” The bill passed out of committee on April 30 with a favorable report. This came after some discussion about its potential impact on already licensed mental health providers, and the addition of several amendments aimed to clarify some of the confusion about the measure’s impact.

Based on several reports and from Tuesday’s testimony from Assistant Secretary of the Office of Behavioral Health, Dr. Tony Speier, the bill’s author Senator Simon, and general council from Department of Health and Hospitals, the origin of the measure was to simply update the license method for mental health and substance abuse treatment facilities. The step was described as needed in order to better integrate the two types of services, which currently require two separate licenses.

However, due to the convoluted way the bill is written, which includes all behavioral health service providers, both facilities and individuals, then turning around and exempting those that are listed in the bill, the writing led to confusion and concerns among many in the mental health community.

Dr. Robert Storer, a member of the Louisiana Psychological Association Legislative Committee, said there had been concerns about HB 281. “It looked like it was going to require a new license for things that we are already licensed to provide,” he said, “as well as providing for criminal penalties for individuals who did not get the new license.”

Debra Fernandez, MSW, LCSW, Legislative Chair from Louisiana Association of Clinical Social Workers, said, “Our lobbyist is working with the NASW lobbyist to address HB 281, because there are some concerns about whether or not this would require licensed professionals to seek a second designation, a second type of license, in order to continue doing psychotherapy, which we are opposed to.”

Cindy Nardini, Legislative Chair for Louisiana Counseling Association, also noted concerns about the bill. “It is supposedly going to

include facilities, but they have the word ‘person’ in the language.”

During the Committee meeting on Tuesday, Senator Harvard asked, “Can we take ‘person’ out? Individual?” The DHH General Council said, “If we take ‘person’ out of this, then you could have a person providing services who is unregulated.”

Dr. Robert Storer, regarding his conversations with DHH representatives, “... we asked them why they included language for individuals. They said it was to address care provided by those in home health and aftercare.”

At Tuesday’s House Health and Welfare committee meeting, members voiced related concerns about the provision in the bill that requires facilities but also individuals to have a \$50,000 line of credit in order to operate. DHH General Council explained the requirement as, “This is more of the facility license.”

But an amendment was put forth to delete the requirement for the \$50,000 line of credit. However, the amendment failed to pass in a close, 6 to 7 vote.

Another concern is the creation of a new term, Licensed Mental Health Services Provider. “There is a lot of confusion about this bill,” said Cindy Nardini. “DHH is trying to define a term, behavior health service providers. That term does not exist now.”

Prior to Tuesday’s committee meeting, Nardini said, “The representatives from DHH did a good job of explaining the reasons for the bill, but again, there just are too many areas that are confusing. We’re sending out a memo to our members to oppose it, not an all out, full-fledged attack. But we are not for this.”

Storer noted, "The language is still overly broad and easily confused I think, but these changes [the amendments] should protect the interests of psychologists,” referring to clarifications discussed prior to Tuesday’s committee meeting.

Dr. Alicia Pellegrin said, “There is no telling the unintended consequences of that bill the way it is written.”

“Fatherhood First Initiative” Passes Easily

House Bill 572, the Fatherhood First Initiative, passed out of committee on Tuesday with a 12 to 0 vote.

The law will establish a “program to be known as the ‘Fatherhood Initiative’ to promote the positive involvement and interaction of fathers with their children with an emphasis on children eligible or formerly eligible for services funded by the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) block grant.”

The proposed law will require the secretary of the Dept. of Children and Family Services (DCFS) to convene and chair a Fatherhood First Council. Among others, the council is to include the secretary or representative from: the Louisiana Workforce Commission, the Department of Education, Louisiana District Attorney’s Association. Also included are to to be two representatives from the Children’s Cabinet Advisory Board, one or more representatives of the clergy. One member with expertise in male psychology and health is also to be included.

The secretary shall seek the advice and participation of any person, organization, or state or federal agency deemed necessary to carry out the provisions of proposed law.

# Psychology Times' Awards

cont'd

December 2012 composite photos of pelicans he photographed at the LSU lakes.

*Times* cartoonist, Jake Nelson-Dooley, once again won first place in Best Editorial Cartoon in the individual competitions for his rendering of “2 Plus 2,” a view of government’s refusal to acknowledge new scientific ideas. Judges noted, “Loved it! Send copies to every bureaucrat in Washington!” and rated the work “excellent” on all three rating scales. Nelson-Dooley also captured a second place in this contest.

The *Times* also won second place in Best News Story, for coverage of the continuing impact of the BP oil spill and second in “Best News Photo” for a photo of members of the psychology board taken by Julie Nelson.

The *Times* did not place in General Excellence, but received “good” scores. The judges noted, “Great publication for a specific market audience.”

In competition for online work, cartoonist Jake Nelson-Dooley won first place in “Best Multimedia Element,” for his animated production about the community newspaper.

The *Times* and Nelson-Dooley also won first in “Best Online House Ad,” and grabbed a first in “Best Overall Website” in its division.

The Louisiana Press Association reported that *The*

*Advocate* (Baton Rouge), the *American Press* (Lake Charles), the *Tri-Parish Times & BusinessNews* (Houma), the *St. Charles Herald-Guide* (Boutte), the *L’Observateur* (LaPlace), and *The Zachary Plainsman-News* earned Newspaper of the Year honors in their respective divisions.

In the Freedom of Information contest, “Haste makes waste, especially where public dollars and political ambition are concerned,” noted the news release. “There were more questions than answers about Governor Jindal’s school voucher program. The legislation was hastily thrown together in order to be implemented, so the governor, who considered himself a vice presidential prospect, could launch it before the fall presidential elections.

“Despite the fact that Barbara Leader, education writer for *The News-Star* (Monroe) was writing her story from more than 200 miles from the capitol and facing attempted intimidation at every turn, she was able to overcome the roadblocks thrown her way. The stories relied on hundreds of pages of internal documents and emails released only after the newspaper filed a lawsuit disputing the ‘deliberative process’ exemption the governor’s appointed education chief had used to



Members of the Louisiana Press Association watch the awards presentation and the first place Best Editorial Cartoon. The cartoon offered a view of government’s unwillingness to listen to new science. This is the second year that *Times* cartoonist, Jake Nelson-Dooley has captured the award in his division.

repeatedly deny them. In one instance, their investigation found, a small Christian school in Ruston had been approved for 315 voucher slots, the most awarded to any school, representing about \$2.7 million in public dollars. The vouchers were awarded even though the school lacked the facilities to accommodate that many students. More than one legislator said the stories were largely responsible for the Education Department tightening its rules governing vouchers.

“*The Advocate* (Baton Rouge) and Avoyelles Publishing Company, publisher of three central Louisiana newspapers finished second and third in the competition, but Barbara

Leader and the *News-Star* merited the first place award for the David-like battle they waged and won against the monolithic Goliath of state government.”

The coveted “Freedom of Information” award originally came from an idea that Gordon Nelson, long-time member of the Press Association and publisher of the *Coushatta Citizen*, and Bob Holeman, current *Psychology Times* journalism consultant, presented to the Louisiana Press Association in the 1980s.

The late Gordon and Lynn Nelson owned and operated the *Coushatta Citizen*, and were parents of the *Psychology Times* publisher, Julie Nelson. Gordon and Lynn won the first Freedom of Information (FOI) award more than three decades ago.

Congratulations  
to our cartoonist and  
web designer  
Jake  
Nelson-Dooley

First Place and Second Place,  
Best Editorial Cartoon  
  
First Place, Best Online  
Multimedia Element  
  
First Place, Best Overall Website

See First Place Video at  
<http://thepsychologytimes.com/about-us-video/>

You can learn more about  
Jake at  
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# Overlap in Journalism, IO Psychology, cont'd

by Suzanne Booth, MA

information is probably the most clear and basic key process [in a large social group]. It relates to quality of problem-solving and problem-finding, innovation, creativity, all sorts of stuff, [including] ingroup and outgroup bias, prejudice, and so on."

Nelson went on to explain what she sees as another link between journalism and organizational psychology, states, "Information flow is also key for engaging people and their energy," she said.

"So all this is just a basic benefit of community newspapers, and similar to organizational development. No one ever knows where the information is going or what the impact will be, we just know it is important for open systems and self-correction."

She also sees a link between journalism and cognitive psychology. Nelson explained that often "People can't remember the train of events by themselves. People are outraged today, then tomorrow they aren't. All sorts of cognitive flaws, journalists help to lessen these. The newspaper helps our slow think processes, and keep the dots connected," she said.

Overall, the connection between psychology and journalism boils down to the notion that, according to Nelson, "Good journalism and information flow, helps counteract deception and its cousin, self-deception," she said.

"Journalism provides a detection system that can be an antidote to fast think errors and cheating. So journalists are like community group facilitators, or psycho-therapists, they point out things that shake up the self-interested viewpoint."

Reflective of Dr. Nelson's efforts and vision regarding the *Times* and how it can bring people together and encourage discussion and the sharing of ideas, today, *The Psychology Times* has developed into an award winning newspaper.

Now, coming full circle, the *Times*, which began as an endeavor to enlighten and inform the psychology community, is not only a way to pay tribute to individuals and accomplishments reported in the *Times*, but also a tribute to Nelson's parents. Nelson's parents, a major driving force behind her love of journalism's ideals, passed away in 2009 and 2010.

Given all this, I personally feel extremely privileged to have the opportunity to be a part of *The Psychology Times* and share with you, our readers, the legacy of the Nelsons and their ability to enrich our community.

(Suzanne Booth, MA, is an IO psychology doctoral student at LSU Baton Rouge, and an intern with Times.)



Photo by M. Dooley

(L to R) Dr. Tom Stigall, wife Connie Stigall, Dr. Julie Nelson, and Bob Holeman at the recent Louisiana Press Association Convention held in Baton Rouge. Stigall won first place for his photo page and Nelson won first in Best Investigative Reporting. Bob Holeman, retired editor of two newspapers, is the *Times'* journalism consultant.

## Public comments due by May 24th LPC Board Publishes 26 Pages of Updated Rules

The Board of Examiners for Licensed Professional Counselors published a Notice of Intent in the April *Louisiana Register*. The announcement said that the revisions and additions are in part needed to implement Act 276 ad Act 636 of the 2012 Regular Session. Also, the announcement noted, the new rules are needed to update the LPC Code of Conduct with the latest edition of the American Counseling Association Code of Ethics. Executive Director Mary Alice Olsan said, "It was a huge body of changes." Along with the two main themes, the members also "cleaned up" some unnecessary and confusing language, she explained.

The proposed new regulations includes 26 pages. New wording includes changes in organization of the board, definitions of the practice, some descriptions for supervised experience of counselor interns, continuing education requirements, discipline. An extensive revision of the section on Code of Conduct, includes 13 pages of description. The complete text of the Notice of Intent is available online from the *Louisiana Register*, in the April 2013 issue. The public may submit written comments to Mary Alice Olsan, Executive Director of the LPC Board, until 10 am on May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2013.

The new rules also include directions about working with individuals with serious mental illness and also consulting and collaborating with practitioners who are licensed under the state medical board, including physicians, medical psychologists, and psychiatric nurse practitioners.

The April Notice of intent includes new wording for the following areas:

Chapter 1 – General Provisions (Description of Organization, Officers, and Meetings); Chapter 5 – License and Practice of Counseling (License of title and Practice, Definitions for Licensed Professional Counselors, Serious Mental Illnesses); Chapter 7 – Requirements for Licensure of Licenses Professional Counselors (General Provisions, Licensed Professional Counselors Licensing Requirements, Supervised Experience of Counselor Interns); Chapter 8 – Renewal of Licensed Professional Counselor Licenses and Privileging Designations (Renewal, Continuing Education Requirements for Licensed Professional Counselors and Board Approved Supervisors, Deposit and Use of Fees and Funds); Chapter 11 – Endorsement and Expedited Processing (Endorsement, Expedited Processing); Chapter 13 – Disciplinary Proceedings for Licensed Professional Counselors (Disciplinary Process and Procedures, Initiation of Complaints, Formal Hearing, Consent Order, Reinstatement of Suspended or Revoked License, Declaratory Statements); Chapter 15 – Privileged Communication for Licensed Professional Counselors (Client Records); Chapter 17 – Exclusions for Licensed Professional Counselors (Exemptions); Chapter 21 – Code of Conduct for Licensed Professional Counselors (Preamble, Counseling Relationship, Confidentiality, Privileged Communication, and Privacy, Professional Responsibilities, Relationships with Other Professionals, Supervision, Training, and Teaching, Research and Publication, Resolving Ethical Issues, Appendix- Declaration of Practices and Procedures for Licensed Professional Counselors); In Subpart 2. Professional Standards for Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists, Chapter 33 – Requirements for Licensure ( Examination Requirements, Requirements for the Registration and Supervision of MFT Interns); Chapter 37 – Reciprocity and Provisional Licenses Endorsement and Expedited Processing (Endorsement, Expedited Processing).

Louisiana Researchers Present at APS, cont'd

own. We appreciate their strong emphasis on science that does not necessarily have to inform clinical practice.”

“Although our department has applied psychology graduate programs, we recognize the need to do research for research's sake. On a more practical note, APS is at a very accessible location this year!”

This year’s APS presentations include a variety of topics. Below we outline the work and include some comments from a number of the researchers.

Centenary College

Jonathan Westfall from Centenary College teamed up with researchers from Columbia University to look at the how activating the concept of a choice mindset leads people to search for relevant information for making their decisions. The presentation, “On What Basis Should I Make a Choice?” Influence of a Choice Mindset on Decision Making,” includes four studies showing that priming the issue of “choice” causes people to look longer at various pieces of information and to base their decisions on this information.

Louisiana Tech University

A team of seven researchers from LaTech will present their findings in “Attitudes Towards Same-Sex Marriage and Religiosity.” LaTech researchers Jay Middleton, Deborah Simpson, Rose Niles, Laura Harris, John Tracy, Sean Lajaunie, and Alicia Ford explored attitudes toward same-sex marriage and motivations for religiosity, finding that gender differences emerged

only when exploring the influence of extrinsic motivations. Those who are intrinsically motivated are more likely to hold negative attitudes towards same-sex marriage.

LaTech’s Jordan O'Briant, Mary M. Livingston, and Alice Carter (now retired) will present “Career Interest as Related to Perception of Math Involvement and Math Anxiety.”

Professor Livingston told the Times, “The purpose of this study was to explore relationships between math anxiety, perception of math in careers, level of career interest, beliefs on the nature of intelligence –a malleable property or a static entity–, and academic subject identification as related to a predisposition to a career,” she said.

As expected, “ ... careers which were perceived to involve less math had higher interest ratings. Math anxiety correlated with less interest in technical fields. While math anxiety and beliefs of math involvement in a career played a large role in level of interest expressed in various careers, the pattern of results indicated that seeking occupations that do not involve math may be related to factors beyond math anxiety.”

Professors Mary M. Livingston and Alice Carter teamed up with Margaret Hindman (now at LSU) to compare the Ten Item Personality Inventory (TIPI) and the widely used International Personality Item Pool (IPIP) using an ethnically diverse sample of college students. For this presentation, “Comparing Two Personality Measures, the TIPI and the IPIP,” they will show that results where the



Photo by B. Waters

Louisiana Tech Professor Dr. Mary Margaret Livingston (center) discusses research with attendees at the recent North Louisiana Behavioral & Social Sciences Conference, held at LaTech recently. Dr. Alice Carter and Margaret Hindman (not shown) are members of the research team.

shorter TIPI compares favorably with the much longer IPIP, and that the online survey results were consistent with previous paper and pencil results. Livingston explained, “As researchers we all know that generally speaking lengthier instruments tend to be psychometrically more sound, However, limits of time space and research participant perseverance lead on a quest to find acceptable brief instruments.”

“Gosling, Rentfrow and Swann developed their Ten Item version of the IPIP to solve this problem. As a result it is the most downloaded/cited from the Journal of Research in Personality. Researchers such as Buchanan have questioned the automatic assumption that paper and pencil measures can be automatically translated to an online environment,” she noted. “Our paper confirms that when a short instrument is needed TIPI can work as an adequate substitute for the IPIP, and functions as well online as a shorter substitute as it does in the paper and pencil format.”

For their presentation, “Emotional Labor and Counseling Professionals,” LaTech researchers Kevin Mahoney, Brandon Dennis, Victoria Smoak, Ida Chauvin, and Walter Buboltz studied emotional labor, emotional exhaustion, and work engagement in an overlooked population of counselors. They will explain that emotional labor is a form of emotional regulation where workers are expected to display certain emotions as part of their jobs. This and previous research by this LaTech group has found that emotional labor impacts both emotional exhaustion and work engagement.

“Exploring Employee Well-Being: Combining the Job Demand-Control and Job Demand-Resource Models,” will examine employees who must deal with heavy work demands but have little control and few resources, leading to greater job strain and decreased well-being. In there work, researchers John Buckner, Gwendylen Dykstra-Long, and James DeLeon, the team examines controls and resources as distinct predictors of employee well-being. While most research looks at controls and resources in separate studies or in combined concepts under the same umbrella, this study looked at the issue from both models.

The research team of Devin Merritt, Victoria Felix, Rebecca Granda, Walter Buboltz, and Janelle McDaniel will present “Morningness – Eveningness Preferences and Academic Factors as Predictors of Healthy Sleep Practices.” The group’s goal was to examine morning and evening type preferences and other academic factors that impact healthy sleep practices in college students. The researches found that that a number of factors, including morning-evening attitudes, self-efficacy, emotional exhaustion, and sleep hygiene, are significant predictors.

“Personal Living Space Attributes and Personality,” is by researchers Margaret Hindman (now at LSU), Mary M. Livingston, and Alice Carter (now retired).

Dr. Livingston explained, “We are interested in the relationship between personality and perception of living spaces.” Using Gosling’s Personal Living Space Cue Inventory (PLSCI) the team looked at people and their living spaces (PLS).

“Our study employs PLSCI ratings, but in a different way

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Photo by B. Waters

Louisiana Tech counseling program doctoral students Jay Middleton (L) and Devin Merrit discuss their research to be presented at this month's Association of Psychological Science Convention.

## Louisiana Researchers Present at Association of Psychological Science, cont'd

than in Gosling’s work,” noted Livingston. “Gosling had three raters evaluate living spaces of various student participants and indicate whether they thought the rooms’ inhabitant possessed the psychological quality of openness. In the current study participants rated their own PLS using the PLSCI, and their openness score on the IPIP big-five personality measure was correlated with the various PLS ratings. The raters’ personality influence their ratings,” she said. “Our findings were clearly different from Gosling’s and seem to reflect the inhabitants’ rather disparaging view of their rooms.”

“My presentations are with a 2nd year Counseling Psychology doctoral student, Rosie Niles, and an alumnus, Dr. Matthew Hand,” Dr. Donna Thomas told the Times. “We are interested in what motivates people’s use of social networking sites, specifically Facebook and Twitter. Preliminary results indicate that emotional connectedness to both sites was perhaps intrinsically motivated. Hopefully, our follow-up work can tell us more about that.”

LaTech’s Rose Niles and Matthew Hand from Texas Wesleyan University, teamed up with La Tech Psychology Chair Donna Thomas for two interesting and related studies. In the APS presentation, “Relationships among situational motivation and Facebook usage,” first author Niles and colleagues looked at the relationships among aspects of situational motivation and Facebook usage. The results indicated that emotional connection to Facebook was positively related to intrinsic motivation, and that online social networking is related to higher levels of self-determination.

The same research team, this time with Hand as first author, examined the relationships among situational motivation and Twitter usage, to be presented in “Relationships among situational motivation and Twitter usage.” The team found that emotional connectedness to Twitter was related to intrinsic motivation, and that time spent on Twitter was related to external regulation.

### Loyola Univeristy

Samaneh Khoshini from Loyola University in New Orleans teamed up with professor Kendall Eskine to look at how bodily experiences affect psychological process in “Enclothed Cognition: Effects of Clothing Style on Creativity and Sexual Attitude.” The team studied the influence of different clothing on both cognitive and sexual attitudes. They found that higher body coverage correlated with sexually conservative attitudes and will present information on the possible links between clothing, cognition, and sexual attitudes.

Dr. Kendall Eskine, along with researchers Ashley Novreske and Michelle Richards, all representing Loyola, will present the social psychology topic, “Moral Contagion is Significantly Influenced by Disgust Sensitivity.” The findings from two experiments show that after participants came into physical contact with a transgressor, they experienced more state guilt. This effect was moderated by disgust sensitivity. That is, the researchers found that individuals with high-disgust sensitivity indicated more guilt than those with low-disgust sensitivity.

### Tulane University

Stefanie Simon and Laurie O’Brien will present their research, “Increasing Perceptions of Institution Sexism,” at the upcoming APS convention. In two studies, the researchers explored perceptions of individual and institutional sexism, finding that men and women did not differ in their perceptions of individual sexism, but women perceived more institutional sexism than men. In the second study, the researchers found that perspective-taking and education strategies successfully increased perceptions of institutional sexism.

Simon explained to the *Times* that she has been working on this research in collaboration with Dr. Laurie O’Brien, who is her PhD advisor, and also professor Dr. Carrie Wyland, as well as a former Tulane undergraduate student, Melanie Soilleux.

“Past research has shown that most people are relatively worse at recognizing more institutional forms of discrimination,” Simon noted, “meaning practices and policies that put certain groups at a disadvantage, compared to individual forms of discrimination that are perpetrated by a specific person.” This lack of recognition may be a serious issue, she explained.

“Thus, in this line of research, we’ve been looking at strategies to help increase people’s perceptions of institutional sexism. The two strategies we’ve looked at are perspective-taking and education about institutional sexism in the US. What we’ve found thus far is that when we ask participants to take the perspective of someone who has been a target of institutional sexism and put themselves in her shoes, both men and women are better able to recognize institutional sexism compared to participants who are not asked to take the target’s perspective.”

“Interestingly, when participants are educated about institutional sexism and then are asked to take the target’s perspective,

female participants recognize even more institutional sexism. For male participants on the other hand, the strategy that seems the most helpful for increasing perceptions of institutional sexism is perspective-taking. These findings have important implications for helping to remove some of the institutional barriers in the US that serve to perpetuate inequality between men and women,” Simon noted.

### University of Louisiana – Lafayette

Assistant Professor Hung-Chu Lin leads a team of researchers from University of Louisiana–Lafayette for the presentation, “Changes in Empathic Concern and Personal Distress as a Function of Time: A Time Course Study of Adults’ Responses to Infant Crying.” The team includes Jessica Manuel, Joshua Landry, Claude Cech, Lauren Ashy, and Stinne Soendergaard.

Dr. Lin, explained to the *Times*, “We are interested in how caregivers respond to infant crying—a display of infant’s distress yet sometimes an unpleasant and even aversive stimulus.”

“Under normal circumstances caregivers respond to a crying infant with empathic emotions, with concerns organized around infant’s well-being. However, infant crying may also elicit distress arousal, which is often associated with egoistic concerns for caregiver’s own benefits and possible consequences of neglect or mistreatment of the infant,” she said. “We attempted to describe the relations between cry perception and the two qualitatively different response emotions as a function of time. We hope to gain a better understanding of cry responding and foster sensitive parenting.”

In, “Enrichment in Parents of Children with Autism,” Dr. Hung-Chu Lin and researchers Valanne MacGyvers, Robert McFatter, and Janna Bourque will present their findings regarding both positive and negative aspects of the experience in parenting a child with autism spectrum disorder, and relate these experiences to child symptom severity and parenting competence.



Photo by B. Waters

Dr. Donna Thomas, Psychology and Behavioral Sciences Department Chair at Louisiana Tech, judged the research at the recent LaTech conference. Undergraduate psychology major Daniel Rachal watches the presentations.

Science & Education

Louisiana Researchers Present at APS  
cont'd

“We examined not only negative aspects, as in previous research,” said Dr. Lin, “but also positive aspects of experience in parenting a child with autism and related them to child symptom severity and parenting competence,” Dr. Lin explained. “The findings indicated that experience of enrichment did not relate to child symptom severity and might potentially strengthen the negative relation between parenting efficacy and stress.”

University of New Orleans

Brandon Scott leads a group of researchers in their work, “Developmental Variation in Amygdala Volumes among Children with Posttraumatic Stress.” The research team includes Justin Russell, Ashley Sanders, and Carl Weems from UNO, and Allan Reis and Victor Carrion from Stanford University School of Medicine.

“Findings point to the possibility that traumatic stress may delay structural maturation of the amygdala,” Dr. Weems told the *Times*. The presentation will review how theory points to links between maturation and amygdala volumes in trauma-exposed youth. In this study, results indicated a positive association between age and right-amygdala volumes for 24 young people with PTSD, while a negative association for matched controls.

UNO Assistant Professor and Undergraduate Coordinator, Dr. Monica Marsee guides two groups for upcoming APS poster presentations. Marsee’s lab is the Youth Social and Emotional Development Lab. Molly Miller and Maria Kireeva, who recently graduated with B.S. degrees in psychology, stayed on at the lab to gain experience for graduate school. Kelli Thompson and Genevieve Lapre are Dr. Marcee’s doctoral students.

In, “Group Differences in the Prediction of Psychopathy on a Dimensional Level,” UNO researchers Molly Miller, Kelli Thompson, Maria Kireeva, Monica Marsee, and Barry Burkhart from Auburn University, will present results about youth psychopathy. Their study explored the relationship between psychopathy and internalizing and externalizing psychopathology in two different groups. The looked at juvenile sex offenders and juvenile non-sexual offenders. The researchers found evidence for significant group differences on the Affective dimension using the four-factor model of psychopathy.

Dr. Marcee explained, “This study contributes to the existing body of literature indicating that juvenile sex offenders are behaviorally and psychologically distinct from their non-sexual offending peers.” And, “Juvenile sex offenders and juvenile non-sexual offenders represent two distinct group of juvenile offenders with different treatment needs, treatment responses, and outcomes.”

This poster also recently won the Best Overall Poster Award at the InnovateUNO: Undergraduate Research, Scholarship, and Creativity Showcase.

Maria Kireeva, Genevieve Lapre, Molly Miller, and Monica Marsee will also present, “Parental Psychological Control as Mediator between Parental Psychopathology and Youth Internalizing Problems.”

The purpose of this study was to examine various parental factors and how they may interact to influence youth internalizing problems, explained Dr. Marcee. “The results support the hypothesis that psychological control mediates the association between parental psychopathology and youth internalizing problems,” explained Marcee. “... parental psychopathology may be associated with youth internalizing problems, but it is the parents’ psychologically controlling strategies that partially explain this association. The results support the broader theory that dysfunctional parenting strategies may serve as a mechanism through which parental psychopathology relates to youth psychopathology.”

UNO researchers Ashley Sanders, Angelle Pizzitolo, Brandon Scott, Rebecca Graham, Donice Banks, Justin Russell, and Carl Weems, will present “Posttraumatic Stress Exacerbates the Link between Identity and Internalizing Problems in Adolescents.” Previous research indicates that heightened levels of identity distress are linked with internalizing symptoms in adolescents. However, not much is known about what factors, such as PTSD symptoms, may exacerbate this relationship. “Results indicated that PTSD symptoms moderate this relationship and that it was only significant for youth with more self-reported PTSD symptoms.”



Photo by B. Waters

Second year LaTech doctoral student Laura Harris (center) prepares for her research presentation with the help of Psychology and Behavioral Sciences Department Professor, Dr. Jerome Tobacyk.

Brandon Scott, noted, “This research idea was part of a collaborative effort with two of our undergraduate/post-baccalaureate research assistants in the lab, Ashley Sanders and Angelle Pizzitolo. The findings suggest that the experience of greater PTSD symptoms may disrupt normative identity development in adolescence by exacerbating normal levels of identity distress and promoting increased internalizing symptoms. However, it will be important to test whether PTSD symptoms actually interfere with normal developmental processes by expanding the age of the sample to include younger children and adults and using a longitudinal design.”

Xavier University

David Wheatley of Xavier University teamed up with Troy Bitson of Glen Oaks College to study “Aspects of Competitiveness Associated with Masculine and Feminine Characteristics.”

The researchers had people rate themselves on measures of masculine and feminine characteristics and also goal and interpersonal competitiveness. Male masculine ratings positively

correlated with both forms of competitiveness while female feminine ratings negatively correlated with interpersonal competitiveness. The presenters suggest that results relate to the psychoanalytic theory of sex role development and identification with the same sex parent.

Xavier U. researcher, Christian End, along with co-authors from Shippensburg University, will present “Die-hard Fans? CORFing Behavior in Newspaper Obituaries.” End and his colleagues analyzed the frequency with which obituaries mentioned Penn State University both before and after the Sandusky scandal. They found that the scandal it not impact the proportion of obits that noted Penn State connections.

Xaiver researchers Katherine Eskine, Tyler Hunter, and Gabrielle Gloston will present, “Making emotive music: The association of emotional intellege and musical production via sexual selection.” To investigate if music is, or has recently been, sexually selected because it is an honest signal of emotional intelligence, the research team studied 120 undergraduates. They looked at the effects of sexual and romantic arousal on the production, aptitude, and subjective ratings of music.

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2013 Louisiana Press Association

People

Dr. Kathy Steele Brings Multi-Cultural Focus to Teaching, Counseling

Dr. Kathryn Steele recently returned from Havana, Cuba, where she helps train counselors in her role as Director and Professor of Counseling Professors Training Program for the Baptist Seminary there since 2009. The bilingual, associate professor from the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, brings a diverse background and multi-cultural focus to all her duties, developed in part from over 20 years of missionary work in Costa Rica, Nicaragua, and Panama.

“We started out with about 40 students,” she told the *Times*, “and completed about two years of course work with them.” From these, 21 will go on to become trainers and teachers. “These are the students that will actually be teaching in the seminary to prepare counselors,” Steele explained. “Their work has included an intern setting.”

“The students have a variety of backgrounds ... some are pastors, there are four psychologists, two psychiatrists, and three medical doctors,” she noted. “Seven different individuals have served as professors for this program,” she noted. “Five of us are Spanish speakers or bilingual and teach in Spanish, and two use translators.” Dr. Steele told the *Times* that one of the most rewarding aspects of this work has been to watch how the students grow and develop in their ability to help others who are hurting. “... these students take every little bit of information we bring to them, learn it, and work at putting it into practice,” she said. “This July we will graduate 40 students from this program!” Steele and colleagues travel to Cuba on a visa, requested by the seminary from the Cuban government, which precisely outlines their activities while in the country. “We have not had any problems

while there, but we are always careful to follow all the rules for our visit.” The work is not without its headaches. “The greatest challenge is finding materials to use for teaching,” Steele said, “since not all texts are in Spanish.” The professors try to take materials in a digital format, she explained, because of the cost and weight of printed materials, which can mount up. “We have week long *intensives* four or five times a year.” “Another challenge,” she said, “is doing quality supervision of their clinical work. We purchased Flip cameras to distribute to the students so they could video their sessions and we could at least see a part of what they are doing to help with supervision. Most students there do not have access to the internet, which greatly restricts what they have available to study and research.” Steele’s work to help and train others abroad

is not a new effort for her. She and her husband, Dr. Ed Steele, were missionaries for 20 years, serving the International Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. Their work included Central American countries of Costa Rica and Nicaragua, and they spend ten years in Panama. “All the time I was overseas I never stopped reading,” she said. “I did tons of reading. And I did a lot of work, especially with those who had experience childhood sexual abuse.” But due to lack of funds, she was not able to afford to go back to school. She told the *Times*, “I said, ‘Okay God, if you want this to happen, you’re going to have to make it happen.’ ” So when Ed felt called to finish his DMA in musical arts, the couple came to New Orleans. Ed taught at the seminary and completed his work in Worship Leadership and Hymnology, and Kathy was offered a part-time job in the church. “It opened the door for me to go to school. I found

myself enrolled in the seminary in 1999,” she explained. “I started getting hours under my belt for my clinical training.” She began regular studies and in 2001 received her Masters in family and Marriage Counseling. “I felt I was getting the knowledge to help people that I was previously unable to help.” In 2002 Steele completed her Masters of Theology, and in 2004 earned her doctoral degree in Psychology and Counseling. “It has been a tremendous joy to have the tools to get to help people, when they get stuck and don’t know what to do.” During this time she also taught at the Seminary, beginning as an Adjunct Professor in 2001, her courses including, “Social and Multicultural Issues in Counseling,” “Marriage and Family Issues,” and “Ethical and Professional Issues in Counseling.” In 2005 Dr. Steele became an Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychology

and Counseling and by 2010 was the Director of Clinical Training for the NOBTS (New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary’s Counseling Program. Some of the courses she currently teaching on a regular basis include: “Family Systems: Theories and Therapies,” “Clinical Assessment in Marriages and Families,” “The Bible in the Professional Counselor,” “Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Marriages and Family,” and “Contemporary Approaches in Premarital and Marital Therapy.” She currently occupies the James H. and Susan E. Brown Christian Counseling Chair and previously occupied the Baptist Community Ministries’ Chair of Pastoral Counseling, at the Seminary. “We have master of arts in marriage and family therapy and a master of divinity in counseling,” she said. “Both of these



Dr. Kathryn “Kathy” Steele and Dr. David Legendre look over a question on the computer while at a recent meeting of the Advisory Committee for Marriage and Family Therapy in Baton Rouge. Steele recently returned from Havana, Cuba, where she helps train counselors in her role as Director and Professor of Counseling Professors Training Program for the Baptist Seminary. Dr. Steele is Associate Professor in the Department of Psychology and Counseling at the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

People

Dr. Kathy Steele, Multicultural Focus, cont'd

degrees fulfill the required areas for LPC [Licensed Professional Counselor]. Since we are a seminary, training for ministry, students are required to take courses in Biblical and ministerial courses. All our courses are taught from a Biblical worldview," she explained.

"Our program is extremely skills-based," she said. "We push for them to be skilled counselors, and we push faculty members to be actively practicing counseling, which keeps our feet to the fire."

Dr. Steele follows this approach herself, as owner and founder of Life Solutions Counseling, LLC, her counseling service in Metairie. The center is largely focused on Spanish speaking and lower income persons.

"I have chosen to focus on Spanish speaking clients primarily because they are an underserved group due to the language barriers," she said. "I

think about 75% of my practice is with Spanish speakers. Many of them are low income families, which requires a no-fee or low-fee service."

"I love working with this group because they are typically very open to receiving help and thankful for whatever you can do for them," she noted. "I think there are cultural differences that are important when working with Latinos. For example, they have a much stronger community orientation, which is quite different than the typical North American who thinks in very individualistic terms."

"It is also very important," she noted, "to take into consideration any issues related to trauma they may have experienced before immigrating."

And, "... the challenges of acculturation here in the USA can have a huge impact on their mental and relational health. One of the challenges is that Latinos often are struggling with immigration issues –visas– and with socio-economic issues such as poverty."

Dr. Steele sometimes helps train interns at her Life Solutions firm, supervising from one and up to five interns at a given time.

Dr. Steele, was recently appointed to the state counselors' board by the governor, and has attended her first two meeting. "Since I just started, I am still learning what it is like to serve on the LPC Board," she told the *Times*. "But I am looking forward to the experience, and feel privileged to have the opportunity. So far I have really enjoyed it."

Drs. Darlyne Nemeth, Kelly Ray, Organize Conference In *Ecopsychology* for WCP

The U.S. Chapter of the World Council on Psychotherapy (WCP) held a symposium featuring Thomas Doherty, PsyD, ecopsychologist, as part of the it's annual meeting,

March 22, 2013, Dr. Darlyne Nemeth in Baton Rouge. (Courtesy photo)

Dr. Darlyne Nemeth and Dr. Kelly Ray organized the training experience that focused on environmental trauma.

Thomas Joseph Doherty is a clinical psychologist from Portland, Oregon, and founder and co-director of the Ecopsychology in Counseling Certificate Program at the Lewis & Clark Graduate School and the editor of the peer-reviewed journal *Ecopsychology*. He is president-elect of the American Psychological Association's Division 34, The Society for Environmental, Population and Conservation Psychology.

According to an announcement from the WCP, Doherty emphasized that the term *ecopsychology* was coined in the 1990s when people began to explore their connection to the environment. And, that while indigenous peoples understood this connection, people in the Western societies have lost track of this connection. However, it is very important in psychotherapy. Doherty noted that climate change issues, global warming issues, etc., have underlying social justice components and emotional issues, which people do not want to address.


The conference included participants and discussants, Dr. Robert Hamilton, ecologist, Dr. Robert Muller, climatologists, Scott Nesbit, leader of an ecopsychologist project in Louisiana, and Dr. Donald Nemeth, geologist.

Dr. Nemeth currently serves as the Co-Secretary General, World Council for Psychotherapy. Dr. Ray serves as Vice President of U.S. Chapter, World Council for Psychotherapy.



Dr. Kathy Steele conducting training in Havana, Cuba. Dr. Steele has served the International Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention as a missionary in the Central American countries of Costa Rica and Nicaragua, and Panama.

(Courtesy photo)



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People

Dr. Susan Andrews Earns Gold For Stress Solutions

Dr. Susan Andrews has won the Gold Award in her category from Independent Publishers Book Awards. She received the Gold award last month in the Parenting book category for her *Stress Solutions for Pregnant Moms: How Breaking Free from Stress Can boost Your Baby's Potential*, independently published by Twin Span Press.

The Independent Publisher Book Awards have been conducted annually to honor each year's best independently published titles. According to the association, "The 'IPPY' Awards reward those who exhibit the courage, innovation, and creativity to bring about change in the world of publishing."

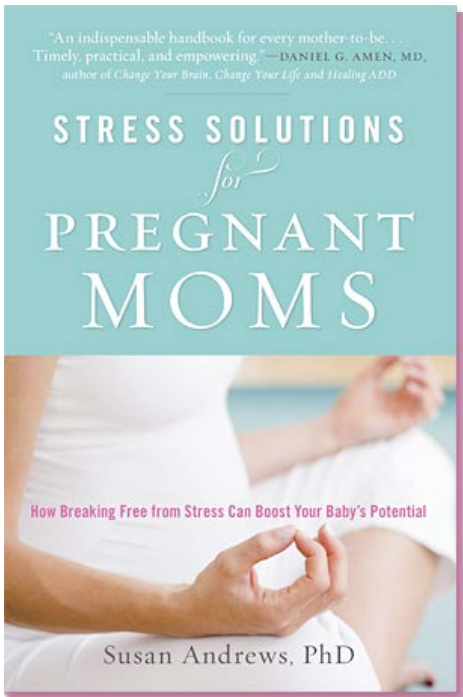
Dr. Susan Andrews is in full time practice in Metairie where she is Senior Partner at Neuropsychological and Psychological Services for Children, LLC. She has also served as Clinical Assistant Professor of Medicine at LSU Health Sciences Center, Department of Medicine and Psychiatry, and Clinical Coordinator and Neuropsychologist at Center for Head Injury Rehabilitation, East Jefferson General Hospital.

The *Times* reviewed Dr. Andrews book in the June 2012 issue, writing, "Dr. Susan Andrews has written an essential guide for the pregnant mom about stress and her developing baby.

"Dr. Andrews, a New Orleans psychologist, neuropsychologist, and researcher, has captured the essence of a major societal problem and turned the spotlight on it. She draws from theory, research, and application, as well as her own extensive experience, to create this engaging self-help book with an eminently important message: The modern woman who is growing a new child must be aware of and in control of her stress level.

"*Stress Solutions* is a must read for childbearing women of all ages, but also fathers-to-be, grandparents, health psychologists, and physicians seeking to understand the mother's true wellbeing."

Dr. Andrews will be presenting on the topic of music and stress, an area she touches on in *Stress Solutions*, at the May 2013 conference of the Louisiana Psychological Association in Baton Rouge.



(Courtesy photo)

Susie Marie PhD presenting "Mother Nature's Musical Messages®" at Grace Episcopal Church in St. Francisville.

'Susie Marie PhD' Talks To Church Mice

"Did you get the message from the frog?"

Dr. Susan Dardard, using her new media name, Susie Marie PhD, presented "Mother Nature's Musical Messages®" to a group of youngsters at Grace Episcopal Church in St. Francisville, Louisiana, on Wednesday, April 24.

The presentation, "A Special Event for Grace Episcopal Church Mice," was held at Bishop Jackson Hall.

The topic was the musical messages of frogs, including a little biology, a little Bible, and some demonstration of sounds and sound measurement. "But the frogs were the stars of the show," said Susie.

Frogs in spring communicate to one another in complex ways, with the males often using the lower frequencies and the females tuning into the males' higher frequencies, explained Susie to the *Times*. Some of the newest advances in hearing aids came from the science behind how frogs are able to block out irrelevant sounds, and tune into just one frequency, she said.



Mike Dooley (L) and Tom Stigall enjoy the levity at the recent Louisiana Press Association Convention. Attending for the *Psychology Times* the guys donned free hats and sunglasses for the association's "Mission Possible" theme. But somehow, everyone turned out looking more like the Blues Brothers.

# North Louisiana Behavioral & Social Sciences Conference Held at LaTech

The Counseling Psychology Doctoral Student Organization (CPDSO) of Louisiana Tech University hosted a conference April 26 and 27, named the North Louisiana Behavioral & Social Sciences Conference.

The conference took place at University Hall located on the Louisiana Tech University campus, in Ruston, and was designed by CPDSO for all students, faculty, professionals, and interested members of the community. The activities included conference workshops, including “Multicultural Diversity,” which was presented by Dr. Latoya Pierce and Dr. Lou’uan Gollop-Brown. Also “Global Changes to the DSM-5,” was presented by Dr. Alicia Ford.

“... our Counseling Psychology doctoral students took a tiny seed of an idea and ran with it,” said LaTech Psychology and Behavioral Sciences Chair Dr. Donna Thomas. “They plan to continue it annually and make it bigger and better each year.”

“They had paper and poster

presentations by faculty and students from several universities including University of Arkansas, Texas State University, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, Nicholls State University, LSU-Shreveport, and, of course, Louisiana Tech University. Additionally, there were very informative workshops covering multicultural models and an overview of the coming changes in the DSM-5.”

The afternoon meetings included paper presentations, graduate student panels, and poster presentations. One of the two graduate student panels focused on the internship match process. The other graduate panel addressed getting into and surviving graduate school. Both undergraduate and graduate students attended the panels. An awards ceremony was held at the end of the day.

“We are so proud of our students for providing a regional venue to highlight the knowledge base and research opportunities in Louisiana and nearby states,” Dr. Thomas said.

# UNO Doctoral Student Wins \$20,000 Minority Fellowship Grant From Counselors Bd

Tamia Randolph-Alvarez, a University of New Orleans doctoral student in the UNO College of Education and Human Development’s Counselor Education Graduate program, has been named a 2013 Minority Fellow by the National Board for Certified Counselors. The honor is connected to a \$20,000 award. Only 24 doctoral students across the nation will be granted this honor.

According to the UNO news article, Randolph-Alvarez is also a fellow in the UNO College of Business Administration’s new business accelerator program. The program helps students develop plans for successfully going into business.

The national board received its first Minority Fellowship Program grant award in August 2012 from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. SAMHSA offered its first fellowships in 1973 with an aim of increasing the number of "qualified behavioral healthcare providers who truly understand the language of the ethnic and racial minorities they serve," according to the agency and the UNO reports.

This year's grant allocation to National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC) marks an expansion of programs to include professional counselors under the SAMHSA grants. A congressional change in 2012 supported the grants being made available to professional counselors.

*Congratulations*  
to our contributing  
photographer

**Dr. Tom  
Stigall**

*First Place*  
*Best Photo Package*  
*Division 7*

*Louisiana Press  
Association  
2013*



Psychology Times, December 1, 2012 - Page 14

Gone Fishing –



**The LSU Lakes**  
Dr. Tom Stigall - Photography

Editors Note: Last December the Times presented readers with some of Dr. Tom Stigall's photography, who is past president of the Louisiana Photographic Society and a photographic artist. "One thing I have been doing since retirement," he told the Times, "is indulging myself in a lifelong serious interest in photography." He has had work accepted for a national competition hosted at LSU. "My work is eclectic as to subject matter. It is the product of a desire to preserve images that will be experienced by the viewer as meaningful; esthetically pleasing; sympathetic and nurturing; awe-inspiring or arresting." I asked him again for some of his work for our holiday issue and he provided these delightful views of the LSU University Lakes and the interesting inhabitants in our state. Ahh... Louisiana.

(All photos by Tom Stigall)





# Up-Coming Events

## Louisiana Psychological Association to Hold Annual Convention May 30-31

The Louisiana Psychological Association will host its annual convention on Thursday and Friday, May 30 and 31, to be held at the Crown Plaza Hotel in Baton Rouge.

Speakers will present educational sessions on Mindfulness in Working with Children, Music in Therapy, LGBTQ, ICD-10, Bullying, Exposure Therapy in PTSD, Psychoanalytic Topics in Therapy, Issues in Disability Evaluation, and Violence Risk Assessment.

Dr. Jana Martin, CEO of the APA Insurance Trust, will present on “Entrust Our Profession to the Future.” There is no question about whether or not our profession will experience change in the future,” the presenter explains. For those of us who have been in practice for years, we’ve seen many changes already. Key questions of importance are what changes are ahead, when will they take effect, how will they impact practice and our profession, and how can we be proactive rather than reactive? Participants will be able to identify drivers of change for the profession of psychology and be able to identify ways to ensure the relevance of our profession and their practices for a changing future.

Dr. Michelle Moore will present “The Benefits of Incorporating Mindfulness-Based Treatment in a School Setting,” with colleague Kate Cuno, M.A. “When mindfulness is practiced regularly, remarkable changes can occur even in children,” note the presenters. “Research has found that children who engage in mindfulness-based treatment can improve their concentration, increase their self-esteem, decrease their problem behaviors and develop greater empathy for others.”

Dr. Susan Andrews, author of *Stress Solutions for Pregnant Moms: How Breaking Free from Stress Can boost Your Baby’s Potential*, will present “How Music Plays Out in the Brain.”

The workshop will review the most current research on the use of music as therapy, the intentional use of music for growth and



Dr. Susan Andrews (L) with friend Rose Watkins at a book signing. Dr. Andrews will present at the LPA conference on the topic of stress and music. Her book, *Stress Solutions for Pregnant Moms*, earned a Gold award recently from the association of independent book publishers. (courtesy photo)



Dr. Leslie Drew (L) and Dr. Kelley Pears from the Alexandria Veterans Administration Medical Center are popular presenters at the LPA Convention. This year they will present, “Treating PTSD with Prolonged Exposure Therapy.”

medicine, and musical training and neural plasticity. Different forms of music therapy or “soundwork” will be described with samples, demonstrations, and group participation. Andrews will explore different areas of application of music along with supportive research references. Dr. Andrews is a clinical neuropsychologist whose career has been dedicated to assisting children and their parents to improve their quality of life.

Participants will be able to describe the current state of the field of the intentional use of music for growth and as medicine, and leave with a better understanding of how to use music in their practice and in their daily lives.

Dr. Sherry Desselle will present, “LGBTQ 101: Providing Culturally Competent Therapy with Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer or Questioning Clients.” This is an introductory workshop designed to educate clinicians about the diversity of sexual and gender orientation and expression. Participants will become familiar with the appropriate terminology when working with LGBTQ clients and the unique challenges that LGBTQ families, couples, and individuals face.

Dr. K. Dayle Jones will present “Diagnosis with DSM-V and ICD.” Jones will provide an overview of the DSM-V, including its development process, changes to the organizational structure, major revisions to existing diagnoses, and the addition of new disorders. Participants will also learn about the International Classification of Diseases (ICD), its designation as HIPAA’s official codebook for diagnosing mental disorders, and its relationship to DSM-V.

On Friday, Dr. Bryan Gros will present, “Bullying: A Brief Review and Strategies for Treatment.” He will discuss bullying and its effects on children and adolescents, and also strategies for addressing this wide-ranging problem. Forms of bullying will

be discussed and a review of signs and effects, including depression, anxiety, academic problems, and even suicide. Participants will be able to identify and understand the different types of bullying, the effects on victims, and issues for treatment.

Popular presenters Dr. Kelley Pears and Dr. Leslie Drew from the Alexandria Veterans Administration Medical Center, return. They will present, “Treating PTSD with Prolonged Exposure Therapy.” The presenters will help attendees understand how to use Prolonged Exposure Therapy (PE) to treat Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. Participants will learn the rationale for PE as well as an in depth, session-by-session breakdown of how to implement the therapy. The vast majority of the workshop will be spent on using Prolonged Exposure Therapy with very little time on the diagnosis.

Dr. Carolyn Weyand, will present, “Contemporary Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy: The Four Psychologies and Implications for Technique.” Weyand, who serves on the faculty of the New Orleans–Birmingham Psychoanalytic Institute, will review Sigmund Freud’s classical theory, which rests on the basic assumption that drives motivate human behavior, notes Weyand. Anna Freud explained defenses and refocused psychotherapy onto building adaptive function in her Ego Psychology. Melanie Klein established theoretical emphasis on Object Relations, the connection to other humans, being our primary motivator. From Object Relations, we get Attachment Theory. Heinz Kohut postulated self esteem regulation to be the primary human motivator in his theory, Self Psychology. Dr. Weyand will cover these four psychologies and implications for treatment.

Dr. Michael Chafetz, whose work is gaining increased attention around the country, will present, “Disability: A Practical and Ethical Guide for Psychologists.”

Cont’d next pg

# Susie Marie PhD



Hello.

I'd like to introduce myself. You may recognize my picture, and think you know me by name. I've had a growing-up maiden name, an early adulthood married name, and now true-love married name, in my personal and professional life, all of which are irrelevant in my public life, my life in front of a camera, a microphone, an audience. So please, feel free to forget any and all of those names because, for my upcoming broadcast productions, including my new television show, *South River Stories*®, I am marketing a brand new name, a new brand name, *Susie Marie PhD*.

I invite you to join me, through this column, on my media journey. I will take you with me as I secure my brand, establish a business plan, assemble the crew, design a logo, create a website, obtain my sponsors, build an audience, construct the set, develop a product line, write the segments, produce the show, and enter the public arena as *Susie Marie PhD*.

I like that my new name rhymes, which suits my corny self. I like that my name has no title, which helps me avoid the "doctor" image trap. I like that my on-air name has evolved over the years to the name that suits me best as I entertain, inform, and inspire, through stories, lessons, and songs about my rural life, as *Susie Marie PhD*.

You may find yourself wanting to walk this road with me. If you decide to leave the private confines of your office and take up life in the public arena, I will be here to welcome, support and guide you. In doing so, I will be paying forward the mentoring gifts of those who saw me through various shows over the years, who helped me arrive at this happy place of becoming *Susie Marie PhD*.

Thank you for your interest and for giving me a chance, once again, to say hello.

I'm *Susie Marie PhD*.

## Upcoming Events By By Professional Training Resources Announced

Professional Training Resources has announced its May calendar of events, including its upcoming Summer Symposium to be held this year, July 24 through 26. Tune your guitars.

Diagnosing Mental Illness  
5/3/13 – Baton Rouge, LA  
5/17/13 – Lafayette, LA  
5/24/13 – Shreveport, LA.

11<sup>th</sup> Annual Mental Health Summer Symposium  
July 24<sup>th</sup> – July 26<sup>th</sup>  
The Hilton, Lafayette, LA.

### The Psychology Times

The *Psychology Times* is provided as a community service for those in the practice, teaching, 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.

## Louisiana Psychological Association Annual Convention May 30-31 cont'd

He explains that public disability programs arose in the 1950s from a desire to provide a social safety net when the primary wage-earner in families could not work due to illness or injury. In both public and private disability evaluations for mental or cognitive impairments, psychologists have a distinct and powerful role to play, Chafetz notes. The role should be unbiased, with the psychologist not acting as a doctor for a patient, or as a tool for the insurance company or government. The goal of this talk is to show how the role of the psychologist is exercised in careful assessment that answers the referral questions in disability examinations.

"Dangerousness in Clinical Practice Post Sandy Hook," will be presented by Dr. Jesse Lambert, Dr. R. Stokes, Dr. Robert Storer, and Dr. Carolyn Weyand. This session will review what we know about school shootings over the past several years, current measures and methods of dangerousness assessment, and specifically discuss what can be done when a clinical patient appears to be dangerous. Participants will become familiar with common factors in recent school shootings and discuss how these might present in clinical practice. Also participants will become familiar with available measures and methods for dangerousness assessment and discuss options for how to ethically respond to and protect a clinical patient and the public.

Kevin Hayes, JD, will present a legislative update on Friday afternoon. He will address bills related to mental health and describe how legislation affects the practice of psychology.

A Casino Night will be sponsored by LPA Political Action Committee for a fun evening, including a raffle for a week in Costa Rica.

For information on how to register, go to <http://www.louisianapsychologist.org/>

### Louisiana Psychological Association Political Action Committee Casino Night



6:30 PM – 9:30 PM

May 30, 2013

### WANT TO WIN? 7-NIGHTS IN AN EXCLUSIVE COSTA RICA CONDO + AIRFARE\*\*

Stay in Costa Rica's most exclusive, all-inclusive resort, a **Montebello Residence in Los Suneos**, on the central Pacific coast of Costa Rica near the town of Jaco!

The residence is a 3-bedroom, 3-bath, and is aprox. 2800 sq.ft. It is smoke and pet free. To view pictures and video, visit: <http://lsrm.com>

**Amenities include:** casino, spa, golf course, marina, great restaurants, shops, and some of the best blue water fishing in the world!

Purchase a raffle ticket from any LPA PAC member for \$100 for a chance to win!  
\*\*Up to \$350/ticket airfare included\*\*

Valued at approximately \$8,000!!

All Proceeds Benefit the Louisiana Psychological Association Political Action Committee