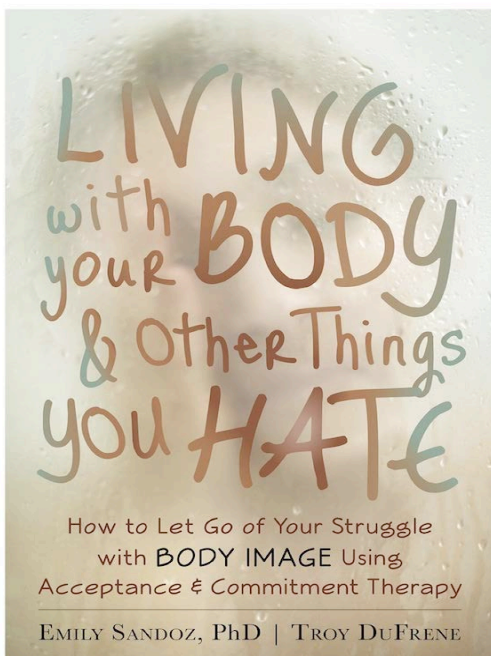


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Dr. Alvin Burstein think about
the new *Robocop*?
See page 12.



Bills Prefiled Last Friday

Legislative Session To Convene March 10

The legislature will convene next Monday, March 10, and plod through its growing set of proposals until Monday June 2 when it is set to adjourn. This session sees prefiled bills for a number of issues in the psychology and behavioral health community. Bills are offered for a new designation for licensed specialist in school psychology, a new license for post-doctoral level individuals in psychology called a provisional license, and new provisional

designations for interns in counseling and marriage and family therapists. A measure to clarify definitions is also proposed. There is a bill to create a license for art therapists and one to make changes in the behavior analyst law to clarify issues for line technicians.

A measure to combine the Department of Health and Hospitals with the Department of Child and Family Services has been prefiled and if

Cont pg 3

Dr. Matthews Set to Retire From Loyola



Dr. Janet Matthews, key figure in the national and state psychology community and long-time professor of psychology at Loyola University in New Orleans, will retire this summer. Matthews will attain Professor Emerita status as of August 1 when she officially retires from Loyola.

She has a long-standing involvement and depth of service in the American Psychological Association (APA) where

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Psychology Board Ballots To Go Out for Third Time

Ballots for a 5-year position on the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists will have to be sent to the over 650 licensed psychologists in the state for a third time.

According to Dr. John Fanning, President of the Louisiana Psychological Association (LPA), the organization that helps conduct the election, a clerical problem caused some mailings not to contain a cover letter explaining to licensed psychologists exactly why there was a second ballot

Cont pg 7



Throw me something mister! Mardi Gras is here this week.

Photo courtesy of www.MardiGrasNewOrleans.com

Editorial Page

What's so important about openness?

by J. Nelson

Recently the psychology board's open-door closed a little. They noted on their website that the public is to submit concerns in writing via the U.S. mail, and that, "It is improper to contact Board members individually." This is not all that unusual, since most boards warn their members not to speak to the public about board matters.

One reason for this, I'm told, is because the public is too stupid to understand the board member is speaking for themselves rather than as a mouthpiece for the regulatory body they serve. Is that sort of like the Pope speaking for God? I wonder if a short, one-sentence warning could help? Something like, "I'm not speaking for the board."

Board members volunteer a lot of time and effort, so it's probably a hassle to be pestered by people. Maybe it's hard to be assertive and say, "Leave me alone." So there is that.

Of course a good reason one might want to restrict communication is to avoid risk. Chair Dr. Culross said in her newsletter address that they had consulted their attorney about the issue, which gives us a clue.

The attorney sub-culture has interesting social norms. Since they participate in an adversarial ("Let's fight!") social system, their focus on offense and defense characterizes their approach, often portrayed in our—the larger social system—humor.

- What is 500 lawyers at the bottom of the sea? A pretty good start.
- What's the difference between a lawyer and a leech? After you die, the leech stops sucking your blood.
- Why do psychologists use attorneys in their experiments instead of rats? There are some things rats just won't do."

While avoiding risks is one valid goal, there are invisible costs to that choice, and also important benefits of other goals to be considered.

A direct result of restricting and delaying communication is the impact on a group's information bias. This is the source of groupthink, but also, when not quite that dramatic, it is the source of limitations in the quality of decisions. Reducing both upwards and downwards information exchange, and installing a nasty time-delay, will likely reduce the quality of group decisions.

The board's move also appears to accentuate issues of status and power, which is not all that desirable if you're striving for a high-functioning team or group.

Then there is the impact on participation, which is already extremely low in our community. A good time for choosing a high engagement, participative leadership style is when you realize that much of what you are hoping to influence is really going on beneath the surface, where you can't see it or change it.

I remember when this theoretical idea hit me in practical, concrete terms. I was consulting in a petrochemical plant. Some Theory X manager was stomping around, being a jackass, and talking down to the men who reported to him. One of these men said to me, "It's as if he doesn't understand that all I have to do is put a teaspoon full of a certain chemical in the system, and we'll be shut down for a week."

Openness and participation are harder, it takes more effort, it may even be riskier in some ways, but free exchange of information will support our community better when it comes to our very highest ideals.

Corrections & Clarifications

One of our readers pointed out that the Mark Twain quote Julie Nelson used in the February editorial was incorrect. Twain said, "If you tell the truth, you don't have to remember anything." Nelson quoted Twain to say, "If you tell the truth, you don't have to remember what you said." The reader, Dr. George Hebert, Assistant Professor at LSU Health Sciences Center's Human Development Center, remarked that he wanted to help us keep our "standards high." The *Times* thanks Dr. Hebert for his correction.

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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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Happy Mardi Gras from the staff of the
The Psychology Times

Legislature convenes March 10

Continued

approved takes effect this November, as part of the Executive Reorganization Act to promote efficiency in state functions.

One topic likely to characterize this year’s debate is Medicaid and issues surrounding the Affordable Care Act. A variety of bills have been prefiled on the topic, including proposed constitutional amendments to expand Medicaid eligibility to conform with federal law.

There are also alternative proposals. Among these, one prohibits enforcement of the Affordable Care Act and there is another one aimed to establish an alternative program, the “Louisiana Health Care Independence Program.”

Prefiled bills were due Friday, but legislative members can introduce up to five more each after the session begins. These bills must be “requested” by March 31 and introduced by April 1.

Provisional Licenses Proposed for Psychology Post-Docs, Counselor Interns, Marriage & Family Interns

Two different bills have been prefiled in this legislative session which would qualify individuals for “provisional” licenses.

Senate Bill 157 by Senator Daniel Martiny (Metairie) would allow the state psychology board to issue a provisional license to those who are being supervised for a psychology licensure.

According to the proposed law, candidates for the provisional license in psychology will need a minimum of one year experience practicing psychology under the supervision of a psychologist or substantially equivalent as defined in the rules and regulations of the board and required as part of the doctoral degree in psychology as defined by the board, as noted in the legislative digest for the bill.

The provisional license has been a topic for the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists, and topic across the nation, as to how to help speed doctoral-level individuals through the two-year supervision requirement for psychologists.

Several sources indicated to the *Times* that a provisional license may help these professionals while under supervision, be reimbursed for services.

In different but somewhat similar type of move, Senate Bill 194 by Senator Fred Mills would replace the title Counselor Intern with “Provisional Licensed Professional Counselor” and also the title Marriage and Family Therapist Intern with “Provisional Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist.”

According to Cindy Nardini, LPC, the bill is a collaborative effort by the Louisiana Counseling Association (LCA) and the Louisiana Association for Marriage and Family Therapy. Nardini is

Governmental Relations Chair for the LCA.

According to the legislative digest for SB 194, provisional licensed professional counselors will only use the title "provisional licensed professional counselor," and may practice mental health counseling, only under the direction and active supervision of a board approved supervisor and only while obtaining the post-graduate degree experience required for licensure as a professional counselor.

Likewise, the provisional licensed marriage and family therapists may only use the title "provisional licensed marriage and family therapist" under the direction and active supervision of a board

approved supervisor and only while obtaining the post-graduate degree experience required for licensure as a marriage and family therapist.

A person with the provisional license may not practice independently or advertise themselves as able to practice independently.

Nardini explained to the *Times* that LCA had been approached for several years by interns who asked for the change, because the word “intern” was confusing for the public. Many were incorrectly viewed as students instead of those under supervision.

The change will not affect fees, said Nardini.

Art Therapist Bill Offered by Bishop

Representative Stuart Bishop, from Lafayette, is authoring House Bill 634 to establish art therapy as a licensed profession. The measure would create an Advisory Committee for art therapists under the Licensed Professional Counselors Board.

The proposed law defines "art therapy" as the integrated use of psychotherapeutic principles, art media, and the creative process by an art therapist for clinical mental health diagnosing, increasing awareness of self and others, promoting developmentally appropriate academic and social interaction, and for clinical mental, physical, and emotional goals.

These would include coping with symptoms, stress, and traumatic experience; addressing cognitive abilities, and identifying needs of a client for therapeutic intervention to meet developmental, behavioral, mental, or emotional needs.

A master's degree in art therapy from a college or university art therapy program approved by the American Art Therapy Association, and also credentials from the Art Therapy Credentials Board.



Psychology board members Dr. Darla Burnett and Dr. Phillip Griffin listen to Executive Director Kelly Parker at the February board meeting. The board is supporting a bill to give those in the post-doctoral supervision phase of licensing a “provisional” license to practice psychology.

Legislature convenes March 10, Continued

HB 152 Will Merge DHH And DCFS

House Bill 152 reorganizes the Departments of Health and Hospitals and Children and Family Services and creates the new Department of Health and Social Services.

The measure lays out the reorganization and consolidation of the powers, duties, functions, and responsibilities of the former departments into the new department, its officers and offices. The law, if approved, will be effective Nov. 1, 2014.

According to the digest, the bill provides that, in accordance with the purposes of the Executive Reorganization Act, the purpose of the Act is to promote economy and efficiency in the operation and management of state functions relative to health and social services, to strengthen the executive capacity of the new department for effective, efficient, and economic administration while improving the quality of the functions performed and the programs and services rendered, and to eliminate duplication of effort within the executive branch of state government.

The proposed law creates offices in the new department that duplicate the offices of the prior departments and provides that each office shall be the successor of the prior office(s) having the same name. Offices of the new department include the executive office of the secretary, the office of management and finance, and (as successors to DHH offices) the office of public health, the office of behavioral health, the office for citizens with developmental disabilities, and the office of aging and adult services, and (as successor to the DCFS office) the office of children and family services.

The law would direct DHH and DCFS secretaries jointly to prepare a workable transition plan for abolition of the two departments and the creation of the new department.



Family therapists at last year’s convention of the Louisiana Counseling Association (LCA). Officers in the LCA Division for Marriage and Family Therapy are (left to right) Melissa Thomas, Donnie Underwood, Rashunda Reed, and Kathleen Rhodes. Legislation has been proposed to create a provisional license for Marriage and Family Therapist interns and also to clarify definitions.

Marriage & Family Therapists Seek to Clarify Definitions in Licensing Act

Senator J.P. Morrell is authoring Senate Bill 121 which would clarify definitions in the Louisiana Mental Health Counseling Licensing Act.

According to the legislative digest, present law defines "marriage and family therapy" to mean the professional application of psychotherapeutic and family systems theories and techniques in the assessment and treatment of individuals, couples, and families.

The proposed law would amend this to define "marriage and family therapy" as the professional application of psychotherapeutic and family systems theories and techniques in the prevention, diagnosis, assessment, and treatment of mental, emotional, and behavioral disorders in an individual and relational disorders in couples and families.

Also, the present law defines "practice of marriage and family therapy" to mean the rendering of professional marriage and family therapy services to individuals, couples, and families, singly or in

groups, whether such services are offered directly to the general public or through either public or private organizations for a fee, monetary or otherwise.

Proposed law amends present law and defines "practice of marriage and family therapy" to mean the rendering of professional marriage and family therapy and psychotherapy services, limited to prevention, assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of mental, emotional, behavioral, relational, and addiction disorders to individuals, couples, and families, singly or in groups, whether such services are offered directly to the general public or through either public or private organizations for a fee, monetary or otherwise in accordance with professional training as provided pursuant to present law and code of ethics/behavior involving the application of principles, methods, or procedures of the marriage and family therapy profession.

The changes would be made to the Louisiana Mental Health Counselor Licensing Act, R.S. 37:1103(6) and (9), and would go into effect upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

Bill to Criminalize Sex with Clients Returns as HB 215

Representative Jerome Richard, from Thibodaux is putting forth House Bill No. 215 which would criminalize psychotherapists having sexual relationships with clients. Punishment is set as imprisonment of not more than 10 years, fines not more than \$10,000, or both. With “therapeutic deception” punishments are higher.

HB 215 is similar to a bill proposed in the 2013 legislative session but that stalled in committee.

Licensed Specialist in School Psychology Proposed

Senator Daniel Martiny is offering a bill for the State Board of Examiners of Psychologists that will create a new license under the psychology board for “Specialist in School Psychology.” The measure would add to existing psychology law, the definition of “Licensed specialist in school psychology.”

If approved, SB 128 will define the practice of the licensed specialist in school psychology, as “the application of psychological principles, methods, and procedures to help children and youth succeed academically, socially, behaviorally, and emotionally. Licensed specialists in school psychology collaborate with educators, parents, and other professionals to create safe, healthy, and supportive learning environments that strengthen the connection between home, school, and the community for all students. They apply their knowledge of both psychology and education during consultation and collaboration with others and conduct effective decision making using a foundation of assessment and data collection. Licensed specialists in school psychology provide services to schools and families that enhance the competence and well-being of children, including promotion of effective and safe learning environments, prevention of academic and behavior problems, response to crises, and improvement of the collaboration between schools and families. The key foundations for all services provided by licensed specialists in school psychology are understanding of diversity in development and learning, research and program evaluation, and legal,

ethical, and professional practices. The types of evaluations performed by licensed specialists in school psychology will be those that are germane to the current state educational bulletins. No school-based evaluations conducted by licensed specialists in school psychology shall employ Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders or International Classification of Diseases diagnosis.”

Among other requirements, the proposed law establishes that the licensed specialist will have completed a school specialist degree from a National Association of School Psychologists approved program or equivalent; will have completed three years of supervised experience as a certified school psychologist within the public school system; and will have passed the Nationally Certified School Psychologist examination.

Proposed law provides that a licensed specialist in school psychology who is working outside of the school system shall be required to do so under the clinical supervision of a licensed psychologist. The licensed psychologist shall be administratively and clinically responsible for the final work product of the licensed specialist in school psychology, and the licensed psychologist shall be required to sign any final reports prepared by the licensed specialist in school psychology.

The legislative digest for HB 128 says that nothing in proposed law shall be construed to limit in any way the duties and responsibilities of a school psychologist certified by the La

Dept. of Education. Also, an initial fee for application is to be less than \$200, and renewals less than \$100, per year.

A task force formed by the state psychology board and led by Dr. Rita Culross of LSU, produced a report about the issues in the state regarding school psychology services. The report highlighted a severe shortage of psychological services for school children throughout the state, noting that there are 69 psychologists with a specialty in school, licensed by the LSBEP and residing in the state. And, only 17 of the 64 parishes have a local school psychologist in the area. While there are 240 certified school psychologists in Louisiana, none of these can practice outside of a public school.

With a population of 690,000 students in Louisiana schools, the ratio of certified school psychologists to Louisiana students is 1 to 2875 and the ratio of licensed school psychologists is 1 to 10,000 or greater, said the authors found.

Dr. Rita Culross, wrote, “The task force believes strongly that the creation of this additional level of licensure under LSBEP would strengthen the practice of psychology within Louisiana, increase the availability of services to children and families throughout the state, and provide an enhanced level of protection to the public.” The task group and legislative effort was a collaborative community effort between a number of groups.



Discussions at the first meeting of the school specialist task force created by the psychology board. From left and clockwise are Chair Dr. Rita Culross, E. Francoise Parr, President of the Louisiana School Psychological Association, Dr. Steven Welsh, retired dean and professor at Nicholls State University, Dr. Carmen Broussard, Associate Professor of Psychology at Nicholls, Dr. Conni Patterson, Professor of Practice at Tulane University and past president of the Louisiana School Psychological Association, and Kelly Parker, Executive Director of the psychology board.

Revisions in Terms for Persons with Disabilities

House Bill 63 calls for reforms in the words used to describe and refer to those with disabilities.

Authored by Representative Walt Leger, HB 63 notes that the proposed law revises terminology in present law referring to persons with disabilities and other persons with exceptionalities by deleting and making substitutions for obsolete, derogatory, or offensive terms.

The proposed law notes the linguistic paradigm known as "person first language", which emphasizes a person's humanity over any condition or characteristic the person may have, to be employed wherever possible to refer to persons with disabilities and other persons with exceptionalities.

If passed, the measure would call for changes in the names of agencies, institutions, private organizations, and other entities. Also, it would cause references to offices, bureaus, and other subdivisions of state agencies and to programs and services that have otherwise been repealed or no longer exist, to be removed.

The digest notes a legislative finding that language used to refer to persons with disabilities and other persons with exceptionalities shapes and reflects attitudes toward and perceptions of such persons by society.

Examples of changes include: "intellectual disability" means any condition formerly referred to as "mental retardation;" "disability" as used to describe a condition or characteristic of a person, has the meaning of the former term "handicap;" references to a "person with a physical disability" and a "person with a disability", as appropriate to the context, mean a person formerly referred to as "physically handicapped", a "handicapped person," "the handicapped", a "crippled person", a "disabled person", or "the disabled."

For purposes of proposed law, references to a person who "acquires a disability" would have the meaning of the former term, a person who "becomes disabled".

Terms of "accessible" and "accessibility" have the meanings, respectively, of the former terms "handicapped accessible" and "handicapped accessibility". And, a "person with mental illness" means a person formerly referred to as either "the mentally ill" or a "mentally ill person."

HB 727: Psychological Health Information Before Abortion

Proposed law would require that prior to undergoing an elective abortion, a woman would be given information on resources that she can review to learn the increased risks of psychiatric and psychological harm associated with abortion, and this would be a condition of consent for the procedure to be deemed voluntary and informed.

The law directs a task team of one psychologist licensed by the La. State Board of Examiners of Psychologists, one physician license by the La. State Board of Medical Examiners, and one layperson would assist in preparation of the printed and Internet information for Department of Health and Hospitals.



Attending last Gulf Coast Applied Behavior Analysis Conference are (L) Dr. Dolleen Day-Keohane, BCBA-D, Paula White, CABAS, from Terrebonne Parish School System, and Mary Johnson, M.A, Acension Parish School System. A number of Rules and at least one proposed bill about issues for those in applied behavior analysis are in the news.

Line Technicians Revision to Behavior Analyst Law Proposed

Senator J. P Morrell is putting forth revisions to the Behavior Analyst law that passed last year, in the current legislative session, Senate Bill 71. The bill changes provisions for the line technician.

Proposed law amends present law to provide a registered line technician shall be at least 18 years of age and possess a minimum of a high school diploma or its equivalent. Proposed law provides a line technician shall be registered by his supervising licensed behavior analyst with the board. Proposed law provides within 14 days from the date of application for registration, the line technician shall initiate a criminal background report from the Louisiana Bureau of Criminal Identification and Information of the office of state police within the Department of Public Safety and Corrections.

The proposed law provides the board has the authority to deny or revoke a registration in the best interest of public safety and welfare, and that the registration provided shall be renewed annually by the supervising licensed behavior analyst.

The proposed law also removes “supervised independent fieldwork” from exemptions for people not affected by the chapter.

In Lieu of Sanity Commission House Bill 15 to Add Licensed Counselor To Those Who May Serve on Clinical Team

House Bill 15 would add licensed professional counselors to the list of persons who may serve on a clinical team that is appointed in lieu of a sanity commission, if the measure is approved.

According to the digest, the present law provides for a sanity commission to be appointed by the court after a mental examination of a defendant is ordered. The sanity commission shall examine and report upon the mental condition of the defendant.

Present law authorizes the court, in lieu of appointing a sanity commission, to enter into a cooperative endeavor agreement with the local mental health unit to examine and report on the mental condition of the defendant.

Present law provides that if the local mental health unit is ordered to conduct the examination, it shall form a two- or three-member clinical team to be composed of one or more licensed physicians. If only one licensed physician is a member of the clinical team, the remaining members of the clinical team may be composed of any of the following persons who are qualified by training or experience in forensic evaluations: clinical psychologists, medical psychologists, or licensed clinical social workers.

The proposed law would retain present law and add licensed professional counselors to the list of persons who may serve on a clinical team.

Representative Ted James from Baton Rouge is the author.

State News

Behavior Analyst Board Posts Emergency Rule

The Behavior Analyst Board has an Emergency Rule posted on the Louisiana Register website, which addresses issues due to the lack of a grandfathering clause in Act 351 and individuals practicing behavior analysis in the community. There is insufficient time to promulgate these rules under the usual procedures noted the statement.

The Rule concerns Chapter 3 and “Application procedures and Board Fees.” Included are application and registration information and directions for the applicant for licensure as a behavior analyst. Also the applicant for certification as a state certified assistant behavior analyst is provided directions.

The Rule also outlines the registration of line technicians, noting that a Louisiana licensed behavior analyst must register with the board all line technicians functioning under their authority and direction. Also, the statement says that it is the responsibility of both the licensed behavior analyst and line technician to submit registration paperwork for each supervisory relationship.

Licensing and administration fee charts are included.

ADRS Amends Rules for Certified and Registered Addiction Counselors

The Addictive Disorder Regulatory Authority published a Notice of Intent to change rules, in the February *Louisiana Register*.

According to the Notice, the scope of practice for the Certified Addiction Counselor (CAC) shall include the rendering of professional guidance to individuals suffering from an addictive disorder to assist them in gaining an understanding of the nature of their disorder and developing and maintaining a responsible lifestyle. The CAC may not practice independently and may not render a diagnostic impression. The scope shall also include making referrals to appropriate professionals, providing counseling to family members and, as appropriate, to others affected by the individual’s addictive disorder, and the utilization of KSA and core functions.

Regarding the Registered Addiction Counselor (RAC), the notice is that scope of practice for the RAC shall include the rendering of professional guidance to individuals suffering from an addictive disorder to



Psychologists Dr. Rafael Salcedo (L), Dr. Kim VanGeffen, and Dr. John Fanning, listen to questions at a jointly sponsored presentation by Tulane and the Louisiana Psychological Association last year. Dr. Fanning has apologized twice now for problems with ballots for the state board election. Ballots will be going out for a third time to all licensed psychologists.

LSBEP Ballots Sent a Third Time Continued

being sent to them. The cover letter was to help avoid any voters’ confusion.

“Two days ago we learned that some undetermined number of ballot envelopes did not contain the page with the paragraph stating that we were having a re-vote,” Fanning explained.

“I apologize for this, and am very, very unhappy about the fact that in both cases the problems were essentially clerical in nature,” Fanning wrote to members of the psychological association. “This is not at all what we want to be doing as an association.”

Elections for the psychology board are conducted in a cooperative effort between the Louisiana Psychological Association (LPA) and the

assist them in gaining an understanding of the nature of their disorder and developing and maintaining a responsible lifestyle. The RAC may not practice independently and may not render a diagnostic impression. The scope shall also include making referrals to appropriate professionals, providing counseling to family members and, as appropriate, to others affected by the individual’s addictive disorder, and the utilization of KSA and core functions.

Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychology (LSBEP) according to an agreement that has been in place for many years.

Dr. Fanning also told LPA members and the *Times* that he had hoped the psychology board would agree to send an email to all the licensed psychologists, making sure everyone understood what was happening. This seemed like a reasonable remedy, he said.

“We asked the board to send an e-mail to all psychologists licensed in the state, but the board declined to do so,” Fanning said.

According to a memo from LSBEP Executive Director Kelly Parker, to Fanning, Parker had polled the psychology board members and they all agreed that LPA should issue new ballots for a third vote.

The first set of ballots were sent to all licensed psychologists at Christmas last year, but were voided due to an error in the color of the ballots. The ballots were printed on plain white paper rather than shaded paper, and some feared that duplicates could be made.

This latest ballot was printed on shaded paper and numbered.

Some in the community feel that tensions surrounding the

election may be contributing to the problems, in one way or another. One source told the *Times* that elections in other years had just as many glitches, but few people cared enough to be concerned.

In January, after the first ballots were recalled, Fanning explained that he did not suspect any misbehavior. “We do not have any evidence of any voting impropriety having taken place,” he said, “but we want the election to be unambiguously above-board.”

The election is considered to be an important one for many in the psychology community, because of conflicts over issues between groups that emerged with Act 251.

Running for the 5-year position are Dr. Robin Chapman, a newcomer to the state and health psychologist, Dr. Joe Comaty, a medical psychologist, and Dr. Connie Patterson, a Tulane professor and school psychologist.

For some in the community, the election is pivotal because of an ongoing tug-a-war between psychologists and medical psychologists for control of the board. Currently, three medical psychologists serve on the state psychology board but represent only about 5 percent of those holding a state psychology license.

Two ABA Emergency Rules

The regular issue of the *Louisiana Register* posted an Emergency Rule regarding Applied Behavioral Analysis-Based Therapy Services in the Medicaid program, effective on February 1, 2014.

Also, another Emergency Rule, having to do with the topic was posted on the Register's website, which is to be published in the next *Register*. The second Rule was effective February 22. Both are available in full at the Louisiana Register at <http://www.doa.louisiana.gov/osr/reg/register.htm>

In the February 1 Rule, the Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing and the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities amends the provisions of the children's choice waiver in order to provide for the allocation of waiver opportunities to Medicaid-eligible children identified in the *Melanie Chisholm, et al vs. Kathy Kliebert* class action litigation, referred to as Chisholm class members.

The Rule also notes that the action was taken as a temporary measure to ensure Chisholm class members would have access to ABA therapy services as soon as possible.

According to the Rule, those qualifying for ABA-based therapy services must meet several criteria. Among these, the individual must exhibit the excesses and/or deficits of behavior that interfere with home or community activities; be medically stable; be diagnosed by a qualified health care professional with a condition for which ABA-based therapy services are recognized as therapeutically appropriate; have a comprehensive diagnostic evaluation and a prescription for ABA-based therapy services.

Under a section on Covered Services and Limitations, the Rule notes that services must be provided directly or billed by behavior analysts licensed by the Louisiana Behavior Analyst Board.

Also the statement notes that services shall be based upon the individual needs of the child, and must give consideration to the child's age, school attendance requirements, and other daily activities as documented in the treatment plan.

The Rule notes that any services delivered by direct line staff must be under the supervision of a lead behavior therapist who is a Louisiana licensed behavior analyst.

Also, ABA-based therapy services shall be rendered in accordance with the individual's treatment plan. The treatment plan shall identify long, intermediate, and short-term goals and objectives that are behaviorally defined and identify the criteria that will be used to measure achievement of behavior objectives, for example.

Also mentioned was that Licensed behavior analysts who render ABA-based therapy services shall meet the be licensed by the Louisiana Behavior Analyst Board, and Certified assistant behavior analyst that render ABA- based therapy services shall meet certain provider qualifications.

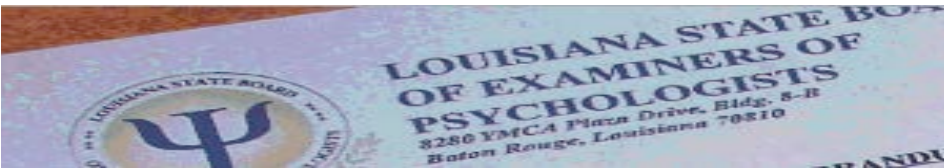
Reimbursement for ABA-based therapy services shall be based upon a percentage of the commercial rates for ABA-based therapy services in the state of Louisiana. The rates are based upon 15-minute units of service, with the exception of mental health services plan which shall be reimbursed at an hourly fee rate, noted the statement.

The more recent Rule is published online at the *Register*. The Emergency Rule is to amend provisions for children's choice waiver and to allow Medicaid participants to coordinate services through a direct support professional rather than a licensed enrolled provider agency, according to the announcement.

The Rule relates to the Medicaid eligible children identified in the *Melanie Chisholm, et al vs. Kathy Kliebert* class action litigation, and notes that this is an action being taken to comply the judgment.

The Rule adopts criteria for the provision of ABA services to Chisholm class members. Among other things, the statement defines who is qualified to receive services and how the children's choice waiver is to work. It sets a cap on yearly services of \$16,410 but notes that the capped amount shall not apply to ABA services provided to persons entering the waiver under the reserved slots for Chisholm class members.

The Rule also outlines provider qualifications and enrollment.



Psychology Board Approves Past CE Training by LAMP-PAC, But Not Again

In a decision still not available in the minutes of the state psychology Board, the members decided to allow the continuing education offered in the past by the Political Action Committee named Louisiana Academy of Medical Psychology-PAC.

The PAC, commonly referred to as "LAMP," has been offering continuing education to medical psychologists for several years. With the passage of Act 251 in 209, medical psychologists were required to purchase 25% of their training from LAMP-PAC. Specifics of this arrangement are not clear, but some sources note that the cost was \$2500, also considered a contribution.

The practice of requiring contributions to a PAC is prohibited by Louisiana campaign finance laws, and the arrangement of fees for continuing education under these conditions is unclear.

Both the medical board and the psychology board approved these continuing education courses, but rules for neither of these boards include PACs as professional training providers.

The *Times* reporter attended the February meeting of the psychology board and asked about the decision. Board members said that they decided to approve past training by the PAC, but not for the future.

LAMP leaders recently formed a new organization by the same name, registered with the Secretary of State. Some sources refer to this as a new, "regional" organization. The creation of a new organization came after an investigative effort by the *Times* which included asking the state ethics board about a PAC selling or requiring payments for continuing education.

Psych Board Reminds Psychologists Can't Advertise as BAs

The psychology board issued an opinion in December about psychologists advertising as "behavior analysts." The short one-sentence notice is, "This opinion is for the purpose of clarification that psychologists cannot advertise as 'Behavior Analysts' unless licensed by the Louisiana Behavior Analyst Board. The Opinion did not mention advertising the practice of behavior analysis.

American Board of Medical Psychology



The Specialty for the Coming Integrated Care Models in Primary Care Centers and Hospitals

Medical Psychologists are post doctorate trained and licensed psychologists with training in psychopharmacology, behavioral medicine, and health psychology. A medical psychologist is more than a psychopharmacologist and clinical psychologist and they are prepared for the mainstream healthcare system.

They have passed a national oral and written examination and have completed a preceptorship.

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www.amphome.org

Dr. Susan Tucker Reviews Innovative Programs for Commission Members

Dr. Susan Tucker presented an overview of her intensive treatment programs to the members of the Louisiana Commission on Addictive Disorders. Dr. Tucker is a recent appointee to the Commission and her innovative programs are known for addressing the underlying issues for incarcerated individuals. Tucker’s presentation was described in the recently published minutes of the November 2013 meeting of the Commission.

Dr. Tucker and her team of therapists have developed the Steve Hoyle Intensive Substance Abuse and Family Recovery Programs which are now available to inmates at the Bossier Sheriff’s Correctional Facility. Prior to that Tucker’s programs were implemented at the Forcht Wade Correctional Facility, which was closed last year due to budget cut-backs.

According to the minutes, Tucker’s presentation to members of the Commission “sparked a discussion among the members of the Commission on how to encourage other prison facilities to take interest in offering Substance Abuse Treatment Programs to inmates while incarcerated.”

The members of the Commission recommended that Sheriff Marlin Gusman from Orleans Parish be invited to the December 2013 Commission meeting to review the benefits of Tucker’s programs and discuss substance abuse treatment in the Orleans Parish prison facility.

According to the December agenda, Sheriff Gusman was scheduled to attend in December.

Attending the presentation for the Office of Behavioral Health were Interim Assistant Secretary Dr. Rochelle head-Dunham, OBH Director of Regional Services, Kenneth Saucier, and OBH Program Manager Carol Foret.

Dr. Susan Tucker is Chief Psychologist and Assistant Warden at the correctional facility in Bossier. She is also Coordinator for the statewide Sex-Offender Treatment Program.

In her presentation to the Commission, Tucker reviewed issues about substance abuse and crime, which included treatment and recidivism, Louisiana’s statistics, and clinical treatment models.

In areas of assessment she explained criminogenic needs assessment, Criminal Thinking Scales, treatment approaches. Also, she told the group about new interventions from the Institute of Behavioral Research at Texas Christian University.

She reviewed her Family Recovery Program, which is a key element in the success of many of her programs and interventions that she has designed. The commission members also heard about family program data, and innovative

programs such as Strengthening the Family, Family Day, and the Read to Me Daddy program, among other aspects of her treatments.

Among her contributions, Tucker has developed a classification system for addicts that help tailor their course of treatment. She uncovered important information to guide specialized training for substance abuse therapists during her research.

Tucker’s programs have earned state and national recognition for results. The group received The Residential Substance Abuse Treatment grant for eight years. In 2010 they were awarded the governor’s grant for prevention. Also, in 2010 the Vera Institute of Justice, an organization dedicated to improving justice systems through research and innovation, noted that Forcht Wade Correctional Center’s family program, “...should be a model for the nation.”

In a previous interview with the Times, Dr. Tucker explained that basis of the program’s success is in the innovations, the comprehensive approach, and the evidenced-based methods.

“The philosophical approach to our treatment,” Dr. Tucker explained, “includes focusing on the thinking patterns, emotional reactions, and behavioral events that often lead to self- defeating patterns and eventually to criminal activity.”



Dr. Elliot Beaton
(courtesy photo)

UNO’s Dr. Beaton Directs New Lab

Dr. Elliott Beaton, Assistant Professor in the University of New Orleans (UNO) Psychology Department, is Director of the new Stress, Cognition, and Affective Neuroscience (SCAN) Laboratory in the Psychology Department.

Beaton and colleagues are studying how stress and anxiety might affect long-term development and risk of schizophrenia in children with chromosome 22q11.2 deletion in a study funded by the National Institute of Mental Health.

Children with this disorder often must deal with medical issues, illness, problems in school and social interactions, and are also at increased risk for psychiatric illness.

The goal of the team at the new SCAN Lab is to study prevention, mitigation, and treatment of adult mental illness by better understanding risk factors in childhood.

Currently the research team is inviting families to participate in the study on stress and health for youngsters with 22q11.2ds.

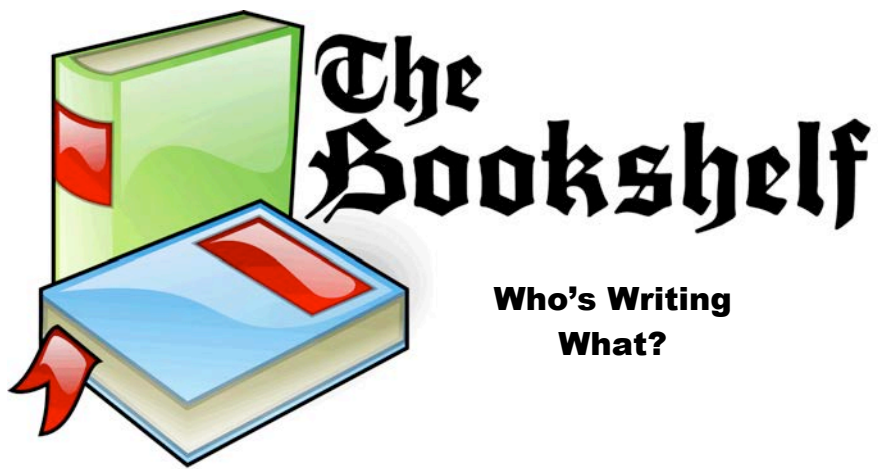
The researchers are also interested in how parents of children with neuro-developmental disorders do in terms of their health and well-being. The researches currently have funds to help pay for travel across North America for research participants.

Dr. Beaton joined the UNO faculty in 2012. He is from Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada. He has focused his work on stress, brain function, and genetic disorders, and has worked at the U. of California Davis MIND Institute. He was awarded a K99 Postdoctoral Fellowship from the National Institute of Mental Health for his research.

Graduate students David Stephenson and Andrea Tountas are also members of the SCAN Lab team.



Dr. Susan Tucker (center) with colleagues at the Bossier Parish Medium Security Facility in Plain Dealing and the Bossier Sheriff’s Office. L to R are Chief Rudy Crain, Major Keisha Harris, Dr. Susan Tucker, Major Charles Gray, and Captain Rodney Boyer.
Photo by Britney Waters



Who's Writing
What?

Living with Your Body & Other Things You Hate

How to Let Go of Your Struggle with Body Image Using Acceptance & Commitment Therapy

Emily Sandoz, PhD
Troy DuFrene

New Harbinger Publications, 2014

Dr. Emily Sandoz and co-author Troy Dufrene have written a very different type of self-help book in their beautifully human, *Living with Your Body & Other Things You Hate*. It is a book about the experience of being in one's body, how we sometimes turn that into suffering, and how to find a way out based in freedom, choice and value-based existence.

The subtitle, *How to Let Go of Your Struggle with Body Image Using Acceptance & Commitment Therapy*, tells the reader that the work is an application of the evidenced-based Acceptance and Commitment Therapy, or ACT, and its strong reliance on mindfulness, experience, and values.

"Call to mind a moment when you felt really free—not burdened or pushed or squeezed down—just there, where you were. It might be something recent, or you might have to reach way back in your memory to find that free moment. It might be something really important to your life—a big day that others would remember. Or it might be something simple, like a smell that reminds you of spring or of your grandmother. What you're looking for here is any free moment. A moment you would choose."

Reminiscent of phrasing in hypnotherapy styles, the authors craft the conversational tone that is in itself poetic, compassionate, soothing and inspiring. They encourage without pressure or condemnation, posing choices and options and staying close to the principles of ACT by validating personal freedoms.

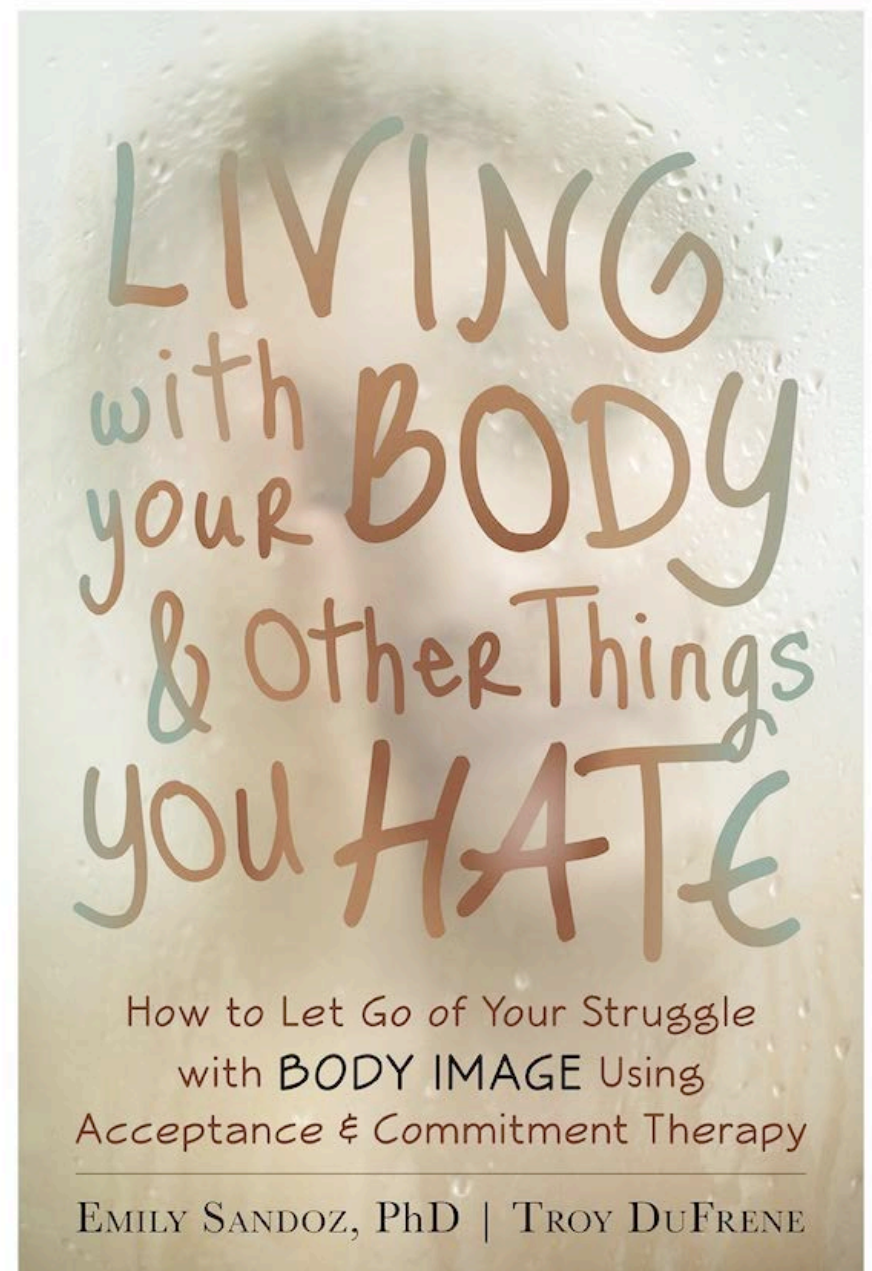
There is no regurgitation of facts or scientific literature, or pointing out of what it wrong. While deceptively simple on the surface, the delightful style could be training for therapeutic speech in general, and specifically, how to navigate the nuances of resistance.

The work addresses a serious societal issue—body image. "We're writing this book right now because for many people, body image is a problem." Issues with body image are both the result and cause of problems for many people in all ages and walks of life. The authors take on the issue and offer an elegant, unusual solution.

"Most of us have a vague idea of the impact on people's lives but the authors describe it to us so we can feel it. "Millions of people will organize whole chunks of their lives today around how they feel about the way they look. They'll wake up an hour early to style their hair or apply their makeup. They'll change out of a shirt they love because it doesn't look like they think it should, or they'll skip lunch with a friend so they can fit in another workout. Some will pretend to be sick so no one wonders why they aren't eating, and others will avoid the eyes of someone who cares about them so they don't have to imagine what she might see."

The authors aren't trying to help people find a way to change how they feel about their body or to give advice on how to look better. Their approach is paradoxical. Sandoz and Troy are presenting something altogether different.

"We should go ahead and confess: this book is not about changing how you feel about your body any more than it is full of tips on how to look good. It's worth saying again: we're not going to teach you to like your body. We don't think you need any more of that kind of advice. In fact, we think that if strategies for feeling better or looking better were going to help you live your life, you wouldn't be reading this book. We wonder if there isn't another way to let go of this struggle—a way that doesn't depend on changing how you look or even how you feel about how you look."



The authors do not pound the ideas into the reader with logic, facts or specific rationales. They help the reader create the vision. In "Where You Could Be Headed," they write that they are not necessarily interested in the life that your mother, or your brother, or your spouse, or partner, or teacher might want for you. "We are explicitly interested in the life you would choose, the one you would reach out and pluck from all the possibilities. The life that you would value, the life that you would work for. The life in which you could find your freedom."

Sandoz and Dufrene write about the psychological costs, gently pointing out that some of us get through much of our day in a productive way, but "...without it being very meaningful at all. In some cases, we can get through much of our lives without even being there."

The work seems perfectly timed and well suited for clients with eating disorders, weight-loss resistance, body-image distress, and all the related concerns, as well as being a help for those therapists treating people with these struggles.

This is a large group. A recent survey found that women spend 55 minutes a day on appearance, to "feel better about themselves." Sixty-seven percent of adult women worry about their appearance, more than finances, health, relationships or professional success. Sixty percent of women and 36 percent of men have negative thoughts about themselves weekly. And perhaps the most alarming aspect of the research is that 78 percent of teenage girls are "plagued with this kind of self-criticism."

Sandoz and Dufrene address this. "We are writing this book because we care about people finding freedom in their lives and because we've known far too many people who found themselves trapped in a struggle with their own bodies. If you know something about that struggle, and if you are ready for something different, welcome."

Living with your Body & Other Things You Hate is structured into two parts. Part 1 includes the overview, with what definitions and theory this experiential text includes. Chapter 1, "Your Body Image," and Chapter 2, "Letting Go of the Struggle," compose Part 1.

Part 2, "Four Opportunities for Change," seeks to engage the reader in the experiences of change from the standpoint of Acceptance and Commitment Therapy.

Audio files for this practice and other practices in this book are available for download at the publisher's website.

Cont'd next pg

Bookshelf, Dr. Sandoz' New Book, continued

In the first parts the authors give an interesting breakdown of some of the definitions and theory, one of the few sections like this in the text. They describe what is known as *body image disturbance* which can be viewed as *body image distress*, feeling sad, nervous, disgusted, or overwhelmed about body experiences. They also define *body image distortion* and *body image dissatisfaction*. And, they explain what is called *body image avoidance*, body checking, and body image investment.

These struggles can grow until “they are taking up more time and attention and energy than we’d ever dreamed,” say the authors.

Sandoz and Dufrene explain Body Image Inflexibility and how it includes narrowed attention to certain aspects of appearance, consistently painful thoughts and feelings about the body, and efforts to find relief. Included is evidence about how body image inflexibility impacts other aspects of life, how those with this struggle are more likely to have heart problems, physical illnesses, increased risk of drug use and alcohol or how it impacts relationships, sense of security, or how it leads to depression.

They show the paradoxical nature of the problem and how most approaches are backwards. “We are pretty sure we could give you tips on how to struggle better with your body image. Except here’s the deal: you’d still be struggling! This book is about trying something different, something that’s neither fixing your body nor fixing your body image. This book is about setting down your struggle with body image and living for something more than how you look or how you feel about how you look.”

In “Letting Go of the Struggle,” the authors give an overview of the approach and philosophy of ACT and point to the main concepts, including the emphasis on psychological flexibility as a principle part of psychological health. Another purpose of ACT is valued living, or living a life that is closer to the one a person would be living if the struggle did not exist, the authors explain.

Part 2 is “Four Opportunities for Change,” and provides the reader with a journey through their experiences and mental practice. Four approaches applied to body image are *being present*, *seeing beyond your thoughts*, *accepting experience*, and *getting to know you*. The authors weave ACT concepts through narrative and mental exercises to ease the reader into greater awareness and choice. Highlights include Chapter 3, where the authors walk the reader through issues of awareness, when it is scattered or stuck. In “Right Here, Right Now: Being Present,” they point out and show that many people

find it difficult to be aware of their bodies without their awareness becoming stuck.

Chapter 4 explains the concept of fusion, in “More than Words: Seeing Beyond Your Thoughts.” The authors describe fusion as when thoughts take over, impacting psychological flexibility. They note that humans are prone to this fusion, and that fused thoughts cannot be figured out, like figuring out a math problem. Fused thoughts limit the way a person can see an issue, since everything is filtered through that lens, they explain.

Sandoz and Dufrene point to the paradox and futility of trying to add opposite thoughts. “Even though it makes intellectual sense, trying to add thoughts that conflict logically with thoughts that are already there isn’t the best way to stop fusion. First, even when we’re able to flip a lens and look through it the opposite way, our world is still being filtered through that lens. And when seeing through any lens (whether it feels good or bad), we’re not experiencing the world fully.”

In the psychological flexibility model, they explain, the goal is defusion. “... to hold our thoughts in such a way that we can see what they are telling us, decide how and if they are important, and see the world around us so we can choose how to respond.”

In Chapter 5, “Opening Up: Accepting the Unacceptable,” authors help the reader understand and address experiential avoidance. Once a person is able to defuse their thoughts, what happens next is they are faced with feelings or thoughts that are painful. Experiential acceptance

“We are explicitly interested in the life you would choose, the one you would reach out and pluck from all the possibilities. The life that you would value, the life that you would work for. The life in which you could find your freedom.”

Dr. Emily Sandoz & Troy Dufrene
Living with your Body and other things you Hate

involves receiving experiences, whether pleasurable or painful.

“If you’re someone who struggles with body image, the situation that causes you pain is often the very body you inhabit,” the authors write, and “... there’s just no escaping your body.” From the flexibility perspective, write the authors, acceptance is not about whether something can or cannot change. Everything changes. It is not about “accepting the fact that...” something is difficult or painful. It is about accepting experiences, the flow of experiences, without avoidance, and letting go of the effort to avoid.

The additional chapters present the reader with alternatives and mental experiences for change and new options, including the ACT concept of commitment, and challenges to those commitments. The authors end each chapter with an opportunity for the reader to think about what they value and to notice how some aspect of inflexibility has interfered with moving toward that value.

“...You’ve noticed the times when your awareness is scattered or stuck, and you’ve practiced being present and aware. You’ve noticed the times when you are seeing the world through your thoughts, and you’ve practiced defusing and letting the rest of the world fill in. You’ve noticed when you are in run-trap-kill mode in your own life, and you’ve practiced accepting your experiences as they unfold. You’ve noticed when you are seeing yourself and others through your thoughts, and you’ve practiced getting to know you and others as more than whatever your mind is offering in that moment.”

Living with your Body is a perfect addition to a therapeutic regimen, but it is also much more than a self-help book for body image. It is full of wisdom about accepting life first as it is, and moving in graceful parallel to its realities, creating our most meaningful journey.

It is a book for everyone.



Dr. Emily Sandoz of the University of Louisiana Lafayette Psychology Department, and author, speaking at a past science track presentation at the Louisiana Psychological Association.



Psychology At The Movies

ROBOCOP 2014

by Dr. Alvin Burstein

The 1987 film, RoboCop, was a financial success, grossing over fifty million dollars in its domestic run. It was also well-regarded critically, being listed as one of the best one thousand movies ever made by the *New York Times*. It is not surprising, then to find the 2014 remake playing in current theatres.

The original film was noted for its degree of violence and for being an oblique criticism of contemporary culture. The remake equals its predecessor on the first characteristic. The cultural critique in the 2014 version is less subtle, much more pointed.

The new version opens with a 2028 “airing” of the Novak Element, featuring a hyped up super-patriotic talking head extolling the use of American robots, manufactured by OmniCorp, in pacifying the streets of a middle-eastern country using high-tech murderous violence. Despite the reality that the “pacification” bloodily backfires, Novak conceals its flaws, and argues for the implementation of robotic control of crime-ridden American cities. His plea is obviously in the service of influencing a current domestic debate over the Dreyfus act, a law prohibiting robots in the United States from killing humans.

Raymond Sellers, the Steve Jobsian CEO of OmniCorp, is inspired to resolve the political problem by constructing a cyborg using a wounded American warrior-hero fused with a robotic body to produce a device with robotic efficiency and human moral sensibilities. Detroit policeman Alex Murphy, terribly and graphically wounded by gangsters, is chosen. Dr. Dennett Norton, a scientist who has been doing work with prosthetics, is seduced by the offer of bottomless grants (and perks) by OmniCorp into undertaking the effort, despite his moral reservation.

Using only Murphy’s lungs, brain, face, vocal apparatus and, gruesomely, Murphy’s right hand, Norton constructs a computer controlled armored robotic body—RoboCop. When Murphy comes to understand what has happened, he pleads to be killed. Norton, arguing that Murphy’s beloved wife and son, as well as the community at large, would be served by Murphy’s heroic rescue of Detroit’s streets from bondage to criminality, persuades him to undertake the effort.

Shortcomings in RoboCop’s design make it necessary to blunt Murphy’s emotions and to short-circuit his control of his prosthetic body, leaving him only the illusion of choosing his actions. Nevertheless, in a series of predictably violent events, Murphy finds criminal corruption that reaches into the political hierarchy, and also discovers OmniCorp’s role in manipulating Norton into deceiving him. His mind manages to overcome computer control of his “body,” and he bloodily revenges himself.

The movie ends with the Dreyfus act protected and Murphy, with a new robot body, awaiting a visit from his wife and son. I had to try hard not to wonder what kind of life together the family would have.

But I liked the film a lot. Its psychological implications run deep.

Many of the current developments in psychoanalytic theory raise questions about the role of instincts in driving behavior, directing our attention away from the focus on sex and aggression that was once central.

In this film one of the salient themes is that of potency. Murphy, at the mercy of mechanical aids, pleads for death, but lives on in a hyper-masculine form that belies his no longer having a penis. The film ends with his newly armored self, equipped with armaments and a badge, awaiting that visit from his wife and son. The device of the expected event both provokes and conceals the question of what kind of husband and father he can be.

The appeal of the extravagantly gory display that characterizes this movie is important as well. It provides a safely unreal, almost pornographic, gratification of the aggressive element that is part of all of us.

But most important may be the film’s applauding the uniqueness of humanity. Its repudiation of the reduction of psychotherapy to pharmacological manipulation. Its avowal that mind cannot be reduced to matter.

Guest Columnist, Dr. Alvin Burstein
Professor emeritus,
University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Dr. Burstein is currently on the faculty
of the New Orleans-Birmingham
Psychoanalytic Center.

He moderates the Film & Discussion
Series for the Center.

See the schedule at:
http://www.nobpc.org/Page_Calendar/filmseries.html.



(courtesy photo)

People

Dr. Matthews to Retire

Continued

she served on the APA Board of Directors. She also served as Chair of APA Board of Educational Affairs and as President of Division 31, State, Provincial & Territorial Affairs.

Matthews has served Loyola in numerous areas including the Faculty Senate, the Arts & Sciences Awards Committee, the Psychology Department Curriculum Assessment Committee, the Advisory Board for University Honors Program, and been faculty advisor for the Psychology Club among her many contributions. She has received her university's award for Excellence in Advising.

During her career she has served on the La. State Board of Examiners of Psychologists, and as chair.

She has published a number of books including *Introduction to Clinical Psychology* published by Oxford University Press and *Your Practicum in Psychology: A Guide for Maximizing Knowledge and Competence* published by

American Psychological Association. She is a contributing author for numerous book chapters including "Clinical psychology: Ethics of therapists," in *The Handbook of 21st Century Psychology*, published by Sage. She has published over 70 journal articles, including her many contributions to *Journal of Personality Assessment*, *Journal of Medical Education*, *Teaching of Psychology*, *Professional Psychology*, and *American Psychologist*. And she has presented over 100 professional presentations.

Dr. Matthews is currently Associate Editor of *Professional Psychology: Research & Practice*. "I really enjoy that work and spear-headed the special section on telepractice which is coming out in the next issue," she told the *Times*.

Dr. Janet Matthews is married to Dr. Lee Matthews, who has also served on the psychology board, and who is a clinical and neuropsychologist. The couple has published together in areas of their interests including dual careers in psychology professionals.



Dr. Janet Matthews, Professor of psychology at Loyola, plans on retiring this August. Dr. Matthews is currently Associate Editor of *Professional Psychology: Research & Practice*. She has served on the American Psychological Association's Board of Directors and also as Chair of the APA Board of Educational Affairs. Above, she attends a conference with husband and colleague, Dr. Lee Matthews.

Michael Chafetz, PhD, ABPP

is pleased to announce the formation of a new practice:

Algiers Neurobehavioral Resource, LLC

Still featuring evidence-based neuropsychological and psychological evaluations in clinical, disability, and forensic cases.

Announcing that Melissa Dufrene, PsyD will be joining the practice, offering evidence-based therapy services for psychological disorders. Dr. Dufrene trained at one of the two inpatient OCD treatment centers, and will offer focused specific treatments for anxiety-based disorders.

Feel free to call or visit us.

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Up-Coming Events

LSU Life Course & Aging Center Presents Holocaust Survivor Eva Kor on March 20

The LSU Life Course and Aging Center, with LSU School of Social Work, will present “An Evening with Eva Kor, Holocaust and Mengele Twin Experiment Survivor.”

Eva Kor, author of *Surviving the Angel of Death, the True Story of a Mengele Twin in Auschwitz*, will speak on transcending the traumatic events in her life in a special presentation Thursday, March 20, at Pennington Biomedical Center’s C.B. Pennington Auditorium.

Dr. Katie Cherry, LSU Professor of Psychology and Executive Director of the LSU Life Course and Aging Center told the *Times* that she thinks the event will be of great interest to many and it is open to the public and also admission is free.

Ms. Kor’s story is dramatic. She was born in a tiny village in Romania in 1934. Her father was a wealthy farmer, but the family lived under the threat of the Nazi takeover and

prejudice against Jews. When Eva and her twin sister, Miriam, were age six, they and other Jewish prisoners were transported to the Auschwitz Nazi death camp. Eva and Miriam never saw their parents or siblings again. Because they were twins, they became part of the genetic experiments under the direction of Dr. Josef Mengele. Most of these children, approximately 3000, died as a result of the abuse and experimentation. But Eva survived and helped her sister survive.

Ms. Kor is a noted a public speaker, survivor of the Holocaust, Forgiveness Advocate, and the founder of the CANDLES Holocaust museum in Terre Haute, Indiana. Her story is one of transcending some of the most horrific experiences imaginable, and she is a testimony to resilience of spirit in one of the darkest times of human history.

Understanding this ability and resilience is of great importance to

those at the LSU Life Course and Aging Center.

Dr. Katie Cherry explained that those at the Center strive to develop understanding about successful aging and help to educate the public about these important matters.

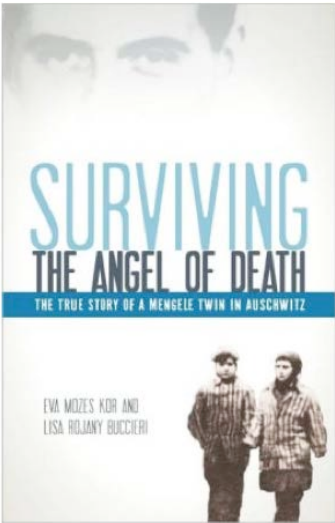
By the year 2020 more than 20 percent of the population is expected to reach the age of retirement, Dr. Cherry and colleague Dr. Neila Donovan explained. Dr. Donovan is Associate Professor in the LSU Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, and Director of Community Outreach at the Center.

With this increase in older adults in Louisiana more than 50 scholars from LSU Baton Rouge and seven other institutions around the state work in an interdisciplinary research effort to understand healthy, optimal aging.

The group works to promote collaborative research activities across many fields including the biological, social, psychological sciences, and education. They also develop life course and aging education and curriculum programs.

The group works with community partners sharing the latest scientific and clinical information on life span psychology and related sciences

Dr. Cherry is the Emogene Pliner Distinguished Professor of Aging Studies and the author of the edited volume, *Lifespan Perspectives on Natural Disasters: Coping with Katrina, Rita, and Other Storms*.



AFCC-LA Will Hold 4th Annual Conference March 27-28, in N.O.

The Louisiana Chapter of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts (AFCC-LA) will hold its Fourth Annual Conference in New Orleans on March 27 -28, 2014.

The conference theme is “Restructuring The Family: Incorporating Different Needs & Perspectives Into Your Practice.”

Featured speakers for the event are Bill Eddy, LCSW, Esq., President and Co-founder, High Conflict Institute of San Diego, Ca. Eddy will speak on Friday on “Incorporating the Different Needs and Perspectives of High Conflict Personalities in Separation and Divorce.”

Also offered on Friday will be, “Understanding High Conflict Personality Disorders,” “Managing High Conflict Personalities,” “Issues in High Conflict Mediation,” and “New Ways for Families: Teaching Skills Before Big Decisions.”

Dr. Debra DePrato, M.D., featured for the Thursday event is the 2012 Champion of Louisiana Juvenile Justice Award recipient. Dr. DePrato will speak on “Impact of Family Conflict on Child Development.”

Also included is, “LGBT Relationships under Louisiana Law: Gaps of Exclusion.”

Also presenting for the conference is Kenneth Upton, Jr., Supervising Senior Staff Attorney, Lambda Legal in Dallas, and the Honorable Judge Dawn Amacker of the 22nd Judicial District Court.

There will be a cocktail social and networking event on Thursday evening.

The convention site will be the Hampton Inn, Convention Center, New Orleans.



LSU Life Course and Aging Center board members and scholars. L to R are Drs. Jan Hondzinski, Neila Donovan, Katie Cherry, Pricilla Allen, William Jenkins, and invited speakers Drs. Emily Elliott and Ed Golob.
(Photo courtesy of the LCA Center)

Up-Coming Events

After Almost 40 Years

Plans Crystallizing for LSU Reunion of Grad Students

Dr. Courtland Chaney and Richard Maples have updated plans for the July 2014 reunion of doctoral graduate students from Louisiana State University (LSU). Some have not seen one another for almost 40 years.

Chaney and Maples recently alerted potential participants that plans are emerging, indicating that the dates have firmed up to be July 25 through 27, 2014.

"The original discussion to have a reunion began as a way for one entering class to get together socially after almost 40 years," wrote Chaney. "Our personal connections to others who entered before us and who began graduate school after us was so strong, we ultimately realized a wider time span was needed for the reconnection."

"When the idea of the reunion was shared with various graduates and the LSU psychology department, the enthusiasm proved contagious," Chaney and Maples said.

The reunion organizers now have an LSU psychology department web site connection and a Facebook page to help coordinate communications between those planning to attend the event, and also to help get feedback about the evolving ideas for activities.

So far the get-together involves a variety of possible activities, such as playing golf together, touring the LSU campus, or small group brunch. A TGIF at The Chimes is planned for late Friday afternoon. The Chimes was the popular hang-out for graduate students throughout the 70s and 80s.

A highlight of the reunion weekend is a reception by the LSU Psychology Department from 10 am to 2 pm at the LSU Faculty Club on Saturday. Psychology professor Dr. Emily Elliot is the LSU faculty member working with the group to help arrange the reunion.

Chaney and Maples hope the LSU alums will give feedback, offer their photos and stories, and take the survey online at the LSU psychology department website.

"The survey is on-line and you can see the photos," said Chaney, "and read the short life stories and resumes of those who have provided them so far." Go to <http://www.lsu.edu/psychology/alumupdate.html>



The Facebook page can be found at www.facebook.com/LSUPsychGrad.

"You are invited to submit similar documents as well as photos you may have of you in graduate school and more recently. This activity is simply considered a fun way to reconnect," said Chaney and Maples.

"We welcome your input."

Professionals to Speak At CW Austin Learning Disabilities Conference

A number of local experts will present information for the C.W. Austin Learning Disabilities Conference, to be held Saturday, May 3, at the Louisiana Key Academy in Baton Rouge.

The conference is a free presentation for parents and professionals interested in helping students with learning disabilities, organized by Tracey Lynons Tozier and Georgann Mire of Mire Consulting.

The day-long conference includes a presentation by psychologist Randall L. Lemoine, Ph.D., on *"Executive Function Skills: Keys to Academic Success."*

Darlyne G. Nemeth, Ph.D., M.P., of the Neuropsychology Center of Louisiana will present *"What to do if Traditional Medications are not Achieving Expected Result."*

Also from the Neuropsychology Center of Louisiana, Chelsie Songy, B.A. and Traci W. Olivier, M.S. will present *"Understanding Bulletin 1508 Requirements and Standard Psychoeducational Evaluations."*

Kara Shupe from Families Helping Families will speak to the group on *My Child has a Learning Disability, Now What?* Belynda Gauthier from CHADD will present *ADHD in the Classroom.* "What's Next?? *Transition to College,*" by Kesha Burton of BRCC Disability Services, *"Creating Connections as a Foundation for Problem Solving,"* by Steven Bordelon, and *"Reading Between the Lines,"* by Judy Moock David, M.A., of Abilities Pediatric Services, will also be among the presentations.



Assn Professional Behavior Analysts To Meet New Orleans, March 27- 29

The Association of Professional Behavior Analysts will hold it 4th Annual Convention in New Orleans, on March 27 through 29 at the Sheraton New Orleans on Canal St.

The conference includes a variety of training events, keynote addresses, presentations, symposiums, tutorials, workshops, panel discussions, and poster sessions.

Keynote Addresses will include, “Why Every Behavior Analyst Should be Concerned About America's Gambling Addiction,” presented by Dr. Mark Dixon, Southern Illinois University.

Dr. Eileen Gambrill, University of California, Berkeley, will deliver a Keynote address on, “Critical Thinking in Clinical Practice.”

Also, E. Scott Geller, Virginia Tech, will present the Saturday Kenote Address, “Leadership Lessons from Behavioral and Psychological Science: Bringing the Best out of Yourself and Others.”

Workshops and presentations will include, “Functional Assessment and Treatment of Severe Problem Behavior,” “Traumatic Brain Injury: Mechanisms, Management, and Training,” “Addressing Client and Staff Safety in School and Clinical Settings: Practical and Regulatory Issues,” and Being a Better Consultant: What it Takes to be an Effective and Powerful Professional Behavior Analyst.”

A workshop co-sponsored by Autism Speaks, is offered on “Health Insurance Coverage for Autism Treatments.” This all-day workshop will address successes and difficulties in implementing those laws, coverage of ABA services by some public health plans, and strategies for overcoming common problems.

Tutorials are offered on topics include, “HIPAA privacy and security,” “Recent Developments at the Behavior Analyst Certification Board,” and “Why Science Matters.”

Symposiums include, “Teaching Foundational Social Skills To Children With Autism: Verbal Behavior And Observational Learning,” and “When ABA is Taken Out of the Hands of Board Certified Behavior Analysts: An Exploration Into Parent and Staff Training,” and “Evaluating Treatment of Aberrant Behavior Displayed by Individuals with Autism within the Context of Ongoing Classroom Activities.”

The Psychology Times

CLASSIFIED ADS

For Rent Metairie:

Large office (18' X 11' 9") and small office (11' 5" X 10' 2") on Ridgelake. Excellent location for Mandeville, N.O., and Metairie clients. Office suite with four other therapists. Automatically locking door between waiting room and six therapy offices. Two bathrooms- one for therapists only. Small kitchenette with fridge and microwave. Includes once per week cleaning, utilities, Kentwood water, basic paper products for bathroom. Ample parking. Large office \$500 mo. Small office \$340 mo.

Call Elaine Salzer PhD (504) 837-6018

Office space available for mental health professionals in Metairie (517 N. Causeway Blvd). Contact Marian Arnoult-Jackson (504)250-8202.

Position Wanted: Research Associate, Health Psychology. Accomplished and dynamic masters level professional with degree in health psychology. Competencies include: Health Care · Patient Assessments · Patient Relations · Health & Safety Regulation · Care Coordination Policies / Procedures Compliance · Time Management · Needs Assessment · Email for more info at Neurology579@yahoo.com

Private Office Space for Rent in complex with other mental health professionals: **Baton Rouge, South Sherwood area**. Utilities included. \$650 per month. Call 850-564-0077 for more information.

Psychologist Opportunity

Busy, multidisciplinary, fee-for-service, mental health practice located in the Garden District of New Orleans, Louisiana
is currently seeking an experienced, licensed psychologist interested in providing assessment and psychotherapy services to adolescents and adults.
Neuropsychology specialty skills are encouraged.

Please submit a letter of interest along with a curriculum vitae to pkmkirkhart@bellsouth.net

The Psychology Times

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