



Ms. Connie Bellone (L), COO, and Ms. Phyllis Landrieu, Co-Founder and President of the Child & Family Learning Foundation in New Orleans, testify about HCR 34. The Foundation works to integrate services at the school, child, family and community levels. HCR 34, by Senator Heitmeier, urges state agencies to help expand the Foundation's success.

## HCR Calls for Whole Child Model

Senators at the May 20 Health & Welfare committee offered their hearty support to a measure explained by representatives of New Orleans based Child & Family Learning Foundation, Co-Founder and President, Ms. Phyllis Landrieu, M.Ed., and Connie Bellone, RN, Chief Operating Officer.

The measure, House Concurrent Resolution 34, authored by Senator Heitmeier and others, asks the Department of Health and Hospitals, the Department of Education, the Medicaid managed care organizations, and representatives of the Whole Child Initiative to work together to develop a plan to

implement the Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child model (WSCC) developed by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention.

"We'd like to take this model and implement it statewide, because we know that it works," said Connie Bellone to the Senators. "This is the model that the CDC has recommended for the entire country. And we'd be one of the first states to implement it statewide."

The Resolution notes that the "CDC's coordinated school health approach has

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## Lawmakers Focus on State's Budget Crisis

### Legislators Find Ways to Save Higher Ed Public Health Likely to Take More Hits

In a budget still full of holes, lawmakers will leave many problems to public health after cutting and pasting in order to scrape up \$664 million for higher education.

After five hours of debate on May 21 the House passed the budget with a 65 to 37 vote, approving 11 measures to generate money for the state's

beleaguered higher education systems. Included was a 32-cent tax increase on cigarettes, a reduction in the state's film tax credit of \$26 million, and the elimination of a tax credit for solar energy systems. Tradeoffs also included tax breaks on theater productions, property taxes paid by

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## LSBEP's Bill Stirs Up Controversy

Senate Bill 113, initiated by the Louisiana Board of Examiners of Psychologists and authored by Senator Rick Gallot of Ruston, passed the Senate on May 18 with a 37 to 0 vote. However, the measure stirred up controversy over the board's attempt to remove the Louisiana Psychological Association (LPA) from the wording of the psychology law. The law currently specifies that LPA provides a list of names for appointments to the Governor.

In a May 13 meeting of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and International Affairs, the proposed wording (which

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SB 113 became controversial but no records have been released so far to explain the details. Here, while Chair Dr. Rita Culross testified, Mr. William (Bud) Courson, lobbyist for the Louisiana Academy of Medical Psychologists, chats with psychology board member, Dr. Darla Burnett and board Executive Director Ms. Kelly Parker. The video recording is available in Senate archives.

# Editorial Page – Opinions

## Instillation of Hope *by J. Nelson*

Amid the confusion and chaos of activities at the legislature, the bleak outlook as our lawmakers scrambled for footing with the budget, the politics, with its strange interpersonal dynamics and less that perfect critical thinking, I had the delightful privilege of speaking with leaders at the Child and Family Learning Foundation of New Orleans.

I had the honor of meeting the Lead Psychologist, Dr. Palmer-Seal and the Foundation's COO, Ms. Connie Bellone. They described for me the innovations going on at the Foundation and I was immediately heartened for our species.

The group rose from the post-Katrina efforts to recover in New Orleans and they are working at the heart of the heart of our state's culture of poverty. Connie told me about the children trying to climb their way out of generations, not just years, of poverty. Between the words, I heard the vision, dedication and especially the innovation. "You're doing community psychology!" I said. And she said, "Is that what's it called?" Yes!

The Foundation's system approach, leaves out no variable— "We talk to every single person who has contact with the child," Connie told me. They intervene at any level necessary. Work through any obstacle. Connect all the dots to serve the customer—the child. What I heard were pure waters. No ego, no bureaucratic mumbo jumbo, no faulty reasoning. Alignment.

I was heartened and helped to find these true innovators who are lighting up our world with their light bulbs, making something worthy and wonderful for these children, often with the resources that are already there, the alchemy of integrated care, of participative leadership, of innovation, where 2 and 2 can equal 5 or 10 or 50. The team at the Foundation is instilling hope for the children of generational poverty and they instilled some hope in me as well, and for that I'm very thankful.

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## Letters to the Editor

### Letter to the Editor *Psychology Times*

I have been a member of the American Psychological Association for many years, long enough, finally, to merit being excused from paying dues. I have had the privilege of serving on the association's Accreditation Committee, and subsequently on what was then the Education and Training Board. I felt proud when I earned Fellowship status.

When I opened my *New York Times* a few days ago a headline made me blink:

### ***American Psychological Association Bolstered CIA Torture Program***

What followed was a report of alleged collusion between APA and elements of our government to provide a rationale for, and to facilitate the implementation of, torture as part of the war on terror. It made me blink and it brought back a memory: Logan Wright's 1962 Presidential address to the APA Division 12 (Clinical Psychology). Its title: *Please Don't Tell My Mother I'm A Clinical Psychologist—She Still Thinks I Play Piano In A Whorehouse*.

Logan was complaining about inadequate standards for the profession and making a case for improvement in an evolving profession. The Times article paints a more sordid story, alleging seduction and betrayal. Seduction by opportunities for financial gain and perhaps by the lure of being "insiders." And the betrayal of professional standards.

The story mirrors a situation painfully detailed in C. S. Lewis's book, *That Hideous Strength*, a fictional account tale of a university and its scholars corrupted by money and the promise of power.

The information in the NYT article seems to be a reprise of claims made last November in a book by James Risen, *Pay Any Price: Greed, Power, and Endless War*. I haven't read that book, but I will. In response to the furor raised by those claims, last November Norman Anderson, the Chief Executive of APA, announced that an independent investigation of them will be carried out and published. That publication has yet to appear. One can hope it will bring into question, or at least mitigate, the allegations.

In the meantime, I feel very, very sad.

Alvin G. Burstein, Ph.D.  
Professor Emeritus, University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

### Letter to the Editor

A recent debate on the listserve of the Louisiana Psychological Association about free speech, with some being admonished that their comments were not allowed by rules from the American Psychological Association, points to interesting irony.

Bad stuff happens when we stay silent, no matter if our silence is out of fear or out of complacency. We do have some brave members in LPA; people who don't stay silent, and I have to admire them for that, even if I don't always have the political or intellectual bandwidth to weigh in. We don't all have to agree with one another, all of the time. And we don't have to follow rules like lambs to the slaughter, just because they were issued.

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## Corrections & Clarifications

No corrections or clarifications were received for our May issue.

Please send corrections to the *Times* at  
[psychologytimes@drjulienelson.com](mailto:psychologytimes@drjulienelson.com)

# Public Health in Sights as Higher Ed Dodges Cuts, continued

telephone companies, and dependent health care coverage.

While higher education can take a deep breath, the problem is far from over for the healthcare and welfare systems. The Senate Finance committee met May 29 and 30, hearing testimony from the struggling Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH) and the new Public-Private Hospitals, those that replaced 9 of 10 of the LSU charity hospitals.

DHH Secretary Kathy Kliebert and Undersecretary Jeff Reynolds told Senate Finance members that they need money in several areas: \$35.9 million tied to the Public-Private Partners; \$21.6 to cover short “over-collections” which also impacts the Public-Private Hospitals; \$9.5 million for New Orleans Partnership; and \$2 million to reverse the sub-acute rate and triage rate reductions. They also asked the committee to review two House amendments, one which reduces \$25.8 million from the state general fund.

Representatives from the hospitals also testified, including Chancellor of the LSU Health Sciences Center in Shreveport, Dr. Robert Barish, and Dr. Wayne Wilbright, CEO of LSU Healthcare Services Division. They pointed out tens of millions of

dollars in budget shortfalls, including “legacy” costs—those costs tied to retirees.

Representatives from the newly named New Orleans hospital, the Rev. Avery C. Alexander Medical Center, explained that the projected \$88 million shortfall is actually \$138 million.

Public charity system advocate, Brad Ott, Adjunct Professor of Sociology at Southern University at New Orleans, said, “I implore you not to pit higher education against social welfare and health care needs in considering reworking HB 1.”

Representatives from Families Helping Families, Citizens with Developmental Disabilities, and Louisiana Association for the Blind also made statements about the cuts. Mary Patricia Ray with Louisiana Primary Care Association spoke about cuts to the Community Health Centers (CHCs). She noted that CHCs see almost a 1,000,000 patients and have 50 percent uninsured and uncompensated services.

Carmen Weisner, Executive Director of the National Association of Social Workers, along with Dilland Waguesback from Louisiana Progress Action,

spoke about concerns with the loss of support for youth who are aging out of foster care. “We are concerned and have been concerned about the youth that have aged out of foster care over the last year and a half without the support that the state previously provided,” Weisner told the Senators.

**Public Health’s Continued Struggle**

This year’s cuts in healthcare follow a string of continued shortfalls: last year DHH cut \$26 million from its budget. After the creation of the Public-Private hospitals, following a \$300 million reduction in federal disaster matching funds in 2010, DHH announced a 24 percent cut in hospitals in 2012. The public systems cover those on Medicaid, currently about 1,350,231 in Louisiana, according to the Louisiana Medicaid Enrollment” report. The hospitals also cover the uninsured, resulting in what is called “uncompensated costs” at hospitals, who by law cannot turn away a patient.

Bills to expand Medicaid, which some say would be too costly for the state in the long-term, would help to cover the hospitals, but measures have repeatedly failed. Estimates are that between 166,000 and 300,000 uninsured

could go onto the Medicaid rolls if the state expanded the program to 138 percent of the poverty level, and that as much as \$52 million would be generated for this year’s budget.

The reason Medicaid is a money-maker for the state is because of FMAP, the “Federal Medical Assistance Percentage.” Medicaid matches each dollar spent and, in some states, multiplies the amount, based on a factor related to the average income in the state. The FMAP for Louisiana is 62.21% and the multiplier is 1.65, according to Kaiser Health, meaning that for every dollar Louisiana spends on Medicaid the federal government sends \$1.65 back to the state.

At the Senate Finance on May 29, Senator Edwin Murray from New Orleans said, “I know it’s a bad word up here in Baton Rouge, but Medicaid expansion would help an awful lot. A lot of this stuff we’re trying to find money for, we would not have this discussion if we adopted it.”

The state has worked to cope with the rising costs and cuts by making changes. The Medicaid program in Louisiana is undergoing “revolutionary changes,” Dr. Rochelle Head-Dunham, assistant secretary and medical director of the Office of Behavioral Health in DHH, told the *Baton Rouge Health Care Journal* this spring.

DHH is uncoupling its Louisiana Behavioral Health Partnership, which was an effort at managed and coordinated behavioral health

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Current photo of the Earl K. Long Hospital on Airline Highway in Baton Rouge being demolished. Closed in April 2013, the hospital had been a place that many in the area received training. The charity hospital system transitioned to the Public-Private hospitals after reductions in federal disaster matching funds in 2010.

# Public Health in Sights

continued

care and included Magellan Health Services, the Office of Behavioral Health, Medicaid, Office of Juvenile Justice, Department of Children and Family Services, and Department of Education.

Now, these services are moving into Bayou Health, and the state is terminating its contract with Magellan, which the State Auditor found issues with in its September 2014 review. “.. some districts continue to struggle with the challenges of meeting Magellan requirements, maximizing self-generated revenue, and delivering the services needed for their clientele,” said the State Auditor. “DHH Fiscal continues to have inadequate processes and controls to ensure claims payments are identified, reconciled, and properly classified timely in the state’s accounting system for the districts to access funds paid by Magellan for their services.”

The Partnership expanded its network in 2012–13 to include Licensed Clinical Social Workers, Licensed Professional Counselors, Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists, Licensed Addiction Counselors, and Advanced Practice Registered Nurses. This grew providers from 800 to 1,700.

The ambitious move to total integration of health and behavior is to be completed by December 2015. A Behavioral Health Advisory Group, 50 or more stakeholders and regulators, working on the transition, includes Louisiana Licensed Professional Counselors Board of Examiners, Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners, Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists, National Association of Social Workers, Louisiana Chapter, and many others. The group last met in late April.

The *Times* spoke with psychologist Dr. Gail Gillespie, who, along with Dr. Lucinda DeGrange, represented licensed psychologists and the Louisiana Psychological Association in voicing concerns experienced by psychologists working in the Medicaid program.

They talked to DHH Secretary Kathy Kliebert about excessive preauthorization paperwork, extensive waiting lists, rates, and access of patients to care from psychologists, Gillespie noted.

Gillespie explained, that Medicaid reimbursed \$74.69 per unit, while Magellan pays \$43.21 per unit for psychological testing. The neighboring states of Texas

## Shift in Types of Behavioral Health Spending in Louisiana

Comparing 1Q 2013 to 1Q 2014

(Red highlighted topics are new categories for 2014 that were not listed in 2013.)

<i>Inpatient Services</i>	<i>1Q 2013</i>	<i>1Q 2014</i>
Inpatient-Freestanding Psych Facilities	\$542,121	\$325,310
Inpatient-Distinct Part Psych Facilities	11,594,645	13,465,951
Inpatient-General Hospital	523,699	494,284
Addiction Services – Residential	890,226	
Addiction Services – Residential ASAM 3.1-3.3		800,444
Addiction Services – Residential ASAM 3.5-3.7		1,503,027
Inpatient-Incurred But Not Reported		
Claim Expenses	1,265,329	(1,423,724)
<i>Other</i>		
Mental Health Intensive Outpatient		\$2,933,884
Hospital Outpatient Services	\$168	9,148
Outpatient Emergency Room	1,313,517	2,213,980
FQHC Services	227,210	644,331
Independent Assessment		298,396
Crisis Intervention/Stabilization	44,337	49,701
Psychosocial Rehabilitation	607,373	709,361
Community Psychiatric Support and Treatment	3,428,381	2,301,763
Assertive Community Treatment		3,999,205
Addiction Services - Outpatient	134,812	733,677
1915(b)(3) Services - Case Conference	---	---
Medical Physician/Psychiatrist	1,826,397	---
Individual Prescriber (MD, DO, Med PHD, APRN, PA)		56,904
Medication Management		1,089,623
Psychologist	25,038	
Licensed Professional Counselor	110,861	2,805
Individual Practitioner (LCSW, Psychologist)		2,583
Social Worker	70,333	
Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist	---	---
Other Psych Services	121,839	863
Lab	---	3,002
Other Non-defined Services	1,816	---
Other Services-Incurred But Not Reported		
Claim Expense	602,156	(2,150,054)

Source: Transparency Report Appendix XVII: Total Funding Paid for Claims to Providers, Administrative Costs and Profit, Merit Insurance income statement.



Carmen Weisner, (Left back) Executive Director of the National Association of Social Workers, La Chapter, and Dilland Waguesback from Louisiana Progress Action, speak with Senator Chabert at the Finance Committee about cuts to foster care children.

and Mississippi currently pay \$88 per unit, noted Gillespie. Medicaid reimbursed over \$116.89 for an initial assessment, while Magellan reimburses \$86.70. The neighboring states of Texas and Mississippi currently pay between \$113-119 per unit.

Gillespie and DeGrange also pointed to the reduction of needed medical-legal assessments for agencies such as the Office of Juvenile Justice. Access to these services had dropped dramatically as a result of the Coordinated System of Care (CSOC) and Magellan. Medical-legal services became unavailable to citizens.

“Psychologists would like to be able to contract independently with government agencies to provide psychological

evaluations without having to utilize Medicaid’s current system,” Gillespie noted.

Access to care and rates have been a problem nationally, with nearly half of all providers not offering services to Medicaid patients. Nationwide, Medicaid fees are about 72 percent of Medicare, which is about 80 percent of private pay, although that may be changing after recent Congressional legislation.

About 130 psychologists are currently listed as providers on the Medicaid rolls, according to the state.

According to Kaiser Health, Medicaid spending on services totaled almost \$440 billion nationwide. Five percent of Medicaid beneficiaries have the highest costs and explain nearly half of all Medicaid spending.

# LSBEP’s Bill Stirs Up Controversy, continued

would have removed LPA) was taken out of the bill.

Senator Gallot said, “There have been some numerous conversations and discussions about this bill, and I think we have an amendment that I would offer that would put the bill in the posture that we’d like to move it forward which removes what has been the most contentious aspect of the bill, and that is the elections portion of the bill, that deals with the conducting of elections for the board.”

Senator Martiny asked if there was a compromise. “I’ve got all kinds of colored cards up here depending on what y’all do.”

Senator Gallot explained, “What we have is what the various stake holders don’t disagree with.”

Testimony included support from Dr. Greg Gormanous, who initiated the bill as the constituent of Senator Gallot, testimony from Dr. Rita Culross, Louisiana State Board of Examiners (LSBEP) Chair, and from Deborah Harkins, Esquire, attorney for LSBEP.

Senator Martiny said, “I was approached and told there was some offer made, plan A, or plan one and plan two. And that it was agreed upon. I got the impression, in speaking with Ms. Harkins before, that plan two, whatever plan two was, was agreed upon,” he said. “I’m sitting up here trying to

figure out which cards I throw away, and which I read.”

Harkins, at the microphone, said, “We were making an attempt to resolve this matter amicably and during that attempt we had two options that were presented to the various parties.”

“Subsequent to that,” Harkins said, “we received, on April 27, 2015, a letter from the Association of Regulatory Boards, dated that day, urging us to address matters in the naming of specific boards in legislation.”

“We also wanted—the board re-met and talked with Senator Gallot—and wanted to reconsider trying to make a resolution of the matter this session and continue the dialogue. We would like to continue the dialogue,” Harkins said. “I’m not going to sit here and tell you—this is a process, this is the first step in a process—and we’re not going sit here and tell you that we wouldn’t like to continue talking with the LPA.”

“We’ve talked with LAMP and they are in favor of what we had originally proposed. And we’ll continue that dialogue—.”

Martiny asked, “Let me cut to the chase, deal or no deal?”

“There is no deal at this time,” Harkins said. “I think this is a process, this is the first step—.”

“No, I don’t fault—that’s what the process is about,” Senator Martiny said. “I don’t have any interest it this. I just want, the sake of the Committee, if there is a deal, let’s do it, if there’s not a deal, let’s hear it.”

Harkins said, “We’re moving forward with what we can all agree on, and we’d like to opportunity to sit at the table in order to discuss concerns that should be of mutual interests to both parties.”

Senator Gallot spoke up and said, “Just for clarification, so that nobody leaves here with any misunderstanding, as the author of this instrument, whatever goes forward, will be a deal. There won’t be, I’m not choosing one side over the other. And so the only way this instrument continues to move forward is that we’ re on common ground that everybody agrees with.”

“If we get to point where it’s not that way, I’ll let it die on the vine. So I want to make sure everyone understands where I am, what my position is.”

[...] “I’m not going to pick one side or the other,” Gallot said, “This is your profession. You all have to operate within it, and so it’s incumbent on all of you to set aside any acrimony or anything that has happened in the past. It’s almost like mediating a, a custody

thing, someone was late bringing the child back six months ago. I might need a psychologist.” (laughter)

Governmental Relations representative for LPA, attorney Kevin Hayes, then testified. He explained that there were concerns about the elections portion of the bill. “We’ve met numerous times, we’ve had conversations numerous times,” he said, “trying to work something out.”

He said that on May 4 he got a message from the committee, forwarding a letter from Ms. Kelly Parker, which offered two options. He said he vetted it with his client, LPA, and chose option two.

“So we thought that was the deal,” he said. “We didn’t know until yesterday that there may be other options that the board would like to see in the bill, which if they pursue those options, obviously it would go against what we perceive to be the deal that the association has with the board.”

He said he wanted to make it part of the record that they had been working on this for a “long, long time.” He later indicated that if the wording to delete LPA remained out, he could support the bill.

Kelly Parker, Executive Director for the LSBEP, came to the

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Senator Gallot listens to testimony from Mr. Kevin Hayes (at the microphone) during Commerce Committee meeting on SB 113. Mr. Hayes is lobbyist for the Louisiana Psychological Association (LPA). In the audience are (first row, L to R) Cindy Bishop, Executive Director for LPA, and her colleague, Mr. Earl Willis. Then Ms. Kelly Parker, Executive Director of the Louisiana State Board of Examiners (LSBEP) and Dr. Greg Gormanous. (Second row) Mr. Bud Courson, lobbyist for the Louisiana Academy of Medical Psychology (LAMP), Dr. Darla Burnett, Dr. Rita Culross, and Ms. Deborah Harkins, counsel for the LSBEP. On the third row is Mr. James Nickel, lobbyist for LAMP.

# SB 113 Stirs Controversy

continued

microphone then and said that in regard to the election process, “LPA, Louisiana Psychological Association, simply returns the results over to the Governor’s Office.”

Martiny asked, “That’s what you want to change?”

“That’s one of the issues,” Parker said, “that have been an ongoing discussion just because there are three psychological associations in the state, at this time. So at the time the law was originally written there was just one.”

The *Times* requested documents from LSBEP on May 21, but nothing has been released as yet. The *Times* also requested documents from LPA. In the LPA documents, Parker wrote to other community leaders about the recent Supreme Court decision (See *PT*, Vol 6 No 3) and other legislative issues.

In one email she said, “I’m not sure where any of the 3 psychological associations stand,” on SB 381. In another email Parker wrote current LPA president, Dr. Joe Tramontana, admonishing him that psychologists were not to contact board members. “Please be advised the Board has not requested a meeting with LPA representatives. Of course, if LPA wishes to request same, please let me know as the appropriate contact for the Board – as a whole,” Parker wrote.

Tramontana responded, “Please advise Chairperson Culross that individual board members have been contacting LPA members, NOT vice versa.”

SB 113 also deletes the Emeritus title from the law, and changes procedures for out-of-state psychologists to work temporarily within the state, as well as several other changes. It is headed to the House floor at this time.

## Passes House 91 to 0 Measure to Increase Court-Ordered Outpatient MH Passes

A bill that would increase the maximum period of initial treatment from six months to one year in court-ordered outpatient treatment has passed a House vote, 91 to 0. The current law provides that if a patient has been ordered to receive outpatient treatment for four consecutive 180-day periods, the period of any subsequent order may exceed 180 days but shall not exceed one year. The new law, if approved, would increase the time to two years.

## Changes to State Medical Board Investigation and Complaint Process, Substituted to HB 843

HB 573 by Representatives Hazel, Hoffmann, and Jackson, put forth 33 pages of changes and additions to the methods for dealing with complaints in the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners, but was revamped by substitute, and became HB 843.

The new substitute bill clarifies the causes for restrictions on licenses and discipline, including professional incompetency, medical incompetency, and unprofessional conduct.

The new law authorizes any staff member of the board, except the executive director, to act as the lead investigator for any complaint regarding a physician received by the board or any investigation regarding a physician initiated by the board upon its own motion. It provides that an initial complaint may be made by any person or by the LSBME on its own initiative and requires the initial complaint, except in cases of egregious conduct, to be made in writing and dated and provides for the minimum required content for the complaint.

The proposal prohibits the board, except in cases of egregious conduct, from taking any action upon receipt of an anonymous complaint or a complaint involving conduct that occurred more than three years from the date the complaint is received by the board. Proposed law requires any final decision of the board to be supported by a preponderance of the evidence presented at the adjudicatory hearing.

Much of the intent of HB 573 now appears to be absent from the new measure.

## By the Numbers

### 3<sup>rd</sup> from Bottom - Louisiana’s Rank in Generalized Trust

<b>Lowest:</b>	
Washington, D.C.	.27
Rhode Island	.29
Louisiana	.30
Nevada	.35
Mississippi, Oklahoma	.37

<b>Highest:</b>	
North Dakota	.67
New Hampshire	.66
South Dakota	.63
Minnesota	.62
Iowa	.60

(Generalized Trust Scores. Source: L. Neville, “Do Economic Equality and Generalized Trust Inhibit Academic Dishonest?” *Psychological Science*, 2012.)

### 60% --Americans Supporting Same-Sex Marriage (Gallop)

### 23% -- Public’s Average Estimate of % Gay, Lesbian (Actual --3.8% Identify as LGBT - Gallop)

## HB 381 Signed by Governor

House Bill 381 has been signed into law by Gov. Jindal and becomes Act 23. The measure allows an exemption to the behavioral health services provider licensure requirement for providers operating for the sole purpose of furnishing substance abuse or mental health treatment services to specialty courts certified by the La. Supreme Court.

The present law requires behavioral health services providers to be licensed by the Dept. of Health and Hospitals. The new law adds an exemption for providers operating for the sole purpose of furnishing substance abuse or mental health services to courts certified by the La. Supreme Court as specialty courts.

Facilities or services operated for the sole purpose of providing substance abuse or mental health services to courts that are recognized and certified by the Louisiana Supreme Court as specialty courts.

The measure, put forth by Representatives Jackson and Simon, passed the House 97 to 0 and the Senate 38 to 0.

## HB 194 Becomes HB 835 Passes House 99 to 0 Expands Law for Treatment of Victims

Representative Helena Moreno’s measure creates standards and procedures for the examination and treatment of victims of a sexually-oriented criminal offense and the subsequent billing for the services rendered as a result of the offense.

The newest version of the proposed law Proposed law requires all licensed hospitals and healthcare providers to adhere to the procedures set forth in proposed law in the event that a person presents or is presented for treatment as a victim of a sexually-oriented criminal offense.

Proposed law prohibits a hospital or healthcare provider from directly billing a victim for services rendered in conducting a forensic medical examination or for any healthcare services rendered to a victim as a result of the sexually-oriented criminal offense,

# Innovative Whole Child Program Gains Quick Approval, continued

been the blueprint for integrating health-promoting practices in schools, ..." and asks that the Department of Health and Hospitals host the Department of Education, the Medicaid managed care organizations, and representatives of the Whole Child Initiative to create a plan by January 2016.

"It's the model that's been used by health care for the last 50 or 60 years," Bellone told the Senators, "We've been doing it for about the last seven years for about 25,000 children in New Orleans. And in every school we've been in, over 20 schools, their school performance scores have gone up, their pass rates have gone up, their health status and compliance with their Medicaid regime have gone up."

Bellone said, "This program is an attempt to get the Department of Education, and the Department of Health and Hospitals, and the new five Bayou Health Medicaid managed plans to work together, every day, with the schools, at the schools, where the children are—every day."

"It brings a multidisciplinary approach to the children of Louisiana so that the non-academic factors that affect their academic success can be addressed everyday at school," Bellone said.

She gave examples of the positive outcomes that occur with basic coordination of efforts. She told the Senators that while the Department of Education requires vision and hearing screenings on odd number years, the high-stakes testing occurs on the even years.

"So we started testing on the 4<sup>th</sup> graders," Bellone said, "and 48 percent of them failed their vision screening. "Imagine what we could demonstrate if they could see the dots on the scantron. It is a matter of coordination."

She explained another situation in prevention. "Even though our physicians' visits have increased in the Bayou Health plans, in Medicaid our immunization rates haven't moved in over ten years. Louisiana still has a 55 percent immunization compliance."

"So in the 20 schools that we're in, we integrate immunization compliance and record keeping with the report card," She said that in her 20 schools they have a 99 percent immunization compliance. "It's a matter of coordinating the school system with the healthcare system. We're not doing anything new and different," she said, "we're just coordinating them and working together in the school culture."

The Child and Family Learning Foundation works in the Central City area of New Orleans. After Katrina, the Foundation went to

work rebuilding schools in Central City, Bellone explained to the *Times* in a follow-up interview. This area of New Orleans is the poorest area in the United States, Bellone said, with generational poverty and incomes at the level of \$6,000 to \$8,000 yearly.

"We developed our model in parallel to the CDC," Bellone said. "We came out of Katrina, trying to rebuild our schools. When we asked, 'What do you need?' We kept hearing the same thing, 'Behavioral health. Behavioral health. Behavioral health.' It was an ideal forum because the schools were growing." They hired psychiatrists and psychologists and integrated into the existing school system.

The Foundation's Lead Psychologist is Dr. Deborah Palmer-Seal, who has worked in multidisciplinary team settings, assisting those with autism, depression, anxiety, ADHD and trauma.

"I find this type of work incredibly rewarding," she said, "as we are addressing student challenges in the environment in which they spend a majority of their time." In addition, she explained that helping educators learn more about behavioral interventions supports them not only with a single student, but with all their students.

"The multidisciplinary nature of our project ensures that we are addressing the whole child, and



Senators listen to testimony about HCR 34 at the Senate Health and Welfare committee.

not just an isolated symptom of a larger issue," she said. "The integration of mental health services into the school setting makes so much sense in terms of access to services, but also in maximizing student outcomes."

Palmer-Seal provides classroom observations so she can identify a student's triggers & behaviors, as well as teacher related behaviors and strategies. She also provides behavior management strategies, small group interventions for social skills, emotional literacy, emotional regulation, grief, and anger management, for example. She provides, "a clinical psychology

'lens' in meetings addressing students' with challenging behavior to ensure that real mental health issues aren't missed or misrepresented," she noted.

While the CDC model is the basic framework for the program, the Foundation has evolved its own successful applications of WSCC.

Bellone explained, "People ask me what's your model and its really hard to describe, because we have a different model in every school. The school evolves to meet the needs of the child."

Cont'd next pg

American Board of Medical Psychology



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

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# HCR 34, Whole Child, continued

We like to say that we have an incubator model.”

“The first year we go in and we educate the educators and explain the model and demonstrate the model. We do a lot of professional development,” Bellone said. For the second year they partner with the school and give support when needed and by the third year they “sit back and watch,” she explained.

“We integrate into system—we don’t tell them how to run their schools. We get leadership buy-in, and faculty buy-in.”

This entails consultations with the school system clients. Dr. Palmer-Seal also provides professional development about mental health issues, positive behavior

management strategies, and a very interactive workshop in which teachers ‘experience’ having a learning disability.

Bellone also explained the program works in tiers. The first tier is the preventative health screenings at the school level. She said that many behavioral problems are actually health problems, in her view. Bellone has extensive experience as a critical care and pediatric nurse as well as a master’s in Health Service Administration.

The second tier is the Health and Wellness Team. “The crux of our program—we’ve done 25,000 assessments,” she said. “We bring a multi-disciplinary focus to the existing school system.”

“We bring the clinicians to the table, so that we are looking at the whole child and not just the academic child. That is the key,” she said.

The Foundation is also successful in helping schools get their Medicaid provider numbers for children who are covered by the program, but whose parents don’t know how to access the assistance. “It’s hard and tedious,” Bellone said. “We are working getting schools to be reimbursed for all children who have Medicaid. I tell schools that you’re not going to make a fortune, but this is service you’re already providing. We teach schools health funding



Connie Bellone and Dr. Palmer-Seal are using their own variation of the CDC’s Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child model. (Image from CDC)

for health care services and then they can take education dollars and put them back in education.”

The third tier is sustainability. “The funding is in silos, until we are allowed to work collaboratively on the ground, in the schools, we’re never going to correct this,” Bellone said.

“We need this to be sustainable. This can’t just be another program.”

## Board Calls Special Meeting Psychology Board Pushes to Include LAMP Candidate on List to Governor

The psychology board held a special meeting on June 1 to entertain motions about what action they should take, given a conclusion they appeared to have already reached—that all candidate names should be included on the Louisiana Psychological Association’s list to the Governor.

Dr. Culross and Executive Director, Ms. Kelly Parker, said their reasoning was that all names should be listed, because the Memorandum of Understanding, which specified two names, was terminated last year. They said their interpretation of the statute, which is R.S. 37:2353, was that it means “all” names.

The statue notes: “All appointments shall be from a list provided by the Louisiana Psychological Association [LPA]. The list shall report the results of an election...”

Dr. Rita Culross said that the meeting had been called, “To discuss the results of the 2014 election that LPA reported to the Governor’s Office. It has



Psychology Board at the emergency meeting, listening to Dr. Joe Comaty (facing away). L to R: Dr. Zimmermann, Ms. Parker, Dr. Culross, Dr. Burnett, and Dr. Griffith. (Photo by Susan Dardard.)

been noted,” she said, “that LPA did not report the results of the full election to the Governor’s Office, but only reported the vote tallies for the top two candidates,” she said. She did not specify who noted this.

The board’s interpretation and conclusion was not questioned by any of the board members. Also, Dr. Culross instructed the public members not to participate. The board voted on a motion to instruct LPA to submit a new list with the names of all those running for the position.

If the new list is sent, Dr. Jesse Lambert, a member of the Louisiana Academy of Medical Psychologists (LAMP), will be included. Dr. Lambert received 71 votes in the election. Dr. Beverly Stubblefield received 173 votes and Dr. Karen Boggs, 132. Neither of these are in LAMP. LPA submitted the two top vote getters, as has been the typical procedure, to the governor in January or early February. No appointment has been made.

Controversy over control of the psychology board has existed for several years. LAMP members, who are licensed as medical psychologists under the state medical board may also hold a license as a psychologist under the state psychology board. Medical psychologists (MPs) have maintained a 60 percent majority presence on the psychology board due to what many consider political influence. MPs comprise only about 5 percent of all licensed psychologists.

The board violated open meetings law by instructing the public attendees not to participate until after the board voted and also by improper notice. (See related story this issue.)

# APA Accused of Collaborating with Bush Administration on Interrogation Techniques

An April report authored by human rights activists triggered a *New York Times* article which in turn prompted the American Psychological Association (APA) to hire an independent investigator to look into allegations that APA secretly worked with the Bush administration regarding interrogation techniques. The allegations include that APA attempted to form ethics guidelines that could allow certain uses of psychological science in enhanced interrogations in the military.

The April report, “All the President’s Psychologists: The American Psychological Association’s Secret Complicity with the White House and US Intelligence Community in Support of the CIA’s ‘Enhanced’ Interrogation Program,” is authored by Stephen Soldz, Ph.D., Nathaniel Raymond, and Steven Reisner, Ph.D.

The April 30 *New York Times* article “Report Finds Collaboration Over Torture,” was authored by James Risen and the story also appeared on the front page May 1, 2015 of the paper edition.

James Risen is the author of a 2014 book, *Pay Any Price: Greed, Power, and Endless War*, where he pointed to similar involvement by APA. APA had said the claims are not true. For this recent allegations, APA said, in an April 30 statement, “... APA senior governance and staff take the allegations of support for torture and the public misunderstanding they have created very seriously.” They will hire outside attorney David Hoffman of the firm Sidley Austin to conduct and independent review.

The APA Board of Directors wrote members on Friday, May 22 saying, “Many APA members have shared their concerns with us about the allegations reported in national media that APA supported the CIA's “enhanced interrogation” program during the Bush administration’s war on terror. Allegations that individual psychologists and/or APA supported this torture program are extremely disturbing to us and to others in our APA community.”

In this most recent report, “All the President’s Psychologists,” authors point to 16 key emails from Scott Gerwehr, a researcher at RAND Corporation and later a defense contractor, who is now deceased. The emails include several from Geoffrey Mumford, director of science policy at APA, and included Kirk Hubbard, a psychologist at the C.I.A. who left to work for Mitchell Jessen and Associates, the firm involved in the enhanced interrogation procedures for the military. The emails show communications between these and other individuals about a number of topics.

The full report, which includes the text of the 16 emails, is available online.

# Governor Jindal Issues Marriage and Conscience Executive Order After Bill Stalls

Following the House Civil Law and Procedure Committee’s decision to return the Louisiana Marriage and Conscience Act to the calendar, Governor Bobby Jindal issued an Executive Order to protect religious liberty and prevent the state from discriminating against those with deeply held religious beliefs, noted a May 19 press release from the Governor’s Office.

“In Louisiana, the state should not be able to take adverse action against a person for their belief in traditional marriage,” Governor Jindal said. "That’s why I’m issuing an Executive Order to prevent the state from discriminating against people, charities and family-owned businesses with deeply held religious beliefs that marriage is between one man and one woman.” The order can be found at the *Louisiana Register*, number BJ 2014 – 8.

# Letters to the Editor

continued

Rules need to be challenged periodically, if only to see what we have lying around on our dusty books. Self-regulated people don't apparently need many external rules, but everyone needs some. And self-made claims of self-regulation is a devious form of hubris. Power always needs limits to keep the unfortunate but quite natural propensity for its abuse in check as it grows. (Benjamin Franklin was a psychologist, no doubt). The fact of power means that abuses will come out inevitably when there are conditions of anxious insecurity. As power grows, those that have it become attached to it, and anxious to hold on to what they have acquired. Lo and behold, we have lots of insecurity running amok, even in the always reassuring, uber-reasonable, and cloyingly-rational face of the parent-knows-best, APA.

At this moment in history, if APA had nothing better to do than to read the LPA division postings for compliance to its non-compete rules, I'd actually be reassured. Rebellion against that for LPA would represent the benign adolescent rebellion against its parental authority in APA. Instead, it appears that the APA is now quite busy, alternating between shredding and spraying luminol, after a professionally devastating charge of instrumental involvement in government-sanctioned torture during the Bush Administration, post 9/11. The parental authority of APA does not feel benign at all in this case. It begs all manner of question and challenge.

Parenthetically, other professions in their associations are less concerned about deference to our professional disciplines than APA/LPA members are being

admonished to be. Other professions and their press took the story of APA's connection to torture methods and ran with it far before APA had a chance to even respond to their own members (e.g., Medpage's daily digest headline: "APA backed torture" on April 30, 2015). What APA does, for better and for worse, sticks to us all.

As for how LPA members must use the listserv: Should we down-regulate the outrageous or the outraged? I say, probably not. If we are too prudish, we will scare off the novel voices, and those of the next generation. If we assume there is only one way, the right way, we risk the steady down drifting into fascism. It has happened before in history. There is no reason to believe we are somehow too virtuous to be horribly wrong about our righteousness.

In Louisiana-speak, everything needs translation to a cuisine metaphor to make any sense, so here is mine: Sometimes a little hot sauce makes for fire in our belly. Sometimes too much sweet tea is bad for our blood sugar. If we over-regulate our agreeableness, Southern style, I think we will systematically shun the diversity out. We will "if-you-please" the weird, the different, and the interesting stuff right on out of the room. And THAT, in my (rarely) humble opinion, would be strategically and absolutely, tragic.

Editorially yours,  
  
Denise L. Newman, Ph.D.  
New Orleans, LA

## Algiers Neurobehavioral Resource, LLC

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State & National News

Psych Board Continues to Violate Open Meetings Law

Public Participation, Notice, Request for Documents all Flag

On Monday, June 1, the psychology board held a special meeting where the chair, Dr. Rita Culross, told the public members, “There will be no comments during the board’s discussion of our agenda item.”

Open Meetings Laws protect the public’s right to observe and influence the power and directions of government officials. Direct participation is protected, “...each public body conducting a meeting which is subject to the notice requirements of R.S. 42:19(A) shall allow a public comment period at any point in the meeting prior to action on an agenda item upon which a vote is to be taken.”

There was no indication that the chair, or the Executive Director, attempted to correct the violation to public participation.

The meeting was also improperly noticed. The agenda did not give the substance of the topic to be discussed, which is required by law so participants can prepare. Since the board’s website was not functioning, the meeting was also not posted on its web site. There was no announcement made at the regular board meeting on Friday, May 29, the preceding workday.

The board is also in violation regarding public records request. On May 21 the *Times* submitted a request to the state psychology board for documents and communications regarding the board’s role in SB 113. The *Times* received a letter dated May 21, but postmarked May 26, from the Executive Director, Ms. Kelly Parker. She wrote back noting a variety of delays. “... your request for emails will require a search through the Office of Statewide Email and this may impact response time. State offices will also be closed in observance of Memorial Day...” And, “Finally, we reserve the right to consult with our legal counsel regarding your request to guarantee we release the appropriate documents.” She also noted that the required fee must be paid before release.

According to state law R.S. 44:32, “... the public record shall be immediately presented to the authorized person applying for it.” If it is not immediately available for some reason or reasons, “... the custodian shall promptly certify this in writing to the applicant, and in his certificate shall fix a day and hour within three days, exclusive of Saturdays, Sundays, and legal public holidays, for the exercise of the right granted by this Chapter.”

The *Times* has previously pointed out violations to the board but problems still remain. Last year the board created a media policy that further blocks transparency and accountability.

Investigating the Investigators

The *Times* is researching the methods used by Boards’ in the community. If you have been treated in what you consider an unfair, unethical, or illegal manner while involved in an interaction, especially an investigation, by any one of our several boards, we would like to talk with you, off-the-record and confidentially. Contact the *Times* or publisher J. Nelson. All sources will be protected.



School psychologists Jill Landry (L) and Joanna Sonnier (M) and Kevin “Dance Card” Jones at the 2013 Louisiana School Psychological Association convention. Jill Landry is in Lafayette Parish and Joanna is in Vermillion. Dr. Jones is Professor at LSU Shreveport. School psychologists are gathering at the Capitol this week.

School Psychological Association Holds Day at Capitol to Educate Legislators

The Louisiana School Psychological Association is holding a State Advocacy Day where school psychologists express a voice for children, families, and school psychology. The day is planned for June 2, from 8 am to 2 pm in the Rotunda Room at the State Capitol.

President of the Louisiana School Psychological Association and Government and Public Relations Chair, Dr. Chavez Phelps, told the *Times*, “Our main objective is to explain the vital role of school psychologists. Also, we will outline our model for comprehensive and integrated school psychological services.”

Topics the group hopes to express include the definition of a school psychologist, safe schools, ways to integrate school psychological services to improve child and school outcomes, and current research on the relationship between mental health and academic achievement in youngsters.

The group will also be preparing to discuss how schools and communities can work together on safety issues.

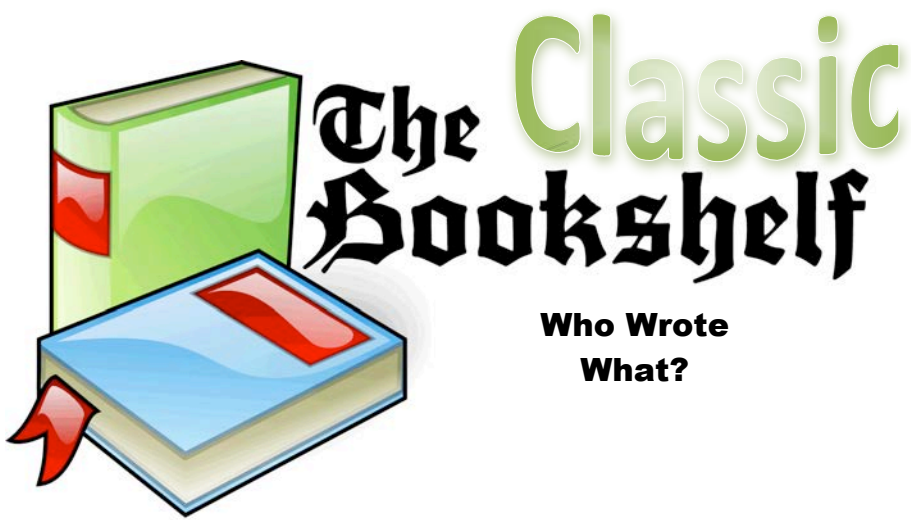
“Our main goals are to increase visibility to develop partnerships with elected officials and other key players,” Dr. Phelps explained.

The group’s directions and model come for the National Association of School Psychologists and includes best practices for data-based decision making, services for both the student and the system, and foundations which include diversity, research, and ethics.



Dr. Chavez Phelps speaking at a past convention of the Louisiana School Psychological Association. Dr. Phelps is the current president of the association.

Dr. Chavez Phelps, school psychologist and Director of the ReNEW Therapeutic Program in New Orleans. Phelps originally came to Louisiana as an intern in the LAS\*PIC from Indiana State University. His background includes helping youth in residential treatment facilities, alternative high schools, juvenile justice centers, and adolescent mental health hospitals.



## *The Impulsive Client* *Theory, Research, and Treatment*

Editors William G. McCown, Judith L. Johnson,  
and Myrna B. Shure

American Psychological Association  
1993

Before there was Baumeister's *The Handbook of Self Regulation*, before there was Zuckerman's *Psychobiology of Personality*, before Barkley's *ADHD and the nature of self-control*, even before *Procrastination and Task Avoidance*, there was *The Impulsive Client: Theory, Research, and Treatment*, an edited volume where Drs. William McCown, Judith Johnson, and Myrna Shure tied together the threads of an exploding field of research, theory and practice on a growing topic of societal importance.

The 1993 work satisfied the need for a comprehensive look at impulsiveness from the scientist-practitioner perspective, and the growing awareness that impulsiveness, and the negative impact of the trait on lives and society, was on the rise.

McCown and coauthors pointed to increasing death rates with firearms attributed to impulsive acts or lack of sufficient reflection, a rise in child behavior disorders, and a rise adult impulsiveness involving violence, abuse, sexually risky behavior, eating, alcohol, and drug use. It wasn't all about the youths. "Among adults," wrote the authors, "problems related to impulsive behavior are also at unprecedented levels."

The text is strong on historical context, and still relevant and interesting 22 years later. One of the reasons for this is that this edited work includes some of the giants in the field at the time.

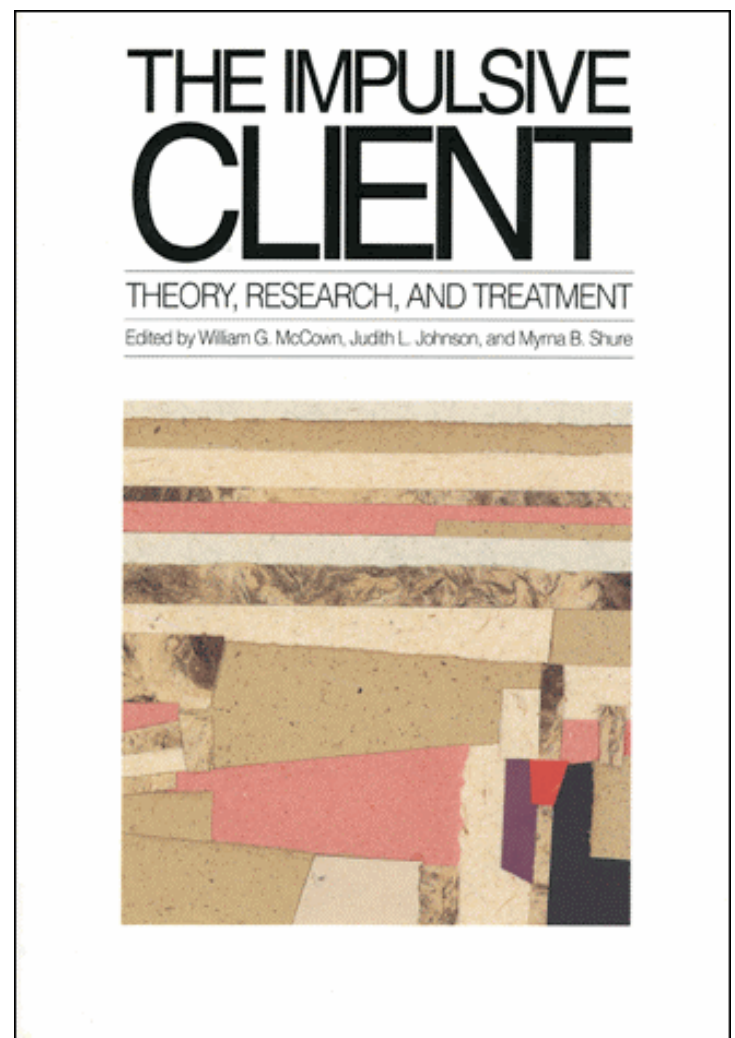
Hans Eysenck wrote a chapter in the section on historical perspectives, titled "The Nature of Impulsivity." Marvin Zuckerman provided the chapter, "Sensation Seeking and Impulsivity: A Marriage of Traits Made in Biology." Luciano L'Abate provided "A Family Theory of Impulsivity." Ernest Barratt added a chapter on "Impulsivity: Integrating Cognitive, Behavioral, Biological, and Environmental Data." And, Joseph Ferrari provided the chapter on that became a forerunner to his book with Johnson and McCown on procrastination only two years later.

With clear, cogent thinking about psychology, research and practice, the editors were able to pull these and other heavyweights in psychology together. That should not be surprising, because this is just one in a long list of powerful works by the team of researchers and authors, McCown, Johnson, and Shure. Still, very impressive.

Perhaps another reason for the value of the text was the growing perspectives and the growing awareness of the central importance of self-control in the lives of people and the quality of societal, community living. If there is one thing that humans are designed to do, it is to regulate our behavior, the authors explained. The presence or absence of self-control relates to a profound impact on people's everyday lives, and the authors pulled together what was known about the cognitive, behavioral, and biological and environmental perspectives required for integrated and purposeful actions.

The text is divided into three sections: "I. Historical Perspective and Etiology of Impulsivity; II. Current Research and Special Populations; and III. Treatment of Impulsivity."

William McCown coauthored the chapter, "Impulses, Impulsivity, and Impulsive Behaviors: A Historical Review of a Contemporary



Issue," with Philip A. DeSimone. The growing focus on brain development was outlined in a chapter, "A Neurodevelopmental View of Impulsivity," by Jorge H. Daruna and Patricia A. Barnes.

The integrative view came into sharper focus with Ernest Barratt's chapter, "Impulsivity: Integrating Cognitive, Behavioral, Biological, and Environmental Data."

And Hans Eysenck, Marvin Zuckerman, and Luciano L'Abate added their chapters in the section on current theoretical understanding. This section concludes with the novel perspective of Terry Marks-Tarlow's, "A New Look at Impulsivity: Hidden Order Beneath Apparent Chaos?"

The section on "Current Research and Special Populations includes Sybil B. G. Eysenck's "Development of a Measure of Impulsivity and Its Relationship to the Superfactors of Personality," is followed by Scott Dickman's "Impulsivity and Information Processing," and "The Role of Impulsiveness in Normal and Disordered Eating," authored by Michael R. Lowe and Kathleen L. Eldredge.

The topic, "Impulsive Behavior and Substance Abuse," was coauthored by Willard L. Johnson, Robert M. Malow, Sheila A. Corrigan, and Jeffery A. West.

"Perfectionism and Goal Orientation in Impulsive and Suicidal Behavior," are topics covered by Paul Hewitt and Gordon Flett, and "Procrastination and Impulsiveness: Two Sides of a Coin?" was contributed by Joseph R. Ferrari, conclude the section on research.

In the final section, "Treatment of Impulsivity," beginning with a chapter by Alieen Fink and Bill McCown, authors looked at "Impulsivity in Children and Adolescents: Measurement, Causes, and Treatment."

Judith Holmes, Judith Johnson, and Ann L. Roedel, follow with, "Impulsivity in Adult Neurobehavioral Disorders."

In "Management of the Adult Impulsive Client: Identification, Timing, and Methods of Treatment," Michael Bütz and Sean Austin reviewed practical issues of working with adults.

A notable and essential chapter about, "Legal Issues in Treating the Impulsive Client," is authored by Eric Drogin and Laurie Ann Drogin.

Judith Johnson and Katherine Bishop outline clinical issues in, "The Impulsive Woman as Client: Treating the Legacy of Shame."

In "Interpersonal Cognitive Problem Solving as Prevention and Treatment of Impulsive Behaviors" concludes the volume, authored by Maria Touchet, Myrna Shure, and Bill McCown.

The importance of concepts and applications presented in *The Impulsive Client* remains as important today as in 1993, despite the advancements over the years. A failure or issue with self-control can

Science & Education

Bookshelf, continued *The Impulsive Client*

underlie individual and social problems of all kinds, the authors told us: Alcoholism, smoking, over-eating, drug addition, gambling, over-spending.

Violence can be related to failure to control aggressive impulses. Obedience of the Milgram variety can be related to overcome the need to comply. Emotional problems can be related of failures in self-efficacy and control to avoid or recover from negative feelings, the experts in *The Impulsive Client* tell us. Underachievement and procrastination can be related to self-control and will power problems. Traffic deaths, suicides, domestic abuse, sexual behaviors, —on and on. The text brought to the reader an awareness of a underlying characteristic that bridged between symptoms, causes and treatments.

The authors' look into the integration of theories and practice related to self-control was a major contribution to focus clinicians' attention and enlighten researchers' efforts that followed. The volume did a wonderful job to highlight where we were and where we were heading, in understanding and treating this central issue of nearly every aspect of human behavior.

Dr. McCown will speak at the Louisiana Psychological Association, Friday, June 13 on—  
  
***“The Impulsive Client: A Twenty Year Update on the Treatment Process”***

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Stress Solutions

by Susan Andrews, PhD

What Really Matters?

One of the most intriguing findings of the 2014 study by the American Psychological Association on America’s stress is that overall Americans rate their stress as 4.9 on a 10-point scale where 1 is “little or no stress.” This rating is down from the 2007 level of 6.2. Despite the fact that the 2014 study shows a decrease in perceived stress, the reported stress levels remain higher than is considered healthy. Even more surprising, however, is the finding that 42% of the adults who reported in the study say that they are *not doing enough to manage their stress*. Twenty percent said that they are *not engaging in any stress reduction strategies or behaviors at all*.

The people who responded to the study reported the primary sources of stress as: money (64%), work (60%), the economy (49%), family responsibilities (47%) and personal health concerns (46%). The most frequently reported symptoms of stress included being or feeling irritable or angry (37%), feeling nervous or anxious (35%), having a lack of motivation (34%), fatigue (32%), feeling overwhelmed (32%), and being depressed or sad (32%).

Unfortunately, the study does not point out the obvious – that the sources of stress that are the most frequently cited in the 2014 study – money and work – are also among the main reasons that many people feel that they do not *have enough time in the day to reduce stress* because they are too busy working to make enough money.

In short, these facts and figures as well as my own experience working with people from all walks of life show that too many of us believe we have no choice. We do not have the time to find time for ourselves. And, too many of us have come to simply accept that we live in a frenetic, hassled society. The old beliefs about the early bird getting that worm and you only get what you earn are deeply ingrained. How many professionals do you know who feel somewhat guilty when they take a little much needed time off to recreate? Are you one of those who feels like you are supposed to be super busy to be successful? Have you ever refused work because you need to spend some time

taking better care of you? Are you impressed by colleagues who have their fingers in many pies and are super-achievers?

If you are, please consider taking stock of what really matters to you. Is success more important than your health, happiness, and family or friends? Take a careful look at your schedule, your lifestyle. Work some relaxation activities and breaks into your schedule. It is important to *make* time, not *find* time. It is typical for younger people to believe that there is always tomorrow and you can take time for yourself when you get ahead. All too often the stress catches up in the form of having trouble falling asleep, shutting off the mind, health problems creep in, and you begin to see those tell-tale signs of premature aging. Do yourself a favor. Look at what is most important to you and adjust your lifestyle to match.



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

# A Shrink at the Flicks

## *Far From The Madding Crowd*

by Alvin G. Burstein

This 2015 movie, like the novel by Thomas Hardy with the same name, is titled with a quotation from Thomas Graves' *Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard*:

*Far from the madding crowd's ignoble strife,  
Their sober wishes never learned to stray,  
Along the cool sequester'd way of life  
They kept the noiseless tenor of their way.*

Graves' reference to the gloom and finitude embodied in the graveyard locale implies a superiority to another way of living characterized by hub-hub both physical and spiritual.

Hardy's novel, enlarging on the allusive title, like most of his work, idealizes rustic living close to nature, while recognizing the harsh and confining nature of the place and time in which his stories are situated. Ironically and effectively the sparse environments seem to highlight the drama and complexity of the human relations embedded there. Graves' "noiseless tenor" only emerges as a contrived happy ending.

The movie remains true to much of the Hardyesque genre. The male protagonist, Gabriel Oak, is the personification of integrity allied to hard work and perseverance. He is unrealistically flawless, reminiscent of the laborers in Communist Russian posters of the 1930's. He is in love with Bathsheba Everdene, impulsive, flighty and proud, who, as her biblical name connotes, is the irresistible object of male desire. She is pursued not only by Gabriel, but also by the morally shallow, but dashing good looking Sergeant Troy as well as by Boldwood, a wealthy, inhibited older neighbor who wants to protect her.

Guest Columnist,  
Dr. Alvin Burstein

Burstein, a psychologist and psychoanalyst, is a professor emeritus at the University of Tennessee and a former faculty member of the New Orleans-Birmingham Psychoanalytic Center with numerous scholarly works to his credit. He is also a member of Inklings, a Mandeville critique group that meets weekly to review its members' imaginative writings.

Burstein has published flash fiction and autobiographical pieces in e-zines; *The Owl*, his first novelette, is available at Amazon. He is, in addition to being a movie fan, a committed Francophile, unsurprisingly a lover of fine cheese and wine, and an unrepentant cruciverbalist.



courtesy photo



The stage is set for testosterone saturated male rivalries with their Oedipal overtones. They take a lethal turn when the older Boldwood kills the soldier while protecting Bathsheba.

There are even darker overtones, turns of fortune, that derive from Hardy's sensitivity to the harsher elements of life. A former lover of Troy's dies in childbirth and is buried with her stillborn infant. Boldwood, killing Troy, becomes, not a respected landowner, but a convicted murderer.

An unexpected psychoanalytic depth in Hardy's story, to which the film is faithful, is its attention to what Freud called *Ananke*, fate, after the Greek mythic figure that even the Gods could not master. The founder of psychoanalysis is best known for his attention to unconscious motivation in derailing conscious intentions—the celebrated Freudian slips. However, Freud also called our attention to the role of non-psychological factors in frustrating human intentions and shaping human lives. His characterization of anatomy as destiny has stirred controversy in the debates about gender roles, but resonates with emerging views of sexual determination.

Somewhat less controversial is his argument in *The Future of an Illusion* that religious views are rooted in to human feeling of helplessness in the face of mortality and natural disasters, our confrontations with *Ananke*.

In Hardy's story and in the movie, events are critically shaped by random chance, unchosen events, an element of *Ananke*. Gabriel Oak is initially attracted to Bathsheba when she saves his life from an accidental nighttime fire while he was sleeping. Gabriel loses his flock of sheep when a fence gives way during a storm, and he is forced off his land and forced to seek employment by Bathsheba. Bathsheba, barely knowing Boldwood, sends him a valentine as a prank when a book falls open by chance. Sergeant Troy's bride to be goes to the wrong church. That eventuates in his attraction to Bathsheba, as well as the latter's horrifying disillusionment in Troy. Chance, *Ananke*, shapes their lives.

I think the spectacular cinematic beauty of the movie distracted from rather than highlighted its darker elements, diminishing its Hardyesque quality. In addition, Carey Mulligan's perky little grin in her portrayal of Bathsheba for me became an annoying mannerism.

On the whole, though, I found *Far From The Madding Crowd* a film that provoked thought as well as stirring feeling, a film well worth seeing.

## Dr. Barbarin in May Monitor on Psychology

Tulane’s Dr. Oscar Barbarin was featured in a May issue feature, “Boys and men of color,” in the *Monitor on Psychology* published by the American Psychological Association (APA).

The article reviewed the jointly sponsored conference between APA and SAMHSA, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, held this past March. The conference explored ways of promoting behavioral health equity, said the author, Rebecca Clay. Dr. Barbarin has been at the center of key findings and research about “boys of color.”

## Dr. Frick in Monitor’s “Personalities”

Dr. Paul Frick, previous chair at University of New Orleans and now holder of the Crumpler Chair at LSU, was listed in the April issue of the *Monitor*, for his Lifetime Achievement Award from the Society for Scientific Study of Psychopathology.



Dr. Greg Gormanous with tiger cub.



Dr. Alex Cohen, LSU professor and clinical psychologist at his desk. He was recently featured in the LSU magazine, *Kaleidoscope*.

## Dr. Alex Cohen Featured in LSU Kaleidoscope

LSU professor and clinical psychologist, Dr. Alex Cohen was featured in the recent issue of *Kaleidoscope*, for his pioneering research in the assessment of psychiatric patients.

The article, titled “Code Cracker,” looked at Cohen’s research for applications of technologies in developing more rapid and accurate methods of assessment. He told the reporter, “We’ve used the same clinical reporting methods for decades – one-on-one interviews with patients—and they’re very subjective.”

“We are working on automated and objective measures of natural behavior that would make patient assessment faster, cheaper

and much more meaningful.”

The author noted that many of the methods clinicians use currently are either fairly poor at determining high costs and dangerous events like suicide and homicide. Cohen and his students are working on technologies that record language patterns in psychiatric patients and compare these to others, developing models for quick and accurate prediction.

Last year Dr. Cohen was part of an international team awarded a \$1.3 million dollar grant from the Norway Research Council for Cohen’s work using machine learning

approaches. Cohen will be developing applications to look at patient’s speech, compare to normal, and alert staff to any concerns.

Dr. Cohen’s research is conducted in his Affective Science and Psychology and Pathology Lab at LSU where he works with six graduate students and 20 undergraduates, said *Kaleidoscope*. The group is looking at speech pace, coherence of speech, key expressions, and subtle changes that otherwise would hard for a clinician to notice.

Cohen said, “We really need innovative technology-based solutions.”

## Dr. Gormanous Accepts Executive Director of State Psychology Board

Dr. Greg Gormanous, retired Chair of the Department of Behavioral and Social Sciences at LSU Alexandria, has accepted the position of Executive Director of the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists (LSBEP), according to an announcement made by the board last Friday.

In 2010 the *Times* interviewed Dr. Gormanous and found he has served twice on the LSBEP and twice as Chair. He has also served as President of the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB), and as the President and Vice-President of the Federation of Associations of Regulatory Boards, a group of U.S. licensing boards for psychology, social work, counseling, optometry, nursing, and other regulated professions.

During his career he has been the Government Liaison for LSU Alexandria, facilitating communications between elected officials and the college. He is a member of the Society for Industrial and Organizational Psychology (SIOP) and has co-chaired their State Affairs Committee.

During his career he has maintained a full slate of activities. He participated in the 4th International Congress on Licensure, Certification and Credentialing of Psychologists, in Sydney, Australia, where he chaired, “Provoking Discussions: Trans-National Ethics and Judgments.”

At the American Psychological Association (APA) he has co-chaired, “Duty to Protect Versus Confidentiality—Mock Licensing Board Hearing,” along with Dr. Warren Lowe. He

has also participated in “Licensure and Certification—What Students Need to Know.” His presentation, “To Be or Not to Be a Real Psychologist: I/O Issues,” reflected his continuing interests and contributions regarding licensure, professionalism, ethics and credentialing. In 2013 Dr. Gormanous and Dr. Lowe chaired the APA symposium, “Competing Coaches and Coachees—Mock Licensing Board Hearing.”

In both 2010 and 1994, he helped complete the ASPPB practice analysis to update the psychology licensing exam taken by licensure candidates across the U.S. and Canada.

Dr. Gormanous has been involved in his community including the Alexandria Zoo, Business Incubator, the Rapides Parish Primary Health Care Center, the Syra-Meric Club, and the Alexandria Mardi Gras Association, where he started a new parade - Classic Cars & College Cheerleaders. He also started the Krewe of Kolbi Bow-Wow with the Animal Shelter and the Alexandria Zoo.

In a special project, “Psychology of the Blues,” he applied psychological principles to songs and singers, a project that captured his imagination for many years. “Psychology of the Blues” involves four musicians—Otis Redding, Steve Cropper, Grady Gaines, and the legendary B.B. King. He has told the *Times* in a previous article that his heart is in teaching but his soul is in the Blues.

According to the job posting, Dr. Gormanous will provide leadership by communicating the mission of the board, managing operations, and assuring fiscal responsibilities.

# Up-Coming Events

June 12 –13

## Louisiana Psychological Association Convention Highlights Lifespan Topics

The Louisiana Psychological Association will gather to learn and celebrate, “Psychology Across the Lifespan,” at the Sheraton Hotel in Metairie–New Orleans, June 12-13.

Keynote speaker for the conference is Sister Judith Brun, CSJ, a Sister of St. Joseph and a long-time educator. She is presently the Executive Director of Community Initiatives Foundation. Sister Brun will present the keynote address, “Post-Katrina Interventions with Children.”

Dr. William McCown, Associate Dean of Colleges of Business and Social Sciences and the Director of Data Analytics Laboratory, clinical psychologist, author, and professor, will speak on the “The Impulsive Client,” and update attendees on the science he first reviewed as co-author of a book on the same topic. He has noted that the issue is also one of the most difficult clinical syndromes to treat, noted the program.

Other highlights include a session on “The Assessment of Autism and Related Disorders,” where psychologists Drs. Lisa Settles, Brian Esteve, and Jane Morton review the assessment and diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorders. Dr. Settles is a faculty member at Tulane University School of Medicine. Currently, Dr. Esteve serves as director of an interdisciplinary autism treatment program at Crane Rehab Center in New Orleans, Louisiana. Dr. Morton joined the Emerge Center in January of 2012 and previously was the lead lead psychologist for the Local Autism Team with the Office for Citizens with Development Disabilities which is part of the Department of Health and Hospitals.

Also presenting are Dr. Corwin Boake, “DSM-5 and ICD-10 Coding Update for the Practicing Psychologist,” Dr. Lucinda L. DeGrange, “Navigating Medicaid Managed Care: A Panel Discussion with Bayou Health Plan Representatives,” and Dr. Joe Comaty and Dr. Phillip Griffin on “LSBEP Review of Telepsychology Guidelines.” Dr. Kim VanGeffen, will also present, and speak on the assessment of dementia. Drs. Darlyne Nemeth, Janet Matthews, Susanne Jenson, Ed Shwery, and Kenneth Bouillion will participate in a symposium on Resiliency in the Practice of Psychology. Dr. Gail Gillespie and Sue Josephson, LCSW, will present on Energy Therapy.



Mr. Earl Willis, with Checkmate Strategies, holds camera equipment for Dr. Susan Dardard as she prepares to gather material for one of her South River Stories® productions.

## Dardard to Present SRS

Dr. Susan Dardard will premier her latest South River Stories® production next month in the West Feliciana Parish Library community meeting room. The program will feature Dr. Dardard's most recent story on bullies and heroes, part of her *The Power of T.E.A.* series. Her performances appeal to diverse multi-generational audiences and include stories, songs, and lessons of courage, passion, and resilience that tap into psychological principles. The presentation is open to the public.



## Louisiana Psychological Association

To support and advance psychology as a science, as a profession, and as a means of promoting health, education, and human welfare.

Join us at the Convention on June 12–13  
“*Psychology Across the Lifespan*”  
Sheraton Hotel Metairie-New Orleans

[www.louisianapsychologist.org](http://www.louisianapsychologist.org)

# The 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Summer Symposium To be Held July 15 -17 in Marksville

The 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Summer Symposium, a conference hosted by Professional Training Resources and Dr. John Simoneaux, will be held July 15 through 17 in Marksville at the Paragon Casino-Resort.

The Summer Symposium fills up every year and is a favorite training event for multiple disciplines in the mental health field across the state. Attendees enjoy a relaxing and supportive environment for learning, say many. CEs are approved for 23 hours for psychologists, social workers, LPCs, Rehabilitation counselors, substance abuse counselors, and school psychologists.

This year the workshops include “The Reliability of Diagnoses,” presented by Dr. Simoneaux on Wednesday, July 15.

Dr. Larry Dilks and Dr. Kimberly Hutchinson will present, “Cognitive Rehabilitation: Diagnosis and Treatment,” also on Wednesday.

Dr. Byron Simoneaux will present on Thursday, “Sleep Disorders.”

Also on Thursday, Dr. John Simoneaux will present a workshop on “Dissociative Disorders in DSM-5.”

The final day will include a workshop by IO psychologist, Dr. McKay Bonner, on “Community Violence—How to Respond.”

Dr. John Simoneaux will conclude the day with “Ethics: Malpractice in Therapy.”

For more information to [professionaltrainingresources.com](http://professionaltrainingresources.com).

## Openings for Participants in Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy Study

Mild Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)  
or Persistent Post-Concussion  
Syndrome

Any person who has persistent  
symptoms from one or more  
concussions that have occurred  
within the last six months to ten  
years is eligible.

Referring practitioners and individuals  
wanting to participate can contact the  
research coordinator at 504-427-5632  
for more information.

## The Psychology Times’ Sunshine Meets Psychology Contest

*Where the press is free  
and every man able to read, all is safe.*  
— Thomas Jefferson

The winning quote about the importance of freedom of information and open communication comes to us from Dr. Tom Hannie.  
Dr. Hannie will receive \$100 donation to his charity  
plus our eternal gratitude.  
Thanks to all those who entered and to our judges.

## The Psychology Times

The *Psychology Times* is provided as a **community service** for those in the practice, teaching, and science of psychology and the behavioral sciences in Louisiana, and related individuals and groups.

The *Times* offers information, entertainment, and networking for those in this Louisiana community.

The *Psychology Times* is not affiliated with any professional group other than the **Louisiana Press Association**.

None of the content in the *Times* is intended as advice for anyone.

## Department of Psychology, Northwestern State University has an opening for an Assistant/Associate Professor or Full Professor

**Position:** Assistant/Associate Professor or Full Professor – tenure track: Earned doctorate in Psychology (Preferred Clinical Psychology) **Salary:** \$54,000 to \$57,000. Experience the culture and relaxed living in Louisiana’s oldest city.

**Responsibilities:** Responsibilities include teaching courses at the undergraduate and graduate levels, graduate thesis research and paper-in-lieu, advising, university and department service, and research/publication endeavors.

**Start Date:** Open until filled

**Application:** Send vita, transcripts, and 3 letters of recommendation: Northwestern State University, Department of Psychology Dr. Susan Thorson-Barnett, Chairperson ATTN: Search Committee 311 Bienvenu Hall Natchitoches, LA 71497. Review of application will begin immediately and will continue until position is filled. Northwestern State.