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Dr. Conni Patterson at Louisiana School Psychological Convention in 2015.

Dr. Constance Patterson Beloved Leader in Psych Community Dies July 8

Constance Kindrick Patterson passed away on July 8 after a battle with renal cancer. She was a leader in the psychology community who touched many lives as colleague, supervisor, mentor and friend. She embraced her community and the people in it with integrity, wisdom and a genuine caring for others and dedication to excellence in the profession.

She served as President of the Louisiana School Psychological Association, as Coordinator of the School Psychology Program and Professor of Practice in the Psychology Department of Tulane University, and as Director in the Executive Council for the Louisiana Psychological Association. She conducted a private practice, supervised interns, and served as an investigator for the state psychology board, as well as many other community roles.

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LSBEP to Appeal Judge's Decision

The Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists (LSBEP) will appeal a recent decision by District Court Judge Michael Caldwell, who ruled that the board's process violated the Constitutional rights of a psychologist.

On July 27 the *Times* asked LSBEP Executive Director, Ms. Jaime Monic, if the Board was going to appeal Judge Caldwell's decision.

Ms. Monic responded the following day, writing, "The Board thoroughly discussed this matter and the Order from the 19th Judicial District Court at a special meeting

held on July 7, 2017. With consideration being given to the costs of a new hearing as well as the Administrative Procedures and other statutorily supported procedures that were followed by LSBEP staff, and in consultation with Attorney Amy Groves Lowe, the Board voted to appeal the decision of the 19th JDC."

On May 2, Judge R. Michael Caldwell of the 19th Judicial District Court in Baton Rouge said that the procedures leading to the suspension of Dr. Eric Cerwonka's psychology

license included so many Constitutional violations that the decision could not stand, according to Cerwonka's attorney, Mr. Lane Roy, in a previous interview.

Judge Caldwell agreed to hear additional arguments from the LSBEP attorney, Ms. Amy Lowe. On June 26 Judge Caldwell heard the additional views but stood firm on his initial opinion, this time using the term, "reeks" to describe some of the process, as described by Mr. Roy.

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Louisiana Presenters at APA this Week

The American Psychological Association will hold its 125th Annual Convention this week in Washington, DC, August 3 to 6. Keynote speaker is Dr. Daniel Kahneman, Nobel Prize winner, distinguished psychologist, author of *Thinking, Fast and Slow*, and ground-breaking research theorist in behavioral economics.

Louisiana is sending an array of presenters and researchers from across the state from both academic and practice settings.

Thomandra Sam, PhD, from Eastern Louisiana Mental Health System, Jackson, will chair the *Symposium: Group Therapy With Diverse College Women*.

From Louisiana State University, researchers Juan Ventura, BA, Emily Elliott, PhD, David Baker, MS, and Daniel

Shanahan, PhD, will present, "Cognitive Abilities in Nonmusicians and Musicians: Does Musicality Matter?"

"Childhood Abuse, Lifetime PTSD, and Lifetime Substance Abuse in Latino Americans Nationwide," will be presented by co-author Catherine Lemieux, PhD, from Louisiana State University.

Gregory Gormanous, PhD, from Louisiana State University at Alexandria, will chair the *Symposium: Social Media and Anti-Islam/Anti-Arab Ethical Violations—Mock Licensing Board Hearing* with co-chair Nabil El-Ghoroury, PhD, APAGS Office, APA. Participants include Warren C. Lowe, PhD, MP, of Lafayette Psychotherapy Group, Actor/Role: Hearing Officer Kayli Alphonso, BS, Louisiana State University;

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Editorials and Opinions

Psychology's Role in Information Flow

by Times publisher, J. Nelson

The poignant loss of our colleague Conni Patterson, reminds us that medicine sometimes has little to offer a person who comes down with a dangerous form of cancer.

Not much real progress has been made in curing the serious cancers, even though we've been at it since Nixon signed the National Cancer Act and threw down the "War on Cancer" gauntlet in 1971. I wonder if Nixon saw Kennedy put a man on the moon and thought, "How hard can it be?"

You can't blame him—*Not finding* something you are looking for after 46 years requires some talent, just applied in the wrong directions.

Since I can't image that the failure is at the individual level, that leaves the group level and the large system as the culprit for this poor job performance. One process variable at fault is probably—information flow.

The medical/pharma industrial complex has a bad rep when it comes to information flow. It took 25 years for them to stop x-raying pregnant women after we knew it hurt the unborn; the news of folic acid and neural tube deficits seemed to take that long; and the link between Vitamin D3 and cancer, preached by outsiders for years, is only lately common knowledge.

I had my own first-hand experience when my sister died of a serious cancer in the 90s. Like Conni, she had a nasty, glandular cancer. Suzie first went through the surgery, but then it spread and then she did the chemo and then MD Anderson sent her home to get her things in order.

I frantically scrambled around for an experimental treatment, which Suzie now qualified for, since she'd run through the rest. We decided on a "biological response modifier" designed by a Presbyterian minister of all things, Mr. Hill, where he attempted to use a tricky combination of insulin and potassium to force the person's internal biochemistry to go into infection-fighting mode, and rev up the immune defenses by 10, 100 or 1,000 fold. He had studied spontaneous remissions and found that this

was what happened with them, and he'd shown success in animals. It was non-toxic and she could stay at home.

The effort took constant micromanaging on my part, getting the physician, nurses, pharmacy and lab on the same page, daily if not hourly to keep her in the effective biochemical "zone."



We obtained a "mild response" but not enough to save her life. Mr. Hill judged that her immune system was too weak by that time and the growth of the cancer too fast.

That was 1996. I followed Mr. Hill's efforts for a number of years and he reported to me that trying to get a study done properly through the official channels was extremely frustrating. He found that the precision needed was almost impossible for the medical staff and it became clear to him that the motivation was just not there to truly test his method. The patients were always already very sick and their immune systems weakened by chemotherapy. The last I heard, he was going to look for some avenue to test the method in healthy, newly diagnosed people, but that was not allowed in the US and so he'd have to find something international. He was not a young man then and I don't know what happened to him and his work.

If there were a cure for cancer, could it make it to the light of day, or to the tipping point, so that people would have the information when they needed it?

Psychologists should see our roles as not only producing scientific and psychological truth, but to somehow cause this information to get to the level of our society so that it makes a difference.

This year the *Times* did not sweep the Best Investigative Reporting in our Division 7, which is the Louisiana Press Association division for some of us little guys. At first I was disappointed, since we'd won for three years in a row.

But when I found out that another little guy, the Lafayette *Independent* had not only grabbed the first place in Division 7 but had gone on to win the whole shooting match, beating out the heavy-weights like the *Advocate* and *Times-Pic*, for the Freedom of Information honor, the most prestigious award of the Press Association, I just felt happy for them. I felt happy for all of us.

They had the courage to force the issue, to kick in the door, so that a town official gave over the information that the public deserved. A judge even put the guy in jail for failing his duty as a records custodian.

Hooray for the little guy. And hooray for freedom of information.

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

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Several Corrections & Clarifications

We had several goofs last month. **(1)** Attorney Wayne Stewart, community member, pointed out that we reported that an effort to prohibit corporal punishment of students with exceptionalities had failed. The bill we reported on did fail, but its twin HB79 passed into Act 266. We corrected the version asap and are truly sorry for the misleading report in the first run, and greatly thank Mr. Stewart for his help! **(2)** Loyola Professor Dr. Evan Zucker pointed out that we had omitted Loyola from our report on SEPA and SWPA, which left out his and Maria Padilla's work, "Sleep Quality and Impulsivity in College Students." Dr. Zucker also presented on the Psi Chi panel, "Graduate School Q&A." **(3)** Our reporting also left out Loyola's Dr. Kim Ernst who presented, "Effects of Sequential and Paired Positioning Requests on Donor Intentions." We corrected the online edition and regret the omission in the first run. We appreciate Dr. Zucker's help!

Please send corrections or clarifications to the *Times*
psychologytimes@drjulienelson.com

Governor Appoints Dr. Leah Crouch to Psychology Board

The Governor has appointed Leah Crouch, PsyD, to serve on the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists (LSBEP) according to a Boards & Commission announcement July 21. Dr. Crouch will begin serving the five-year appointment this month, according to sources.

Outgoing chair is Darla Burnett, PhD, MP, who ended her term in June. Currently serving are Drs. Phil Griffin, Koren Boggs, Jesse Lambert, and Amy Henke. Dr. Lambert is the only medical psychologist with Dr. Burnett completing her service.

In February 2017, Dr. Crouch captured 58 percent of the votes cast in the election and Dr. William Schmitz received 42 percent. The Louisiana Psychological Association submitted both Dr. Crouch and Dr. Schmitz to the Governor, with the association’s request that Governor Edwards appoint the top vote getter, according to sources.

Dr. Crouch is owner of River Bends Psychology, a Private Practice located in New Orleans, where she provides psychological services to adult population. She received her PsyD from the University of Denver in 2006 in Clinical Psychology.

She is also with Tulane University, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, where she is a Clinical Assistant Professor and previously an Assistant Professor, and providing services on an adult, acute, inpatient psychiatric unit for those with chronic and severe behavioral illness.

Dr. Crouch has previously worked for the Department of Defense, Department of the Navy, at the Naval Consolidated Brig Chesapeake, providing services at a Joint Regional Correctional Facility, where she helped restore and prepare prisoners for return to duty or re-enter civilian society. She also worked as a psychologist at the Naval Hospital in Beaufort, South Carolina from 2010 to 2012.

In 2009 and 2010 Dr. Crouch provided services in a juvenile correctional center for Louisiana State University, Health Science Center –New Orleans, School of Public Health Juvenile Justice Program.

Dr. William Schmitz, Jr., is a clinical psychologist with the Department of Veteran Affairs and resides in Baton Rouge. He earned his PsyD from Baylor University in 2006.

Dr. Schmitz, previously served as the President of the American Association of Suicidology, and clinical psycho- logist, and presented in 2015 as the plenary session speaker at conference of the Louisiana Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers.

Letters to the Editor

[Editor’s Note: We received this letter in June from Dr. James referring to our June rerun of the award-winning Psychology Times’ feature article, “Our WWII Fathers,” by Drs. Magee, Andrews, and Nelson. We inadvertently forgot to run the letter in our July issue. We apologize for the delay.]

Dear Dr Nelson,

I wanted to take a moment to write and thank you for the heart felt stories about our WWII military Fathers.

As a Psychologist who served 26 years on active duty in the Army, this story brought back fond memories of the great men and women I have served with for nearly 3 decades. The stories touched my heart and brought tears to my eyes as I thought about our greatest generation and how much we owe the soldiers of the WWII generation . . . many of them never came home, died for freedom around the world and defeated the tyranny of the Hitler regime. Sadly most Americans just don't know the sacrifices soldiers go through for little financial rewards. Our fathers served because they believed in democracy, freedom and in service to this great nation.

I myself was awarded a Bronze Star in Iraq so in a small way I know personally what these great men who were awarded Bronze Stars, Silver Stars and Purple Hearts went through to receive such awards and the selfless sacrifices they endured for us all.

Dr Nelson, even though I had 10 deployments in my career, the modern day soldier's life is far easier than the life of a soldier in WWII. When our fathers and grand fathers left for the war after the bombing of Pearl Harbor, they were gone for 3 to 4 years. There were no cell phones, no wifi, no Skype or VTC, no laptops, no DVDs, no Game boys or Play Stations, no McDonalds or Burger King restaurants but only Army MREs to eat. These soldiers had no showers or warm beds to sleep in so they usually slept on the ground in the freezing cold & snow all across Europe and no coming home on leave until the war was over. In spite of all of this, any time I meet a WWII veteran and I ask him, "would you do it over again if you had the chance to do it all over again?" A bright smile always lights up their face, a pause. then a "hell yes I would" follows every time. These men of WWII were true heroes and fought to help save humanity.

Thank you again for sharing these wonderful memories.

Larry C. James, Ph.D., ABPP
Colonel (Retired) U.S. Army
President & CEO, The Wright Behavioral Health Group, LLC
Professor, School of Professional Psychology
Wright State University
Dayton, Ohio

[Editor’s Note: In our February issue we reported on the issues in Texas involving a lawsuit (Texas Psychology Practice Act Set for Major Overhaul after TFC and Serafine) by Mary Louise Serafine and also published an editorial. Dr. Serafine recently wrote thanking us for the news coverage and sent a Letter to the Editor.]

Dear Editor:

I appreciate your February articles regarding my case, Serafine v. Branaman, which resulted in a Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals opinion on the licensing of psychologists. (810 F.3d 354).

The heart of this federal opinion is that psychologists’ licensing laws are to be analyzed under the First Amendment’s guarantee of freedom of speech. People are free to speak, listen, and think as they wish, and nowhere is that more important than in the area of the mind and how we live our lives. In Serafine v. Branaman the Court struck down as unconstitutional the major parts of the Texas Psychologists’ Licensing Act---the part that defined the “practice of psychology” and the part that placed a ban on the use of “psychologist,” “psychology,” and “psychological” without a license---that is, a permission slip from the government.

Equally, the Court found that the “practice of psychology,” as Texas defined it, violated the freedom of speech.

Texas Governor Greg Abbott has signed into law HB 3808, a new bill that attempts to redefine the practice of psychology to make it constitutional. At this it fails. It protects from prosecution people who are not acting in a “professional relationship.” What this is, no one knows. Can the law possibly mean that if you acted “unprofessionally”—say, cracking jokes and missing appointments—you might not be breaking the law?

My view is that the new law is as bad or worse than the old one, and will lead to further litigation as soon as it is enforced.

The way out of this quagmire is for states to certify psychologists, not license them. Certification would merely put the state’s stamp of approval on those psychologists it recommends without punishing people who give advice without that approval. The public would then be free to choose.

Sincerely,
Mary Lou Serafine

LSBEP to Appeal Judge Caldwell’s Decision, continued

On July 7 the LSBEP met in a special meeting at Children’s Hospital in New Orleans scheduled from 3:35 to 5:00 pm. According to the agenda the members were to have discussed two matters in executive session from 3:35 to 4:30. The agenda listed the two topics for the closed session as: “1. Review qualifications of applicants for prosecuting attorney. 2. Other in-house personnel matters.”

Also according to the published agenda, the members were then to have discussed the following matters from 4:30 to 5 pm in open session: “1. Prosecuting Attorney Contract 2017-18; 2. Complaints Coordinator II Position 2017-18; 3. 2017-18 Budget Recommendations; and 4. Eric Cerwonka vs. LSBEP, 19th Judicial District Court Decision.”

At the most recent regular board meeting of the Board, held July 28 at the Baton Rouge office of the LSBEP, Dr. Tom Hannie attended and asked about the appeal. Dr. Kim VanGeffen, Professional Affairs Chair for the Louisiana Psychological Association, was also in attendance. Hannie provided the *Times* with a recording of the discussion.

Dr. Hannie: “I have questions about that case. As I understand it, the lawyer that was running the trial also had represented Cerwonka in a previous case, and the person who was prosecuting, was a member of the same firm. I’m wondering if the attorneys were committing malpractice by not recusing themselves and if y’all have looked at that?”

Dr. Phil Griffin: “We’ve looked at every aspect of it. I, you know...His attorneys, to me, did a pretty damn good job. I was impressed with Cerwonka’s attorneys. And I don’t know, if there’d have seen something awry ... that should have brought that up at the trial, in terms of our prosecuting attorney. Those things, those things quite frankly don’t even enter into what all was going on, why the guy was in the hearing in the first place.”

[Many speaking at same time...]

Dr. Amy Henke: “I would encourage anyone who has questions about these hearings, please come. See what you think. They’re open to the public. Julie was there. I encourage LPA, someone from the association, to see what you think. Watch what we watch, and see what you would do.”

Dr. Kim VanGeffen: “... At least as I understand it, it was not so much the hearing itself, but what led up to the hearing.”

Ms. Monic: “Unfortunately, complaint investigations are confidential. There are avenues for reviewing the board’s policies and procedures. The Inspector General could certainly come in and take a look at that case and how it was handled. That wasn’t an option that was pursued and so now we’re in litigation. Whether or not, as an administrative agency, we acted properly administratively, I believe we did.”

[Many speaking]

Dr. Hannie: “I understand that you, you’re shackled, but when I see that the board is going to appeal I look at the cost of appealing, and sometimes when you appeal, you not only pay your legal fees but you pay the other person’s legal fees and it can get outrageous.” He described an unrelated example where an appeal may be costing \$100,000 or more.

“In some of these cases they get six figures, paying on an appeal, just paying the other person’s fees, not just their own.”

Dr. Henke: “We worry about costs too, but our number one charge is public safety. We can’t not pursue something, we can’t just say it’s too expensive— ‘we’re not going to protect the public on this one because it’s too expensive.’ ”

At the May 12 meeting of the LSBEP, following Judge Caldwell’s initial opinion on May 2, the minutes indicate that the board members discussed the alternatives to either appeal the ruling or to conduct a rehearing of the case involving Dr. Cerwonka. The minutes noted:

“Petition for Judicial Review: Eric Cerwonka vs. Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists: No. C656587 Section 24 – The Board reviewed the Petition for Judicial Review in this matter and the Summary Report provided by Attorney Amy Groves Lowe concerning the Status Conference held on April 21, 2017. The Board approved moving forward with a judicial review before the 19th Judicial District Court in lieu of rehearing.”

Discussion items for that meeting also included the review of Legal Contracts for 2017–2018. The minutes listed the following:

“1. Taylor, Porter, Brooks & Phillips (TPBP) – By motion of Dr. Griffin, the Board unanimously approved an amendment to the July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2019 contract with TPBP to add an additional \$12,000, needed for continued legal services.” Taylor Porter is the firm for the Board’s General Council, which includes Mr. Lloyd Luncford and Ms. Amy Lowe.

The minutes also noted: “2. Breazeale, Sachse & Wilson (BSW) - The consideration of this contract was tabled until July 2017.” BSW is the firm for Prosecuting Attorney, Mr. James Raines.

And the other items were: “3. Roedel, Parsons, Koch, Blanche, Balhoff & McCollister – The consideration of this contract was tabled until July 2017. 4. Other - The Board designated Dr. Amy Henke and Ms. Jaime Monic to conduct interviews for additional legal counsel for the 2017-18 Fiscal Year.” The Roedel firm is the firm for Ms. Deborah Harkins, the attorney often hired for legislative issues.

According to public records the board has had escalating legal fees which stem primarily from charges from the Board Prosecutor, held at one point by Mr. James Raines. Over 2015 to 2016, and into January 2017, Mr. Raines prosecuted 16 cases. Three of these 16 cases amounted to \$146,987 of charges from Mr. Raines.

This past legislative session the LSBEP helped pass legislation that removed a one-year time limit for investigations from the psychology licensing law. The measure also gave the board’s complaints subcommittee the ability to charge fees to psychologists being investigated for activities that do not reach the hearing level.



A previous meeting of the psychology board with Dr. Darla Burnett, MP, (center top) who completed her service in June. Bottom left facing away is Executive Director Jaime Monic, (then clockwise) Dr. Koren Boggs, Dr. Phil Griffin who is now chair, Dr. Burnett, Dr. Amy Henke, and Dr. Jesse Lambert, MP.

State & National News

Texas Psychologists File Lawsuit
Against the State Licensing Board

by Julie Nelson and James Thompson

Carol Grothues, PhD and President of the Texas Psychological Association told members last week that the state association will pursue legal actions to try and stop the Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists from going forward with plans to allow Licensed Psychological Associates to practice independently.

According to Grothues the association has filed a temporary restraining order to stop progress on rule changes that have not been thoroughly studied for economic impact required for rule changes by the state. The proposed rule would eliminate the doctoral standard for the independent practice of psychology, according to Grothues.

Dr. Grothues told members that the proposed change was not based on any research indicating that the level of training a licensed associate receives, but rather was motivated by concerns about whether requiring supervision of LPAs violates anti-competitive laws.

She said that attorneys with the American Psychological Association have reviewed this case and said that the proposed rule change is not needed in order to deal with anti-trust concerns.

Texas has recently dealt with several challenges to its psychology practice act. In a January report, Texas Sunset Commission, recommended reforms including narrowing the definition of the practice of psychology and consolidating all the state's boards dealing with behavioral health.

Additionally, Texas, like Louisiana, is working on legal fallout from the 2015 U.S. Supreme Court decision, *North Carolina v. F. T.C.* In the decision, the Supreme Court found that the North Carolina dental board violated antitrust laws when they sent 47 official cease-and-desist orders to non-dentists who were offering teeth- whitening services.

However, the threat to the psychology board may be postponed if a bill (SB20) that was filed last month in the Texas legislature and that would continue the Texas

psychology board until 2019, passes.

Texas psychology is also dealing with another blow from *Serafine v. Branaman*, a January 2016 judgment of the United States District Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. The Appeals judges found that the Texas psychology law, restricting the terms "psychological," "psychologist," or "psychology," is unconstitutional as applied to political speech, and Serafine's use of the word "psychologist" on her political campaign website.

Dr. Salcedo to Serve on Human
Trafficking Prevention Board

At their Friday, July 28 regular meeting, the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists named Dr. Rafael Salcedo as their choice to serve on the Human Trafficking Prevention Commission Advisory Board. The Advisory Board is part of the Louisiana Human Trafficking Prevention Commission, created by Senate Bill 42 of the 2017 legislative session and signed into law as Act 181.

The psychology board, in accordance with the procedures set out in the new law, announced on June 29 that it was seeking experienced psychologists in the areas of human trafficking, to be nominated by the board to be appointed by the Governor to serve on the Advisory Board of the Commission. Dr. Salcedo was one of the applicants.

Dr. Rafael Salcedo is known for his advocacy and comprehensive treatment program for the young victims of human sex trafficking, and was named the 2017 Distinguished Psychologist by the Louisiana Psychological Association. The award was announced in June at the association's annual conference held in New Orleans. Dr. Salcedo was honored for his excellence in psychological practice and his dedication to "saving the minds, bodies and souls of little girls," from the devastation of human traffickers.

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State & National News

Defendants in Hoffman Defamation Suit Cite Freedom of Speech

The defendants in a defamation suit, attorney David Hoffman and the American Psychological Association, have filed a Motion to Stay, arguing that a stay would add to efficiency and protect the defendants free speech. The motion was filed March 27.

The authors write, “Specifically, Plaintiffs' Complaint seeks to hold Defendants liable for exercising their constitutional right to speak about issues of public interest: ...” and they argue that “Delaying discovery until after the Court has decided whether it can resolve, or significantly narrow, this case helps protect against litigation that improperly chills constitutionally protected speech.”

The argument states that the defendants anticipate filing: “(1) a motion to dismiss for failure to state a claim under Ohio R. Civ. P.12(B)(6) for a number of reasons, including but not limited to statements not being defamatory as a matter of law, statements being protected from liability as pure opinion, statements not being reasonably susceptible of the meaning asserted in the Complaint, and statements not being ‘of and concerning’ concerning (sic) certain plaintiffs; (2) motions addressing the Court’s jurisdiction over certain claims and parties; and (3) special motions to dismiss or strike the Complaint in order to protect speakers’ rights to freedom of speech.”

In February, attorneys for retired Colonels and psychologists Morgan Banks, Debra Dunivin and Larry James, and also two psychologists who are former employees of the American Psychological Association (APA), Drs. Stephen Behnke and Russ Newman, filed a defamation lawsuit against the Chicago attorney David Hoffman, his law firm, and APA, alleging reckless disregard for the truth and false statements in a 2015 report called the Hoffman Report.

Mr. Hoffman was hired by APA in 2014 to review interactions between military psychologists, APA officials, and the Bush administration. Hoffman concluded that communications of a 2005 APA members’ task force amounted to “collusion” with military psychologists and therefore with the Department of Defense. A media furor commenced following publication of the Report, splashing the issue of “torture” and APA across national news outlets. APA paid Hoffman \$4.1 million for the Report, according to sources.

In the February 16 Complaint, attorneys for the plaintiffs alleged that the primary conclusions in the Hoffman Report were not only false, but that Hoffman knew they were false. The complaint states that military psychologists, who had actually tried to prevent abuses in military interrogations, were painted as having worked to protect abusive procedures. The plaintiffs allege reckless disregard for the truth and actual malice.



Dr. Marc Zimmermann, MP, (L) speaking to an audience at a recent convention. Dr. Tom Buchmann listens. Both were presenters for “Advancements in Psychopharmacology,” presented at the Louisiana Psychological Association. Dr. Zimmermann has been appointed to the advisory group for Workers’ Comp.

Times Honored with 13 Awards from Press Assn

The *Psychology Times* brought home 13 awards from the 137th Annual Louisiana Press Association Convention held jointly with the Mississippi Press Association in Biloxi, July 7 and 8.

Included in this year’s awards, the *Times* garnered a first in Best Continuing Coverage, a second place in Best News Coverage, and second and third places in Best Investigative Reporting, and a third place in General Excellence.

The *Psychology Times* also received recognition in news coverage, with a second place in Best News Story for its reporting on the Salcedo’s efforts to save trafficked children. The judge commented, “Kudos for calling attention not only to the funding issues involved, but also to the extraordinary commitment of those who worked to ensure care for young people traumatized by the horrible crime.”

Judges also honored the *Times* coverage of the police shootings with a third place in its division for Best News Story, noting, “Another well-done story that focuses on the emotional impact of police shootings in the community.” Judges gave the *Times* a third place in Best News Photo for a view of the horse-drawn carriage and reflections of American flags, the judge saying, “An unusual and interesting view of a deeply moving moment in time.”

The second place in Best Investigative Reporting, a view of costs in the healthcare industry, gained the judges’ review: “Reading this piece was sobering, thought provoking and troubling. Excellent research and organization...”

The *Times* swept the Best Continuing Coverage category with a first, second and

**Dr. Marc Zimmermann
Appointed to Workers’
Compensation Council**

Marc L. Zimmermann, Ph.D., MP, of Prairieville, has been appointed to the Workers’ Compensation Advisory Council. Zimmermann is a psychologist and medical psychologist in private practice and will serve as a representative of the Louisiana Psychological Association on the Council.

The Workers’ Compensation Advisory Council is responsible for monitoring and reporting to the governor and the legislature on the implementation and administration of laws pertaining to the administration of workers' compensation claims and making specific recommendations thereon.

third for coverage of the EPPP 2 exam, the state budget problems, and the 2016 flood. Other awards included a second in Community Service, a first in website, and a third in Best Front Page.

The first place for investigative reporting in the *Times’* Division this year went to a Lafayette paper, *The Independent*. *The Independent* not only grabbed first place in investigative efforts in Division 7, but then went on to win the esteemed Freedom of Information Award, given to only one newspaper for all Divisions. The prestigious award was created in part by Gordon Nelson, father of the publisher of the *Psychology Times*, and current journalism consultant to the *Times*, Bob Holean, over three decades ago. Their paper, *The Coushatta Citizen*, also won the FOI Award the first time it was bestowed on a Louisiana newspaper.

Dr. Constance Patterson, Beloved Leader continued

A private tribute and ceremony was held on July 23 in Slidell where family and friends shared stories about Dr. Patterson, “Conni,” and afterward spread her ashes in Moonraker Lake.

Later that day a public gathering was held at one of Conni’s favorite places in Algiers, her adopted community and neighborhood. Friends honored her at The Old Point Bar, located at 545 Patterson Street, Algiers Point, at the curve of the Mississippi River.

Constance Kindrick Patterson, PhD, born in 1952, had a full professional life—she branched out into the social fabric of school psychology and was embraced for her character, values and dedication to excellence.

Tulane colleague Dr. Bonnie Nastasi said, “School psychology in the U.S. is a complex network, with changing relationships and crossed paths. Conni’s presence in my professional life is a great illustration of this. I initially met Conni when she was a doctoral

student at Illinois State University and I was a faculty member. I moved on from there, Conni completed her program, and later joined LAS*PIC (located in New Orleans, my hometown) as director of internship program in school psychology and remained in that position until Katrina,” Natasi said. “For several years, she and I were faculty members in the school psychology program at Walden University where she directed field placements. Eventually we both returned to New Orleans and assumed faculty positions in the School Psychology Program at Tulane...”

“Over the years,” Nastasi said, “Conni has been a dear colleague and friend. I have had the utmost respect for her wisdom, professional knowledge and expertise, integrity, and caring spirit.”

Mark Swerdlik, PhD, Co-Coordinator, Graduate Programs in School Psychology and Professor of Psychology at Illinois State University, also

knew Conni in many roles. “My relationship with Conni spanned over three decades,” said Dr. Swerdlik, who was her colleague in clinical practice, then her program advisor, internship supervisor and dissertation co-chair when she was a doctoral student at Illinois State University. “...and since 2012 we were university educator colleagues,” he said. “Conni was a wonderful colleague always willing to offer case consultation.”

“I remember being very impressed with her clinical insights,” he said. “Over the years she was coordinator, I recall being impressed with how seamlessly she seemed to be able to mentor interns and then transition to that of colleagues and so many former interns became her close friends.”

Dr. Alan Coulter, Senior Manager at the Human Development Center LSU Health Sciences Center (LSUHSC) also knew Conni as both intern and colleague.

“I knew Conni from 1994 until the day she died,” Dr. Coulter said. “I have known her as intern, school psychologist, coordinator of LAS*PIC, graduate educator, independent practitioner, and friend. Conni Patterson was a stalwart professional who embodied the highest ideals of our profession. She was a deeply caring individual who solemnly upheld her commitments especially in the guidance of interns as they expand their knowledge and skills.”

Dr. Constance K. Patterson earned her doctorate in 1999 from the APA Accredited school psychology program at Illinois State University, where she also received her masters and undergraduate. She had earlier begun her career in clinical and worked with children and families.

She completed her School Psychology Internship in 1995 from the Human Development Center, the then LSU Medical Center, and worked as a Certified School Psychologist in Harvey, Louisiana, for the Jefferson Parish Public School System.

Her dissertation was, “Student, Teacher and School Setting Factors Affecting Classification of Students with Emotional/ Behavioral Disorders: A Study of One School System in Louisiana.”

Between 1997 and 2006, she served as Assistant Professor in the Department of Interdisciplinary Human Studies, School of Allied Health Professions LSUHSC and was the Co-Director for the Internship Consortium, then moved to the Quality Assurance Coordinator, for the National Center for Special Education Accountability Monitoring, at the Human Development Center, LSUHSC. By 2004 she had received her license from the state psychology board in School Psychology.

“I seem to also recall,” said Dr. Swerdlik, “that when Conni was searching for a school psychology internship among several sites she was considering the Louisiana School Psychology Internship Consortium,” he said. “She wasn’t sure about this internship as she had not previously lived in New Orleans. As we all know Conni fell in the love with the city and it’s people and

they with her and as they say the rest is history.”

In 2006 Conni worked at Unified School District in Tucson, Arizona and also took a position as Assistant Professor in the School of Psychology for Walden University.

By 2011 she turned all of her attention to Louisiana, working for Plaquemines Parish School, and taking a position with Tulane, where she served as Professor of Practice in the Department of Psychology, advancing to Coordinator of the Tulane School Psychology Program.

Conni was an active community member and held a variety of leadership roles. She served as President for the Louisiana School Psychological Association and also as President–Elect, Futures Committee Chair, Membership Chair, Presenter Coordinator, and as Associate Editor and later as Coordinating Editor of the *Louisiana School Psychologist*.

Some of her other many roles included serving on the Oversight Committee and then on the Advisory Board for the Louisiana Health and Disability Project, on the Advisory Board for the Louisiana Center for Excellence in Autism, and as a School Psychology Focus Group member for the State Department of Education. She served on the Dean’s Committee on Multicultural Issues at LSUHSC and on the Multicultural Training Advisory Committee at the LSU Human Development Center. She was Chair of the Supervision Interest Group for the National Association of School Psychologists.

Conni was a regular speaker and lecturer and spoke on a variety of topics. Her presentations at the National Association of School Psychologists included: “*Meeting the challenges of providing internship supervision*,” with colleague Dr. George Hebert; “*Distance education and field experience*,” “*Practical strategies for supervision of school psychologists*,” and “*Generational diversity: Implications for consultation and teamwork*,” and she



Friends and colleagues at Old Point Bar in Algiers, honoring Dr. Conni Patterson. The historic bar was a favorite of Conni's, located on Patterson Street.

Dr. Constance Patterson, Beloved Leader continued

presented research with Drs. Alan Coulter, George Hebert and others, on “*Fantasies vs. Job Realities: How interns spend their time.*”

Dr. George Hebert, friend and colleague, related that he and Conni were the first psychologists to re-enter the New Orleans Public Schools after Katrina. “... History shall record that she was first,” he said, “because as a Southern gentleman, I held the door open for her.”

Conni also presented at the American Psychological Association including: *Has school psychology lost its way? New rules for accountability*, a symposium with colleague Dr. Coulter; and *Creative training partnerships: Designing internship consortia to support preferred practices*, a symposium.

She presented at the annual meeting of the Council of Directors of School Psychology Programs, *Traditionalists, Boomers, Xers, and Millenials: School psychological practice across generations and implications for training;*” at the American Society of Ophthalmic Nurses, “*Meeting the challenge of working across cultures;*” and at the Council of Directors of School Psychology Programs.”

She published “Collaborative supervision of internship experiences,” in the *Handbook of education, training, and supervision of school psychologists in school and community*, with colleague Dr. George Hebert; “Impact of generational diversity in the workplace,” in *The Diversity Factor*; “School Psychologists as Leaders in a time of change,” in *Louisiana School Psychologist*; “Generational diversity: Implications for consultation and teamwork, in *Louisiana School Psychologist*; and “Working with Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Questioning youth: A new training curriculum for school psychologists,” in *NASP Communique*.

Dr. Carmen Broussard, Professor in Psychology at Nicholls, said, “Conni was available. She was usually in attendance at the state and local level in a number of

university and organization events. Her varied experiences in and out of Louisiana led to her thoughtful insight about any matter being discussed,” she said.

“Conni was a friend. She remembered people and she remembered things about them, in a way that made you feel so comfortable. I tried to never miss an opportunity to stop and talk awhile when we crossed paths,” she said. “Conni was a fierce supporter of our profession. She was willing to speak up when needed. She was willing to do some of the work. We owe her many thanks for her service to our organizations and to the many students that she has groomed to carry on.”

Following the announcement of her death, the Louisiana Psychological Association passed a Resolution in her honor, writing: “... Dr. Patterson's distinguished life includes multiple areas of service and contribution, exhibiting in all she did her dedication to excellence, scholarship, mentoring of others, and the protection and support of the dignity of all people, in all walks of life; ...”

One of her interns, Levi Zitting, said, “Her breadth of influence and commitment to quality work in the field was awe inspiring. I hope she can rest in her well deserved peace and that her friends can find comfort.”

Another of her interns, Ms. Connie Morris, said, “She had a way of leading me to answers that helped me develop confidence in my own professional judgment. Even more fortunate for me was the friendship that we shared over the past 20 years,” she said. And, “...we also had several wonderful conversations about life in the abstract and what is truly important in life. During one such conversation, Conni spoke of how meaningful it was to have an impact on the professional development of those who become your peers. For her, it was both an awesome responsibility and a privilege...Truly,” she said, “the privilege was ours.”

“I will miss her terribly,” said Bonnie Nastasi, “but will always cherish the moments of



Family and friends in private ashes ceremony at Moonraker Lake.
(Photo by Nancy Hebert)

professional commiseration and casual laughter and companionship. I will miss the opportunity to walk down the hall and visit with her on campus or relax over a glass of wine. Conni’s contributions to the profession will be long remembered and I expect many others will miss her spirit as I will.”

“Everyone that knew her was impressed with her strong character and firm self-control,” said Alan Coulter. “Conni modeled for others that a professional embodies high standards, deep humility, and a good sense of humor...”

“Her passion for life and for teaching others was strong and she fought her disease until the last day,” Coulter said. “For Conni, she was intent on being in charge of her own life to the end. There is no way to adequately describe the magnitude of our loss.”

Family and friends composed an obituary including these excerpts: “Dr. Patterson had a distinguished career during which she mentored more than a hundred professionals and influenced countless others.

“...she carefully shaped training to model effective and ethical practices of interns. Those interns now practice as school psychologists throughout the U.S.

“Dr. Patterson mentored countless school psychologists, teachers,

school administrators, and families experiencing challenges. At her passing, many people reached out with stories of how Conni served as an inspirational role model of ethical and family-focused practice. She was an active member of the Algiers Point community in New Orleans supporting the arts, music, and people in need. No one can adequately capture or describe the breadth of her reach and influence on the practice of school psychology and her spirit of reaching out to others.

“During her illness, Conni was supported by her school psychology family and close friends who maintained communication with Conni’s many friends, colleagues, and her family in Virginia. All involved are grateful for mutual support and for Conni’s relief from suffering.

“Conni is survived by her mother, Lorena McCann, her daughter Melanie Hoerner (husband Jerry), her 3 grandchildren, Jared, Caleb and Marley, her sisters, Jean Kindrick, Becky Gibson, Trish Lutz, and Stacey Moffet, and numerous nieces and nephews.

“A memorial school psychology internship fund has been established in her name with the LSU Health Foundation. Donations should be addressed to the *Dr. Conni Patterson Scholarship Fund*, c/o www.lspaonline.org.”

Louisiana School Psychological Association

Dr. Conni Patterson Scholarship Fund

Donations c/o www.lspaonline.org

Louisiana Presenters at APA this Week

continued

and Sarah Crawford, AA, Louisiana State University at Alexandria. Among the other participants are Alex M. Siegel, JD, PhD, Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards and Katherine C. Nordal, PhD, APA Practice Directorate, Washington, DC.

“Sex Differences in Factors of Self-Esteem in Adolescents With Previous Trauma,” will be presented by Patrick Hagood, Madeleine Allman, BS, and Tonya Hansel, PhD, LCSW, from Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center–New Orleans.

Frank Gresham, PhD, Louisiana State University, will co-present “Advances in Universal SEL Interventions: The Digital Transformations of an EBT, as part of the *Symposium: Universal Interventions for Improving Children’s Social Emotional Learning*.

Jennifer Hughes, PhD, Erich Conrad, MD, James Russ, MD, Charles Starkman, MA, and Erika Rajo, MS, Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center, New Orleans, will present, “Trauma Recovery Clinic: Integrated Approach to Treating the Traumatically Injured.”

Melanie Lantz, PhD, from Louisiana Tech University, will present, “Social Dominance Theory and Multicultural Counseling: A New Lens and Alternative Measurement,” as part of the *Symposium: Multicultural Counseling Competencies—Measurement, Techniques and Future Trends*.

For *Symposium: Campus Activism—Counseling, Spirituality, Sexual Assault, Black Lives Matter and Love Is Love*, TaShara Williams, MA, and Melanie Lantz, PhD, from Louisiana Tech University, will present, “Working for Social Change on a Campus in the Deep South.”

Melanie Lantz, PhD, Louisiana Tech, will chair the *Symposium: Continuing on Paths Forged—Early Career Professionals Navigating Social Justice*.

“Financial Implications of Psychology Doctoral Degree Pursuit: A Cross-Sectional Examination,” will be presented by Melanie Lantz, PhD, Louisiana Tech; Danielle Franks, BA, and Lindsey Shamp, MA, Louisiana Tech; and other co-authors.

Melanie Lantz, PhD, Louisiana Tech, along with co-authors will present, “Early Career Opportunities in Division 17:

Society of Counseling Psychology.”

“Racial Attitudes in the 2016 Presidential Election: A Social Dominance Perspective,” will be presented by Danielle Franks, BA, Melanie Lantz, PhD, TaShara Williams, MA, and Lindsey Shamp, MA, Louisiana Tech.

“Relationship Between Posttraumatic Stress Symptomology and Academic Performance Moderated by Race,” is to be presented by TaShara Williams, MA, and Melanie Lantz, PhD, Louisiana Tech.

Guler Boyraz, PhD, and Samantha Martin, MS, both from Louisiana Tech, will present “Moderators of the Curvilinear Relationship Between Academic Stress and Academic Performance.”

“Moderating Effect of Coping Flexibility on Posttraumatic Stress–Alcohol Consequences Relationship,” will be presented by Guler Boyraz, PhD, Megan Kuhl, BS, and Marcus Cherry, MS, from Louisiana Tech.

Darlyne G. Nemeth, PhD, MP, Neuropsychology Center of Louisiana, will chair the *Symposium: Neurocognitive and Affective Rehabilitation—Making It a Personal and Meaningful*

Experience. Nemeth will present, “Get It Right—Steps 1 and 2.” Fernando Pastrana, PhD, Neuropsychology Center of Louisiana at Gretna, will present, “Step Three—Addressing the Individual and Family Needs of the Patient.” Julia Hussey, BS, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, will present, “Step Four—Making It Personal and Meaningful,” and Traci Olivier, PsyD, from St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, in Memphis, will present, “Step Five—Making It Fun.”

Darlyne Nemeth, PhD, MP, will also chair the *Symposium: Resiliency Workshops Can Help People Start Over After Environmental Trauma*. Participants include Judy Kuriansky, PhD, Independent Practice, New York, who will present, “Working With Children Postenvironmental Trauma.” Charles Burchell, PhD, Southern University and A&M College, will present, “Helping Communities to Move Forward After Environmental Trauma.” Fernando Pastrana, PhD, Neuropsychology Center of Louisiana at Gretna, will present, “Measuring the Effectiveness of Community-Based Resiliency Workshops.” LaJae Coleman, BS, Neuropsychology Center of

Louisiana, will present, “Measuring Resiliency Pre- and Post-Community-Based Intervention for Environmental Trauma,” and Kortney Wooten, BS, Neuropsychology Center of Louisiana, will present, “Measuring Affective Pre- and Post-Community-Based Intervention for Environmental Trauma.”

Michael Harrison, BA, New Orleans Police Department, will participate in: *Discussion: National Violence Summit—Police Chiefs and Leading Psychologists Discuss Policing and Community*, chaired by Frank Farley, PhD, of Temple University.

Julie Arseneau, PhD, from the Southeast Louisiana Veterans Health Care System, New Orleans will co-present, “STEM-Trained Women Working in the Chemical Industry: Key Findings From Project Enhance,” as part of the *Symposium: Beyond the Undergrad Experience—STEM-Trained Women Pursuing Doctoral Studies and in the Workforce*.

Charles Figley, PhD, of Tulane University, along with coauthors will present, “Is Living in Rural Areas a Risk

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(L to R) Drs. Janet Matthews, Professor Emerita, Loyola, Greg Gormanous, and Matthew Holcomb, Assistant Professor at TCSP at Xavier, at a previous conference. Dr. Gormanous will chair the *Symposium: Social Media and Anti-Islam/Anti-Arab Ethical Violations—Mock Licensing Board Hearing* at APA this week. He served as chair at Louisiana State University at Alexandria.

Presenters at APA this Week continued

Factor for Veterans’ Mental Health Status?”

“Predicting and Explaining Violence Against Indigenous Women: A Holistic Framework,” will be presented by Catherine Burnette, PhD, and Charles Figley, PhD, Tulane University.

Madeleine Allman, BS, Kathryn Simon, MEd, MS, Lea Petrovic, BA, and Stacy Overstreet, PhD, Tulane, will present, “Examining Differences in Secondary Traumatic Stress Among Teachers in New Orleans.”

“Associations Between Preschool Children’s Exposure to Arrest and Increased Externalizing Behaviors,” is to be presented by Elsie Obus, BA, Erin Glackin, MA, Rebecca Lipschutz, MS, and Sarah Gray, PhD, from Tulane University.

Veronica Coriano, MS, and Courtney Baker, PhD, from Tulane will present, “Daily Race-Based Stress and Mental Health in Preschoolers of Color: A Systematic Review.”

Bonnie Nastasi, PhD, Tulane, will present, “Engaging in Collaborative School-Based Research With International Partners,” as part of the *Symposium: Internationalizing School-Based Research and Practice—Practical Suggestions and Lessons Learned*.

“Needs Assessment for Parenting Support Services Among Low-



(L to R) LaJae Coleman, BS, Dr. Darlyne Nemeth, and Dr. Charles Burchell at a past conference. The three are presenting this week at APA. Dr. Nemeth will chair the *Symposium: Resiliency Workshops Can Help People Start Over After Environmental Trauma*.

Income Mothers,” will be presented by Justin Carreras, BS, Rebecca Lipschutz, MS, Erin Glackin, MA, Lily Zmachinski, and Sarah Gray, PhD, from Tulane.

Tulane’s Juliana Vanderburg, BS, Elizabeth McIntyre, BA, Annika White, Eli Weitzman, and Stacy Overstreet, PhD, will present “Impact of a Professional Development Training on Staff Attitudes Toward Trauma-Informed Approaches.”

“Examining the Impact of Secondary Traumatic Stress on Attitudes Toward Trauma-Informed Care,” will be presented by Lea Petrovic, BA, Kathryn A.

Simon, MEd, MS, Courtney N. Baker, PhD, and Stacy Overstreet, PhD, Tulane.

Tulane’s Ashlee Yates, MA, Haley Peele, MA, Veronica Coriano, MS, Lea Petrovic, BA, Elsie Obus, BA, Sydney Wing, BA, and Whitney Davis, MA, will present, “A Critical Analysis of Female Slave Narratives: A Herstorical Development of Fear Toward Policing.”

“Impact of Joint Attention on Social-Communication in Internationally Adopted Children,” will be presented by Stephanie Moberg, BA, Tulane University, and coauthors.

Kathryn Simon, MEd, MS, and Stacy Overstreet, PhD, Tulane, will chair the *Symposium: Whole School Professional Development As the Foundation for Trauma-Sensitive Schools*. Participants include Elizabeth McIntyre, BA, and Courtney Baker, PhD, Tulane, who will present, “Trauma 101: Preparing Your School for Trauma-Informed Service Delivery.”

From the University of Louisiana at Monroe, Mky Bonner, PhD, will present, “A Successful Rural Multijurisdictional CIT Program: A Quantitative and Qualitative 10-Year Review.”

“Factors Influencing Self-Efficacy and Motivation in Minority College Students,” will be presented by Janelle McDaniel, PhD, and Seth Tackett, BS, University of Louisiana at Monroe; Krista Nelson, PhD, Grambling University; and Mary Elizabeth Bridges, MEd, and Mky Bonner, PhD, from the University of Louisiana at Monroe.

Karen Kopera-Frye, PhD, and Attapol Kuanliang, PhD, from the University of Louisiana at Monroe will present, “An Educational Intervention to Train Law Enforcement in Interacting With Wandering Elders.”

From the University of New Orleans, Sonia Rubens, PhD, Molly Miller, MS, and Megan Zeringue, MS, will present, “Daytime Sleepiness, Bullying and Victimization, and School Problems in Alternative High School Students.”



(L to R) Industrial-organizational psychologist, Dr. Mky Bonner, husband Sgt. Mark Johnson, Michelle Faust, LCSW and Dr. John Simoneaux talk about violence prevention at a previous gathering held by Dr. Simoneaux. Dr. Bonner will present “A Successful Rural Multijurisdictional CIT Program: A Quantitative and Qualitative 10-Year Review,” at APA this week.

Science & Education

Assn for Psychological Science Hosts La. Researchers

An array of psychology researchers presented their work at the 29th Annual Convention of the Association for Psychological Science, held at the end of May in Boston.

Universities and colleges represented by Louisiana researchers included Centenary, Louisiana State University, Louisiana Tech University, Loyola, Tulane, University of Louisiana Lafayette, University of Louisiana Monroe, and Xavier.

From Centenary, Melissa Kohberger presented work on “Conformity on Test Performance.”

Also from Centenary, Ethan Rice presented, “Football and Alcohol: Effects of Fandom and Game Importance on Expected Consumption.”

Daniella Cash presented, “Evaluating the Differential Impact of Statement Type and Practice on Deception Detection.” She is affiliated with Louisiana State University.

Victoria Felix from Louisiana Tech University presented, “External Health Locus of Control and Perceived Stress Predict Sleep Quality.”

Mallory Garza, also from Louisiana Tech University, presented, “Getting to the Core: Examining Interpersonal Problems and Level of Personality Psychopathology.”

Michael Garza presented, “Personality Differences in Different OCD Subtypes.” Garza is from Louisiana Tech University.



Dr. Bill McCown, University of Louisiana at Monroe, speaks to psychologists at a past conference. McCown recently returned from presenting at a special summit on procrastination held regularly for experts at DePaul University. McCown presented “Trait Procrastination Is Associated with Longer Choice Time to Aesthetically Similar Items,” at APS.

Mercedes Gremillion, also from LaTech, presented, “Sleep Quality and General Well-Being As Predictors of Life Satisfaction.”

LaTech’s Frank Igou presented, “Ageism in Employee Selection.”

Mary Iseral, from Louisiana Tech University presented two studies, “Sleep and Stress:

Relationship to Food Intake in Males and Females,” and also “Gender, Race, and OCD Diagnosis and Differences in the Big-5 Personality Traits.”

Michael Saunders, also from LaTech, presented, “Does Gender and STEM Major Choice Lead to Differences in Motivation, Achievement and Goals?”

From Loyola University, Erin Dupuis presented, “The Short-Term Effect of Objectifying Media Exposure on Women’s Perceptions of Cat-Calling in a Virtual Reality Simulation.”

Tulane’s Lisa Chinn presented, “Sensorimotor Body Maps Integrate with Visual Input during the First Two Years.”

Emily Ann Lewis, from Tulane, presented her work, “Instructional Predictors of Kindergarten Mathematics Achievement in the U.S. and China.”

And Aaron Moss, also from Tulane, presented, “Should People Acknowledge or Deny Personal Prejudice?”

Coming from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, Raven Noelle Douglas presented, “Examining the Role of Anxiety Symptoms and Poor Sleep Quality on Migraine Symptoms.”

Nadia Khansa presented, “The Impact of Victim Race and SES on Perceptions of Sexual Assault,” Khansa is also from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette (ULL).



Mary Iseral from Louisiana Tech University points to items for Marcus Cherry at a previous conference. Iseral presented two studies at APS, “Sleep and Stress: Relationship to Food Intake in Males and Females,” and also “Gender, Race, and OCD Diagnosis and Differences in the Big-5 Personality Traits,” at APS.

APS Hosts Louisiana Researchers, continued

Hung-Chu Lin presented, “Behavioral Responses to Disruption of Conversational Flow,” and Lin is with ULL.

Robert Michael presented, “The Influence of Ordered Questions on Susceptibility to Misinformation.” Michael is affiliated with ULL.

ULL’s Melanie Schanke presented, “Prior Sexual Violence Education Increases Men’s Willingness to Intervene in a Hypothetical Scenario.”

From the University of Louisiana at Monroe, William McCown presented, “Trait Procrastination Is Associated with Longer Choice Time to Aesthetically Similar Items.”

Jennifer Gibson, from Xavier University, presented, “Service-Learning Outcomes for Undergraduate Psychology Students.”

Michael Poggioli, also with Xavier University, presented, “The Relationship Between College Women’s University Identity and Responses to Cyberbullying on Twitter.”

John Witry presented, “Cyberbullying on Twitter: Bystander Responses to the Bully.” Witry is with Xavier University.

Rorschach Institute Holds Inaugural Meeting in July

The Rorschach Institute held its inaugural meeting July 19 and was well attended by founding members, said organizer and founder Dr. Christopher Garner.

Dr. Garner, licensed clinical psychologist in Baton Rouge, is the founder of the Rorschach Institute, established last year to promote competence with the Rorschach itself with concern for integration with other measures.

Garner previously noted that this is the “first ever” institute of its kind in Louisiana.

The gathering included those with licenses and a variety of experience in the Rorschach, a post-doctoral student and also doctoral graduate students. “A diverse group of people,” Garner said.

Garner said that the attendees discussed possible mission and goals: These included developing the group into a local professional society focused on the Rorschach and integrated assessments involving other major personality tests; a place for members to discuss and mentor one another in these matters; an institute that offers training for those who do not know how to use the instrument; and offering of continuing education and training for more learned colleagues.

“The Rorschach is best with perpetual learning and life-long learners,” said Garner. “For example, a Rorschachers scoring/coding accuracy can get off track in isolation and without feedback because of the developmental, systematic errors—errors that are idiosyncratic to particular users, even the most experienced.”

“Way down the road, we may offer scholarships for students and members to attend conferences. No membership fee in the near future,” he said.

Stress Solutions

by Susan Andrews, PhD

Why Stress Causes Us to Overeat

Researchers have long linked weight gain to stress, and according to an American Psychological Association survey, about one-fourth of Americans rate their stress level as 8 or more on a 10-point scale. Stress eating or “emotional eating” seems to be triggered almost automatically when stressed. A 2010 study from the University of Michigan indicated that when levels of the stress hormone, cortisol, are up because you are stressed, you eat more snack foods.

- We increase fat, salt, sugar, and caffeine intake.
- We skip meals regularly.
- We eat more fast food, mindlessly munching.
- We tend to seek out foods that we consider “comfort food.”
- We drink less water.
- We may drink more alcohol.
- And, some who still smoke, will smoke more cigarettes.

Stress does not always cause us to overeat or to eat more high-fat, sugary comfort-foods. The first reaction of our brain and body to high stress is to shut down appetite. The hypothalamus produces corticotropin-releasing hormone, which suppresses appetite. The brain then sends a message to the adrenal glands to release epinephrine or adrenaline. This triggers the body’s fight-or-flight response and – once again – eating is put on hold.

Fortunately, or unfortunately, this does not last if the stress persists, then the adrenal glands release cortisol. Cortisol immediately increases your appetite. As long as the cortisol levels remain elevated, the fat and sugar cravings continue.

Women are more likely than men to turn to food, while men are more likely to turn to alcohol and smoking. In 2007, an ingenious study in Britain showed that people who responded to stress with high cortisol levels were more likely to snack in response to daily hassles in their regular lives than low cortisol responders.

WebMD offers some interesting thoughts on breaking the stress eating cycle and enjoy a healthy diet.

- Prepare your brain and body in advance of a known period of stress and you will be better able to handle stress when it happens. Keep your emotions in better balance by eating regularly every four or five hours.
- Eat Complex Carbohydrates, like oatmeal, bran, brown rice, vegetables, beans, and fruits. Complex carbs help your brain synthesize serotonin.
- Eat healthy fats, like avocado, nuts, seeds, fatty fish, nut butters, and olive oil.
- Recognize the stressful event or thoughts that trigger the urge to eat. Stop first and decide if you are really hungry. Remind yourself when you last ate.
- Try a little Mindfulness.
- Always keep healthy snacks available wherever you go. Small packets of nuts or trail mix.
- Eat good protein in the morning and complex carbs during the day.
- Please do not forget your small piece of dark chocolate (72% cocoa is good).
- Have cut up celery and carrots in the refrigerator.
- Avoid driving or walking past snacks and vending machines.
- Put that music on and do some breathing!

- Remember: STRESS IS JUST WHAT YOU THINK.



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

Dr. Melissa Dufrene Named Early Career Psychologist

Dr. Melissa Dufrene has been named the 2017 Early Career Psychologist by the Louisiana Psychological Association, announced at the association's annual convention held in June in New Orleans. Dufrene is a licensed clinical psychologist with numerous community and professional involvements. "I am honored to be recognized," she said.

Her post-doctoral supervisor, Michael Chafetz, PhD, ABPP, said, "It was indeed a pleasure to learn that Dr. Melissa Dufrene was honored for the Early Career Psychologist award of 2017, as she is clearly deserving."

"She is a strong and compassionate practitioner who fully understands the application of evidence-based methods to achieve desired clinical outcomes," Chafetz said, "which she also measures. Before I met her for a post-doctoral position in my clinic, she had strong training, especially in her work in the inpatient OCD unit of Rogers Memorial Hospital in Milwaukee, Wisconsin," he said.

"In my mind, it is this combination of scholarship and treatment sense that makes her so effective." In 2014, Dufrene co-authored with Chafetz, "Malingering-by-proxy: Need for child protection and guidance for reporting," in *Child Abuse and Neglect*.

Dr. Dufrene currently is a licensed Clinical Psychologist affiliated with the Algiers Neurobehavioral Resource, LLC, where her time is devoted to therapy and psychological evaluations. She leads the clinic's initiatives surrounding women's therapy, assessment, and behavioral health needs. In this capacity, she provides services to women patients for issues such as postpartum depression, general anxiety, relationship issues, abuse, and general mental health.

Her primary areas of interest are anxiety related disorders, PTSD, OCD, depressive disorders, and child behavioral problems.

She has also serves as Adjunct Instructor at the Chicago School of Professional Psychology at Xavier University where she teaches



Dr. Melissa Dufrene and Dr. Michael Chafetz following the announcement of Melissa being named 2017 Early Career Psychologist by the Louisiana Psychological Association.

Basic Psychopathology. She has also taught at Delgado Community College and for Instructional Connections. This year she also began working as Gratis Faculty of LSU, where she serves as a supervisor to one of the interns in the program.

She was recently named co-chair of the Early Career Psychologist Committee for the Louisiana Psychological Association. Along with her co-chair and colleague, Dr. Ashley Jefferson, she plans on engaging early career professionals. "We are focusing on increasing the level of involvement of EC's and students across the state, and addressing pertinent issues in the field," she said.

Dr. Dufrene serves the broader community in a number of ways. She has served as a member of the Regional Advisory Board for the Alzheimer's Association where she contributes to community education and support efforts. In 2015 she served as chair of the annual fundraiser event for the association.

She has served as a Partner in Multiple Sclerosis Care, a segment of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society to assist patients in accessing quality care and outreach for those living with MS. She provided training on issues of stress management for those with MS.

She has also served as a Each One Save One Mentor, where she works with at risk-elementary students and with school staff to assist youngsters.

Dr. Dufrene trained at Rogers Memorial Hospital, a nationally recognized residential and behavioral health hospital, treating individuals with serious mental health disorders. At this facility, she worked in the Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder Center, one of only two residential treatment centers in the United States for males and females age 18 and older with obsessive-compulsive disorder and obsessive-compulsive spectrum disorders.

She earned her doctorate in clinical psychology from The School of Professional Psychology at Forest Institute in Springfield, Missouri. Her dissertation was *Examination of Executive Functioning Among 9-12 Year Olds with ADHD, Obesity, and Comorbid ADHD/Obesity*.

Along with her professional and community service, she has a very busy family life. "And just to keep things interesting," she said, "my husband and I are expecting baby #2 in December, which will make our two-year old a big brother!"



Busy professional and busy mom: Dr. Melissa Dufrene with her two-year old. Melissa and her husband are expecting "baby #2" in December.

(Courtesy photo.)

A Shrink at the Flicks

War for the Planet of the Apes

by Alvin G. Burstein, PhD

War for the Planet of the Apes is a rich and textured film; it has impressive psychological, social and moral depth. It is about war, slavery, racism and loss at multiple levels.

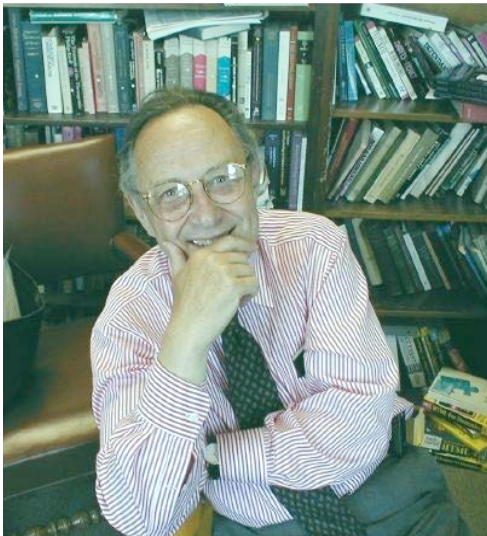
Civil war General Sherman told us, “War is Hell.” World War II General Curtis LeMay said, “War is about killing people.”

The film is a powerful critique of war as a social institution. As a critique, it is especially valuable in an era when concepts of “surgical strikes” and “collateral damage” blur the central issue of killing and its moral costs. The film makes full use of the opportunity offered to dazzle and shock with explosions and carnage. More impressive is its insistence on reminding us of the singular personhood of those killed and the necessity of asking, “Is this right?”

In an obvious reference to the Nazi death camps of World War II, much of the film’s action takes place in a camp housing apes taken prisoner by the human army. They are called “donkeys”, enslaved, ill-fed and subject to horrific physical abuse. The commander of the army unit makes it clear that he regards apes, who are evolving the capacity to speak, as a threat to human hegemony on the planet. The threat is intensified because a simian virus has spread to humans, and, in humans, the disease results in adverse mutation and mental deterioration. The commander sees himself as

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.



making a desperate attempt to ward off a future in which apes will become the dominant species. In his view, warding off the threat requires the killing of all apes. His argument parallels Adolf Hitler’s views that Aryan superiority was threatened by the inferior Jewish race.

The film’s linkage of war, slavery and racism is powerful. It also has special relevance to our society, constituting another critique, not the easy one against slavery, but the more unsettling one of slavery based on the “peculiar institution” in America, a race enslaved on the basis of racial inferiority.

Caesar is the film’s central figure, leading the simian forces in the war. After a battle involving many deaths on both sides, he returns four captured human soldiers safely to the commander, offering peace. An apartheid solution, each species occupying separate areas: cities for the humans, the forests for the apes. The offer is spurned and Caesar’s wife and one of his children are killed in a subsequent military attack. Caesar undertakes a heroic effort for singular vengeance, but is caught and enslaved. He sparks a rebellion which is successful in which he is mortally wounded. Nevertheless, he leads his group to asylum, an Edenic setting in which death precludes his participation.

Caesar’s dying reminds us of Moses leading his people to Canaan before his death, of Martin Luther King’s “I’ve Been to the Mountaintop” speech on the eve of his assassination. In an America, where four of presidents have been slain in office, we know how the loss of a charismatic leader, a national hero, a father figure, wrenches.

Freud described the death of one’s father as “the most significant event, the most poignant loss, of a man’s life.” The *War for the Planet of the Apes* evokes those feelings.

Up-Coming Events

Submissions Due September 12 APA Division 39 To Meet in New Orleans for 2018

The Division of Psychoanalysis, Division 39 of the American Psychological Association, will hold its spring meeting April 18–22 in New Orleans at the Intercontinental Hotel. The theme is *Generations: Ghosts & Guardians*.

Submissions are open now and due by September 12, notes Louisiana clinical psychologist Dr. Stephen Anen, who is this year’s conference co-chair.

Dr. Anen is hoping to receive submissions from the Louisiana community for the conference.

“Our Steering Committee is hopeful and excited about creating a robust, engaging, and thought-provoking range of programming. Having local clinicians and practitioners be involved would be part of that, in my opinion,” he said.

“We have tried to create a meeting that recognizes its location, something not always pursued with Spring Meetings in the past. Our theme aims to examine the influence of generational dynamics on individual, family, and social life. Given the richness of culture, food, tradition, and music that have been passed down over the years in Louisiana and New Orleans, we hope to explore issues relevant to both clinicians as well as the community.”

The theme, *Generations: Ghosts & Guardians*, calls on the quote from William Faulkner, “The past is never dead. It’s not even past.” And the convention flyer showcases the Louisiana setting as meaningful avenue to history, human experience, and imagination.

“Moving through time, each generation passes forward values, traditions and conflicts. How do generational forces cast their shadow upon the future? From nursery to grave, ghosts and guardians are transmitted across generations,” note the conference planners in the flyer.

“New Orleans has always been an intersection defined by the heritages and struggles of its generations: tradition is alive, cemeteries are architectural wonderlands, and funerals are parades. Our host city invites discussion of the traumatic legacies of slavery and colonization embedded within its foundation as well as the more recent tragedies and regenerations in the wake of Hurricane Katrina.

“Possessed by capacities for imagination and play, the Big Easy is committed to multigenerational expressions of art, music, and revelry that provide resilience as well as encourage the opportunity for greater community and commonality. We invite you to journey to New Orleans during its tricentennial year and share your experiences of generations, ghosts, and guardians within psychoanalysis, the mind, and the world.”

The conference theme is also reflected in the artwork, “And The Jazz Band Played On,” by



“And The Jazz Band Played On,” by Richard Lewis, Art of New Orleans, is part of the theme for Division 39, Psychoanalysis, Spring meeting in New Orleans next year. See the work of Lewis at <https://www.facebook.com/Richard-Lewis-Art-of-New-Orleans-314532508672893/>

Richard Lewis, Art of New Orleans. See more of the work at <https://www.facebook.com/Richard-Lewis-Art-of-New-Orleans-314532508672893/>

Anen said that the conference planners are excited about the keynote speakers, Lynne Layton and Kirkland Vaughans, and the panels and panelists.

These presenters “... will investigate issues spanning development, political group dynamics, inter-generational transmission of trauma, fatherhood, the legacy of slavery at individual and societal levels, as well as how personal experience shapes theory and clinical work. Clearly we are hoping to offer programming that can appeal to many,” said Anen.

“Co-chairing a conference has been a novel and rewarding process,” Dr. Anen said, “much thanks to my diligent and generous Co-Chair, Sanjay Nath, and to the creativity of our Steering Committee, which includes several Louisiana psychologists,” he said.

“From crafting a theme, to selecting keynotes and speakers, to considering how

to organize a schedule, there has been a learning curve in understanding all the moving parts of what will hopefully be a successful and engaging conference. I’m glad I accepted this opportunity and am looking forward to next April.”

How did Dr. Anen happen to be in the state?

“I am a New Orleans resident of more than 5 years, having moved to complete my internship at the LSU Health Sciences Center (LSUHSC) clinical psychology program, which was an excellent training experience and helped me to learn about the city and its people,” he said.

“In addition to being in private practice, I also provide consultation as an Adjunct Clinical Faculty for LSUHSC and am on the Board of the New Orleans-Birmingham Psychoanalytic Center. When I am not busy with Co-Chairing and my other responsibilities (not as much as I’d like these days), I continue to enjoy trying to adjust to life in New Orleans with friends and family.”

Up-Coming Events

Gulf Coast ABA Conference to Host Dr. Janet Twyam Oct 6-7

The Louisiana Behavior Analysis Association will hold the annual Gulf Coast ABA Conference, October 6-7 in New Orleans.

The 2017 Keynote speaker is Dr. Janet Twyam. Janet Twyman, Ph.D., BCBA, LBA, is past president of the Association for Behavior Analysis International, and a noted proponent of effective instruction and using

technology to produce individual and system change. A career educator, she has been a preschool and elementary school teacher, a principal and administrator, and university professor. Dr. Twyman has presented on leveraging new technologies for diverse learners and settings at the United Nations. She has served on the boards of numerous organizations including the Cambridge Center for Behavioral Studies (chairing the Education Group) and PEER International (assisting township schools in Port Elizabeth, South Africa).

Louisiana Group Psychotherapy Society Fall Institute October 28

The Louisiana Group Psychotherapy Society will hold its 2017 Fall Institute in Baton Rouge, October 28.

This year the group will feature Dayne Naretta, LCSW, CGP, who will speak on the topic, "What's All the 'Brouhaha' About Functional Subgrouping?" Mr. Naretta will examine what subgrouping is, what it isn't, and how to use it to resolve conflict. See LGPS website for more information.

La Counseling Assn Conference Oct 1-3 In Baton Rouge

The Louisiana Counseling Association will present "Mentoring" Enriching, and Empowering Relationships," for the Annual Conference, to be held October 1-3 at the Baton Rouge Crown Hotel.

Other news

Nursing Board Replaces Its Two Physicians with Two Voting Consumers

The Board of Nursing published a Rule in July that replaces the two physicians on the nine-member board and adds two consumers.

"Currently, we have nine registered nurse members and two physicians who serve as ex-officio non-voting members of the board. During the 2016 Legislative Session, the two seats that are currently held by physicians changed to allow any citizen of the United States and resident of Louisiana and who have never practiced nursing to obtain either seat. These two consumer members will be voting members of the Louisiana State Board of Nursing."

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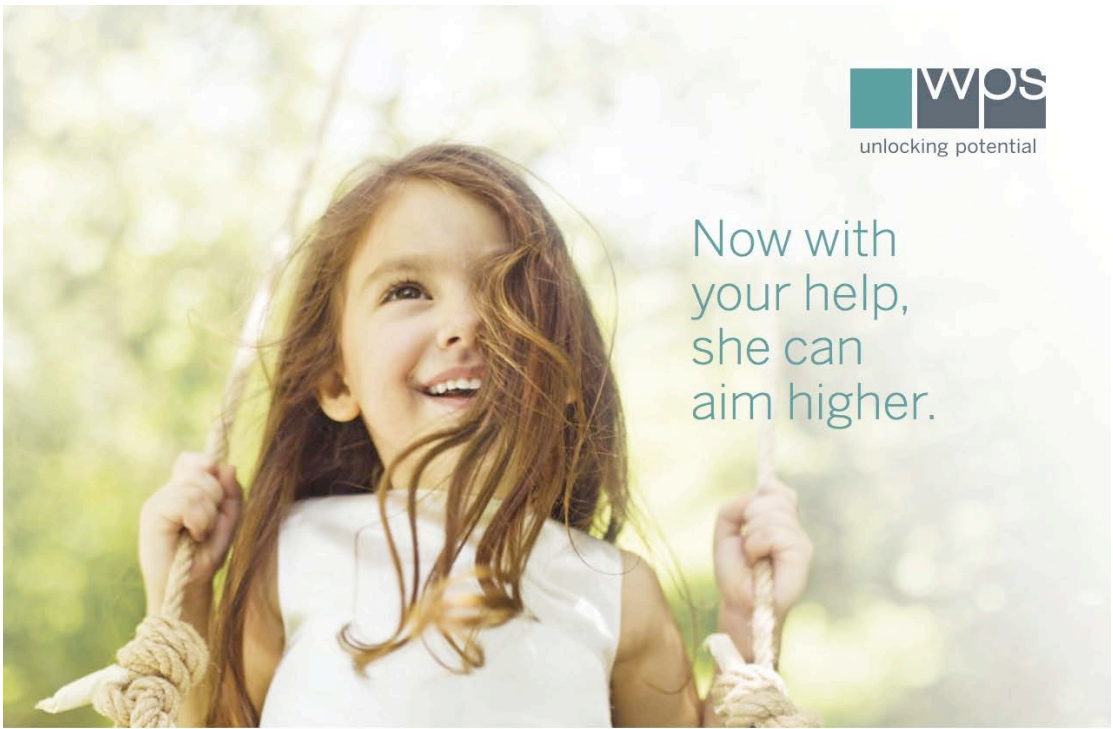
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