

President's Column

By John Fanning, Ph.D.



On July 1 I began my one-year term as president of LPA, which is both an honor and a challenge. A number of other psychologists have joined or re-joined the Executive Council for new terms. Lucinda DeGrange is now a Director, and had already been named as the chairperson of the Diversity Committee. In addition, she is also serving on the Membership Committee. Jesse Lambert, who performed such valuable work on issues involving Magellan and state reimbursement, is our new Legislative Chair. I think he is extremely well qualified for this

position, and I anticipate more great work from him. Sherry Des-selle, who has served on the EC as a Director previously, returns to the EC in that same role. She has been APA Public Education Campaign Coordinator and will now also serve as the Chair of the Public Affairs Committee. Sherry remains Louisiana's Liaison to APA's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Concerns Office. Joe Tramon-tana, who has been on the EC for some time as a Director, is the new President-Elect, and will serve as Chair of the Convention Committee, and as Disaster Response Co-ordinator. Our Past-President, Bryan Gros, will be the head of both Membership and Elections Committees, and is involved in numerous other critical tasks, as well. Darlyne Nemeth will continue to serve as APA Council Representative. Bob

Storer will continue as Chair of the Committee on Legal and Ethical Issues and as Federal Advocacy Coordinator. Kim VanGeffen continues as Professional Affairs Chair, and Paula Zeanah continues her work as Chair of the Continuing Education Committee. Other committee chairs include Karen Koperafrye (Academic Advisory Committee) and Tiffany Jennings (Rural and Underserved Areas).

I would also like to thank psychologists who have recently completed their terms on the EC, including Phil Griffin, Alicia Pellegrin, and Wes Brockhoeft. As most of you are aware, Phil is beginning a full term on the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists. Certainly, congratulations are in order for Phil. Alicia served impeccably as our Legislative Chair, and will continue on

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Even with groups with which we've had-- and will very likely continue to have-- conflict, our interactions are probably not going to be zero-sum all the time.

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the Legislative Committee. We provided invaluable help in a variety of areas, particularly in analyzing our finances, and also in support of our PAC. In addition, I want to thank Susan Dardard for being a fount of creative ideas these past few years. Susan, the former Chair of the Membership Committee, has informed me that she will not be able to continue on as a member of the Membership Committee this year.

Last year was a busy one for our organization. Bryan set the bar high in his performance as President, and was also a driving force for many new initiatives,

which should make this next year easier! The whole EC committed itself to greater transparency and openness to member input and participation. (Hey, want to come to the next EC meeting? Shoot me an e-mail!) He also opened lines of communication with the Louisiana Counseling Association, and is our point person for our contacts with other professions. I think both of these areas are critical for us. **We've seen what can happen when governance (at whatever level) operates in isolation from constituents. And while we're very familiar with fending off offensives by other groups, we've also recently seen the**

costs of approaching every issues as zero-sum, and find ourselves unable to get support whatsoever on key issues from any other groups. This occurred in the behavior analysts negotiations. Even with groups with which we've had-- and will very likely continue to have- conflict, our interactions are probably not going to be zero-sum all the time. And if we have no functional lines of communication, we hinder ourselves.

A number of years ago I was watching Gene Siskel and Roger Ebert (sadly, neither of whom are with us any longer) discussing a movie they were reviewing. Siskel complained

about the lack of dramatic tension in the movie: "These people have no problems! Life is about problems!" Well, we have some problems: individually, as an organization,

"If there weren't problems--lots of problems--psychology probably wouldn't exist as a profession, except within a quite narrow research realm."

and as a profession. If there weren't problems --lots of problems-- psychology probably wouldn't exist as a profession, except within a quite narrow research realm. Some of our problems at the organizational level are similar to those experienced by other state organizations, or at APA. Of course, I care a lot more about our problems than those of other states. **Among these: What are the best ways to grow our membership, particularly for students or early-career psychologists? How can we make the tent bigger, since we don't want to be exclusively a practitioners' guild? How do we best manage financial issues? How will the Affordable Care Act affect psy-**



Drs. Nemeth, Zeanah, and Van Geffen participate in discussion about LPA committee assignments for the new year.



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chologists in our state? What can we do about the extremely problematic system the state has instituted for mental health services? What creative and effective approaches can we take regarding continuing education? How can psychologists--at whatever points in their careers--connect and network with peers, and find answers to problems they face?

Work on membership is always a critical area, and Bryan and the other members of the Membership Committee are very actively working on new approaches in this area. The Continuing Education Committee

has developed plans for an ambitious Fall Conference, which I think will be excellent, and which I hope and expect will attract a lot of attendees. We plan to offer CE units to people in a number of other professions. This is not the first time we have done this, but we plan to do this on a much wider scale for this conference. We also plan to continue to offer CE for other disciplines in the future, as a means of generating additional revenue and

"If you find yourself thinking 'What qualifies me to work on this?', willingness to try it out counts for a lot. "

to foster improved relations with professionals in other groups. We are also looking at other

approaches to CE which will meet the educational needs of psychologists (and others) and produce revenue. The convention committee is already planning for next spring's convention, and is also thinking big, and not relying on "That's how we've always done it."

The Legislative Committee has a number of

challenging issues to work on, many of them involving the manner in which funding through state agencies has been handled, or eliminated. This is an area which is probably going to involve a lot of work over a period of time.

We're working in all of these areas, but we can really use your ideas, your input, and your involvement. If you find yourself thinking "What qualifies me to work on this?", willingness to try it out counts for a lot. We welcome your commitment and efforts. In the late 1980s, musician Sonny Bono--who did not graduate from high school and had not been registered to vote for most of his life--ran for mayor of Palm Springs. Someone asked him, "What qualifies you to be mayor?" He replied, "I've never been qualified to do anything I've ever done in my entire life!" He won, and later served in Congress. No one in our organization will ever have to give that answer about qualifications.



President Fanning, Past-President Gros, and President-Elect Tramontana at the July 13, 2013 meeting.



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Finally, I would like to take the liberty (as I generally will not) of responding to another column in this newsletter. In his column "Where the Hell are We Going?", Bob Storer expressed alarm at developments within LPA since the passage of 251 (the 2009 bill placing medical psychologists under the medical board). Bob and I have quite different perspectives on both the historical events involved and our current prospects, as is frequently the case. I respect his right to his point of view. However, I'm more optimistic—though not complacent—about LPA today, and about LPA's future prospects. Although 251 and its tumultuous aftermath were indeed a trauma for psychology in this

state—one which no other state has suffered --the organization and its members have shown a determination to survive and change. We indeed suffered a large membership decline after 251, due to MPs leaving, some other members choosing not to renew membership due to the predictable rancor after 251's passage, and, frankly, lagging recruitment of new members. Changing our bylaws resulted in a much more open and democratic organization, one which, in my opinion, is far less conducive to cronyism and secrecy. Our membership recruitment efforts have ramped up very substantially, and our numbers have increased every month this year, with 203 members currently.

Bob expressed particular concern about a drop in income from membership fees. I'd like to point out that the figure he cited for 2013 is a mid-year figure, not the final figure, and is perhaps misleading for that reason.

Even a cursory look at the dollar amounts Bob listed for membership fees since 2008 shows that most of that decline took place in the immediate period after 251, prior to 2011. We have some budgetary challenges which are not trivial, and we will address them. LPA is making a determined effort to meet the needs of its members on a variety of fronts. And, unlike in years

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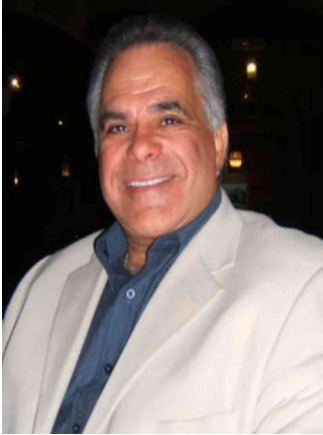
past, we're not a one-issue organization.

I hope that in the coming year we all will be able to achieve accomplishments which will benefit our members, the profession, and the people with whom we work. **Ψ**



What Really Happened at the EC Meeting?

By Joe Tramontana, PhD, President-Elect



Our 7/13/13 meeting began by going into Executive Session to discuss personnel issues. Once the regular meeting began, and after approval of the minutes from the prior meeting, Dr. Bryan Gros, as the immediate past president, gave a recap and final thoughts regarding his year as president. Among other topics, he mentioned the Student Committee co-chaired by Phyllis Petri and Lee Barlow, the goals of which are to increase student involvement. Dr. Gros also brought up the new Disaster Response Coordinator position, which I volunteered to assume. Drs. Darlyne Nemeth and Sherry Desselle

volunteered to assist me on this committee and were approved by the EC.

Dr. John Fanning gave David White, Executive Director (ED), who joined us after the Executive Session, a review of some of the strengths and weaknesses the EC sees in the first 6 months of our contract with Reisman-White. Dr. Nemeth asked about the possibility of returning to the APA listserv for the EC listserv (not the entire membership listserv). While the general membership listserv is, apparently, working well, a number of EC members have had difficulty communicating on the EC listserv. The EC voted to proceed with her recommendation.

In his President's report, Dr. Fanning talked about the 2013 annual convention and thanked Dr. Gros and the entire 2012-2013 EC for their hard work during the past year. New committee members were

recommended and approved: Dr. Desselle will be Chair of the Public Affairs Committee; Dr. Jesse Lambert will chair the Legislative Committee; and Dr. Gros will chair the Membership Committee as well as the Nominations and Elections Committee (a standard role of the Past-President). Dr. Lu-

LPA meeting in the Fall of 2014 in New Orleans or Biloxi. Meanwhile, our Executive Director has also sent out a survey regarding the general membership's interest in various cities (Baton Rouge, Lake Charles, New Orleans, other) as a location for our spring 2014 meeting.

Dr. Paula Zeanah talked about her planning for the fall conference which will be held Saturday, Octo-

"I will be meeting ...with some of the officers of the Mississippi Psychological Association...regarding the possibility of a joint MPA/LPA meeting in the Fall of 2014 in New Orleans or Biloxi."

cinda DeGrange will continue in her recently appointed role as Chair of the Diversity Committee.

I began discussion regarding the 2014 convention venues and issues such as sponsorship. I noted that I will be meeting in September with some of the officers of the Mississippi Psychological Association, at their annual convention, regarding the possibility of a joint MPA/

ber 19, 2013. She is attempting to confirm with Dr. Irving Hirsch on the topic of "Placebo Effects of Antidepressant Medications." I offered to contact Dr. Dabney Ewin, a New Orleans professor of surgery and psychiatry, to participate with Dr. Hirsch.

In Dr. Carolyn Weyand's absence, our ED gave the Treasurer's report. A discussion ensued regarding ways to increase reve-

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nue. This will be further addressed at our next EC meeting in September. Dr. Nemeth gave her report as the APA Council Representative, and Mr. White reported that it was just recently announced that Dr. Nemeth was re-elected to be our council representative to APA for the next two years.

As President-Elect, I will be Convention Chair in 2014. Dr. Zeanah and Dr. Bob Storer volunteered to serve on the Conven-

tion Committee, and were so approved by the EC. Dr. Storer also discussed federal advocacy as well as working as chair of the legal and ethical committee and issues regarding this committee.

Dr. Lambert talked about ongoing issues regarding Magellan. Dr. VanGeffen gave her report as Professional Affairs Chair. An important topic of discussion was LSBEP's consideration of temporary licensing (provisional, under supervision).

Since our meeting, LSBEP has emailed licensed psychologists and internship and doctoral program directors regarding a task force to study this possibility. The general idea is that applicants who have completed one year of the required two-year post-doctoral supervision (approved predoctoral internship would count as one year of supervision) would be eligible for provisional licensure. A survey was presented to the membership. Dr. VanGeffen

also indicated that the July register has the new LSBEP CE rules.

Dr. DeGrange discussed getting her Diversity Committee going including her recommendations for Drs. Valaray Irvin and Yolanda Crump to be on this committee. The EC approved the two recommendations. Finally, we are looking forward to a busy, challenging, and productive year with our new and returning officers and committee members. Ψ

Where the Hell are We Going? by Robert Storer, Ph.D., Director

In Louisiana's legislature in 2009, Act 251, transferring the regulation of prescribing psychologists from the psychology board to the medical board was passed. Prescribing psychologists, as represented by the Louisiana Association of Medical Psychologists, believed this would be a good thing for them, and worked for the passage of 251. Many non-prescribing psychologists believed this was NOT a good thing and were quite unhappy that the Louisiana Psychological Association (LPA) did not oppose this legislation. In fact, enough members were so unhappy that they demanded to know how LPA could have remained "neutral" on this legislation. The governance structure of LPA

(specifically the fact that only the President/President-elect, Treasurer, Secretary, and APA Council Representative were elected by the members while all committee chairs were "appointed" by the president) was seen as a major problem. A Bylaws Revision committee was established and recommendations were made for major revisions in LPA's structure. At the annual meeting in 2010, those revisions were approved and now LPA has 11 voting members, all



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of whom are directly elected by and responsible to the membership.

Those were extremely difficult times and there was great hope that the new structure of LPA would allow the organization to rebuild and be more responsive, and responsible, to the members. This massive change in structure and in leadership seemed to make little difference though and there continued to be angry challenges by what seemed to be a small number of members. Conspiracy theories continued to abound with doubts about the loyalties of LPA leaders. There continued to be calls for "something to be done about Act 251."

Personally, I suspected at that time that there was a very vocal minority at work and a more silent majority that wasn't all that concerned about Act 251 and simply wanted LPA to move forward. I proposed a membership survey to gather some empirical evidence as to what the majority of the membership really wanted. That survey found that a majority of members did want LPA to do something, although it was not clear exactly what we could do!

LPA leadership decided to hold a "Town Hall" meeting as part of the annual membership meeting (April 16, 2011) to gather input from members and try to decide what course LPA would follow. The motion that came out of that meeting and was passed by the members states, "[T]hat LPA begin a dialogue with the Louisiana Academy of Medical Psychology, the Louisiana Medical Society, and other indicated entities to begin discussions of mutual interest and to discuss the continued concerns regarding the independent regulation of psychology."

Those discussions have not been fruitful. Prescribing psychologists and the Medical Board are happy with the arrangement they have. For LPA to force a change without their agreement would require an enormous amount of money and political clout that LPA simply does not have.

Given these circumstances, LPA leaders have focused on being more "open," and "transparent." LPA also has attempted to "revitalize" the association in many ways. Several new committees and positions have been created with the hope that we will successfully reach out to groups of psychologists not currently involved in LPA. There is a new Student Affairs Committee, an Academic Advisory Committee, a Committee on Legal and Ethical Issues, a Medical Psychology Advisory Committee, a Disaster Response Coordinator, a Diversity Delegate, an Early Career Delegate, and even a Liaison to other Professions and Associations Committee.

Frankly though, this doesn't seem to be working, at least, not to me. Why do I say that? There have been many discussions, some quite heated in fact, about whether our membership numbers are improving, flat, or declining. I think a utilitarian view is to look at the income we have from membership dues. In fact, this has declined steadily since 2008. We brought in just under \$50,000 from membership dues in 2008, \$48,566 in 2009, \$46,545 in 2010, \$42,642 in 2011, \$40,122 in 2012, and this year we've only collected \$39,257.00.

This decline in income from membership dues should be disturbing, but it becomes even more disturbing when you consider that the number of licensed psychologists in Louisiana has increased during the same time frame that the number of licensed psychologists in LPA has decreased. Again, there is some disagreement about the number of members, but not about the income figures. From another, I think more important perspective, I have been told that across the country, typically about 30% of licensed psychologists are members of their state associa-

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tion. In Louisiana, however, only 22% of licensed psychologists are members of LPA.

I also say that our current approach doesn't seem to be working because of our overall financial situation. Were you aware that LPA has been spending more than it has been taking in since 2009? I'm afraid this is true. The reasons LPA has been losing money are multifactorial. For example, we received some \$32,000 in grants in 2009, but since then, only \$6,500 in 2010, none in 2011, \$12,500 in 2012, and \$12,500 this year.

Income from our annual convention, or lack thereof, is also a big part of our financial difficulties. Our convention income had been fairly steady, and only slightly declining until last year. In 2008 we had \$25,530 income from the convention. In 2009 we had \$24,480. In 2010 we had \$23,230. In 2011 we had a nice spike and made \$27,195. In 2012 though we only brought in \$16,255 and this year we only brought in \$10,047. Last year a significant problem was that we lost nearly all the prescribing psychologists because the Louisiana Association of Medical Psychologists held their annual convention at the same time as ours. But why was our convention income so poor this year?

I sincerely wish I knew exactly what it is that's wrong, but I really don't. I've heard that the infighting since Act 251 drove many licensed psychologists away from LPA. I've heard that prescribing psychologists no longer feel welcome in LPA. I've heard that the level of suspiciousness and open hostility at times within LPA has driven some psychologists away. LPA officers and directors need to be accountable and open to scrutiny, but there seem to have been ad hominem attacks, conspiracy allusions, and questions posed more as accusations regarding the loyalty of LPA leaders which have not been helpful at all, and have continued to damage our image both with those inside and outside of the association.

“...I would greatly appreciate input from you, the members of LPA.”

LPA's image also seems to have played a significant role in the behavior analyst issue. Without any direct experience with us, behavior analysts said no way, no how, would they be regulated by psychology. Their perception was that psychology was controlling and simply wanted to siphon off any potential income for the benefit of psychologists, while leaving behavior analysts and those they serve to fend for themselves. Our past conflicts with LPCs at a regulatory level may have contributed a great deal to this image, but regardless of the source, our image is drastically in need of an overhaul.

LPA is not going to be bankrupt this year, or next. We do have some limited reserves. Thank goodness we also have a Political Action Committee to assist in our legislative work, but if we don't figure this out and get it right, we will be in serious trouble very soon. No, that's not right either. We are in serious trouble right now and we need to figure this out and reverse the trend quickly. I like the fact that we are reaching out to new groups, but to borrow a term from politics, we seem to have alienated our base, that being licensed psychologists. And those are the members that have been the foundation of LPA.

Again, I don't really know what we need to do to fix this but I would greatly appreciate input from you, the members of LPA. I don't have the power to make things happen by myself, but I promise that I will give voice to the concerns that are communicated to me and I will forward any and all suggestions on how to get LPA back on the right track.

Before I close, I want to publically recognize the contributions over the past two years of both Drs. Pellegrin and Brockhoeft. Dr. Pellegrin has made enormous contributions of time and energy as the legislative chair and while we did not always agree, there was a mutual respect and a

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willingness to be honest with each other that allowed us to disagree without being disagreeable. I sincerely appreciated Dr. Brockhoef's ability to sit back and listen objectively to discussions and then come forward with clear and sound recommendations. Both will be sorely missed. I also want to recognize the contributions of Dr. Phil Griffin. Dr. Griffin completed his term as Past-President this year and became ineligible to directly serve LPA because he has now been appointed to LSBEP. I have mixed emotions about this. On one hand, it's good to know another psychologist who is thoughtful and deliberative will be on the board. On the other hand it means LPA will be without his direct help for at least 5 long years. Dr. Griffin was a pivotal person in the development of our new bylaws and in putting them into practice as President-Elect, President, and Past-President. He is sorely missed already!

“...it's good to know another psychologist (Dr. Griffin) who is thoughtful and deliberative will be on the board.”

I also want to welcome Drs. Jesse Lambert and Lucinda DeGrange. I have had the pleasure of working with Dr. Lambert as a member of the Committee on Legal and Ethical Issues and I attended the State Leadership Conference with Dr. DeGrange. Dr. DeGrange and I also visited several congressional and senatorial offices advocating for psychology. I am happy to see both of them as part of the EC. I only wish that this was not such a critical and difficult time and that they were not needed quite so badly. Finally I want to extend my good wishes and my assistance to Drs. Fanning and Tramontana as our President and President-Elect. I believe they have very, very difficult work to do. ♡

From the Membership Committee

Bryan Gros, Ph.D.

Dr. Storer's article outlined our declining membership numbers over the past few years and this is of great concern to me as membership chair. Being realistic, but also optimistic, I did want to report on what most see as a positive note (or at least potentially positive). Our August 1, 2013 membership numbers are already slightly higher than they were at the close of 2012. With the addition of new members in July, LPA's income from 2013 membership is roughly equal to what it was during the entire calendar year of 2012. To be clear, the 2013 membership income reported earlier in this newsletter is based upon a portion of the year (January to July only). I take this as a message that the tide may be turning and LPA may be doing things right again. Or perhaps word is spreading that we have been. Or maybe it is just an anomaly?



Does this mean we need to "put the gears in neutral" simply because we met our 2012 numbers in only eight months? Indeed not! As Dr. Storer stated, membership is lacking and the task of the new Membership Com-



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mittee is to reverse this.

LPA will engage in a full court press for new membership recruitment in the fall. Those who elect to join LPA in the fall will not only become members for the remainder of the calendar year, but their membership will be extended throughout 2014. As I previously noted during my tenure as President, I do not believe that membership recruitment should fall on one person or committee. In my opinion, every LPA member serves as a recruiter for potential members. The Membership Committee is actively working to update and improve our LPA informational brochure to reflect the many changes and improvements in LPA over the past few years. We hope this will aid in recruitment.

Also during the fall, please be on the lookout for early-bird membership renewals for 2014. [ψ](#)

The Louisiana Psychological Association welcomes the following new members:

Full Members:

Kristine Bourgeois, Ph.D.

Mark Skellie, Psy.D.

Student Member:

Sheridyn Miller, B.S.



Report of the Legislation and Public Policy Committee

By Jesse Lambert, PsyD



Dear Colleagues:

I would like to extend to all my gratitude for the honor of having been elected to serve as your Secretary. As stated in my declaration of candidacy, I will exert 100% effort in advocating for our discipline.

During the July 13, 2013, meeting of the Executive Council, I was nominated and

summarily appointed as Chair of the Legislative and Public Policy Committee. I would like to acknowledge and thank Dr. Alicia Pellegrin, my immediate predecessor, for the excellent and diligent work that she has done over the past two years. Under Dr. Pellegrin's leadership, the Legislative and Public Policy Committee has seen much success. We offer Dr. Pellegrin many thanks and will continue in the momentum generated under her aegis.

In recent years, the legislature has been rather busy as pertaining to psychology. A number of

issues have been addressed in previous sessions, including the issues related to the regulation of Behavior Analysts, the impact of the privatization of Medicaid through Magellan of Louisiana, and other factors germane to our discipline. Our PAC has been galvanized and will continue to grow.

Even though the legislature meets during designated session, rest assured, your Legislative and Public Policy Committee will be at work year round. Regular meetings between the committee and our lobbyist will be conducted. Our approach will be preemptive and great effort will be made in

“Our PAC has been galvanized and will continue to grow.”

establishing relationship networks with members of the legislature.

Again, I thank you for this opportunity. Remember that LPA is your organization and that the Legislative and Public Policy Committee is your committee. We work for you. I look forward to hearing from the membership about any ideas or concerns. I can be reached by e-mail at psycej@aol.com. 



Contributions to the [LPA PAC](#) can be made by mail: **Reisman and White; C/O David White; PO Box 1448; Cedar Park TX; 78630**
or through the website
<http://www.louisianapsychologist.org>



Notices of Intent filed by the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists (published in the July 2013 Louisiana Register)

CONTACT INFORMATION

A. A licensed psychologist shall notify the board within 30 days, with documentation, attesting to any change of contact information including mailing address, work address, telephone number and email address. This documentation notice shall include the psychologist's full name, license number, and the old and new contact information.

B. Should a psychologist be displaced to a temporary location due to an emergency, the psychologist shall notify the board within 30 days, with documentation attesting to the temporary change in contact information. The documented notice shall include the psychologist's full name, license number, old and new temporary contact information.

Full text available in the July 2013 edition of the Louisiana Register

<http://www.doa.louisiana.gov/OSR/reg/regs2013.htm>

CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS

For the reporting periods that begin July 2016 and July 2017 and henceforth, 40 credits of continuing professional development will be required in the biennial reporting period and the hours must conform to the distribution listed below in Subsection C.

- B. Within each reporting period, two of the required hours or credits of continuing professional development must be within the area of ethics or law.
- C. Within each reporting period, licenses must earn credits in at least two of the nine categories listed under §803.D.
- D. Licensees can accumulate continuing professional development credits in nine categories.
 - 1. Professional
 - a. Peer Consultation (one hour of peer consultation equals one credit): Examples include case consultation groups; journal clubs; regional research groups; mentoring; and shadowing a colleague. If learning is reciprocal, credit is split between both licensees.
 - b. Practice Outcome Monitoring (one completed questionnaire equals one credit): assessing patient/client outcomes via a questionnaire that is shown to be of empirical value.
 - c. Professional Activities (one year equals ten credits): serving on a national, regional, or state psychological association board or committee or board member of regulatory body related to the field of psychology.
 - d. Conferences/Conventions (one conference day equals one credit): Attendance at a conference related to the field of psychology or a conference, which aids in the

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licensee's professional development.

i2. Academic

- a. Academic Courses (one three-hour course or equivalent equals twenty credits): Graduate-level course related to psychologist's discipline and practice taken for credit (not audit) from a regionally accredited university or one pre-approved by the Board.
 - b. Instruction (one three-hour course equals twenty credits; one full-day workshop equals ten credits): teaching a course in a regionally accredited institution or full day workshop presentation. Credit can only be received the first time teaching or presenting the material.
 - c. Publications (one article equals ten credits; book chapter equals ten credits): Author of an article for peer reviewed publications or author, editor or co-editor of a book related to the field of psychology.
- ### 3. Traditional Continuing Education
- a. Approved Sponsored CE (one hour equals one credit): Workshops from a recognized approved sponsor (APA or any of its approved sponsors, academies of professional specialty boards, regionally accredited colleges or universities, Continuing Medical Education in Category 1 of AMA or its subsidiaries including grand rounds). Home study, even with an approved CE sponsor, is considered self directed learning.
 - b. Self-directed Learning (one hour equals one credit): Examples include reading, Internet, videos, and/or other unsponsored activities.

Full text available in the July 2013 edition of the Louisiana Register


<http://www.doa.louisiana.gov/OSR/reg/regs2013.htm>

From the Elections Committee

Bryan Gros, Ph.D.

I am excited to be Chair of the Nominations and Elections Committee for the upcoming year. This year we will have a number of EC positions available for election, including President-Elect, Treasurer and three Director positions.

These elections will be finalized at our annual Spring Convention. So, please consider doing your part and self-nominating for one of these positions. As the time nears, we will provide more information on nominations.

As usual, LPA will also conduct elections for the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists (LSBEP). If you have any questions about elections for LPA or LSBEP, please do not hesitate to contact me at drbryang@aol.com. 





Committee on Legal and Ethical Issues

by Robert M. Storer, PhD

Colleagues,

For those of you who may not know, the Committee on Legal and Ethical Issues was formed in order to provide assistance, on request, to LPA members in dealing with legal and ethical issues. The way this works is, when an LPA member has a legal or ethical concern that they want additional feedback on, they contact the committee and explain the situation and their question(s).

The committee member taking the call (or email as is the case most of the time!) will redact the information and then forward it to the committee as a whole. This not only means identifying information about a client/patient/evaluatee is removed, but also identifying information about the LPA member is removed as well. Only the committee member taking the call knows who the member asking for the consult is. Committee members then discuss the situation, share their experiences, and make recommendations. Once the discussion is completed, the contacted committee member puts the content of the committee's discussion and recommendations into an e-mail and sends it to the member for their consideration.

Naturally, the committee cannot tell anyone what to do. The member is under no obligation to act on the committee's recommendation(s) and, if they do choose to act on the recommendations, they are still responsible for their own actions. This service is intended to assist LPA members in deciding what to do in difficult situations. Members of this committee have a wealth of knowledge and experience that they have agreed to share when another LPA member asks for assistance. I know that the mantra driven into my brain during practicums, externships, and internship was "Never, ever, ever, worry alone. Consult, consult, and when you think you have the answer, consult again." That is what this committee offers to the members of LPA.

Who are the committee members? Several of them presented at the annual conference on "Assessment of Dangerousness in Clinical Practice Post Sandy Hook." I am very pleased to say that the committee members are, in alphabetical order: Drs. Sherry Desselle, David Hale, Jesse Lambert, Rachel Stokes, Curtis Vincent, and Carolyn Weyand.

What have we been doing? In addition to the conference



presentation, we have had about a half dozen consult requests, thus far, and in every case the LPA member has told us afterward that the information had been very helpful. We also hear that just having colleagues who are willing to listen to the situation and give their suggestions on how it might be handled is very reassuring in and of itself. We also responded to a query regarding the use of what was termed "outdated measures" in a past newsletter article. Currently we have been asked to look at a position statement by the Oregon Psychological Association on third party observers and to consider drafting a similar position statement for Louisiana. If we do develop such a position statement, I will be sure it gets reported to you here, in the LPA newsletter. And if you find yourself in a legal or ethical situation and want additional feedback, please feel free to contact any of the committee members or myself at

psychsvcs@gmail.com. 



Louisiana Psychological Association

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Advancing
psychology as a
science, profession,
and as a means of
promoting health,
education, and
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- Representing psychologists' interest with managed care and insurance companies, and health plans about the importance of employee mental health benefits.
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