

FALL 2019 ISSUE

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL:

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Director: Amanda Raines, Ph.D.

Director: Bridget Sonnier-Hillis, Ph.D.

Director: Kim E VanGeffen, Ph.D.

Director: Matthew Holcolmb, Ph.D.

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EXECUTIVE COUNCIL NEWS

The Executive Council met on September 7, 2019 and the President, executive council, and committee chairs reported on strategic goals for the year. Council members spent time developing the organizational structure and pointing out areas needing attention.

- The APA Advocacy sub-committee was moved from the Professional Affairs to the Legislative & Governmental Affairs Committee
- The Academic/Scientific interest group was expanded to include research.
- The executive council approved several appointments made by the President including Marc Zimmerman, Ph.D. for Worker’s Compensation Advisory Council, Jesse Lambert, Psy.D. for Louisiana Health Care Commission, and Andrea LaPlante for HIV/HCV Commission.

Next Meeting of Council Set for December 7th

The Council meets for the second quarter on Saturday, December 7th. The meeting will be in New Orleans, likely at Kim Van Geffen's home. Please contact Dr. Randy Lemoine, Membership Committee Chair, if you'd like to attend, via email randall_lemoine@yahoo.com.

COMMITTEE NEWS

LPA PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND SERVICES COMMITTEE

The committee is working to develop a “public education series” to educate interested parties about the field of psychology. The committee has discussed partnering with other entities such as community hospitals as part of the series and met with Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center in Baton Rouge in September to discuss the project.

The committee has also addressed collaborating more closely with the Legislative Affairs Committee on communications with public officials.

The Speaker’s Bureau sub-committee is overseen by Public Affairs and Services. As of May 23, 2019 the number of psychologists listed as potential speakers in the Speaker’s Bureau on the LPA website is 17.

The Disaster Response Network (DRN) has been changed from a standing sub-committee to an ad hoc committee.

LPA currently needs a member to volunteer as the LPA "APA Diversity Delegate" and as the "Chair of the LPA Diversity Committee." Someone volunteering for these roles can determine how he/she would like to evolve the role, though historically the Diversity committee has focused on increasing LPA’s underrepresented membership with outreach to faculty and early career professionals in the state.

LEGISLATIVE & GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

During the legislative session (April 8, 2019 – June 6, 2019), the Legislative and Governmental Affairs Committee closely monitors legislation that has the potential to impact the practice of psychology in the state.

LPA took positions on several bills this session:

SB 336, Lyons: Support – Exempts certain school-based behavioral health service providers from the Behavioral Health Services Provider Licensing Law. This would be a first step in restoring their ability to bill Medicaid for services rendered. LPA supports this bill as it enhances and supports the practice of Louisiana school psychologists who are currently practicing in the school system as certified school psychologists.

SB 187, Milkovich: Oppose – Provides relative to the conduct of adjudication hearings involving and the re-creation of certain state boards and commissions which issue licenses, permits, or certificates. LPA feels very strongly that the rights of licensees should be protected, and that due process should always be upheld. However, the proposed methodology in SB 187 for how to accomplish this is inherently flawed and takes away many protections to licensees that have been put into place. LPA has been actively working with LSBEP in crafting a new complaints process and discipline proceedings for the past two years. The purpose in this is to ensure due process, fairness, and build checks and balances into the system to achieve fairness. SB 187 undoes much of this work, and LPA is therefore opposed to the legislation.

HB 503, Edmonds: Oppose - Provides relative to licensing qualifications. LPA is opposed to this bill as it negatively impacts the licensing process for psychologists and could negatively impact the profession. LPA successfully sought an amendment to exempt psychology and the psychology board out of this bill. This was in line with exemptions of other health professions, including the boards for physicians, nurses, and dentists, as well as some non-healthcare boards.

SB 146, Morrel: Support - Prohibits the incarceration of victims of domestic violence and sex offenses who refuse to testify against their abusers. LPA supports this legislation as it protects the rights of victims against further traumatization.

PROFESSIONAL AFFAIRS

Professional affairs committee representatives attend monthly LSBEP meetings. Please see below for important points addressed in meetings from July-September.

Continuing education reviews were discussed and the most prominent issue for every paper reviewed was that no one correctly coded their CPD report. Lumping credits together was identified as the main problem. APA has changed its review process and will no longer endorse the CE activities of their approved sponsors of continuing education. As a result, sponsors now report that some of their CE credits are not eligible for APA credit.

The Board discussed the objectives for developing guidelines to enable supervision via telepsychology including functional authority; the appropriate settings and application of tele-supervision; limitations/restrictions; differentiating tele-supervision from a consulting relationship; supervision conducted by out-of-state psychologists; and preapproval. The Board plans to continue investigating this functional authority issue.

The 2018 La law (Act 454) requires public agencies to hold periodic hearings to allow any person the opportunity to comment on an agency's rules believed to be contrary to law, outdated, unnecessary, overly complex or burdensome. LSBEP set the required public hearing for Thursday, October 10th at 9:30 am at 4334 S. Sherwood Forest Blvd. #C-175 in Baton Rouge. The Board will submit written feedback and concerns about rules into the official record until October 9, 2019.

On 10/10/19, the Board will hold its annual awards luncheon at noon followed by the annual long range planning meeting to discuss licensure issues for the coming year. The topics to be addressed include revisions to the oral examination process, potential rule changes for the Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology-2 (EPPP-2), specialty designations, continuing education requirements, jurisprudence examination, tele-psychology, tele-supervision, and the adjudication process.

MEMBERSHIP & MEMBERSHIP SERVICES COMMITTEE

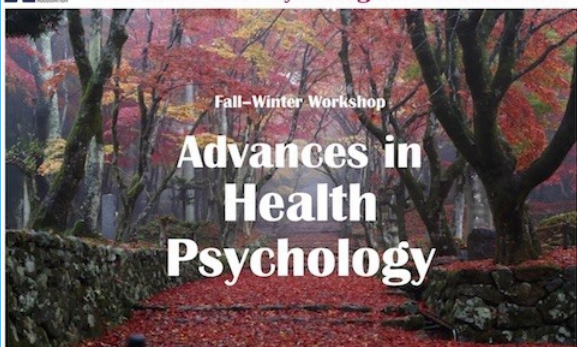
The committee has developed a policies and procedures manual addressing member definitions, process/procedures for application and approval, enrollment, payment, etc.

The committee has identified a target for the year of increasing membership by 20% over the next year. The committee is targeting a number of potential members including new licensees, recent graduates, members of local societies, previous members, graduate students, and faculty at local insinuations.

The committee is initiating a membership campaign to encourage recruitment of new LPA members. During the 2019-2020 campaign (October, 2019 thru January, 2020), current LPA members will receive a **\$25 dues cash-back reward** for each new member who is recruited and joins, and each new member who joins will also receive a \$25 discount cash-back on their first-year dues. Also, new licensees (July 1, 2019 thru June 30, 2019) will join **dues-free** for their first year of membership. New members to LPA will receive the remainder of 2019 for free.

The committee is working to organize a fall/winter membership social. More information to come soon.

The Louisiana Psychological Association's CONVENTIONS & EDUCATION COMMITTEE



The LPA fall-winter workshop will be held on November 1, 2019 at The Lake House in Baton Rouge from 8:15-4:30. The workshop will address Advances in Health Psychology and Dr. Bonnie Kaplan will serve as keynote speaker.

The workshop will provide 7 continuing professional development (CPD) credits including 1.5 in the area of ethics.

Early online registration remains open.



COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

The communications committee is actively working to launch our new website with several improvements for our members including a member search function, ability to manage committee/group memberships, member blog, etc. The new website will likely go live January 2020.

The committee is also targeting social media as an area for improvement for LPA with targets of creating/updating 3 platforms: Facebook,

Linkedin, and Twitter.

The committee intends to distribute quarterly newsletters to members.

AWARDS

LPA AWARDS - 2019

Distinguished Psychologist: Johnny Matson, Ph.D.: Professor of Psychology and Distinguished Research Master at LSU; a top cited scholar by Clarivate Analytics; Thompson Reuters: Most Influential Scientific Minds of our Time; expert in autism, mental disabilities, and severe emotional disorders in children. His work has garnered more than 700 articles and 38 books. We thank Dr. Matson for his most distinguished contributions to our field.

Early Career Psychologist: John Sawyer, Ph.D., ABPP is a board-certified neuropsychologist trained to evaluate children, adolescents, adults, and geriatrics. He is the Co-Director of the Cognitive Disorders and Brain Health Program at Ochsner Health System, where he has led several clinically-focused research projects aimed at using telehealth and electronic medical record technology to provide care to individuals with dementia and their care

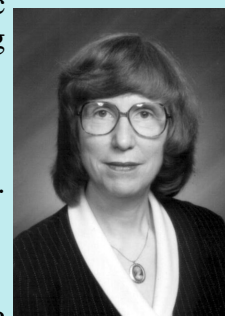
partners while limiting the need for disruption of routine for hospital or clinic visits. This work will be presented at the upcoming meeting of the National Academy of NP. We thank Dr. Sawyer for his outstanding work in our field.

Distinguished Service in Psychology: Julie Nelson, Ph.D.: I-O Psychologist, President of LPA for two consecutive terms, and Publisher/Editor of the award winning Psychology Times (since 2009). Dr. Nelson is an icon in our community. Using her I-O skills, she has worked tirelessly to revitalize the Louisiana Psychological Association and its annual conference. Her journalistic acumen, investigative reporting, and sense of justice, ethics, and community has helped knit together the LA psychology community after troubled times in 2009. We offer heartfelt thanks for her distinguished service.

Psychology in the Public Interest: Susan Tucker, Ph.D.: Psychologist and Assistant Warden at the Bossier Sheriff's Office, has focused on research showing that most inmates have a substance abuse problem but few get the right kind of treatment for it. She launched the Steve Hoyle Intensive Substance Abuse Program at the facility to offer intensive treatment, skill development, educational opportunities, and post release support and care. We thank her for her outstanding work that is certainly in the public interest.

Contributions to Psychological Science: Kevin Bianchini, Ph.D., ABN & Kevin Greve, Ph.D., ABPP: A joint award acknowledging their role in the systematic development of validity science based upon criterion-groups research, and the development of the rules for malingered pain-related disability. Their scientific influence in our field has had considerable impact, and we are grateful for their outstanding contributions.

Announcement of New Award Starting 2020: Laurel Franklin, Ph.D.: Announcing the Janet R. Matthews, Ph.D., Outstanding Psychology Mentor Award



Stroop Shirt Gift for Nominator Business Meeting: At start, Kim VanGeffen will present the outgoing President Award.

EXTERNAL AWARDS/RECOGNITION OF LPA MEMBERS

Amanda Raines, Ph.D. is the 2019 Recipient of the *Association of VA Psychologist Leaders (AVAPL) James Besyner Early Career Award* for Distinguished Contributions to Psychology. This award is given nationally each year to an early career psychologist who promotes the practice of clinical psychology through professional service, develops innovations in service delivery, utilizes a novel application of applied research methodologies to professional practice, has a positive impact on health delivery systems, and advances VA psychology.

Amanda Raines, Ph.D., along with colleagues Joseph Constans, Gala True, and Michael Anestis were recently awarded a *VA HSR&D Innovation Innovative Grant* (\$179,074). Their project entitled, "Development and Evaluation of a Veteran-Informed Means Restriction Intervention for Suicide Prevention," takes a public health approach to changing the conversation and culture around gun safety by collaborating with gun sellers and owners to deliver means restriction counseling and materials in community-based settings. Through their work they hope to create a cultural expectation among Veterans transitioning from military service to civilian life that firearm storage is expected by other Veterans and respected by leaders in the gun-owning community.

Amanda Raines, Ph.D., has been awarded a *New Investigator Research Award from the American Public Health Association*. In addition to a \$7500 stipend, this award allows her to access the National Violent Death Reporting System (NVDRS), which links data from vital records, coroner/medical examiners, and law enforcement agencies from multiple states to obtain comprehensive data on suicides, homicides, deaths from legal intervention, deaths of undermined intent, and unintentional firearm deaths. Amanda plans to utilize network analysis as a foundation for identifying characteristics of Veterans who die by self-inflicted gunshot wound versus alternative methods.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Re: Courtland Chaney, Ph.D.

In a continuing effort to foster connections between practicing psychologists and university psychology programs, Dr. Courtland M. Chaney, Co-Chair of Public Affairs for the Louisiana Psychological Association, recently spoke at both Southeastern Louisiana University (SELU) and Louisiana State University (LSU).

In February of 2019, Dr. Chaney spoke to the industrial-organizational (I-O) psychology graduate students enrolled in the Masters program at SELU under the direction of Dr. Suzanne Booth-LeDoux. The presentation and discussion centered around starting and growing an I-O psychology practice as well as balancing the practice with academic responsibilities. Specific types of consulting interventions were also discussed.

In late summer, Dr. Chaney contacted Dr. Emily Elliot, a professor of psychology at LSU, to propose speaking at a psychology department venue. Professor Elliot arranged for Dr. Chaney to speak at a joint Brown Bag event involving both the cognitive-brain sciences and I-O psychology faculty and graduate students on September 13, 2019. His presentation, which was entitled "Thinking and Decision-Making: Can Two Complex, But Fundamental Psychological Processes Explain All Rational Behavior," was stimulated by his experiences teaching disaster and crisis management at LSU and conducting safety leadership training in industrial settings.

Re: Gail Gillespie, Ph.D.

Dr. Gail Gillespie co-hosts a radio show with a social work colleague every other Sunday morning at 9:00 am on WHIV 102.3 FM. Living Well in the Big Easy highlights organizations, businesses, schools, and citizens of New Orleans who provide services and activities that better the lives of their citizens. The show also focuses on health, mind/body interventions, the science of healing, and higher conscience mindset. Local culture, art, heritage, and music of the area are also promoted. Shows can be live streamed, and previous shows can be found on the WHIV website. WHIV is the only radio station in New Orleans dedicated to social justice, political reform, and ending all wars.

Dr. Gillespie conducts a monthly demonstration on Emotional Freedom Technique (EFT, aka "tapping") on the first Tuesday of every month 6:30 - 8:00 at 137 N. Clark Street in New Orleans by donation. EFT clears overwhelming negative emotions and physical pain by tapping on the acupressure points on one's body while thinking about a situation, memory, emotion, or sensation. EFT calms the amygdala, triggers the parasympathetic nervous system to calm, and lowers cortisol. EFT can help with anxiety, grief, PTSD, phobias, depression, and negative beliefs, as well as some physical and somatic pain symptoms. Research continues to prove that it is both efficient and effective.

Re: Aimee Blackham, Ph.D.

Dr. Aimee Blackham recently published an article with colleagues in the *Annals of Sleep Medicine*.

Blackham A, McDaniel JR, Chauvin IA, et al. (2019) Sleep Disruptions and Disorders in Children and Adolescents: A Review of the Impact of Parents and Family on Sleeping Behaviors. *Ann Sleep Med* 2(1):19-35

Re: Mike Chafetz, Ph.D.

Dr. Chafetz and colleagues recently published an article in *The Clinical Neuropsychologist*. One of Dr. Chafetz colleagues, Paige Haley, is a student at The Chicago School of Professional Psychology at Xavier University. This fascinating article proposes standards for clinical practice in detecting factitious disorder.

Chafetz, M.D., Bauer, R. M., & Haley, P. S. (2019): The other face

of illness-deception: Diagnostic criteria for factitious disorder with proposed standards for clinical practice and research, *The Clinical Neuropsychologist*, DOI: 10.1080/13854046.2019.1663265

Re: The Chicago School of Professional Psychology at Xavier University

Dr. Marge Smith has happily announced that The Chicago School of Professional Psychology at Xavier University has received APA accreditation on contingency. Congratulations to the students and faculty on this major accomplishment!

Re: CCAPS

Crescent City Area Psychological Society (CCAPS) is a regional psychology organization that meets on the third Friday of every odd month from 6:30 to 8:30pm for networking and a professional presentation by a CCAPS member. Attendees earn one hour of continuing education for attending. Networking, cocktails and appetizers are from 6:30-7:00pm, dinner is at 7:00, and the presentation begins around 7:15. Please check out CCAPSociety.org.