

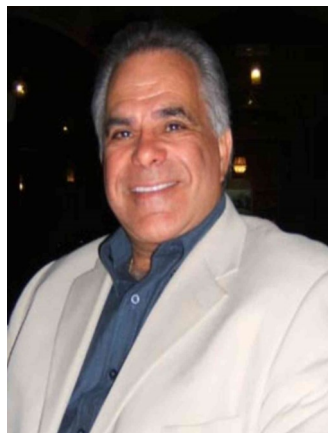
Louisiana Psychological Association

July, 2015

Louisiana Psychological Association: Vol. 6, Issue 3.

The LPA Newsletter is the voice of the Louisiana Psychological Association.

## President's Column By Joe Tramontana, Ph.D.



As outgoing President, effective at our LPA convention luncheon on Saturday, June 13, I wanted to write one last "President's Column." To start, I wish to thank the Convention Committee, our Executive Director (ED), Cindy Bishop, and associate ED, Earl

Michael Willis, along with our student workers who manned (or womanned) the front desk, for a great and successful convention.

At that luncheon, upon receiving my plaque for the year of service as President, I mentioned how I had been fore-

*"...I wish to thank the Convention Committee, our Executive Director (ED), Cindy Bishop, and associate ED, Earl Michael Willis, along with our student workers, for a great and successful convention."*

warned, before ever running for President-Elect about assuming

**Dr. Tramontana leads his final meeting at the LPA Convention.**



such a position during a time of

change and (perhaps a little) conflict. Dr. Darlyne Nemeth, in presenting the plaque, gave me credit for the year of stability in LPA, but I mentioned that it wasn't very difficult to do because of the very strong supporting

cast of Officers and Directors of the Executive Council (EC). I recognized these psychologists at our Business Meeting on Friday evening, but failed to mention some other important folks -

Committee Chairs who are not voting members but do a great deal of work for the EC: Dr. Michele Larzelere, our Federal Advocacy Coordinator and Publications Chair, Dr. Gail Gillespie, our Continuing Education Chair, Dr. Lee Matthews, our Legal and Ethics Chair, and Dr. Julie Nelson for her Strategic Planning Committee efforts, to name a few.

Before I got into a leadership position, when I ran for a Directorship

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## **President's Column...Continued from p. 1.**


position 3 yrs ago, I had very little knowledge about state psychological associations and how important they are to all psychologists in a state. After two years as a Director and one as President-Elect, before this current year as President, I implore psychologists from around the state to get more involved, not only with membership, but with leader-

ship. As I said in my self-nomination blurb when I first ran for Director, a few years earlier I had heard a former President of the MS Psychological Association make an interesting statement. In trying to recruit some "new blood" into leadership positions, she stated, "If you sit back and do not get involved in leadership, you might be letting someone dumber than

yourself make decisions for you!" I thought this quite funny, and didn't forget it. I did add a disclaimer to the quote by saying I didn't think any of our prior decision-makers were dumb.

As Immediate Past President, I will be chairperson of the elections committee during the next year. I will continue to strongly encourage members to run for the EC,

or at least volunteer for committees. I view it as a chance to "give back," and I'm glad I made that decision three years ago.

P.S. In future years you will even be able to get CE credits for such participation. 

# Welcome!

The new members of the LPA Executive Committee for the 2015-2016 year are Dr. Gail Gillespie (Secretary) and Dr. Amy Henke (Director). Dr. John Fanning was re-elected to the EC as a Director. Dr. Lucinda DeGrange will now serve as President-Elect. They join the following EC members who are completing their previously-elected terms of office:

Dr. Lacey Seymour (President), Dr. Joe Tramontana (Immediate Past-President), Dr. Carolyn Weyand (Treasurer), Dr. Kim Van Geffen (Director), Dr. Bryan Gros (Director), Dr. Michelle Moore (Director), and Dr. Darlyne Nemeth (APA Council Representative).

**EC Members (L to R) Drs. Lacey Seymour, Darlyne Nemeth, and Carolyn Weyand participate in the Business Meeting at the recent LPA Annual Convention.**





## Executive Director's Report By Ms. Cindy Bishop

First and foremost, I would like to thank all of our members who attended the Convention in Metairie, Louisiana June 12 & 13th. It was an OUTSTANDING convention and we had an impressive array of speakers and panelists presenting on a variety of topics. More than 70 LPA members attended on Friday and Saturday. A big shout out to Dr. Lacey LeBlanc Seymour, the convention chairman, for helping us to plan and execute a wonderful, educational convention. Dr. Seymour was installed as President of the Louisiana Psychological Association on Saturday June 13, 2015.



**Earl Michael Willis administers the oath of office to incoming LPA president, Dr. Lacey Seymour.**



**Dr. Michelle Moore (left) receives the Distinguished Early Career Professional award from Dr. Lacey Seymour.**

Dr. Moore and Dr. VanGeffen.

Congratulations to Dr. Michelle Moore for being named Distinguished Early Career Professional and Dr. Kim Van Geffen was named Distinguished Psychologist for 2015. Dr. VanGeffen and Dr. Moore epitomize the word "professional" and they've both worked hard to make significant contributions to the psychological profession. Well-deserved distinction and honor,

**Dr. Kim Van Geffen (left) receives the Distinguished Psychologist award from Dr. Carolyn Weyand.**



**Executive Director's Report... Continued from p. 3.**

LPA offers Corporate Membership to companies who wish to promote their goods and services to LPA members. Our corporate members are a valuable resource for our licensed psychologists and they help to support and sustain our organization. Thank you to all of our Annual Convention Sponsors!

I would be remiss if I did not recognize the extraordinary efforts of our illustrious "El Presidente" Dr. Joseph Tramontana. At the Annual Convention, Dr. Darlyne Nemeth presented him with a nice rosewood gavel plaque for his efforts as President of the Louisiana Psychological Association. As President, he led this organization through the transition of changing professional management firms. It was a four month span from the time that the Executive Council interviewed candidates to manage the Louisiana Psychological Association until the time that the new contract was implemented. My company, Checkmate Strategies, and our staff, is pleased to be associated with the Louisiana Psychological Association. Our contract with LPA commenced on December 1, 2015 and we hit the ground running.

If there is anything that you need from us, please let us know. Members are the lifeblood of a non-profit membership organization and we wish to serve you. We are new to LPA and as humans, will make mistakes as we are not infallible. Communication is key and are open to suggestions, ideas, constructive criticism and feedback. Also, if you wish to be more involved with the LPA, drop me an email and let me know your area of interest. My email address is [cindy.bishop@checkmate-strategies.com](mailto:cindy.bishop@checkmate-strategies.com)



**Earl Michael Willis and Cindy Bishop present during the LPA Business Meeting.**

we

Now that the legislative session has ended and the 2015 Annual Convention is behind us, we turn our focus to planning the Fall Workshop. It will be held on Friday November 6, 2015 at the West Baton Rouge Conference Center in Port Allen, Louisiana. It will be a one-day meeting. If you have ideas for topics or speakers, please email me and Sarah Heath ([sarah.heath@checkmate-strategies.com](mailto:sarah.heath@checkmate-strategies.com)).

Please encourage all your friends and colleagues to join or re-join LPA. Our membership is growing but there is vast room for growth. Psychologists who are interested in becoming a member of the LPA can join and pay their dues online at [www.louisianapsychologist.org](http://www.louisianapsychologist.org) or we can send you an email with the application for membership. ♡



## Report of the Legislative Affairs Committee

by Lucinda DeGrange, PhD

I am pleased to report that we had a very productive legislative session. One of the bills we followed closely was SB113, sponsored by Senator Gallot. This bill if passed in its original form would have taken LPA out of the LSBEP election process, completely. Following much discussion and debate, all parties agreed to take the election out of the bill and allow just what LSBEP referred to as "housekeeping matters" to remain. These housekeeping matters include, most notably, changes to eligibility requirements to run for a seat on the LSBEP. The changes to the current law will include the following:

- each board member shall have rendered service, teaching, training, or research in psychology for at least five years, shall have held a doctoral degree in psychology from a school or college for a period of five years, and shall be licensed as a psychologist in Louisiana for a minimum of five years.

- no person shall be eligible to serve as a board member if he is employed by the board, has a contract with the board for services, or within the preceding 12 months of his nomination, was employed by the board or had a contract with the board for services.

- removes the psychologist emeritus status classification and provides that a licensed psychologist who is 65 years of age or older may be eligible for a reduction in the annual renewal fee if he meets certain qualifications.

- any nonresident duly licensed or certified for independent practice as a psychologist in the state of his residence, and which state will permit residents of this state a like and similar privilege as provided herein, may, if an application is submitted to the board with payment of the appropriate fee, practice as a psychologist for a maximum of 30 days throughout a calendar year to the same extent and manner as if licensed in this state. These changes to the law will be effective August 1, 2015.



***"...those psychologists who will be successful in the future will be those psychologists who have found ways to be integrated into patients' overall health care, not only their mental health care."***

A bill we opposed (SB56) that would have extended the scope of practice for chiropractors to include determining conditions associated with neurological functioning, among other changes, failed to gather the necessary votes to move forward.

With so much activity late in the 2015 Regular Legislative Session, many bills still have not reached their deadline date. During session, the governor must sign or veto legislation within 10 days of transmittal, or it becomes law without signature. If legislation is transmitted with less than 10 days remaining in session, it must be acted upon by the governor within 20 days of transmittal, or it becomes law without his signature. The bills we are continuing to track are listed on the next page.



## Legislative Affairs Committee... Continued from p. 5.

*HB 205 Provides with respect to the medical treatment schedule as related to Workers' Compensation. **No Position.***

*HB 270 Provides relative to filing of Medicaid claims. **Position: Support. Becomes Act 21. Effective August 1, 2015 Act 21.***

*HB 301 Provides relative to court-ordered outpatient mental health treatment. **Position: Support. Effective August 1, 2015 Act 317.***

*HB 307 Provides relative to coverage and payment for services rendered to a person admitted under an emergency certificate. **Position: Support. Enrolled.***

*HB 381 Exempts certain providers from licensure as behavioral health service providers. **Position: Support. Effective August 1, 2015 Act 23.***

*HB 385 Provides with respect to mandatory reporters relating to health/social service practitioners. **Position: Neutral. Effective August 1, 2015 Act 217.***

*HB 498 Provides for transparency in health services pricing and healthcare quality measures. **Position: Monitor-Opposed. Effective August 1, 2015 Act 338.***

*HB 702 Requires health insurance issues to cover contested healthcare services, including prescription drugs, during the appeal or review process. **Position: Monitor-Support. Voluntarily Deferred in House Insurance Committee.***

*HCR 56 Continues the Task Force on Art Therapist Licensure and Regulation.*

*SB 109 Provides for reporting measures for the Medicaid managed care program and the Louisiana Behavioral Health Partnership program. **Position: Support. Effective August 1, 2015 Act 158.***

*SB 158 Requires the reporting of providers having five or more malpractice claims paid for the previous year by the patients Compensation Fund. This report is to be made annually to the State and House*

*Committee on Health and Welfare. **Position: Opposed. Enrolled.***

*SCR 21 Requests the Capital Area Human Services District develop a crisis stabilization unit for the Capital Region. **Position: Support. Enrolled.***

Additionally, Dr. Joseph Comaty was not confirmed by the Senate to fill the LSBEP vacant seat from the 2014 LSBEP election. The two top vote getters for the election were Dr. Constance Patterson (116 votes) and Dr. Joseph Comaty (77 votes). As of the writing of this column the LSBEP seat remains vacant.

I would like to thank the representatives of the Bayou Health Insurance plans: Aetna Better Health, Amerigroup Real Solutions, Ameri-Health Caritas, Louisiana Healthcare Connections, and United Healthcare for participating in our conference. While the discussion was productive, many questions remain. Many details between the insurance companies and DHH have not yet been finalized. We will continue to communicate with the Bayou Health Plans and DHH regarding issues important to Louisiana Psychologists. **Ψ**



**Drs. Gail Gillespie and Kim Van Geffen participate in the May EC Meeting.**



**Representatives of the Bayou Health Plans prepare to meet with psychologists at the recent LPA Annual Convention.**

## **Report of the Professional Affairs Committee by Kim VanGeffen, PhD**

Psychologists should be aware that on October 1, 2015, the World Health Organization's new International Classification of Diseases-10 (ICD-10) will be implemented and required for reimbursement from insurance companies. The ICD system includes codes which apply to a variety of medical condition, including mental health diagnoses. While the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual (DSM) system has been used in America, the ICD system is used internationally. In fact, the ICD-10 system has been used in other countries since 1994. A workshop on DSM-V and ICD-10 was presented at the re-

cent LPA convention by Dr Corwin Boake of the Jefferson Neuro-behavioral Group, the Memorial Hermann Hospital System and the University of Texas-Houston Medical School. Dr. Boake pro-

***“The ICD system does not include diagnostic criteria as can be found in the DSM system.”***


vided the participants with information about the changes in both DSM-V and ICD-10, relative to their prior volumes. Psychologists who have used ICD-9 will note that the new ICD-10 codes use an alphanumeric coding system rather than the older numeric coding system. Men-

tal health codes will all now begin with the letter F.

Unfortunately, there is not a direct correlation between the new DSM-V diagnostic codes and the ICD-10

codes. The ICD system does not include diagnostic criteria as can be found in the DSM system. Thus, psychologists may still wish to refer to the DSM for diagnostic criteria for determining conditions which can be diagnosed under the ICD-10 system.



The following link contains a list of the ICD-10 mental health diagnoses:  
<http://www.icd10data.com/ICD10CM/Codes/F01-F99>. Those psychologists wishing to read more about the development of the ICD-10 system can read the following article which also has a list of ICD-10 mental health diagnoses:  
<http://www.who.int/classifications/icd/en/bluebook.pdf>. 



## 10th Anniversary Hurricane Katrina Wellness Workshops

by Darlyne Nemeth, PhD, MP, MPAP

Ten years ago, on August 29th, Hurricane Katrina left most of Southern Louisiana in shambles. Residents from New Orleans to Baton Rouge were left to rebuild their lives after the worst natural disaster to happen in the history of the United States occurred. In the summer of 2006, one year later, the first Katrina Anniversary Wellness Workshops were held in Baton Rouge, LA to address the one-year Anniversary reactions that some people, especially those still living in FEMA trailers, were experiencing. Mayor Melvin "Kip" Holden, the Catholic Community Services, Louisiana Spirit, the Louisiana Group Psychotherapy Association and the Louisiana Psychological Association were among many supporters of the Baton Rouge workshops.

Anniversary reactions typically occur on or around the date of an environmental trauma and involve emotionally charged responses that cause people to re-experience the event. This August, will mark the 10th anniversary of Hurricane Katrina. As we anticipate strong anniversary reactions, members of the Louisiana Psychological Association are preparing 10th Anniversary Wellness Workshops. We intend to hold these workshops, as a community service, for those in New Orleans who were (and remain) strongly affected by Hurricane Katrina. We will be holding workshops on August 15th, 22nd, and 29th. The first workshop will be held to train the trainers. This will be open to all practicing psychologists and psychotherapists. They will be trained in successful anniversary reaction techniques as were cited in our 2012 journal article (see citation below). Workshop participants will be given an opportunity to share their experiences and to focus on their resilient recovery. These workshops will be offered to the New Orleans public, free of charge, as coordinated by the trainers.

We are asking various community leaders and organizations to contribute their expertise, meeting space, transportation, funding, and/or food for participants. If you might know of a potential sponsor, please let us know. LPA Members are being asked to donate their time and expertise to this worthy endeavor. Please email Dr. Nemeth at [dgnemeth@gmail.com](mailto:dgnemeth@gmail.com), or Kerritt Saintal at [saintalkerri@yahoo.com](mailto:saintalkerri@yahoo.com) should you wish to participate. As in our 2006 workshops, CE credits will be given to those psychologists who volunteer as trainers for this community service endeavor, and students are needed as recorders and registrars.

The next organizational planning meeting will be held at Dr. Kim VanGeffen's home at 6601 Vicksburg Street, New Orleans, LA 70124, (cell) 504-427-6245, from 1:00-4:00pm on July 11th. Should you wish to

**(L to R) Drs. Darlyne Nemeth, Ed Shwery, Janet Matthews, Susanne Jensen, and Kenneth Bouillion at the recent LPA Annual Convention.**





## Anniversary Workshops...Continued from p. 8.

participate in this organizational process, please email Dr. VanGeffen at [kimvangeffen@cs.com](mailto:kimvangeffen@cs.com), to let her know you plan to attend.  $\Psi$

Nemeth, D.G., Kuriansky, J., Reeder, K.P., & Lewis, A. (2012). Addressing anniversary reactions of trauma through group process: The Hurricane Katrina Anniversary Wellness Workshops. *International Journal of Group Psychotherapy*, 62(1); 129-142.

LPA Members, Dr. Randy Lemoine and Dr. Rafael Salcedo chat during a break in the Convention.



## The Louisiana Psychological Association welcomes the following new members:

### Full Members

Dr. Carmelita Centanni Dr. Gustave Sison Dr. Brian Frederick  
Dr. Carmen Kaimann Dr. Harold Miller Dr. Jennifer Longwell  
Dr. Tresa Roebuck-Spencer Dr. Adam Blancher Dr. Sarah Moody-Thomas  
Dr. Urmi Jani Dr. Jennifer Volz Dr. Michelle Yetman  
Dr. Robert Kizer

### Associate Members

Ms. Rebecca Smith  
Ms. Brianna Schmitt

### Corporate Members

Palmetto Addiction Recovery Center  
PIXAR  
Takeda Pharmaceuticals USA Lauren Arce



## LPA Membership Levels:

### New Full Member (1st Year) Dues: \$110

New Full Members must meet the same membership requirements as Full Members. Individuals applying for first time full membership are eligible for a reduction in dues. This member type is NOT available for renewing members. All Full Members are eligible to vote and hold office.

### Full Member (2nd Year) Dues: \$180

Full 2nd Year Members must meet the same membership requirements as Full Members.

### Full Member Dues: \$255:

Full Members are: (1) persons holding an earned doctoral degree in psychology conferred by a regionally accredited college, university or professional school of psychology, or program of equivalent standing outside the United States; or (2) persons holding a Louisiana license as a psychologist.

### Life Member 50 Dues: \$127.50

Reduced dues (50%) are available for psychologists who are 65 or older, who have been LPA members for at least 10 consecutive years, and who have reduced their workload/income by 50% or more. Members must request and apply to the Treasurer for Life Member 50% status.

### Life Member Dues: \$0

(1) Psychologists who are 65 or older, who have been LPA members for at least 10 consecutive years and who have officially discontinued their psychological workload/income, or (2) Psychologists who are 70 or older, who have been LPA members for at least 10 consecutive years, and who have reduced their psychological workload/income by 75% or more. Members must request and apply to the Treasurer for Life Member status.

### Associate Member Dues: \$75

Associate Members are: Persons who have earned a Master's degree in psychology or a related area from a regionally accredited graduate school. Associate members are not eligible to vote or hold office.

### Affiliate Member Dues: \$20

Affiliate Members are: Persons currently enrolled in a graduate or undergraduate psychology program or related field at a regionally accredited school. Affiliate members are not eligible to vote or hold office.

### Century Member Dues: Voluntary Contribution

- Platinum Level (\$500 up)
- Gold Level (\$250 - \$499)
- Silver Level (\$100 - \$249)



## Your LPA membership supports the profession of psychology by:

- Representing and advocating for the profession of psychology at the state and national levels.
- Safeguarding and protecting our profession
- Working with state agencies and regulatory boards, including the State Board of Examiners of Psychologists, the Office of Behavioral Health, and the Department of Insurance.
- Representing psychologists' interest with third-party payers.
- Representing psychology in the State Capitol and being a unified voice on issues affecting psychology.

- Representing Louisiana and APA member psychologists on governance and policy decisions with the American Psychological Association.
- Safeguarding the freedom of scientific inquiry, teaching and professional practice.
- Working with an Academic Advisory Committee; a Diversity Committee; and a Medical Psychology Committee



## Benefits of Membership

- Legislative Advocacy
- Annual Convention and Fall Conference
- Discount Continuing Education Rates
- Early career psychologist assistance
- Free consultation with our Committee on Legal and Ethical Issues
- Networking Opportunities with colleagues and others
- Online Referral Service
- Online Membership Directory
- Member Listserv for networking, referrals, and issues of special interests
- Special Interest Groups



## Report of the Continuing Education Committee

By Gail Gillespie, Ph.D., Continuing Education Chair



As Continuing Education Chair, I was in charge of collecting, reviewing, and summarizing the evaluation forms from LPA's Annual Convention, which – in some anal retentive way – was quite gratifying. There was a wide array of quality speakers and topics available in 12 workshops over a two-day time span. This conference was qualitatively enhanced with 11 vendor tables (including Pixar showing the trailer for Inside Out), door prizes, a bingo game that encouraged visiting the vendors, and a cocktail party featuring a live jazz trio! One at-

tendee exclaimed, "I'm so glad I joined L.P.A. I'm very impressed with the quality of this conference!" Another new member, soon to be returning to Louisiana after her internship year, flew in from D.C. specifically for the conference to evaluate potential employment opportunities. As usual, everyone seemed to truly enjoy networking with one another.

On a rating scale between 1 and 5, the overall average level of satisfaction with which the speakers met course objectives was 4.39 (ranging from 3.74 to 4.88); the

overall average rating of workshop quality was 4.67 (ranging from 3.53 to 4.86). Some of the suggestions that were given for future conferences were for breaks between sessions, requests for handouts, increased time at lunch for networking versus business, downtown conference location, and more time for questions. Positive comments received about the conference were quality and diversity of presentations, networking opportunities, high level of organization, lots of quality/updated/useful information, exposure to

new scientific and clinical content, discovery of available resources, and that the conference was small enough for the most timid of students.

Our fall workshop, to be held on November 6, 2015, is still in the planning phase. If you have ideas or suggestions that you believe would enhance the quality and content of our upcoming workshop, or if you have ideas on potential presenters, please email me at [gailgillespie13@gmail.com](mailto:gailgillespie13@gmail.com). Ψ

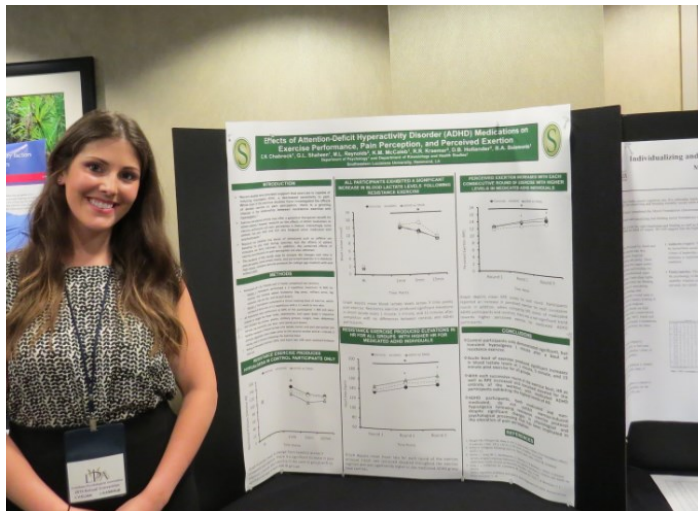


**A jazz trio entertains psychologists during the Annual Convention cocktail party.**



## Scenes from the Convention

**LPA EC members, Dr. Gail Gillespie and Kelley Pears discuss logistics while at the convention.**



**Chelsea Chabreck (from SELU) presents her research during the Student Poster Competition.**

**Dr. William McGown presents on Impulsivity during the Convention.**



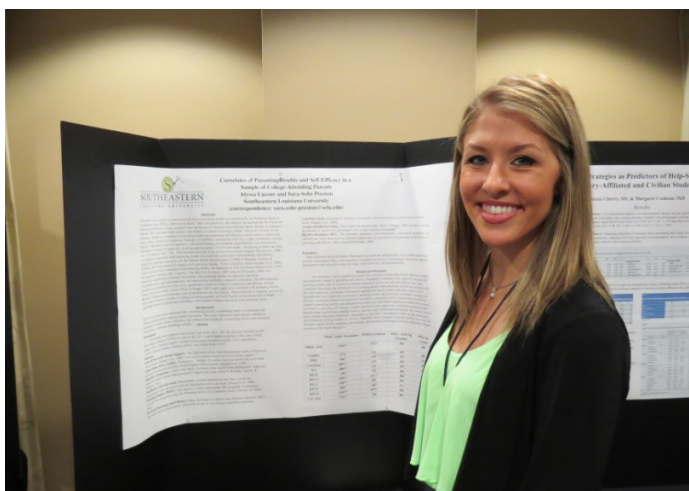


## A Heartfelt Thanks! by Paula Zeanah, PhD

I've had the honor to serve as a Director for LPA's Executive Council for the past 3 years. When elected, I'd been paying attention to issues affecting Louisiana psychology, but I was brand new to LPA organizational activities. I had a steep learning curve and it's been a wonderful journey.

I won't go down the list of all of those I've served with, but suffice it to say, it's been a very impressive group of psychologists! At the time I started with the EC, LPA had been through some rough times, resulting in splintering and divisiveness among psychologists. We did not always agree on details, but there was always respect and willingness to grapple with the sometimes difficult or challenging issues facing our profession. We aimed to operate with integrity, to be responsive to the concerns of psychologists, to provide open, effective and timely communication, and to build and sustain an organization that could support and represent the psychologists of Louisiana. High ideals, lofty goals— isn't that what Louisiana psychologists deserve?

So, I want to thank each member for all I've learned and gained from being a part of the EC. I have been so impressed at the commitment and focus, hard work and dedication, and skills and determination to make good things happen for LPA and Louisiana's psychologists. Each and every one of you has taught me much, and I am proud to have had the opportunity to get to know you, to be part of the "inner workings" of LPA. My faith in the power of a team, working together, through sometimes thick and thin to turn things around, is renewed. LPA does seem to be on the upswing! The current EC is strong, vibrant, and with the new Executive Director and staff, I see continued forward motion. Our recent excellent Annual Convention was an example of the strength we have within our state. I will miss you and being a part of the EC, but I will continue to do what I can "out there" to support LPA and Louisiana psychology. I hope to have more opportunities to see and work with you in the future, and wish the best to you in the coming year—(and I hope more psychologists will get involved and be inspired to make a difference!).  $\Psi$



**Alyssa Lacour poses with her poster.**



*Editors Note:* Each year during the Annual Convention, LPA sponsors a student research poster presentation competition. There were many fantastic posters this year and we congratulate all of the fine student researchers who came to the convention to present their work. We would also like to acknowledge the hard work of LPA Director (and Early Career Psychologists Committee Chair) Dr. Michelle Moore, who organized this event. We thank the many psychology department faculty members across the state who encouraged their students to participate. We hope to continue this excellent level of student participation at next year's convention. Printed below are the abstracts of the winning posters.

**Michele Larzelere, PhD**  
Newsletter Editor

## Undergraduate Student Poster Competition Winner

### Great Expectations: Physician Perception of Psychology Consultation and Liaison Services

Sarah Scalese, BS and Amy Henke, PsyD

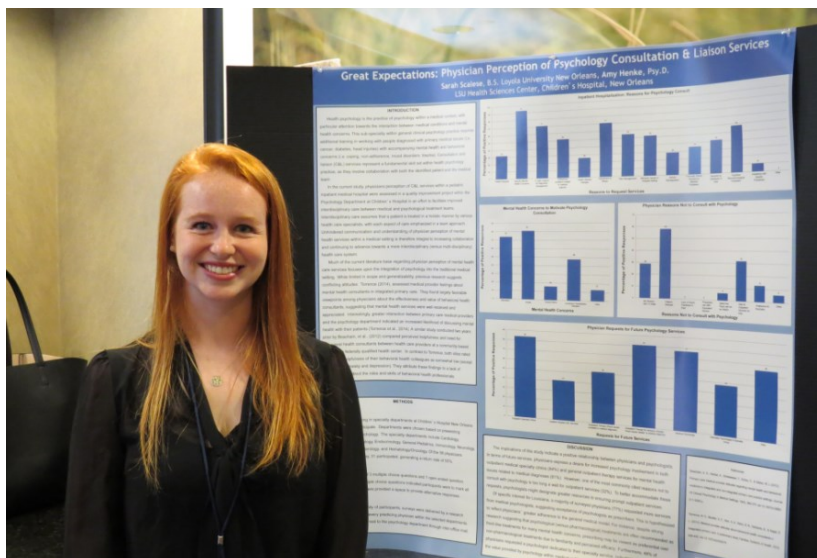
Loyola University and Children's Hospital of New Orleans

Physician perception of psychological consultation and liaison (C&L) services within a pediatric setting was assessed in a quality improvement project, as insight into physician view of psychology facilitates collaboration within treatment teams. C&L services represent a fundamental skill set within health psychology practice. Unhindered communication with physicians is therefore integral to the enhancement and expansion of psychology services.

Thirty six anonymous surveys were distributed to seven specialty departments within Children's Hospital of New Orleans. Topics of interest included reasons for consultation and request for fu-

ture services. Of the physicians surveyed, the most commonly cited instances for a psychology consultation request includes mental health concerns (94%), building evidence for specific diagnoses (71%), and coping with illness (71%). Less frequent reasons include school re-integration (29%), lifestyle changes (26%) and assistance with specific procedures (10%). In contrast, 58% of physicians indicate family refusal and a long wait for outpatient services (32%), as reasons not to request psychological service.

In terms of future services, physicians indicate a desire for increased psycholo-



**Ms. Scalese poses with her winning poster.**



## Student Poster Competition...continued from p. 14.

gy involvement in both outpatient medical specialty clinics (84%) and general outpatient therapy services for mental health issues related to medical diagnoses (81%). Of specific interest for Louisiana, a majority of surveyed physicians (77%) requested more services from medical psychologists, suggesting acceptance of psychologists as prescribers. This is hypothesized to reflect a greater adherence to the general medical model (i.e. prescribing may be viewed as preferential over non-pharmacological treatments due to familiarity). Furthermore, 48% of physicians request a psychologist dedicated for their service, indicating a positive relationship with psychology and an understanding of the value provided by a psychologist within medical settings.

Through sharpened understanding of physician values and expectations, psychology can provide increasingly tailored services while solidifying our role in a consultation and liaison setting.

## Undergraduate Student Poster Competition Runner Up

### Effects of Instructional Language and Power on Feedback

Kara Nishimuta, BS and Charles Nichols, PhD

Loyola University

The current study examines the effects of controlling versus autonomy-supportive instructional language and power (high vs. low) on feedback. Fifty-two undergraduate students at Loyola University New Orleans were instructed by an experimenter to perform a series of motor tasks, which were given in either a controlling or an autonomy-supportive way. Participants were then asked to complete an episodic power prime, in which they wrote about a time when they were either high or low in power. Following this prime, all participants were asked to provide evaluative feedback of the experimenter in two different forms: one anonymous evaluation and one which they were told was "public" and they could be called back later for. It was hypothesized that controlling (vs. autonomy-supportive) instructions will result in worse ratings by participants and that those in the high power group would be more willing to give negative public and anonymous ratings whereas those in the

low power group would only give negative anonymous ratings. No significant interactions were found between power and language, nor was power significant on its own. However, almost every item pertaining to language yielded significant results.



**Ms. Nishimuta discusses her research with Drs. Janet Matthews and Susan Andrews.**

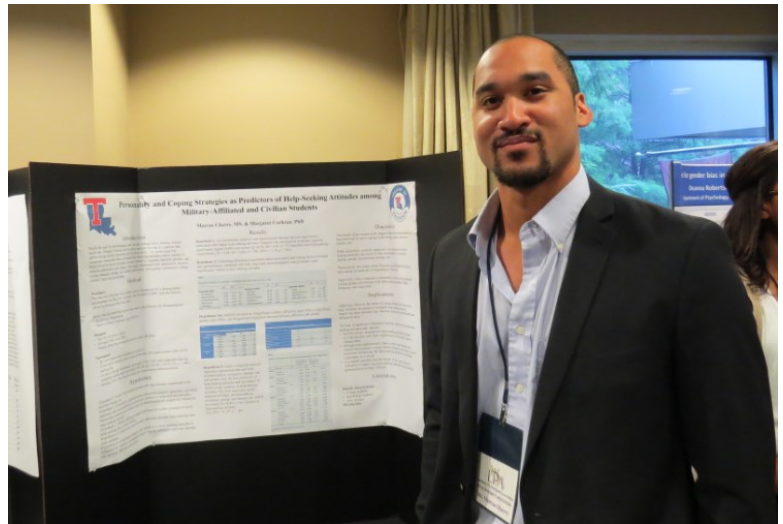
## Graduate Student Poster Competition Winner

### Personality and Coping Strategies as Predictors of Help-Seeking Attitudes among Military-Affiliated and Civilian Students

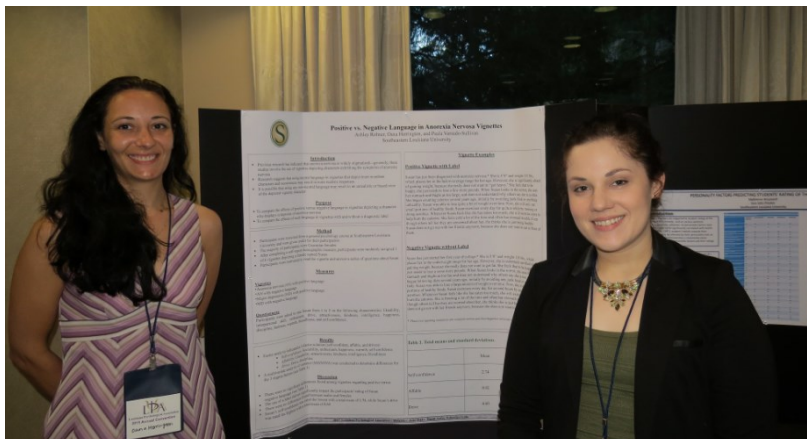
Marcus Cherry, MS, and Margaret Cochran, PhD

Louisiana Tech University

Despite the need for psychological care, people refrain from seeking mental health care. Having gained attention via the surge of mental health care for military service members, low mental health care utilization rates are perhaps most associated with military personnel. However, disparity between service need and service use is a pattern that applies among military personnel and civilians alike. To understand this occurrence, researchers have examined help-seeking attitudes and a variety of biopsychosocial factors including but not limited to stigmas, barriers, gender, age, ethnicity personality, and coping. This study examined how personality factors, coping strategies, therapy use, military affiliation, and gender influenced college students' help-seeking attitudes. The data were collected via an online survey composed of a demographic questionnaire, the Big Five Inventory, the Revised COPE, and the Beliefs About Psychological Services scale. Two hundred and eighty-two college students completed the survey. An independent samples t test demonstrated therapy use was significantly associated with higher help-seeking attitudes. Examining directional hypotheses about personality and coping factors revealed that agreeableness, openness, self-help, approach, accommodation, and avoidance were significantly related to help-seeking attitudes. Analysis of variance revealed an insignificant military affiliation main effect, a significant gender main effect, and insignificant interaction between military affiliation and gender. Lastly, a stepwise multiple regression determined that self-help, accommodation, avoidance, previous therapy use, and gender were the best predictors of help-seeking attitudes and accounted for 28.8% of the variation in help-seeking attitudes.



**Mr. Cherry poses with his winning poster.**



**Ashley Rohner and Oana Herrington display their research during the Student Poster Session.**

## Graduate Student Poster Competition Runner Up

### Individualizing and Binding Morality: Are They Mutually Exclusive?

Mary Medlin, BA, and Kilian J. Garvey, PhD  
University of Louisiana at Monroe

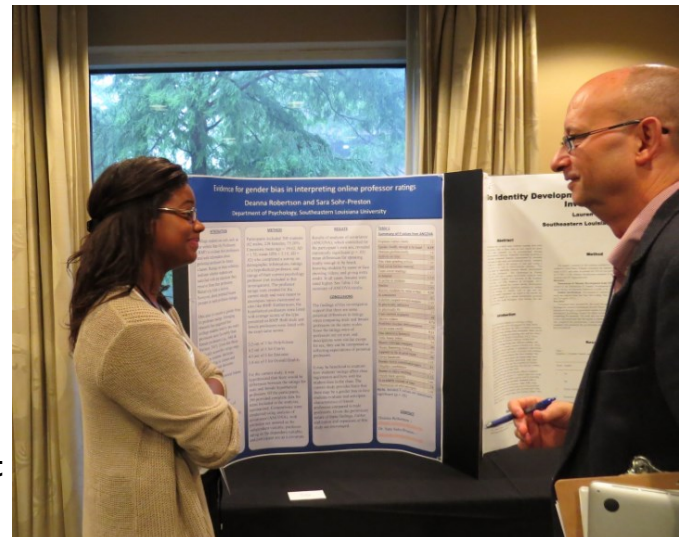
Moral Foundations Theory breaks moral cognition into five subscales; harm avoidance, fairness, in-group preference, deference to authority, and purity (Haidt & Joseph, 2004). These subscales are organized into two super-scales; Individualizing (I) (harm/fairness) and Binding (B) (in-group/authority/purity). I emphasizes the importance of individual rights when evaluating moral cognitions while B shows preference for considering possible harm to the group. The “moral cognitions” discussed here do not concern what is considered “right” or “wrong” so much as how com-



**Ms. Medlin discusses her research with  
Dr. Nemeth.**

fortable one would be extending allowances to others. For example, most would say that it is not okay to harm others, but there could be exceptions (“terrorists”, non-human animals). Conceptually, Individualizing and Binding morality seem to be mutually exclusive, and a number of studies looking at liberal versus conservative political and religious orientation have found just that: liberals are high I and low B while conservatives are the opposite (Haidt & Graham, 2007).

In this study 1136 undergraduates completed the Moral Foundations Questionnaire (MFQ) in two groups (low pathogen region (LPR,  $n = 558$ ) versus high (HPR,  $n = 578$ )). In the LPR group I and B were negatively correlated ( $r = -.064$ ,  $p = .266$  and  $r = -.130$ ,  $p = .04$ ), while in the HPR group I and B were positively correlated ( $r = .613$ ,  $p < .001$ ). Of further interest was how all five MFQ subgroups were strongly positively correlated in the HPR group. Pathogen prevalence, having been linked to many social behaviors (higher pathogen levels predicting emphasis on collectivist values, for example), could explain why the HPR group would score higher in all five subscales (Fincher et al., 2008; Medlin & Garvey, 2015).



**Deanna Robertson shares a laugh with  
Dr. Michael Chafetz during the Student  
Poster Session.**




## Teaching and Training Future Psychologists.

By Michelle B. Moore, PsyD

As an Early Career Psychologist (ECP), you may find yourself in a position as teacher or supervisor. In that moment, you may be thinking to yourself, "How am I experienced enough to teach or supervise a student?" Believe it or not, you actually completed the licensure process, so yes, you are qualified and able to teach trainees. You have a lot of knowledge, wisdom and empathy to offer trainees at all levels of training. If you are teaching an undergraduate course, you may be answering a lot of basic questions about the field of psychology. These individuals are at a crucial point of deciding whether or not they have what it takes to enter a doctoral program. If you are teaching at the graduate level, you are responsible for shaping future psychologists and offering them experiences to build their foundational skills as well-rounded psychologists. You may also be training pre-doctoral interns who are in their final stages of their doctoral program. For some of those trainees, this will be one of their last opportunities to lean on a supervisor. Take this opportunity to teach professionalism, ethics and independence. Effective teachers are essential at each level of training whether it be undergraduate or even post-doctoral fellows. As you teach and train others, you are still in a process of learning yourself. One of the great gifts of teaching is meeting new individuals who can provide a new perspective or challenge an existing belief in a meaningful way. Enjoy these opportunities when they come along and feel proud your ability to shape and prepare future psychologists to join our field.



The purpose of the Early Career Psychologist (ECP) Committee is to provide a supportive network to ECPs who are just beginning their careers as well as to create stronger relationships between newly licensed psychologists and veteran psychologists who can share their wisdom and expertise. The committee also hopes to address and resolve any unique issues, both professionally and personally, that arise for ECPs and to advocate for ECPs when necessary. The current committee consists of myself and Drs. Lacey Seymour, Anne Ciccone, Melissa Dufrene, Fernando Pastrana, Jacquelyn Braud and Ashley Jefferson. If you are interested in joining the ECP Committee, please send an email to michellebmoore@gmail.com. 



**Editor's Note:** Congratulations to Dr. Moore, who was named LPA's Early Career Psychologist of the Year at this year's Annual Convention.

**Dr. Michele Moore prepares to announce the winners of the Student Poster Session.**

## Legislative Advocacy Update By Michele M Larzelere, PhD

To help advance professional psychology's legislative goals, we need your assistance in identifying established connections you have with a member of Congress or a member of the state legislature. If you know a state or federal elected official and would be willing to contact them to advocate on behalf of professional psychology when called upon, then we want to hear from you! The depth of your relationship does not matter. Any type of connection can be valuable, for example, let us know if you went to school with a legislator, attend the same house of worship, or volunteered on their campaign.



If you have a personal connection to a legislator, please send us the following information :

Your name, Email, Phone number, Name of Legislator, Type of relationship, and Length of relationship.

For state legislators, please send the information to [lucindadegrange@yahoo.com](mailto:lucindadegrange@yahoo.com).  
For members of the Louisiana Congressional delegation, please contact me at [mlarzelsu@gmail.com](mailto:mlarzelsu@gmail.com). Ψ

## The Head & Spinal Cord Injury (THSCI) Trust fund Report

By Michael Chafetz, PhD, ABPP

On May 14, 2015, I participated in a Board meeting of the THSCI trust fund. Currently, there are 662 clients actively receiving services through the Trust fund program. The breakdown is: 39% medical; 31% personal care services; 12% equipment; 10% home/vehicle modifications; 8% other. The average expenditure per client is \$8500. The Fund is in the process of opening 94 cases. Assessments are done with a new tool" the Minimum Data Set - Home Care, which helps identify the needs that trigger services for each client. This is a helpful tool that is now reducing the backlog of claims, which should soon go down to zero. I have suggested renaming the Trust Fund. Instead of THSCI, my proposal is to call it the: Traumatic Brain & Spinal Cord Injury (TBSCI) to reflect the mission of the Trust fund to provide services to those in need following traumatic injuries to the brain and spinal cord (central nervous system). A head injury does not necessarily qualify unless the brain itself has been injured. Ψ



Louisiana Psychological Association

# Louisiana Psychological Association

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## LPA At Work For You:



**Your LPA membership supports the profession of psychology by:**

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- Representing psychologists' interest with managed care and insurance companies, and health plans about the importance of employee mental health benefits.
- Representing psychology in the State Capitol and being the unified voice on issues affecting psychology.
- Representing you on governance and policy decisions with in the American Psychological Association.
- Safeguarding the freedom of scientific inquiry, teaching and professional practice.

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