**Louisiana Psychological Association**

**Executive Council Meeting**

**Saturday, January 7, 2017**

**Official Minutes**

The Louisiana Psychological Association executive council met on Saturday, January 7, 2017 in New Orleans, Louisiana.

In attendance

Lucinda DeGrange, Ph.D. – President, Co-chair of Legislative Committee

Julie Nelson, Ph.D. – President Elect, Chair of Convention Committee

Gail Gillespie, Ph.D. – Secretary, Continuing Education Chair

Charles Burchell, Ph.D. – Treasurer, Chairman of Finance committee

William “Gig” Costelloe, Ph.D. – Director, Chair of IO Consulting and Psychology Committee

Kim VanGeffen, Ph.D. – Director, Professional Affairs Chair

Constance Patterson, Ph.D. – Director, Chair of Academic and Scientific Committee

Lacey Seymour, Ph.D. – Past President, Legislative Co-Chair, Elections Chair

Michele Larzelere, Ph.D. –Federal Advocacy Coordinator, Incoming LPA COR Representative

as of January 2017

Cindy Bishop – Executive Director

Earl Michael – staff with Checkmate Strategies

EC Members not present

Joe Tramontana, Ph.D. – (Tentative) Chair of Workman’s Compensation Committee and

Representative of LA Commission on Prevention of Opioid Misuse

Bryan Gros, Ph.D. – Membership Chair, Social Media Chair

Carolyn Weyand, Ph.D. – Ethics Chair

Michelle Moore, Ph.D. – Early Career Psychologists

Fernando Pastrana, Ph.D. – Diversity Chair

Mike Chafetz, Ph.D. – Representative of Ethics Committee, LPA appointee to Spinal Cord and TBI.

9:10 AM - Dr. DeGrange called the meeting to order. October 2016 meeting minutes were not yet approved, as Dr. DeGrange still has to review. She will review and send to the EC for a vote of approval.

**President’s Report** - Dr. Lucinda DeGrange indicated that the leadership conference coming up in which the LPA President and President Elect attend. 50% of the airfare is covered and LPA pays the hotel. Dr. Nelson is not sure that she is going, as she may be resigning. The funding for ECPs and diversity has been cut back by APA. Dr. Larzelere is the COR and Dr. Weyand has expressed interest in the Federal Advocacy Coordinator position. APA funded some states, and Louisiana was not included in that funding. ECP has to be selected to be funded, or otherwise Dr. Michelle Moore would have to pay out of her own pocket.

Public Education, Federal Advocacy coordinator and CE chair positions are open. Dr. Weyand is interested in the Federal Advocacy position and Dr. Seymour is interested in the Public Education position. Dr. VanGeffen made a motion for those positions to be approved and all approved these two for both positions. Dr. Pastrana won the vote for the director position to fill Dr. Henke’s director position through July 2017. All voted for this but Dr. Patterson.

The EC went into executive session at this point and Cindy Bishop exited the meeting.

The LPA EC meeting resumed with Ms. Bishop at approximately 11:30 AM

**Treasurer’s report**: Charles Burchell (Chair of Finance) and Cindy Bishop.

Dr. Nelson made a motion to go to the membership report. 188 members, 211 total including free student members. There are 750 licensed psychologists, with 674 prospects in LPA’s data base. LPA has seven corporate members. 26 members are leaving (see report). Dr. Nelson said she’s going to retain doing a two-year free membership per each university. Ms. Bishop is still trying to get the list of psychologists from the company with whom we bought it and they haven’t returned her phone call since July. It’s still been valuable because from this list 20 have joined LPA. LPA always buys the list yearly from the LSBEP for $100. Checkmate is not taking half of membership from ECPs and student members any longer as of January 2017. (See attached budget). Dr. Costelloe asked if the finance committee can be enlarged. Dr. Burchell wanted to keep it small but is open to the idea. LPA pays $4000 a month total to the lobbyist and to Checkmate and $70 a month to Wild Apricot. We are asking APA for money for Checkmates and for the lobbyist. Expenses are 88,000, and we’ll still need 10,000. APA said we may get $6000. We received a $28,000 first year grant from APA. This past year we got $11,000, this year we expect $10,000. Ms Bishop is also applying for foundation money from drug companies. There was a motion to adopt the proposed budget for 2017 and all approved.

**Secretary** – Dr. Gail Gillespie. Prior to adopting the minutes from the last EC meeting, Dr. DeGrange indicated that she has not had a chance to read through them. She moved to defer approval of the minutes until which time she could review them. Dr. Nelson agrees with needing to have decorum, but the notes have to be accurate.

**Elections** – Dr. Lacey Seymour indicated that Dr. Fernando Pastrana won director position, and the election was between himself and Dr. Thomas Haney.

**Continuing Education Chair** – Dr. Gillespie indicated that the CE committee is in the process of updating the CE application and will be raising the price for the application approval and returning the $15 per CE certificate fee.

**Diversity Chair** – Dr. Fernando Pastrana - Report sent by email: Dr. Pastrana met with Dr. Valaray Irvin, Director of Counseling Services at Southern University. They discussed wanting to understand the ethnographic breakdown of the U.S. overall and how it compares to the ethnographic breakdown of licensed psychologists actively practicing in the U.S.  This would help to understand if the ratios are representative of the population and if not how they are skewed (e.g., if the U.S. population is 60% Caucasian, 10% African American, 10% Hispanic, 10% Asian, and 10% other how does the number of licensed psych

ologists correlate with these percentages?) They would like to explore the aforementioned relative to our state to identify if psychology in Louisiana is representative of its population.  This, by extension, can be compared to the demographic makeup of LPA to see where we stand as an organization.  
  
Next discussed was the use of the word minority when describing a person or people. Dr. Pastrana finds this wording to be a prerogative term that insinuates subordinate status.  As psychologists, we can all understand the power of language (e.g., “retard” had its origins as a way to describe delaying of progress, slowing down, or to hinder or impede. It was a technical term being used to describe people, with no ill intent.  Other words prior to this word also later developed negative connotations, and were deemed insulting and out-dated until they too became obsolete.  Similarly, “minority” has its origins as a technical term (meaning less than half  
of a total), and has acquired a negative and demeaning connotation (less than).  Dr. Pastrana proposes to make a concerted effort to replace “minority” with another, less negatively connotative, term or to use the term in the way in which it was originally intended (to denote numerical value). For example, “you are in the minority” vs. “you are a minority.”  The latter insinuates permanence.  There are major differences and psychologists should be on the forefront of helping people to understand them.  
  
There will be a Health Disparities Conference held at Xavier this year from March 16-18.  This would be a great opportunity for LPA to spread the word about our organization and to recruit new members.  Dr. Pastrana thinks LPA should seek volunteer(s) to attend and/or have an informational table.

**Workers Comp** – Dr. Tramontana not in attendance

**Early Career Psychologist** – Dr. Michele Moore not in attendance

**Legal and Ethics Committee** – Dr. Carolyn Wayand not in attendance. Ms. Bishop indicated that prior LPA executive director Gail Lowe gave her a COI policy that LPA used to use. APA is giving LPA guidance on this, and indicated that the one that Dr. Michael Chafetz provided should also be looked at.

**Legislative Affairs** – Lobbyist Kevin Hayes has secured May 8 as LPA legislative day.

**Professional Affairs** – Dr. Kim VanGeffen – no report

**Membership Committee** – Dr. Bryan Gros not present

Dr. DeGrange ended the meeting at 1:30 PM.