In the July 2020 Board meeting, LSBEP officially elected former Vice-Chairperson Dr. Amy Henke as Chairperson for the 2020-2021 year. She has the dubious honor of being the first Board chair to begin a year during a global pandemic. Lucky her! The following is her Welcome address, initially given during the July 17, 2020 Board meeting and is transcribed below.

Address by the Chair

BY AMY HENKE, PSY. D.

“Thank you for the honor and privilege of serving as your chairperson during a very unique year for LSBEP and the world around us. Who would have thought we’d meeting regularly over Zoom this time last year?!?

I originally ran for election to the Board after several years in an advocacy role with LPA. During my time in LPA I grew interested in the regulatory side of our profession and my growing belief that Psychologists should be regulated by Psychologists. Since that time, I’ve had the opportunity to work with psychologists across the state in the Board’s mission of public protection. By using the guiding principle of public safety, we can make decisions that benefit not only the public but also strengthen public trust in our profession.
I want to acknowledge that my personal goals for this year by no means exclude or take priority over the goals of my fellow Board members. As such, I want to begin my year as your chair by publicly stating that this Board wants and needs to hear everyone's opinion and that everyone's ideas, questions, and concerns are welcomed. We all bring various expertise to this virtual table and diverse groups with vigorous debate tend to make better decisions. With those enduring goals in mind, I would like to share my vision for this year, with the full knowledge that an ambitious agenda may be more aspirational in nature, but there's no reason not to dream big. I am going to speak about five goals I have for this year but please know that this is not an exhaustive list. There are many important objectives the Board continues to work to achieve.

My first goal dates back to my original platform in 2016. This platform, supported by LPA, included my resistance to the EPPP-2 as an unnecessary burden that would further impede access to services by adding an expensive and poorly planned barrier to licensure. I aim to continue to work collaboratively with ASPPB to incorporate more flexibility in their implementation of this exam and support consumers of psychological services by ensuring barriers to licensure are high enough to protect the public but do not serve as an unnecessary obstacle for our newest licensees.

My second goal has become clearer as I've spent more time with the Board. We frequently receive questions from licensees about Louisiana laws, rules, regulations, and ethics. Licensees seem to want more support from LSBEP in meeting and maintaining the necessary standards to maintain licensure. So, it is my goal that we continue to develop and expand our Jurisprudence exam for use not only as a licensure tool but also for psychologists who would like to refresh their knowledge and stay up to date. As the research shows, the further a psychologist is from their initial licensure date, the more likely they are to engage in acts that may constitute ethical violations, and so it my hope that LSBEP will be able to offer several versions of our current Jurisprudence Examination as an optional learning opportunity for licensees. This also has the dual goal of assisting the Board in remaining financially solvent, which is a key problem for any self-funded and self-regulated agency.

A third goal for this year includes opening discussion regarding specialty designations and their utility. As the national Psychology landscape moves toward designations of Health Service Psychologist and Applied Psychologist, it is time for our Board to also consider the pros and cons of our current system, of which I believe there are several limitations and liabilities that should be discussed in greater detail.

My fourth goal centers around enhanced communication between the Board and licensees. I often hear questions from my colleagues regarding the Board's function and purpose. I also hear misconceptions and misunderstandings about the Board's obligations and duties. As such, I pledge to work this year to produce a regular newsletter where the Board can speak directly to licensees and we can highlight the important work we do and hopefully encourage other psychologists to run for election and serve as a regulator. Our Weekly Wednesday update, which began with the COVID19 outbreak, is now on our 17th edition if you can believe it!
We have received so much positive feedback on this feature and have taken solace that psychologists in our community are doing their best to keep themselves and their clients safe. The communication between the Board and licensees has been overwhelmingly positive and I am hopeful this positive relationship will continue with ongoing communication.

I’ll end my last goal and this statement with my official theme for the year, courtesy of our Public Member, Mr. Chance McNeely. That theme is "Step Into the Present." Oftentimes, government and administrative agency progress is painstakingly slow. However, we have an opportunity to step into the present by automating more of our processes and utilizing technology to reduce administrative burden from both Board staff and licensees. This final goal is extremely important in our duty to remain both financially solvent and independent. If Psychologists want to continue to have a self-regulated Board, we must prove to our licensees, public consumers, and the state legislators that we can manage the many responsibilities we are tasked with as a self-funded regulatory agency who receives no financial support from the legislature. "

Farewell Address: Outgoing Chair

By Koren Boggs, Ph.D.

“As my five-year term as a member, Vice Chair, and then Chair of the LSBEP comes to a close, I would like to take the opportunity to express my gratitude and appreciation for this experience. I am grateful for the opportunity to have represented our profession as a public servant entrusted with carrying out the mission of protecting the people of Louisiana through the regulation of the practice of psychology. It is, in some ways, a logical extension of my motives in entering the profession in the first place. I imagine it is the reason many of us chose this field – because we care about people and the human experience and feel compelled to do what we can to help people have better days. That, at its core, is the foundation of service on this Board, as well. As a Board member, there is a delicate balance to strike between identifying as a psychologist and member of the industry and fulfilling the role of a regulator whose primary obligation is to the public. I am grateful for the support of those who understand that balance. I am grateful for those who challenge me to think about and justify my statements and positions, and to consider alternate perspectives, as that is how we all learn. I am grateful for past Board members whose commitment to serving the public was steadfast, even in the face of sometimes harsh and unwarranted criticism. I am grateful for my own experience in this role and the exposure to the experience of persisting despite harsh and sometimes unwarranted criticism. I am grateful for the wisdom that each and every Board...
member I have served with has brought to the table. I have learned so much from having thoughtful and respectful discussions about significant issues which impact so many. I am grateful for the colleagues who understand the magnitude of the responsibility we are given as psychologists and Board members.

It is my sincere hope that the mission of this Board continue, with a collaborative and unifying focus on continuing to self-regulate our profession to the benefit of our community at large. By protecting the public we serve, we strengthen the profession we chose. I encourage all psychologists in this state to consider serving on the Board. No member of this professional community is more valuable than another, and all our voices are important and powerful. Consider serving the public and the profession, regardless of your location in the state or years in practice or connections in the community. Each and every psychologist has a unique perspective to offer which deserves respect. I especially encourage those who have felt marginalized for any reason to consider serving on the Board. Diversity at the table is critical, and all should have the chance for a seat. Thank you for the opportunity to represent you. I hope I've served you well, and I look forward to continuing to work together to strengthen our community for the benefit of all."

MEET THE BOARD: An Interview with LSBEP’s First Public Member

A first-generation college graduate from rural northwest Louisiana, Mr. McNeely graduated college and left Baton Rouge over a decade ago in route to Washington, DC. He would begin his career in public policy working on Capitol Hill as a legislative aide. While in DC, he met and became engaged to another Louisiana-native and they decided to move back to their home state. The couple has two young daughters and another on the way. For the past six years, McNeely has been working in various capacities within state government, having served both the current and previous governor. He also led a statewide trade association during which time he completed his Master of Public Administration from LSU. Earlier this year, he launched his own business and government consulting firm. It was only a few years ago that he realized he suffered from a chronic anxiety disorder: obsessive compulsive disorder.

In each newsletter moving forward, LSBEP plans to highlight one Board or Board staff member in order to introduce licensees to the people behind “The Board.” This month, we’ve chosen Mr. Chance McNeely. Mr. McNeely has the notable position of serving as LSBEP’s first public member. Similar to nationwide trends, in 2018 Governor Edwards signed legislation requiring all licensing Boards to include one Public Member. As a Public Member, Mr. McNeely enjoys full voting rights, with the exception of licensee examinations. The Board is grateful for the opportunity to support a Public Member and appreciates the unique perspectives and time given to the Board’s mission of public protection.

Mr. D. Chance McNeely
First LSBEP Public Member
McNeely was appointed by Governor Edwards to serve as the consumer member of the LSBEP late in 2019. Since that time, he has enjoyed serving and contributing the Board's deliberations on how best to meet its statutory charge of protecting the public. "I try to approach my work on the LSBEP from the perspective of the least fortunate person who may be seeking or receiving care from a psychologist. I think trying to come from that perspective is important and I am constantly making a conscious effort to do so," McNeely said. "I also recently completed peer support training through the Louisiana Department of Health with the goal of better representing the interests of the community who receives or would benefit from mental health services."

As perspectives of recipients of mental health services become more of a priority nationwide, McNeely hopes to leverage his background to help move Louisiana in a direction that improves treatment access and outcomes for more people. His goals for the Board include providing unique and innovative continuing education opportunities for licensees that may encourage more psychologists to specialize. He also intends to work with the industry to achieve an adequate fee structure to fund Board activities. "I have to say I was frustrated and, based on my own experience, not entirely surprised to learn that we are one of the few state Boards not actively involved in continuing education," said McNeely. "I also have been troubled by the Board's financial condition. I think we can embrace technology to provide a better licensee experience while also adequately funding activities to protect the public."

Having been a regulator and also having represented regulated industries in his career, McNeely said he knows there are always opportunities for consensus and the ability to achieve important goals collaboratively. "Serving as the first public Board member, I want psychologists in Louisiana to know that I am very appreciative for their profession. I want to work with the industry in a way that will increase access to quality care for more citizens of Louisiana. I also want the community of licensees to know that coming forward and speaking openly about my experience was at first a very difficult decision. I felt compelled to come forward and I do not take my role or the overarching charge of the board lightly," McNeely said.

His ultimate hope is for his work on the Board to help normalize and reduce the stigma around mental health symptoms, letting others know they are not alone. "It took peer support for me to initially gain the courage to seek help, and additional peer support to learn how to advocate for myself once in treatment," he said. If you have any ideas on how to achieve any of the goals McNeely has highlighted, he encourages you to email him directly at chance.mcneely@la.gov.
ASK A BOARD MEMBER:

For this feature, the Board would like to highlight common questions in an effort to educate licensees and provide a sample of the wide range of queries we receive. If you have a question you would like to be considered for an “Ask a Board Member” feature, please email Jaime Monic at Jaime.Monic@la.gov.

Remember:

- Individual Board members may NOT speak for the Board in an official capacity.
- If your question is specific to safety or includes confidential information, it will not be considered for this feature but will be answered confidentially as per Board procedure.
- If you would like an official Board opinion on a specific topic, you can request one by emailing Jaime.Monic@la.gov.
- Nothing in this feature should be considered a formal Board opinion.

With those disclaimers noted, what are some common questions Board members hear?

**Question 1:** What is the difference between serving on LSBEP versus working with LPA, LSPA, or LAMP? Aren’t both organizations working for the profession?

**Answer:** NO! LSBEP is a governmental agency with the specific mission to safeguard life, health, property, and the public welfare, and in order to protect the people of this state against unauthorized, unqualified, and improper application of psychology. This means LSBEP’s mission is based entirely in public safety. This is distinctly different from the mission of an industry association, where their mission is better described as profession-based advocacy. While licensing boards and industry associations may have different goals, these goals are often (but not always) complementary.

**Question 2:** Can anyone attend a Board meeting?

**Answer:** Yes! Public meetings laws allow the public to attend the public portion of Board meetings. Executive sessions are not open to the public due to privacy laws. For information on when/where a meeting will take place, see the LSBEP website.
**Question 3:** I have an idea I would like the Board to consider. How can I ask?

**Answer:** Great! We love to hear from licensees. You are always welcome to send your thoughts for consideration at a formal Board meeting. In fact, a licensee request was the impetus for the Board's new tele-supervision guidelines. Prior to this request, no tele-supervision was ever permitted per Board guidelines.

**Question 4:** How is the Board funded? If the Board is a governmental agency, doesn't the government provide support?

**Answer:** NO! The Board receives zero, zilch, zip, nada, nothing from the government. LSBEP is a self-funded agency. This means every dollar spent through licensing and other fees goes directly towards funding the Board. LSBEP is a small Board compared to other health-care professions and works hard to maintain financial stability while adhering to our duty to protect the public. This balance is often difficult and the Board cannot always predict expenses that may occur. While other Boards have licensees that number in the thousands and may have significant financial reserves, LSBEP has a smaller licensing pool (about 800 licensees) and little opportunity to build reserves.

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**Standing Committee Report Highlights**

**Supervision and Credentials Review Committee:**

Over the past few months, the LSBEP has drafted, revised and approved guidelines for the practice of tele-supervision. The practice of tele-supervision was not permitted prior to March 2020 in the state of Louisiana; however, the opportunity to create these guidelines began following a letter received from a current psychologist in Louisiana. The Board appreciated the thought and consideration that went into the letter because it gave the Board an opportunity to reflect on current practices around the state. Following discussions and research into practices by other state boards as well as guidelines set for by ASPPB and APA COA, the LSBEP determined that drafting guidelines for tele-supervision was a necessary step to increase clarity within the current practice of telepsychology. In addition, these guidelines follow the expectations set forth by the APA Commission on Accreditation who oversee individuals and institutions who are providing training to future psychologists. Therefore, these guidelines are set forth to provide clarity and broaden the scope of supervision within an ethical framework.

The tele-supervision guidelines follow the expectations set forth in the statute regarding the appropriate conduct of supervision as well as the appropriate way to conduct psychology via telehealth. There are several important areas that psychologists who plan to use tele-supervision should be aware of before they begin to change their supervision practices.

1. Tele-supervision shall not account for more than 50% of the required supervisory contact for the supervisees’ level of training, and tele-supervision shall not be utilized for a graduate student who is completing their first practicum training experience.
2. Since in-person supervision continues to be the most appropriate and beneficial learning experience for supervisees’ training, a psychologist must request pre-approval to conduct tele-supervision by completing the Tele-supervision Application Form and state an explicit rationale for utilizing this method of supervision, e.g. part-time practice in a rural clinic setting, maternity leave, medical leave, etc.

3. Tele-supervision, as with telepsychology, utilizes two-way communication via video and audio transmission; therefore, supervision by phone is not considered sufficient supervisory contact.

The LSBEP aims to increase access to training services through the use of tele-supervision while following the national guidelines for supervisory practices that provide appropriate coverage and oversight for psychologists of their supervisees’ clinical work. Please read the new Supervision via Telepsychology “Tele-supervision” guidelines which can be found within the Louisiana Telepsychology Guidelines before conducting tele-supervision. Click here to view: Telepsychology Guidelines.

In addition to developing these guidelines, the committee continues to consider licensing models Specialty designation vs HSP/General Applied Psychology.

The committee has also been monitoring the development of the EPPP2 and reported that ASPPB’s email January 9, 2020, notified jurisdictions that the EPPP2 would be postponed to late 2020 in an effort to accommodate Early Adopting Jurisdictions. LSBEP has not changed its original position on the examination.

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**DID YOU KNOW?**

Most complaints received involve licensees who have been licensed for decades

No matter how much experience you have, it is crucial to remain educated and mindful of best practices

LSBEP recently voted to begin offering continuing education courses to raise awareness about common issues

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**WHAT HAVE YOU DONE FOR ME LATELY?**

**LSBEP’S RESPONSE TO COVID-19**

Psychologists have been under tremendous stress since March 2020, when governor John Bel Edwards mandated the first stay-at-home orders following the COVID-19 outbreak. We’ve been directed to change virtually every part of our practice, ranging from new modalities of telehealth, utilizing protective equipment, and providing psychological services while managing our personal fears and stressors. During this time, many Louisiana psychologists have turned to the Board for assistance and guidance and we are gratified to play a role in supporting continued access to care during an unprecedented health crisis. We are also heartened at the care we have seen psychologists employ in their consideration and protection of the vulnerable populations with whom we work.
Some may have wondered from time to time, "How exactly does a licensing board serve their mission of protecting the public during a pandemic?" Others may have contemplated, "What is LSBEP doing to ensure I can continue to provide services during this pandemic?" Still others might have simply questioned, "LSBEP, what have you done for me lately?" LSBEP is happy to share some highlights of how the Board continues to pursue our mission during an unprecedented public health crisis.

1. Produced a new weekly feature, cleverly titled "Weekly Wednesday." This serves as the Board's opportunity to communicate new information succinctly and without delay. During the early months of COVID-19, we received updated (and changing!) guidance from the CDC, LDH, and the governor on an almost daily basis. We knew that in order to maintain access to care for the public, timely communication would be key. We are proud and exhausted to tell you we are now on Issue #39373. We mean, Issue #23.

2. Expedited temporary emergency registrations to enable psychologists with clients relocated in Louisiana (example: out-of-state college student returns home to Louisiana when the semester is cancelled) to continue to provide services. Expedited ability to transfer a temporary emergency registration to a full temporary license once it became clear that life as normal would not be returning any time soon.

3. Moved all Board meetings to a virtual platform to ensure uninterrupted Board duties throughout COVID-19. This has enabled the Board to continue functioning while also providing the public a unique opportunity to observe Board meetings.

4. Licensed and welcomed 9 new psychologists to Louisiana through virtual licensing exams at flexible times.

5. Signed a contract with CERTEMY, a company that specializes in moving Board operations online. Given that the Board’s current chairperson, Dr. Amy Henke, recently declared her theme for the year as “Step Into the Present,” this is a timely initiative. The Board’s functions will streamline on one platform with improvements in user-friendly access, standardization of processes, and ultimately cost savings through reducing administrative burden.

6. Made emergency changes to Continuing Professional Development requirements, reducing hours required from 40 to 30 for psychologists reporting in 2020 and 2021.

7. Answered and continue to answer approximately 1000000 (rough estimate) individualized and highly specific questions from Louisiana psychologists pertaining to the COVID-19 emergency.

LSBEP would also like to continue to express our gratitude to Louisiana psychologists for their commitment to safety and their dedication to the field during this time. Although jokes abound regarding the sheer quantity of emails and calls the Board receives, we value the great responsibility each licensee holds and appreciate the care taken by each of you to ensure the highest level of integrity in our chosen field.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Licensees</th>
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| **August 2019** | Andrea F. Weiss, Psy.D.  
Leigh A. Ford, Ph.D.  
Monique N. Coleman, Psy.D.  
Amanda M. Raines, Ph.D.  
Lisa A. Gallagher, Psy.D.  
Sandra M. Coulon, Ph.D.  
Brenna F. Sapotichne, Ph.D. |
| **January 2020 - NONE** |   |
| **February 2020** | Joseph D. Salande, Ph.D.  
Roger Galen Clark, Psy.D.  
Suzana E. Flores, Psy.D.  
Brandon R. Wilks, LSSP |
| **March 2020** | Heather L. Ellingson, Psy.D.  
Rebecca M. Wallace, Psy.D.  
Margaret Ann Smith, Psy.D.  
Robert Linwood Collings, Ph.D.  
Nicholas Matthew Wisdom, Ph.D.  
Latasha M. Cubas, LSSP  
Kelley Marie Pursell, LSSP  
DeAnna G. Yelverton, LSSP |
| **April 2020 - LSBEP’s 1st Licensees Examined Via Video Conference:** | Jared I. Israel, Ph.D.  
Jane Elizabeth Booth Lewis, Ph.D.  
Elizabeth Allain, Ph.D.  
Kristin R. Tubre, Psy.D.  
I. Shujaa Keino Miller, Ph.D.  
Elie Natan Cohen, Ph.D.  
John M. Dimond, Ph.D.  
Ginette Grube, Psy.D. |
| **May 2020** |   |
| **June 2020 - NONE** |   |
| **July 2020 - NONE** |   |
| **August 2020** | Franziska NoackLeSage, Ph.D. |
BOARD MEMBERS

Chair: Amy M. Henke, Psy.D.
Vice Chair: Gina L. Gibson, Ph.D.
Member: Gregory Cormanous, Ph.D.
Member: Michelle B. Moore, Psy.D.
Public Member: D. Chance McNeely, MPA
Member: Shannae Harness, Ph.D.

PERSONNEL

Executive Director: Jaime T. Monic
Compliance Officer/Investigator: Justin Owens

Accountant: Valerie Dominique, CPA

General Counsel: Lloyd Lunceford & Amy Groves Lowe

Prosecuting Attorney: Courtney P. Newton

Complaints Coordinators: Sasha J. Lambert, Ph.D. & Mark P. Vigen, Ph.D.

Investigators: Tony McCoy & Henry Richardson

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Ph: 225-295-8410
www.lsbebep.org
admin.lsbebep@la.gov
Since our last issue, we have new staff and board members!  We would like to formally welcome:

**LSBEP Board Members:**

Dr. Gina Gibson  
Dr. Michelle Moore  
Dr. Shannae Harness  

Public Member, Mr. D. Chance McNeely  

**LSBEP Part-time Staff Member:**  
Mr. Justin Owen. Justin will serve as Compliance Officer/Investigator.

**UPCOMING DATES OF INTEREST**

Meeting Dates:

- Tuesday, September 1, 2020 – 1:30PM, LSSP Committee Meeting, Video Conference  
- Friday, September 11, 2020 – 8:30AM, LSBEP Board Meeting, Video Conference  
- Friday, October 9, 2020 - 8:30AM, LSBEP Board Meeting, Place TBD  
- Friday, November 19-20, 2020 - 8:30AM, LSBEP Board Meeting, Place TBD  
- Friday, December 11, 2020 - 8:30AM, LSBEP Board Meeting, Place TBD

Would you like to receive future newsletters directly to your email? Email: jaime.monic@la.gov and request to be added to the email distribution list for the LSBEP Newsletter. You may also receive meeting notices and agendas via email by subscribing to our PUBLIC NOTICE distribution list.

**NOTICE:** In compliance with Act 655 of the 2018 Regular Session, the LSBEP hereby gives notice to its licensees and applicants of their opportunity to file a complaint about board actions and board procedures. You may submit such complaints to one or more of the following organizations:

- Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists: Submit in writing to: LSBEP, 4334 S. Sherwood Forest, Blvd., #C-150, Baton Rouge, LA 70816; admin.lsbep@la.gov; (225)295-841  
- Committee on House & Governmental Affairs, La. House of Representatives: Submit to: H&GA@legis.la.gov or Committee on House & Governmental Affairs, La. House of Representatives, PO Box 44486, Baton Rouge, LA 70804; (225) 342-2403  
- Committee on Senate & Governmental Affairs; La Senate: Submit to: s&g@legis.la.gov or Committee on Senate & Governmental Affairs; La Senate PO Box 94183, Baton Rouge, LA 70804; (225)342-9845

**LA R.S. 42:14.D. Public comments** - In accordance with LA R.S. 42:14.D., the LSBEP shall allow public comments at any point during a meeting of the LSBEP prior to action on an agenda item upon which a vote is to be taken. Individuals who wish to comment on a matter must sign in and state their intent to comment on a matter.

**La. R.S. 44:33.1** - In compliance with La. R.S. 44:33.1, the LSBEP hereby gives notice that information submitted to the LSBEP may become public record pursuant to the provisions of Louisiana Public Records Law, La. R.S. 44:1, et seq.