SB159 by Senator Edwin Edwards and HB569 by Representatives Mouton and LeBlanc of the 1964 Legislative Session created the State Board of Examiners of Psychologists. Governor McKeithen signed the legislation on July 16, 1964 officially making it Act 347 of the 1964 Legislative Session. The first Board was comprised of Drs. Joseph Dawson, Chair, Ronald Pryor, Vice Chair, William Hawkins, Joel Butler and Loyd Rowland. The Board would like to acknowledge and sincerely thank all of the members who have served over the 50 years.

Happy Anniversary LSBEP!!!
To Protect Public

La. Act 347 Licenses Psychologists

To protect the public from ill-trained persons and "out and out quacks" is the purpose of Act 347 enacted by the Louisiana Legislature, said Dr. Joel R. Butler, assistant professor of Psychology.

The 1964 act, signed by Gov. McKeithen July 16, provides for the licensing of all persons who would practice psychology in Louisiana.

Licenses will be granted through the newly-created State Board of Examiners of Psychologists. The board is a five-member panel of which each member must have at least five years experience and have held a doctoral degree in psychology for at least five years.

Discuss Qualifications

At a meeting of the Louisiana Psychologists Association in Lafayette, Nov. 20-21, University psychologists and graduate students joined with psychologists from across the state to discuss the qualifications for membership under the new act and to make application for licenses to the state board.

Under this act all persons practicing and rendering services as a psychologist, whether it be in private practice, state hospitals or industry, must be licensed. By 1968, licenses will be issued only to those persons who hold a Ph.D. in psychology and have had at least two years experience.

Governor Appoints Two

Butler and Dr. Joseph G. Dawson, University psychologists, have been appointed to the state board by the governor. They, along with the other members of the panel, will guide the policies and provisions set up in the licensing act, during its formative period.

It is the purpose of this act to establish high standards and a set of ethics for those persons practicing psychology in the state, Butler said. It is now a misdemeanor for a person to misrepresent himself as a psychologist, and one so doing is subject to fine up to $500 and imprisonment up to six months, he continued.

Cannot Advertise

Under this act, psychologists cannot advertise or charge exorbitant fees for unqualified work, Butler said. He cited as an example a person in Alexandria who advertised along the highway with a sign which read, "Palm Reader and Psychologist."

Psychologists serve the public not only in private practice and medical centers, but also in medical research and in industry through their knowledge of "research design," Butler said. Because of a psychologist's training in research methods, he is qualified to assist medical people in experimental design projects and industry with such problems as "personnel selection" and "group sensitivity," he continued.

This act is not only an advancement for psychology, but also further protection for the public, Butler said. Louisiana is the thirty-second state to require licensing of psychologists.
Message from Board Chair,
Rita R. Culross, Ph.D.D.

2014 marks the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists (LSBEP). All of us who are licensed owe a debt of gratitude to the many LA psychologists who served on the Board over the past 50 years. The current Board plans a celebration of this milestone in the fall in conjunction with our annual Long Range Planning meeting. In this column I would like to reflect on the changes in psychology regulation over that period of time.

Past Board members have regaled me with stories of the early years of regulation. Before a permanent office was established, files were often carried from meeting to meeting in the trunk of a board member’s car. A psychologist licensed in the 60’s was probably white, male, and someone who was trained to use projective personality measures. Today’s applicants for licensure are an increasingly diverse group with different emphases in training, including competencies in health psychology, cognitive behavioral therapy, or motivational interviewing.

Sources of past complaints revolved around non-psychologists representing themselves as psychologists as well as consumer complaints about the practice of psychology. With the advent of criminal background checks, the Board now also considers allegations of alcohol or drug abuse and Medicaid fraud. A past board instituted an Impaired Psychologist Program to assist licensees whose ability to practice has been compromised by illness or injury. While some complaints lead to disciplinary action or consent orders, others may be addressed through IPP, resolution at an informal level, or dismissal.

Another significant change in the regulation landscape has been the proliferation of boards that regulate mental health practice. While some in the profession may view this as a “turf” issue, one of the significant challenges for LSBEP is the regulation of psychologists who are licensed under multiple boards. Within Louisiana licensed psychologists may also be licensed as Behavioral Analysts or Medical Psychologists. With the addition of Licensed School Specialists individuals may be licensed by LSBEP and also hold certification as Certified School Psychologists through the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education. Balancing the oversight of all these individuals with other boards while also trying not to put licensees in “double jeopardy” is a continuing challenge for this Board.

Changes in technology have also impacted regulation within psychology. As you may know, the Board recently established a Task Force to establish guidelines for the practice of tele-psychology. More and more psychologists have websites, engage in email communications (including text messaging), and video conferencing. We want to offer guidance to the profession regarding the legal and ethical practice of psychology through these media, both within our state and across state boundaries. Moreover, social media has impacted all of us whether we choose to engage in these practices or not. After reading this column you might want to do an Internet search of yourself. What websites list you as a psychologist, and what information do they present about you?

Finally, the Board itself is regulated by current law to a greater extent than it has been in the past. When I first joined the Board, we could amend the agenda for a given meeting at the start of the meeting in order to consider some last minute issue. Because of a legal change in 2012, we can no longer modify the agenda once it is posted. While this prevents the Board from taking an action without prior knowledge to the public, it also sometimes delays the Board’s response to legitimate queries from licensees. As always, we welcome your questions and comments. We exist to serve you and to protect the public.
The LSBEP was created to safeguard life, health, property and the public welfare of this state and in order to protect the people of this state against the unauthorized, unqualified and improper application of psychology. The LSBEP values its relationships with all 3 state psychology associations and we appreciate cooperative measures to ensure the protection of the public. I am grateful to be a part of this dedicated body and will continue to support the Board in my role as Executive Director.

In the past few years, I can assure you we have worked vigorously to continue the mission of the psychology board. Without the hard work of previous board members and staff, we would not have advanced the field of psychology all while maintaining protection of the public in the state to include such matters as medical psychology, provisional licensure and school specialists.

I asked current and former Board members for a few memories or funny stories over the years for this special acknowledgment. I hope you enjoy the candid comments.

[Please note: some comments were edited due to size]:

“...First, we operated from the perspective that the best way to "protect the public" was to increase the number of qualified, licensed psychologists in Louisiana. Toward that end, we tried to assist & nurture candidates for licensure so that their movement through the process was smooth & easy...”
- Janet Matthews, Ph.D.

“Although the term of service of 5 years seems like a long time, it was surprising to me how quickly those five years past. At the end of my term, it felt like I had just started!”
- Joseph E. Comaty, Ph.D., MP

“My favorite memory: While questioning a licensure candidate during oral exam, John Mendoza tilted so far back in his chair that it fell over. The candidate passed.”
- C. Gary Pettigrew, Ph.D.

“In 1983, we started the tradition of a dinner honoring the service of outgoing board members. The LSBEP sponsored its Golden Anniversary dinner & reception at the Country Club of Louisiana commemorating the 25th anniversary of the licensing law.”
- Greg Gormanous, Ph.D.

“As Vice Chair, Psychology successfully survived the Sunset review in 2012 as an independent discipline... Some of my fondest memories of my time on LSBEP were riding to Baton Rouge with Dr. Courtney and discussing German cars and Italian food.”
- Lee H. Matthews, Ph.D.

“It was such a blessing when IO psychologist, Dr. George Hearn, took over as Chair in the mid 80s, I believe, and we moved the Board’s files from the trunk of Dr. June Tuma's little red Mercedes to a real office. George did a great job reorganizing the Board.”
- Darlyne Nemeth, Ph.D.
I am honored to be appointed to the LSBEP for a second term. I served on the Board previously from 2006 to 2011 and as its Chair during the last year of my prior term. I look forward to another challenging but productive term. My prior service has given me a perspective on the scope of Board authority and activities that prepares me well for my current term. I have been pleased to serve with well respected, competent, and knowledgeable psychologists during my prior service and am again in the midst of such talent on the current Board.

I hope to bring to the Board not only that past experience, but also a national perspective on areas that are relevant to the considerations of LSBEP. I became involved with the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB) during my last term on LSBEP attending many of their annual and mid-year meetings. I continued my affiliation with ASPPB as an individual member after my prior term ended in 2011. In addition, I have been serving on ASPPB’s Model Act & Regulation Revision Committee (MARC) for the last several years. My affiliation with and service to ASPPB has expanded my exposure to and experience with the most important issues facing regulatory boards at this time. Keeping up to date on the ever-changing arena of training and licensing of psychologists has helped me maintain currency in the field and better prepared to fulfill my duty on the Board to protect the public.

I have also been a long-time member of APA and for many years have served as an accreditation site reviewer for its Commission on Accreditation. Having reviewed other internship programs around the country as a reviewer and by being an emeritus faculty member of the Southern Louisiana Internship Consortium at LSU/ELMHS, I have experience with the process of training necessary to establish the required competency in the practice of psychology to quality for licensure. I hope to bring this experience to the table during my current term on the Board.

I am also a Medical Psychologist licensed independently by the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners (LSBME). Contrary to the thinking of some licensees, I do not see this added license as in any way imposing a conflict on my duties and responsibilities as a member of LSBEP, in same way I would not see having the added certification as a neuropsychologist would; or a license as a Behavioral Analyst. Having additional expertise and experience in areas related to and overlapping with psychology only enhances the opportunity to make contributions to the deliberations of the Board on matters pertaining to psychology and the interaction of psychology with other areas of specialization.

It is an exciting time for newly graduated psychologists. The passage of the law allowing provisional licensure of doctoral psychology graduates while they receive post-doctoral supervision for full licensure and the licensure of Specialists in School Psychology are two recent advances in the law that will enhance opportunities for supervisees and school professionals while affording ongoing protection of the public. I foresee further changes in the area of licensing and regulation in the near future and I will work with my colleagues on the Board to keep LSBEP in the forefront of those movements and as a model for other regulatory boards.
As of August 1, 2014 Provisional Licensure as a psychologist is possible in the state of Louisiana. In June 2013, a taskforce consisting of psychology internship directors along with myself and a representative from the Louisiana Psychological Association (LPA) began meeting to develop a proposal for provisional licensure in Louisiana. I would like to start by thanking these taskforce members: Dr. Christopher Garner (Director of the Southern Louisiana Internship Consortium), Dr. Julie Larrieu (former Director of the Tulane Internship Program), Dr. Kim Van Geffen (LPA representative) and Dr. George Hebert (Director of the Louisiana School Psychology Internship). It was an honor to work with these talented and dedicated psychologists who, by the way, volunteered many hours of their time. The taskforce proposal was approved by LSBEP on October 25, 2013 and put into law during the 2014 legislative session through Senate Bill #157.

Provisional licensure is a concept that has been gaining popularity for many years across the country. One of the benefits of provisional licensure would be the ability of provisionally licensed individuals to possibly offer and bill for services. This may allow institutions employing such individuals additional avenues for revenue and the ability to increase services offered to the public or the ability to train/hire more mental health professionals. Lastly, the ability to obtain a provisional license offers an option for individuals at this level to have a professional identity/title.

Provisional licensure requires:

1. Provisional licensure applicants must have received a doctoral degree from an approved institution and completed one year of post-doctoral supervised practice (an approved pre-doctoral internship may count as one year of post-doctoral practice).

2. Provisional licensure applicants must pass the jurisprudence examination

3. Provisional licensure applicants must complete a Criminal Background Check, as well as, meet other specific standards as defined in the licensure law.

4. Provisionally licensed psychologists must be supervised. A supervised practice plan must be completed and approved by the LSBEP prior to the granting of a provisional license.

5. Termination of the supervised practice plan of a provisionally licensed individual must be reported to the LSBEP by both the supervisor and supervisee in writing, by postal mail within seven calendar days from when either party knew or should have known supervision was terminated.

6. Provisionally licensed psychologists may sit for the EPPP as per already established Board laws and regulations.

7. Provisionally licensed psychologists must complete annual CE’s as defined by the Board.

8. A provisional license is renewable yearly and may be renewed a total of three times. Failure to renew in a timely manner will result in termination of the provisional license. If not renewed, an individual may make a new application to the Board, with appropriate fees, and any other requirements, as the Board deems appropriate.
9. Provisionally licensed psychologists are subject to the rules, regulations, standards of practice, code of ethics and any other guidelines adopted by the LSBEP.

After passing the EPP and completing all other requirements, a provisionally licensed psychologist may apply for full licensure and sit for the oral examination. My hope is this new category of licensure will offer new opportunities for early career professionals and greater availability of services. Please look at the resources available on the LSBEP website related to provisional licensure.

I would like to close by thanking the executive director of LSBEP, Ms. Kelly Parker, as well as, the Board’s legislative attorney, Deborah Hawkins. Mr. Parker was instrumental in keeping us all on track and Ms. Harkins helped maneuver our bill successfully through the legislature. I would also like to thank you for the opportunity to serve on the LSBEP.

New Board Election Process

Since I began my term, a little over two years ago, there have been periodic discussions amongst LSBEP members about updating the Board election process. However, until recently LSBEP had done little more than talk about moving the process into the digital age. Traditionally, the Louisiana Psychological Association (LPA) has managed the election process with assistance from the Board regarding mailing nominations and ballots. In the Spring of 2014, LPA notified the Board that they no longer wished to be involved in the Board election process. Since this time, the LSBEP has been further investigating a new electronic voting process.

This Fall both the nomination and voting processes will be different. The nomination process will involve:

1) An e-mail blast to all psychologists (all psychologists are required to have a valid e-mail on file).
2) This e-mail will direct licensees to the LSBEP website where the nomination form will be available to download, complete, and return to the Board.

After the nomination process is completed, the ballot/vote for the Board election will be completely electronic. The LSBEP has partnered with an electronic elections provider to ensure a successful election. Voters will be directed to a secure website to complete the voting process. The LSBEP has arranged for a secure voting process from beginning to end. The LSBEP has asked that the official election result be communicated to the LSBEP attorney’s office in order to ensure security throughout the process. The election result will be shared with LSBEP licensees via e-mail and on the LSBEP website. The election result will also be shared with LPA as, by law, they are the body tasked with reporting the election result to the Governor's office. However, the LSBEP anticipates revising the law this next session in order to solely handle the election process, including sending the names to the Governor through the LSBEP's attorney not LPA. If you have any questions when you receive your request for nomination to the LSBEP or your notification that the electronic voting process has begun please contact the Board office.

Darla M. R. Burnett, Ph.D., M.P.
LSBEP Board Member
Task Force on Art Therapist Licensure and Regulation
By: Kelly Parker, Executive Director

House Concurrent Resolution [HCR] 159 of the 2014 Legislative Session by Representative Stuart Bishop created the Task Force on Art Therapist Licensure and Regulation. The task force is charged with studying the potential licensure of art therapists and creating a baseline framework for regulation. The group is responsible for submitting a report to the legislature by December 31, 2014. HCR 159 may be downloaded at [http://www.legis.la.gov/legis](http://www.legis.la.gov/legis).

There are approximately 30 art therapists in the state according to the Louisiana Art Therapy Association. HCR 159 provides in part that the “profession of art therapy integrates psychotherapeutic principles, art media, and the creative process for clinical mental health diagnosing increasing awareness of self and others, and promoting developmentally appropriate academic and social interaction”. The Art Therapy Association is proposing licensure as Art Therapists under the Louisiana Licensed Professional Counselors Board of Examiners.

To date, there have been two meetings and another meeting is currently in the works. The meetings are open to the public.

LSBEP Appoints LSSP Advisory Committee

On July 18, 2014, the LSBEP appointed the following psychologists to the LSSP Advisory Committee: Steven Welsh, Ph.D. (3 year appointment), Lucinda DeGrange, Ph.D. (2 year appointment) and Carmen Broussard, Ph.D. (1 year appointment) and the LSBEP’s Executive Director, Ms. Parker, as the ex-officio member.
The LSBEP will hold its annual Long Range Planning meeting on Friday, November 21, 2014.
At the Louisiana Municipal Administration
700 N. 10th Street, Meeting Room #1
Beginning at 9:00 a.m.

This meeting will be open to the public.

The following topics and more will be discussed:

Telepsychology

Revisions to the Psychology Practice Act regarding the election process

Cost Sharing with the LA Behavior Analyst Board

2015 Legislative Session.

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The APA Office on Aging developed this list of resources to supplement the recently updated APA Guidelines for Psychological Practice With Older Adults and in response to the Institute of Medicine report The Mental Health and Substance Use Workforce for Older Adults: In Whose Hands, which noted a dire need for health providers of all disciplines to meet the mental and behavioral health needs of older adults.

All psychologists, even those who do not currently specialize in or work with older adults, may find these resources useful. People 65 and older are the fastest growing segment of the U.S. population, and the demand for psychologists with expertise in older adult care will expand as the older population grows. This demand is expected to rise as the “baby boomer” cohort—who are more accepting of mental health services—moves into old age. Also, as clients age, their needs may change, and additional issues specific to mid- and late life may emerge. Even if you do not work directly with older adults, related issues may arise when working with your own clients (e.g., those caring for aging parents).

list of resources
The resources listed below and additional resources may be found on the Office on Aging website: www.apa.org/pi/aging

For more information, contact Deborah DiGilio, Director, APA Office on Aging: ddigilio@apa.org

**APA resources**
- Guidelines for Psychological Practice With Older Adults
- Guidelines for the Evaluation of Dementia and Age-Related Cognitive Change
- Assessment of Older Adults With Diminished Capacity: A Handbook for Psychologists
- Blueprint for Change: Achieving Integrated Health Care for an Aging Population
- Elder Abuse and Neglect: In Search of Solutions
- Family Caregiver Briefcase: Practice section
- What Mental Health Practitioners Should Know About Working With Older Adults

**APA consumer education materials**
- Coping With Stress and Anxiety
- Memory and Aging
- Integrated Health Care for an Aging Population: A Fact Sheet for Consumers

**APA continuing education opportunities**
- What Psychologists Should Know About Working With Older Adults (6 ce credits)
- Blueprint for Change: Achieving Integrated Health Care for an Aging Population (2 ce credits)

**Useful geropsychology websites**
- GeroCentral: http://gerocentral.org
- Council of Professional Geropsychology Training Programs: www.copgtp.org
- Geropsychology competencies evaluation tool: http://gerocentral.org/competencies/competencies-tool-online
- APA Division 12, Section II - Society of Clinical Geropsychology: www.geropsychology.org
- APA Division 20 – Adult Development and Aging: www.apadivisions.org/division-20
- Psychologists in Long-Term Care: www.pltcweb.org/index.php
This information is being provided to offer insight into the Board process when a complaint is filed against a licensee of the Board. Complaints filed with the Board are assigned to the Complaint’s Coordinator, Dr. Gary Pettigrew. The Complaint’s Coordinator reviews the initial submission and decides whether a case should be dismissed on face value or opened for a full investigation.

Upon opening a full investigation, the case is forwarded to the Board Investigator, Mr. Tony McCoy, and the psychologist is notified regarding the allegations of the complaint and provided an opportunity to respond. Through the Board’s authority to investigate complaints, the Board Investigator may obtain the psychologists records of services to a patient/client and will most likely conduct interviews with fact witnesses including the complainant, psychologist, staff members, family members, or any other witness as the investigator deems necessary. The Board Investigator has also had to request civil and criminal court transcripts in order to fully evaluate the allegations of a regulatory complaint.

Once the Board Investigator completes the investigation, he submits a summary report for the Coordinator’s review. If the Complaint Coordinator is in agreement with the report, the summary report and recommendations are either presented to the Board with recommendations of dismissal or presented to the psychologist, in a face-to-face meeting, to discuss outstanding issues or areas of concern.

Upon the Board’s review of the summary report, the Complaint’s Coordinator makes a recommendation. The Board can both accept the findings and move to accept the Complaint Coordinator’s recommendation or they can make a different recommendation or request further investigation. In the report to the Board, no individuals are identified by name.

If there is a meeting with the psychologist, the meeting is confidential and not noticed or open to the public. The meeting is informal and takes place at the Board office with the Executive Director, Complaint’s Coordinator and Board Investigator. The psychologist may bring legal counsel if they elect to do so. At this meeting, the facts of the case are discussed along with outstanding issues that need further explanation. After this meeting, the Board representatives consult regarding findings.

If the Board representatives determine that there is probable cause to believe that a legal or ethical violation occurred by a preponderance of evidence, then an Administrative Complaint is issued. A psychologist may choose to resolve the matter informally through entering into a Consent Order with the Board. The Consent Order is a public disciplinary action reported to the National Practitioner Databank and ASPPB.

If the psychologist elects to proceed with an administrative hearing before the Board, the Board office will set a hearing date and notify the respondent accordingly. The hearing notice includes the date, time and location of the hearing.

The hearing is generally conducted at a satellite location in order to accommodate, the 5 board members, Board Counsel, Board Prosecutor, Presiding Officer, Court Reporter along with the Defense Counsel, psychologist and any experts/witnesses. The Presiding Officer leads the hearing regarding procedure. At least 4 of the 5 Board members must be present in order to initiate a disciplinary hearing and render a final decision.

After all the evidence has been presented for both sides, each side provides a closing statement. Following the closing statements, the Board typically goes into executive session, at which time it deliberates on the matter to determine what, if any action to take in any particular case. The Board usually renders a written Final Order and Opinion, drafted by Board Counsel, within 30 days of the hearing.

If you have any questions about the complaint process or hearing procedures, please contact the Board office at 225-925-6511.
2014 DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

The Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists takes seriously all allegations of wrongdoing against Louisiana licensed psychologists, as well as the unauthorized practice of psychology within this state. Below you will find a listing of disciplined psychologists so far in 2014 and a brief description of the violations.

On June 23, 2014, a formal disciplinary hearing was held in Re: Edwina Frank, Ph.D., License# 588. On July 9, 2014, the Board issued a final Opinion and Order which REVOKED Dr. Frank’s license to practice psychology in the State of Louisiana. Dr. Frank was also ordered to pay all costs of the proceedings, which totaled $4,343.25.

2014 Renewal Status Report

As of August 1, 2014, the total population of psychologists in Louisiana was 679 including 49 emeritus psychologists. We appreciate the 627 psychologists renewing their licenses using the online renewal system offered by the LSBEP. We hope that the system was user friendly. There were 34 lapsed licenses: 9 moved out of state, 4 hold MP licensees, 6 retired, 3 are deceased and the other 6 lapsed for reasons unknown.

LAPSED LICENSES

Jerry Barlow, Ph.D. #236
Alfred Buxton, Ph.D. #443
Lyle Cadenhead, Ph.D. #1139
Angel Carpenter, Ph.D. #726
Harold Dawley, Jr., Ph.D. #208
Kristin Duhe, Psy.D. #935
Joseph Etherton, Ph.D. #859
Douglas Faust, Ph.D. #640
Jirina Fiala, Ph.D. #575
Gordon Franke, Ph.D. #537
Thomas Hannie, Jr., Ph.D. #196
Donna Harkins, Psy. D. #1118
Clifford Hopewell, Ph.D. #828
Katherine Krefft, Ph.D. #388
Yael Lieber, Ph.D. #1188
James Logan, Ph.D. #702
Michael Major, Psy.D. #873
William Maynard, Jr. Ph.D. #914
Clyde Mayo, Ph.D. #783
James Mours, Psy. D. #1124
Dayna Nelson, Psy.D. #1126
Rebecca Nolan, Ph.D. #793
Thomas Norris, Ed.D. #958
John Pleune, Ph.D. #197
Jennifer Reck-Gordy, Ph.D. #1218
Marsha Redden, Ph.D. #251
Dahlia Topolosky, Psy.D. #1104
Angela Vigna, Psy. D. #1086
Danielle Weiss, Ph.D. #1146
Felicia Whiteman, Ph.D. #922
Gaela Youngblood, Psy.D. #1061

The Board will perform its annual audit beginning in October 2014.
CONDOLENCES

To the family, friends, and colleagues of Dr. John Boutte, Dr. Marcia Beard, and Dr. David Greenway the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists wishes to express its sincere condolences for your loss. Their contribution to the psychological community will be greatly missed.