

Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists
BOARD MEETING MINUTES: *February 27, 2015*
APPROVED: March 13, 2015

The meeting of the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists (Board) was called to order by Dr. Culross, Board Chair, at 8:00 a.m., Friday, February 27, 2015, at 8706 Jefferson Highway, Suite B, Baton Rouge, LA 70809. Present were Board Members, Drs. Marc Zimmermann, Darla Burnett, Phil Griffin, Joseph Comaty; and, Executive Director, Kelly Parker. Complaint Coordinator, Dr. Gary Pettigrew was present during part of the meeting. Ms. Deborah Harkins was present for a meeting with the Board. Dr. Joe Rallo and Ms. Janet Orwig, on behalf of ASPPB, provided a presentation for the Board members. Kim VanGeffen, Ph.D., LPA Representative, was in attendance during the public hour. Thomas Hannie, former psychologist, was also in attendance for public hour.

Dr. Zimmermann moved to accept the February 27, 2015 agenda. The motion passed unanimously. Dr. Comaty moved to approve the January 16, 2015 minutes with corrections. The motion passed unanimously.

Pursuant to LSA R.S.42: 6.1(4), Dr. Culross moved to enter Executive Session to review legal matters and discuss complaints. The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote of the members present as follows: Culross-yay, Zimmermann-yay, Burnett-yay, Comaty-yay and Griffin-yay.

Dr. Culross moved to close Executive Session to enter the following:

Complaint Review/Legal Matters [LSA-R.S. 42.6.1]:

- a. NP14-15-2B: Ms. Parker presented the Board with the response letter from the company. After careful review and discussion, Dr. Zimmermann moved to notify the company that the matter would be closed and thank them for their prompt compliance. The motion passed unanimously.
- b. DS-NP*: The Board reviewed concerns from the LSSP Advisory Committee. The Board discussed the issues and considered the information. Dr. Culross moved to issue a cease and desist letter. The motion passed unanimously.
- c. AP-NP*: The Board reviewed information submitted regarding AP, a nonpsychologist. The Board discussed the material. Dr. Comaty moved to issue a cease and desist letter and notify the LPC Board as well as the Substance Abuse Counselors Board. The motion passed unanimously. Dr. Burnett moved to contact the complainant and request additional information. The motion passed unanimously.
- d. SA v. DB: Dr. Pettigrew summarized the Request for Investigation and recommended the Board close the action without an investigation. The Board discussed the

information. Dr. Zimmermann moved to dismiss the request and close the file. The motion passed unanimously.

Oral Examinations[LSA-R.S. 42.6.1]:

Jill West, Ph.D., appeared before the Board for an oral examination in Clinical Psychology. The Board discussed Dr. West's oral examination. Dr. Zimmermann moved that the Board grant Dr. West a license to practice psychology with a specialty in Clinical Psychology. The Board discussed the recommendation and the motion passed unanimously.

Leigh Ann Hess, Psy.D. appeared before the Board for an oral examination in Clinical Psychology. The entire Board discussed Dr. Hess's oral examination. Dr. Burnett moved that the Board grant Dr. Hess a license to practice psychology with a specialty in Clinical Psychology. The Board discussed the recommendation and the motion passed unanimously.

Supervision and Credentials Recommendations:

Dr. Griffin reviewed the applications for licensure of: Jennifer Fairchild, Ph.D., Katherine Price, Ph.D., Laura Brown, Ph.D., and Sherri Transier, Ph.D. Dr. Griffin moved to invite the candidates to take the examinations for licensure. The Board discussed the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Burnett reviewed the Emeritus requests of Joseph Comaty, Ph.D. MP, and Susan Andrews, Ph.D. The Board discussed the requests. Dr. Burnett moved to grant Emeritus licensure to Drs. Comaty and Andrews. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Burnett reviewed the Emeritus request of Aden Burka, Ph.D. The Board discussed the request. Dr. Burnett moved to grant Emeritus licensure to Dr. Burka. The motion passed by majority vote as follows: Culross-yay, Zimmermann-yay, Comaty-yay, Burnett-yay and Griffin-nay.

Dr. Burnett reviewed the non-APA program of Amber Allison, Ph.D. After careful review and discussion with the Board, Dr. Burnett moved to approve the non-APA program. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Burnett reviewed the non-APA internship of Amy Meredith, Ph.D. The Board discussed the internship program. Dr. Burnett moved to accept the non-APA internship program.

Dr. Burnett reviewed and moved to approve the Supervised Practice Plans for: Elizabeth Carey, Ph.D., Amber Allison, Ph.D., and Katherine Chenier, Ph.D. The Board discussed the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Comaty carefully reviewed supplemental communication on behalf of applicant Lili Reboul, Psy.D. The Board discussed the supplemental information. Dr. Comaty moved that Dr. Reboul be allowed to complete the licensure process. The motion passed by roll call vote as follows: Culross-yay, Comaty-yay, Zimmermann-yay, Griffin-yay and Burnett-yay.

Dr. Comaty reviewed the supplemental request for special consideration from applicant for licensure, Dawn Sharpless, Ph.D. Dr. Comaty discussed the request with the Board. Dr. Comaty moved to accept the documentation from Tennessee but require that the Louisiana forms were completed as well. The motion passed by roll call vote as follows: Culcross-yay, Zimmermann-yay, Burnett-yay, Griffin-yay and Comaty-yay.

The Board reviewed the application and additional documentation for Rafael Otero, Ph.D. Dr. Zimmermann moved to deny the application for licensure. The Board discussed the motion. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote: Culcross-yay, Zimmermann-yay, Comaty-yay, Burnett-yay, Griffin-yay.

The Board discussed correspondence submitted by Dr. John Mendoza. Dr. Burnett drafted a letter regarding the Board's response to the issues presented. The Board reviewed the draft letter. Dr. Zimmermann moved to approve the letter as final with minor corrections. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Comaty reviewed the application file of Yaron Rabinowitz, Ph.D. Ms. Parker noted that Dr. Rabinowitz elected not to pursue licensure at this time but was previously granted temporary military privilege. The Board discussed the file and reviewed Chapter 10, Section 1003. Dr. Culcross moved to suspend the temporary military license until such time Dr. Rabinowitz elects to complete the licensure process.

Dr. Comaty reviewed the supplemental audit response of Dr. Gina Mire. Dr. Comaty moved to accept the documentation submitted. The Board discussed the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Griffin reviewed the school specialist files of Mary Esteve and Michael Slater. Ms. Parker reported that the files were preapproved by the LSSP Advisory Committee on January 29, 2015. The Board discussed the files. Dr. Griffin moved to approve licensure as specialists in school psychology for Ms. Esteve and Mr. Slater. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Zimmermann reviewed the school specialist file and additional information of Christa Matheny. Ms. Parker noted that the LSSP Advisory Committee recommended acceptance of the information and suggested allowing Ms. Matheny to complete the process on January 29, 2015. The Board discussed the information. Dr. Zimmermann moved to accept the additional information and allow Ms. Matheny to proceed with licensure. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports:

Finance Committee: The Board reviewed and discussed the 2015-2015FY budget. Dr. Griffin moved to approve the 2015-2016FY budget. The motion passed by roll call vote: Culcross-yay, Zimmermann-yay, Burnett-yay, Comaty-yay, and Griffin-yay. The Board discussed and approved contracts for the 2015-2016FY. The Board discussed the proposal

from Ms. Harkins for the 2015 Legislative Session. Dr. Culross requested that Ms. Harkins provide a written proposal for future consideration. Ms. Parker also reported that the LBAB signed the new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). Dr. Culross executed the MOU on behalf of the LSBEP.

Oral Examination Committee: No new report.

Jurisprudence Examination Committee: Dr. Culross noted the LSSP Jurisprudence exam process was going smoothly.

Legislative Oversight Committee: Ms. Parker presented the Board with draft legislation, prepared by the legislative staff attorney, for the 2015 Legislative Session. The Board discussed the draft and made one minor addition. Dr. Burnett moved to approve the draft legislation with the minor addition. The motion passed by roll call vote: Culross-yay, Zimmermann-yay, Griffin-yay, Comaty-yay and Burnett-yay.

Liaison to Professional Organizations and Boards: The Board discussed the ASPPB Plus Application System demonstration by Joe Rallo and Janet Orwig. Dr. Comaty moved to initiate the process with ASPPB for the use of the system in Louisiana. The motion passed by roll call vote: Culross-yay, Zimmermann-yay, Burnett-yay, Comaty-yay, Griffin-yay. The Board also discussed ASPPB's mid-year meeting in Atlanta, Georgia. Dr. Culross designated Dr. Comaty, Dr. Zimmermann and Ms. Parker to attend the meeting.

The Board discussed the LPA Convention, including the request for a board review session and a session on Telepsychology Guidelines. Dr. Culross encouraged all of the Board members to attend the review session. Dr. Culross designated Dr. Griffin and Dr. Comaty to present regarding the Telepsychology Guidelines. Dr. Culross also suggested including the whole Telepsychology workgroup, including Dr. Nemeth and Dr. Ciccone. Ms. Parker also reported that she communicated the Board's interest in providing a session on the new Continuing Professional Development [CPD] rules. Ms. Parker noted that Ms. Bishop, Executive Director of LPA, agreed to establish time in the schedule for a CPD session. Dr. Culross designated the Continuing Education Committee, Dr. Zimmermann and Dr. Comaty, to present at LPA for the CPD session.

Dr. Zimmermann addressed the Board about a request from The National Register to purchase an electronic version of the mailing list. The Board discussed the request. Dr. Comaty moved to approve the electronic list. The motion passed unanimously.

Continuing Education: The Board reviewed inquiries regarding the CPD rules. The Board also reviewed the draft paperwork for the new CPD categories. The Board also reviewed and briefly discussed future CPD workshops for licensees.

Complaints Committee: No new report.

Long Range Planning Meeting: The Board reviewed the long range-planning list, which currently includes: health service providers v. non-health service providers.

LBAB Liaison Report: No new report other than the information discussed during the Finance Committee.

Professional Workgroup: Dr. Zimmermann reported that the first meeting of the workgroup would be held on Friday, March 6, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. Ms. Parker informed the Board that all 3 psychological associations will be taking part in the workgroup. The other designees are: Kim VanGeffen, Ph.D. (LPA), Amy Childress, Ph.D. (LSPA) and K. Chris Rachal, Ph.D., MP (LAMP).

LSBEP Education & Outreach: Dr. Comaty reported that he and Dr. Zimmermann were beginning to work on Continuing Professional Development outreach.

Discussion Items:

1. **LSBEP Newsletter:** The Board reviewed the draft newsletter. Dr. Culross suggested adding a reminder section about specialty designations. Dr. Griffin moved to approve the newsletter with minor additions and corrections. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Culross moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:45 p.m.