

**Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists**  
**BOARD MEETING MINUTES: January 24, 2014**  
***APPROVED: February 21, 2014***

The meeting of the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists (Board) was called to order at 9:00 a.m., **Friday, January 24, 2014**, at 8706 Jefferson Highway, Suite B, Baton Rouge, LA 70809. Present were Board Members, Drs. Rita Culross, Marc Zimmermann, Darla Burnett, Phil Griffin; and, Executive Director, Kelly Parker. Member Jessica Brown, Ph.D. was absent. Dr. Jesse Lambert was present for the public hour.

Dr. Zimmermann moved to accept the January 24, 2014 agenda. Dr. Griffin moved that the minutes of December 13, 2013 be accepted.

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

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

**Complaint Review/Legal Matters: Closed Session (LSA-R.S. 42:6.1):**

- a. **P12-13-14C**: The Board reviewed correspondence from the Respondent. The Board reviewed continuing education courses submitted by the Respondent. Dr. Culross moved to notify the Respondent that she had one year to complete the CE and the CE courses would be acceptable offerings to comply with the Consent Order. The motion passed by roll call vote as follows: Culross-yay, Zimmermann-yay, Burnett-yay and Griffin-yay.
- b. **NP13-14-2B**: Ms. Parker presented the Board with correspondence in response to a cease and desist letter. The Board reviewed and discussed the correspondence. Dr. Griffin moved to close the matter as satisfied. The motion passed unanimously.

**Oral Examinations:**

***The reciprocity meeting with Gilbert Martinez, Ph.D. was canceled at the request of the candidate.***

**Julia Becker Cretu, Psy.D.** appeared before the Board for an oral examination in Clinical Psychology. Dr. Griffin moved that the Board grant **Dr. Cretu** a license to practice psychology with a specialty in Clinical Psychology. The Board discussed the recommendation and the motion passed unanimously by vote of the full board.

**Melissa Dufrene, Psy.D.** appeared before the Board for an oral examination in Clinical Psychology. Dr. Burnett moved that the Board grant **Dr. Dufrene** a license to practice psychology with a specialty in Clinical Psychology. The Board discussed the recommendation and the motion passed unanimously by vote of the full board.

**Kristin Savicki, Ph.D.** appeared before the Board for an oral examination in Counseling Psychology. Dr. Zimmermann moved that the Board grant **Dr. Savicki** a license to practice psychology with a specialty in Counseling Psychology. The Board discussed the recommendation and the motion passed unanimously by vote of the full board.

**Gustave Sison, Ph.D.**, appeared before the Board for an oral examination in Clinical Psychology. Dr. Zimmermann moved that the Board grant **Dr. Sison** a license to practice psychology with a specialty in Clinical Psychology. The Board discussed the recommendation and the motion passed unanimously by vote of the full board.

### **Supervision and Credentials Recommendations:**

Dr. Griffin reviewed the application for licensure files of Sara Kathryn Lawling, Ph.D., Adam Blancher, Ph.D., Patricia Cornelius, Ph.D., and Daniene L. Neal, Ph.D. Dr. Griffin moved to approve their **candidacy status** and invite them to take oral examinations. The Board discussed the files and the motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Culross reviewed the expedited military requests for of **Alex Cava, Ph.D.** and **Yaron Rabinowitz, Ph.D.** Dr. Culross moved to grant Drs. Cava and Rabinowitz a military temporary license while pursuing an active license pursuant to Chapter 10, Section 1003.

Dr. Zimmermann reviewed and recommended the Board reinstate the license of **Gaela S. Youngblood, Psy.D.**, License Number 1061. The motion passed by full vote of the Board.

Dr. Zimmermann reviewed and recommended the Board grant Emeritus status to **Susan Dardard, Ph.D.** The motion passed by full vote of the Board.

Dr. Zimmermann reviewed the criminal background check report and additional materials submitted by **Guler Boyraz, Ph.D.** Dr. Zimmermann moved to accept the criminal background report with response and allow Dr. Boyraz to proceed forward with the licensure process. The Board carefully discussed the motion. The motion passed By roll call vote as follows: Culross-yay, Zimmermann-yay, Burnett-yay, and Griffin-yay.

Dr. Burnett reviewed the non-APA doctoral program of **Katherine Price, Ph.D.** After careful review of the materials submitted, Dr. Burnett moved to accept the non-APA program. The Board discussed the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Burnett reviewed and recommended acceptance of the Supervised Practice Plans of: **Katherine Price, Ph.D., Jennifer Phillips Tonglet, Ph.D. and Jill West, Ph.D.** The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Culross reviewed and moved to accept the request to close the application file of **Jennifer Craft Favazza, Ph.D.** The motion passed unanimously.

**Committee Reports:**

**Finance Committee:** Ms. Parker updated the Board regarding sharing costs with the Louisiana Behavior Analyst Board. She noted that LBAB paid the LSBEP in full the deferred amount of \$8,831.64. Ms. Parker noted that Ms. Dominique was preparing the annual budget for review and approval.

**Oral Examination Committee:** No new report.

**Jurisprudence Examination Committee:** No new report.

**Legislative Oversight Committee:** Ms. Parker updated the Board regarding legislative strategy involving the provisional licensure and school specialist legislation. She informed the Board that commitment was received from a legislative sponsor and the same person would sponsor both bills. Dr. Culross informed the group that correspondence was received from the LPC Board and LCA regarding school specialists. Dr. Culross noted that a meeting was scheduled with the LPC/LCA groups and Board representatives for February 7, 2014. Dr. Culross also informed the Board that the next School Specialist Task Force meeting was scheduled for February 7<sup>th</sup> as well.

Ms. Parker presented the Board with ASPPB information concerning Emeritus licenses. The Board reviewed the summary of information and discussed same. The Board also reviewed the Emeritus law and rules specific to Emeritus licensees.

**Liaison to Professional Organizations and Boards:** Dr. Culross addressed the Board about the ongoing issues with the LPA election for a spot on the LSBEP. The Board discussed the multiple concerns that were reported to the Board office by licensed psychologists. Dr. Culross confirmed that the concerns were reported to LPA but that the LSBEP did not take a position on the issues. Ms. Parker clarified that the concerns were reported to LPA because they are the entity responsible to hold the election and the concerns were important, the communication did not represent the Board's position on the election or indicate in anyway the Board had issues with the election.

Ms. Parker presented the Board with communication received from Drs. Fanning and Gros. She explained that Dr. Fanning wanted the Board to issue a statement on behalf of LPA regarding the issues with the current election. The Board reviewed the communication and proposed LPA statement. The Board carefully discussed the statement and request. Dr. Zimmermann moved to deny the request and in the alternative, suggest that LPA issue an independent statement that they attach via cover letter to the new election ballots. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote: Culross-yay, Zimmermann-yay, Burnett-yay and Griffin-yay.

The Board also discussed ideas and reviewed possible draft revisions to the LSBEP/LPA election agreement. Dr. Culross specified that the draft revisions were a working document and just for discussion purposes. The Board agreed that the election agreement should be revised and that they would revisit the issue at the next meeting.

Dr. Culross opened the floor for public comment. Dr. Lambert informed the board that he had resigned from LPA. He noted that he would still be interested in attending the School Specialist Task

Force meetings as a member of the public. Dr. Lambert thanked the Board for all of their hard work.

**Continuing Education:** Ms. Parker presented the Board with an example CPD form received from ASPPB. The Board discussed the form and suggested revisions. Dr. Zimmermann requested Ms. Parker obtain a completed form from ASPPB for comparison. Dr. Culross offered to send Ms. Parker the NSCP CE forms for comparison as well. Ms. Parker agreed to work on the paper forms and the electronic database for CE expansion.

**Complaints Committee:** No new report.

**Long Range Planning Meeting:** Dr. Zimmermann suggested the Board plan to revisit the psychology laws/rules in their entirety for possible modifications where necessary.

**LBAB/LSEBP Dual Regulation Workgroup:** Dr. Burnett moved to change the title of the workgroup to LBAB Liaison. The motion passed unanimously. Dr. Zimmermann explained that there are ongoing issues that will effect both boards and in an effort to resolve them amicably, representatives of each board should continue to meet as needed.

### **Discussion Items:**

- 1. Request for Guidance – Merikay Ringer, Ph.D.:** The Board Reviewed correspondence received from Dr. Ringer regarding Emeritus licensees supervising professors, who are not licensed psychologists, in instructing the practicum and intern students. The Board discussed the communication. The Board opined that at the current time there is nothing that restricts Dr. Ringer from supervising. However, the Board noted that the Emeritus issue is under review.
- 2. Request for Information – James Hussey, M.D. –** Ms. Parker presented the Board with a request from Dr. Hussey, Medical Director at DHH. Dr. Hussey was requesting information from the Board pertaining to qualified/experienced psychologists with ABA. Dr. Zimmermann suggested Dr. Hussey contact LPA or LABAA for the information. The Board agreed.
- 3. Texas Reciprocity Agreement:** The Board revisited and reviewed the reasons to cancel the Texas Reciprocity Agreement. The Board remained of the opinion that the agreement was no longer viable due to changes in Texas licensure law regarding residency requirements and oral exams. Ms. Parker presented the Board with communication from the Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists. The Board discussed the communication. Dr. Culross instructed Ms. Parker to contact Dr. John Bolter and Dr. Joseph Comaty for additional background information and insight on the reciprocity agreement. Ms. Parker agreed to do so.
- 4. Video Recording Psychological Testing:** Dr. Griffin presented a letter from an attorney seeking assistance. The attorney was requesting assistance because the Court ordered a neuropsychological examination be video recorded. The attorney was having difficulty finding a psychologist that would agree to the recording. The Board discussed the communication. The Board opined that it was the individual psychologists right to accept/deny the request for video recording. Dr. Griffin agreed to advise the attorney accordingly.

5. **LSBEP Newsletter**: The Board reviewed and discussed the draft newsletter. The Board requested that Ms. Parker include the Emeritus information from ASPPB in the newsletter. Ms. Parker agreed to do so. The Board authorized the release of the newsletter with the Emeritus information.

6. **May Board Meeting Date**: The Board changed the May meeting date. The meeting is rescheduled for May 30, 2014, and the deadline to submit materials will be May 23, 2014.

2:20 p.m.      Adjourned.