

MINUTES

Regular Meeting of

The Alabama Board of Examiners in Psychology
100 N. Union Street, Suite 880
Montgomery, AL 36104

November 12, 2021

Members Present: Catalina M. Arata, Ph.D. – Chair
Eliza M. Belle, Ph.D. – Member
Nancy W. Berland, Ph.D. – Member
Edwin W. Cook, III, Ph.D. – Member
Carmen Douglas, SHRM-SCP, SPHR – Public Member

Others Present: Lori H. Rall, Executive Director – Recorder
Lauren B. Benson, Administrative Assistant
Brice M. Johnston, Legal Counsel
Ellen Spence, Ph.D. – Alabama Psychological Association Liaison

Not Present: Mary Ann Bowers, Ph.D. – Member
Kristi Ann Miller, M.S. – Psychological Technician Member – Vice-Chair

The time is 9:05 a.m. We are having a Zoom meeting for the Alabama Board of Examiners in Psychology. There is a lawful quorum present and sufficient prior notice has been given as required by the Open Meetings Act.

BOARD MISSION STATEMENT:

The Alabama Board of Examiners in Psychology seeks to promote and protect the public's health, welfare, and quality of life by licensing and regulating the practice of psychology and by promoting access to psychological services delivered in a safe, competent, and ethical manner.

REVIEW OF MINUTES:

Review of the September 10, 2021 Minutes. Motion by Cook: I move for approval. Seconded by Berland. Motion passed.

REVIEW OF NEW APPLICANTS:

Psychologists

- 1) GREENFIELD, Melissa Joy – EPPP and PSE Candidate (Belle) Motion by Belle: I recommend that Dr. Greenfield be admitted to sit for the EPPP and PSE. Seconded by Cook. Motion passed.
- 2) HENDRICKS, Peter Schuyler – EPPP and PSE Candidate (Arata) Motion by Arata: I move that we allow Dr. Hendricks to sit for the EPPP and PSE. Seconded by Berland. Motion passed. Cook abstained.
- 3) LANDERFELT-OZBOLT, Melani Rae – EPPP and PSE Candidate (Berland and Cook) Motion by Berland: I move that we admit Dr. Landerfelt-Ozbolt to the EPPP and the PSE. Seconded by Cook. Motion passed.
- 4) PILLAI, Amanda Jayne – PSE Candidate (Cook and Arata) Motion by Cook: I recommend that she be admitted to the PSE but that she change her Specialization Statement and designation to indicate specialization in Clinical Psychology with a sub-specialization in Neuropsychology, but not Forensic, until such time that she obtains APBB certification in Forensic Psychology; this does not preclude or prevent her from meeting her planned scope of practice. Seconded by Arata. Motion passed.
- 5) SANDBERG PATTON, Karen Louise – EPPP and PSE Candidate (Belle) Motion by Belle: I move that we admit Dr. Sandberg Patton to the EPPP and PSE with a request for her to clarify her training and qualifications for therapy and treatment, and therapy and treatment modalities, as well as specific testing instruments that she is qualified to utilize. Seconded by Berland. Motion passed.
- 6) TWIGG-SMITH, Leia Lynn Macmillan – EPPP and PSE Candidate (Belle) Motion by Belle: I move that we admit Dr. Twigg-Smith to the EPPP and PSE. Seconded by Berland. Motion passed.

PREVIOUSLY REVIEWED APPLICANTS:

Psychologists

- 1) SANDERSON, Susan Lyn – PSE Candidate (Cook and Bowers) Admitted to the PSE on 09/10/2021; requested revision to Specialization designation to remove “Forensic” and modification to Statement to respond about assessment and/or intervention techniques she plans to use. Review response. Motion by Cook: I move to accept this revision. Seconded by Arata. Motion passed.

REVIEW of Exam Scores for the Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology (EPPP) and the Professional Standards Exam (PSE), and the ISSUANCE OF LICENSES:

See Last Page of Final Agenda for More Information

Motion by Arata: I move that we issue licenses to Dr. Charley Shannon Blunt in Clinical

Psychology (**License No. 2240**), to Dr. Colby Newton Lucas in Clinical Psychology (**License No. 2241**), to Dr. Christina Marie Pierpaoli Parker in Clinical Psychology (**License No. 2242**), to Dr. Susan Lyn Sanderson in Clinical Psychology (**License No. 2243**), to Dr. Kray Alexander Scully in Counseling Psychology (**License No. 2244**), to Dr. Autumn LaShea Truss in Clinical Psychology (**License No. 2245**), and to Dr. Emily Anastasia Huston Warren in Clinical Psychology (**License No. 2246**). Seconded by Cook. Motion passed.

COMPLAINTS:

Against Licensed Psychologists

Old

- 1) 19-015 – On-going investigation
- 2) 20-002 – On-going investigation
- 3) 20-007 – On-going investigation
- 4) 20-008 – On-going investigation
- 5) 20-009 – On-going investigation
- 6) 21-002 – On-going investigation
- 7) 21-003 – Probable Cause determination in Disciplinary Complaint Against Nicole Lynn Steiner-Pappalardo, Psy.D. Administrative Complaint filed September 27, 2021; Hearing scheduled for December 3, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. A Consent Order agreement was accepted by Respondent Steiner-Pappalardo on November 1, 2021 and it was provided to the Board for review and acceptance. Mr. Johnston recommended that the Board go into Executive Session in order to discuss the potential threat of, or possibility of, litigation of the good name and character of an individual. Motion by Arata: I move that the Board go into Executive Session in order to discuss the potential threat of, or possibility of, litigation of the good name and character of an individual. The time is 10:16 a.m. and we will come out of Executive Session at 10:30 a.m. Seconded by Cook. Motion passed.

Dr. Spence left the Zoom meeting at 10:16 a.m.

Motion by Cook: The time is 10:45 a.m. and I move that we come out of Executive Session. Seconded by Douglas. Motion passed. Motion by Belle: I move that we accept the Consent Order for Dr. Nicole Steiner-Pappalardo. Seconded by Cook. Motion passed.

Dr. Spence returned to the Zoom meeting at 10:45 a.m.

- 8) 21-004 – On-going investigation
- 9) 21-007 – On-going investigation
- 10) 21-009 – On-going investigation
- 11) 21-010 – On-going investigation

New

- 1) 21-012 – On-going investigation
- 2) 21-013 – On-going investigation
- 3) 22-001 – On-going investigation
- 4) 22-002 – On-going investigation

PUBLIC HEARING – RULES AND REGULATIONS (10:50 a.m.)

Amendments to Rules and Regulations – Proposed New Chapter and Administrative Code Rules 750-X-5A Alabama Psychology Professionals Wellness Committee; Proposed Amended Rule 750-X-3A-.05 Definition of Continuing Education Activity; and, Proposed Repealed and Replaced Rule 750-X-6-.02 American Psychological Association Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code Of Conduct and Appendix II. Notices of Intended Action were published in the Alabama Administrative Monthly, Volume XXXIX, Issue No. 12, September 30, 2021, sent to all licensees via email, and posted on the Board’s website.

The Board received no comments about the three (3) Notices of Intended Action, and no one requested to appear at the Board Offices for the Hearing. Motion by Cook: I move that we close the Public Hearing. Seconded by Douglas. Motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

- 1) Alabama Psychology Professionals Wellness Committee – Act 2021-283, effective January 1, 2022. A Rules Committee of the Board drafted a new Administrative Code Chapter 750-X-5A that was accepted by affirmative vote by the assembled Board on September 10, 2021. Notice of Intended Action was published in the Alabama Administrative Monthly in September 2021. Administrative Hearing on the adoption and certification of the new Chapter’s Rules.
- 2) Update to Administrative Code Rule Chapter 750-X-3A-.05 Definition of Continuing Education Activity. Notice of Intended Action was published the Alabama Administrative Monthly in September 2021. Administrative Hearing on the adoption and certification of the Rule change.
- 3) Update to Administrative Code Rule Chapter 750-X-6-.02. American Psychological Association Ethical Principles Of Psychologists And Code Of Conduct. Notice of Intended Action was published in the Alabama Administrative Monthly in September 2021. Administrative Hearing on Repealing and Replacing Appendix II and on the adoption and certification of the Rule change. Motion by Arata: I move that we certify changes to these three Rules (Chapter 750-X-5A, Rule 750-X-3A-.05, and Rule 750-X-3A-.05). Seconded by Cook. Motion passed.
- 4) Professional Standards Exam (PSE) – Discussion on examination format. Candidates admitted to the PSE after January 1, 2022 will be notified that there are no questions on the exam related to newly enacted and codified statutes (specifically, PSYPACT legislation and the Alabama Psychology Professionals Wellness Committee). The work of the committee assigned to evaluate the examination’s format is ongoing.

- 5) Contract – Brice M. Johnston, Attorney at Law – Legal counsel and associated services, period of December 2021 – December 2023. At September 2021 meeting, the Board voted to increase Mr. Johnston’s hourly rate from \$175.00/ hour to \$200.00/ hour in the renewal Contract; Contract amended as \$195.00/ hour to meet compensation rate limits for Legal Services, per Governor Kay Ivey’s Legal Office. Contract Review Permanent Legislative Oversight Committee met on November 4, 2021 in the Alabama Statehouse; Lori Rall attended as Board representative. Contract passed favorably out of Committee for Governor’s approval.
- 6) Contract – Michael C. Garver, DMD – Wellness and Monitoring Program management for participants and the business of the Alabama Psychology Professionals Wellness Committee, period of December 2021 – December 2023. Contract Review Permanent Legislative Oversight Committee met on November 4, 2021 in the Alabama Statehouse; Lori Rall attended as Board representative. Contract passed favorably out of Committee for Governor’s approval.
- 7) ASPPB Board Administrators / Registrars Committee (BARC) Meeting, October 5, 2021. Lori Rall attended as Board Administrator and provided a summary to the Board.
- 8) ASPPB 61st Annual Meeting of Delegates, October 14-16, 2021 – Online format – Zubin Austin, BScPhm, MBA, MISc, Ph.D., Keynote Speaker: *How Competent are we at Assessing Competency?* Lori Rall attended as voting delegate and provided a summary to the Board.
- 9) Robert D. McKenna, M.A. – Review for violation(s) of ALA. CODE § 34-26-42. Cease and Desist letter issued September 28, 2021, with copies sent to Judge Patricia Stephens and to the Alabama Board of Examiners in Counseling. To date, no response received.
- 10) Krista Mehari, Ph.D. – Unlicensed practice concerns related to withdrawn Applicant Keisha Nicole Wilson, Ph.D. Letter of inquiry issued to Mehari on September 28, 2021; Mehari’s letter of response about her interaction(s) with Wilson received October 18, 2021. Copies of the letter were added Mehari’s Licensure file and Wilson’s Application file.
- 11) Emergency Practice - State of Emergency Proclamation issued August 13, 2021 and expired October 31, 2021. Notice to Cease issued to the sixty (60) individuals registered under the proclamation; thirty (30) responded with intent to comply. The Board will issue letters via USPS with delivery confirmation to the registrants who have not responded to the emailed Notice.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1) Employment notice and correspondence from Kale Edney Kirkland, Ph.D. about hiring former licensee Karl Kirkland, Ph.D. as Office Manager for Central Alabama Psychology, and correspondence from Karl Kirkland, Ph.D. - who surrendered License No. 341 per Pretrial Diversion Agreement on March 18, 2019 following Emergency Suspension on September 9, 2016, pending criminal investigation by law enforcement authorities for arrest and charges of four (4) counts of Unlawful Possession or Receipt of a Controlled Substance, and Suspension on August 22, 2016 for violation of Ala. Code §34-26-46(a)(6) and Admin Code Rule 750-X-5-.03(1)(f) - about the same, and his plan to apply again for

- licensure in March of 2022. The letters were added to Dr. Kale Kirkland's licensure file.
- 2) Clara Elizabeth "Beth" Long, Ph.D., LPC – Review for violation(s) of ALA. CODE § 34-26-42. The Board will issue a letter to Dr. Long notifying her that we have received a complaint that she is practicing psychology without the benefit of a license issued by the Board and will request a response.
 - 3) License Renewals for Fiscal Year 2022 – Review of renewal statistics: 1,035 Psychologists and 22 Psychological Technicians licenses were renewed, 31 licensees elected to not renew (voluntary Non-Renewal FY2022); 52 licenses were designated as Inactive, and 54 licenses became Lapsed.
 - 4) Renewal Fees for Fiscal Year 2023 - Discussion of potential increase in fees. Motion by Cook: I move that we increase renewal fees by 15% for Fiscal Year 2023 and that we review agency finances for another increase in 3 - 5 years. Seconded by Arata. Motion passed.
 - 5) Budget, Fiscal Year 2023 – Reviewed and accepted by the Board.
 - 6) Lori Rall, Executive Director – Annual Appraisal. Discussion of potential change to Pay Grade following an increase and changes to executive responsibilities. Motion by Arata: I move to change Ms. Rall's position to Grade 82, Step 12 effective December 1, 2021. Seconded by Cook. Motion passed.
 - 7) Fourth Quarter and Annual Statistics Report, Fiscal Year 2021. Reviewed and accepted by the Board.
 - 8) Office Lease Agreement between the Board and The Retirement Systems of Alabama renewed for the term of February 1, 2022 through January 31, 2027. Reviewed and accepted by the Board.
 - 9) Alabama Association of Regulatory Boards (AARB) 2021 Leadership Conference, October 12, 2021. Lori Rall attended as Board Administrator. AARB will not be charging Membership Fees for Fiscal Year 2022. 2022 Certified Investigator Training Conference: February 1-3, 2022 at Guntersville State Park, Guntersville, AL. Lori Rall will attend.
 - 10) Letter and donation (\$1,000.00) from Annie M. Wells, Ph.D. Review. The donation will be used toward necessary agency operation and expenses.
 - 11) PSYPACT Commission Annual meeting, November 18, 2021. Lori Rall to attend as Alabama's Commissioner and as Chair of the Training and Public Relations Committee; Ms. Rall is a Candidate for a Member-At-Large seat on the national Executive Board.
 - 12) Upcoming Board Seat Vacancies. Discussion on recent Board member nominations from the Alabama Psychological Association. Dr. Arata and Ms. Miller are serving in their current roles until their vacancies have been appropriately filled, and Dr. Bowers will complete her second term on January 15, 2022.
 - 13) Contract with the Acumen Institute, as may be necessary for compliance with Ala. Code § 34-26-46(b) addressing mental or physical competence and practicing with reasonable skill and safety, was discussed. Motion by Cook: I move that Ms. Rall and Mr. Johnston develop and advance a Contract with the Acumen Institute for necessary services on behalf of the Board. Seconded by Berland. Motion passed.

- 14) Lauren Benson, Administrative Assistant – Notice tendered; her final day will be Tuesday, November 16, 2021. In addition to filling Ms. Benson’s position, the Board will develop an Internship program for Public Administration programs.
- 15) Alabama Psychology Professionals Wellness Committee – Review Volunteers’ Statements and Identify Committee Membership. Motion by Arata: I move that the Rules Committee and the Board Chair appoint the members of the Wellness Committee. Seconded by Cook. Motion passed. From a list of individuals who volunteered to serve on the inaugural Wellness Committee, each Board member present at the meeting ranked the individuals they felt would be best suited to serve on the Committee; the Rules Committee and the Board Chair appointed the following individuals based upon those rankings: Merida M. Grant, Ph.D., Shannon Leigh LaFramboise, M.A., Denton “Beau” McKinnon Scott, Psy.D., Daniel Joseph Sullivan, Psy.D., Gregory Scott Vander Wal, Ph.D., and DeLisa Arlinda West, Ph.D. Should any of the preceding be unable to serve on the Committee, Richard S. Reynolds, Ph.D. was identified as a first alternate and Kristee Hamm Treadwell, Ph.D. was identified as a second alternate. Board member Catalina M. Arata, Ph.D. was appointed to serve as the non-voting Board representative to the Committee.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: January 14, 2022 @ Board Office and/or virtually

Motion by Arata: I move to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Cook. Motion passed.
The meeting ended at 1:56 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Lori H. Rall, Recorder
Executive Director



Catalina M. Arata, Ph.D.
Chair

REVIEW of Exam Scores for the Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology (EPPP) and the Professional Standards Exam (PSE), and the ISSUANCE OF LICENSES:

Psychologists: Pass or fail for each candidate is based upon the ASPPB recommended passing score for psychologists. The EPPP passing score for psychologists is 500. The passing score for the PSE is 80% (34 correct).

Psychological Technicians: The EPPP passing score for psychological technicians is 400. The passing score for the PSE is 80% (34 correct).

<i>Name</i>	<i>Application Level</i>	<i>EPPP Score</i>	<i>Passed?</i>	<i>PSE Score</i>	<i>Passed?</i>	<i>License No. Issued</i>	<i>Area of Specialization</i>
BLUNT, Charley Shannon	Psychologist		Yes		Yes	2240	Clinical
BRIDENDOLPH, Nathan Calvin	Psychologist		Yes	-	-	-	Clinical
CORDELL, Jonathan David	Psychologist		Yes	-	-	-	Industrial/ Organizational
LUCAS, Colby Newton	Psychologist	-	-		Yes	2241	Clinical
PIERPAOLI PARKER, Christina Marie	Psychologist		Yes		Yes	2242	Clinical
SANDERSON, Susan Lyn	Psychologist	-	-		Yes	2243	Clinical
SCHWARTZ, Sarah Elizabeth	Psychologist	-	-		Yes	-	Clinical
SCULLY, Kray Alexander	Psychologist		Yes		Yes	2244	Counseling
TRUSS, Autumn LaShea	Psychologist	-	-		Yes	2245	Clinical
WARREN, Emily Anastasia Huston	Psychologist	-	-		Yes	2246	Clinical