

## **PROFESSIONAL CANDIDATE STATEMENT FORMAT**

### **Name of Candidate & Years of affiliation with the ABPsi:**

- Brandon E. Gamble. 21 years.

### **Position seeking (ABPsi Position):**

- Western Regional Representative

### **Work Title and Name of Employer:**

- California State University Long Beach Associate Professor, Consultant for LA County Schools, and private practice at <http://www.drbrandongamble.com/>

### **Education: (Degree—Area of Study—Institution):**

- B.A., Psychology, Oakwood College, HBCU in Huntsville, AL
- M.S., School Psychology, San Diego State University
- Ed.D., Educational Psychology, University of Southern California

### **Certification and Licensure Information:**

- Nationally Certified School Psychologist
- CA Pupil Personnel Services credential in school psychology
- Certificates in Hypnosis and Neuro Design Engineering

### **Recent Professional Experience:**

- Research with undergraduate assistants regarding, Black parents' perspective of their children's schooling and mental health services' experience.

### **Additional Experience and/or Activities involving the ABPsi governance:**

- S. Cal Chapter Outreach Secretary (e.g. Social Media)
- ABPsi Presidential appointed liaison to CASP and NASP since 2014

### **Other Related Memberships:**

- National Association of School Psychologists
- California Association of School Psychologists
- APA Division 15 – Educational Psychology

### **Awards and Honors:**

- Outstanding School Psychologist for Region 5 of CASP (2006)
- CASP nominee to NASP for school psychologist of the year (2007).

### **Publications**

- Gamble, B. (2013). "Larry P" moved down the hall: From Educably Mentally Retarded to Emotionally Disturbed: The over-representation of African American students in special education. *CASP Today*. 62 (3), 10-11.
- Gamble, B., & McAdams, A. (Pending) Parents' Perceptions of their college educated African American Son's: Factors leading to success and advice for parents. *Black Male Summit of Ohio State University*.

### **Presentations:**

- Gamble, B. (August, 2016). *Black parent perspectives of schools and mental health*. Presentation at the International Association of Black Psychologists' Convention, Washington, D.C.
- Frisby, C., Gamble, B., Henry, B., Hiramoto, J., Lopez, R., McCoy, R. (February, 2016). *35 Years After Larry P: The assessment of African American students in California*. Presentation for the National Association of School Psychologists' Convention, New Orleans, LA.

- Gamble, B. (March, 2013). *African American Disproportional Placements in Special Education in CA*. Presentation for the California Association of School Psychologists' Institute, Sacramento, CA.
- Gamble, B. (July, 2012). *Same Gender Loving Black youth and young adults: A Black psychologist's perspective*. Presentation at the International Association of Black Psychologists' Convention, Los Angeles, CA.
- Dunn, A, Gamble, B., Hamlett, G., & McAdams, A. (July, 2011). *Black students healing and thriving in school settings – systemic behavior intervention*. Workshop at the International Association of Black Psychologists' Convention, Washington, D.C.

### **Community Service:**

- Collaborative coordinator for the Black Research Summit at CSU Long Beach
- Hosted a forum with ABPsi Elder for visit with Dr. Harold Dent who was in town in San Diego to discuss his work with culturally responsive assessment.  
<http://web.csulb.edu/lats/itss/design/video/flash/asec/asec-dir/gamble/dent.html>
- Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity's Guide Right (Youth program) sub-committee on mental health.
- Spoke on behalf of ABPsi for KPFK, Los Angeles' Pacific Radio show titled, "Beautiful Struggle" (e.g. Topics such as Autism, youth Suicide, and graduate rates)

### **Bio:**

Dr. Brandon Gamble received his training in psychology from Oakwood College for his Bachelor's degree. San Diego State for his Master's degree, and the University of Southern California is where he earned his Doctoral degree in Educational Psychology.

From 1998 to 2009, he served middle and high school students as a school psychologist in the Long Beach Unified School District before becoming an associate professor at Cal State University Long Beach, in the College of Education for the Educational Psychology program. He has had the honor to serve as the advisor for the Black Student Union at CSULB.

He has presented at national and international conferences regarding disproportional placements of minorities in special education, access to quality mental health care in schools, African American student achievement, and Mediated Learning Experiences.

Dr. Gamble's written work and research has focused on African American male's social capital and familial support networks that empower young men to succeed in academics.

From 2012 to 2013 he served as President of the California Association of School Psychologists and is currently the liaison of the Association of Black Psychologists to CASP.

Dr. Gamble enjoys spending time with his family, martial arts, playing guitar, and surfing, which are all the things he dreamed of doing as a young man growing up in S. Cal.

## **Candidate Statement in Q&A**

### ***Why do you want to serve on the ABPsi Board of Directors?***

The saying goes, “Many are called, yet few are chosen”? This is an elected position thus I would serve at the will of the people. ABPsi has given so much to me, first as a student with the San Diego chapter 20 years ago and now as a professional. I was nominated by people who I respect and I hope to live up to their trust and more importantly live up to the call of the ancestors as well as the Creator with my humble gifts.

### ***What specific skills and experiences would you bring to the position?***

I have been mentored in ABPsi by outstanding women and men who have given of their time unselfishly towards my growth as a psychologist and scholar. Their guidance and investment led to my serving as President for the California Association of School Psychologists. If you are familiar with the 1970's you know that ABPsi Elders did battle with this organization over the Larry P Court case. As President of CASP, I was able to ensure that those who battled, especially on behalf of the Black families in the court case from ABPsi, were recognized and honored. I also had a chance to implement a town hall, like the ABPsi town hall hosted in Los Angeles at CASP. I felt I was on loan and when called I would return home to ABPsi at the proper time, is the time.

I have also contributed to the growth of social media networks by starting the S. Cal Chapter's Facebook page. However, I also know I have much more to learn as a board member of ABPsi because this organization is at the vanguard of independent thinking and acting social scientists. I acknowledge, social media activism (if there is such a thing) is a start but engaging with people face to face to is what has sustained us. Via social media I have reached out to many school psychologists who are not a part of ABPsi and have shared my testimony of the great benefits of membership with ABPsi. As a representative for the California Faculty Association's Council for Affirmative Action, I have had a chance to make contacts in academia across the state. I have witnessed activism at the capital and on the street. My service, humility, willingness to learn, and prior experiences are what I bring to the position.

### ***What is your vision for establishing a solid financial infrastructure for ABPsi?***

Build for the future by working smarter not harder. Use technology to our advantage to save on materials, meetings, and travel. Also, listen to students and new psychologists because they are the future with ABPsi but also in leading ABPsi. Their habits in spending for ABPsi set a pattern for their later career, thus sustainability of the organization. I submit that we must invest more in the future while remaining grounded in the roots that sustain us for our theory and praxis.

### ***What do you believe are the most crucial internal and external opportunities and challenges facing the Association of Black Psychologists, and how would you seek to address them?***

Our love for one another. Our ability to nurture, mentor, and build together is predicated by our love for each other. I need to visit all the chapters in the Western Region and help to start at least one more chapter. That takes an undying love for the people and the love of the people for one another.

I look forward to the opportunity to serve and represent the Western Region!