

Workshop Faculty Biosketches

Dan Blazer, M.D., Ph.D. Dr. Blazer is J.P. Gibbons Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences and Vice Chair for Education and Academic Affairs at Duke University Medical Center. He is also Professor of Community and Family Medicine and Head of the University Council on Aging and Human Development at Duke. In addition, he is Adjunct Professor in the Department of Epidemiology, School of Public Health at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He received his B.A. from Vanderbilt University, his M.D. from the University of Tennessee, his M.P.H from the University of North Carolina, and his Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina

Following nine years in academic administration as Chair of the Department of Psychiatry and Dean of Medical Education at Duke University School of Medicine, Dr. Blazer returned to teaching, research and practice in July of 1999. In 2002-03 he was a fellow at the Center for Advanced Studies of the Behavioral Sciences at Stanford University. He is the author or editor of 34 books, author or co-author of over 190 published abstracts and over 380 peer-reviewed articles. He is also the author or co-author of over 180 book chapters. Many of the book chapters and scientific articles are on the topics of depression, epidemiology, and consultation liaison psychiatry, especially with the elderly. Dr. Blazer's research has focused on the prevalence of physical and mental illness in the elderly.

Among the honors received by Dr. Blazer are the receipt of a Research Career Development Award from the National Institute of Mental Health, listing in *Who's Who in America*, *Who's Who in American Men and Women of Science*, and the Best Doctors in America, receipt of the Honored Teaching Professor in the Department of Psychiatry, fellowship in the American College of Psychiatry and Gerontological Society of America, Distinguished Life Fellowship in the American Psychiatric Association, Distinguished Alumnus at the School of Public Health at the University of North Carolina and the School of Medicine at the University of Tennessee. He was elected to membership in the Institute of Medicine in 1995.

Dr. Blazer was a member of the Epidemiology and Disease Control Review Committee at the NIH and served as its Chairman from July, 1988-June, 1989. He is a past Chairman of the Board and President of the American Geriatrics Society and past President of the Psychiatric Research Society. He has served on many editorial boards, including the *American Journal of Psychiatry* and the *Archives of General Psychiatry*. He served as co-editor of *Aging and Mental Health* for twelve and is the editor of *Duke Medicine HealthNews*. He was a former member of the Council on International Affairs and the Council on Aging of the American Psychiatric Association. He was a member of the Psychiatry Test-Writing Committee of the National Board of Medical Examiners and a Councilor of the American Psychopathological Association. He chaired the Committee for the Institute of Medicine review efforts of the Department of Defense to provide adequate medical care to Persian Gulf War Veterans and the IOM committee on Testosterone Replacement Therapy in the Elderly. He is Past-President of the American Association of Geriatric Psychiatry, the Psychiatric Research Society, and past chair of the membership committee of the IOM.

Verna Benner Carson, R.N., Ph.D. A professor of nursing at University of Maryland from 1975 to 1995, and is now associate professor of nursing at Towson University in Fallston, MD. Dr. Carson is one of the world's leading nurse researchers in spirituality and health. She has a master's degree in psychiatric nursing and a PhD in human development. From 1996 to the present, she has been the National Director of RESTORE Behavioral Health. Dr. Carson is the author of 16 books, including *Spiritual Dimensions of Nursing Practice* (Saunders) and *Foundations of Psychiatric Nursing: A Clinical Approach* (5th edition, Elsevier), 26 book chapters, and over 50 peer-reviewed articles. She is a sought-after speaker and has given hundreds of professional presentations, keynote addresses, and workshops.

Harold G. Koenig, MD, MHSc. Dr. Koenig completed his undergraduate education at Stanford University, his medical school training at the University of California at San Francisco, and his geriatric medicine, psychiatry, and biostatistics training at Duke University Medical Center. He is board certified in general psychiatry, geriatric psychiatry and geriatric medicine, and is on the faculty at Duke as Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, and Associate Professor of Medicine, and is on the faculty at King Abdulaziz University, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, as a Distinguished Adjunct Professor. He is also a registered nurse (RN).

Dr. Koenig is Director of the *Center for Spirituality, Theology and Health* at Duke University Medical Center, and has published extensively in the fields of mental health, geriatrics, and religion, with over 350 scientific peer-reviewed articles and book chapters and 40 books in print or in preparation. He is the former editor of the Medline research journal, the *International Journal of Psychiatry in Medicine*. His research on religion, health and ethical issues in medicine has been featured on over 50 national and international TV news programs (including NBC's The Today Show and ABC's Good Morning America), 100 national or international radio programs (including multiple NPR, BBC, and CBC interviews), and hundreds of national and international newspapers or magazines (including Reader's Digest, Parade Magazine, Newsweek, and Time). Dr. Koenig is rated by other biomedical scientists as one of the top experts in the world on religion and health (<http://www.biomedexperts.com/Concept.bme/18754/Religion>).

In September 1998, Dr. Koenig was invited to give testimony before the U.S. Senate Committee on Finance concerning the benefits of religion and spirituality on health. In September 2008, he was invited to give testimony before the U.S. House of Representatives' Committee on Science & Technology. He has been interviewed by James Dobson on Focus on the Family and by Robert Schuller in the Crystal Cathedral on the Hour of Power. Dr. Koenig has been nominated twice for the Templeton Prize for Progress in Religion. His latest books include *The Handbook of Religion and Health* (Oxford University Press, 2001; 2012); his autobiography, *The Healing Connection* (2004); *Faith and Mental Health* (2005); *In the Wake of Disaster* (2007); *Spirituality in Patient Care, 2nd edition* (2007); *Medicine, Religion and Health* (2008), *Religion and Spirituality in Psychiatry* (2009, Cambridge University Press), and *Spirituality and Health Research: Methods, Measurement, Statistics, and Resources* (2011). Dr. Koenig travels widely to give workshops and seminar presentations in the United States and around the world.

John P. Oliver, D.Min. Dr. Oliver is the Chief of Chaplain Service and a Clinical Pastoral Education Supervisor at the Durham Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Durham, North

Carolina. He has provided spiritual support to Veterans, their families and loved ones since 1997. John was raised in Colombia, South America. He and his wife Karin have three children. John earned his BA and BM degrees from Samford University, his Masters of Divinity from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, and his Doctor of Ministry degree from Columbia Theological Presbyterian Seminary. John completed his Clinical Pastoral Education Supervisory Training at Duke University Medical Center. John's doctoral work focused on pastoral care to those who have experienced traumatic events. Much of John's energy has been dedicated to training clergy to care for people as they engage their spiritual resources. He has done primary research on knowledge about and attitudes of clergy toward those with PTSD. He speaks widely on this topic.

Allan Verhey, Ph.D. Dr. Verhey is Professor of Theological Ethics at the Duke Divinity School. He is a graduate of Calvin College and Seminary and earned his Ph.D. in theology at Yale University in 1975. Before joining the faculty at Duke he taught for many years at Hope College in Holland, MI, and served as the Director of the Institute of Religion in the Texas Medical Center in Houston, TX. He has written several books, including *Reading the Bible in the Strange World of Medicine*. The volume he edited with Stephen Lammers, *On Moral Medicine: Theological Reflections in Medical Ethics* won a CHOICE award. His articles and essays on health care ethics have appeared in a wide variety of publications, including *Hastings Center Report* and *Medicine and Philosophy*. He has lectured widely on issues related to theology and health care ethics. At Duke Divinity School he has been associated with the Duke Institute on Care at the End of Life, and has been a member of the Ethics Committee of Duke Medical Center. He was a Luce Fellow for 2007-2008, during which he wrote a forthcoming book on "The Art of Dying."

Redford B. Williams, M.D. Dr. Williams completed his A.B. at Harvard College, 1963; M.D. at Yale Medical School, 1967, Internship and Residency in internal medicine at Yale, 1967-70; and was at the NIMH from 1970-72. He is currently Professor of Psychology and Professor of Medicine and Director of the Behavioral Medicine Research Center at Duke University, and is Adjunct Professor of Epidemiology, School of Public Health at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Dr. Williams is cofounder, with Virginia Williams, Ph.D., of Williams LifeSkills, Inc., in 1997. With regard to his scientific record, Dr. Williams has over 150 peer-reviewed publications in scientific/medical journals; 9 books, including the best selling *Anger Kills: Seventeen Strategies to Control the Hostility that Can Harm Your Health* (co-authored with wife, Virginia Williams, Ph.D.) and new book, *Lifeskills*.

Dr. Williams has been president of three leading societies concerned with mind/body medicine (American Psychosomatic Society, Society of Behavioral Medicine, and Academy of Behavioral Medicine Research); founding recipient of Society of Behavioral Medicine's Upjohn Distinguished Scientist Award; continuous grant support from the National Institute of Mental Health since 1974 and from the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute since 1977; has secured external funding in excess of \$1 million per year since joining Duke Faculty in 1972; has served on several National Institutes of Health advisory groups. His research has focused on role of psychosocial factors in cardiovascular disease, underlying biobehavioral mechanisms, behavioral interventions to ameliorate effects of psychosocial/biobehavioral factors in disease risk and prognosis, and, most recently, the

effects of gene-environment interactions on the role of psychosocial and biobehavioral factors in disease processes.

Dr. Williams has appeared on the following national television shows: Good Morning America (several times); The Today Show (twice); Oprah; The Home Show; 20/20; ABC Evening News; CNN (several news interviews); Sonia Live (several times); Dateline NBC; and multiple local television appearances in major U.S. markets in conjunction with national book promotion tours. Dr. Williams has made regular appearances on People's Pharmacy on NPR. In addition, Dr. Williams is a "first call" source for national electronic and print media for any story dealing with anger, hostility and health in particular, and mind/body medical effects in general. According to a recent *New York Times* (24 June 2001) article on anger in the workplace, Dr. Williams is "widely regarded as the guru of anger management."