

Profile

Allan Tasman is Emeritus Professor and Chair (Chair 1991-2015) of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the University of Louisville (UofL) and Emeritus Schwab Endowed Chair in Social and Community Psychiatry. He completed psychiatric residency at the University of Cincinnati following medical school and first year of residency at the University of Kentucky. He also is a graduate of the Western New England Psychoanalytic Institute and was a faculty member in the Cincinnati Psychoanalytic Institute for many years. He is internationally known as an expert educator and mentor for almost two generations of students and trainees, a number of whom have become national and international academic and organizational leaders. His cognitive neuroscience laboratories in Connecticut and Kentucky have produced cutting edge research with clear clinical impact.

He has been an effective administrator and advocate for innovation in psychiatric and medical education, clinical service delivery, and for a clinical system built on an evidence based integrative bio-psycho-sociocultural model of treatment within a comprehensive and collaborative system of care. A hallmark of his leadership has been the fact that much of his efforts have involved multidisciplinary initiatives which include not only academic based psychiatrists, but also clinicians of all types from every medical specialty working in the widest range of settings, users of clinical services and their families, government, corporate, and community leaders, and community members representing all socio-economic categories.

His national reputation in psychiatric education began while he was medical student education and residency director at the University of Connecticut Medical School, and later Vice Chair for Education. During his tenure as director of the University Dampsey Hospital inpatient psychiatric services, that site became the preferred rotation for 3rd year medical students interested in a psychiatry career. During his tenure in Connecticut he brought the recruitment rate into psychiatry from well below the national average to well above the national average and during his chairmanship in Louisville twice the national average. He continues to be a highly regarded teacher, clinical supervisor, and educational leader both nationally and internationally.

During his tenure in Connecticut he was asked by the Psychiatrist in Chief at the Institute of Living (IOL) in Hartford and the UConn Chair of Psychiatry, stimulated by increasing concerns about financial and recruitment pressures anticipated as national health care reforms were implemented, to conceptualize and implement a merger of the two residency programs. This was accomplished over a five year transition and brought together the resources of the historical clinical strengths of the IOL and the educational innovation and strong research base at UConn.

Through his national and international work over the last four decades, he also has been involved in a broad range of strategic planning and mental health policy issues, particularly in the areas of access to care, impact of managed care on historically disadvantaged populations, mental health parity, mental health workforce development, addressing the societal and economic disparities in health and mental health, and the impact of the Affordable Care Act on access to mental health services in the US. His leadership roles in this regard include recent service as Policy Group Lead for the 2021-22 APA Presidential Task Force on Social Determinants of Mental Health, an area of work in which he continues to be active as Lead Editor for the Lancet Psychiatry Commission on Social Determinants of Mental Health. He was a 2018-2023 appointee to the National Advisory Council of the US Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). During his tenure, and since, he has served as a regular consultant to the head of SAMHSA's Behavioral Statistics programs.

During UofL Faculty Leadership

Known as a collaborative, inclusive, and transformational leader, he led the department of psychiatry in Louisville to a sustained period of growth and expansion of its academic, community outreach, clinical programs, and research productivity. This growth included significantly increased philanthropy and building the research base exemplified by a substantial increase in the NIH rankings for research to the highest level in the department's 85 year history. During his tenure subspecialty education/training programs in child and adolescent, consultation-liaison, and addiction psychiatry were expanded or initiated. In addition, he conceptualized and led the development and approval process for two multidisciplinary university designated centers of excellence, the University of Louisville Depression Center, and the University of Louisville Autism Center. All of these accomplishments in his nearly 25 year tenure occurred with annual balanced budgets, often with surpluses.

Recognition of his knowledge and skills in health policy, strategic planning, and program implementation led to service in a number of other administrative leadership positions in Louisville. In the early 1990's, to address health and mental health disparities in the Medicaid population, he conceptualized and spearheaded implementation of Passport Health Plan, an innovative non-profit managed care organization which became the Louisville region's largest service provider for the Medicaid population, and the second largest in the entire state, with nearly a 2-billion-dollar annual budget and consistently in the US News and World Report and NCQA top rank. A key factor in Passport's success was the initial and ongoing focus on an incentive system for clinicians and senior administrators which prioritized quality of health outcomes and attention to social determinants of health with development of a variety of special programs. In conjunction with Passport's initiative to build a new health campus in a high poverty area of Louisville in the mid 2010's, with a substantial component of its mission to address social determinants of health, Tasman also consulted with community leaders regarding initiatives to enhance early child development programs.

He led development of a nationally recognized regional psychiatric crisis intervention program. While department chair he played a leadership role in a variety of other initiatives which increased interinstitutional and interdepartmental collaboration, including consolidation of the medical school's 73 independent clinical practice groups into a single collaborative entity. During his service as President of the medical school practice plan, he successfully oversaw the first complete revision of the plan in over 20 years. In 2003 he initiated planning for KMRRRG, the university owned malpractice insurance corporation. As the founding President, a position which he held for 21 years ending in December 2024, he formulated and oversaw implementation of the Center for Healthcare Innovation in Risk Reduction Programs. The malpractice company initially covered the University of Louisville Medical School faculty and residents and University Hospital, but now covers the Dental School, nine University of Louisville Health affiliated hospitals, four ambulatory medical centers and more than 1000 clinicians in Louisville and the surrounding counties.

In his work in medical student education he conceptualized, developed, and served as founding director of the School of Medicine Distinction in Research Program, a school wide mentorship and academic enrichment program to encourage choice of academic research careers by medical students. This program's success led to development of new tracks in global health, health economics, leadership, and education.

Research

His research has been funded with a variety of federal and other grants over four decades. Using electroencephalography brain mapping techniques, most of his work has focused on the neurophysiology of cognitive processes, especially related to alcohol and drug addiction, mood disorders, and autism. His laboratory at the University of Connecticut, which performed all the cognitive neurophysiology research for the department of psychiatry's NIAAA funded alcohol research center, was one of the first in the world to describe functional neural abnormalities in

offspring of fathers who were alcohol addicts which was present before the development of alcohol abuse in those offspring. More recent research focused on investigation of innovative neuromodulation treatments, in particular Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (TMS), for autism and for substance abuse in collaboration with Dr Manuel Casanova, one of the most prominent autism researchers in the world. This seminal work significantly contributed to widespread adoption of neuromodulation treatments in autism spectrum disorders. He also is a founding member, since 2010 of the steering committee of the American Association for Addiction Psychiatry initiated and federally funded innovative national projects to educate psychiatrists about appropriate treatment of patients with opiate addiction. The program, called the Physician's Clinical Support System (PCSS), which has received nearly 19,000,000 of federal grant support since 2010, has implemented innovative approaches to training and mentoring psychiatrists, and now medical practitioners who are members the American Society of Addiction Medicine. The number of physicians trained and/or mentored now numbers over 10,000 in the US.

Organizational Leadership-National

He was president of the American Association of Directors of Psychiatric Residency Training (AADPRT) and of the Association for Academic Psychiatry (AAP) in which roles he oversaw the transformation of the *Journal of Psychiatric Education* into *Academic Psychiatry*, now the most highly regarded publication regarding psychiatric education and academic psychiatry in the world. In addition he initiated and chaired a joint AADPRT/AAP task force in the mid 1980's whose charge was to unify the match process for psychiatry residency programs, which previously had been bifurcated with a number of programs in the Northeast and West Coast recruiting medical students outside of and ahead of the NRMP match. This initiative brought every psychiatry training program into the NRMP for the first time, substantially increasing fairness in the recruitment process for both trainees and the programs.. He also served as president of the American Association of Chairs of Departments of Psychiatry (AACDP) for two terms. He is the only individual to have served as president of each of these three major US academic psychiatry organizations and the only person to have served two terms as president of the chairs association.

In the American Psychiatric Association (APA), he served as Scientific Program Chair for four years (1988-92) coordinating APA annual meetings with 10-20,000 attendees, Vice President, President-Elect, and President (1999-2000). During his tenure as chair of the program committee he introduced a number of innovations in the format of the annual meeting, significantly increasing the number and diversity of interactive educational programs which are still in use. In addition, while program committee chair, he conceptualized and oversaw implementation of a new journal for the American Psychiatric Press, titled the Journal of Psychotherapy Practice and Research, based on his awareness of the paucity of submissions for the annual APA convention regarding psychotherapy research. The journal gained indexing during the first opportunity.

As APA president elect, he conceptualized and successfully gained Board of Trustees approval to establish the American Psychiatric Institute for Research and Education (APIRE) which resulted in significantly improved philanthropic support for these missions for over 20 years. As APA president he implemented the initial planning process for DSM 5 and initiated and oversaw a complete corporate reorganization of the APA which resulted in significantly improved efficiency and productivity, better recruitment and retention of high performing staff, and stabilization of its financial base. In addition, he testified in Washington, DC in support of the historic Wellstone-Domenici Mental Health Parity Act as part of his regular national advocacy efforts. He represented the APA at the first ever Surgeon General's White House Conference on Mental Health in 1999.

Organizational Leadership-International

In 2005, he was elected to a six-year term as Secretary for Education of the World Psychiatric Association, where he was responsible for global educational policy. In that role he led, for the first time in over two decades, the development and implementation of the WPA global training and

educational guidelines for resident education in psychiatry and medical student education. These guidelines, for the first time devoted special attention to programs in resource poor low- and middle-income countries. In 2014 he began the first of two three-year terms as Chair of the WPA Section on Education, which develops and implements educational programs for the WPA. In that role he helped conceptualize programs for primary care clinician psychiatric education and psychiatric education in countries with low mental health resources. He also was President (2006-08) of the Pacific Rim College of Psychiatrists (PRCP), an international organization of academic leaders representing all countries of the Pacific Rim. As PRCP president elect he initiated the planning process to establish an organization sponsored journal, to be called Asia Pacific Psychiatry, which began publication by Wiley-Blackwell several years later. This was the first transnational English language psychiatric journal for the entire Pacific Rim region. The journal was approved for indexing in the second year of publication. The journal also was selected to be the official journal of the 20,000 member Asian Federation of Psychiatric Associations in 2018. He recently concluded a decade of service as the third Editor in Chief of the journal.

Since 2021 he has served as Regional Vice President for North America and the Caribbean of the World Federation for Mental Health, in which role represents the WFMH at the World Health Organization Regional Office for the Americas and at the United Nations Economic and Social Council and Department of Public Information. As Regional VP he secured a large grant from Onsemi, an international technology company, the largest in recent WFMH history, which supports and where he coordinates a series of educational presentations available to the nearly 29,000 Onsemi employees around the world, and to WFMH members on the WFMH website.

He was elected to an additional role as WFMH Treasurer in April 2024 wherein he has performed a wide range of tasks commonly beyond the role of a board treasurer. He has obtained Directors and Officers Insurance for the Board for the first time, reinstated all appropriate charters and registrations necessary for non-profit corporation operations in the US, spent substantial time regularizing the various financial functions including banking, expense and income oversight, and revenue management. In addition he developed a review system for the various membership categories to assure both that appropriate dues revenue is collected, but more importantly, that all members are appropriately included in the portfolio of activities of the organization and its governance.

Scholarship

He has authored or edited 38 psychiatric textbooks and monographs. His 275 peer-reviewed publications, chapters, and abstracts, 80 editorials in psychiatric publications, and over 425 national and international presentations have focused on psychiatric education, psychotherapy training, his cognitive neuroscience research, clinical practice, health policy, and global mental health. He is a founding editor or co-editor of two psychiatric journals, the *Journal of Psychotherapy Practice and Research* in 1990, and *Asia Pacific Psychiatry* in 2004. He also served as Editor in Chief (Americas) of *Mental Health in Family Medicine*. He was Editor in Chief of *Asia Pacific Psychiatry* from 2015-2024. He is founding editor in chief of all five editions of a comprehensive textbook, *Psychiatry*, called “the best current textbook of psychiatry” by the New England Journal of Medicine and the “gold standard” by the American Journal of Psychiatry. The fifth edition, now titled Tasman’s Psychiatry, is published both in an online version and a print version of six volumes, which were published in 2024. An innovation in this edition is that the online version can be regularly updated without waiting for a new print edition, meaning that the material in the book will never be out of date.

His book **The Doctor-Patient Relationship in Pharmacotherapy: Improving Treatment Effectiveness**, published in 2000, focuses on the critical importance of the therapeutic alliance and the use of psychotherapeutic skills in patient care, no matter the primary mode of treatment nor the clinical setting. He was Editor in Chief from 2014-19 of *Psychiatric Times*, ranked by publishing industry rating programs as the US psychiatric publication most widely and thoroughly read by psychiatrists in the US during his tenure, ahead of the American Journal of Psychiatry and JAMA Psychiatry.

Awards, Honors, and other Recognitions

He is the recipient of a number of awards for leadership, educational excellence, and distinguished professional service. These include the Roeske Award for Medical Student Education (1991) and the Bland Award for Residency Education (2005), both from the APA. In 2000 he was named Educator of the Year from the AAP and the Schein Memorial Lecturer from AADPRT (that organization's award for excellence in education). He was elected to faculty membership in Alpha Omega Alpha, the medical honor society, in 2002 in recognition of academic career achievement. In 2003, he received the University of Louisville President's Distinguished Faculty Award for Distinguished Service to the medical profession and received the Kentucky Medical Association Award for Outstanding Educational Achievement. In 2005 he received the Special Presidential Commendation from the American Psychiatric Association for distinguished international and national service to psychiatry. He was made a Fellow of the Royal College of Psychiatrists of the United Kingdom in 2007 without examination, a rare honor at that time for a psychiatrist trained outside the United Kingdom, and an Honorary Fellow of the World Psychiatric Association in 2011.

He was the recipient of the University of Kentucky College of Medicine Distinguished Alumnus Award for 2008, the only psychiatrist to have received this honor in the school's history. In 2012, he received the Franklin and Marshall College Alumni Citation, the college's distinguished alumnus award. He received the 2013 University of Louisville President's Distinguished Faculty Award for National/International Service which recognized his international educational activities. He is one of only a few faculty members to have received two such university wide recognitions. The American College of Psychiatrists awarded him the 2016 Distinguished Service to Psychiatry Award, the organization's highest honor. In addition, he has been awarded the Teichner Scholar visiting professor award in 2016, 2018, 2022, and 2023 from the American Academy of Psychodynamic Psychiatry and Psychoanalysis as well as the visiting professor for their Distance Learning program in 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023. He also has been invited to present a number of named lectures and has been a visiting professor both in the US and abroad.

He is the 2024 recipient of the prestigious C. Charles Burlingame Award for outstanding career achievement in administrative leadership, research, and education. He also is the 2025 recipient of the American Psychiatric Association Vestermark Psychiatric Educator Award for leadership, creativity and career excellence in psychiatric education.

Community Service

He founded and was CEO of the Lexington Free Clinic working primarily with non-medical community members, while a medical student at UK in the early 1970's, funded by the Fayette County Medical Society. During his years at the University of Connecticut he was member and Vice Chair of the Mental Health Catchment Area 18 Council, Chair of the North Central Ct. Regional Mental Health Board, and a member of the State of Ct. Board of Mental Health. During his tenure as chair of this multidisciplinary organization with a majority of consumer members, the regional mental health board had state funding allocation responsibility for community based mental health treatment program in that region.

His community activities in Louisville, other than those mentioned earlier, include service on the board of directors of the Area Wide Alcohol/Drugs Rehabilitation and Education (AWARE) Coalition, and Actors Theatre of Louisville. He also served on the Metro Board of Health Affordable Care Act Implementation Steering Committee, the Mayor's Dual Diagnosis Cross Functional Task Force, and chair for the Mayor's Drug Abuse Treatment Summit. He was selected as a Bingham Fellow of Leadership Louisville in 2023 but could not accept due to COVID concerns.