Howard Goldman, MD Ph.D.- Facilitator

Professor of Psychiatry
University of Maryland School of Medicine

Dr. Goldman received joint M.D. - M.P.H. degrees from Harvard University in 1974 and a Ph.D. in social policy research from the Heller School at Brandeis University in 1978. He is the author or co-author of 325 publications in the professional literature. Dr. Goldman is the editor of Psychiatric Services, a mental health services research and policy journal published monthly by the American Psychiatric Association. He also has served on the editorial boards of several other journals, including Health Affairs, the American Journal of Psychiatry and the Journal of Mental Health Policy and Economics. Dr. Goldman served as the Senior Scientific Editor of the Surgeon General's Report on Mental Health from 1997-1999 for which he was awarded the Surgeon General's Medallion. During 2002 and 2003 Dr.Goldman was a consultant to the President’s New Freedom Commission on Mental Health. In 1996 he was elected to membership in the National Academy of Social Insurance, and in 2002 he was elected to the Institute of Medicine.

Dr. Goldman is an expert on disability and disability policy. While serving as Assistant Director of the National Institute of Mental Health, he worked closely with the Social Security Administration revising policies and regulations for assessing individuals with mental impairments. He has written extensively about this topic, including papers in the Milbank Quarterly and Health Affairs and in his recent book with Gerald Grob, The Dilemma of Federal Mental Health Policy. He also served on the Disability Policy Panel for the National Academy of Social Insurance. In 2007 he served on the Institute of Medicine Committee on Medical Evaluation of Veterans for Disability Compensation. Beginning in 2009 Dr. Goldman became the chair of the IOM Standing Committee of Medical Experts to Assist Social Security on Disability Issues.
Kevin Liebkemann

Chief Counsel
Legal Services of New Jersey

Kevin is a 1991 Tulane Law School graduate who has represented adult and child Social Security Disability claimants for over 20 years. Following 10 years in private practice Kevin has worked at not-for-profit groups providing free representation to people with disabilities. He is currently Chief Counsel for Disability Rights at Legal Services of New Jersey, a not-for-profit firm that provides free legal services to the poor. He represents clients in Social Security cases from the Administrative Law Judge hearing level through U.S. District Court and supervises attorneys handling hearings and appeals. Kevin also assists clients with Veterans benefit matters and disability rights issues. Kevin has published many articles and conducted many continuing legal education trainings on disability-related topics. Kevin participates in groups advocating for beneficial changes in local and national policies for people with disabilities.
Kristen Monaco

Division Chief
Compensation Research & Program Development
Bureau of Labor Statistics

Kristen Monaco is the division chief of research in the Office of Compensation and Working Conditions at the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Her office supports the research and testing of the new Occupational Requirements Survey. She holds a PhD in economics from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.
Melanie joined the JAN staff as a consultant on the Cognitive / Neurological Team in February 2008. She specializes in mental health impairments, learning disabilities, developmental disabilities, autism spectrum disorders, and brain injuries. Melanie has a fourteen-year history of teaching and advocating for students with disabilities in the public school system. She holds a Master of Arts degree in Special Education, a Bachelor of Arts degree in English, and has earned sixty hours above masters' level. Her post-graduate work has been primarily focused on special education. She most recently completed a graduate certification in Career Planning and Placement for Youth in Transition, and became a certified brain injury specialist in December 2014.
Debra Lerner, Ph.D.

Senior Scientist
Founder and Director, Program on Health, Work and Productivity
Tufts Medical Center Institute for Clinical Research and Health Policy Studies (ICRHPS)

Debra Lerner is a Professor within the Departments of Medicine and Psychiatry within the Tufts University School of Medicine and the Sackler Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences.

Dr. Lerner had dedicated her career to improving the health and well-being of working people and enabling them to participate fully and productively in the workplace. Under her leadership, Dr. Lerner and her colleagues developed the Work Limitations Questionnaire (WLQ). The WLQ is used throughout the world and has become a standard of “presenteeism” measurement. In addition, Dr. Lerner’s team has developed innovative intervention programs aimed at improving employee functional performance and work productivity. Sponsorship for this research has been provided by the National Institute on Aging, the National Institute of Mental Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Dr. Lerner has published numerous articles on the topic of health and productivity improvement. She has also served on many scientific panels and advisory boards addressing health in the workplace including the Health Project, which is responsible for administering the C. Everett Koop Award to an employer that exemplifies excellence in workplace health promotion and wellness.
Elizabeth Twamley, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Psychiatry
University of California, San Diego

Dr. Twamley earned a PhD in Clinical Psychology from Arizona State University and completed her clinical psychology internship and postdoctoral fellowship at the University of California, San Diego (UCSD), and the VA San Diego Healthcare System (VASDHS). She joined the faculty of the UCSD Department of Psychiatry in 2003, where she does research, teaching, and clinical work. She is also Chief of the Neuropsychology Unit of the Center of Excellence for Stress and Mental Health (CESAMH) at the VASDHS.

Dr. Twamley's research focuses on bridging neuropsychology and interventions for individuals with cognitive impairments. Pursuing a longstanding interest in the links between cognition and everyday functioning, she has developed compensatory cognitive training interventions for people with psychiatric illness, traumatic brain injury, and mild cognitive impairment, and these manuals have been adapted for other populations (e.g., autism, Parkinson’s disease, multiple sclerosis, post-traumatic stress disorder, HIV, and hoarding). Current intervention studies focus on compensatory cognitive training and supported employment for individuals with cognitive and psychiatric symptoms. Dr. Twamley’s research has been funded by the National Institute of Mental Health, the VA, the Department of Defense, and the Brain and Behavior Research Foundation.

Dr. Twamley is a licensed clinical psychologist specializing in neuropsychological assessment, cognitive rehabilitation, and supported employment. She is particularly interested in community-based interventions that help people reach their highest potential social and occupational functioning, and directs the UCSD Supported Employment Program, which has helped hundreds of people with psychiatric illness return to the workforce.
Michael Schoenbaum, Ph.D

Senior Advisor for Mental Health Services, Epidemiology, and Economics
Office of Science Policy, Planning and Communications
National Institute of Mental Health

Michael Schoenbaum (PhD in Economics, University of Michigan, 1995) is Senior Advisor for Mental Health Services, Epidemiology, and Economics in the National Institute of Mental Health’s Office of Science Policy, Planning and Communication. In that capacity, he directs a unit charged with conducting analyses of mental health burden, service use and costs, intervention opportunities, and other policy-related issues, in support of Institute decision-making. His responsibilities also include helping to strengthen NIMH’s relationships with outside stakeholders, both public and private, to increase the public health impact of NIMH-supported research.

Dr. Schoenbaum's research has focused particularly on the costs and benefits of interventions to improve health and health care, evaluated from the perspectives of patients, providers, payers and society. He has worked on initiatives with the US Army and Department of Defense, the Social Security Administration, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, the Veterans Health Administration, the Department of Justice’s Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Business Group on Health, and the WHO’s World Mental Health Survey Initiative, among others.

Prior to joining NIMH, Dr. Schoenbaum spent nine years at the RAND Corporation, where his work included studies of the feasibility and consequences of improving care for common mental disorders, particularly depression; studies of the social epidemiology and economic consequences of chronic illness and disability; design and evaluation of decision-support tools to help consumers make health benefits choices; and international health sector development projects. Dr. Schoenbaum was a Robert Wood Johnson Scholar in health policy at the University of California, Berkeley, from 1995-1997.