

The Duke University Medical Center
Archives and Memorabilia Department

DUMC 3702

Durham, North Carolina

27710 USA

Phone: (919) 383-2653

Fax: (919) 383-1649

Email: dumc.archives@mc.duke.edu

URL: <http://dumc.archives.duke.edu/>

Guide to the Dan G. Blazer Interview, 2005

Dan G. Blazer is the J.P. Gibbons Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences and a former dean of medical education at the Duke University School of Medicine.

Descriptive Summary

Collection Title: Dan G. Blazer Interview, 2005

Creator: Blazer, Dan G. (Dan German), 1944-

Extent: 1 record storage box, 3 items, .25 linear feet

Processed By:

Date Completed:

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Biographical Note

Dr. Dan Blazer was born in 1944 in Nashville, Tenn. He received his BA in 1965 from Vanderbilt University; his MD from the University of Tennessee College of Medicine in 1969; his MPH from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1979; and his PhD in Epidemiology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1980. He is a former dean of medical education at the Duke University School of Medicine and is the J.P. Gibbons Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences.

Dr. Blazer is the author of 25 books, over 150 published abstracts, over 260 peer-reviewed articles, and over 110 book chapters. He writes often about depression; epidemiology; and consultation liaison psychiatry, especially with the elderly. He has been principal investigator on many projects funded federally, by the state, or by private foundations. These projects have primarily focused on the prevalence of physical and mental illnesses in the elderly.

Dr. Blazer is the recipient of numerous awards and honors. He received the Research Career Development Award from the National Institutes of Health, listings in *Who's Who in America*

, *Who's Who in American Men and Women of Science*

, *Who's Who in the South and Southwest*, and

The Best Doctors in America

. He has received the Alex Haley National Award (1992) and the American Association of Geriatric Psychiatry Senior Investigator Award (1994). He was elected to the Institute of Medicine, National Academy of Sciences in 1995 and received the Milo Leavitt Award from the American Geriatrics Society for Life Contributors to education in geriatric medicine (1997).

Dr. Blazer is a past-president of the American Association of Geriatric Psychiatry and past chair of the membership committee of the Institute of Medicine. He is currently the editor of

Duke Medicine HealthNews

and the co-editor of

Aging and Mental Health

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Collection Overview

Contains audiotape and transcript of an oral history interview with Dan G. Blazer, J.P. Gibbons Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences and a former dean of medical education at the Duke University School of Medicine.

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[Online Catalog Headings](#)

Blazer, Dan G. (Dan German), 1944-

Duke University.

Duke University. Dept. of Psychiatry.

Duke University. School of Medicine.

Oral histories.

Interviews.

Transcripts.

[Related Material](#)

Guide to the Dan G. Blazer Interview, 2005

[Detailed Description of the Collection](#)

Interview on 28 January 2005

Dr. Blazer speaks about his initial interest in psychiatry; coming to Duke; the eclectic nature of the Duke Department of Psychiatry when he came; changes in the field in regards to length of hospital stays; national social psychiatry trends; his interest in social epidemiology; community and family medicine's role in social epidemiology; the Department of Psychiatry's integration into the work of other departments, when he first came to the department; the current isolation of department from the other departments; the economic factors in current-day medical culture; the chairs of the Department of Psychiatry, including himself as an interim chair; the history of the deanship of the medical school; his focus as dean; Dr. Snyderman's vision as chancellor; Dr. Snyderman's style as an administrator; the lack of emphasis on the clinical side; Duke's strength in eclecticism; and challenges for the future.

Box 1

Interview tape [1 audiotape (45 minutes total)]

Transcript [23 pages]

Release form