

John Brekke

Frances G. Larson Professor of Social Work Research Professor of Social Work Dept. of Adult Mental Health and Wellness at USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work

Los Angeles, CA, US

Professor of research and clinical courses in the MSW program and PhD courses on treatment outcome research and research grant writing.

Biography

John Brekke joined the USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work faculty in 1984, where he has taught research and clinical courses in the MSW program and PhD courses on treatment outcome research and research grant writing. Prior to assuming an academic appointment, Dr. Brekke held a number of clinical positions working with persons diagnosed with severe and persistent mental illness in inpatient and outpatient settings. He has also done clinical practice and program development in the area of domestic violence, specializing in the structured treatment of men who batter.

Since 1989, Dr. Brekke has been the principal investigator on five longitudinal studies funded by the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) and one funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. His work focuses on the improvement of community-based services for individuals diagnosed with severe mental illness. He is currently a principal investigator on three NIMH grants. One studies the integration of biological aspects of mental disorder into psychosocial rehabilitation for individuals with schizophrenia, and he is developing biosocial models for understanding the course and outcome of schizophrenia. A second project seeks to speed the use of evidence-based practices into community-based treatment for individuals with schizophrenia. The third project uses mixed methods to study the transformation of community-based mental health services at the levels of policy implementation, organizational change and consumer outcomes. Dr. Brekke is also the functional outcomes core director on the NIMH-funded Center for the Study of Cognition and Emotion in Schizophrenia.

An extensive grant reviewer for federal agencies, he was a standing member of the Services Research Scientific Merit Review Committee at the National Institute of Mental Health for five years. Dr. Brekke publishes widely in mental health journals, including the most highly ranked journals in social work, psychology and psychiatry. He serves on the editorial boards of Social Service Review, Psychiatric Rehabilitation Journal and Research on Social Work Practice. In addition, he is a consulting editor for Social Work Research and a reviewer for 12 other interdisciplinary scientific journals.

Industry Expertise

Research, Education/Learning

Areas of Expertise

Treatment Outcome Research, Mental Health, Healthy Aging, Grant Writing

Affiliations

Board of Directors, American Academy of Social Work and Social Welfare, Fellow, American Academy of Social Work and Social Welfare, Guest Co-Editor (with Alice Medalia), Themed Issue of Schizophrenia Bulletin on motivation in schizophrenia

Education

University of Wisconsin-Madison
PhD

University of Hawaii
MSW

University of Hawaii
BA

Accomplishments

Investigator Award in Health Policy Research, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
2010-2013

Excellence in Research Award, Society for Social Work and Research
1999

Armin Loeb Achievement in Research Award, International Association of Psychosocial Rehabilitation Services
1994

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