



2011

Daniel W. Shuman: An Extraordinary Scholar Bridging the Disciplines of Law, Psychology, and Psychiatry

Richard Rogers

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholar.smu.edu/smulr>

Recommended Citation

Richard Rogers, *Daniel W. Shuman: An Extraordinary Scholar Bridging the Disciplines of Law, Psychology, and Psychiatry*, 64 SMU L. Rev. 1201 (2011)
<https://scholar.smu.edu/smulr/vol64/iss4/5>

This Tribute is brought to you for free and open access by the Law Journals at SMU Scholar. It has been accepted for inclusion in SMU Law Review by an authorized administrator of SMU Scholar. For more information, please visit <http://digitalrepository.smu.edu>.

DANIEL W. SHUMAN:
AN EXTRAORDINARY SCHOLAR
BRIDGING THE DISCIPLINES OF LAW,
PSYCHOLOGY, AND PSYCHIATRY

*Richard Rogers**

I am honored to write this tribute to Daniel W. Shuman, whose passing this year was a great personal loss for his family and many friends, and possibly even a greater loss within the academic fields of law, psychology, and psychiatry. Before interdisciplinary scholarship had gained much currency, Professor Shuman was on its forefront, bringing together law and the social sciences. Even a cursory review of his scholarship reveals extraordinary accomplishments bridging these academic domains. His three successive editions of the highly regarded *Psychiatric and Psychological Evidence* were a *tour de force*. A distinguished legal scholar, Professor Shuman demonstrated a striking intellectual breadth with books on such diverse topics as psychotherapist–patient privilege, legal research for social scientists, and expert evidence. Equally impressive were his collaborations with other prominent scholars in law, psychiatry, and psychology.

I first met Dan—as he was known by his friends and colleagues—in the late 1990s, although our professional paths had crossed before. I was immediately impressed by his quiet and gentle demeanor that was balanced by his true passion for knowledge and serious scholarship. Within a year, we were collaborating closely on the second edition of *Conducting Insanity Evaluations*.¹ While many scholars would find it challenging to come on board at this stage, it was effortless for Dan to play a crucial role contributing greatly to its legal scholarship. That collaboration continued for the next dozen years, producing another book and seven refereed articles.

Although I have collaborated with several eminent legal scholars, Dan Shuman was distinguished from other luminaries by his love of—and familiarity with—psychological research. Extending far beyond his legal scholarship, Dan conducted original research on the role of experts and of expert testimony. His unique combination of stellar scholarship and solid understanding of research methodology led to our most important

* Ph.D., ABPP; Regents Professor of Psychology at the University of North Texas.

1. RICHARD ROGERS & DANIEL W. SHUMAN, *CONDUCTING INSANITY EVALUATIONS* (2d ed. 2000).

collaboration on *Miranda* comprehension and reasoning. From 2004 to his death in 2011, he served as the co-principal investigator on three successive grants from the National Science Foundation totaling more than \$800,000. Dan's invaluable contributions led to important discoveries that revitalized *Miranda* research and has led important advances on public policy, including a highly significant ABA initiative calling for the reform of juvenile *Miranda* warnings.

It is gratifying to report that Dan's extraordinary multidisciplinary contributions to several academic disciplines have clearly been recognized. He is the only legal scholar to have been honored twice (1988 and 2011) with the prestigious Manfred S. Guttmacher Award from the American Psychiatric Association. His achievements were also lauded by the field of psychology, with the bestowal of the Distinguished Lifetime Achievement Award by the American Academy of Forensic Psychology in 2005. A member of the American Law Institute, his outstanding contributions to law and health were recognized by an endowed professorship, the M.D. Anderson Foundation Endowed Professor of Health Law.

Beyond his gentle character and extraordinary scholarship, Dan Shuman served as an inspiration and mentor to dozens of scholars and researchers. His profoundly positive influence—both personal and professional—will continue for decades to come.