Award for Lifetime Achievement in the Field of Trauma Psychology

This award recognizes a senior distinguished psychologist who has made outstanding contributions to science, practice, advocacy, and/or education/training over the course of his/her career. These contributions would be at such a level that they have advanced the field of trauma psychology.

The 2014 Award goes to Stevan E. Hobfoll.

Dr. Hobfoll is the Judd and Marjorie Weinberg Presidential Professor and also the Chair of the Department of Behavioral Sciences at the Rush Medical College in Chicago. He is also Senior Fellow at the prestigious Center for National Security Studies at the University of Haifa in Israel. Steven is also a military veteran officer in the Israeli Defense Forces. He is a Charter/founding Fellow of this division and is among its most prolific members.

Professor Hobfoll has advanced the field of Trauma Psychology throughout his distinguished career starting with his 1988 book, The Ecology of Stress and the 1989 American Psychologist article, Conservation of resources: A new attempt at conceptualizing stress. This one paper alone has generated more than 3359 citations according to Google Scholar. As a true indicator of a career of achievements, Dr. Hobfoll is credited with more than 18,147 citations of his work and growing. He has helped to shape our views of how people cope with stress – being it traumas or dramas – and the world is a better place because of it.

Charles Benight, Professor of Psychology Trauma, Health, & Hazards Center in Colorado who wrote the nomination letter notes:

[Dr. Hobfoll’s] . . . sophisticated theoretical approach has informed a vast array of research on traumatic stress, coupled at the same time with a profound practical impact on the treatment of trauma and especially mass casualty in regions around the world. Indeed, his impact may be most felt in regions of the world where psychiatry and psychological care is nowhere to be found and people are suffering from disaster, war, and famine.

In short, he has been a guiding light in the world of darkness and stress, toward understanding and healing. He has helped us all to pay attention to the humanity of the traumatized and has inspired us to do more and to do it better. And thus the 2014 Awards Committee is happy to award its highest honor to Stevan E. Hobfoll.

Charles R. Figley, PhD, Chair, 2014 Division 56 Awards Committee
http://www.apatraumadivision.org/