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BBI Chairman and University Professor Peter Blanck to join Board of Saks Institute for Mental Health Law at USC Gould School of Law

Dr. Peter Blanck has been appointed to the newly formed Board of Advisors for the Saks Institute for Mental Health Law, Policy and Ethics. The Saks Institute was founded at the University of Southern California Gould School of Law by Professor Elyn R. Saks, a recent recipient of a 5 year MacArthur Fellows Program “Genius” grant.

Saks is the author of the seminal 2007 book “The Center Cannot Hold: My Journey Through Madness”, which disclosed for the first time her own experience with schizophrenia and its treatment. She joined the faculty of the University of Southern California Gould School of Law in 1989, where she is currently associate dean and the Orrin B. Evans Professor of Law, Psychology, and Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences.

Blanck is among a group of select experts and advisors to the Saks Institute. He envisions an important collaboration between the Saks Institute and the Burton Blatt Institute (BBI) at Syracuse University. The collaboration will focus on opportunities for research on the lives of people with psychiatric disabilities. Dr. Blanck says: “It is an honor to be included in this inaugural Board of Advisors, and I hope our efforts will complement Professor Saks’ ground-breaking work in the area.”

BBI is dedicated to 21st Century Solutions for People with Disabilities worldwide. Headquartered in Syracuse, NY, with other offices in Washington DC, Atlanta GA, New York NY, Los Angeles CA, and Tel Aviv IL, BBI engages in projects on civil rights, universal design, employment and entrepreneurship, technology innovation, and attitudes about disability in traditional and new media. For information or to contribute to BBI, visit http://bbi.syr.edu. Or contact Me’Shae Brooks-Rolling at 315-443-8455 or at mrolling@law.syr.edu.