

Researcher database is first of its kind

A fully searchable database of Canadian addictions researchers is now available on-line, thanks to a joint initiative of the Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse and the Addictions Research Centre, Correctional Service Canada. The researcher database – the first of its kind in Canada – is expected to be a valuable tool for many groups and individuals interested in the study of substance abuse, problem gambling, and other addictive behaviours.

- **Researchers** can use this unique resource to locate colleagues with similar interests, develop partnerships and explore new areas or opportunities for multi-disciplinary cooperation. The database also lists many organizations that have funded addictions research in the past five years.
- **Funders**, including charitable foundations, policy makers and programmers, can use the new database to identify experts working in specific addictions areas, or with special populations (e.g., youth).
- **Journalists** who track developments in science, medicine and social issues will find the new researcher database a rich source of story ideas and potential interview subjects.

Who is included?

For the purposes of this database, a Canadian researcher is defined as an individual currently working primarily in Canada who has been listed as an author or co-author of a research publication in the addictions field (e.g., alcohol, tobacco, pharmaceutical or illicit drug misuse, gambling problems, etc.) during the past five years and who self-identifies as an addictions researcher.

The database provides information about each researcher's focus of research, area of specialization, funding sources, and potential opportunities for co-operative work. The database uses key words and controlled terms in both French and English for searching. Limited free-text descriptions appear in the language in which they were received. Where applicable, the database also identifies organizations with whom the researchers have an affiliation.

Research networks

CCSA is promoting awareness of the new database through links to a variety of networking partners, including the Canadian Community Epidemiology Network on Drug Use (CCENDU), the Health and

Enforcement Partnership (HEP), the Canadian Substance Abuse Information Network (CSAIN), and the Canadian Health Network (CHN). CCSA is also exploring other Internet connectivity opportunities through the Substance Abuse Library Information Specialists (SALIS), the Association of European Libraries and Information Services (ELISAD), and the Virtual Clearinghouse on Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs (VCATOD).

Where to find it

You can access the Researcher Database at the following address:

www.ccsa.ca/databases/researchers.htm

You can complete a survey at the following address for possible inclusion in the database:

www.ccsa.ca/databases/researchers-submit.htm

For a hard copy of the survey, e-mail your fax number to srosidi@ccsa.ca.

For more details, please contact Susan Rosidi at 613 235-4048, ext. 242, or write to Researcher Database, Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse, 75 Albert St., Suite 300, Ottawa, ON K1P 5E7 □

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Partner in



Preventing youth substance abuse: a new resource



Gary Roberts, CCSA senior associate, is one of the authors of *Preventing Substance Use Problems Among Young People – A Compendium of Best Practices*. For more details about this unique new resource, contact Gary by e-mail at groberts@ccsa.ca or by telephone at 613 235-4048, ext. 225.

Preventing *Substance Use Problems Among Young People – A Compendium of Best Practices* is the title of a new resource created by CCSA in collaboration with the Canadian Association for School Health and the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Funded by Health Canada, the *Compendium* is intended for use by program planners in a variety of settings, including schools, and community health, youth, family, addictions and police agencies. It was developed with the support of a broad-based national steering committee

and recognizes that Canadian youth are not all alike and that their circumstances vary widely. As a result, the scope of the *Compendium* is broad, and includes a variety of **settings** such as family, school and comprehensive community programs; various **target groups**, from 10-year-old non-users to high-risk users among street-involved youth; and a range of **aims**, from preventing initial use to reducing harm among those currently using.

Key components of the compendium are:

- ◇ A detailed discussion of current trends and pat-

terns in youth substance use in Canada;

- ◇ A discussion of 14 principles of effective youth prevention programming identified by the project team;
- ◇ A detailed description of 33 well evaluated programs with proven effectiveness;
- ◇ A detailed description of 39 Canadian programs, each reflecting some of the principles of effective prevention programming;
- ◇ A special focus on issues such as injection drug use and the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) program. □

CCENDU meeting explores ways to improve data quality

About 35 people gathered in Ottawa recently for the annual meeting of the Canadian Community Epidemiology Network on Drug Use (CCENDU). The group – representing the health and social service, research, law enforcement, government, and business

sectors – heard reports from 10 CCENDU monitoring sites across Canada. Information on drug use is gathered in nine major categories, including alcohol, opioids, sedatives, stimulants, hallucinogens and HIV/AIDS. A new national CCENDU report – the fourth since 1996 – is ex-

pected early in 2002.

Guest speakers at the October meeting included Richard Brière, assistant director of the new Institute of Neurosciences, Mental Health and Addiction who presented an Overview of Drug Trends in Canada: Data and Responses. □

Colleen Dell (standing at right) and **Karen Garabedian** (far right) of CCSA presented an Overview of National Data Sets, Indicators and Methodology. The meeting then broke up into small groups to study CCENDU's seven current indicators of drug use. The group input will be used to improve the quality of information gathered at CCENDU sites across Canada.

◆ For background on CCENDU: www.ccsa.ca/ccendu/index.htm





Agreement with Carleton University opens new doors

CCSA has negotiated an agreement with Carleton University aimed at forging closer links between researchers and policy makers working in the field of addictions, and individuals working and studying in an academic setting. Under the agreement, Dr. Colleen Dell will continue to coordinate the Canadian Community Epidemiology Network on Drug Use and the

Health and Enforcement Partnership for CCSA, while functioning as assistant professor in the department of sociology and anthropology at Carleton, where she recently received her PhD.

The cross-appointment will give CCSA and its partner organizations greater access to academic resources and data, and Carleton students, in turn, will have opportunities to

work with CCSA to gain access to the broader addictions community that the Centre represents.

A memorandum of understanding outlining the terms of the agreement with Carleton will be signed at a special ceremony to be held during a meeting of addictions researchers co-hosted by CCSA and Carleton on Dec. 15-16.

Dr. Dell joined CCSA in January, 2001. □



You can contact **Dr. Colleen Dell** at cdell@ccsa.ca, or at 613 235-4048, ext. 235.

CCSA and friends say farewell to board chair Bill Deeks

Bill Deeks has completed his final term as chair of CCSA's board of directors and stepped down in November. Mr. Deeks has been chair since June, 1993 when he succeeded Dr. David Archibald. A Governor-in-Council (GIC) appointment is expected soon to fill the vacant position.

Friends and colleagues gathered in Ottawa on Oct. 1 for a farewell dinner in Mr. Deeks's honour. Special guests included his wife Julie; Solicitor General Lawrence MacAulay and his Chief of Staff Paul McKinnon; Etobicoke North MP Roy Cullen; Michael Vandergrift, Senior Advisor to Health Minister Allan Rock; Paul Genest and Marcel Saulnier of the Prime Minister's Office; and Sandy Morrison and Howard Collins of the Canadian Brewers Association.

Mr. Deeks received high

praise from fellow board members, and CCSA staff and associates for his outstanding leadership and

commitment on behalf of the Centre during a challenging period in CCSA's history. □



Top: Solicitor General Lawrence MacAulay took time from his busy schedule to say good-bye to Bill Deeks at a special farewell dinner on Oct. 1. The Solicitor General is a strong supporter of CCSA and of the need to address the harm associated with addictions.

Bottom: Speaking for CCSA staff and associates, Senior Associate Gary Roberts (left) thanked Bill Deeks for his dedication to the Centre. He then presented the retired, but never retiring board chair with a "real" tie. Mr. Deeks graciously slipped it on over his customary bowtie.

IN THE NEWS

The link between drugs and terrorism

Media coverage since the stunning events of Sept. 11 has frequently linked terrorism and drugs. According to British Prime Minister Tony Blair and others, drug profits are bankrolling the Taliban regime and the activities of Osama bin Laden. However, Montreal's *Le Devoir* quotes an official with the French Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addictions as saying Afghani profits from sales of opium are small compared with those of countries that process it and sell it as heroin. Afghanistan is said to produce 75% of the world's opium.

There was a report from Lahore in September that the Taliban were dumping opium on the market at "throwaway" prices. A subsequent story in the *National Post* reported that bin Laden's terror network had tried to develop a high-strength form of heroin that it planned to export to the US and Western Europe. The goal of the failed project was to produce greater addiction and havoc than drugs already available.

The drug and terrorism link was reinforced in remarks by US officials, including former Drug Czar Barry McCaffrey, that the campaign against terrorism would resemble the US war on drugs in its tactics, including the use of diplomacy and covert operations. This prompted a vigorous re-

sponse from many who feel that the US war on drugs has failed dismally.

Closer to home, there were reports that increased border security had pushed up the price of BC marijuana in the US from \$500 to \$1,000 a pound. Edmonton police reported that a kilo of cocaine rose from around \$42,000 to \$47,000.

Reports from the US said anxious Americans began consuming more sleeping pills and anti-depressants after Sept.

11. On Oct. 11, Canada's Health Minister Allan Rock spoke reassuringly at the launch of the Canadian Mental Health Support Network, which is providing on-line advice (www.cma.ca/cmhsn) on coping with stress. The new network warns that people may resort to more use of alcohol, drugs and tobacco in the wake of Sept. 11.

The far-reaching effects of the terrorist attacks can even be seen in something as apparently unrelated as Nova Scotia's recently announced plan to ban smoking in public places. The hospitality industry says the move will be another "body blow" to a sector that has suffered because of the Sept. 11 attacks.

Last word: In a *National Post* column, Terence Corcoran accused "special interests" and "freeloaders" – including police forces – of using the Sept. 11 attack as a way to "upgrade their flagging campaigns". □



Events



- Nov. 18-20** – *The 14th Canadian Biennial Symposium On Employee & Family Assistance Programs In the Workplace*, Chateau Laurier, Ottawa, Ontario. Contact: Input '01 Headquarters, Humber College, Corporate & Continuing Education, 205 Humber College Boulevard, Toronto, ON M9W 5L7. Tel.: (416) 675-6622 Ext. 4559; Fax: (416) 675-0135. Web site: <http://www.humberc.on.ca/~input> E-mail: puran@admin.humberc.on.ca
- Nov. 18-24** – *Drug Awareness Week*. Contact: Pat Sanagan, Co-ordinator, Ontario Drug Awareness Partnership (ODAP), 1501 Mount Pleasant Rd. Toronto, ON M4N 2V1 Tel.: (416) 489-8301 Toll Free: 1-800-746-3852 Fax: (416) 489-9405. Web site: <http://sano.camh.net/odap> E-mail: odap@on.aibn.com
- Nov. 27-DEC. 14** – *Problem Gambling Workshop, PGED103: Treatment and Special Topics: A Distance Learning Experience*. Contact: Mr. Masood Zangeneh, E-mail: Masood_Zangeneh@CAMH.NET Tel.: (416) 535-8501 or toll free 1-877-928-3316
- Nov. 29** – *Forensic Issues in Addiction Medicine Workshop*, Washington, DC. Contact: American Society of Addiction Medicine, 4601 North Park Avenue, Suite #101, Upper Arcade Chevy Chase, Maryland 20815. Tel.: 301-656-3920; Fax: 301-656-3815. Web site: <http://www.asam.org> E-mail: email@asam.org
- DEC. 11** – *There is Help...There is Hope: Community Forums on Addiction and Mental Health: Alternative ways of healing addictions and mental health problems*. Contact: Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH). Contact: Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH), Web site: <http://www.camh.net> Tel.: (416) 979-4251.
- JAN. 22, 2002** – *There is Help...There is Hope: Community Forums on Addiction and Mental Health: Concurrent disorders: when mental illness and substance abuse collide*. Contact: See above.
- MARCH 18-23** – 2002 Kettil Bruun Society Thematic Meeting, *Community-based prevention of alcohol and drug-related harms*, Vuoranta Hotel, Helsinki, Finland. Contact: Marja Holmila or Thomas Karlsson, Stakes, P.O BOX 220, FIN -00531, Helsinki, Finland, E-mail: marja.holmila@stakes.fi or thomas.karlsson@stakes.fi Fax: +358 9 39672170
- MARCH 19** – *There is Help...There is Hope: Community Forums on Addiction and Mental Health, The stigma of addiction*. Contact: See above
- APRIL 23** – *There is Help...There is Hope: Community Forums on Addiction and Mental Health. Substance abuse: how can we support our children?* Contact: See above.
- MAY 12-15** – *6th World Conference on Injury Prevention and Control: Injuries, Suicide and Violence: Building Knowledge, Policies and Practices to Promote a Safer World*, Montréal Convention Centre. Contact: COPLANOR Congrès inc., 511 place d'Armes, Bureau 600 Montréal QC H2Y 2W7 CANADA Tel.: (514) 848-1133 1-877-213-8368 Fax: (514) 288-6469. Web site: <http://www.trauma2002.com> E-mail: trauma@coplanor.qc.ca
- MAY 13-15** – *3rd International Conference on Drugs and Young People*, AJC Convention Centre, Randwick, Sydney, NSW, Australia. Contact: Conference Secretariat, Web site: <http://www.adf.org.au> E-mail: events@adf.org.au Fax: +61 (03) 9328 3008
- MAY 14-16** – *25th Conference of the European Opiate Addiction Treatment Association: Evidence-based Practice & Integrated Treatment Approaches*, Oslo, Norway. Contact: Egil Haga (conference secretary) Unit for Addiction Medicine, Kirkevn. 166, N-0407 Oslo Tel: +47 23 01 60 50, Fax: +47 23 01 60 51. Web site: <http://www.europad.org> E-mail: egil.haga@psykiatri.uio.no
- AUG. 4-9** – *T 2002: 16th International Conference on Alcohol, Drugs and Traffic Safety*, Palais des Congrès de Montréal, Montréal, Québec, Canada. Contact: Elizabeth Wells-Parker, ICADTS Secretary, Mississippi State University, Mississippi State, Mississippi 39762 USA. Tel.: (601) 325-7959; Fax: (601) 325-7966. Web site: <http://www.saaq.gov.qc.ca/t2002/> E-mail: bwparkers@ssrc.msstate.edu

► For more details on these and other events, please visit www.ccsa.ca and follow the links for Resources.