



**SALIS Resolutions to Save ETOH**  
**The Alcohol and Alcohol Problems Science Database**  
**May 21, 2004**

- **WHEREAS** NIAAA made a decision to essentially defund the Alcohol and Alcohol Problems Science Database (ETOH) and the supporting AOD Thesaurus;
- **WHEREAS** there has still been no formal announcement of this, and no records have been added to ETOH since Dec 31, 2003;
- **WHEREAS** NIAAA maintains that ETOH is duplicative of PubMed, while admitting that PubMed cannot offer the same depth and range of coverage of the alcohol literature;
- **WHEREAS** NIAAA maintains that in part their decision is based on financial reasons, and whereas this is a decision which has not considered all of the financial aspects involved, nor the total value of ETOH;
- **WHEREAS** NIAAA failed to consult with the alcohol research and policy community before making this decision and whereas more than forty individuals and heads of major alcohol research and policy organizations have written to NIAAA to protest this NIAAA decision.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**

- **SALIS** believes there is no other database comparable to ETOH for its breadth and depth of coverage of the alcohol science and practice literature.
- **SALIS** believes that NIAAA has not fully considered the value of ETOH. ETOH is an asset to NIAAA, not just an expense or line item of a budget. At a cost of less than one tenth of one percent of the total NIAAA Budget for 2004, SALIS believes the cost minimal in comparison to ETOH's total value.
- **SALIS** believes NIAAA has not thoroughly explored the implications of de-funding ETOH, given the continued investment of public monies over the last three decades, the major contributions of ETOH as an information resource for the public good, and the substantial numbers of persons who and organizations which will suffer both time and financial losses from this decision.
- **SALIS** believes that the de funding of ETOH would be a monumental loss to the alcohol field; and thus SALIS will continue to work to save ETOH by broadly distributing the SALIS position paper and arguments for retaining and maintaining the world's premier alcohol science database.