SALIS JOINS DRUG INFORMATION PROFESSIONALS FROM 16 COUNTRIES AT 1999 ELISAD CONFERENCE IN LISBON

George Marcelle, SALIS Chair, Social and Health Service, Ltd.

SALIS Executive Director, Andrea Mitchell, and current SALIS Chair, George Marcelle represented SALIS and the United States at the 11th annual conference of ELISAD - the European Association of Libraries and Information Services on Alcohol and other Drugs November 4-6, 1999. During the conference welcoming session, Marcelle brought greetings from the SALIS membership and urged ELISAD members to participate in the May 3-6, 2000 SALIS conference being held in New York City.

In a presentation titled “SALIS at the Crossroads of the Century: Tensions, Successes and Beyond,” Mitchell reviewed the rapidly changing role of library professionals in recent years and the impact these changes continue to have on SALIS. She described the chronic struggle for support and how this must be balanced against the need for SALIS independence. A vision for SALIS in the new century included increased interaction and collaboration between ELISAD and SALIS. As an illustration of SALIS’s commitment, she told the Lisbon gathering that SALIS recently shifted its own annual meeting time from Fall to Spring to encourage greater participation in both conferences from those on either side of the Atlantic. (At least six ELISAD members are expected to attend the 22nd annual conference of SALIS in New York City, May 3-6, 2000.)

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REGISTER FOR THE 22ND ANNUAL SALIS CONFERENCE
MAY 3 - 6, 2000 AT THE NEW YORKER HOTEL
481 8th Ave New York, NY 10001

Register by March 20, 2000 to get Early-Bird fees: $245 for SALIS members and $320 for non-members. After March 20, 2000, registration fees will be $295 for members and $370 for non-members. Registration forms are available on the web at http://salis.org.

Room reservations must be made at the New Yorker Hotel (800-764-4680 Website: www.nyhotel.com E-mail: info@nyhotel.com) by April 12, 2000 to get the conference rate (single room: $159, double $159, triple $179).
Sources for Science-based Prevention Programs

As the substance abuse prevention field develops, policy makers and program coordinators are asking for science-based prevention programs. SALIS members are often asked by clients about the efficacy of specific programs or how to find an effective program based on particular criteria. This column will review some of the emerging science-based prevention resources available on the Web. I have considered writing on this area in the past, but have hesitated because so much is always "in the works." This column tries to capture the current state of what is available and some ideas about what is to come, with the understanding that like so many areas of the web, this one is continually changing and growing.

Guides to Best Practices

A number of U.S. government agencies and private organizations have responded to the demand for science-based prevention information. A couple of agencies have developed guides to best practices, by defining evaluation criteria for effective programs and assessing programs based on this criteria. Others have compiled descriptive lists of programs found to be effective, based on that program’s evaluation. Program developers seeking funding from a particular agency would be wise to learn what that agency considers effective.

A brief summary of the resources follows:

- American Youth Policy Forum has created two documents, with compilations of programs that effectively address a variety of concerns related to youth: MORE Things That DO Make a Difference for Youth: A Compendium of Evaluations of Youth Programs and Practices; and Some Things DO Make a Difference for Youth: A Compendium of Evaluations of Youth Programs and Practices (more information available at http://www.aypf.org/).
- The Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP) has two documents in development, Science-Based Practices in Substance Abuse Prevention: A Guide (available online at http://)

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NEWS FROM CANADA

Jill Austin, Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse

The Canadian Health Network

November 1999 saw the launch of the long-awaited Canadian Health Network (CHN). This project, developed by Health Canada, has been in the works for several years now and has, through numerous consultations, evolved into a Web-based national resource for health information. It is a network of networks' serving a broad range of stakeholders, but primarily targeting the public.

This is a highly ambitious project of the federal government, which seeks to utilize the Internet to provide a central source of credible and accurate health information to Canadians. It complements the federal initiative to provide Internet access to all schools and public libraries in Canada.

CHN is establishing affiliate partners on various health topics to identify and catalogue Web-based resources and to respond to information requests in key topic areas. The substance abuse/addictions affiliate is represented through a coalition of the Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse, the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, and the Addictions Foundation of Manitoba. A separate coalition is responsible for tobacco/smoking issues. Other topics include AIDS/HIV, determinants of health, alternative health, as well as numerous others.

The central site, located at http://www.canadian-health-network.ca/, provides full-text search of Web-based documents catalogued by the affiliate partners. There are links to all the affiliates and to several hundred associate partners. They feature FAQ's for each topic area.

Although primarily organized by health topic, the site allows for selection of information by group, including aboriginal peoples, children, ethnic groups, men, women, seniors, youth, and people with disabilities. Emphasis is placed on prevention of health problems, and information is provided about active living.

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CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Barbara Seitz de Martinez, Chair, Nominating Committee

As we move closer to the May conference, the time has come to begin soliciting nominations for several key positions on the SALIS Executive Board. The elections will be held in advance of SALIS Annual Meeting, and results will be announced during the meeting. The following positions are open for nominations:

Chair-Elect. The Chair-Elect will assume the position of Chair at the end of his/her one-year term or in the event that the Chair vacates that office. The Chair-Elect performs the duties of Chair whenever the Chair is absent or unable to serve, performs other duties that may be assigned by the Chair, and acts as a liaison with the Chairs of Committees and Special Interest Groups. The Chair-Elect position is a one-year position, followed by one year as Chair, and one year as Past-Chair.

Secretary. The Secretary performs the usual duties of that office, including the recording and distribution of the minutes of Board meetings, business meetings, and those assigned by the Chair. The Secretary collects the annual reports from the Committees and SIGS. The Secretary acts as Chair of the Membership Committee, keeps the official record and prepares an annual report of the membership, writes the "new member" welcome letter and distributes annual notices for renewal of membership. The position of Secretary is a two-year position.

Members at Large - 3. At present the positions of Members at Large are for one year and limited to two consecutive terms. The Executive Board has been discussing the possibility of extending the term to two years and of making one of the three positions designated for a non-North American member. But since no final action has been taken on that issue, we need to nominate and elect three MALs for May 2000.

The Executive Board of SALIS consists of the Chair, Chair-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, three Members-at-Large, the immediate past-chair, and the newsletter editor. Each board member has one vote except the past-chair and the newsletter editor, who are ex-officio. The-
www2.edc.org/capt/csap/papers/gardner-cover.asp). In addition, CSAP found seven model programs based on its High-Risk Youth program. (Summarized on-line at http://www.miph.org/capt/highriskset.html and further explored in Understanding Substance Abuse Prevention Toward the 21st Century: A Primer on Effective Programs, which can be ordered at the National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Information (NCADI).)

- The Department of Education has developed Principles of Effectiveness (online at http://www.open.org/-westcapt/bpdoprn.htm) and has a compilation of programs that is under review. Programs from this document are included in the databases at the Northeast and the Central CAPT (see below).

- Two agencies in the Department of Justice have published separate documents in this area. The http://www.ncjrs.org/works/index.html, (information available at http://www.drugstrategies.com).

- The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) "Red Book," Preventing Drug Use Among Children and Adolescents (http://165.112.78.61/Prevention/Prevopen.html), outlines prevention principles and highlights research-based programs that have had positive results.

Prevention Science Information on the CAPTs’ Web Sites

In absence of a coordinated national effort to define what works in prevention, many of the Centers for the Application of Prevention Technologies (CAPTs), supported by CSAP, have started to present compilations of programs and resource that cross agencies. The Central, Northeast, and Western CAPTs’ web sites include extensive information about prevention science. The other CAPTs’ web sites provide the following:

- The Border CAPT web site (http://www.bordercapt.org/) is available in both English and Spanish and highlights the innovative work being done along the U.S.-Mexico border.

- The Southeastern CAPT web site has a Cookbook of Best Practices (http://www.cenaccsys.com/secapt/practices/bestprac1.htm), which outlines risk factors and related programs. When available, a link is provided to the program’s web site. The Southwestern CAPT web site (http://www.swcaptr.org/index.html) has a series of "mobilizers" on protective factors and community change.

The Central CAPT (http://www.miph.org/capt/scibase.html) has a Science-Based Prevention section which features a number of resources. The Central CAPT provides full-text information on prevention principles and background information on what is prevention science. The Central CAPT also compiles an Acronym directory, for those who need to alleviate confusion created by the Federal alphabet soup.

The web site of the Northeast CAPT has a section on using Science-Based Prevention Strategies (http://www2.edc.org/capt/science/) which includes background papers and bibliographies on science-based programs. The resources have been developed by the Northeast CAPT or CSAP. The document, A Checklist of Key Characteristics of Effective Prevention Interventions, developed jointly with the six CAPTs is available online.

The Western CAPT web site (http://www.open.org/-westcapt/) features the most comprehensive prevention-science information online. Building a Successful Prevention Program is an attempt to compile information from many sources on the steps to building effective programs. The information is arranged by the questions one would ask in building a program, from "Is your community ready for prevention?" to "How will you evaluate your prevention program?" The goal is to provide the information in a way that would be useful for those developing programs. The bulk of the information contained in the first couple steps is from the Developmental Research Programs at University of Washington. The Western CAPT clearly specifies that the information is based on the risk and protective factor framework of prevention.

The Building a Successful Prevention Program is a good start to compiling and organizing the many resources on this subject. The site is well-referenced and information about how to obtain the referenced documents is included. Further, in some cases, links are included to examples of what states in the Western region have done. For example, under Data Collection, links are made to web sites on

(Continued on page 5)
data collection efforts in Washington and Oregon. Another helpful feature is the What’s New section, started in August 1999. The section lists new and updated information to the site, and demonstrates that the Western CAPT is regularly enhancing the site. A drawback: The complexity of Building a Successful Prevention Program makes it hard to navigate. More navigational buttons and a site map might help alleviate this problem.

Web Compilations of Prevention Programs

In addition to providing resources, three of the CAPTs have started the ambitious task of maintaining lists and databases of prevention programs. See Table 1 and 2 for comparisons across systems.

The Western CAPT provides its list of programs in the context of the entire process of selecting and implementing a program. Step 6: Best Practices in Building a Successful Prevention Program is the place to look for information on prevention programs. While the programs are not in a database, the lists are accessible from a variety of access points, such as domain or target group. Also helpful in this section is an area on “unproven strategies” which provides background information and research on many popular strategies that have not been scientifically proven to be successful. This list is primarily a compilation of programs, but it also includes information on the efficacy of general prevention strategies, such as economic interventions and counter-advertising.

Included in the Science-Based Prevention section at the Northeast CAPT is a searchable database of over 100 prevention programs (http://www2.cdc.org/capt/science/pod/). A very useful feature of the Northeast CAPT database is an explanation of the criteria that each source has used for selecting and evaluating the programs.

The Central CAPT has also developed an online resource on science-based programs, the Effective Prevention Programs Database (http://www.miph.org/capt/programs.html). The Central CAPT is clear that this is a work in progress. The database currently holds 85 programs. The comprehensiveness of the entries for each program varies, but most include contact information, a description of the program, and target audience. In some cases, information about cost of purchasing the program components is provided. The Central CAPT has relied on a number of print resources for the programs, but has verified the program’s information to ensure accuracy.

Comparisons Across Systems

Source of Programs. Before investing in a program, it is a good idea to check the source and see the selection criteria used to determine the program’s effectiveness. While each system contains unique programs, many of the same programs are included in each as they all use some of the same sources. (see Table 1.) The Northeast CAPT database contains the most programs, but does not have all programs found in the Central and Western systems. One reason for the discrepancy is that the Western CAPT is identifying programs independent of the primary print sources. Because of this, one would need to search all three databases to be comprehensive.

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<tr>
<th>Table 1. Sources For Programs Used in Systems</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Central</td>
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<tr>
<td>CSAP: Catalog</td>
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<td>CSAP: Here is Proof Prevention Works</td>
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<td>CSAP: PEPS Series</td>
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<td>CSAP: Science-based Prevention</td>
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<td>CSPV</td>
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<td>Department of Education</td>
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<td>Drug Strategies</td>
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<td>OJJDP</td>
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<td>Other Sources</td>
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Note: An overlap of programs exists across the sources. These databases do not necessarily include all the programs listed in the sources.

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In The Works

The CAPTs developed their databases in response to urgent client needs. Hopefully, these efforts will be used in the development of a national system for identifying and selecting programs. Currently, CSAP has a number of projects in the works to provide one centralized effort. Many of the projects have web sites under development:

- The Decision Support System for Prevention of Substance Abuse (DSS) will be a web-based interactive tool that will allow prevention professionals to access research to select and implement prevention programs. In theory you could plan, implement, and evaluate an entire prevention program using this system. A web site (http://www.preventiondss.org) currently exists that describes the program.

- The National Registry of Effective Prevention Programs (NREPP) will contain implementation and outcome information on substance abuse prevention intervention projects sponsored by all Federal agencies, State governments, foundations, and corporations. At the moment the URL (http://www.preventionregistry.org) takes you to a placeholder page. Prevention programmers will have the opportunity to nominate programs for the NREPP (http://www.rowsciences.com/modprog/revised/nominate.htm).

- A CAPT Best Practices site (http://www.health.org/captbestpractices) is under development on the NCADI web site. This new, work-in-progress web site will contain a listing of 'best-practices' and 'best programs' as identified by the CAPTs. A skeleton of a search interface and program information is currently available.

In addition to these projects, the National Prevention System (NPS) was created to unify national prevention efforts across Federal, state, and local agencies. The NPS is a composite of existing and developing projects to reduce substance abuse in the United States. NPS has an operational web site (http://www.preventionssystem.org) that is still under construction. Currently, the web site provides background information on the NPS and a calendar of prevention activities.

The need for science-based prevention information in an accessible format is great. Prevention programs are being developed and evaluated based on scientific principles, but what has been learned from these pro...
programs needs to be better organized and made more accessible to prevention professionals. Because joint efforts in the Federal government can be slow and difficult, it is useful that the CAPTs have made a start at making this information available on the web. Hopefully, their efforts will be assembled into one system in the future. Websights will keep you updated on developments in this area.

ELISAD continues from page 1...

Held in a renovated Portuguese palace that serves as headquarters for the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA), in Lisbon, the 1999 ELISAD meeting also drew participants from Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Italy, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, The Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the U.K. The EMCDDA headquarters conference site provided many ELISAD participants with their first complete introduction to the staff and resources of the Centre. Formally created by the European Economic Council (EEC) in 1993 following years of Council discussions of how to address growing drug problems in the European Community (EC) countries. The EMCDDA was set up to provide the EC and its Member States with “objective, reliable and comparable information at European level, concerning drugs and drug addiction and their consequences.” The organization is also open to countries outside the European Union and has forged links with Central and Eastern European countries and in Latin America.

Of particular interest to the European and U.S. librarians and information specialists is REITOX, the European Information Network on Drugs and Drug Addiction, coordinated by EMCDDA as a collection of 15 national information centers, or National Focal Points, in each EC Member State. These Focal Points, in fact, “form the backbone of the Centre’s work.” This work concentrates on four tasks: collecting/analyzing existing information on drugs; improving data-comparison methods; disseminating information; and co-operating with European and international bodies and organizations, and with non-EU countries.

One of the European AOD ‘documentation centres’ dates back to 1901, when the Swedish Council for Information on Alcohol and other Drugs (CAN) was established. However most substance abuse information resources in Europe did not exist until the late 1960s and after, with several dating from the mid-eighties. ELISAD as a formal network, began in 1988 to provide a means for Europeans working in alcohol/drug information to exchange experience and ideas and to improve their knowledge and skills.

Among those common challenges remains the lack of internationally agreed upon definitions and terms, an issue familiar to U.S. drug and alcohol information professionals. As the EMCDDA task list suggests, a related challenge for the ELISAD membership is the wide variety of data-collating and analyzing methods in current use in the various EU Member States (and in other countries, as well). EMCDDA Scientific Monograph Series No. 1, “Estimating the Prevalence of Problem Drug Use in Europe,” published in 1997, for example, begins with chapters acknowledging the influence of varying national policies on data collection and goes on to describe and discuss the major current European systems for reporting substance prevalence in use today.

For ELISAD, an additional related challenge discussed during the Lisbon conference is the lack of standardized library indexing. At a time when Internet communications are opening up many new options for obtaining substance abuse information, librarians and other information managers are increasingly frustrated by incompatible identification, cataloging and retrieval systems. This can also compound familiar problems in communication between individuals and groups with different languages. While most European information professionals are proficient in English, fewer of their colleagues in English-speaking countries can read and comprehend European languages. And as ELISAD Chair Marianne Van der Heyden remarked, “minor but important studies published in Dutch are rarely translated. The useful information they contain never gets to those who might put it into practice.”

In addition to general sessions describing the work and resources of EMCDDA, the ELISAD attendees met in three concurrent discussion workshops, reporting back to the main conference later in the program. The topics considered were: “Networking, How and Why”; “Use of Information Sources”; and “Role of the Information Professional.”

Other general session presentations were made by ELISAD members Ove Sundby (Norway), Greet Van

(Continued on page 8)
der Spek (the Netherlands) and Lyn Robinson (U.K.). Handouts included a list of resources of interest to non-US information managers, compiled by Marcelle, from NCADI and PREVline. "What did We Talk About in the Past Years?" was a conference handout listing the titles and authors of presentations at ELISAD conferences from 1988-1998.

The ELISAD membership unanimously accepted an invitation proffered by Dr. Hana Sovinova of the Drug Information Centre, Prague (Czech Republic), to convene the next ELISAD conference in Prague September 2000.

News from Canada continues from page 3...

healthy lifestyles, healthy eating, health promotion, and injury prevention.

The substance abuse/addictions affiliate will be working closely with members of the Canadian Substance Abuse Information Network (CSAIN), and has allocated funds from this project to help build the CSAIN network and improve mechanisms for resource sharing among substance abuse/addictions organizations in Canada.

Video Review continues from page 2...

Every comment upon their struggles and coping mechanisms, followed by summarizing comments by Daley. Despite its title, resisting pressures toward drug use is treated equally with alcohol use. The acting is well done, the topic is specific and focused, and video appears useful and very respectful of those in recovery.

RECOVERY FROM THE HEART: A JOURNEY THROUGH THE TWELVE STEPS: AN INTRODUCTION TO THE TWELVE STEPS FOR NATIVE AMERICANS by Don Coyhis, Hazelden (800-328-9000), 1990, 50 minutes.

Part of a three video series introducing the Twelve Steps to Native Americans, this is a straightforward "telling my story" talk by Coyhis, sharing how the Twelve Steps were what brought quality to his life. At first it might appear far too simplistic in its presentation, but soon this reviewer was wrapped up in the power and humanness of his story. His sincerity shines through. It would appear that anyone in recovery or in the grip of addictions would relate to Mr. Coyhis and his story, but all of us who have ever struggled to overcome any difficulty in life would also find a bond.


This video is powerful with fine acting and dramatic scenes. It shows the compelling stories of six people on their first day in treatment. We learn what brought each of them to treatment, and see them struggle with the denial of their disease. Their first day they learn that there is hope and recovery. This video is aimed at those still actively using drugs, to help them understand how addiction affects their lives. The video suggests viewers seek help from the person who provided them with the video - though perhaps providing a national crisis phone number would have been as useful. The video is well done and talks to the vulnerability in all of us, and the power of working together to accomplish what can not be done alone.

Call for Nominations continues from page 3...

Board meets at least once per year at the annual meeting. To be eligible for these positions you must be a full member of SALIS with renewed membership effective for 2000. You will need to submit a brief biographical sketch of less than 400 words, in electronic format. Please include any past experience with SALIS as work with Committees and Special Interest Groups. Also highlight your goals for SALIS.

Please submit your nominations by Friday, March 10, 2000 by e-mail or FAX to: Barbara Seitz de Martinez, Chair, Nominating Committee, seitzb@indiana.edu, FAX 812/855-4940, Tel 812/855-1237. Or mail to: Indiana Prevention Resource Center, 2735 E. 10th St., Rm. 110, Indiana University- Creative Arts Bldg., Bloomington, IN 47408-2606.

SALIS is made up of the finest people on earth. To serve on the Executive Board is a privilege and pleasure. Besides, SALIS needs your help to be the best that it can be. Please consider running for one of these offices. Your talents are many! Help launch SALIS into the new millennium!
Announcing two new subject specific journals from Haworth Press:

Journal of Social Work Practice in the Addictions: Editor: S. Lala Ashenberg Strausssner, DSW, CAS.

For social work practitioners to keep abreast of the latest developments in the field of addictions. Reviewed articles on innovative individual, family, group work and community practice models for treating and preventing substance abuse and other addictions in diverse populations. The journal will focus on health care, social polices and program administration which directly affect social work practice in the addictions. Free sample copy available. E-mail: getinfo@haworthpressinc.com


The charter issue will appear in Spring 2000. The Journal of Cannabis Therapeutics will focus on the presentation and dissemination of current information on this critical area of clinical research.

Content of the Journal will include clinical case studies of cannabis and cannabinoids, scholarly reviews of the history of therapeutic cannabis, and reversion of archival materials that have been inaccessible to a broader audience, coupled with state of the art original research into biochemical and pharmacological mechanisms of endocannabinoids, and investigations of its synthetic analogues.

An annual double-issue will focus on one in-depth theme. The topic in the year 2000 will be “Cannabis and Cannabinoids in HIV/AIDS” and for the year 2001, “Roles of Cannabis and Cannabinoids in Women’s Medical Issues.”

Sample copies are available free of charge. Please send your request on your institutional letterhead to: Sample Copy Department The Haworth Press, Inc. 10 Alice St. Binghamton, NY 13904-1580

Medical Anthropology Volume 18 No. 4 is a special issue entitled Emergent Trends in Illicit Drug-Use Behaviors. Guest Editor: Merrill Singer.

A selection of papers from this issue:
- “Crack Cocaine Injection in the Heartland: An Ethnographic Perspective” by Robert G. Carlson, Russel S. Falck, and Harvel A. Siegel
- “Needle Exchange and the Politics of Science: Confronting Canada’s Cocaine Epidemic with Participant Observation” by Philippe Bourgois and Julie Bruneau
- “Parental Injection of Alcohol: Early Warning of an Emergent Trend in Colombia?” by J. Bryan Page and Maria Jose Miguez-Burbano
- “The High, the Money, and the Fame: The Emergent Social Context of ‘New Marijuana’ Use Among Urban Youth” by Jean J. Schensul, Cristina Huebner, Merrill Singer, Marvin Snow, Pablo Feliciano, and Lorie Broomhall
- “Fluctuating Drug Markets and HIV Risk Taking: Female Drug Users and Their Relationship with Drug Markets” by Claire E. Sterk and Kirk W. Elifson

Available Spring 2000 from Gordon and Breach. Single issue $94.00. Special reduced subscription rate available to members of the Society for Medical Anthropology at http://www.gbhap.com/Medical_Antropology.


NEW BOOKS

Andrea Mitchell, Alcohol Research Group


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U.S. Congress. Senate. Committee on the Judiciary. *Raising Tobacco Prices: New Opportunities for the Black Market?: hearings before the Committee on the Judiciary, United States Senate, One Hundred Fifth Congress, second session, on examining the impact on the tobacco industry of proposed legislation relating to the increase in the price of tobacco products, focusing on whether new opportunities for the black market would be prevalent if tobacco prices rise, April 30, May 12, and May 13, 1998*. Washington: U.S. G.P.O.


Deadline for next issue of
SALIS News Vol. 20, No. 1,
Spring 2000 is:
April 17, 2000.