"Sweet Sweet Memories You Gave-a Me!"

By Clare Imholtz, Librarian, Center for Substance Abuse Research (CESAR), College Park, MD and Barbara Weiner, Staff Librarian / Information Consultant, Hazelden Foundation, Center City, MN

The sword of Damocles may have hung over our heads in Toronto—figuratively, in the form of SARS—but it was a superb Conference nonetheless, our 25th. I think the Toronto Conference will ultimately be remembered, not so much for the threat of SARS (Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome, a new highly contagious and sometimes fatal disease), as for the quality of its presentations, the welcoming presence of our Canadian colleagues, the memories shared of SALIS’s first 24 Conferences, and the most delicious reception in recent history!

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From the New Chair

By Tom Mikolyzk, Independent Educational Consultant, Educational Consultants, LaGrange, IL

Now that we've all had some time to reflect on our 25th anniversary conference, thanks in part to the additional ten days I and a few of our colleagues could spend away from our desks, it's time to put some thoughts down on paper.

As many of you know, I'm now actively looking for new employment. I've been searching all the pertinent library employment web sites, including local, regional and national databases. Heck, I've even thought about relocating to DC. While this is an exciting time for me, it has also brought to the surface a negative side of my business personality. I've started to look at jobs that require skills that don't match my education and years of experience. Jobs that I didn't even glance at in

(Continued on page 10)
The biggest event in the Technology Committee during the past year was the initiation of Amy First from the SALIS Home Office as the official web mistress for SALIS. This job had been done previously on a volunteer basis as time allowed - which meant that our web site sometimes had to take a back seat to other more pressing SALIS business. What a difference a few dedicated hours a week can make!

With a big start from former SALIS staffer Wendy Wang, Amy revamped the SALIS web site to improve site navigation and appearance, and added new elements such as a "What's New" page. The Technology Committee provided suggestions and feedback throughout the process.

Another enhancement of the web page is the addition of conference presentations from recent SALIS meetings. PowerPoint slides and streaming video from several presentations made at the 2002 conference in Washington DC are available to download and view from the Past Conferences section. Similarly, some content from the 2003 meeting in Toronto will be added when available. This new feature is a great benefit, especially for those members who were not able to attend.

Still in the works is a secure password feature for a "members only" section, which will contain the membership list and anything else restricted to SALIS members.

Errata

The book review by David Man in the Vol. 23 No. 1 issue was edited incorrectly. The first sentence of the second paragraph should have read: ‘This web site was created in house using Microsoft FrontPage and is also hosted in house, geared more towards the needs of CASA’s research staff than those of the public.’

On page 5 of the Vol. 23 No. 1 issue, near bottom of the right hand column of Bette Reimer’s article, “Sharing the World’s Knowledge: The Virtual Clearinghouse on ATOD,” should have read Current Contents and PsycINFO instead of {NEED OTHER NAMES}.

We apologize for these errors.
The 25th SALIS anniversary conference took place in Toronto in spite of the SARS threat and the WHO’s advice not to visit there. The conference was a definite success and none of the participants panicked. The conference was held at the beautiful Inter-Continental Toronto hotel not far from the old buildings of Toronto University and surrounded by an idyllic park.

Hosting the conference was Sheila LaCroix from Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) who did an impressive job.

There were 49 participants from Canada, the United States, UK, and Norway. The person who had come the farthest was from Alaska.

I was invited to attend the Board Meeting on 22nd of April and found it a good opportunity to get to know the SALIS organisation.

The conference program was a variety of guest speakers and SALIS members presenting different topics. There was a wide variety of subjects from Canadian Drug Policy and state of the art to earth searching tips on Google, AltaVista and AllTheWeb.

My assignment was to represent Elisad and give a presentation on the development of the Elisad gateway project. This was my first assignment to represent a European organisation across the Atlantic; I must admit my nerves were a bit shaky. It was, therefore, a relief to find that I was not the only one using PowerPoint for the first time, nor the only speaker to be nervous. I felt tremendous support and friendliness in the audience. My impression of the SALIS members is that they are a group of warm, friendly, inclusive, dedicated and knowledgeable professionals. The conference definitely was a peak in my professional life.

The 25th anniversary celebration was marked by a “walk along the memory lane” looking back on the SALIS history, an entertaining lunch with singing SALIS members and a trip to the Niagara waterfalls.

On the day of the trip the weather which had been cold and cloudy, cleared up and we had a beautiful clear after-

(Continued on page 11)
By Christine Goodair, Head of Information Services, Drugscope, London, England


Doping in sport is not a new topic; it has a long history, from Greek athletes in the third century to the present day. Sport in today’s society is highly valued and the author provides an excellent overview of this, from its association with purity to its modern day image of being affected by commercialism, nationalism and government intervention- we only need to think of the current debates about London bidding for the 2012 Olympic Games. Instances of doping cases in major sport are also covered which illustrate that winning is considered by many athletes to be their sole priority, and striving for that extra ‘edge’ is sought at a price.

This book explores several issues such as the effects of individual drugs upon an athlete’s body; are certain drugs used in particular sports; what masking agents are used and can they be monitored, and the future of anti-doping policy. A full examination of the anti-doping policy situation is given with an interesting discussion of the question, “why oppose doping” which explores the ethical and moral issues faced by athletes, coaches and others in sport, alongside an analysis of the international response and the work of sports organisations and other interested bodies.

This revised edition comprehensively pulls together all of the issues concerning drug misuse in sport. The appendices are a useful reference source, covering a list of prohibited pharmacological classes of doping agents and doping methods; the text of the anti-doping convention (ETS 135) and a chart of signatures and ratifications to it; and an annotated list of selected anti-doping websites. This book will be useful to all those wanting to know more about doping in sport. It is well written, readable, and accessible to those who may be approaching the subject for the first time.


This book, presents a relatively detached analysis of sport (Continued on page 12)

Video & DVD Information, Where To Get It

Back in the last quarter of the twentieth century, SALIS News printed a short review of sources for information on film resources (Vol. 4, #6, 1984). What has changed in the meanwhile is the massive growth of the Net and digital technology. Most of the sources noted then* are still available and have web sites that are readily accessible.

I may be preaching to the converted with this capsule review of resources, but as the converted know, the problem is not finding resources but finding the most reliable resources.

*National Center for Health Education: http://www.nche.org

*Wisconsin Clearinghouse: http://www.uhs.wisc.edu/wch

Many other states have information clearinghouses and an easy way to find them is to crank up your search engine exact phrase search and type, for example "Pennsylvania Clearinghouse" and you get: http://www.paeducator.net


*Voice of Youth Advocates: www.voya.com

There are list servers, notably The University of California's video news. SALIS members may be aware of this excellent source of communication, dialogue and notice of "video news." Send a blank e-mail message with "help" in the subject field to listproc@library.berkeley.edu and subscription information will be returned.

As for the *Addiction Research Foundation publications "The Journal" and "Projections," they are no more. The Centre for Addiction and Mental Health is the name of a new psychiatric hospital that has taken over the alcohol and drug treatment operations of the ARF. The Projections audiovisual review committee still functions but assessments are only occasionally published in the journal "Crosscurrents." The Centre library maintains a video resource collection that can be relied on to offer consistently good materials. Videos in this collection (Continued on page 12)
Treasurer’s Report — Barbara Weiner. SALIS’s finances are slowly dwindling, due mainly to increased expenses. Our main income is from membership dues. Conferences are not moneymakers; fees are set to break even.

Membership Report — Clare Imholtz. We have 132 members: 125 full, 6 associate, 1 institutional (i.e., developing country) membership. This is slightly up from last year.

Membership Fees and Types. Because of rising expenses, the Board voted to increase member dues to $100.00 per annum. Dues were last increased in 1996. As an incentive for new members to join in mid year, the Board approved prorated fees based at the rate of $25.00 for each quarter of the calendar year.

SALIS Home Report — Andrea Mitchell. Andrea and three representatives of the Virtual Clearinghouse (VC) went to Washington DC in February 2003 to encourage U.S. government agencies to partner with VC. They had varying success. The Pan American Health Organization has joined, and the National Institute of Justice will probably join. Some agencies were concerned that they not appear to be supporting Libraries that include harm reduction materials. The Board discussed ways SALIS could counteract the current anti-harm reduction mindset, as well as possible funding options.

Education and Outreach — SALIS needs to do more promotions and exhibits, possibly at ALA, SLA, and MLA Conferences. We all need to promote the advantages of SALIS membership to library groups and within the RADAR network.

Financial Matters—The Board voted to rewrite the job description for the SALIS Home assistant who now does web work as well as administrative duties, and to give her a raise plus annual cost of living adjustments. We discussed the pros and cons of credit card payments, but deferred a decision until we can do a cost analysis.

(Continued on page 13)
**Impressions Of My First SALIS Conference**

*By Dianne van Abbe, Information Coordinator,*
*Ontario Tobacco Research Unit, Toronto, Canada*

When I think of 2003, I will think of the War in Iraq, the SARS outbreak, the long, long winter in Toronto and my FIRST SALIS CONFERENCE. The last item being the most positive. I have been to other conferences, but this will stand out in my memory for the following reasons:

The people – A small group, very friendly, informative and encouraging. This was my first time presenting and I was not as nervous as I had anticipated. I have to credit the atmosphere in which I presented. I met many smiling faces who I can now match to the email names I have seen for the past year on the listserv.

The Presentations – Wow – they were great. To see what everyone has accomplished and the fresh new ideas for finding information, building a website, networking, searching… I am still checking stuff out from my notes.

Getting lost – Yes, I went on the pub crawl as one of the ‘locals’ and got separated from the group! Ah, well. Luckily we met up at the pub and all was well.

The Food – I can’t negate this – it was all wonderful. Especially the cake and champagne! Nice touch. Sheila did such a great job of organizing the conference and made everyone feel at home. Thanks, Sheila. And even though I live in Toronto, I had never been to the Inter-Continental hotel, what a great place.

So, now when I think of SALIS, I will think of Virginia’s smiling face, Andrea’s bubbling energy and personality, the great people I met from other provinces in Canada, the United States, Chris from the UK, Jorunn from Norway, and all the other people who attended. What a great group!

And next year I hope to meet even more of you! (Especially George Marcelle, who I keep hearing about - must see those Marilyn Monroe ties!)

Stay busy and well everyone.

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**A First Timer’s Experience**

*By Jennifer Johnson-Spence,*
*Drug Policy Alliance, New York, NY*

Like an episode of the old television show Mission Impossible, Toronto, Canada was my destination. The mission, should I chose it, was my first SALIS conference and SALIS’s 25th anniversary. Not SARS, bad weather or anything else was going to keep me from going. I’m so glad that I did, because from Tuesday night’s opening reception extravaganza, to the stimulating sessions and conversations with other librarians, I was in full speed. All of this year’s attendees got to add another memory to their SALIS collection.

Sheila Lacroix and the staff of the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health were the hosts of this year’s conference in Toronto. They should be commended for their “bravery” and service in the very complicated circumstances. Without realizing it, they threw a big party, even with all the craziness going on in the outside world.

The opening night reception had just the right mix of music, food and people. It was a great way to start the conference. It let people get caught up with each other and meet new members. The sessions held each day were packed full of relevant information. (I didn’t even mind waking up early to attend them.) Sessions included topics from fetal alcohol syndrome to explanations of this year’s poster submissions. Attendees found out what other organizations were doing and received updates on internet issues, like search engines and online collections. The two ELISAD members who attended informed us of the happenings in their group and the projects they’re working on.

The pub crawl/walking tour around Toronto, trip to Niagara Falls and just general mingling was so beneficial. It’s always nice to know that other people are encountering the same situations that you are. That way you can commiserate with each other. Another highlight of the conference was the 25th anniversary tea. What a surprise to find out the hidden talents of so many SALIS members. Who knew that Eric Helmuth could play the piano and that we had a group of singers amongst us?

However, the bonus for me was that I was able to ask other attendees about research questions that I was working on. I got to find out answers to questions that I hadn’t had any success finding answers to. With the information I gathered, I was able to go back and complete projects.

(Continued on page 11)
Conference Aftermath!
The biggest news from Canada is that, yes, the 2003 25th Anniversary SALIS Conference did take place, in spite of the SARS outbreak in Toronto that kept people away from the city in droves. To all who attended, thank you for coming. To all who helped, thanks team! From feedback received, it seems that a good time was had by all! In Toronto, we were reflecting on conferences of years past and we seem to have a colourful, eventful history - at least two fires! The main thing is that we keep going, keep dreaming and keep building on our past, and meeting face to face helps to keep our organization vibrant.

By the time you receive this copy of SALIS News, some of the conference presentations should be on the Web. However, many of the highlights are right here in SALIS News, so enjoy.

CCSA/CSAIN Meeting
Before discussing the CSAIN meeting, I must once again thank the CCSA group for supporting the conference in so many ways. The plan of holding a CSAIN meeting concurrently with the SALIS conference brought many more Canadians to SALIS this year and we all will benefit from the networking and sharing that took place. Without the Canadian attendees, we would have been an extremely small group. A special thank you to Nina Frey at CCSA for being instrumental in planning this meeting and to Michel Perron, the CEO of CCSA, for corporate support of the conference as a whole.

CSAIN (Canadian Substance Abuse Information Network) is a consortium, now coordinated by CCSA, of Canadian libraries and information centres that disseminate ATOD information in Canada - www.ccsa.ca/csain. CSAIN has its origins in LISA, the Canadian group that merged with SALIS in 1985. It was the CSAIN members who lobbied in the late 1980s for a national clearinghouse to be a part of the national drug strategy underway. The first official CSAIN meeting took place in Toronto at the 1990 SALIS Conference. Due to extensive funding and program cuts experienced by many organizations in the 90s, it has had periods of inactivity. However, after meeting in 2000 and now again in Toronto, there is renewed interest in setting reasonable goals to keep the network viable and useful to its members.

(Continued on page 11)

Flemish Database On Alcohol And Drug Resources On The Web

By Marc Wauters, Librarian, Vereniging voor Alcohol-en andere Drugproblemen, Brussels, Belgium

Since a couple of months, the FLORIS database of the Flemish institution VAD is available on the Web.

First, a little introduction to the addiction field in Belgium. As you might know, Belgium has a complicated regional structure. There are four regions: the Flemish Community (where people speak Dutch), the French Community, the German Community and Brussels. While the federal government is responsible for drug policy and substance abuse treatment, the regions are responsible for alcohol and drug prevention. The Flemish government has allocated this task to the VAD.

VAD stands for "Vereniging voor Alcohol-en andere Drugproblemen" ("Association for Alcohol and other Drug Problems"). The VAD is the umbrella organization for all important Flemish institutions and associations dealing with alcohol, drug and gambling problems. Activities of the VAD include co-ordination, networking, developing prevention models, training, research, and information supply.

Since 1982, the VAD has been collecting resources on alcohol, drug and gambling problems. These materials are publicly available at the VAD library. It's a relatively small library with only one staff member, but the collection is growing rapidly through the constant addition of new material. It contains about 8,000 documents: books, reports, conference proceedings, brochures, leaflets, educational materials and videos. Most publications are in Dutch (50%) and in English (40%).

The library uses CD/ISIS-WINISIS software to catalogue its materials. This UNESCO-software is free for non-profit organizations. This program has some disadvantages: it's not very user friendly and there are some annoying bugs. As it is do-it-yourself software, the preparation of the database is quite time consuming. On the other hand, this program has many features which allow you to do very tricky searches and to create all kinds of output formats.

For the Web catalogue, other software was used. Data were transferred to a Paradox table. Afterwards, an interface was built with ASP (Active Server Pages).

(Continued on page 8)
OIH and SALIS working together. The discussion centred around a strategy that will both assist the OIH and connect SALIS to existing or potential resource centres. As the OIH will move from project to project, SALIS can assist along the way, locating local resources and contacts with which to network. The first two projects involve training in eight Caribbean countries on treating concurrent disorders (co-occurring mental health and addiction problems) and training at the National Institute of Psychiatry, Mexico City. Future projects are with the Institute of Mental Health and Neuroscience, India and universities in Nigeria and Ghana.

**Proposed Strategy**

SALIS will develop a brief questionnaire that the OIH can complete with the partner to assess existing information service capacity and list contact information for current services. In many cases, there will already be university libraries in place. In other situations, it may be necessary to identify a group or department willing to take on this role.

SALIS will provide a list of key resources for best practice documents, key networks, etc. Included will be, of course, SALIS, highlighting information about our services and our Guide to Developing a Resource Centre.

As each project comes up, SALIS will provide geographic/language specific contacts and resources. Sheila Lacroix will begin drafting the questionnaire and resource list this summer and will seek input from committee members.

In summary, mobilizing the local resources and establishing a connection through SALIS membership will contribute to the sustainability for the work of OIH in each location.

**Conference Attendees from Developing Countries**

Every year the conference host and SALIS Home are inundated with questions about the conference. Some questions indicate very unrealistic expectations and some are obviously opportunistic. However, we do want to be welcoming when there is a valid need and interest. Also, we want to avoid someone spending a fortune if they don't truly understand what the conference has to offer. It is proposed that a page on the SALIS Web site be drafted that provides pointers and guidelines, with a couple of suggestions for where to request funding, such as USAID when the conference is in the U.S. It is hoped that by being inviting, yet realistic, we may increase our membership and networking among developing countries.

**ATOD Virtual Clearinghouse on Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs (VC-ATOD)**

In its capacity as an early supporter and partner in the VC-ATOD, we discussed ways that SALIS can assist in engaging the major US federal agencies into partnership. To date, there are no US federal agencies in this partnership, which leaves a large gap in the collection, which aims to be international in scope. To that end, the International Committee agreed to recommend that SALIS contact US federal agencies such as NIDA, NIAAA, and SAMHSA, stressing the importance of them becoming partners in the VC-ATOD and encouraging them to join as soon as possible. The recommendation was approved at the SALIS business meeting and Andrea Mitchell and Bette Reimer are pursuing this.

**Events & Dates to Remember**

**Official Launch of ELISAD Gateway: June 2003**


**Flemish Database from page 7**

The site with VAD databases is called FLORIS (Flemish On-line Resources Inventory on Substance Abuse). So far, it only contains bibliographical descriptions of books, reports and conference proceedings, which are available at the VAD library. The search language is Dutch.

A second database, with an inventory of Belgian legislation on drugs, alcohol and gambling, is in preparation.

The third database will certainly be of most interest to SALIS members. It will include references to documents available on the Web. Even though priority will be given to documents in Dutch, there will also be links to documents in English.

An English presentation of the VAD is available at [http://www.vad.be/indexeng.html](http://www.vad.be/indexeng.html).


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**2004 SALIS Conference**

The 26th Annual SALIS Conference will be held April 20-24, 2004, at the Berkeley City Club, Berkeley, CA.
Our first plenary session featured three “magnificent women.” Dr. Irena Nulman described the Motherisk program at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto, and reviewed the latest research into Fetal Alcohol Syndrome and related disorders. Sylvia Maracle, a Mohawk, spoke of her work in drug and alcohol prevention among aboriginal young people in urban environments. We then heard from Karen Palmer about the Canadian National FAS Information Service (http://www.ccsa.ca/fasgen.htm).

In the next plenary, Larry Hershfield gave a detailed overview of health communications strategies, and tools for assessing them. He showed ads from the National Youth Anti-Drug Media Campaign and asked us to evaluate them. Audience participation was also the keynote of the next presentation, as SALIS member Jan Wrolstad demonstrated an interactive training activity to encourage group discussion of addiction topics among counselors and other staff.

Led by our fearless founder, Andrea Mitchell, the group then took a long sweet saunter down memory lane, beginning with a performance by the “SALIS Swingers” of a slightly modified (well, actually much-modified) version of that old Dean Martin standard, “Memories Are Made of This.” Next, while a photographic montage flashed at the front of the room, and as we celebrated with cake and champagne, longtime SALIS members dished up recollections of Conferences past. Newbies learned that Toronto was not the first time SALIS flirted with danger: Mary O’Brien told us about a hotel fire in Chicago (1994), when attendees had to exit down the fire escape (Mary says she slept through it!), and Barb Weiner recalled a homicidal cabdriver in Boston (1995) who tried to run over several members.

Many people happily recalled various SALIS group activities such as bus tours of Little Rock, Arkansas (1997) and Alaska’s Portage Glacier (2001), and arts attendance – the Little Rock dinner theatre (1997), the seldom performed Bernstein’s Mass at Indiana University (1999), and the interactive murder mystery comedy "Shear Madness" in Boston (1995). Following the 1987 Conference in Edmonton, Bette Reimer was instrumental in having the proceedings published in book form — thus far the only proceedings to be published.

Other members recalled organizational history, including suggestions that SALIS should change its name, and should merge with similar organizations such as Canada's LISA (Librarians and Information Specialists in Addictions). The wisdom of a possible future merger of SALIS, ELISAD, and ADLIS (our Australian counterpart) into an association perhaps called "International Association of Librarians and Information Specialists in Alcohol and Other Drugs (IALISAD)" was also discussed.

Thursday brought a series of excellent presentations on ATOD information services. Christine Goodair (UK) gave us a detailed insiders’ view of the decision-making processes DrugScope went through in putting its extensive database online (http://www.drugscope.org). Fortunately for users, DrugScope considers cataloging, indexing, and abstracting to be vital for its Internet database, (which is available free of charge). The development, currently in process, of a similar information service at Toronto’s Centre for Addiction and Mental Health was described by Rena Scheffer and Syd Jones.

Ruth Vaughn then told us how she survived drastic cutbacks in staff, funds, and space by replacing print subscriptions with electronic ones, giving away her print collection, and practicing evidence-based librarianship (that is, documenting concrete examples of products and services her library had contributed to). A lot to think about!

Mary Johnson highlighted her poster presentation on a survey of the collection development practices of substance abuse and mental health librarians; ways of improving networking between the two groups were discussed. Barbara Seitz de Martinez demo’ed her fabulous Hispanic/Latino Portal to Prevention Resources (http://www.latino.prev.info).

Thursday afternoon was free time and many of us visited Niagara Falls, which was breathtaking in its power and beauty. We also visited the lovely and chic resort town of Niagara-on-the-Lake.

Information delivery was again the topic du jour on Friday. Dr. Lynne Howarth of the University of Toronto discussed metadata (basically, cataloging data in a digital environment), and showed us an innovative metadata-based library research portal (http://www.fis.utoronto.ca/fiskr). Eric Helmuth gave us several hints for more fully utilizing the many resources to be found at Join Together Online (http://www.jointogether.org). Eric and David Man then introduced us to Join Together plugins, a resource of which all of our websites might want to take advantage. Michele Rachal provided tips for using three top search engines—Google, AllTheWeb, and AltaVista—and offered comparisons of the three.

On Friday afternoon, Garfield Mahood, Director of the Non-Smokers’ Rights Association, presented an impassioned view of the issue of tobacco control in Canada, exploring the history, current status, policy, politics, economics, ethics, and where the future may lead. Dianne van Abbe complemented Mahood’s talk with her poster.

(Continued on page 10)
International topics were next. Jorunn Moen, the ELISAD representative from SIRUS in Norway, provided an update on the ELISAD Gateway Project. We then heard about the Virtual Clearinghouse, an international project supported by SALIS since 1996. Bette Reimer of the Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse, the VC's coordinator, explained this project's progress, challenges, and future goals.

Twice during the Conference, Anna Jiles-Bedenaugh and Yoko Nagasaka of NIAAA/CSR, Inc., provided one-on-one opportunities for participants to ask individual questions regarding the ETOH database.

The Conference closed strongly on Saturday. Eric Helmuth provided a thoughtful review of problems inherent in our use of language, past and present, when we talk about “substance abuse”—or is it use—or misuse—or perhaps an addiction or a substance use disorder? He posed this tantalizing tidbit: What if all SALIS and Join Together members agreed upon certain usage and terminology—what would be the impact? Last, we were grateful to Dr. David Marsh of the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health for presenting important research demonstrating the positive outcomes of a carefully designed take-home methadone program in Ontario.

Obviously, after we had heard all these fantastic presentations our heads were filled with thoughts other than SARS. Thankfully, most Conference attendees returned to work uneventfully. Some of us, however, had to “endure” informal semi-quarantines, and others found that their co-workers felt the need to keep themselves at a healthy distance. It seems this Conference taught us some additional lessons—about our own fears and those of others.

(From the New Chair from page 1)

March are looking pretty inviting now that June is approaching. This is dangerous, and here's why.

SALIS is made up of members from a surprisingly diverse group of professions. It must have been said 20 times at our conference—we're not all librarians. But we are all college graduates, many of whom have multiple graduate degrees, with years of experience in a highly specialized field. The majority of us direct libraries, clearinghouses, or public relations firms, and are responsible for other staff members and significant budgets. Our organizations value our critical thinking skills, our ability to handle a variety of tasks on deadline, and our flexibility. They also privately love the fact that we do all this for about half the pay of an attorney fresh out of law school.

Why is that? Why do we work for "short pay"? Because we take it. Because when there is a shortage of space, we sit on the floor and put our computers on our chairs, and then take pictures of this situation to share with our international colleagues. Because we're a dedicated group of people who constantly complain to each other about low pay, but continue to do nothing concrete about it. Because people like me love being a librarian so much that I'm happy to be working Sunday afternoons at a local junior college instead of spending time with my family. Because as soon as I send this to Andrea, I'll be on a ladder changing the light bulbs in our office. Because as a group we believe that personal sacrifice is part of public service, and that if we don't do it, it won't get done, and for us that isn't an option.

Until we stop changing light bulbs, stop sitting on the floor, and stop applying for clerk positions, we will be treated as employees valued for our work ethic alone instead of our expertise. At large libraries where the staff is unionized, this isn't an issue, because these people fought the good fight and won recognition for themselves. The rest of us have to make personal stands, and this requires taking risks for which few of us are prepared. We have to learn to say no once in awhile. Most importantly, we have stop doing the work that we did when we were pages in high school.

I direct a fairly large library and clearinghouse, yet I gladly move furniture, fix the toilet, and change the water bottle. So when the staff sees me, they see someone who will do the heavy lifting. They don't see the 50 year old man with two graduate degrees and 20 years of experience, because that isn't what I show them. Who's fault is this--mine. Through my actions I have publicly demonstrated that my organization didn't need a library director, but a clerk who can lift 50 pounds. So when I leave at the end of May, they are replacing me with a support staff who will shelve the books and do odds and ends. This is a terrible injustice to my staff who will remain to pick up the load I did carry. It is also a disservice to the organization, because I didn't use my management position to influence critical decision making. Finally, it was a disservice to myself, because I am passively fading away from a position where I could have done so much more had I been more assertive.

Everyone should take note of what I allowed myself to do, and use it as an example of how not to act. Everything in life is a learning experience, so I'm telling myself that I won't allow this to happen again, but I just received my schedule for the summer session at the junior college, and it looks like I'll have plenty of free time to contemplate my sins.
(A First Timer’s Experience from page 6)

that I had left unfinished. Being able to do this reinforced to me how important SALIS was/is to me and the staff of the Drug Policy Alliance. That being a part of this group will make my job a little bit easier. (In addition, the company of the members in the group isn’t too bad either!)

I’m so glad that I got to attend this year’s conference and that I’m a member of this wonderful organization of substance abuse librarians/information specialists. Even though I had to be quarantined for a few days when I returned, it was well worth it. I won’t ever forget my trip to Toronto and my first SALIS conference.

I have to say that I’m looking forward to next year’s SALIS conference already. I hope that Andrea will have an easier time with the conference than Sheila did this year, but who knows what can happen in a year. All I can say is that I can’t wait to see you all then and until next year, see you on the list-serve.

(Silver Anniversary Conference from page 3)

noon. On the way we stopped at the idyllic little town Niagara-on-the-lake, facing Lake Ontario. When we arrived, we had a fantastic view of the waterfalls in sunshine. The anniversary dinner was held in a restaurant facing the waterfalls. Before going back we saw the waterfalls lit by night in different coloured lights.

The conference was divided into six plenary sessions:

1. Fetal Alcohol/Drug Exposure: Networks for Knowledge and Action
2. Effective Health Communication: Principles and Applications. What Have we Learned over the Past 25 Years?
3. Providing Information Services: Our Experiences and Challenges
4. Resource Discovery: Fine Tuning our Web Sites and Search Skills
5. Tobacco Control in Canada: Past, Present and Future
6. Resources from Around the World

Throughout the conference there were several demonstrations of the Alcohol and Alcohol Problems Science Database (ETOH).

My presentation of the ELISAD gateway development was under plenary session six. I also found time to present the ELISAD Bremen Declaration, aiming at securing resources for AOD information services.

ELISAD was also represented by Christine Goodair from DrugScope, UK. She had a presentation called: Opportunity or Threat: The impact of the Internet and New Technology upon DrugScope’s Information and Library Service, as a part of plenary session 3.

The conference is one of the best I have attended. I would like to thank ELISAD for asking me to be their representative and paying for my fare, SALIS for letting me attend the conference free and SIRUS for giving me time off from the regular work and paying for my hotel.

(News From Canada from page 7)

Many CSAIN members are SALIS members, so the two organizations will undoubtedly be interconnected in many ways. However, the roles are quite different, with CSAIN being primarily focused on Canadian issues, resources and networks.

At the meeting, seven action items were developed, and since the meeting, attendees have been contacted to rank and comment on the items. Nina will be reporting on this in Action News, CCSA’s newsletter. One major decision made at the meeting was to move collection development for CANBASE, the national bibliographic catalog of ATOD publications, primarily to the clearinghouse at CCSA. In the past, CSAIN members submitted records to CCSA for CANBASE, but there are now fewer ATOD libraries, and contributions have been irregular. It makes sense to streamline the process and keep this valuable database up and running.

Member News

Congratulations to Stephanie Asteriadis (Nevada Substance Abuse Resource Center, Reno, Nevada) on her May 11, 2003 marriage to Michael Fitzgerald (Safe and Drug Free Schools Coordinator for the Nevada Department of Education). They had a relatively "intimate" ceremony with 25 family members. :-)

Dr. R.P. Kumar (Chief Librarian, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, India) has received the SIS Fellowship for the year 2003 from the Society for Information Science, New Delhi. The Fellowship was awarded to him during the inaugural function of the 21st Annual Convention of the Society held at the Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee on the 9th April, 2003.

SALIS member, Linda Byrne (Resource Management, Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada) passed away on March 11, 2003. It is with great sadness that we let you know.
and drugs from a sociological perspective. Part one explores issues relating to how sport operates and challenges our preconceptions of sport and the ideology surrounding it.

Topics such as child abuse and sex abuse are covered plus chapters on the role conflict of football club medical staff, public policy and sport.

Part two concentrates on the use of enhancing drugs in sport. The strong emotions and feelings evoked by the use of drugs in sport are explored alongside the increasingly widespread acceptance of drugs in everyday life. Interestingly, the use of recreational drugs, such as marijuana raises different views from those raised by the use of anabolic steroids or stimulants. Throughout the book are case studies, transcripts and press cuttings, which ground the theory in reality. It concludes with an analysis of the existing anti-doping policy in sport, with a chapter devoted to doping in cycling and the 1988 Tour de France.

This book, aimed at those studying sports science, health, or sociology, is likely to be of interest to those working in the drugs field that are involved with sport as a diversionary activity as it sets sport in a societal context and looks at some of the difficult issues sport can bring to the fore. Students and those wishing to explore the issues further can use the comprehensive bibliography.

By Nancy Harris, Community Development Director, Jean Tweed Centre, Toronto, Canada


It’s not often for me that as a professional in the field of addiction treatment I have the opportunity to read a book that so poignantly and eloquently chronicles the impact of depression on a family.

Written from the perspective of a daughter who bears witness to her mother’s descent into a vicious cycle of chronic depression which began as a postpartum episode, this book simultaneously manages to describe the horrific impact on the entire family but in a way that you want to keep reading to find out what happens. Ms. Graham’s mother undergoes hundreds of electroshock treatments over the years, numerous hospitalizations and all the while, the medical establishment consistently and misera-

bly fails to address the impact on the family and to find an effective means of helping her mother.

It is only decades after the initial episode that her mother finds a semblance of peace after finally being prescribed lithium. However, the damage has been wrought on the family and Nancy Graham writes of the individual impact on each of her family members in a way that is heart-wrenchingly honest, candid and with compassion. The book handles enormously difficult material laden with emotion but is so well written you are compelled to keep turning the pages.

Most of the information treatment providers encounter is factual and informative. Afraid of the Day manages to convey the facts but in a way that touches your heart and creates a lasting impression for how you might do your work differently in dealing with depression, substance abuse and many other issues.

This book is recommended for both service providers and those dealing with a family member’s depression.

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International Society of Addiction Journal Editors Meeting. Andrea Mitchell will represent SALIS at this meeting, in England in September.

2003 Conference Issues. The Board is grateful to Sheila Lacroix for a wonderful job organizing the Conference under difficult circumstances. There were seven cancellations, most SARS-related. Cancellations less than 30 days before the event are non-refundable.

ELISAD Meeting Representation. A SALIS representative (probably Andrea Mitchell or Samantha Helfert) will attend the ELISAD meeting September 24th-26th in Dublin.

Five-Year Plan. SALIS’s last 5-year plan was done 1989 or 1990. The Board agreed to initiate the strategic planning process by identifying funding sources, meeting costs, and potential committee members.

Upcoming Conferences
2004, Berkeley CA, Apr 20-24, to be organized by Andrea Mitchell and held at the Berkeley City Club and a local hotel. BCC has only 20 rooms. Lodging costs will be reasonable both places. Entertainment may include a wine country tour. The Conference will take advantage of the concentration of tobacco resources nearby (at UCSF, etc.)

2005, Chicago, IL. May 3-7. Note this Conference will be in May so we don’t get hit with a late Chicago snowstorm. Tom Mikolyzk has reserved the Homewood Suites, near Chicago’s Magnificent Mile, at $159.00 a night.

2006, Reno, NV, Stephanie Asteriadis promises great facilities and possibly a trip to Lake Tahoe.

2007, Boston, MA (tentatively). Jessica Hinkson will check on the feasibility.

Appreciation. Tokens of our great appreciation for their service were presented to Virginia Sanchez, outgoing Chair, and Sheila Lacroix, 2003 Conference organizer.

Periodical News

Drug and Alcohol Findings first appeared in 1999 as an informal brief publication, but has grown over time to a substantial magazine devoted to presenting evidence on the effectiveness of interventions to treat, prevent or reduce drug and alcohol problems, with an accent on UK-relevant research. It is published quarterly as a collaborative effort by Alcohol Concern, the National Addiction Centre, and DrugScope. http://www.drugandalcoholfindings.org/

Exartisis is the first-ever Greek specialty journal on addictions. Published since 2001 by the organization KETHEA (http://www.kethea.gr), the journal is in the Greek language and focuses on serving the addictions community in Greece. Exartisis includes original reports and translated abstracts from the journal Addiction.

Journal of Addictions Nursing: A Journal for the Prevention and Management of Addictions (ISSN: 1088-4602) has resumed publication in 2003 after a year’s hiatus, with a new publisher -- the Brunner-Routledge division of Taylor & Francis Inc., which publishes numerous other leading alcohol and drug journals. This is the official journal of the International Nurses Society on Addictions (IntNSA). http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/titles/10884602.asp

Journal of FAS International is a new scientific, peer-reviewed, web-based journal dedicated to all aspects of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder. The publisher is Motherisk Program of The Hospital for Sick Children. The inaugural issue of J FAS Int includes an original paper from Dr. Paul Lemoine of Nantes, France, the 85 year-old pediatrician who published the first evidence of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome in a study of 127 cases. This evidence appeared first as an abstract in 1967 and later as a paper in 1968. http://www.motherisk.org/JFAS/

Science and Practice Perspectives is the new peer-reviewed journal from the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA). With two issues promised per year, it will feature articles of interest to both researchers and providers. For a free print subscription, write to NIDA Science & Practice Perspectives, Subscription Department, 1375 Piccard Dr. --Suite 175, Rockville MD 20850, USA, or e-mail nidadperspectives@masimax.com. It can also be viewed online for free at: http://www.nida.nih.gov/Perspectives/index.html
New Books

Compiled by Andrea L. Mitchell, Librarian
Alcohol Research Group, Berkeley, CA


Brownlee, Nick. This is Cannabis. London: Sanctuary, c2002, 200 p. $9.95 (p) ISBN: 1860743994


Farrington, Karen. This is Nicotine. London: Sanctuary, c2002, 166 p. $9.95 (p) ISBN: 1860744192

Gaines, Larry K (Ed) and Peter B. Kraska. Drugs, Crime, & Justice: contemporary perspectives, 2nd ed. Prospect Heights, IL: Waveland Press, c2003, 410 p. $27.95 (h) ISBN 1577662172


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(New Books from page 14)


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http://salis.org

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