Progressive Bridges: Changing the Landscape
35th Annual SALIS Conference
Berkeley, CA, April 30 - May 3
Cohosts Andrea Mitchell, Julie Murphy, and Tom Colthurst

The 35th SALIS Conference is just a little over six weeks away now, shaping up to be a truly exciting event! We have a diversity of speakers and a fun tour of the Internet Archive in San Francisco planned, with the chance to meet and speak to the Archive’s founder, Brewster Kahle, named one of the 50 visionaries in the world by Utne Reader in 2009.

Here is a sneak preview of a few of the presentations we have lined up:

- Sheigla Murphy, Scientist, Institute for Scientific Analysis. A Qualitative Study on the Initiation to Prescription Drug Misuse.
- Amanda Reiman, Lecturer, School of Social Welfare, UC Berkeley. Medical Cannabis: The Utilization of Informal Information Networks.

(Continued on page 2)

Elisad 2012 Report: Documentation on Addictions for Research
Sheila Lacroix, CAMH

I was fortunate to represent SALIS at the 24th Elisad Annual Meeting in Arezzo Italy, October 11-13, 2012. The theme was Documentation on Addictions for Research: Opportunities and Risks. The venue was the Arezzo Town Library, housed in a mediaeval building with high ceilinged rooms embellished with the remains of frescoes. The contrast of library patrons working on their computers and the walls surrounding them was dramatic and a testament to the strength and influence through time of culture, learning and civic spaces. The library is steps away from Piazza Grande, winding cobble stone streets and so many historic buildings within the old walled city.

The host, Fiorenzo Ranieri, and his local team from

(Continued on page 2)
• Judd Antin, Ph.D., User Experience Researcher, Facebook. Facebook is As Messy As Your Life Is
• Laura Thomas, Director, California Drug Policy Alliance. The Drug War, Human Rights and the DPA.
• Christine Goodair, International Centre for Drug Policy, St George's University of London. Substance Misuse in the Undergraduate Medical Curriculum: Changing the Landscape.
• Nita Bryant, Library Liaison to the Social and Behavioral Sciences, Virginia Commonwealth University Libraries. Open Access, Grey Literature, and Google: Building a Bridge from Research to Practice
• Judit Ward, Director of Information Services, Center of Alcohol Studies, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. Looking Forward, Looking Back: Digitizing the Treasure Trove of Alcohol Science.

The opening night reception will be held from 6:30-8:30pm at the conference hotel, the Berkeley City Club, a beautiful, historical building in the heart of Berkeley, between the University and downtown. The deadline for the conference rate at the BCC has passed, but you can still make reservations for your stay, both there and at the nearby Hotel Shattuck.

Keep in mind when booking your trip for the conference that you’ll be visiting one of the most beautiful areas in the United States! San Francisco is just across the bay from Berkeley, less than 30 minutes away by rapid transit. The Sonoma and Napa Valley’s “Wine Country” are 1 and 1.5 hours away respectively, and Carmel, Monterey, and Big Sur are just 2-3 hours south.

Sports fans will be happy to learn that both the Oakland As and the San Francisco Giants also have home games the week of the conference. Book your tickets and cheer on a home team!

Come join us for an exciting conference and take a weekend for yourself to visit this extraordinary region! Hope to see you there! •

Cedostar and Retecdro presented a terrific program. Check the Elisad website, http://www.elisad.eu for the complete program with abstracts. Elisad members have access to the presentation slides as well as my in-depth conference report.

Focus on Italy
Here are some highlights on trends and issues in Italy. Many reflect those we face in our jurisdictions.

Leopoldo Grosso of Gruppo Abele reported a move since the late 1990s from opiates to “performance drugs” such as amphetamines and cocaine. Cocaine has moved from being an “elite” drug to one of mass consumption, polydrug use is up, ketamine is more popular, and cannabis is popular with young people. Like Canada, methadone is the main opioid replacement therapy. Drug-related deaths have dropped significantly. Anti-drug laws were tightened in 2006 translating into overcrowded prisons, fewer detention alternatives and younger inmates. Present laws do not allow harm reduction alternatives and prison-based rehabilitation services have declined.

Ilaria Londi, Centre Alcologico Regionali spoke of the trend in new models of consumption reflecting life style changes in Italy: drinking between meals, binge drinking and drinking to get high, particularly among young people. Alcohol is the third most important risk factor, after tobacco and hypertension, for illness and early death. As in Canada and other countries, alcohol-related pathologies, such as cancer, are being recognized. However, national and local alcohol services do not always address this.

Gambling is a growing concern and treatment is being integrated with drug treatment centres. Valentina Cocci, GAND, presented some alarming statistics: 11% of underage gamblers are pathological. New legislation, the Balduzzi Law Decree, limits advertising effective January 2013. Research has found that the public underestimates the risks of very popular “scratch and win” gambling. A psychological/educational intervention for students promises success in changing perceptions and knowledge.

(Continued on page 3)
about what constitutes gambling.

I found Guiseppe Masengo’s presentation on the Stedycam Project really interesting. Steadycam is an audiovisual documentation and research centre that monitors and records programming, such as movies, talk shows, commercials, and news for a database to track the coverage of lifestyle issues that can influence youth. Data collected assist in prevention, education and media literacy activities. A special Stedycam project, Infoaids, studied the quantity and quality of Italian TV programming regarding AIDS. The lack of public service programming is alarming. Unfortunately, funding for Stedycam has been cut. The fact that Stedycam used keywords from the Gruppo Abele thesaurus to index its database is an example of the value of resources developed by librarians.

We had a trip to the Citadel of Road Safety where children and teens learn the importance of road safety and get hands-on experience. Italy has been under pressure by the EU for its high rate of traffic fatalities which fortunately has been dropping. It is hoped that programs like this will lay the foundations for awareness of the importance of road safety within the next generation of drivers.

**Beyond Italy**

Alessandra Liquori O’Neil, UNICRI, reported on ALICE RAP (Addictions and Life-styles in Contemporary Europe: Reframing Addictions Project) that aims to reframe the understanding of addiction, considering perspectives that are trans disciplinary and factors such as lifestyle and well being. The outcome will drive redesigning addiction policy, based on objective scientific evidence. It is a huge project, spanning five years, involving researchers and institutions in 31 countries. Seven areas are being studied, such as the determinants of addiction and the business of addiction. Alessandra mentioned the importance of historical research to this project, a strong endorsement of the value of our advocacy work to ensure our library collections are maintained.

**Focus on Library and Information Services**

Our Elisad host, Fiorenzo Raniera, gave an excellent presentation based on his qualitative analysis of the types and services of alcohol and drug libraries in Italy. There are over 40 documentation centres, mostly located in northern and central Italy, as illustrated on a map. There is no national policy coordinating these centres. Even under current economic conditions, the number of smaller centres serving local communities is increasing. Larger national centres, such as Gruppo Abele and UNICRI, have well defined roles, large budgets, research databases, etc. but are generally for experts, professionals and students. Local centres have fewer documents, primarily grey literature, and serve health and social services. They contribute to building resources for the local community. Fiorenzo concluded that these two types of documentation centres are complementary and essential.

I took along the poster I presented at the Canadian Health Libraries Association outlining the work of the SALIS Advocacy Committee. I also provided copies of our editorial published in *Addiction* last August, *Collective Amnesia*, and mentioned the call for letters commenting on the editorial. There was a lot of interest and discussion about the SALIS digitization project, one of the recommendations in *Collective Amnesia*.

Isabelle Michot, OFTD, France, focused on opportunities to be a proactive service and indispensable to the research team. Based on her personal experiences of what works, she provided suggestions such as having an initial thorough discussion before a search is done and seeing it all the way to assisting with the management of the references in a reference management system. Her service also offers shared reading lists that can be updated by researchers.

Monica Reynaudo, Centre Studi Gruppo Abele, Italy, emphasized the key role that librarians play in the research process. She emphasized the cyclical process of: library supporting research, the documentation process, and then the documents returning to the library. We face the challenge of maintaining this cycle when the cost of quality information is high and human resources are reduced.
ipedia, the average rating was positive, 3-4 (on a scale of 1 –5). Most find it offers a useful introduction to a topic. Grey literature was a topic of lively discussion and debate, particularly given the history of portals like the Elisad Gateway and the Virtual Clearinghouse. It was suggested that members pool their energy and report new grey literature through a vehicle such as a blog or an Elisad database set up for this purpose. Some responded that this is a good idea, but requires too much buy-in from members who don’t have the time to do this extra work. The point was made that many members already have good, up-to-date catalogues that include grey literature which can be searched.

Overall, this discussion really emphasized the need for the continuation of core library funding. Special web portal projects are too dependent on special funding. Libraries are obviously not without risk, but they often have an institutional grounding and serve multiple functions.

Elisad News
The end of the *Elisad Journal* (2000 – 2011), edited by Annie Singer, is a disappointment to all. Annie’s creative ability and editing expertise made it very professional and readable. Daniela Zardo led the discussion about its replacement, an eNewsletter. It will be challenging as it will require volunteer time and commitment from the membership.

Elisad Gateway Status Update
It is still hosted at the University of Bremen. However, it has not been updated for several years, It is now a “historical project.” Many of the links are broken.

Elisad 2013?
Both Paula Frusinoiu (Bucharest) and Petroula Prassa (Athens) put forth tentative offers to host the meeting next year.

In Closing
There is nothing that can replace the energy and camaraderie one experiences at meetings and conferences. Elisad 2012 was no exception, in spite of lower attendance based on a decreasing membership. It was a wonderful, well organized meeting and a valued opportunity to reconnect and meet new colleagues.

Errata:
Last issue of news, Vol 32 No. 2-3, Board Minutes Highlights, pg 6. first paragraph, last two lines, reads that Barnes and Noble was the affiliate that needed checking. This should have been Hazelden instead.

---

**NIAAA Meeting Report**
Mary Kelly, Health Librarian, JBS International

I attended the 131st meeting of the National Advisory Council (NAC) on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism on September 20th, 2012 in Rockville, Maryland, as the SALIS representative. Acting Director Dr. Ken Warren chaired the NAC for the morning session and attended the afternoon session. For the morning session, members of the NAC sit around a hollow square meeting table with members of the public and liaison members sitting at the other end of the room in chairs observing the proceedings.

During the morning NAC session NIAAA announced the following:

- Details on the upcoming merger with National Institute on Drug Abuse will be announced at the February NAC meeting.
- NIAAA piloted a series of billboards on roadways leading to East coast beaches with the message *Risky Drinking Can Put A Chill On Your Summer Fun.*
- *Alcohol Research & Health* has a new title (with new design): *Alcohol Research: Current Reviews*
- NIAAA recognized International Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Awareness Day which takes place each year on September 9th.

The morning session also featured a talk by Dr. Aaron White on the topic of alcohol blackouts. According to Dr. White, most people think of alcohol blackouts occurring in alcoholics who have been drinking for a long time. However, most of the research done on blackouts took place from 1940 through 1970 and then stopped. Current research shows that blackouts occur in people who drink too much too fast, not just those who are long time drinkers. There are many references to alcohol blackouts in popular culture and college age kids are very familiar with the effect. White said, as adults we would be surprised about how many young adults know about blackouts. Not surprising, blackouts are underestimated. Research indicates that blackouts cause hippocampal damage.

The afternoon session of the NAC meeting was devoted to the NIAAA Liaison Organizations and was chaired by Fred Donodeo, Public Liaison Officer, and attended by NIAAA senior staff members, including acting director Dr. Ken Warren. About 10 representatives of organizations were present and gave updates of their activities in the field. Donodeo seemed to know a lot of the representatives person-
New prescription drug misuse strategy ready to launch
By Paula Robeson, Knowledge Broker, CCSA

With the widespread misuse of prescription opioids, sedatives, tranquilizers and stimulants in North America, the upcoming March release of Canada’s first prescription drug misuse strategy couldn’t be more timely, particularly as Canada has the second-highest level of prescription opioid use globally.

The National Advisory Council (NAC) on Prescription Drug Misuse is overseeing the development of the strategy. The strategy sets out an action plan for Canada that encompasses prevention, education, treatment, enforcement, monitoring and surveillance. NAC members include representatives from federal, provincial and territorial governments, and First Nations, health officials, pain and addiction specialists, pharmacists, dentists, nurses, researchers, regulators, military, enforcement officials and patient advocacy groups.

New alcohol screening web resource for physicians and health professionals
By Carolyn Franklin, National Priority Advisor, CCSA

The College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC), in partnership with the CCSA, recently announced the new Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral (SBIR) resource to help family physicians and other health professionals detect and address harmful alcohol consumption among their patients.

This web-based guide is the first of its kind to incorporate Canada’s Low-Risk Alcohol Drinking Guidelines. The site provides a wealth of resources and information, including a three-step screening, intervention and referral process, a clinical guide, a patient workbook and training videos to support motivational interviewing techniques. The SBIR resource is intended for use with all patients—not just high-risk drinkers. For more information, please visit www.sbir-diba.ca.

A brand new year and look for CCSA
By Jennifer Lavoie, Director of Communications, CCSA

In celebration of our 25th anniversary, and to build upon the tremendous work undertaken by CCSA and our partners in the substance abuse field, we are pleased to unveil our refreshed brand identity. Our new logo is a stylized representation of four people with arms raised to convey the importance of collaboration and represents people from all corners of Canada working together to make a collective impact.

Our new tagline reads Partnership. Knowledge. Change. By bringing people and knowledge together, we are making positive change throughout the system, across the country, in our own communities, and even in other countries.
Meg Brunner
Alcohol & Drug Abuse Institute, Univ. of WA

This well-made, fascinating documentary tells the story of Bill Wilson, co-founder of Alcoholics Anonymous in the 1930s. Through reenactments, audio recordings, photographs, and excerpts from letters and journals, this wonderful film leads us along the route Wilson traversed in his transition from anonymous alcoholic to sober celebrity—as well as the toll that celebrity, and its incumbent responsibilities, took on his body and spirit over time.

Wilson began drinking heavily at a fairly young age; his parents split up when he was a boy and he struggled most of his youth with feelings of being separate from others. By the time he was in his late 30s, his alcoholism was so severe he was facing certain death. At the time, medicine viewed alcoholism as a symptom of deeper psychiatric issues, and alcoholics were often treated with ineffective horrors ranging from imprisonment to mandatory sterilization to prefrontal lobotomy. After a sober friend told Bill about the Oxford Group, however, a new treatment program that focused on putting one’s faith in God and confessing one’s sins completely as a path to freedom from drink, Bill checked himself into their hospital and waited for a miracle to happen.

Believe it or not, one did. Bill told the story of that hospital stay many times over the rest of his life: how he lay in his bed one afternoon, desperate with despair, and cried out to God, begging for a sign. His room immediately filled with a bright light, he said, and he “was transported into an ecstasy.” “Well, for me that was the beginning,” Wilson says in a recording in the film. “A feeling that everything was completely all right, that indeed now I was a part of life at last. That I had touched the ultimate reality of a loving God. . . And I was free.”

He never drank again.

Though inspired by the Oxford Group’s philosophy and strengthened by his religious experience, Bill found it wasn’t easy to stay sober. On the verge of falling off the wagon one evening at a hotel bar, it occurred to him what he needed to do to keep himself going was work with others experiencing the same struggle. By focusing on helping fellow alcoholics stay sober, he hoped to find the strength to maintain his own sobriety. He began to make some phone calls, trying to find other alcoholics he could talk to, and that’s when a friend connected him with a man named Dr. Bob Smith, an alcoholic about to lose it all because of his drinking: his medical practice, his family, and his life.

The two men soon became friends and partners, and it was through that partnership that Alcoholics Anonymous was born. Using some Oxford Group tenets as inspiration, Bill W. and Dr. Bob began crafting the now-famous “Twelve Steps,” and writing the book Alcoholics Anonymous, known by A.A. members simply as the Big Book.

Innovative not just in his beliefs about alcoholism, Bill was also progressive when it came to his opinions about equality. As A.A. groups began to spread, debates over the inclusion of women and other minorities, particularly African Americans, broke out. Bill quashed every argument, saying the only requirement for A.A. membership was “a desire to stop drinking,” now the third of A.A.’s “Twelve Traditions.” (Dr. Bob, on the other hand, fought Bill on the inclusion of women into groups, believing men could not get sober when women were around—“Under every skirt there’s a slip,” he was fond of saying. Thankfully, Bill refused to budge, and the issue was settled.)

After the scrappy start-up of A.A. and the blossoming of groups across the U.S., the film takes us through Bill’s next 35+ years as an alcoholic in recovery, covering his brutal battles with chronic depression, his experimentations with LSD (an attempt to re-experience the spiritual epiphany that had triggered his sobriety in the first place, he said), and the painful challenges he faced as a reluctant celebrity shouldering the weight of responsibility to thousands of alcoholics around the world.

At the end, dying from emphysema, Bill lay on his deathbed and demanded whiskey, becoming enraged when his request was denied—a vivid, powerful reminder of the film’s opening line, “Bill Wilson was first and foremost an alcoholic in recovery,” and of the lifelong struggle all addicts face.

This compelling documentary tells the true story of the “cunning, baffling, and powerful” nature of alcohol and alcoholism, and the beloved, respected, and generous man so many people today credit with saving their lives. With Bill as its driving force, Alcoholics Anonymous grew from a handful of men to a worldwide fellowship of over 2 million men and women. As the film closes, it gives us some astonishing numbers: 30 million copies of the Big Book have been sold since its publication in 1939, the 12 Steps are now used by over 60 different recovery programs, A.A. is in over 170 different countries, with over 155,000 different groups registered.

As Wilson once said, “No personal calamity is so crushing that something true and great can’t be made of it.” He could not have been more right.

Bryony Addis Jones
Research Information Manager
Center for Information on Beverage Alcohol (CBA)
Third Floor, 24 Chiswell St.
London, EC1Y 4YX UK
Tel: +44 (0)20 8870 4723
Email: bryony@cba-international.com

How long have you been a member of SALIS?
One year, although a former colleague, Louise Manners, was a member for many years.

What organization do you work for and what is your position?
I'm the Research Information Manager for the Centre for Information on Beverage Alcohol, with responsibility for managing the research database and providing library and other information services to our members in the alcohol industry.

How has being a member of SALIS enriched your life?
I think it's very important to keep in touch with developments and publications in the substance abuse information field.

Hobbies outside of work:
I'm Welsh, so rugby plays an important part of my social life, and I used to play rugby for London Welsh Women but have recently had to retire (aging knees), otherwise classical music, 19th century literature, and film noir are all favourite pursuits.

Favorite food:
Mole poblano from Mexico (a chocolate and chili dish with turkey/chicken).

Favorite book:
In Dubious Battle by John Steinbeck

Laura Durham
Associate Director
TAADAS - Tennessee Association Alcohol, Drug & other Addiction Services
1321 Murfreesboro Pike, Suite 155
Nashville, TN 37217
Tel: 8615.780.5901 Ext. 11
Email: laura@taadas.org

How long have you been a member of SALIS?
Since taking over as Associate Director of TAADAS in 2000.

What organization do you work for and what is your position?
I am the Associate Director for the Tennessee Association Alcohol, Drug & other Addiction Services. We are the RADAR center for the state of TN and house a small substance abuse focused library.

How has being a member of SALIS enriched your life?
The former director of TAADAS, Sharon Crocket, was a very active member in SALIS for many years so I was already aware of the value of SALIS membership. I have been able to attend several SALIS conferences and find them extremely useful. The listserv has always been a great source of information for me as well.

Hobbies outside of work:
Working out, outdoor and water activities.

Favorite food:
Pasta.

Favorite book:
Who Moved My Cheese by Spencer Johnson.

Is there anything else you would like SALIS colleagues to know about you?
I am a big sports fan!!
New Books
By Andrea L. Mitchell
MLS, Librarian

+ indicates government document, * non-English title
All prices are list price.

Buy books at Hazelden, Amazon.com, or Barnes & Noble to support SALIS!


(Continued on page 9)


(Continued on page 10)
(New Books from p. 9)


Morales, Monica P. Reading Inebriation in Early Colonial Peru. Aldershot, Hants, England ; Burlington, VT: Ashgate Pub., 2012. $89.95, £50.00, ISBN 9781409443339, 1409443337 (hardback); 9781409443346, 1409443345 (eBook)


(Continued on page 11)


Thompson, H. Paul Jr. _A Most Stirring and Significant Episode: Religion and the Rise and Fall of Prohibition in Black Atlanta, 1865-1887._ Northern Illinois University Press, 2012. 384 p. $48.00,
SALIS News (ISSN: 1072-4567) is the official publication of Substance Abuse Librarians and Information Specialists.

Editor: Andrea L. Mitchell
Email: amitchell@salis.org
Phone: 510-769-1831 Fax: 510-865-2467

Desktop Publishing: Meg Brunner

Subscription Information: SALIS News is a quarterly newsletter; subscription rates are for calendar year. $20 for US, Canada, and Mexico. $25 for others. FREE to SALIS members. More information: http://salis.org/products.html

Mail to: SALIS News, PO Box 9513, Berkeley, CA 94709-0513

Copyright and Submission: All article submissions must receive approval from the editor and are subject to editing. Authors retain all rights to their articles.