Making a Difference: The National Health Policy Library of Hungary Joins SALIS

Maria Palotai, GYEMSZI, Hungary
Judit Ward, Center of Alcohol Studies, Rutgers

SALIS is experimenting with joint membership for members of our European partner organization Elisad through a sponsorship program in which SALIS members may choose to cover the dues for a prominent librarian in a small country. Featured here is the first instance in the sponsor program, hoping for more to follow.

Hungary, a small country with a population of ten million in Eastern Europe, ranks among the top in per capita alcohol consumption, and in alcohol-related conditions and mortality such as liver cirrhosis and suicide. Hungarians, often making national news in the United States with their drinking habits (e.g., http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=newsarchive&sid=aV6WoGpqKwrk), have been traditionally infamous for drinking, and the tendency, according to the WHO country profile, does (Continued on page 2)

The Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs

Christine Goodair, St. George’s London University, UK

The Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs (ACMD) is an independent expert body that advises government on drug-related issues in the UK.

The advisory council makes recommendations to government on the control of dangerous or otherwise harmful drugs, including classification and scheduling under the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 and its regulations. It considers any substance which is being or appears to be misused and of which is having or appears to be capable of having harmful effects sufficient to cause a social problem.

It also carries out in-depth inquiries into aspects of drug use that are causing particular concern in the UK, with the aim of pro-
not show a declining curve. Since 2008, it has been perfectly legal to make one’s own fruit spirit, called pálinka, for personal consumption in Hungary. To facilitate responsible drinking, Hungarians even pride themselves in having established a Pálinka Council. The legal drinking age is 18.

Needless to say, Hungarian substance abuse professionals have always been under a lot of pressure, but more so after the country joined the European Union in 2004. Given this context, here is the introduction to an important player in the field, the National Health Policy Library of Hungary for the SALIS community by a new SALIS member, Dr. Maria Palotai, Library Director.

The National Health Policy Library, Budapest, Hungary

The Informatics and System Analysis Directorate of the National Institute for Quality and Organizational Development in Healthcare and Medicines operates a special library providing nationwide services to the Ministry of Health, health policy makers, health professionals, health care managers, and any other health workers. The library also provides information to professionals working in educational and health care institutes, as well as to users of community health information.

The library was founded in 1953. Current holdings include more than 40,000 volumes of books and periodicals. The library is open without restriction to any Hungarian and foreign citizen over 16, and can be used in person, on the telephone/fax or via e-mail. The reading room is available for using the international and Hungarian periodicals and monographs on the premises.

Major databases such as PROQUEST Medical Library, OVID, JSTOR, ScienceDirect, SpringerLink, COCHRANE, EBSCO, etc. are available in the library, providing access to 15,000 journals with full-text.

The old-fashioned thematic arrangement of books on open access shelves in the library conveniently facilitates browsing and discovery for users conducting research on a special topic rather than just trying to locate a particular title.

The main fields of interest of the library include health policy, health economics, health informatics, health management, quality management, health promotion, and more. The most important services of the library focus on online catalogs, reading room, lending, interlibrary loan, document delivery, photocopying, and references services.

Proprietary Databases

Major library responsibilities are related to two databases. Librarians have been compiling and publishing the Hungarian Medical Bibliography since 1957. Updated quarterly with about 1,000 items, it offers comprehensive coverage of the Hungarian medical literature. The other major task is to maintain a central source catalog of foreign journals and online databases available in all health and medical libraries in Hungary. It has been published by the library since 1960, first in print, then on CD-ROM, and finally online.
The Library also hosts three special collections:

- Documents of Addictions
- Documents of the European Union
- WHO Depository Library

These collections and related web sites aim at providing information and guidance to connect data and documents available in print or electronic format with professionals, medical librarians, and the general public, too.

The Documents of Addictions collection was founded in 1992 by the Inter-ministerial Drug Committee and our institute. The Phare Drug Information System project, and later the Twinning project gave the library valuable professional support including equipment. Our task is to collect and manage international and national documents on the fight against drug abuse, to implement and update the database, and to offer services to clients: drug policy makers, officers, drug professionals and students. Users can read the documents in the research room of the special collections.

The database includes over 1500 titles of books, periodicals, and reports with around 50 documents added each year. Available online at [http://www.eski.hu/new3/konyvtar/droginfo.php?menu=konyvtar](http://www.eski.hu/new3/konyvtar/droginfo.php?menu=konyvtar), one can find electronic documents, and links to journals, books, articles. The Elisad network and the Gateway project are included.


Over the years, the library developed rewarding and useful professional relationships with Elisad, individual members, and member libraries. We are confident that our SALIS membership would be similarly fruitful and we are looking forward to working with SALIS librarians.

Membership in Professional Organizations

In order to keep current, the library maintains excellent professional relationships with Hungarian and international professional organizations, such as the Hungarian Medical Library Association, the Association of Hungarian Librarians, the Alliance of Libraries and Information Institutes, and EAHIL (European Association for Health Information and Libraries). In addition to institutional membership, individual librarians are actively participating in professional organizations via organizing conferences, such as the annual Informatio Scientifica - Informatio Medicata conference, at events of the Association of Hungarian Librarians and the Medical Libraries, and by serving on boards, and editing and contributing to newsletters, e.g., that of the Hungarian Medical Library Association.

The last events held at the institution included a presentation on recent changes in our library (see photos at: [http://www.eski.hu/new3/konyvtar/Galeria/MKE%202012/index.html](http://www.eski.hu/new3/konyvtar/Galeria/MKE%202012/index.html)), and hosting of MLIS students to familiarize them with special libraries (photos available at: [http://www.eski.hu/new3/konyvtar/Galeria/ELTE%202012/index.html](http://www.eski.hu/new3/konyvtar/Galeria/ELTE%202012/index.html)).

The Library and Elisad

In 1999, we joined Elisad and have participated in projects and events on several occasions over the years (e.g., PHARE Drug Information System project, Elisad conferences). We are very proud that the 21st Elisad annual meeting was organized by the Library in 2009 (see pictures at [http://www.eski.hu/new3/konyvtar/Galeria/Elisad/index.html](http://www.eski.hu/new3/konyvtar/Galeria/Elisad/index.html)).

With its predominantly electronic resources, the European Union Special Collection ([http://www.eski.hu/new3/konyvtar/EUinfo.php?menu=konyvtar](http://www.eski.hu/new3/konyvtar/EUinfo.php?menu=konyvtar)) aims to provide up-to-date information, including reports, statistics, and scholarly literature for Hungarian experts and laymen interested in issues of the European Union.
ACMD advice on Sativex - Letter outlining definition of cannabis based medicine. View document.

ACMD advice on independent prescribing of controlled drugs - The Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs (ACMD) is pleased to provide the advice on the recommendations to extend independent prescribing responsibilities to physiotherapists and chiropodist/podiatrists. View PDF.

ACMD advice on foil - The ACMD further advice on foil (2013) - Advice to the UK Home Secretary on the Consideration of the use of foil as an intervention to support recovery. View PDF.

ACMD consideration of tramadol - The ACMD’s review of harms associated with the non-medicinal use of tramadol has been prompted by an increasing number of reports within the NHS of tramadol’s misuse and harms. The ACMD’s subsequent review of the evidence has caused it concern, particularly the increase in tramadol related deaths. View PDF.

News from Canada
Compiled by Chad Dubeau
Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse (CCSA)

Canada’s National Alcohol Strategy – Five Years of Impact
By Carolyn Franklin, National Priority Advisor, CCSA

Next to tobacco use, alcohol is the substance that causes the greatest health, social and economic harm in Canada. Since 2007, the National Alcohol Strategy has been in place to address this problem, guided by the report, Reducing Alcohol-Related Harm in Canada: Toward a Culture of Moderation – Recommendations for a National Alcohol Strategy 2007.

An impressive 34 of the 41 recommendations are underway, spearheaded by members of the National Alcohol Strategy Advisory Committee (NASAC), co-chaired by Carolyn Davison, Director of Addictions Services, Nova Scotia Department of Health and Wellness, Andrew Murie, Chief Executive Officer, MADD Canada, and Michel Perron, Chief Executive Officer, Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse.

As Canada develops more strategies to reduce alcohol and drug-related harm, the development of the National Alcohol Strategy can be held up as a successful approach for encouraging collaboration between sectors. NASAC includes representatives from the provinces and territories, federal departments, non-governmental organizations, research institutes, addictions agencies and the alcohol beverage and hospitality industries, working together to create positive change for Canadians.

Learn more about the National Alcohol Strategy. Listen to Gerald Thomas, Senior Research and Policy Advisor, CCSA, describe the alcohol price policy papers, released in November 2012. Download your copy of Canada’s Low-Risk Alcohol Drinking Guidelines.

Partners Across Canada Taking a Systems Approach to Addictions and Mental Health.
By Rebecca Jesseman, Research and Policy Analyst, CCSA

CCSA is highlighting the excellent work that partners across Canada are doing with the Systems Approach report and recommendations through video case studies on the Systems Approach website.

In one case study, Silvia Vajushi, Executive Director, Community Health, Alberta Health and Wellness, describes how Alberta used the Systems Approach tiered model as a framework for developing the Creating Connections strategy, providing a common language and approach for addictions and mental health.

In another case study, Heather Bullock, Director of Knowledge Exchange with the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH), highlights the value of using the Systems Approach knowledge exchange model as a way to illustrate the knowledge exchange components and process.

Ms. Bullock also describes how Ontario adapted the tiered model to fit the provincial context. CAMH has applied the adapted model to support new Service Collaboratives across the province. These Collaboratives bring together stakeholders across sectors, including mental health, addictions, enforcement and education, to improve the accessibility and coordination of services that meet a broad range of needs. The tiered model provided a framework for CAMH to clearly demonstrate how its province-wide initiatives complement the 21 other initiatives moving forward under Ontario’s 10 Year Mental Health and Addictions Strategy.

CCSA will continue to add case studies to the website over the coming months.
Members’ Corner
Compiled by Diane Van Abbe
Membership & Outreach Committee

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How long have you been a member of SALIS?
I found out about SALIS right after attending the NIDA International Conference in the summer of 2012 and joined shortly after that.

What organization do you work for and what is your position?
I am the Library Liaison to the Social and Behavioral Sciences at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond.

How has being a member of SALIS enriched your life?
The newsletter is great and I learn about new resources nearly every week through the list serve. The May conference in Berkeley was wonderful. The presentations were so diverse and informative and the networking opportunities were invaluable. SALIS members are so collegial and helpful.

Hobbies outside of work:
My daughter and I love cruising the antique shops and grazing at local eateries and I’m always ready to travel when the opportunity presents itself. My neighborhood is party-central so I spend lots of time coordinating progressive dinner parties and impromptu get-togethers with a fabulous group of neighbors.

Favorite food:
This changes regularly but pretty much anything that grows on a vine, bush, or tree that’s bathed in raspberry vinaigrette is OK with me.

Favorite book:
I like historical fiction and have to say that The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society is still one of my faves.

Is there anything else you would like SALIS colleagues to know about you?
I love my job!

Kadee Carpenter
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How long have you been a member of SALIS?
Only since April 2013!

What organization do you work for and what is your position?
INevada Prevention Resource Center.

How has being a member of SALIS enriched your life?
I think already I have seen that being a part of this group is only going to help me. I left the conference feeling inspired to learn more about the field, to update what I do and how it’s done, and also to continue my education.

Hobbies outside of work:
Outside of work I am a writer and a home cook; still working on combining those two things.

Favorite food:
This is a hard one because I really like food! Food is so regional I’d have to say The Barn Special - my favorite pizza from Pizza Barn in Elko, NV. Cuban Sandwiches from when I lived in Tampa, FL. Fresh Seafood from the Gulf when I lived in Alabama. Or just a classic from my Mom’s kitchen like pot roast or corned beef and cabbage.

Favorite book:
Lois Lowry’s The Giver. (It made me want to be a writer.)

Is there anything else you would like SALIS colleagues to know about you?
I am new to the industry of substance abuse and prevention but I have been around libraries my whole life. I love books, information, and education so I think that SALIS is a great place for me to be this at this point in my career. I’m excited to learn more and soak up everything I can going forward.

Want to nominate a SALIS Member for Members’ Corner? Contact the Membership & Outreach Committee chair, Diane van Abbe:
Diane_Vanabbe@camh.net
New Books
By Andrea L. Mitchell
MLS, Librarian

+ indicates government document, * non-English title
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SALIS News, Vol. 33, No. 1  Spring 2013


Johnstone, Peter. *Drugs and Drug Trafficking*...


(Continued on page 9)


Copyright and Mass Digitization
Maruzio Borghi & Stavroula Karapapa
ISBN: 0199664552

This book considers the activities involved in the process of mass digitization, identifying impediments to the increasing number of such projects, such as the inapplicability of copyright exceptions, difficulties in rights clearance, and the issue of “orphan” and out-of-print works. It examines the concept of “use” in light of mass digital technologies and how it impinges on copyright law and principles; for example considering whether scanning qualifies as transformative use. Issues are considered in the context of both European and US law. Borghi is a senior lecturer in intellectual property law at Brunel University Law School and a visiting scholar at UC Berkeley; Karapapa is a senior lecturer in law at the School of Law, University of Reading. Order from Amazon!