CONTEMPORARY DRUG PROBLEMS

CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT AND CALL FOR PAPERS

Encountering alcohol and other drugs

DEADLINE FOR ABSTRACT SUBMISSION: 16 MARCH, 2015

16-18 September, 2015 Lisbon, Portugal

Conference dates and venue

The conference will be held from 16-18 September, 2015 at the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction in Lisbon, Portugal.

Conference format

The conference will run over three days. The program will feature a mix of plenary presentations and concurrent streams. Presentations will run for 20 minutes to be followed by 10 minutes for questions and discussion.

Call for papers

Delegates are invited to submit abstracts of approximately 300 words to **cdp@curtin.edu.au** by 16 March, 2015. Participation is limited and preference will be given to abstracts that address the conference theme. Abstracts will be reviewed by the conference committee and delegates will be notified of the outcome of their submission by mid-April, 2015.

Conference publication

Following the conference, *Contemporary Drug Problems* will publish a special issue featuring selected papers from the conference. The journal publishes peer-reviewed social science research on alcohol and other psychoactive drugs, licit and illicit. The orientation of *Contemporary Drug Problems* is multidisciplinary and international; it is open to any research article that contributes to social, cultural, historical or epidemiological knowledge and theory concerning drug use and related problems. While *Contemporary Drug Problems* publishes all types of social science research on alcohol and other drugs, it recognises that innovative or challenging research can sometimes struggle to find a suitable outlet. The journal therefore particularly welcomes original studies for which publication options are limited, including historical research, qualitative studies, and policy and legal analyses. In terms of readership, *Contemporary Drug Problems* serves a burgeoning constituency of social researchers as well as policy makers and practitioners working in health, welfare, social services, public policy, criminal justice and law enforcement.

Further information

Future announcements will carry details of accommodation options, conference registration costs and other information for delegates. All queries should be directed to Adrian Farrugia, Editorial Assistant, *Contemporary Drug Problems*, at **cdp@curtin.edu.au**.

Hosted by *Contemporary Drug Problems*, the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (Lisbon, Portugal), the National Drug Research Institute (Curtin University, Australia), the Centre for Alcohol and Drug Research (Aarhus University, Denmark), the Centre for Population Health (Burnet Institute, Australia), and the Department of Science and Technology Studies (Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, USA), this conference will bring together leading international researchers in drug use and addiction studies from a range of research disciplines and methods — both qualitative and quantitative.

CONFERENCE THEME: Encountering alcohol and other drugs

Over the past twenty years, a conceptual shift has occurred across the social sciences that increasingly focuses attention on issues of relationality, contingency and emergence. 'Events', 'multi-agent systems', 'trajectories', 'flows', 'hybrids', 'networks', 'phenomena' and 'assemblages' have all emerged as productive, if very different, ways of mapping and understanding the 'social'. Across such work, we can trace a cumulative inclination to decentre the autonomous human subject, to bring into view the range of complex forces and elements producing scientific and social phenomena, to understand realities as enacted and as inevitably political, and to emphasise the emergent, contingent and multiple co-constitution of objects and subjects.

These new approaches offer much to the study of alcohol and other drug problems. In recent epidemiological research on alcohol and other drugs, specific consumption contexts, situations, occasions and events have become the unit of analysis for a growing strand of research. In recent qualitative social research, attempts to refine and exceed the 'drug, set and setting' paradigm first elaborated in 1984 by Norman Zinberg have included ethnographic and sociological studies of drug assemblages, addiction ecologies, drug treatment phenomena and the affective atmospheres of drug use, as well as many different studies on the constitution of problems in alcohol and other drug policy and other areas. Such work hints at a common interest in problematising longstanding assumptions about the power of pharmacology, the agency of consumers, and the neutrality of settings of consumption, and their status as preceding, rather than emerging within and through, specific drug use encounters.

This conference offers a forum in which the strengths and limitations of these new approaches to alcohol and other drug research can be explored. Building on *CDP*'s two previous conferences, which variously opened up the question of how 'drug problems' are constituted, and how the complexity of drug use might be attended to and managed, we now seek submissions for presentations that grapple with alcohol and other drug use in this new mode, as event, assemblage and phenomenon.

It welcomes research based on quantitative and/or qualitative approaches, and encourages innovative use of methods, concepts and theoretical tools. Possible themes include but are not limited to:

♦ Changing meanings, definitions and measures of alcohol and other drug events

♦ The gendering of alcohol and other drug use

♦ Alcohol and other drug use amongst young people

♦ Thinking policy via the event or encounter

♦ The multiple relationships between alcohol and other drug use and health and social phenomena

♦ Emerging drugs and the internet

♦ Alcohol and other drug use in film, news and other media

♦ Recovery and other treatment models and practices

♦ Pedagogies of alcohol and other drugs in universities and schools

♦ Alcohol and other drugs in urban cultures and spaces

♦ Subjects and practices of harm reduction

♦ Methods in the alcohol and other drug use field.

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European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction

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BUSINESS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
CENTRE FOR ALCOHOL AND DRUG RESEARCH

NDRI
national drug research institute

Burnet Institute
Medical Research. Practical Action.

Rensselaer