

AMERSA NEWSLETTER**IN THIS ISSUE**

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CONFERENCE

The 31ST AMERSA Annual National conference will be held November 8-10, 2007, at the Hilton Embassy Row, Washington, DC

- On-line registration is now open at www.amersa.org click on AMERSA's 31ST Annual Conference Register Now! Avoid the long lines and late fees, register early!!!
- Please be sure to book your hotel reservations early, as the hotel WILL sell out – call the Hilton at (800) 695-7460 to reserve your room. Indicate you would like to reserve a room in the AMERSA room block at a rate of \$175 per night (These rates are available for Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday evenings.

MEMBERSHIP

If you have not done so already, please remit your dues payment for 2007-2008. It's so easy to do! Payments are accepted either by credit card or check (US funds only).

- For credit card payment:
Go to the AMERSA website - www.amersa.org
Click on "Membership"
Click on "Membership Dues Renewal Form" and complete the information.
- To pay by check:
Mail your payment to:
AMERSA
125 Whipple Street, 3rd Floor
Providence, RI 02908

If you are not sure if you've paid your dues, or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Doreen@amersa.org.

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www.amersa.org**Executive Committee**Richard Saitz, MD, MPH
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Vice-PresidentKimber P. Richter, PhD, MPH
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SUBSTANCE ABUSE

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If you are looking to access full text articles in the *Substance Abuse* journal (Volumes 25 – 28) “simply” enter <http://www.haworthpress.com/store/product.asp?sid=DE5RDCCJS4CG8P0M5FHABJU7F99N2W9D&sku=J465&detail=TOCList#TOCList> (you may need to press the ctrl key while clicking this link)

Scroll to the bottom – “Contents”

Click on “Volume and Issue Number” you wish to view

Click on title of the article you wish to view

To view full text articles, you will need to enter your e-mail address and password (amersa)

Should you have any problems accessing your account, please contact Lisa Clark at Haworth Press (LClark@haworthpress.com)

AMERSA SUPPORT

AMERSA has agreed to be on the list of organizations that would endorse the following bills (sponsored by the ADA):

“Meth Mouth Prevention and Community Recovery Act” and “Meth Mouth Correctional Costs and Reentry Support Act” (to fight the prevalence and effects of Methamphetamine-related tooth decay “meth mouth.””)

BY-LAW CHANGES

In the interest of encouraging trainee membership and participation, the Executive Committee has made changes in AMERSA’s bylaws. AMERSA encourages the involvement of trainees including students who are members of Health Professional Students for Substance Abuse Training (HPSSAT).

The following changes/additions have been made to the by-laws to allow Associate members to vote and serve on the Executive Committee:

Chapter III: Membership

Section 3

....Each year, the Nominations Committee may submit a slate of at least two candidates for the position of Associate Member-at-Large...

Chapter II: Membership

Membership Categories

Associate Membership shall be limited to medical students, graduate students, interns, residents, and fellows with a demonstrated interest and/or involvement in the field of substance abuse. Associate members shall have the right to vote **and hold office as Associate Members-at-Large.**

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OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS, SCHOLARSHIP OPPORUNITIES, JOB POSTINGS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Dr. John P. McGovern Dies

Dr. John P. McGovern died May 31, 2007. He was a compassionate medical humanist, a leading allergist, and a philanthropist who supported an award and lectureship in his name at the AMERSA annual meeting, where his legacy will continue. AMERSA is very grateful for his generosity and proud of its awardees over the years. AMERSA expressed wishes of sympathy to his wife, who lives in Houston.

AMERSA Participates in development of President's National Drug Control Strategy

Dr. Richard Saitz attended a small meeting at the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy Office of Demand Reduction, with Dr. Bertha Madras (the Deputy Director of ONDCP and Director John Walters) in July. Representatives from other organizations gathered to make recommendations regarding the strategy to be released in 2008. Dr. Saitz recommended attention to health professional education and to care integration and coordination (with mainstream healthcare) for people with unhealthy alcohol or drug use.

Alcohol, Other Drugs & Health: Current Evidence Launched

Alcohol, Other Drugs, and Health: Current Evidence (<http://www.aodhealth.org>), previously known as *Alcohol and Health: Current Evidence*, summarizes the latest clinically relevant research on alcohol and other drugs. In addition to research summaries that include expert commentary, the newsletter provides valuable teaching tools and free CME. Subscribe to receive an e-mail alert each time the newsletter is published at <http://www.bu.edu/phpbin/act/alcoholandhealth/access.php>.

Alcohol, Other Drugs, and Health: Current Evidence is funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse and the National Institute on Alcohol and Alcoholism, and is produced by the Boston Medical Center in cooperation with the Boston University Schools of Medicine and Public Health.

SYNERGY

AMERSA officers and members participated again this year in a collaboration between policymakers, health educators, clinicians and researchers with the goal of discussing screening brief intervention and referral to treatment (SBIRT) progress in the past year, engendering a discourse about areas for future emphasis, and strategizing the best methods for codifying and evaluating SBIRT.

SCREENING AND BRIEF INTERVENTION BOOK

We are pleased to announce the upcoming release of a new book published by Haworth Press, entitled, "**Alcohol/Drug Screening and Brief Intervention – Advances in Evidence-Based Practice**" – edited by **Drs. Richard Saitz, MD, MPH and Marc Galanter, MD.**

This book provides a valuable exploration of the present literature, the effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of screening and brief intervention, and methodological challenges in studying in these practices. Respected leaders in the field discuss ways to measure The use of screening and brief intervention in practice, the multiple risk factor context in

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which unhealthy alcohol use occurs, clinical training issues, effective strategies to screen adolescents, which patients are most likely to change from SBI, and what research is needed in the future.

For more information, contact Haworth Press at orders@haworthpress.com (ISBN: 978-0-7890-3749-7)

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

The Texas Research Society on Alcoholism's Board of Directors is pleased to announce the **1st Annual John T. and Patricia A. O'Neill Educational Scholarship**. Qualified candidates will be graduate, postdoctoral, medical, or dental students who have demonstrated excellence in educating the public, health professionals (e.g., medical faculty and students), treatment professionals, the recovering community, and other non-scientists about the latest addiction science research. Educational research can be in any area: preclinical (animal), clinical, epidemiological, psychosocial, etc. The award committee recognizes that it is unusual for young scientists to have an interest in communicating research clearly, especially to non-science audiences, and this will be the prime factor in making an award.

Based on our current financial situation, we are able to offer a fellowship of \$2,500 for 2007. The completed applications should be sent to Debra Sharp at the TRSA office in Austin, and received by October 1, 2007. The scholarship recipient will be notified in late November.

Individuals can nominate themselves or others for this scholarship. Specifications and an application for this scholarship can be obtained from Debra at the TRSA office (debbyrsa@sbcglobal.net or 512 454-0022).

JOB POSTING: DEAN OF HEALTH SERVICES

The University of South Dakota seeks an innovative leader to develop the Division of Health Sciences into the School of Health Sciences, the only School of Health Sciences in the state and the second largest school at The University of South Dakota. The successful candidate will provide academic vision and direction for the dynamic, growing and expanding Health Sciences programs known for their student focused educational base, balanced with practical clinical training with an interdisciplinary flavor. The programs are active in distance education and state-wide outreach activities. Many programs share educational opportunities with the Sanford School of Medicine and affiliated institutions including Sanford Health System.

The candidate should have a Doctorate in a relevant area with experience related to Health Sciences, academic qualification for appointment at a rank of full professor with tenure, and demonstrated skills in higher education, garnering new resources, scholarship, clinical service, research, and administration. Priority will be given to candidates with a proven track record in higher education. Excellent leadership and interpersonal skills are necessary to administer a program spread across a wide geographic area and dependent on the resources of community practitioners and affiliated institutions.

For more information, contact Lisa Sorensen at lisa.sorensen@usd.edu

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FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

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GIM Research Fellowship Focused on Substance Abuse – A Two-year Program to Train Future Faculty in Addiction Medicine Research Funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA-R25)

The Clinical Addiction Research and Education (CARE) Program supports one fellow each year in the established Boston University (BU) General Internal Medicine Fellowship Program. CARE Fellows will develop advanced research skills through mentoring and training with faculty in the BU Schools of Medicine and Public Health. The Fellowship includes support for a Masters degree at the School of Public Health.

The Fellowship begins July, 2008.

For more information contact:

Jeffrey Samet, MD, MA, MPH

Director, CARE Program

Chief, Section of General Internal Medicine

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