



AMERSA NEWSLETTER

Help Us Celebrate AMERSA’s 30th Anniversary!

AMERSA’s 30th Anniversary Celebration is set for November 2-4 in Washington, DC and we have much to celebrate in our 30th year. One highlight of the conference is a 30th anniversary gala on Friday evening, November 3rd at the Cosmos Club when several individuals will speak briefly about highlights of AMERSA history. And the Annual Meeting will also coincide with the culmination of AMERSA’s Capital Campaign to generate support for the Strategic Plan for the nation’s health professionals. There is still time to contribute. See www.amersa.org.

This year’s conference has an exciting lineup of plenaries and will feature a variety of session formats:

- Research and program presentations
- Poster session
- Skills-based workshops
- Public policy luncheon
- Faculty mentoring program

To date, confirmed plenary sessions include:

- *Mary Jeanne Kreek, MD*, The Rockefeller University, speaking on opioids, genetics, addictions, and maintenance treatments
- *Ginna Marston*, Partnership for a Drug-Free America, speaking on hope, help and healing: changing public attitudes about addiction treatment through media
- *Linda C. Sobell, PhD, ABPP*, Nova Southeastern University, speaking on self-change: processes and implications for the treatment of addictive behaviors
- *A. Thomas McLellan, PhD*, University of Pennsylvania and Treatment Research Institute, speaking on alcohol treatment
- *Kathleen Brady, PhD, MD*, Medical University of South Carolina, speaking on the complex co-morbidity of mood disorders and substance use disorders
- *John R. Knight, MD*, Boston Children’s Hospital and *Andrea Barthwell, MD*, EM-Global, LLC, engaging in a lively debate about school-based drug testing.

We look forward to seeing you this fall and are hoping to see many AMERSA ‘alumni’ who have attended over the years.

Call for Exhibitors

We cordially invite you to join a diverse group of health professionals who will be attending AMERSA’s 30th annual conference. Your exhibit provides an excellent opportunity to present information on your organization and to develop new contacts. Conference participants can visit the displays throughout the day and during the welcome reception, poster session, continental breakfasts, and morning and afternoon breaks. Tabletop exhibits are on

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a first-come, first-serve basis. If you are interested in exhibiting, please download and complete the application form at http://amersa.org/Call_for_Exhibitors.pdf and return it along with your payment by **August 1st**.

Our journal, Substance Abuse, has come a long way in representing AMERSA as a major academic and professional force, giving voice to the Association's unique multidisciplinary quality, and our attention to educational approaches and empirical research. We are taking some important steps to enhance the journal further, both for more rapid publication and for enhanced access to full copy in academic centers. Here are some of our plans.

1. Electronic submissions. We are increasingly moving toward the use of the Internet for all aspects of article flow: submission, revision, and transfer to the publisher (see the AMERSA web site).
2. Increasing speed of review. We are now taking steps to assure a decrease in time from submission to review and appearance of journal articles. In particular, this will focus on speeding up the review process.
3. Special issues. We are now considering devoting some issues to specific topics of interest to our members (such as screening and brief intervention). These issues will be edited by experts in their respective fields, and these articles, like all our others, will be accessible on Medline.
4. Availability of full-text articles through OVID. This aggregator will allow for parties worldwide to download full-text articles through this system, currently available in over 2000 universities and teaching hospitals.

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Health Professions Students for Substance Abuse Training (HPPSAT) is requesting that AMERSA members make a tremendous contribution to help grow the student organization, by simply sending the link to join out to the members and students they work with. We know you are all very busy and an easy request to overlook. It is important to remember however that many of the current student members will become future AMERSA members and furthermore that a strong student organization will help feed and grow AMERSA. The organization is free to join and can be done online at www.hpssat.org/. We at HPSSAT are truly grateful for the support of AMERSA. George A. Kenna, PhD, RPh

NIAAA Five Year Strategic Plan – Alcohol Across the Lifespan

The National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism is pleased to present the initial release of the Institute's new Five Year Strategic Plan. NIAAA intends to provide yearly updates to the Plan as new technologies and scientific insights provide opportunities for advancing understanding of alcohol's role in biology, behavior and society. To view the Strategic Plan, click on the link under the "What's New" section of NIAAA's Web site, www.niaaa.nih.gov.

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Releases a New Training Package, Announces Availability of a New Counseling Tool and Releases Collateral Products for the Treatment Improvement Protocol Series

SAMHSA announces the publication of the Therapeutic Community Curriculum (TCC) training package, produced through SAMHSA's Knowledge Application Program (KAP).

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The TCC training package was developed to help supervisors provide therapeutic community (TC) staff members with an understanding of the essential components and methods of the TC and an appreciation that they are part of a long tradition of community as a method of treatment. The TCC provides detailed session-by-session instructions for trainers and exercises for participants. The 11-module in-service training can be conducted on consecutive days or over several weeks or months. The package is designed to be used by either experienced trainers or program supervisors who have limited training experience. Module titles include: The History and Evolution of the Therapeutic Community, The Community-as-Method Approach, Staff Roles and Rational Authority, TC Treatment Methods, Work as Therapy and Education, and How Residents Change in a TC. The training package includes a Trainer's Manual, a Participant's Manual that can be photocopied for each training participant, and a CD-ROM with the modules' PowerPoint presentations. The PowerPoint slides also can be printed and copied onto overhead transparencies. When ordering, ask for Publication No. BKD533 and BKD534.

SAMHSA recently released *Faces of Change: Do I Have a Problem With Alcohol or Drugs?* The brochure looks at five people from different backgrounds who have a problem with alcohol or illegal drugs and may not know it. *Faces of Change* is based on the concepts of motivational recovery discussed in Treatment Improvement Protocol (TIP) 35, *Enhancing Motivation for Change in Substance Abuse Treatment*. The brochure includes information about what could happen with continued drug use and drinking, what a substance abuse counselor could do to help, and how to avoid triggers and practice coping skills. It is for clients who have reading difficulties and offers them a helpful Change Plan Worksheet.

SAMHSA releases collateral products for the Treatment Improvement Protocol Series. Since 2000, SAMHSA has published free collateral products for its Treatment Improvement Protocol (TIP) series. Quick Guides clearly and concisely present the primary information from a TIP in a pocket-sized booklet. Page numbers from the original TIP are referenced so providers can refer back to the source document for more information. KAP Keys are printed on coated paper and fastened with a key ring for easy reference. KAP Keys may include screening or assessment instruments, checklists, and summaries of treatment phases. The Keys allow busy clinicians or program administrators to locate information easily and to use this information to enhance treatment services.

Recently published products include the following:

- Quick Guides based on TIP 39, *Substance Abuse Treatment and Family Therapy: Quick Guide for Clinicians (QGCT39)* and *Quick Guide for Administrators (QGAT39)*.
- Quick Guide for Physicians based on TIP 40, *Clinical Guidelines for the Use of Buprenorphine in the Treatment of Opioid Addiction (QGPT40)*
- Quick Guide for Clinicians based on TIP 41, *Substance Abuse Treatment: Group Therapy (QGCT41)*
- Quick Guides and KAP Keys based on TIP 42, *Substance Abuse Treatment for Persons With Co-Occurring Disorders: Quick Guide for Clinicians (QGCT42)*, *Quick Guide for Administrators (QGAT42)*, and *KAP Keys for Clinicians (KAPT42)*
- Quick Guides and KAP Keys based on TIP 43, *Medication-Assisted Treatment for Opioid Addiction in Opioid Treatment Programs Quick Guide for Clinicians (QGCT43)* and *KAP Keys for Clinicians (KAPT43)*
- Quick Guide for Clinicians based on TIP 44, *Substance Abuse Treatment for Adults in the Criminal Justice System (QGCT44)*

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To order your FREE copies of these products and publications, contact SAMHSA's National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Information (NCADI).
Phone: 800-729-6686 or 301-468-2600 ▪ 800-487-4889 (TDD hearing impaired)
877-767-8432 (toll free) Hablamos Espanol ▪ Web: www.ncadi.samhsa.gov

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2006 National Conference on Women, Addiction and Recovery: "News You Can Use" July 12-14, 2006, in Anaheim, CA

SAMHSA's Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT), in partnership with the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) and the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA), is pleased to host the "2006 National Conference on Women, Addiction and Recovery: News You Can Use." This 2 ½ -day conference will advance the field of women's substance abuse treatment by presenting the latest research and discussing how it can be applied and implemented to improve clinical practice and service delivery for women with substance use disorders. Over 40 invited speakers will be featured including nationally recognized researchers on women's substance abuse treatment, as well as practitioners testing innovative and promising practices to address a range of problems experienced by women with substance use disorders and their families. The conference is free, but registration is limited so register early. No more than 4 persons per organization may register. For information and to register, go to <http://conferences.jbs.biz/womensconference/>

The American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry is excited to announce the 2006 Addiction Update meeting scheduled for September 29-30, 2006 in Fort Worth, TX. The AAAP Addiction Update provides the opportunity to learn the latest developments in the science and treatment of substance abuse and mental health problems from the experts in the field. This conference is of particular interest to physicians, residents, psychologists, social workers, nurses, counselors and other health professionals working or interested in the field of substance abuse and mental health disorders.

The faculty will include Eric Nestler, MD, PhD, The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas; Adron Harris, PhD, The University of Texas at Austin; Leslie Morrow, PhD, University of North Carolina School of Medicine; Robert Anthenelli, MD, University of Cincinnati College of Medicine, Cincinnati VA Medical Center; Richard Rosenthal, MD, Columbia University, St. Luke's Roosevelt Hospital Center; Uma Rao, MD, The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas; Richard De La Garza, II, PhD, University of California Los Angeles; Scott Walters, PhD, The University of Texas School of Public Health; Jeffrey Selzer, MD, North Shore Long Island Jewish Health System, Albert Einstein College of Medicine and Course Director Bryon Adinoff, MD, The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, VA North Texas Health Care System.

The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas, the accredited sponsor, is jointly sponsoring this activity with the American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry. The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas designates this educational activity for a maximum of 9 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity. For additional information visit <http://aaap.org/addictionupdate/info.htm>.

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The Cancer Prevention and Control Program at the University of Arizona Cancer Center is seeking to fill multiple two-year postdoctoral positions. This interdisciplinary training program is funded through an R25T grant from the National Institutes of Health www.azcc.arizona.edu/R_M/fellowship1.htm. This multidisciplinary training offers the qualified individual the opportunity to develop expertise in research related to behavioral aspects of cancer prevention, detection and control. Working closely with senior investigators, the fellow will participate in on-going research and develop his/her own research projects. Among the positions to be filled, the Center is particularly interested in developing the careers of those interested in behavioral research in cancer prevention and control. The Arizona Cancer Center is in the midst of expanding its behavioral oncology effort, and toward that end potential fellows with an interest in behavioral research in the following areas are strongly encouraged to apply: tobacco control, energy balance, sun safety, addressing health disparities, screening, cancer communications, health informatics, behavioral genetics, network and systems analysis, health care services, behavioral economics. Among the attractions of this position are: the potential to work with diverse populations, including people of Hispanic and Native American backgrounds; the intent of the Arizona Cancer Center to expand the number of faculty members engaged in behavioral research; and for career development opportunities in the setting of a strong, collaborative multidisciplinary research and mentoring team. For more information and to apply for this position, please visit www.uacareertrack.com, select "search postings", and enter job number 34504 and follow the instructions. Review of materials has begun and will continue until the position is filled. The University of Arizona is an EEO/AA - M/W/D/V Employer.

Catholic Relief Services/Vietnam is looking for an addiction specialist for work in Hanoi and Lang Son, Vietnam. This consultant position is for 3 months full time or 6 months part-time. For more information, please contact Mr. Greg Auberry, Country Director, CRS/Vietnam Email: gauberry@vn.seapro.crs.org.

Add your position vacancy or conference here for free! Email all requests to Isabel@amersa.org.

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