



Australian Government

Australian Institute of Criminology

Drugs, crime and their
impact on the community:
DUMA annual conference

10–11 September 2009
Hilton Hotel, Adelaide

2009



The Australian Institute of Criminology is Australia's national research and knowledge centre on crime and justice. The Institute seeks to promote justice and reduce crime by undertaking and communicating evidence-based research to inform policy and practice.

On Thursday 10 September and Friday 11 September 2009, the AIC in partnership with the South Australian Attorney-General's Department, will host a national conference on drug use, crime and their impact on the community and the criminal justice system at the Hilton Hotel in Adelaide.

Conference themes

In 2008, 64 percent of police detainees tested positive to at least one drug. Of these, 43 percent attributed at least some of their offending to their drug use. Additionally, 62 percent of police detainees had used alcohol 48 hours prior to arrest. These results highlight the important relationship between drug and alcohol misuse and crime; an issue that remains both relevant and pressing for policymakers and practitioners working in the criminal justice system.

This conference will be an excellent opportunity for individuals and relevant agencies to engage in discussion about current drug, alcohol and crime-related issues, as well as future policy and research priorities.

Major themes of the conference include drug and alcohol trends among offenders, the links between mental health and drugs among women, the role of geography in understanding crime and drug markets, the impact of drugs on communities and the role of criminal justice interventions in reducing drug-related crime.

Keynote speaker, Judge Peggy Fulton Hora (Ret.), will lead a number of discussion forums focusing on the role of courts and corrective service agencies in managing drug dependent offenders. These discussions will focus on drug courts, therapeutic jurisprudence, and addiction management in the criminal justice system.

Speakers

- **Judge Peggy Fulton Hora (Ret.)**, Adelaide Thinker in Residence, Senior Judicial Fellow for the National Drug Court Institute; retired Superior Court Judge in California and former Dean of the B.E. Witkin Judicial College of California
- **Dr Ann Roche**, Professor and Director of the National Centre for Education and Training on Addiction at Flinders University
- **Roger Nicholas**, Senior Research Fellow of the National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund
- **Dr Astrid Birgden**, Director, Compulsory Drug Treatment Correctional Centre
- **Sue King**, Manager of Specialist Courts, South Australian Court Administration Authority.

Issues to be addressed

- Trends in alcohol and drug use among police detainees and prisoners, including heroin, amphetamine, cannabis and prescription drug use
- The impact of drugs and alcohol on policing and law enforcement
- The role of geography in understanding crime and drug markets
- The links between mental health and drug use among women offenders
- Drug use and offending among Indigenous offenders
- The role of the courts and corrective services in working with drug dependent offenders, with special discussion panels on drug courts, therapeutic jurisprudence, and addiction management in the criminal justice system.

The emphasis will be on the presentation of the latest research in this area and the practical application of research in crime and justice. This will be achieved by:

- showcasing the latest research in the area
- highlighting case studies of successful practice in justice, crime prevention and reduction
- profiling examples of evidence-based policies and programs
- offering opportunities for networking and discussion
- identifying research gaps.

Who should attend

- Policymakers and practitioners from across the crime and justice spectrum
- Members of government and non-government agencies
- Health workers
- Law enforcement
- Researchers and academics in the field.

To register

Cost: \$240 for a two-day ticket.

Program: Thursday and Friday, 9.00 am to 5.00 pm.
A full program will be made available at www.aic.gov.au.

To register for the drugs, crime and their impact on the community conference, visit <http://www.aic.gov.au/events/aic%20upcoming%20events/2009/duma.aspx>

Enquiries should be directed to:

Mercedes Mendoza

Communications and Events Coordinator
Australian Institute of Criminology

Tel: 02 6260 9272

Fax: 02 6260 9299

Email: mercedes.mendoza@aic.gov.au

Website: <http://www.aic.gov.au/>



**Government
of South Australia**

Attorney-General's
Department

Australia's national research and
knowledge centre on crime and justice

www.aic.gov.au