




Australian Government

Australian Institute of Criminology



Drugs, crime and
their impact on the
community: DUMA
annual conference
2009

10–11 September 2009

Hilton Adelaide

The drugs, crime and their impact on the community: DUMA annual conference 2009 is a joint initiative of the Australian Institute of Criminology and South Australian Attorney-General's Department.



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**Government
of South Australia**

Attorney-General's
Department

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About the conference

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 presents 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:

- 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.

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.

About the conference co-hosts

Australian Institute of Criminology

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.

The functions of the AIC include conducting criminological research, communicating the results of research, conducting or arranging conferences and seminars, and publishing material arising out of the AIC's work.

The Director of the Institute is Dr Adam Tomison, and the Chairman of the Board of Management is Professor Richard G Fox AM, Faculty of Law, Monash University.

South Australian Attorney-General's Department

The Attorney-General's Department provides a comprehensive range of legal and civil justice services for Government and coordinates services to the Justice Portfolio in South Australia.

The aim of the Attorney-General's Department—together with the broader Justice Portfolio—is to help create a safe and secure environment in which the public of South Australia can live and work and where the rights of individuals are protected; and to advise government agencies and statutory authorities in minimisation of the Government's exposure to legal and business risk.

Important information

Registration desk

The conference registration desk will be located in the Victoria Room.

Registration for the conference will commence on Thursday 10 September between 8.00 and 9.00am.

The registration desk will be open at the following times for the conference:

Thursday 10 September
8.00am – 5.00pm

Friday 11 September
8.00am – 4.30pm

Catering and dietary requirements

Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea will be served each day in the Victoria Room. If you have indicated special dietary requirements on your registration form, catering will be provided for you in a specially marked section. Please make yourself known to the Hilton Adelaide banquet staff.

Dinner arrangements

There is no official dinner for this conference. Delegates are encouraged to approach the Hilton concierge for recommendations for dinner venues.

Name tags

Delegates will be issued with name tags upon registration. Name tags must be clearly visible at all times during the conference.

Conference evaluation form

Included in your conference papers you will find a conference evaluation form. To assist in the planning of future conferences, we request that you complete the form and return to the AIC event coordinator at the registration desk.

Parking

Paid parking is available at the Central Market Carpark located directly behind the Hilton Adelaide.

Insurance

Registration fees do not include insurance or cover for loss or personal injury. There is no insurance provided by the conference organiser. Delegates should organise their own personal travel insurance.

Privacy

On registering for this conference, relevant details will be incorporated into a delegate list for the benefit of all delegates (name and organisation only), and may be made available to parties directly related to the conference including the AIC and the South Australian Attorney-General's Department, ConferenceLink (host of the online registration facility), venues and accommodation providers (for the purpose of room bookings and conference options), and parties associated with related conferences. Should you not wish your details used for these purposes, please contact AIC staff at the registration desk.

Disclaimer

The services specific in this booklet are available at the time of publication. However, in the event that any service becomes unavailable or minimum numbers are not met, the conference organiser reserves the right to alter, reschedule or cancel the event or any component thereof.

Conference program

(this program is subject to change without notice)

Day 1 Thursday 10 September		
Time	Conference session	Location
0800	Registration opens	Victoria Foyer
0900	Forum opening: Dr Judy Putt, Research Manager, Australian Institute of Criminology.	Victoria Room
0920–0950	Keynote address 1: Amber Migus, Australian Crime Commission. ‘Findings of the 2007–08 Illicit Drug Data Report’	Victoria Room
0950–1020	Presentation: Jason Payne, Australian Institute of Criminology. ‘Drugs and crime in Australia: 10 years of data from police detainees’	Victoria Room
1020–1100	Morning tea	
1100–1130	Keynote address 2: Dr Astrid Birgden, Director, NSW Compulsory Drug Treatment Correctional Centre. ‘Engaging drug-related offenders in change: Harness social science evidence (not ‘boot camps’)’	Victoria Room
1130–1200	Keynote address 3: Professor Ann Roche, Flinders University. ‘Drug and alcohol addiction in the criminal justice system—the Australian perspective’	Victoria Room
1200–1230	Keynote address 4: Michael O’Connell, Commissioner for Victims’ Rights. ‘Victims of drug-related crime—the untold story’	Victoria Room
1230–1330	Lunch	
1330–1400	Presentation: Antonette Gaffney, Australian Institute of Criminology. ‘The geography of property crime: The impact of shopping centres on the spatial distribution of property crime’	Victoria Room
1400–1430	Presentation: Josh Sweeney, Australian Institute of Criminology. ‘Poly-drug users in the criminal justice system’	Victoria Room
1430–1500	Presentation: Dr Natalie Gately, WA DUMA site manager, Edith Cowan University. ‘Prescription drugs and crime’	Victoria Room
1500–1530	Afternoon tea	
1530–1600	Presentation: Roger Nicholas, Senior Research Officer, National Drug Law Enforcement Fund. ‘Impact of drugs and alcohol on policing’	Victoria Room
1600–1630	Presentation: B-Sergeant Scotty Mitchell, NT Police. ‘Alcohol and crime in the NT’	Victoria Room
1630–1700	Presentation: Bridie O’Reilly, NT DUMA Site Manager. ‘Indigenous drug use’	Victoria Room
1700	Close	

Day 2 Friday 11 September		
Time	Conference session	Location
0800	Registration opens	Victoria Foyer
0900–0930	Day two opening: Judge Peggy Fulton Hora (Ret.), Adelaide Thinker in Residence. ‘Responding to offenders with drug and alcohol problems—the US perspective’	Victoria Room
0930–1000	Presentation: Lubica Forsythe, Forsythe Consultants, NSW DUMA Site Manager. ‘Women and drug use and mental health’	Victoria Room
1000–1030	Presentation: Jenny Kessell, Edith Cowan University. ‘DUMA and HOPE: Drug and alcohol factors affecting recidivism and implications for treatment in prison’	Victoria Room
1030–1100	Presentation: Helen Jeffreys ‘The children of drug users—implications for criminal justice responses to drug-related offending’	Victoria Room
1100–1130	Morning tea	
1130–1330	Victoria Room Workshop 1a: Treating drug dependent offenders in the criminal justice system <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Judge Peggy Fulton Hora (Ret) • Professor Ann Roche • Dr Astrid Birgden 	Meeting Room A Workshop 1b: Linking data and policy in the drug-crime debate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rena De Francesco and Brent Addison (Victoria Police) • Bronny Walsh (South Australian DUMA Site Manager)
1330–1430	Lunch	
1430–1630	Victoria Room Workshop 2a: Drug courts—current issues and future prospects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Judge Peggy Fulton Hora (Ret) • Dr Astrid Birgden • Sue King 	Meeting Room A Workshop 2b: Reflections on drugs and crime research—setting an agenda for research and practice priorities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Warwick Jones • Judy Putt
1630	Conference close	

Keynote speaker biographies

Judge Peggy Fulton Hora (Ret.)

Judge Peggy Fulton Hora is the current Adelaide Thinker in Residence appointed by the Premier of South Australia. During her residency in Adelaide, Judge Hora will work with partners and stakeholders on therapeutic jurisprudence and restorative justice issues. The aim of this residency is to improve the safety and wellbeing of South Australians by exploring innovative and alternative options to the traditional courtroom. It seeks to improve access to justice and outcomes in civil disputes, and to reduce crime. Her work will primarily focus on three areas: justice, education and research and innovation. Judge Hora will undertake a three-month residency, divided into two visits. The first visit is from 17 August to 25 September in 2009. The second visit will be from 22 March to 30 April 2010.

Judge Hora retired in 2006 from the California Superior Court after serving 21 years. She had a criminal assignment that included presiding over the Drug Treatment Court. She is a former Dean of the B.E. Witkin Judicial College of California and has been on the faculty of the National Judicial College for more than 15 years. She is a recipient of the Bernard S. Jefferson Judicial Education Award from the California Judges' Association and winner of the Rose Bird Award from California Women Lawyers. Judge Hora is a Senior Judicial Fellow for the National Drug Court Institute.

Judge Hora has lectured nationally and internationally and has written extensively on justice issues such as substance abuse, family violence, women's issues and cultural competence. The appellate court and over 100 journals and law reviews have cited her work. Her latest article, 'The Best Seat in the House: The Court Assignment and Judicial Satisfaction' was published in April in *Family Court Review*.

Dr Astrid Birgden

Astrid Birgden is a forensic psychologist with over 20 years' experience working with serious offenders in human services (primarily offenders with intellectual disability) and in corrections (primarily sex offenders). She has also developed a state-wide offender rehabilitation framework and two family violence courts in Victoria.

Most recently, Astrid has established a pilot interagency prison which provides intensive drug treatment and rehabilitation to repeat drug-related offenders under supervision of the NSW Drug Court. The Compulsory Drug Treatment Program is based

on unique legislation in Australia and partners with numerous agencies. Astrid is published in the areas of offender rehabilitation, therapeutic jurisprudence and human rights.

Michael O'Connell

Michael O'Connell is South Australia's first Commissioner for Victims' Rights. His functions can be likened to a victim ombudsman. Previously, he was the state's first Victims of Crime Coordinator and the inaugural Victim Impact Statement Coordinator. Michael co-wrote the report of the Review on Victims of Crime, and has written articles and chapters on victimology and criminal justice.

He also served almost 25 years as a police officer, as well as lectured on victimology, criminology and criminal justice. He has studied victimology in Australia and several other countries, including Japan, where he teaches on the post-graduate Asian Victimology course at Tokiwa University. Michael is a Vice President of the World Society of Victimology; editor of the society's newsletter; and a consulting editor for the *International Perspectives on Victimology*. In 1995 he was awarded the Australia Police Medal for his victimological work and in 2004 was a finalist in the state division of Australian of the Year.

Professor Ann Roche

Ann is Professor and Director of the National Centre for Education and Training on Addiction at Flinders University. Previously, she was the Director of the Queensland Alcohol and Drug Research and Education Centre (QADREC) at the University of Queensland for five years. She has over 25 years' experience in the field of public health, has worked as a researcher, educator, and policy analyst in various public health areas and has held academic posts at the University of Sydney, the University of Newcastle and the University of Queensland.

For the past 20 years, her interests and professional activities have focused exclusively on alcohol and drug issues. Ann has published extensively in alcohol and drug and related public health areas, including over 100 papers and reports and several book chapters. In addition, she has worked as a temporary consultant to the World Health Organization, undertaken numerous consultancies for government and non-government bodies and has acted as an adviser on a wide range of committees in the alcohol and drug field.

Conference keynote abstracts

Findings of the 2007–08 Illicit Drug Data Report

Ms Amber Migus, Australian Crime Commission

The Illicit Drug Data Report (IDDR) is the Australian Crime Commission's primary public release document on the Australian drug market. It is the only report of its type in Australia and brings together national statistics on illicit drug related arrests, seizures, purity levels and prices. The information in the IDDR provides law enforcement, government and other stakeholders with an understanding of the illicit drug environment in Australia. Statistical data contained in the IDDR is standardised using the National Illicit Drug Reporting Format (NIDRF), which allows for reliable comparison between jurisdictions and over time.

The ACC compiles the IDDR from data received from partner agencies, including national, state and territory law enforcement agencies and forensic laboratories. In 2007–08, nearly 8.5 tonnes of illicit drugs were seized by Australian law enforcement in more than 61,000 seizures. This included 5,409 kilograms of cannabis, 2,036 kilograms of amphetamine-type stimulants, 665 kilograms of cocaine and 69 kilograms of heroin. Over 78,600 people were arrested for drug offences in the 2007–08 financial year.

Engaging drug-related offenders in change: Harness social science evidence (not 'boot camps')

**Dr Astrid Birgden, Director, Compulsory Drug
Treatment Correctional Centre (CDTCC), NSW
Department of Corrective Services**

In August 2006, the Compulsory Drug Treatment Correctional Centre Bill (2004) established a new small drug treatment prison in NSW. The prison is the first of its kind and its legislation is unique in Australia. The Compulsory Drug Treatment Program allows the NSW Drug Court to sentence to prison 'a hard-core group of offenders with long-term drug addiction and an associated life of crime and constant imprisonment' for comprehensive drug treatment and rehabilitation.

The program aims to reduce drug use, reduce re-offending and enhance community reintegration, under judicial supervision. Service delivery is based on the risk-need model (to manage risk for the community), the good lives model (to meet the needs of the offender) and therapeutic jurisprudence (to engage change). While the law is compulsory, most offenders are now appealing if they are found *ineligible*. The presentation will consider evidence-based strategies that engage offenders in terms of psycho legal procedures and roles. As a pilot project, the program is being evaluated by the NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research with a final report due to Parliament in February 2010.

The CDTCC is a distinctive example of an interagency approach between the Attorney-General's Department, Justice Health and the Department of Corrective Services.

Drug and alcohol addiction in the criminal justice system – the Australian perspective

**Professor Ann Roche, Director, National Centre
for Education and Training on Addiction Flinders
University**

In recognition of the considerable impact that drug and alcohol use has on crime and criminal victimisation, Australia, like in many other countries, has made a significant investment in the diversion and treatment for drug dependent offenders. The hope is that such treatment programs offer a viable alternative to punitive criminal justice sanctions; alternatives that shift focus from punishing offenders to working with them in dealing with the factors that influence their offending. Drug use is, however, a complex phenomenon mediated by a range of personal and environmental factors and different intervention strategies and treatment options can have variable results. Understanding the nature and complexity of drug use is critical to achieving successful outcomes in criminal justice mandated treatment programs.

This presentation will discuss the diverse and complex nature of drug use and dependency and explore issues relevant to the development and evaluation of criminal justice interventions in this

field. It will highlight what the research indicates as best-practice in drug treatment, with a key focus on the treatment needs of users of different drug types.

Victims of drug-related crime—the untold story

Mr Michael O’Connell, Commissioner for Victims’ Rights, South Australia

Illicit drugs, especially drug dealing, have an impact on crime rates and threaten the wellbeing and safety of neighbourhoods. Residents are often witnesses of drug offences but also victims of those offences. They can play an important role in confronting the ‘drug problem’; however, like many victims of crime, they often feel isolated and powerless, and fear retaliation. When someone is reported or arrested, then possibly charged with a drug offence, the residents are not usually informed. Later, if that person is convicted and sentenced, most residents are likely unaware of, nor are they invited to participate in the sentencing process. In other words, residents’ fundamental rights as victims are too often violated.

The effects of drug offences and drug-related crime can be mitigated. This begins with acknowledging the residents as victims of crime, and providing them with information and opportunities to participate in criminal proceedings, if they choose. As victim-witnesses, residents are entitled to be kept informed about the progress of an investigation and prosecution, and told about the court. Information creates awareness and encourages participation.

In several jurisdictions in the United States, residents as victims are entitled to make community or neighbourhood impact statements. The Government of South Australia has a bill before Parliament to extend the existing law on victim impact statements to include neighbourhood and social impact statements. On application from the Commissioner for Victims’ Rights, the Attorney-General has also made ex gratia payments to victim-witnesses who have suffered personal injury resulting from drug dealing from a neighbour’s house.

This presentation outlines the case for residents as victims and explains the proposed law on victim impact statements in South Australia. It highlights some of the benefits of a victim-oriented drug initiative.



Workshops

Workshop 1a: Treating drug dependent offenders in the criminal justice system

Criminal offenders with drug abuse problems make up a sizable proportion of those who have contact with the criminal justice system. Many of these drug-using offenders have either never voluntarily sought or successfully completed a drug treatment or rehabilitation program. Nevertheless, their contact with the criminal justice system provides an opportunity for diversion into a treatment. This workshop will explore what works and what doesn't in the treatment of drug dependent offenders in the criminal justice system.

Workshop 1b: Linking data and policy in the drug-crime debate

Both quantitative and qualitative information play an important role in the development of evidence-based policies in the criminal justice sector. The success of this synergy must be underpinned by a good working relationship between policy makers, practitioners and researchers working towards similar goals. This workshop seeks to explore areas where current drugs-crime research is being used to inform local and national policy debates in the criminal justice, health and community development sectors. The aim of this workshop is to identify where and how drugs/crime research, like the AIC's Drug Use Monitoring in Australia Project, can be better utilised to inform ongoing and new policy debates across Australia.

Workshop 2a: Drug courts—current issues and future prospects

Drug courts have become an important feature of the Australian criminal justice system, having been made a permanent sentencing option in some Australian jurisdictions. Each jurisdictional program, however, operates differently and with varying degrees of success. This workshop will explore key features of Australian and international drug court programs, with a focus on best practice principles of therapeutic jurisprudence, and offender management.

Workshop 2b: Reflections on drugs and crime research—setting an agenda for research and practice priorities

There are a number of important, ongoing Australian research projects which seek to examine the link between drugs and crime. However, the relevance and utility of that research is dependent upon the degree to which these projects can respond to the ever-changing landscape of policy and practice. This workshop seeks to identify existing areas where drugs-crime research can be enhanced as well as forthcoming priorities for future investigation.

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