



International Society of Addiction Medicine, c/o ISAM Office, Marilyn Dorozio
47 Tuscany Ridge Terrace NW, Calgary AB T3L3A5, Canada
ISAM.mdorozio@gmail.com www.isamweb.org tele.(403) 813-7217

Message from the New ISAM President

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Dear Colleagues and Friends:

We have completed yet another successful ISAM conference in Yokohama 2014 with 447 delegates from 38 countries.

Evaluations rated all plenary speakers highly and this was a unique opportunity to establish connections with Japanese colleagues in the field as well as raise ISAM's profile. Our hosts excelled in hospitality and offering foreign delegates the chance to experience the Japanese cultural Tea Ceremony and flower arranging.

Aside from the significance of this first ISAM conference in Japan, it was also our second in Asia.

ISAM continues to build on their educational mandate and this included opportunity this year for 12 fellowships awarded through ISAM, NIDA and WHO to enable young researchers and physicians to come and present at the proceedings.

We also continue to seek new collaboration venture and have several new possibilities with colleagues in the field in Iran and Spain. 2014 saw the completion of a collaborative project with the NRC (National Rehabilitation Center) in Abu Dhabi, UAE.

We are now looking towards 2015 and our conference in Dundee, Scotland where there will be several partnerships with community agencies to again spread the knowledge and information on the advances in our field.

We hope you will all plan to come and partake in ISAM 2015 Dundee.

Dr. Gregory Bunt,
ISAM President

PASSING OF FOUNDING AND 1st HONORARY ISAM MEMBER

G. Douglas Talbott, MD, FASAM, the 18th President of the American Society of Addiction Medicine (1997 to 1999), passed away on Saturday, October 18, 2014 from heart failure. Dr. Talbott found his passion treating patients suffering from alcohol and other drug dependencies. He created the first treatment program specifically designed to meet the treatment requirements of physicians suffering from addiction. Dr. Talbott was also instrumental in the creation of the International Society of Addiction Medicine (ISAM) and served as Vice President of ISAM's founding Board of Directors. He was ISAM's first Honorary Member. Dr. Talbott was 90 years old. He is survived by his wife, Polly, their six children and numerous grandchildren.

Those wishes to send condolences may direct them to:

Mrs. Polly Talbott, The Inn - Apt. 1120, 10300 Cypress Cove Drive, Ft. Myers, FL 33908

TRIBUTE TO DR. TALBOTT: A MENTOR FOR ALL SEASONS

Nady el-Guebaly, MD, Founding & Past President, ISAM

Sadly, a giant of addiction medicine has passed away. Doug touched many lives in many capacities and I was fortunate to get to know him in the late 1980's as he was inspiring the development of Physicians Health Programs in various states in the US and provinces in Canada. Several of our regulatory Canadian Colleges sent their physicians in need of help to his care in Atlanta. Later on, Doug welcomed me as a member on the Board of ASAM but he and I ran in different circles.

That was to change in 1997 with common thinking leading to the creation of the International Society of Addiction Medicine. My own recollection is that we had been invited by Dr. Joaquim Carrillo who at the time headed the Addiction Treatment Program for the Portuguese Navy to keynote the Portuguese Addiction Medicine meeting in beautiful Estoril. Along with us was Dr. James Halikas. We needed a break and went on the terrace to gaze at the Atlantic. At the time, there was a discussion within ASAM to establish chapters all over the world. Some of us thought that this may lead to national sensitivities. With Doug's support, we reached consensus that we really needed an International Society.

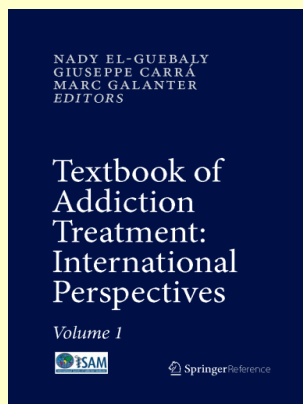
A year later in 1998, Dr. Marc Galanter, the then ASAM President formally invited twenty-five of us to a meeting in New Orleans along with Drs. Talbott and David Smith. As a Canadian, I along with the other non-American members were impressed by the forceful support of Dr. Talbott in favor of the creation of an International Society supported but not managed by ASAM and with an independent leadership. I had the honor to be nominated to lead the organizing committee for an inaugural meeting to be held in 1999. While we busied ourselves identifying the who's who of addiction medicine outside the US, including many regular attendees at ASAM meetings, Doug worked tirelessly to secure an invitation from the Betty Ford Foundation to meet on their grounds hosted by Betty Ford herself. He also secured the presence of General Barry McCaffrey, the then White House "czar" in the field. Few could resist Doug's passionate arguments. Somehow, funds were also secured as a startup fund. Some 120 attendees were present in 1999 in Palm Springs to witness the creation of ISAM. I became the Founding President and Doug was the Founding Vice President.

From thereon, my personal appreciation for Doug's depth of personal attributes only grew. He was known to be available to countless colleagues seeking their way to recovery. I felt I benefited from those rare skills as well as his uncanny ability to phone you at the very time when you doubted your capability to do the job. Doug had an endless supply of warm, supportive and selfless comments that led you to conclude: "Okay, one more time!"

This fall, ISAM has recognized Doug as its first Honorary Member. In the last few years, his health did not allow him to continue his activities with us but his spirit is still present in many of us. Doug was very proud that during his tenure as ASAM President, the first edition of the textbook Principles was published. At the end of his life, we are now publishing the first edition of Addiction Treatment: International Perspectives. What a journey!

Doug spoke readily of various phases in his life; some would have curtailed his life if it wasn't for the strength of his longtime partner, Polly. Polly was a staunch supporter of Doug's endeavors and her presence with us is remembered fondly by ourselves and our spouses. Doug passed away at the age of 90; this enviable longevity is no doubt a credit to Polly and to their family. Thank you, Doug, for your many gifts. You made a significant difference in many lives. There is no better legacy.

ISAM TEXTBOOK READY TO LAUNCH!



We are excited to announce imminent launch of ***the Textbook of Addiction Treatment: International Perspectives*** (A Springer Reference). The 4-tome textbook will be available at a discount rate to ISAM and ISAM affiliate society members. A notice will be sent out to members and there will be a link on the webpages for ordering with the discount.

Editors: N. el-Guebaly, University of Calgary, Calgary, Canada; M. Galanter, New York University, New York, USA; G. Carrà, University College London, London, United Kingdom

Presenting a world view of the spectrum of addictions-related problems across different cultures, this reference volume highlights the main differences and similarities between clinical practices in the field of Addiction Medicine based on neurobiological similarities as well as epidemiological and socio-cultural differences.

Addiction is an increasingly recognized major global public health issue. A growing number of medical specialties, psychological and social science training programs, and professional associations are incorporating addiction as part of their training and continuing education curricula across a broad array of cultures. The need for an International Textbook in this expanding field has therefore become evident.

This Textbook, which collates the experience and wisdom of some 260 leaders in the field, from 30 countries, is promoted by the International Society of Addiction Medicine (ISAM), founded in 1999, which has as its principal mission the education of practitioners in Addiction Medicine and their trainees worldwide (website: www.isamweb.org).

ISAM COMMITTEES

In its continuing efforts to improve the ongoing running of ISAM, the ISAM Board of Directors established five committees to support the functions of the Society in key areas:

- Executive Committee (Chair Greg Bunt as President of ISAM with the President Elect and immediate Past-President)
- Education and Training Committee (Chair G. Welle-Strand)
- Membership Committee (Chair S. Higuchi)
- Public Relations Committee (Chair J. Reimer)
- Financial Committee (Chair K. Brady)

These committees are now seeking active members, if interested please contact the ISAM office (isam.mdorozio@gmail.com).

SAVE THE DATES FOR ISAM 2015 DUNDEE

ADDICTION: From Biology to Recovery Translating research evidence to improve clinical practice and community resilience

Dundee University has been honoured and challenged to host the 17th International Society of Addiction Medicine (ISAM) Congress on Monday 5th to Thursday 8th October 2015.

This will attract 40 international leading experts in the field of addiction medicine. This congress has the support of the World Health Organisation (WHO), US National Institute of Drug Abuse (NIDA) and the European Monitoring Centre for Drug and Drug Abuse (EMCDDA) amongst other international organisations.

The programme will also incorporate the **14th Centre for Addiction Research and Education Scotland (CARES) Conference**.

ISAM Dundee 2015 Congress will not only include a scientific programme of the highest standards but it will also incorporate an Art and Culture Festival which has been inspired by the local communities experiencing the consequences of substance misuse. The scientific programme will include workshops on: addiction mechanisms, comorbid mental and/or physical health issues and substance misuse, health inequalities, alcohol and drug policies, undergraduate and postgraduate programmes in addiction medicine and innovative treatment interventions. There will also be 10 keynote lectures.

A core concept emerging from scientific advances over the past decade is that dependence/addiction is fundamentally a chronic relapsing brain condition that develops over time as a result of a combination of pre-morbid vulnerabilities and chronic use of psychoactive substances (or equivalent). The consequence to some is an uncontrollable compulsive like dysfunctional behaviour that will severely impact on the individual's day to day existence within one's own immediate family and surrounding community. Understanding resilience is not to eliminate stress or erase life's difficulties. Instead, it gives people the strength to tackle problems, overcome adversity and move on with their lives.

The isamDUNDEE2015 Congress scientific programme topic domains were planned in order to allow delegates to participate in a four day extravaganza of evidence based presentations that are clinically relevant and supporting recovery capital. In order to help the local community engage with this event we are supporting local organisations and communities to actively inspire and participate in an **Art and Culture Festival** which will be officially opened during isamDUNDEE2015 Congress.

This ISAM World Congress is hosted by the Division of Neuroscience, Medical Research Institute, University of Dundee. The Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art and Design, also from the University of Dundee, is co-ordinating the Art and Culture Festival. We are fortunate to have the support of Dundee City Council, VisitScotland Business Tourism, NHS Scotland, Dundee and Angus Convention Bureau and Starkevents who provide us with constant support and expertise to help deliver a congress that is unique in its style, excellent in its content and memorable in its experience.

isamDUNDEE2015 Congress will also incorporate the 14th Centre of Addiction Research and Education Scotland (CARES) annual conference entitled '**Novel Interventions in the substance misuse field**'. We also welcome the International Nurses Society on Addictions (IntNSA) and the Royal College of Psychiatrists UK (RCPsych) who are also contributing to the scientific programme. We thank all sponsors and acknowledge the multitude of local and national organisations supporting this event. We are looking forward to welcome you all in Dundee!

In typical Scottish tradition we invite you to take advantage of the hospitality being offered; **from a free Scottish airport transfer to Dundee and back** and opportunities in our social programmes which will include tasting local cuisine and participating to Scottish traditional music amongst many other activities in place for isamDUNDEE2015 delegates. I also encourage visitors to plan a longer stay before or after this congress to find the time to soak up the culture, landscape and people that this country has to offer.

Scotland welcomes you in 2015!

LOC CHAIR: Dr. Alex Baldacchino

DATES: October 5-8, 2015

VENUE: Caird Hall, Dundee, Scotland

CONFERENCE INFORMATION: www.isamdundee2015.com

FUTURE ANNUAL MEETING LOCATIONS

ISAM 2016	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	TBA
ISAM 2017	Abu Dhabi, UAE	Oct 23-26, 2017
ISAM 2018	Busan, Korea	Nov 3-6, 2018

Anyone interested in hosting an ISAM Annual meeting is invited to inform the Head Office of their intention and be prepared to bring a brief presentation to the Board of Directors at the annual meeting on **October 4, 2015**.

INTERNATIONAL CERTIFICATION EXAMINATION 2015

- Pre-ISAM Annual Meeting, Dundee, Scotland Oct. 4th, 2015
- CSAM-SMCA [Canadian Society of Addiction Medicine] Annual Meeting, Calgary, Canada Wednesday, Nov. 4th, 2015
- Additional sittings may be available, depending on demand and a critical number of 8 applicants for the sitting. If you are interested in sitting the exam – you can send your expression of interest and if we have enough in a country we can perhaps organize an exam in a specific city.
- All pertinent information and application form can be downloaded from the ISAM website: www.isamweb.org under the tab *ISAM Products/International Certification*.

ISAM BOARD OF DIRECTORS & OFFICE

President & Chair, Executive Committee	Dr. Gregory Bunt (USA)	gbunt@daytop.org
President-Elect, Education & Training Committee Chair	Dr. Gabrielle Welle-Strand (Norway)	Gabrielle.Katrine.Welle-Strand@helsedir.no
Past President	Dr. Hannu Alho (Finland)	hannu.alho@thl.fi
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Public Relations Committee Chair & WebMaster	Dr. Jens Reimer (Germany)	reimer@uke.de
Chair, LOC ISAM 2015	Dr. Alex Baldacchino (UK)	a.baldacchino@dundee.ac.uk
<u>Ex-Officio Positions</u>		
Chief Examiner	Dr. Nady el-Guebaly (Canada)	nady.el-guebaly@albertahealthservices.ca
Chief Editor	Dr. Marc Galanter (USA)	marcgalanter@nyu.edu
Office Administration	Mrs. Marilyn Dorozio	ISAM.mdorozio@gmail.com

BEST PRACTICE PORTAL FROM EMCDDA

Click and learn with the new-look Best practice portal from the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction

Targeted at practitioners and professionals, the portal is designed as a practical and reliable source of what works, and what doesn't, in the areas of drug-related prevention, treatment, harm reduction and social reintegration.

The Fact sheet will be available at this link <http://www.emcdda.europa.eu/news/home>

We don't have a direct link to the video on Youtube yet but you can use the general Best practice link and people will be able to find it there www.emcdda.europa.eu/best-practice

Those interested can also subscribe to updates on EMCDDA best practice activities here <http://eepurl.com/5rLmf>