

2009 ANNUAL REPORT



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

In 2009, the National Center for Responsible Gaming (NCRG) implemented a number of important new initiatives and policies to support its ongoing mission of funding only the highest-quality, peer-reviewed research on gambling disorders; translating research findings into practical applications for real-world use; and increasing awareness and education about responsible gaming. I am proud to say we once again have excelled in all three of these areas.

Among the most important achievements of the NCRG this year was the creation of the Institute for Research on Gambling Disorders, as well as the creation of the nation's first NCRG Centers of Excellence in Gambling Research at Yale University and the University of Minnesota. Through these organizations, the NCRG is expanding its commitment to the field by providing a greater number of long-term, substantial grants for multidisciplinary research and education projects. More information about these exciting developments and the NCRG's ongoing project grants program is provided in the Revolutionizing Research section of this annual report.

The NCRG also supported important new practical applications for gambling research in 2009, including funding the Task Force on College Gambling Policies and working to increase awareness and adoption of the task force's recommendations at higher education institutions nationwide. With research showing only 22 percent of colleges and universities in the U.S. have a formal policy on gambling, the NCRG's work to educate stakeholders about sound science-based policies for addressing gambling on campus will have a real and lasting impact.

In the realm of public education and awareness, the NCRG experienced a number of significant milestones in 2009. October saw the NCRG's third annual Road Tour travel to Colorado to educate industry, government, academic and treatment community

stakeholders about the latest research on gambling disorders and the NCRG's many available resources. The 10th annual NCRG Conference on Gambling and Addiction was held in Las Vegas in November, attracting nearly 300 attendees from around the world to learn about how the current economic climate is affecting funding for the research, treatment and prevention of gambling disorders.

In addition, the NCRG introduced a number of new Web-based tools, including social media resources and a series of online seminars, to help increase the number of year-round educational opportunities available in the areas of gambling disorders and responsible gaming. A number of other important awareness efforts conducted in 2009 are detailed in the Public Education and Outreach section of this report.

The NCRG continues to show unparalleled leadership in the field of gambling disorders and responsible gaming, as evidenced by the extraordinary advancements made in 2009 and detailed in the pages that follow. My fellow board members and I look forward to upholding this tradition of leadership in the coming years, and we are committed to the NCRG's continued excellence in supporting the highest-quality research and education efforts in this field.

Sincerely,



Glenn C. Christenson
Chairman
National Center for Responsible Gaming



NCRG LEADERSHIP

The National Center for Responsible Gaming (NCRG) is the only national organization exclusively devoted to funding peer-reviewed research that helps increase understanding of gambling disorders and advance the development of effective screening, diagnostic, prevention and treatment strategies. Founded in 1996 as a 501(c)3 charitable organization, the NCRG is the American Gaming Association's (AGA) affiliated charity.

To date, more than \$22 million has been committed to the NCRG to support scientific research into pathological gambling; encourage the practical application of new research findings; and develop science-based responsible gaming education and outreach programs.

The NCRG is overseen by a board of directors and a board of trustees, with each entity holding unique but complementary roles. The board of directors serves as the practical, hands-on management group for the organization and focuses on education and outreach program creation and implementation, as well as maintaining the NCRG's relationship with the Institute for Research on Gambling Disorders. The board of trustees consists of CEOs of NCRG donor companies and is focused entirely on fundraising activities, both to support new education and outreach efforts and to continue to support peer-reviewed scientific research grants. The individuals who served the NCRG in 2009 are listed at right.

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CONTRIBUTORS

Since its inception, more than \$22 million has been committed to the National Center for Responsible Gaming (NCRG) through generous support from various financial donors, including gaming companies, suppliers and vendors, NCRG board members, gaming employees, related organizations, and individuals. These contributions allow the NCRG to further its mission to support research, encourage the practical application of new research findings to improve prevention and treatment strategies, and advance public education and awareness about responsible gaming.

The following is a list of contributors who supported the NCRG in 2009.

Gold Level

Harrah's Entertainment, Inc.*

Silver Level

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Isle of Capri Casinos, Inc.*

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WMS Gaming Inc.*

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Special Donations

\$85,000

JCM Global with the Association of
Gaming Equipment Manufacturers

\$67,600

Reed Exhibitions

**Indicates the company's contribution is part of a multiyear pledge.
(For a list of contributors prior to 2009, visit www.ncrg.org.)*



REVOLUTIONIZING RESEARCH

The National Center for Responsible Gaming (NCRG) is the leading private source of funding for science-based research and information on gambling and health in the United States. In the 13 years since its inception, the NCRG has supported the highest-quality research projects in the field and has fueled the most dramatic increase in scientific investigations of gambling over the past century.

When the NCRG was founded in 1996, it revolutionized the way research about gambling disorders was conducted by providing the first significant private source of funding for research in this field. In 2009, the NCRG revolutionized the field once again by expanding its commitment to providing substantial, long-term grants for multidisciplinary research and education efforts.

The first step in successfully expanding this commitment was the creation, in May 2009, of the Institute for Research on Gambling Disorders. The Institute is an independent program of the NCRG charged with managing and administering a competitive research grants program, and conducting public awareness and education about gambling disorders. Upon its creation, the Institute for Research on Gambling Disorders replaced the Institute for Research on Pathological Gambling and Related Disorders at the Division on Addictions at Cambridge Health Alliance, assuming all grant-making responsibilities for the NCRG at that time. The Institute for Research on Gambling Disorders is guided by its executive director, Christine Reilly, and its Scientific Advisory Board.

Scientific Advisory Board

Composed of leading independent scientists with expertise in addiction and related topics, the Scientific Advisory Board plays a vital role by ensuring the Institute follows rigorous standards in awarding grants for only the highest-quality research proposals. The board's main responsibilities are to monitor the progress of the NCRG Centers of Excellence in Gambling Research and to evaluate the conduct of the project grants program, including the peer review process. Members also advise on the development of funding initiatives and educational activities.

CHAIRWOMAN

Linda B. Cottler, Ph.D., M.P.H.
Professor of Epidemiology in Psychiatry
Washington University School of Medicine

BOARD MEMBERS

Jeff Derevensky, Ph.D.
Professor of Applied/Child Psychology
Associate Professor of Psychiatry
Director, Youth Gambling Research and Treatment
Clinic
McGill University

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Professor of Economics
Philip G. Satre Chair in Gambling Studies
Director, Institute for the Study of Gambling and
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University of Nevada, Reno

Richard I. Evans, Ph.D.
Distinguished University Professor of Psychology
University of Houston

Eileen Luna Firebaugh, J.D., M.P.A.
Associate Professor of American Indian Studies
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Richard McGowan, S.J., D.B.A.
Associate Professor of Operations, Information
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Professor of Psychiatry
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Ken C. Winters, Ph.D.
Professor of Psychiatry
Director, Center for Adolescent Substance Abuse
Research
University of Minnesota

Harold Wynne, Ph.D.
President
Wynne Resources, Ltd.

NCRG Centers of Excellence in Gambling Research

Through the newly formed Institute for Research on Gambling Disorders, the NCRG in 2009 continued to support the groundbreaking research of Dr. Howard Shaffer and his team at the Division on Addictions at Cambridge Health Alliance, a teaching affiliate of Harvard Medical School.

Building on the established success of Division on Addictions' research center model, the NCRG in May 2009 announced the creation of the nation's first NCRG Centers of Excellence in Gambling Research at Yale University and the University of Minnesota. Chosen by an independent panel of peer reviewers, the Centers of Excellence each were awarded a grant of \$402,500 over three years to conduct innovative, multidisciplinary research and education on gambling disorders. The research program at each Center of Excellence focuses on basic questions about gambling addiction and is directed by a principal investigator who is a recognized expert in the field of gambling disorders.

Led by Dr. Marc Potenza, the Center at Yale University is examining the various factors that influence treatment of gambling disorders. The investigators are conducting a placebo-controlled randomized clinical trial to investigate whether the drug naltrexone will be effective in a "real-world" clinical setting.

The Center at the University of Minnesota, under the leadership of Dr. Jon Grant, is developing a model of impulsivity that will enable the identification of young adults at risk for developing pathological gambling. Understanding who is susceptible and why will help lead to effective interventions for prevention and treatment. Both Centers also will conduct innovative, science-based public education programs.

Project Grants Program

In addition to the Centers of Excellence program, the Institute manages a competitive project grants program to support high-quality scientific research on gambling disorders. Project grants offer support for investigators from various disciplines and at all career levels, especially those new to the field. In 2009, the Institute awarded two project grants.

Motivational Pathways to Pathological Gambling

Principal Investigator:

Adam Goodie, Ph.D.

University of Georgia

Award: \$172,233 (two-year grant)

This project will test whether certain personality types may have a direct, causal link to pathological gambling. The goal of the project is to improve understanding of the determining factors that contribute to the development of gambling disorders to help inform prevention and treatment for different kinds of disordered gamblers.

New Investigator Grant

Gambling Behaviors Among Youth:

A Developmental Behavioral Genetic Perspective

Principal Investigator:

Serena M. King, Ph.D., L.P.

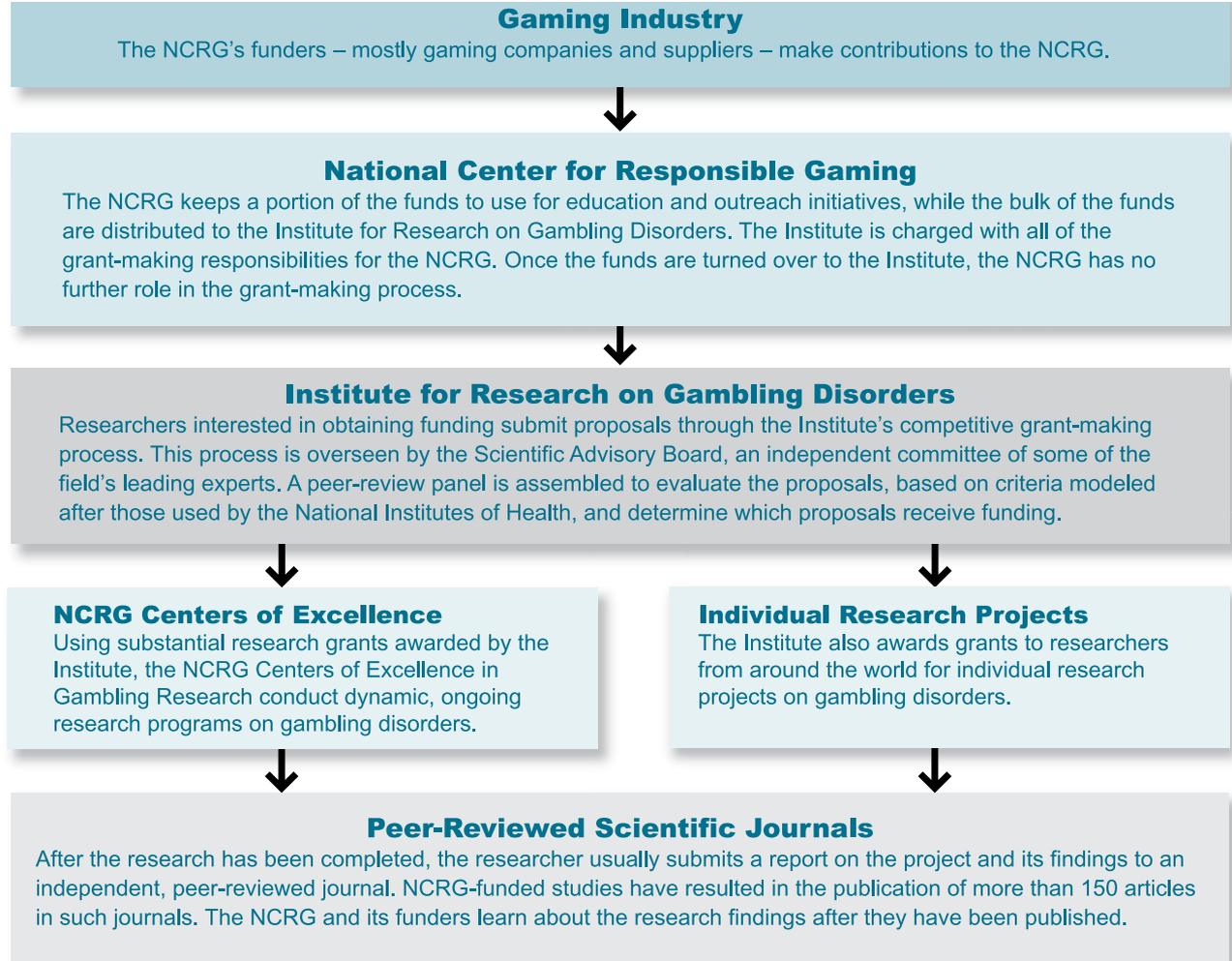
Hamline University

Award: \$57,318 (two-year grant)

Under the mentorship of Dr. Ken Winters from the University of Minnesota, Dr. King will analyze large-scale twin studies to examine the roles that behavioral problems, genes and environment play in gambling behaviors from adolescence to young adulthood.

Ensuring the Integrity of NCRG-Funded Research

Since its founding in 1996, the NCRG has mandated stringent firewalls in a multistep process to separate the gaming industry's contributions from the research it funds. This process, detailed in the diagram at right, ensures the NCRG and its funders have no influence over which research projects receive funding, nor over the findings of the research that is funded. In this way, the NCRG serves as a model for other industries and institutions interested in learning how to safeguard the integrity of the research they fund.



2009 Publications of NCRG-Funded Research

Publishing research findings in a peer-reviewed scientific journal is how researchers share their work with their colleagues and the public, and subject their methodology and analysis to the judgment of the scientific community. NCRG- and Institute-supported research has consistently been published in the highest-impact journals with the most rigorous standards. The following NCRG-funded research studies were published in 2009:

- Boudreau, A., LaBrie, R.A., & Shaffer, H.J. (2009). Towards DSM-V: “Shadow Syndrome” symptom patterns among pathological gamblers. *Addiction Research & Theory*, 17(4), 406-419.
- Desai, R.A., & Potenza, M.N. (2009). A cross-sectional study of problem and pathological gambling in patients with schizophrenia/schizoaffective disorder. *Journal of Clinical Psychiatry*, 70(9), 1250-1257.
- Goudriaan, A.E., Slutske, W.S., Krull, J.L., & Sher, K.J. (2009). Longitudinal patterns of gambling activities and associated risk factors in college students. *Addiction*, 104(7), 1219-1232.
- Ledgerwood, D., Alessi, S.M., Phoenix, M., & Petry, N.M. (2009). Behavioral assessment of impulsivity in pathological gamblers with and without substance use disorder histories versus healthy controls. *Drug and Alcohol Dependence*, 105, 89-96.
- Nelson, S.E., LaPlante, D.A., LaBrie, R.A., & Shaffer, H.J. (2009). Gambling problem symptom patterns and stability across individual and timeframe. *Psychology of Addictive Behaviors*, 23(3), 523-533.
- Tanabe, J., Tregellas, J.R., Dalwani, M., Thompson, L., Owens, E., Crowley, T., & Banich, M. (2009). Medial orbitofrontal cortex gray matter is reduced in abstinent substance-dependent individuals. *Biological Psychiatry*, 65(2), 160-164.
- Xuan, Z., & Shaffer, H.J. (2009). How do gamblers end gambling: Longitudinal analysis of Internet gambling behaviors prior to account closure due to gambling related problems. *Journal of Gambling Studies*, 25(2), 239-252.
- Zeeb, F.D., Robbins, T.W., & Winstanley, C.A. (2009). Serotonergic and dopaminergic modulation of gambling behavior as assessed using a novel rat gambling task. *Neuropsychopharmacology*, 34(10), 2329-2343.

2009 Peer Review Panel Members

The Institute for Research on Gambling Disorders recruits distinguished researchers in the addictions field to review proposals and make the final selection on the grant applications that receive funding. The following individuals served on peer review panels in 2009:

Lyndsay Ammon Avalos, Ph.D., M.P.H.

Associate Scientist
Alcohol Research Group

Donald W. Black, M.D.

Professor of Psychiatry
University of Iowa

Alain Dagher, M.D.

Associate Professor of Neurology
McGill University

Rani Desai, Ph.D., M.P.H.

Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Epidemiology
Yale School of Medicine

Jon E. Grant, M.D., J.D., M.P.H.

Associate Professor of Psychiatry
University of Minnesota Medical Center

David Hodgins, Ph.D.

Professor of Psychology
University of Calgary

David Ledgerwood, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor
Wayne State University School of Medicine

Sandra Momper, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Social Work
University of Michigan

Craig Nagoshi, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Psychology
Arizona State University

David Takeuchi, Ph.D.

Professor
Department of Sociology and School of Social Work
University of Washington, Seattle

Catharine Winstanley, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor
Lab of Molecular and Behavioral Neuroscience
University of British Columbia

Harold Wynne, Ph.D.

President
Wynne Resources, Ltd.



PUBLIC EDUCATION and OUTREACH

In 2009, the National Center for Responsible Gaming (NCRG) fulfilled its public education mission by introducing new initiatives and continuing other significant activities to help raise awareness about gambling disorders and responsible gaming among a variety of audiences nationwide.

Task Force on College Gambling Policies

In September, the national Task Force on College Gambling Policies released its *Call to Action* report, which provided 10 recommendations that form a solid, science-based framework higher education institutions can use to address gambling and gambling disorders on campus. The announcement of the college gambling policy recommendations was covered in more than 250 news pieces and garnered attention from *The New York Times*, the *Chronicle of Higher Education* and other significant outlets.

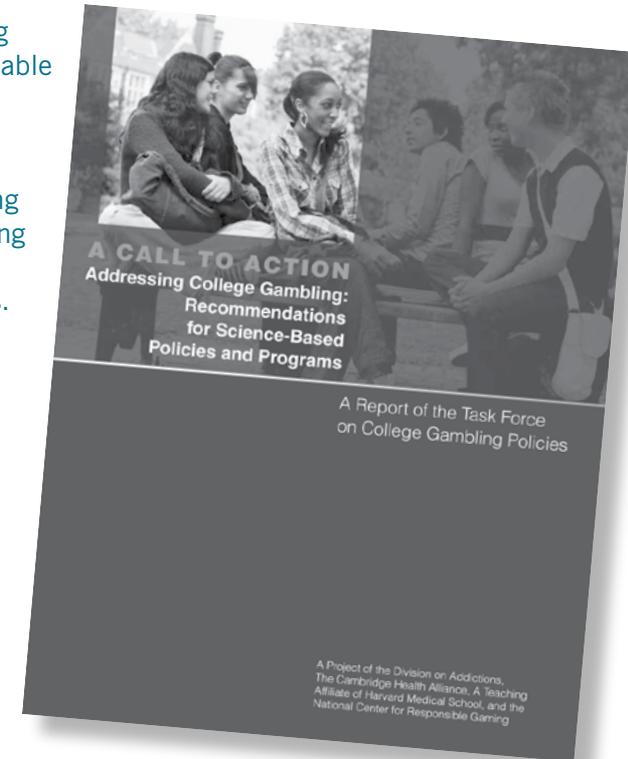
The task force was created after findings from an NCRG-funded study on gambling and alcohol policies at U.S. colleges and universities showed that while all schools in the study had student alcohol policies, only 22 percent had written policies on gambling. The study was conducted by Howard Shaffer and colleagues at the Division on Addictions in collaboration with the Harvard School of Public Health. Funded by the NCRG and created by the Division on Addictions at Cambridge Health Alliance in 2008, the Task Force on College Gambling Policies brought together representatives with a wide variety of professional expertise from a diverse range of institutions (see page 12 for a list of task force members).

The *Call to Action* report represents more than a year of work on the part of the task force, whose recommendations focused on three primary areas: on-campus prohibitions and restrictions, recognition of the importance of recovery-based policies and how to facilitate them, and special events. The recommended policies and programs range from establishing a campus-wide committee to develop a

comprehensive gambling policy, to making reasonable accommodations for students who may miss class as they focus on recovery, to strengthening the capacity of counseling services to identify and treat gambling disorders.

The NCRG and the Institute for Research on Gambling Disorders distributed the report to administrators, student health professionals, student life directors and other stakeholders through various professional organizations and meetings, and social media outlets. The

NCRG Web site includes a page dedicated to the college gambling policy recommendations (www.ncrg.org/public_education/task-force-college-gambling-policies.cfm) that provides both the executive summary and the full report, as well as other helpful information.



Task Force on College Gambling Policies

The following individuals served on the national Task Force on College Gambling Policies from 2008-2009; titles and affiliations listed reflect their positions during that time.

CHAIRMAN

Peter Van D. Emerson, M.P.A.

Associate for Public Policy
Division on Addictions, The Cambridge Health Alliance,
a Harvard Medical School Teaching Affiliate
Scholar in Residence
Kirkland House
Harvard University

TASK FORCE MEMBERS

Stacy Andes, M.A., A.B.D.

Director of Health Promotion
Villanova University

E. Ann Bailey, Ph.D.

Director of Housing and Residence Life
Mississippi State University

Bo Bernhard, Ph.D.

Associate Professor
Departments of Sociology and Hotel Management
Director of Gaming Research
International Gaming Institute
University of Nevada, Las Vegas

William Buhrow, Psy.D.

Assistant Professor of Psychology
Dean of Student Services and Director of Health and
Counseling Services
George Fox University

Karin Dittrick-Nathan, Ph.D.

Assistant Clinical Professor
Child, Family and School Psychology Program
University of Denver

Ann M. Doyle, M.Ed., C.H.E.S.

Outreach Education Coordinator
Alcohol/Drug Program
Bridgewater State College

Madalyn C. Eadline

Director
Office of Special Projects
Lehigh University

Greg Johnson, M.D., M.P.H.

Medical Director
After Hours/Urgent Care and Stillman Infirmary
Harvard University Health Services

Patricia L. Ketcham, Ph.D., C.H.E.S.

Associate Director, Health Promotion
Student Health Services
Oregon State University

Chris King, M.Ed.

Associate Athletic Director
University of Alabama

Ryan J. Martin, Ph.D.

Thomas N. Cummings Research Fellow
Division on Addictions, The Cambridge Health Alliance,
a Harvard Medical School Teaching Affiliate
Massachusetts Council on Compulsive Gambling

Sally J. Morgan, M.A.

Director
Office of Student Conduct
University of Nevada, Reno

Christine Reilly

Executive Director
Institute for Research on Gambling Disorders

Howard J. Shaffer, Ph.D., C.A.S.

Associate Professor
Harvard Medical School
Director
Division on Addictions, The Cambridge Health Alliance,
a Harvard Medical School Teaching Affiliate

Ryan Travia, M.Ed.

Director
Office of Alcohol & Other Drug Services
Department of Behavioral Health & Academic Counseling
Harvard University Health Services

Kristy Wanner, M.Ed.

Gambling Prevention Coordinator
Partners in Prevention
University of Missouri, Columbia



As part of the 2009 NCRG road tour, students, campus administrations and community health professionals from throughout Denver met at the University of Denver to discuss how to address gambling on college campuses.



Karin Dittrock-Nathan of the University of Denver and the Task Force on College Gambling Policies; Christine Reilly of the Institute for Research on Gambling Disorders; and Alan Feldman, NCRG board member, listen as Maria Riva, the associate dean of the Morgridge School of Education at the University of Denver, opens the breakfast.

NCRG Road Tour

Each year, the NCRG undertakes a Road Tour to promote responsible gaming, share new resources and discuss the latest research in the field of gambling disorders. In October, on the heels of the release of the Task Force on College Gambling Policies' *Call to Action* report, the NCRG's third annual road tour traveled to Black Hawk and Denver, Colo. As part of the tour, the Morgridge College of Education at the University of Denver hosted a breakfast event bringing together

a broad cross-section of university stakeholders from institutions across the Denver metro area to discuss the *Call to Action* report and its recommendations. Representatives from the NCRG and the task force spoke to audience members about incorporating gambling disorders into existing campus health considerations and the importance of creating science-based policies and programs to address gambling on campus.

In addition to the breakfast, the trip included a presentation to the Colorado Limited Gaming Control Commission and meetings with members of the Colorado Gaming Association and the Problem Gambling Coalition of Colorado, state government representatives, addiction treatment professionals and other stakeholders. Media interviews also were conducted with the *Denver Post* and Colorado Public Radio.

Expert speakers participating in the Colorado road tour included Christine Reilly, executive director of the Institute for Research on Gambling Disorders; Alan Feldman, NCRG board member and senior vice president of public affairs for MGM MIRAGE; Judy Patterson, secretary and treasurer of the NCRG and senior vice president and executive director of the American Gaming Association; Karin Dittrick-Nathan, a member of the Task Force on College Gambling Policies and assistant clinical professor in the Child, Family and School Psychology Program at the University of Denver; and Jody Tanabe, associate professor of radiology and psychiatry at the University of Colorado, Denver.

Annual Conference

Money, Money, Money: Current Issues Affecting Research, Recovery and Responsible Gaming

In November, the NCRG hosted its 10th annual NCRG Conference on Gambling and Addiction, bringing together nearly 300 stakeholders from 13 countries around the world for three days of education and discussion on the latest research on gambling disorders and innovations in responsible gaming programming. The event – presented by the NCRG and the Institute for Research on Gambling Disorders in partnership with the NCRG’s two new Centers

of Excellence in Gambling Research – was held Nov. 15-17 at the Mandalay Bay Resort & Casino and the Las Vegas Convention Center.

In an effort to expand on its mission to address the needs and interests of a variety of communities and stakeholders, the NCRG established a new Conference Advisory Board in 2009 to consult on the organization of this annual event (see opposite page for a list of members). These advisory board members represent the same broad range of audiences with interests in this field as are seen each year at the conference, including gaming industry professionals, health care providers, researchers and regulators.



NCRG chairman Glenn Christenson and panelists field a question from the audience during the town hall conference session on the impact of the economic downturn on gambling and addiction.

The 10th annual conference took an in-depth look at the role money plays in both gambling and addiction, from how gamblers make decisions related to financial risk and debt to how the current fiscal crisis is impacting gambling behavior, treatment funding and industry responsible gaming initiatives. During the conference's opening plenary session, "Neuroeconomics: How Our Brains Shape Our Decisions," expert panelists discussed the scientific evidence behind why individuals differ in their decision-making processes and how new research in this area has important implications for the field of gambling disorders.

Other conference sessions covered a variety of topics, including how to help individuals with gambling disorders create financial health; strategies for addressing problem gambling in the workplace; demystifying slot machines and their relationship to addiction; why problem gamblers do not seek help; and more. The NCRG conference also continued its partnership with Global Gaming Expo (G2E), the gaming entertainment industry's largest international trade show and conference event, to provide "NCRG at G2E" sessions as part of G2E's corporate social responsibility track. These joint sessions, held on the final day of the NCRG conference and open to attendees of both events, continued to attract a significant number of participants.

The 2009 NCRG conference was generously supported by the following sponsors: Ameristar Casinos, Inc.; Harrah's Entertainment, Inc.; International Game Technology; Isle of Capri Casinos, Inc.; Konami Gaming; MGM MIRAGE; Penn National Gaming, Inc.; Potawatomi Bingo Casino; the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians; and WMS Gaming Inc.

NCRG Conference on Gambling and Addiction Advisory Board

Glenn C. Christenson
Managing Director
Veland Investments, LLC
Chairman
National Center for Responsible Gaming

Peter Collins, Ph.D.
Professor, Public Policy Studies
Director, Centre for the Study of Gambling
University of Salford
Executive Director
South African National Responsible
Gambling Programme

Alan Feldman
Senior Vice President of Public Affairs
MGM MIRAGE
Board Member
National Center for Responsible Gaming

Jon E. Grant, M.D., J.D., M.P.H.
Associate Professor of Psychiatry
University of Minnesota Medical Center
Principal Investigator
NCRG Center of Excellence in Gambling
Research
University of Minnesota

Dean Hestermann
Director of Public Affairs
Harrah's Entertainment, Inc.

Nanette Horner
Director of Compulsive and Problem
Gambling
Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board

Connie Jones
Director of Responsible Gaming
International Game Technology

Eileen Luna Firebaugh, J.D., M.P.A.
Associate Professor of American Indian
Studies
University of Arizona

Reece Middleton
Executive Director
Louisiana Association on Compulsive
Gambling

Judy Patterson
Senior Vice President and Executive Director
American Gaming Association
Secretary and Treasurer
National Center for Responsible Gaming

Marc N. Potenza, M.D., Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Psychiatry
Director of the Problem Gambling Clinic
Yale University School of Medicine
Principal Investigator
NCRG Center of Excellence in Gambling
Research
Yale University

Christine Reilly
Executive Director
Institute for Research on Gambling Disorders

Kate Spilde, Ph.D.
Chair, Sycuan Institute on Tribal Gaming
Associate Professor
School of Hospitality and Tourism
Management
San Diego State University

Mark Vander Linden
Executive Officer
Iowa Gambling Treatment Program

Scientific Achievement and Poster Awards

One of the highlights of the NCRG's annual conference is the presentation of the NCRG Scientific Achievement Awards, which are bestowed by an independent awards committee on scientists who have made an impact on the field of research on gambling disorders.



Scientific Achievement Award winners for 2009, Dr. Jon Grant and Dr. Anna Goudriaan.

This year, the awards were presented at a luncheon sponsored by Potawatomi Bingo Casino.

The 2009 NCRG Scientific Achievement Award in the senior investigator category, which recognizes a researcher whose body of work has advanced the field of gambling-related research, was presented to Dr. Jon Grant, associate professor of psychiatry at the University of Minnesota Medical Center. Grant was honored for his internationally recognized research on the treatment of pathological gambling, including the first controlled study of the drug N-acetyl cysteine as a treatment for gambling disorders and his work as the lead author on pivotal clinical trials of opioid antagonists and serotonin reuptake inhibitors. Grant is only the second investigator ever to receive the NCRG Scientific Achievement Award in both the senior investigator and young investigator categories.

The 2009 award in the young investigator category was presented to Dr. Anna Goudriaan, a senior researcher at the University of Amsterdam. The young investigator category recognizes excellence in scientific contributions to the gambling field by a researcher whose terminal degree, such as the Ph.D. or M.D., was received within the past 10 years. Goudriaan already has published a broad range of articles focusing on neurocognitive and neuroimaging studies, as well as epidemiological research, and was described by the scientist who nominated her as “on a track to becoming one of the leading psychologists interested in the neurocognitive bases of pathological gambling and other disorders characterized by disinhibition.”

The 10th annual conference also featured a poster session showcasing new research on gambling disorders. The poster session is an opportunity for investigators to report their empirical research and converse with conference attendees about their findings. This year, 11 of the 22 poster submissions were from countries outside the United States. The 2009 Outstanding Poster Award was presented to a team of investigators from Yale University School of Medicine for the paper, “The relationship between brain activity and self-reported gambling urge intensity in pathological gambling.” Authored by Iris M. Balodis, Cheryl M. Lacadie and Marc N. Potenza, this poster reported on research that examined the neural underpinnings of gambling urges and how these relate to self-reported intensities in pathological gamblers.



Dr. Iris M. Balodis accepts the 2009 Poster Award on behalf of her Yale University team from Dr. Harold Wynne, a member of the Institute's Scientific Advisory Board.

Expanding Online Education Initiatives

In 2009, the NCRG expanded its education initiatives by partnering with the Global Gaming Expo (G2E) Online Education Center to launch the NCRG Webinar Series, offering continuing education opportunities throughout the year. The series, sponsored by International Game Technology, provides high-quality, interactive programming on gambling disorders and responsible gaming to health care providers, researchers, gaming industry professionals and other interested stakeholders through free, online workshops.



The webinar series featured two courses in its inaugural year. The first, featuring new research findings by David Hodgins from the University of Calgary and David Ledgerwood of the Wayne State University School of Medicine, covered how motivational interviewing (MI) and cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT) treatment approaches can be applied when working with clients who have a gambling problem.

The second webinar presented new research on adolescent gambling by Randy Stinchfield from the University of Minnesota Medical School and featured the recently released recommendations of the Task Force on College Gambling Policies. Christine Reilly, executive

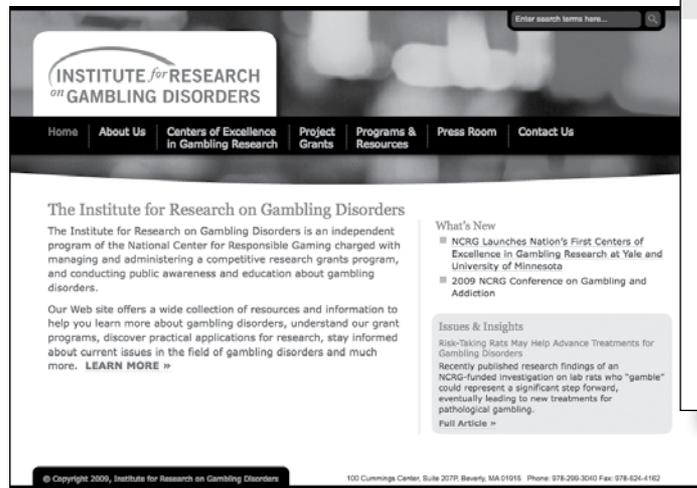
director of the Institute for Research on Gambling Disorders, was joined by fellow task force members Madalyn Eadline, director of the Office of Special Projects at Lehigh University, and Stacy Andes, director of health promotion at Villanova University, to give an in-depth presentation on the task force's recommendations and answer questions from participants.

More than 250 stakeholders participated in the first two webinars combined. Archived webinars are available for viewing at www.ncrg.org/public_education.

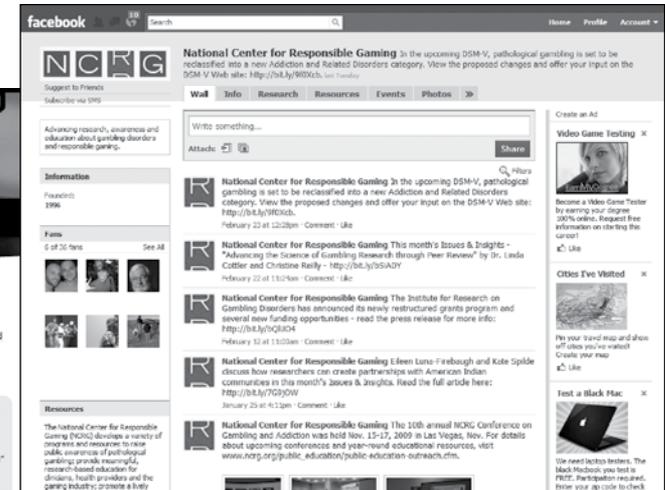
In addition to the NCRG Webinar Series, the NCRG and the Institute provided a number of new online opportunities for stakeholders to keep abreast of the latest news, research and events in the field of gambling disorders and responsible gaming.

In May 2009, the Institute launched its own Web site – www.gamblingdisorders.org –

to help researchers, treatment providers, NCRG conference attendees and others stay informed about new funding opportunities and the latest research in the field. A unique feature of the Institute's new Web site is the monthly *Issues & Insights* column, in which leading researchers and experts in the field provide their perspectives on important, timely issues related to gambling disorders and responsible gaming.



The NCRG also delved into the realm of social media in 2009, creating dedicated pages on Facebook and SlideShare. Through these forums, the NCRG is able to share important news and resources with its stakeholders while also marketing its research, programs and publications to the sites' broader audiences. On SlideShare, users can download PowerPoint presentations, speeches and research statistics to help expand their knowledge about gambling disorders and responsible gaming, and to use the information, with attribution, in their own presentations and materials. The NCRG Web site includes direct links to both the Facebook and SlideShare pages; they also can be accessed by searching for National Center for Responsible Gaming on Facebook and by visiting the NCRG's SlideShare page at www.slideshare.net/ncrg.



Participation at Conferences and Events

In 2009, representatives of the NCRG and the Institute participated in a variety of conferences and events sponsored by other organizations, providing an additional way to share research advances in the field of gambling disorders and new responsible gaming tools with a broader audience. This year, the NCRG had a presence at five different conferences and events, with activities ranging from distributing literature and sponsoring a booth, to having NCRG and Institute spokespeople serve as panelists or moderators. The NCRG had a presence at the following events in 2009: Global Gaming Expo 2009 (Las Vegas, Nev.); G2E Asia 2009 (Macau); Indian Gaming 2009 (Phoenix, Ariz.); the International Conference on Gambling and Risk-taking (Lake Tahoe, Nev.); and the 2009 Midwest Conference on Problem Gambling and Substance Abuse (St. Louis, Mo.).

Partnership for Excellence in Education and Responsible Gaming (PEER)

The NCRG continued outreach surrounding its Partnership for Excellence in Education and Responsible Gaming (PEER) program in 2009, and in February, the San Manuel Band of Serrano Mission Indians in Highland, Calif., joined the PEER program. PEER is a dynamic, one-of-a-kind initiative created to provide gaming entities with the tools and resources needed to develop comprehensive, world-class responsible gaming programs. Based on the AGA Code of Conduct for Responsible Gaming, the PEER program offers members full access to the materials needed to implement the Code, as well as access to EMERGE, a unique, online responsible gaming training program for gaming industry employees developed by researchers at Harvard Medical School.

Talking with Children about Gambling

The NCRG also continued to distribute its “Talking with Children about Gambling” brochure, first published in 2008, at events and online. Developed in consultation with the Division on Addiction at Cambridge Health Alliance, “Talking with Children about Gambling” is a research-based guide designed to help parents and mentors discuss this subject with children, deter children from gambling, and recognize possible warning signs of problem gambling and other risky behaviors.

Additional Resources

Since its first publication in 2001, *Responsible Gaming Quarterly (RGQ)* has become one of the leading international resources for news and analysis in the field of gambling disorders, with nearly 1,300 subscribers, including industry representatives, treatment providers, academics, regulators, members of the media and government officials. *RGQ* is a free publication jointly produced by the NCRG and the American Gaming Association and provides a broad range of coverage on recent research results, regulatory initiatives, studies and developments in the treatment field, and model citizen programs. The latest issue of *RGQ* is available through the Resources section of the NCRG's Web site.

In 2009, the NCRG also continued to provide financial support for the *BASIS (Brief Addiction Science Information Source)* – www.basisonline.org – and *The WAGER (Worldwide Addiction Gambling Education Report)*, one of several science reviews published by the *BASIS*. Published by the Division on Addictions since 1995, *The WAGER* provides brief, critical reports on recent gambling research, has a monthly readership of more than 8,000 and reaches more than 40 countries. The *BASIS* also offers free access to the self-help tool *Your First Step to Change*.

FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES

SIGNATURE

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Several major fundraising programs helped raise more than \$211,000 for the National Center for Responsible Gaming (NCRG) in 2009.

2009 AGEM-AGA Golf Classic

The 11th annual AGEM-AGA Golf Classic was held in April at Cascata in Boulder City, Nev. The Association of Gaming Equipment Manufacturers (AGEM) joined the American Gaming Association (AGA) as a co-title sponsor for the 2009 event, which once again was hosted by JCM Global. The 2009 event raised \$85,000 for the NCRG and attracted 120 golfers, including representatives from industry operators, manufacturers and suppliers. Since its inception in 1999, the tournament has raised more than \$812,000 for the NCRG.



Tom Neiman and Aki Isoi of JCM Global and other participants at the 11th annual AGEM-AGA Golf Classic at Cascata.

The following companies generously supported the event:

Sponsors

BNP Media
Gaming Laboratories
International
Global Gaming Expo (G2E)
Harrah's Entertainment, Inc.
Hikam America
KICTeam, Inc.
Konami Gaming
MEI
ShuffleMaster, Inc.
Southwest Print Source
TransAct Technologies, Inc.
Watson Rounds

Raffle Donation Sponsors

3M Touch Systems
Absolute Exhibits, Inc.
International Game Technology
Kirvin Doak Communications
McMullan's Irish Pub
ShuffleMaster, Inc.
Standard Coffee Service
Company

Team/Player Sponsors

Aristocrat Technologies
Aruze Gaming America
ATRONIC Americas
Automated Systems
America, Inc.
Bally Technologies, Inc.
Cole Industries, Inc.
DLA Piper
Dotty's Mini-Casino
Gaming Laboratories
International
Harrah's Entertainment, Inc.
Hikam America
Konami Gaming
Mikohn Gaming Corporation
Rocket Gaming Systems
ShuffleMaster, Inc.
TransAct Technologies, Inc.
Watson Rounds

2009 Gaming Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony

In 2009, casino developer Michael Gaughan was honored for his lifetime of achievement in the gaming industry with his induction into the Gaming Hall of Fame. In lieu of the traditional charity dinner, Gaughan was inducted during a special presentation at Global Gaming Expo's (G2E) Nov. 18 keynote event. The AGA, which organizes the induction ceremony each year, sold virtual tables to the event, raising \$55,000 in support of the NCRG's research and education initiatives.



2009 Gaming Hall of Fame Inductee Michael Gaughan.

The following companies and individuals generously supported the event:

Gold Sponsors

Ameristar Casinos, Inc.
Aristocrat Technologies, Inc.
Bally Technologies, Inc.
Boyd Gaming Corporation
Cannery Casino Resorts
Casino Queen
Harrah's Entertainment, Inc.
International Game Technology
Isle of Capri Casinos, Inc.
MGM MIRAGE
Pinnacle Entertainment, Inc.
WMS Gaming Inc.
Wynn Resorts, Limited

Silver Sponsors

Jack Binion and Family
Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority
Sycuan Institute on Tribal Gaming,
San Diego State University

Bronze Sponsor

Penn National Gaming, Inc.

Additional Programs

In accordance with the annual giving campaign G2E launched in 2006, a special donation to the NCRG of \$67,600 was announced at G2E 2009. The donation is made up of contributions from exhibitors and attendees at this premier gaming trade show event.

The AGA also continued to sell its "Keep it Fun" responsible gaming awareness wristbands in 2009 to benefit the NCRG. More than 10,450 bands were sold in 2009, yielding \$4,180 for the NCRG. Since it was launched in August 2005 during Responsible Gaming Education Week, the wristband program has raised more than \$172,600 for the organization.

A blurred, high-angle photograph of a crowd of people walking through a modern, brightly lit interior space, possibly a lobby or hallway. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter. The text 'A LOOK TO THE FUTURE' is centered in a large, bold, blue, sans-serif font.

A LOOK TO THE FUTURE

In 2010, the National Center for Responsible Gaming (NCRG) will continue its legacy of leadership in the field of research on gambling disorders and education about responsible gaming through a variety of key initiatives and endeavors.

The new Institute for Research on Gambling Disorders will play a critical role in helping to expand and advance the research field by directing NCRG funding to innovative and scientifically sound research projects throughout the country. The Institute also will be introducing new funding mechanisms to increase the number of researchers working in the field, encourage new talented scientists to examine gambling disorders and foster multidisciplinary collaboration among scientists with different specialties.

The NCRG and the Institute also will continue their efforts to raise awareness at the federal level about the importance of funding research in this field. Members of the Institute's Scientific Advisory Board will meet with representatives from various organizations within the National Institutes of Health to educate them about the importance of NCRG funding for research on gambling disorders and garner support for a renewed federal commitment to funding gambling research.

In 2010, the NCRG will bring its fourth annual Road Tour to Ohio, helping educate a wide variety of stakeholders in this new commercial gaming jurisdiction about the importance of having a strong research, treatment and prevention infrastructure from the outset.

The NCRG also will continue to expand its college gambling education efforts in the coming year, creating new practical tools based on the recommendations of the Task Force on College Gambling Policies and forming partnerships with college administrators, student health professionals and other relevant parties across the country.

The 11th annual NCRG Conference on Gambling and Addiction will be held Nov. 14-16, 2010 in Las Vegas. As part of its ongoing partnership with Global Gaming Expo (G2E), NCRG will once again produce "NCRG at G2E" sessions as part of the corporate social responsibility track at G2E's flagship event.

The NCRG also will dedicate significant energy and resources to public awareness and education in 2010. This will include publishing a new volume in the NCRG's ongoing *Increasing the Odds* monograph series, continuing to expand the NCRG Webinar Series and the organization's social media presence, and participating in education efforts surrounding Responsible Gaming Education Week in August.

In addition, the NCRG will continue to promote "Talking with Children about Gambling" and recruit members for the PEER program. Representatives of the NCRG and the Institute also will have an increased presence at professional conferences and events in the broader addictions community and continue reaching out to the media, regulators, legislators, industry representatives, and the treatment and research communities with the various resources both organizations have to offer.



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