

# September 2024

## The International Consortium of Universities for Drug Demand Reduction

# NEWSLETTER



From The Desk of Executive Director Kevin P. Mulvey, PhD

### Reflecting on the year and looking forward to the next 5 years

**Dear Members:** We have had a tremendous year (October 2023 - September 2024). This June, we had an excellent Annual Conference in Thessaloniki, Greece. Throughout the year we were able to hold multiple webinar series, which included our first-ever statistical analysis learning series on R this August. We are also pleased to announce that we have been working to improve and expand our organization. I would like to take a moment to explain our services and updated structure.

#### ICUDDR: Who We Are

The International Consortium of Universities for Drug Demand Reduction (ICUDDR) is a not-for-profit organization established in 2016. In 2018, it received IRS status in the United States as a 501c3. ICUDDR is committed to combatting the global challenges posed by substance use and addiction through a collaborative, multidisciplinary approach.

ICUDDR envisions a world where people with SUDs and related conditions have equitable access to science-informed prevention, treatment, and recovery support services. Consequently, ICUDDR is a dynamic platform for fostering international cooperation and knowledge exchange in reducing drug demand. The consortium comprises a global network of leading researchers, faculty, and institutions of higher learning dedicated to advancing evidence-based practices, conducting innovative research, and disseminating science-based

education to prevent drug use, treat addiction, and promote recovery.

ICUDDR supports the rapid improvement in competencies and skills among current and future generations of addiction professionals to meet the increasing demand for prevention, treatment, and public health services. The organization is unique in its advocacy for academics. Training programs in substance use and addiction. It promotes ethical standards of care and standards for education programs that train the prevention, treatment, and recovery workforce. ICUDDR's overall goal is to build and support a global network of universities and colleges to improve professional competencies in the prevention, treatment, and applied research of SUDs and related conditions and increase access to quality.

At ICUDDR, we believe that working together across borders and disciplines can achieve meaningful progress in reducing drug demand, improving public health outcomes, and building healthier, more resilient communities worldwide.

#### ICUDDR: What We Do

ICUDDR comprises four centers that aim to empower faculty, researchers, and institutions with the knowledge, skills, and resources needed to implement effective drug demand reduction policies, interventions, and research. Along with this, supportive policies for the workforce, including the credentialing of providers across the spectrum of substance use, are promoted.

### What you'll find:

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### **ICUDDR's Four Centers:**

#### **Center for Educational Program Development:**

The Center for Educational Program Development at ICUDDR is dedicated to expanding the reach and impact of addiction studies programs. As a global consortium, ICUDDR serves as a hub for networking, collaboration, and knowledge exchange among researchers, faculty, and institutions working in drug demand reduction through its membership, regional coordinating centers, and no-cost, accessible educational events, and resources.

The center aims to facilitate the development of programs that meet international standards for training in drug prevention, treatment, and recovery. To achieve this, ICUDDR provides technical advisory and curriculum assistance to new and existing university-level Substance Use Disorder (SUD) programs. Moreover, the center actively engages students and addiction professionals in academic and continuing education programs in addiction studies through webinars, workshops, symposia, working groups, online forums, and conferences. Furthermore, the center facilitates student and teacher exchange programs, providing opportunities for learning and collaboration remotely and in person.

#### **Center for Research Development and Fellowships:**

The Center for Research Development within ICUDDR has a multifaceted role. Its primary focus is fostering applied research advancements among ICUDDR members, providing increased support to faculty in research endeavors, and facilitating collaboration through faculty exchange and joint research ventures. Additionally, the center extends its support to young and emerging researchers in low-middle-income countries engaged in drug demand reduction efforts. This includes advising, supporting publishing, and disseminating new and existing research findings to enhance global prevention, treatment, and recovery efforts.

Furthermore, the center actively contributes to international research initiatives to address disparities in research access and publication success rates through collaborative partnerships with international journals. Moreover, the center utilizes applied research to provide expert advice to substance use disorder (SUD) professionals, organizations, and governments worldwide, thereby contributing to translating research findings into real-world impact.

Through dissemination efforts, the center seeks to establish ICUDDR as an expert organization in addiction studies, providing the latest scientific information on addiction.

#### **Center for Systems Change:**

The Center for Systems Change within ICUDDR highlights the critical role that universities play in advancing the systems involved in substance use prevention, harm reduction, treatment, and recovery services, ensuring that those systems are grounded in research, human rights, and international standards. The vision and mission of the Center for Systems Change are operationalized through its program one such program is the International Technology Transfer Center (ITTC) Network.

ITTCs are ICUDDR members with an enhanced commitment to implementing research-based substance use practices and policies in their countries. ITTCs use systems thinking to examine the entire substance use system, identifying opportunities for improvement and barriers to growth. They serve as conveners, bringing together partners from diverse sectors to strategize and catalyze innovative projects designed to increase the quality and accessibility of substance use services. ITTCs underscore the importance of integrating research into practice and policy. They have a shared vision of unifying science, education, and service to shape a healthier, safer future for individuals and communities worldwide.

#### **Global Certification and Credentialing Center:**

ICUDDR-GCCC a program by ICUDDR envisions becoming the leading global credentialing organization for substance use professionals, dedicated to enhancing the health and well-being of individuals, families, and communities. Their mission is to train, professionalize, and expand the substance use workforce in the region, providing experience verification and appropriate exams to ensure that governments and other employers hire and utilize the most qualified professionals.

By doing so, GCCC aims to improve the likelihood of positive outcomes for individuals, families, and communities affected by drug-related challenges. Furthermore, GCCC serves as a focal point for credentialing opportunities and provides valuable information about Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery Support, offering resources, promoting best practices, and fostering collaboration among stakeholders to advance the goals of drug demand reduction and enhance public health globally.

#### **The Coming Year**

Working through centers ICUDDR is planning an exciting array of activities. This year, 2024 through 2025, we will work to develop and implement 3 regional conferences rather than one annual global conference. Working with our members and coordinators we look to have these conferences in Latin America and the Caribbean, Africa and the Asia and Pacific Region. Please watch our website and future newsletters for announcements and information on our webinar activities, other programmatic events and these three regional conferences.

Our work would not be possible without the entire staff of ICUDDR, and you are members. We are sincerely grateful to our support and funders: INL, University of Wisconsin, National Institute of Drug Abuse- Iq Solutions, and several host countries.

*Kevin Mulvey*

# Welcome!

## New members of the ICUDDR Family:

As of September 24, we have **457 Member Institutions** consisting of **781 Faculty Members** from Africa, Asia Pacific, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, the Middle East, the United States, and Canada.

This month, we welcome two new University members:

**Fakeeh College for  
Medical Sciences**  
Saudi Arabia

&

**Universidad Católica  
Redemptoris Mater**  
Nicaragua



## Meet ICUDDR Intern: Meghan Newman

Hello, my name is Meghan Newman I'm currently an intern at ICUDDR doing research on Global Substance Abuse. I am also a student at George Mason, earning my Masters degree in Epidemiology and will be graduating in May of 2025. In my future career, I hope to work in substance abuse reduction and prevention!



# Upcoming Trainings & Events

*Free Live Webinar*

## ICUDDR Members' Requests: Data Analysis Report & Discussion

In this webinar, Mr. Park will go over the findings from member registration data, focusing on ICUDDR's services.

Discussion time is allotted for attendees to share their insights, feedback, and ideas to achieve our common goals. We invite all to join in the discussion.



**Mr. Sungjoo Park**

Program Officer  
ICUDDR Global Center for  
Credentialing and  
Certification

**Wednesday, October 9, 2024**  
**7:00 - 8:00 AM US Eastern Time**

[Register Here to Attend](#)



Check your time zone [here](#)

# In Focus: Addiction Research

## ICUDDR's Scientific Column

### Enhancing Facilitator Training in Evidence-Based Family Prevention Programs: A Path to Effective Interventions

By Carmen Orte, PhD

 Listen to the article here



Evidence-based family prevention programs have been proven to be effective in preventing the risk of addictions and anti-social behavior in adolescence (Arnason et al., 2020). Scientific literature emphasizes that training facilitators is essential to improving the effectiveness of these programs. Despite this, research has revealed little training in evidence-based practices for facilitators linked to program implementation (Orte et al., 2023).

To ensure the success of these programs, facilitators must possess the appropriate skills and training. Well-trained professionals who understand evidence-based family programs can substantially contribute to the success of interventions. Facilitators need a diverse skill set, which includes familiarity with evidence-based practices, the ability to adhere to these practices, strong communication and empathy skills, the capacity to motivate and engage families, and the ability to explain program components effectively (Orte et al., 2021).

Given the rapid pace of social changes today and the evolving challenges faced by adolescents and families, the skills and training of facilitators must be regularly updated. Facilitators' training should be aligned with the latest trends and problems, allowing them to stay effective in their roles.

#### Debating Effective Training for Family Program Facilitators

A critical discussion in family prevention research revolves around improving facilitator

training and providing them with the most effective skills, particularly those with input aimed at promoting healthy sexual relations and preventing addictions in adolescents. Programme facilitators play a key role in the implementation, given their influence on how these interventions are given and on related outcomes (Orte et al., 2021).

Spain's Socio-Educational Training & Research Group (Grupo de Investigación y Formación Educativa y Social, GIFES) has a long experience (since 2004) designing, validating, and sustaining evidence-based family prevention programs. Through the Family Competence Program (Programa de Competencia Familiar, PCF), an adaptation of the Strengthening Families Program, GIFES has developed specialized trajectories, such as the PCF 7-11 for selective prevention programme for families at risk and PCF 12-16 and PCF AFECT 12-16 selective prevention programmes for adolescents and the PCF-U 11-14 universal prevention program (Orte et al., 2015).

#### Current Research and Identified Needs

Our research during the implementation of the Family Competence Program identified a gap in the knowledge and skills of facilitators. Specifically, we identified a need to create a standardized curriculum to improve the knowledge and skills of training professionals in evidence-based family practices. Our current research aims to enhance the facilitators' skills, focusing on those most influential in ensuring the effectiveness of interventions.

Skills such as intrapersonal and interpersonal skills, motivation, fidelity, and specific training must be fostered. Mauricio et al. (2019) draw attention to the importance of solid training in intrapersonal skills in ensuring family programmes have a positive impact. Additionally, facilitators with strong intrapersonal skills are more engaged and better equipped to handle the challenges posed by the program (Klimes-Dougan et al., 2009).

Orte et al. (2021) provide insights into the necessary intrapersonal skills that program facilitators need to instill changes in adolescents such as engagement, organizational capabilities, an optimistic attitude to change, flexibility, friendliness, creativity, and sociability. Furthermore, Lochman et al. (2017) highlight the importance of effective group management, noting that facilitators with good management

skills see fewer disruptive behaviors in participating adolescents.

#### Milestones in Our Research

Our ongoing research has reached its first milestones. A Delphi consultation with experts (academics and facilitators) has identified key competencies facilitators must ensure, such as family adherence and motivation for change and support (Amer et al., in press). The prioritized skills include communication, facilitator engagement, and the ability to create strong bonds. Additionally, strategies and techniques for behavior modification, as well as the ability to identify needs, were identified as top training priorities (Amer et al., in press). A forthcoming systematic review of facilitator training in family prevention programs performed by our research group (Orte et al., in press) emphasizes the importance of active training formats that engage participants. Mixed evaluation methodologies and trainer self-evaluations are also highlighted as key components of effective training.

#### Conclusion

Our research focuses on developing comprehensive training for family program facilitators, particularly in areas like intrapersonal and interpersonal skills, group management, and a solid understanding of evidence-based practices. By improving these competencies, we aim to enhance facilitators' effectiveness, leading to better outcomes in family interventions.

**GIFES research group webpage:**

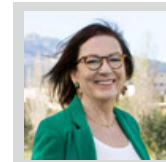
<https://gifes.uib.eu/>

**GIFES networks:**

[https://x.com/GIFES\\_Uib](https://x.com/GIFES_Uib)

[https://www.instagram.com/gifes\\_uib/](https://www.instagram.com/gifes_uib/)

<https://www.facebook.com/GIFESUIB>



**By Carmen Orte, PhD**

Chair Professor, Department of Pedagogy and Didactics, University of the Balearic Islands, Spain

Dr. Carmen Orte is a university professor at the Department of Pedagogy and Specific Didactics of the UIB since 2006. She is the Principal Investigator of the Gifes Group. She is the director of the Family laboratory (LIFAC) of the UIB.

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# September Review: Education & Trainings

## Examining Mechanisms and Conditional Processes: An Introduction to Moderation and Mediation

On September 9th and 16th, we had a fantastic series from Dr. Nephtaly Joel B. Botor on Examining Mechanisms and Conditional Processes: An Introduction to Mediation and Moderation.

In these webinars, we discussed the purposes, processes, and interpretations of moderation and mediation to maximize its use for Social Sciences research. This was a continuation of the statistical methods discussed in our R Workshop in August. These webinars marked the first time ICUDDR has offered learning opportunities on statistical methods, and it was a great success!

We appreciate everyone who attended and hope more are able to participate through the recordings.

**If you were unable to attend, you can view them both here:**

Click Here:  
[Part 1 Recording](#)

Click Here:  
[Part 2 Recording](#)

## Community Mobilization for Prevention Programs

On September 25th, ICUDDR collaborated with ISSUP to host the webinar, Community Mobilization, Co-Development, and Program Evaluation: Experiences from Stockholm Prevents Alcohol and Drug Problems (STADs) Community-Based Interventions.

This webinar was presented by Dr. Johanna Gripenberg and Dr. Tobias Elgan, who presented on various community-based programs including Responsible Beverage Service, Clubs against Drugs, and Football not Binging, which have been implemented and evaluated in Sweden and other countries. We appreciate their knowledge, as well as the technical support given by ISSUP!

If you were unable to attend, you can view the [recording here](#)

# September Review: Education & Trainings Cont...

## ISAM Annual Congress

ICUDDR was invited to exhibit at this year's ISAM Congress in Istanbul, Turkey. Staff members Kevin Mulvey, Carmel Clancy, and Hala Najm and many ICUDDR board members were invited to speak as well. They all did a wonderful job!



### Integrating Substance use disorders Education in to Healthcare Practice

(Moderated by Hala Najm, Presenters: Dr. Carmel Clancy, Dr. Giang Minh Le, & Dr. Gavin Bart)



### The Role of Addiction Physician/Allied Health Professional Collaboration in the Substance Use Continuum of Care (Dr. Kevin Mulvey & Joanna Travis Roberts)

### Strategies for Collaboration of Justice Systems with Addiction Treatment Experts: An International Perspective (Dr. Kevin Mulvey & Joanna Travis Roberts)



### Treatment of Clients with Substance Use Disorder in Criminal Justice Settings - How to make it work? (Dr. Igor Koutsenok, MD)



The conference was a great success. Thank you for the invitation ISAM!

## Visit to Cairo University

ICUDDR Executive Director, Dr. Kevin Mulvey met with Professor Dr. Hossam Salah Mourad, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, Cairo University, Egypt. This meeting followed the official signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between Cairo University and ICUDDR. ICUDDR Board members Dr. Roger Peters, Prof. Dr. Tarek A Gawad and Prof Dr. Rania Mamdouh Mohamed were also there. Others in attendance were Prof Dr. Mona Rakhawy, Prof Dr. Mahmoud Ma El Fiky. The focus of the meeting was developing an action plan to start the official work together.



## Regional Activities

### Europe

ICUDDR Europe, led by Dr. Michal Miovsky, held their quarterly regional meeting via Zoom on September 19th. It was a great discussion on recent work regarding virtual mobility, upcoming conference attendance, quality standards, and a paper published on the ICUDDR Member Survey, done in collaboration with Charles University. You can find the paper here: <https://www.icuddr.com/resources/resourceDetails.aspx?resourceID=656>

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 7th, at 15:00 Brussels Time.

If you are an ICUDDR Member located in Europe and would like to attend, please email Kaleb Brooks at [brooksk@icuddr.org](mailto:brooksk@icuddr.org).

# Regional Activities

## Africa

The Africa Regional Coordinating Center, led by Dr. Beatrice Kathungu and Dr. Martin Agwogie, completed a Universal Treatment Curriculum (UTC) overview for selected faculty members in Africa. This series was presented by Dr. Kathungu, Dr. Suwa Goar, and Dr. Morekwe Selemogwe, and was designed to prepare faculty to use the UTC in a university setting.

Dr. Cynthia Udeze shared a reflection on the training:

“

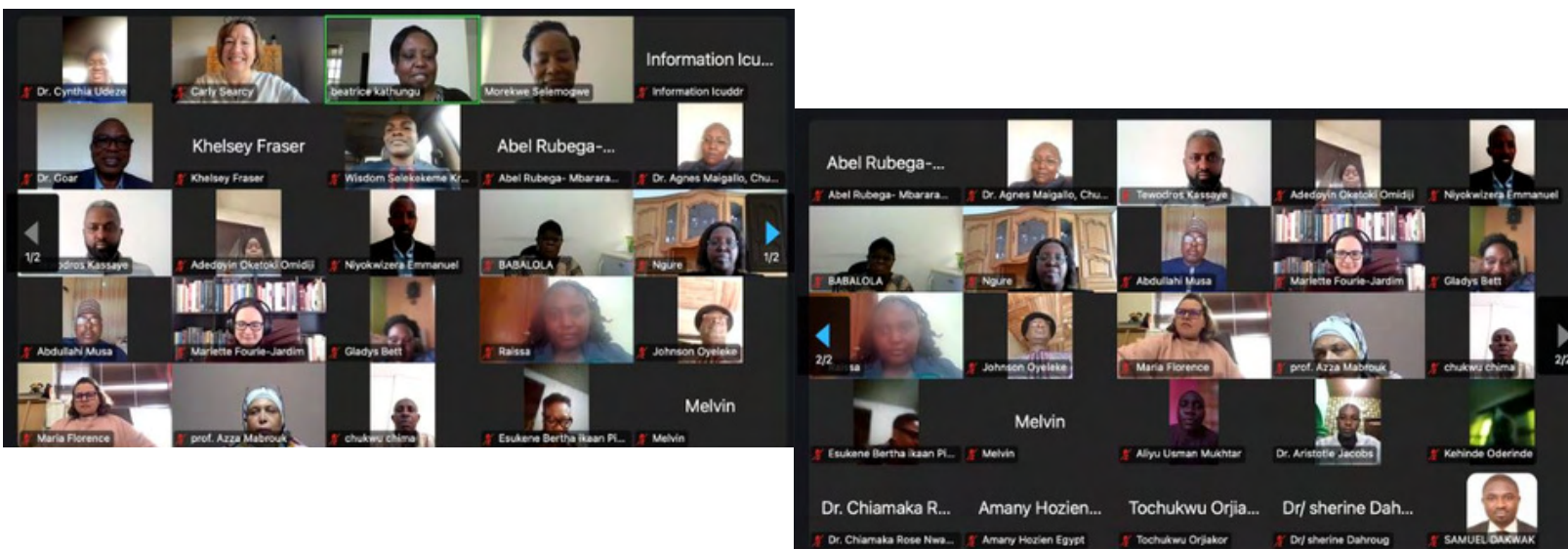
“The recent training was an invaluable experience that has profoundly impacted my understanding and approach to teaching addition science. The training provided a comprehensive overview of the latest strategies and methodologies for teaching addition, focusing on both theoretical and practical aspects.

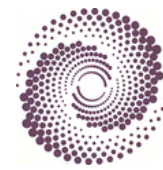
The interactive demonstrations highlighted the importance of engaging participants through practical exercises and real-life examples, which I plan to integrate into my lecture to enhance students' comprehension and retention.

I gained insights into how to better support students at varying levels of proficiency. This will enable me to create a more inclusive learning environment where each student can thrive. The collaborative discussions with fellow participants were particularly enriching, offering diverse perspectives and practical tips for overcoming common challenges. Sharing experiences and strategies has inspired me to explore new approaches and continually refine my teaching practices.”

”

Photos from the Closing Ceremony for this series:





## Connect with the ITTC's Network Coordinating Office

The International Technology Transfer Center (ITTC) Network for Drug Demand Reduction develops and strengthens the workforce, organizations, and systems that provide substance use prevention, treatment, and recovery support services.

Based in universities and research centers, ITTCs utilize a variety of strategies to accelerate the use of scientifically-based and culturally appropriate practices.

The ITTC Network Coordinating Office based at the University of Missouri, Kansas City (UMKC) works in partnership with the International Consortium of Universities on Drug Demand Reduction (ICUDDR) to unite the Centers into a mutually supportive network. Some benefits of being an ITTC are the connections to a strong network of drug demand reduction experts and the opportunity to collaborate closely with professionals around the world. The ITTC Network provides ongoing development opportunities for its members through various modalities.

[www.ittcnetwork.org](http://www.ittcnetwork.org)



## Job Well Done to the ITTC Chapters at the ISAM 2024 Congress

We are proud to recognize our ITTC members for their successful presentations at the ISAM 2024 Congress, *Building Bridges: Addiction and Recovery*, held in Istanbul.

- Dr. Igor Koutsenok, the director of ITTC Ukraine, presented 'Treatment of Clients with Substance Use Disorder in Criminal Justice Settings – How to Make It Work?.'
- Dr. LE Minh Giang, the director of ITTC Vietnam, participated in a panel discussion titled, 'Integrating Substance Use Disorders Education into Healthcare Programs: Challenges, Methods, and Implications.'
- Dr. Kristiana Siste, director of ITTC Indonesia, delivered a presentation on 'Comprehensive Strategies for Addressing Gambling Disorder in Low- and Middle-Income Countries.'



## Publication: Kristiana Siste, MD, PhD, Director of Indonesia

Congratulations to Dr. Kristiana Siste, Director of the Indonesia ITTC, on the publication of '[Association of Dysfunctional Coping Influencing Emotional-Behavioral Problems Among HIV-Positive MSM in a Global South Center.](#)'

## Invitation to Share

We would also like to extend our congratulations to all ITTC members on their achievements. Please feel free to share any publications or accomplishments with us, so we can feature them in our monthly bulletin and on our social media platforms!

## ICAP Exam Update

### In-person Proctored

ICAP exams in Treatment, Prevention, & Recovery Support are scheduled in the following locations:

#### October

- October 2: Johannesburg, South Africa

#### November

- November 5: Abu Dhabi, UAE
- November 20: Accra, Ghana
- November 22: Nairobi, Kenya

#### December

- December 11: Doha, Qatar
- December 13: Cairo, Egypt

#### January

- January 15: Hanoi, Vietnam
- January 17: Manila, Philippines

*\*These exams are sponsored/closed registration.*

### Online Remote Proctored

ICUDDR-GCCC, in collaboration with NAADAC and the National Certification Commission for Addiction Professionals (NCC AP), offers qualified test-takers the opportunity to sit for all four of the ICAP-Treatment exam levels using online remote proctoring. This allows the candidate to take the exam on a computer in their home or office by an online, live proctor via webcam.

Before registering for online remote proctoring, you should ensure that your computer meets the system requirements and that your testing environment must also comply with the rules for the room. [Click here to view those requirements.](#) To apply, go to: <https://portal.globalccc.org/>.

### Renew Online!

The ICAP-renewal application is now available on the GCCC portal, providing a streamlined process for professionals to renew their International Certified Addiction Professional (ICAP) credentials. To renew, users need to log in to the portal, select their existing credential, and update their contact information. The application requires evidence of career progression and continuing education or training undertaken in the past three years. This renewal process ensures that professionals maintain their certification and stay current with industry standards.

For more details,  
[visit the GCCC portal.](#)



Message from GCCC Associate Director:  
Carmel Clancy

### Global Centre for Credentialing and Certification (GCCC): Officially Part of ICUDDR

As mentioned in my 'introductory piece' in August's newsletter, as of 1 October, the final transition steps from our trusted leaders at Colombo Plan-DAP to the International Consortium of Universities for Drug Demand Reduction (ICUDDR), will have been taken. This milestone builds upon the remarkable work of the Colombo Plan Drug Advisory Program (DAP), which plays a pivotal role in credentialing the global addiction workforce.

For years, the Colombo Plan's Drug Advisory Programme (DAP) has been at the forefront of driving forward the professionalization of the global workforce in drug demand reduction and addiction treatment. Their dedication to credentialing and capacity-building has been instrumental in establishing clear standards for recognizing the expertise, knowledge, and commitment of professionals who work tirelessly to address the complex challenges of substance use. Through their efforts, a framework now exists, equipping addiction professionals with the competencies, certifications, and global recognition needed to navigate and combat the ever-evolving landscape of substance use disorders.

These advances have significantly strengthened the global addiction workforce, providing them with both the tools and the support systems necessary to make a profound and sustained impact. However, the increasing prevalence and cross-border nature of substance use problems mean that the need for further development and collaboration remains critical. The next chapter for the Global Centre for Credentialing and Certification (GCCC), under the International Consortium of Universities for Drug Demand Reduction (ICUDDR) framework, marks a crucial juncture. It is an opportunity to channel renewed focus, broaden global partnerships, and deepen engagement with academic institutions tasked with shaping the future generation of addiction professionals.

The excitement surrounding this transition is palpable. With the support of ICUDDR, GCCC is poised to leverage a vast network of universities, government agencies, and stakeholders who are equally committed to strengthening the addiction workforce. As addiction continues to pose a significant public health crisis globally, the need for a strong, capable, and credentialed workforce has never been more pressing. Addiction professionals are on the front lines of this crisis, and their ability to implement evidence-based practices will determine whether we can stem the tide of rising substance use and its devastating effects on communities worldwide.

At the heart of these efforts is the importance of professionalizing the addiction workforce. Credentialing is not just a matter of certification; it is about ensuring that individuals are properly trained, supported, and validated in their ability to address this complex and evolving issue. A credentialed workforce is better equipped to implement evidence-based practices, deliver quality care, and ultimately, save lives.





Given the work yet to be done, we are deeply appreciative of the sustained and ongoing funding from the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL), which makes these efforts possible. We must continue to work collectively to ensure that those entering the addiction field receive the highest standard of education and training. Equally important is the need to internationally align our expectations of what constitutes excellence in credentialing.

During our two-day in-person workshop this summer in Thessaloniki, Greece, with our GCCC Commissioners, we engaged in meaningful discussions about the future direction of GCCC. We asked critical questions: What does "good" look like? What is the gold standard we expect from our addiction workforce? And how can we scale up at pace? These are pivotal issues that GCCC, with the support of the broader community and government agencies, must address. By aligning our global standards and expectations, we can create a level playing field and a unified approach to addressing addiction worldwide.



GCCC Commissioners  
June 2024 in Thessaloniki, Greece

As we move forward, our next steps will focus on the questions our Commissioners explored, guided by the principles of co-production and strengthened by collaboration with our partners, stakeholders, and ICAP credential holders. In the coming months we are excited to share key emerging work program initiatives that we will be working and consulting on and invite you to reach out to us with feedback.

This will include:

- Consolidating and reviewing our current credentialing processes and procedures, conducting a 'stop, start, continue' assessment to identify what has been effective and what can be improved, including exploring with university partners and stakeholders establishing regional test centres, offering in-person and remote proctoring exams; with annual schedules so that candidates/employers/government agencies can plan more effectively; increasing recognition of 'different training routes and qualifications' as part of the eligibility to sit for ICAP credential. This will help us enhance and accelerate efforts to reduce barriers in both obtaining an ICAP credential and re-credentialing.
- Continuing to develop alliances with policymakers, licensing boards, and influential advocacy groups that have an interest

in addressing the addiction workforce shortage; and highlighting the value of reciprocity e.g. presenting data-driven arguments showcasing how credentialed addiction professionals are needed to address addiction crises; emphasizing that GCCC credentials meet or exceed the standards of local certifications by providing comprehensive details on assessment methods and continuous professional development requirements, drawing attention to the potential cost savings of accepting GCCC credentials, as it reduces the need to create additional localized credentialing services from scratch; conducting thorough comparisons between GCCC credential standards and local licensing requirements. Addressing any gaps by offering supplemental exams tailored to regional standards.

- Leveraging our advocacy role for policy changes by participating in government consultations and public discussions about workforce development, ensuring GCCC credentials are positioned as part of the solution; working with legislators to introduce bills or regulatory changes that recognize GCCC credentials as equivalent to national certifications; and continue to present case studies and success stories from regions where GCCC credential reciprocity has been implemented effectively, emphasizing positive outcomes in addiction prevention, treatment and recovery.
- Exploring the introduction of new credentials that reflect the multidisciplinary nature of the addiction sector. For instance, adding to the upcoming ICAP-RN (Registered Nurse) credential, expected to launch in 2025. We plan to expand this discipline-specific approach to include credentials such as ICAP-Medic, ICAP-Psychologist, ICAP-Social Worker, and more.
- Expanding our offer of support through the provision of educational resources such as workshops, seminars, or webinars to government officials and regulatory bodies to educate them on the GCCC standards and best practices for integrating these credentials into existing frameworks.

The path ahead is long, but the momentum is with us. **We welcome your ideas on how we can improve and promote the mission of the Centre and supported by a global network of partners, we strongly believe we are entering a new and energized phase of professionalizing the addiction workforce.** We look forward to building on the legacy of the Colombo Plan DAP, and with ICUDDR's network, ensuring that we continue to advance the field of addiction prevention, treatment and recovery. Together, we can address this public health crisis with the strong, capable, and credentialed workforce it demands.

**Dr. Carmel Clancy**  
**PhD, RN, BSc(Hons), PG CertHE, FPH, ICAP III**  
**Associate Director GCCC**

# Things to Share

## CPDD Early Career Investigator Grant: Applications Open



The College on Problems of Drug Dependence

**NOW ACCEPTING**  
2025 Early Career Investigator Grant Applications

The College on Problems of Drug Dependence (CPDD) is now accepting initial applications for the CPDD Early Career Investigator Grant. Three \$10,000 grants will be awarded to three outstanding early career investigators.

The initial application is due on **Friday, November 1, 2024.**

For more information on this grant opportunity, please visit the CPDD website or contact the Executive Office at [info@cpdd.org](mailto:info@cpdd.org).

[Click here](#) for more information or to apply.



## American Association University Women: International Fellowship



The American Association of University Women (AAUW) is accepting applications for [International Fellowships](#).

Fellowships are awarded for full-time study or research in the United States to women who are not U.S. citizens or permanent residents.

Application deadline:

**November 15, 2024**

[Click here](#) for more information or to apply.



# Resources added to ICUDDR Website

## DID YOU KNOW?

ICUDDR has 350+ resources in its collection of journal articles, curricula, brochures, tools, webinars and more. The list can be filtered by resource type and/or topic.

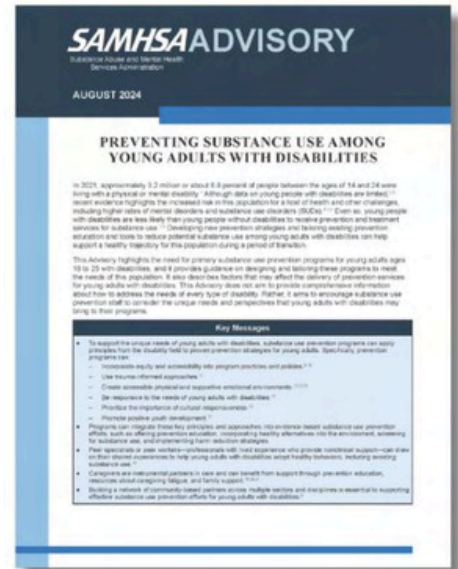
[Visit our resource webpage](#)

## New Resource

### Preventing Substance Use Among Young Adults with Disabilities

This report encourages the substance use community to provide improved prevention services for young adults with disabilities. This population is at a time of significant life change, and are at greater risk of behavioral health conditions, such as substance use disorder.

[Click here to access the new resource](#)



## New Journal Article

### Interventions to reduce harms related to drug use among people who experience incarceration: systematic review and meta-analysis

*Christel Macdonald, Georgina Macpherson, Oscar Leppan, Lucy Thi Tran, Evan B Cunningham, Behzad Hajarizadeh, Jason Grebely, Michael Farrell, Frederick L Altice, Louisa Degenhardt*

There are effective interventions to reduce mortality and recidivism for people who use drugs who have been incarcerated. There are also substantial gaps in the research examining the effect of interventions on risk behaviours and mortality during incarceration and a need for randomised designs examining outcomes for people who use drugs after release. Published in The Lancet, full text is available.

[Click here to read the article](#)

# Do you want to join the ICUDDR Consultant Registry?

If you have expertise to share and are interested in consulting opportunities with ICUDDR, please complete our short form at:

<https://forms.gle/PqKXK1jnE2heXikKA>

## Call for Teaching Manual Resources

Do you have course materials including syllabi, assignments, and worksheets that you'd be willing to share? Submit your materials for review and potential compilation into a resource manual for members by course.

Send them to [info@icuddr.org](mailto:info@icuddr.org)

## Did you publish a journal article?

**Did you publish a journal article in the field of Prevention, Treatment, or Recovery?**

If you published an article in an addiction medicine or substance use disorder journal, please share it with us by emailing it to [Info@icuddr.org](mailto:Info@icuddr.org). We will help promote your work.

# Connect with ICUDDR



[info@icuddr.org](mailto:info@icuddr.org)



[www.icuddr.org](http://www.icuddr.org)

