

The Problem Gambling Research and Treatment Centre

A joint initiative of the Victorian Government, the University of Melbourne and Monash University

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR SERIES

AMENDED PROGRAM – AUGUST 2011

The Problem Gambling Research & Treatment Centre (PGRTC) is pleased to advise of the forthcoming activities in its Professional Development Seminar Series. The Seminar Series is intended for staff, managers and policy makers involved in the design and delivery of problem gambling services, as well as gaming industry staff.

This notice is to ensure that you save the dates for your diary. Further information and calls for registrations will be forwarded prior to each seminar. The contact for registration is Chelsea Harris, the Problem Gambling Research and Treatment Centre Administrator at the University of Melbourne. RSVP's can be sent to Chelsea by email at chelseah@unimelb.edu.au or phone on 8344 8220.

Children, Families and Problem Gambling

Monday 18th July 2011

10.00am – 1.00pm

Venue: The University of Melbourne

This half day seminar will review the current state of knowledge concerning children, families and problem gambling. The seminar will consist of presentations from recent international and centre work in this area, including the largest international study on the children of problem gamblers; recent research on family violence and problem gambling and an introduction to the Community Reinforcement and Family Therapy (CRAFT) model. By the end of the seminar, each participant will have an increased understanding of the impact of problem gambling on the entire family system. This seminar is relevant to staff, managers, counsellors and policy makers involved in the design and delivery of problem gambling services, as well as gaming industry staff.

Fee: Gamblers Help staff/OGR staff fully subsidised; \$125 otherwise

Clinical Guidelines for Screening, Assessment and Treatment of Problem Gambling

Postponed. Date to be advised.

Working with clients from indigenous and varied cultural backgrounds

Monday 5th September 2011

10.00am - 3.00pm

Venue: The University of Melbourne

This session will involve input from experts in indigenous and cultural issues in problem gambling. The workshop will first review relevant research and the practice evidence base concerning cultural factors in problem gambling. The afternoon session will be skills based training for workers who work with clients from these backgrounds. This workshop is relevant to staff, managers, counsellors and policy makers involved in the design and delivery of problem gambling services, as well as gaming industry staff.

Fee: Gamblers Help staff/OGR staff fully subsidised; \$175 otherwise

Innovative practice in problem gambling interventions: Lessons from the Innovations Grants Program

Monday 10th October 2011

10.00am - 4.00pm

Venue: The University of Melbourne

This session will review the findings from an evaluation of the eight projects funded under the Innovative Grants Program by the Office of Gaming and Racing. The projects include a number of interventions designed to enhance assessment of co-morbidity; reach clients who have been in treatment for some time (dialectical behaviour therapy) or to help to prevent relapse (Re-making meaning project and urge reduction project); intervention for families and for those presenting with trauma backgrounds; and systemic interventions addressing the mental health and corrections systems.

Fee: Gamblers Help staff/OGR staff fully subsidised; \$175 otherwise

Working with co-morbid clients

This session will be presented as a symposium at the National Association of Gambling Studies Conference, November 23rd to 25th, 2011.

NEW! Workshop on the treatment of people with co-occurring disorders

Tuesday, 22nd November, 2011

10:00am – 3:00pm

Venue: Monash Conference Centre

PGRTC research update

Monday 6th February 2012

10.00am – 1.00pm

Venue: The University of Melbourne

This seminar will present an overview of the latest developments and findings from the current research being conducted by the Centre as well as research being conducted by other leading

gambling researchers and will provide participants with an opportunity to interact with leading gambling researchers and policy makers. This seminar is relevant to staff, managers, counsellors and policy makers involved in the design and delivery of problem gambling services, as well as gaming industry staff.

Fee: Free

National Conference of Emerging & New Researchers in Gambling (ENERGI)

Friday 16th March

9.30am – 4.30pm

Venue: Monash Conference Centre

ENERGI is a major event in the training calendar and showcases the latest gambling related research by bringing together emerging researchers in the field from a range of disciplines. Practitioners, both clinical and policy oriented, are strongly encouraged to attend the ENERGI meeting to access this latest research by new and emerging researchers and to take advantage of the opportunities for networking between researchers, practitioners and policy makers to facilitate collaborative practice based research.

Fee: Gamblers Help staff/OGR staff fully subsidised; \$175 otherwise

What do problem gamblers and their friends and families want to know about problem gambling?

Monday 16th April 2012

10.00am – 1.00pm

Venue: Monash Conference Centre

This seminar reports the outcomes of research the Centre has undertaken on the information needs of problem gamblers and friends and families of problem gamblers. A review of current information resources and gaps is provided. A key part of this presentation is to report the results of direct dialogues with consumers as to their information needs and preferences. We hope to have consumers and friends and family members of people with problem gambling present these insights in their own voices.

Fee: Free

ACT: Acceptance and commitment therapy and its application to problem gambling

Monday 21st May 2012 10.00am - 4.00pm

Tuesday 22nd May 2012 10.00am – 4.00pm

Venue: The University of Melbourne

This seminar will explore the application of ACT to problem gambling. Based on Relational Frame Theory (RFT), ACT takes the view that trying to change difficult thoughts and feelings as a means of coping can be counter-productive, and utilises instead, alternative approaches including acceptance, mindfulness, cognitive defusion, values, and committed action. This is a skills-based workshop.

Fee: Gamblers Help staff/OGR staff fully subsidised; \$350 otherwise

Working with couples affected by problem gambling

Monday 25th June 2012

10.00am - 4.00pm

Venue: The University of Melbourne

This session will provide an overview of the strong empirical evidence for the effectiveness of couples therapy in interventions designed to reduce substance use, address problems related to substance use and improve relationship satisfaction. It will introduce evidence from research on interventions such as Congruence Couple Therapy (CCT) which has been developed as a short-term, integrative, humanistic, systemic approach in working with couples. This introductory component will be followed by a skills-based session.

Fee: Gamblers Help staff/OGR staff fully subsidised; \$175 otherwise

Evaluation

Each of these activities is individually evaluated to ensure that maximum quality is maintained. If you have a training need then please contact us on (03) 8344 8530.

Further details

Details of each session will be emailed at least one month prior to the session to enable registration.