CAPR Final Report for the period July 2011 – June 2014

CAPR Team

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Centre for Alcohol Policy Research
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This is a final report on the work of the Centre for Alcohol Policy Research (CAPR) during a three-year contractual period of core funding, 1 July, 2011 and 30 June, 2014, from the Foundation for Alcohol Research and Education (FARE). CAPR originally began operations on 27 March, 2006, and a previous final report to FARE (then AERF, the Alcohol Education and Rehabilitation Foundation) covers CAPR’s work in its first period of a little over five years.¹

CAPR’s areas of research, aims and means

The Centre for Alcohol Policy Research (CAPR) is the only Australian research centre with a primary focus on research related to alcohol policy. There are four main areas of research in the Centre’s work: research on alcohol policy impacts; on alcohol policy formation and regulatory processes implementing alcohol policies; on patterns and trends in drinking and alcohol problems in the population, as needed bases for policymaking; and on the influence of drinking norms, cultural practices and social contexts, particularly in interaction with alcohol policies.

The CAPR research program thus aims to improve the understanding of alcohol-related harms and evidence-based strategies to address them. Besides conducting and publishing research, CAPR also serves as a resource concerning the evidence base on alcohol policies for the public health community, social and government agencies, the media, and larger society. As described in more detail below, CAPR pursues this objective in a number of ways:

• by publication of its original research findings and scholarly reviews and commentaries;
• by pursuing and producing reports on agreed-on alcohol policy-relevant research topics for the Foundation for Alcohol Research and Education (FARE) and other funders;
• by disseminating its research, in the context of the relevant knowledge base, through presentations at community, governmental and professional meetings, and through participation in public seminars and events;
• by responding to requests concerning evidence from governmental, public health and other bodies, and from the media;

by advising public health-oriented alcohol policy agencies and coalitions on the relevant research on emergent alcohol policy issues;

by contributing to the development of the workforce of scholars competent in policy-relevant alcohol research in Australia and internationally through such means as postgraduate training, postdoctoral placements, internships and scholarly visits and exchanges;

by working with the World Health Organization and other public health agencies, and other research groups in Australia and internationally, to develop the international base of knowledge concerning drinking patterns, alcohol-related harms, and effective alcohol policies.

The Centre’s auspices and funding

The Centre for Alcohol Policy Research (CAPR) is a collaboration between four institutions. CAPR receives core funding and is the primary research activity of the Foundation for Alcohol Research and Education (FARE), an independent charitable organisation working to prevent the harmful use of alcohol in Australia. Since its inception in 2006, CAPR has been located as a research program within Turning Point, a multifunction alcohol, other drug and gambling centre which is now part of Eastern Health, a multisite metropolitan health service. CAPR’s director, Robin Room, is a professor in the Melbourne School of Population and Global Health of the University of Melbourne (and several of the Centre staff have been predoctoral or postdoctoral fellows in the School during 2001-2014). Room’s professorship is largely supported by the Department of Health of the State of Victoria.

CAPR’s core funding has been supplemented with funding for specific projects and activities from a number of sources, including competitive grants from the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC), the Australian Research Council (ARC), the Australian National Preventive Health Agency (ANPHA), the National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund (NDLERF), and the Victorian Health Promotion Foundation (VicHealth). Through a service agreement distinct from the core Centre funding, FARE has also supported a line of work on “The range and magnitude of alcohol’s harm to others”. Some funding for specific projects has also been received from the World Health Organization. Centre staff have also held fellowships from the NHMRC, ARC, the Sidney Myer Foundation and the Australian Rechabite Foundation and an Australian Postgraduate Award. Some of the funding, particularly for fellowships and Room’s appointment, has come through universities, and thus has not appeared on the Turning Point budget for CAPR.

CAPR staff actively engage in proposal-writing for additional research funding, in order to support a research program involving a wide range of
research training and expertise. Considerations in deciding to make applications for funding include the intellectual and policy significance of the proposed study, the relation of the proposed work to CAPR’s topical focus and areas of research and to particular staff interests and capabilities, and the likelihood of the application being funded. Highlights of the 2011-2014 triennium included funding of the following grants or fellowships:

- from ANPHA for the inaugural period of the Alcohol Consumption and Purchasing study (the Australian arm of the International Alcohol Control study);
- from NDLERF for a study of the functioning and impacts of bans on public drinking in streets and parks;
- from NHMRC for a collaborative cross-national analysis of alcohol’s harm to others in nine countries, putting together World Health Organization, Australian and New Zealand studies;
- from ARC and VicHealth, a Linkage grant (which started in 2010) to study and identify opportunities for reducing alcohol-related harm among adults in urban settings (supporting a postdoctoral fellowship for Sarah MacLean);
- from ARC and NSW Health, a Linkage grant to study patterns of consumption and associated harms from alcohol and caffeinated energy drinks;
- from the World Health Organization, funds to support setting up a cross-national database of Alcohol’s harm to others surveys, and to prepare a tool for low- and middle income countries on measures to control availability of alcohol;
- from Beyond Blue, for a qualitative study (ALICE) of culture and emotions concerning alcohol in lesbian/bisexual women;
- from NHMRC, 4-year postdoctoral fellowships for Michael Livingston to study health inequality and trends in alcohol consumption and problems, and for Amy Pennay to study factors in risky and low-risk drinking in the night-time economy.

The Centre’s staff

In June 2014, CAPR had eleven staff members, some of them fulltime and some part-time. Georgia Rankin had joined us in 2014, and Jason Jiang in 2012, replacing Jason Ferris on his move to Queensland. Otherwise, there was substantial stability in CAPR’s staff over the three-year period, in terms of those maintaining at least a part-time appointment at the Centre. A number of staff also held appointments elsewhere during the period. Besides Room, Sara MacLean holds a primary appointment at the University of Melbourne, and for parts of the three-year period Michael Livingston, Anne-Marie Laslett and Amy
Pennay held predoctoral or postdoctoral appointments there. At the end of the 3-year period, Livingston’s primary appointment was at the University of New South Wales. Sarah Callinan, Jason Jiang, Amy Pennay, Ann-Marie Laslett and Elizabeth Manton hold adjunct appointments at Monash University, and Room at Stockholm University. Janette Mugavin divides her time between CAPR and another research unit in Turning Point. The 3-year period has seen substantial academic advancement of the CAPR staff. The four staff with PhDs as of July 2011 (Room, MacLean, Callinan, Manton) had been joined by four more by June 2014 (Livingston, Jiang, Pennay, Laslett), with Claire Wilkinson also well embarked on a PhD on an Australian Postgraduate Award. Livingston and Pennay received prestigious four-year Early Career Awards for postdoctoral research from NHMRC during the three-year period, and in late 2014 it was announced that Laslett had also received one.

The staff has a good mix of research expertise, including backgrounds in both quantitative and qualitative research, and degrees in diverse subjects, including criminology, statistics, psychology, public health, sociology, economics, literature and dentistry.

The centre’s research output

CAPR maintained a strong record of research productivity during the three-year period. A primary indication of this is the 114 peer-reviewed journal articles published during the period, with a further 24 published in “early view” or accepted for publication at the end of the period. While it is recognised that the “impact factor” of the journals in which scholarly articles are published is not an adequate measure of the strength or impact of individual papers, such impact scores are often used as a benchmark. For the 31 articles published in final form in the year 2013-4, the average impact score of the journal of publication was 2.64, a relatively high score for the alcohol and drug field (the median impact factor among “substance abuse” journals in 2007 was 1.45). In the specific field of alcohol and drug studies, the journal Addiction has the highest impact score (4.746). CAPR staff have published 24 times in this journal in the three-year period 2012-2014.

CAPR staff had also published 10 chapters in books, and 21 reports, with a further 8 reports submitted but not yet published; had authored two dissertations and co-authored three books, and had contributed 13 news articles and web communications. A further primary means of disseminating research thinking and analyses is through presentations to research meetings and academic occasions. In the three-year period, CAPR staff made 187 such presentations, 83 of them
overseas and 104 of them in Australia. These research products can be found listed at the end of this report.

Awards to Centre staff and projects

During the three-year period, CAPR’s staff have received a number of awards for their research contributions. CAPR’s project on Alcohol’s harm to others, directed by Anne-Marie Laslett, was awarded the 2011 Excellence in Research Award at the National Drug and Alcohol Awards ceremony. At the same awards ceremony for 2012, Robin Room was awarded the Prime Minister’s Award for Excellence and Outstanding Contribution to Drug and Alcohol Endeavours. For his dissertation work, Michael Livingston received a Commendation in the Victorian Premier’s Award for Health and Medical Research, as well as the Melbourne School of Population and Global Health Head of School’s Award for PhD Excellence. Jiang was awarded a Post-Graduate Excellent Research Award in Economics for his PhD study by Deakin University.

The main streams of CAPR’s work

As its name conveys, the Centre focuses on research relevant to alcohol policy. In pursuing this, the Centre has four main lines of work which cover many of the dimensions of knowledge needed to provide an evidence base for effective alcohol policies and their implementation. There are strong interrelationships between the lines; each Centre staff member’s work reaches across lines, and the findings from one line frequently informs work in another.

(1) Alcohol policy impacts: What are the effects, intended and otherwise, of specific policies? Such effects are most clearly measurable in terms of what changes as policy changes, whether the change occurs at a given moment or more gradually as the policy is implemented over time.

A primary contribution here has been Livingston’s work on the implications of changes in alcohol outlet density in a locality for levels of diverse alcohol-related harms in the locality. The 2012 filing of his dissertation, using Victorian data, completed the first stage of this work, which has received wide notice globally as well as in Australia. Livingston has since expanded the line of work by participating in analyses of New Zealand data, and in conceptual commentaries on the need for further work studying the mechanisms of the relationships which have been found.

Other work on alcohol policy impacts included a capstone article led by Room summarising and interpreting the complex findings of a Nordic study of effects of reductions in alcohol taxes, studies; a review article led by Pennay on the effects
of bans on public drinking in streets and parks; and Room’s consideration of the renewed emphasis on individual bans on purchasing or drinking.

A substantial CAPR effort during the three-year period, bearing fruit later in 2014, went into many of the studies which were drawn together in a book published later in 2014, *Stemming the Tide of Alcohol: Liquor Licensing and the Public Interest*. Written with a public health perspective, and intended as a vade-mecum for those involved in alcohol regulatory processes, the book includes substantial discussions reviewing policy impact findings, as well as much material on policy formation and regulatory process. As well as writing or co-authoring 11 of the 24 chapters, CAPR staff had substantial responsibility for putting together and editing the collection of studies, which addressed a number of potential regulatory strategies for limiting harms from drinking, as well as processes of regulatory decision and enforcement.

Another line of CAPR work with longer-term implications for policy impact analyses has been the Alcohol Consumption and Purchasing study, the Australian component of the International Alcohol Control (IAC) Study. Modeled on the International Tobacco Control study, a main purpose of the IAC is to study effects of policy changes, including variations in effect in different population subgroups. To do this, respondents in repeated population surveys are asked not only about their drinking practices, with differentiation by drinking locale, but also about their alcohol purchasing. So far, two waves of Australian IAC data have been collected, with funding from ANPHA. While there have not yet been appropriate national policy changes of which the impact can be studied, in the meantime the IAC data has proved a fertile ground for social epidemiological analyses of drinking by CAPR staff, as noted below.

(2) **Policy formation and regulatory processes**: Included here are studies of patterns and trends in public opinion and discourse about alcohol problems and policies, and of the positions and interactions of actors in the alcohol “policy community”. Also in this stream are studies concerning the crucial area of the implementation and enforcement of policies and regulations.

A crucial element in policy formation is public attitudes towards alcohol policies. A 2013 CAPR analysis of policy attitudes of the general public as expressed in successive National Drug Strategy Household Surveys (NDSHS) found that there had been a turnaround in attitudes toward policies with public health significance; favourable attitudes to such measures had declined until about 2004, but the trend had then reversed, quite generally across the population. A

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2014 study with CAPR co-authors found a roughly contemporaneous shift in the opinion slant of newspaper articles on alcohol.

Other CAPR studies have examined factors and processes involved in the formation and implementation of alcohol policies. Policy issues which CAPR staff studied and published on in the triennium have spanned a wide range, including for instance federal decisions on alcohol taxes, the activities and concerns of state licensing inspectors, and local government decisions on street drinking bans.

(3) Population patterns and trends: To be effective, policymaking must be informed about and responsive to the empirical patterns of behaviour and problems in the population and its subgroups. CAPR thus engages in “social epidemiological” studies on issues and dimensions of relevance to alcohol policies. These are discussed under four subheadings.

**Harm from others’ drinking.** A major continuing line of work by CAPR has been an expanding set of studies on alcohol’s harm to others. The two substantial subthemes pursued during the triennium were (1) a longitudinal survey study, following up in 2011 the respondents first interviewed in 2008, to examine the extent and patterns of continuity and change in harms to population members from others’ drinking, and (2) more detailed analyses, using Child Protection data as well as population surveys, of harms to children and others in the family from adults’ drinking. Two substantial reports on these topics have been submitted to FARE, and are to be launched in February, 2015.\(^3\) A point of emphasis in both reports is the strong relationship between the number of heavy drinkers in the respondent’s social circles at the time of interviewing and the likelihood of experiencing current or recent harm from someone’s drinking.

A substantial number of CAPR journal articles arising from the Alcohol’s harm to others studies appeared during the triennium, as well as Laslett’s dissertation. Alongside a stream of empirical studies, several methodological papers appeared, for instance calibrating different methods of asking about the severity of the harm against each other, and differentiating “amenity” harms (such as intangible fears and issues of public comportment) from “tangible” harms.

As discussed below, there has been a growing international interest in studies of Alcohol’s harm to others, including a World Health Organization/Thai Health project involving studies in seven low- and middle-income countries, in which CAPR staff played a major advisory role. Drawing on this connection, CAPR proposed and was funded by NHMRC to carry out a program of cross-national

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analyses across the seven countries, Australia and New Zealand. During the
triennium reported on here, Georgia Rankin and others at CAPR began on the
substantial task of gathering and preparing the nine survey datasets for
comparative statistical analyses, work which will bear fruit in coming years.

*Population-level relations of consumption and harm.* The new international
dimension of Alcohol’s harm to others analysis has converged with an older
tradition of cross-national survey studies in which CAPR staff have long been
involved, the GENACIS studies of drinking patterns, contexts and problems which
have been carried out in over 30 countries. In seeking new funding for analysis
from the US National Institutes of Health, the GENACIS Consortium (including
CAPR) has put its major emphasis for future work on Alcohol’s harm to others. In
the meantime, during the triennium CAPR staff led GENACIS analyses examining
cross-cultural patterns in differential “trouble per litre” from different alcoholic
beverages (finding no consistent differences between beer and spirits) and in the
place of drinking in the rhythm of the week.

Work continued during the triennium on a CAPR tradition of time-series studies
on Australian consumption and mortality data. For changes in alcohol
consumption levels and liver cirrhosis mortality, for instance, an analysis found
the expected strong relation, but that the connection was much stronger before
1975 than later.

Other CAPR work on the relation of alcohol consumption and harm during the
triennium included editing thematic issues of two journals on studies of alcohol
and violence, arising out of an international thematic meeting CAPR hosted in
2010; analyses of trends and patterns in drinking in pregnancy, analysing data
from the National Drug Strategy Household Survey; and co-authorship of analyses
of consumption and harm, such as papers on trends in alcohol problems and on
temporal rhythms in intoxication.

*Patterns and levels of drinking among youth.* A number of articles and working
papers explored patterns of drinking among younger adults and teenagers in the
general population. A general pattern was found in recent Australian data of a
downturn in youth drinking, particularly among teenagers under the legal drinking
age, but also to some extent in the next higher age-grade.

Meanwhile, several CAPR papers zeroed in on heavy drinking occasions among
young adults, using a variety of datasets. A finding that off-licence outlets are the
primary source of alcohol for young adults who binge-drink suggests that policies
which aim to reduce binge drinking need to target off-licence purchasing. A study
which asked young adults about their most recent big night out found that a
majority drank in two or more locations, with a high mean level of consumption
(13 drinks) for the night. Pennay was a co-author on “portal” studies – where
drinkers are intercepted and interviewed on the street on a weekend night –
which found high and increasing rates of intoxication as the night wore on, indicating that trading hour limitations and better enforcement of responsible serving of alcohol are alcohol strategies likely to be effective in reducing intoxication in the night-time economy. Pennay has also been involved in research contributing to the growing literature on potential problems from adding multiple energy drinks to alcohol consumption on heavy-drinking occasions.

Patterns and levels of drinking in the adult population. As noted above, the first analyses from the Alcohol Consumption and Purchasing study, the Australian arm of the IAC study, appeared during the triennium. Comparing beverage choice and drinking context on a respondent’s recent “big night” with choice and context on the respondent’s usual lower-risk drinking occasions, the analysis found that respondents were more likely to drink spirits, and more likely to drink at someone else’s home or at a pub or nightclub, on the big night out. Low-risk drinking occasions, on the other hand, were more likely to be in restaurants, and to involve bottled wine.

A thematic issue of Drug and Alcohol Review in 2012, with substantial CAPR participation, brought together a number of Australian and international studies on general-population guidelines on low-risk drinking, including an exposition of the conceptual and technical bases for the 2009 Australian Guidelines. Interest in such studies continued throughout the triennium, for instance with Callinan analysing for FARE who it is that drinks over the NHMRC guidelines.

(4) Norms and culture in interaction with policies: Drinking is primarily a social behaviour, enacted in many settings and subcultures. The drinker is affected by the expectations and responses of others in the drinking group and setting, as well as of others in the wider society. Drinking groups and subcultures are influenced by and interact with alcohol policies; they may change to conform to a new policy, or they may seek ways to subvert or get around it. Studying such interactions and influences is an important part of alcohol policy research.

CAPR papers published during the triennium approached the issues of cultural norms and their interactions with policies from a variety of perspectives. A reanalysis of a 2009 young-adult survey found that three-quarters of young Victorians said that they intended to get drunk at least some of the times when they drank, and that high-risk drinkers were much more likely to say they regularly had that intention. On the other hand, a qualitative analysis of how young drinkers view and manage their drinking found that many young adults aim for a state of tipsiness where control is not abandoned -- but that they find it very difficult to get this right. The partial nature of intoxicated self-control led some
young adults to arrange to be in settings where external restraints to drinking would operate.

Eliciting the views of people who drink together in public, despite efforts by local councils to discourage this, a study found that a main theme was the desire for sociability, and a sense of community among the public drinker group. The study concluded that their connections are a form of social capital, so that they are unwilling to give up “hanging out” in public spaces required to keep the connections going. The article canvasses the possibility of establishing a “wet zone” or “wet centre” as a formally designated space for social interaction.

Other papers considered culture and alcohol issues in a wider frame. For instance, an analysis looking across 14 countries in the GENACIS survey dataset compared patterns of informal social controls on drinking, as expressed in responses to a series of questions about whether the respondent had attempted to influence someone in each of several relationship categories to drink less or less often. These questions can be viewed as indicators of informal social controls on drinking, as important an element as official regulation and enforcement in controlling levels of alcohol problems in a society. Looking across the societies, there were generally more efforts to get someone to drink less by women than by men, and more efforts to get men than to get women to drink less (responding to the higher male rate of heavy drinking everywhere). Higher rates of pressure were reported in societies where a greater number of respondents acknowledged problems with their own drinking.

Research dissemination and capacity building

During 2011-2014, CAPR staff were involved in a wide variety of activities which provided advice or consultation, disseminated research findings more broadly, or contributed to building research capacity.

Research collaborations

CAPR staff are part of an informal network of Australian researchers working in alcohol policy and related research areas. Researchers with whom CAPR staff have had tangible links during the triennium include:

- In Australia: Paul Dietze and Margaret Hellard at the Burnet Institute; Vicki White, Melinda Wakefield, Denise Azar, Jonathan Liberman, Sondra Davoren and Brian Vandenberg at Cancer Council Victoria; Peter Miller, Kerry O’Brien and Grazyna Zajdow at Deakin University; Richard Chenhall, Marcia Langton and Paula O’Brien at the University of Melbourne; Tanya Chikritzhs, Simon Lenton and David Moore at NDRI/Curtin University; Jaklin Eliott at the University of Adelaide; Alison Ritter and Jenny Chalmers at NDARC/UNSW; Kyp Kypri at the University of Newcastle; Wayne Hall and Jason Ferris at the
University of Queensland; Kate Conigrave and Kylie Lee at the University of Sydney; and Peter d’Abbs at the Menzies Institute.

- Overseas researchers: Links which have been active in 2011-2014 include with Bill Kerr, Tom Greenfield and Cheryl Cherpetal at the Alcohol Research Group, Emeryville, California; Sharon and Richard Wilsnack at the University of North Dakota; Peter Reuter at the University of Maryland; Beau Kilmer at RAND, Santa Monica, California; Maria-Elena Medina Mora at the Mexican Institute of Psychiatry in Mexico City; Kate Graham, Jürgen Rehm and Norman Giesbrecht at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, Toronto, Canada; Johan Edman, Jessica Storbjörk, Börje Olsson and Kerstin Stenius at SoRAD, Stockholm University; Jonas Raninen, Mats Ramstedt and Erica Sundin at STAD, Stockholm; Pekka Sulkunen and Matilda Hellman, Sociology Department, University of Helsinki; Pia Mäkelä and Christoffer Tigerstedt at the National Institute for Health and Welfare, Helsinki; Ingeborg Rossow at the Norwegian National Alcohol and Drug Research Institute; Kim Bloomfield and Vibeke Asmussen at the Centre for Drug & Alcohol Research, Aarhus University, Denmark; Gerhard Gmel and Sandra Kuntsche at the research department of Addiction Suisse, Lausanne, Switzerland; Ann Hope at Trinity College, Dublin; Petra Meier and John Holmes at the School of Health and Related Research, Sheffield University, Sheffield, UK; Sally Casswell and Taisia Huckle at the Social and Health Research (SHORE) and Whariki Research Centre at Massey University, New Zealand; Thaksaphon Thamarangsi and Orratai Waleewong, from the Centre for Alcohol Studies, International Health Policy Program (IHPP), Bangkok, Thailand; Ramon Florenzano from the University of Desarrollo, Chile; Charles Parry and Neo Morejole at the South African Medical Research Council, Tygerberg, South Africa; Isidore Obot from the University of Uyo, Nigeria; Hoang My Hanh from the Health Strategy and Policy Institute (HSPI), Vietnam Ministry of Health; Vivek Benegal and Girish Rao, at NIMHANS, Bangalore, India; Siri Hettige, at the Department of Sociology, University of Colombo, Sri Lanka; and Latsamy Siengsounthone, at the National Institute of Public Health, Ministry of Health, Laos.

Teaching and mentoring

CAPR staff’s positions primarily involve research, but there is also some involvement in teaching, particularly at the graduate level. Often this involves a lecture for a graduate course or giving a day-long course – usually in Melbourne, but sometimes elsewhere. In 2014, Room and Pennay co-organised the teaching and grading in the course “Addiction policies, prevention and public health”, part of Monash University’s new Master in Addictive Behaviours.
Room supervised or co-supervised 8 PhD students during the triennium, including six at various departments of the University of Melbourne (Livingston, Laslett, Wilkinson, Clark, Jayasekara, O’Brien) and one each at Monash (Vandenberg) and the University of Adelaide (Bowden). Three of these, including two who have completed (Livingston, Laslett) are on the CAPR staff. Toward the end of the triennium, Livingston and Pennay reached the level where they were each able to take on supervision of a PhD student.

A number of students have gained experience in the research practice by spending time as a volunteer with CAPR. Typically, the minimum commitment is to ten half-days. Often, the student has something concrete to show for the experience – e.g., participation as a co-author – as well as the experience from being mentored.

**Scholarly stays and sabbaticals**

During 2011-2014, there were a substantial number of study visits in both directions between CAPR and other groups and places. Several scholars spent substantial amounts of time at CAPR: Lars Fynbo, a PhD student at the University of Copenhagen; Jonas and Anna Raninen, from Stockholm alcohol and drug public agencies; Grazyna Zajdow from Sociology at Deakin University. There have also been study visits in the other direction: Laslett to Stockholm in 2012; Wilkinson to Helsinki and to a European addiction course for doctoral students in Dresden in several visits 2011-2013; Callinan to a Lausanne research group in 2014. Along with Livingston’s postdoctoral position with the Drug Policy Monitoring Group, these linkages bring new ideas and perspectives and help to build closer collaboration.

**Contributions to building the international research base**

CAPR senior staff act as editors for journals including *Drug and Alcohol Review* (Australia’s premier alcohol and drug journal, of which Room became editor-in-chief in 2009) and international journals *Addiction* and *Drugs: Education, Prevention and Policy*. In addition, staff serve on journal editorial boards and regularly review journal articles for numerous international journals.

The World Health Organization is the primary international agency in the field of alcohol policy, as in other matters of public health. CAPR staff played several roles in WHO’s Substance Abuse program during the three years reported on here. CAPR contributions to the WHO/Thai Health program of studies on Alcohol’s harm to others included Laslett’s and Room’s multiple roles as technical advisers, and Callinan’s and Rankin’s in organising a cross-national survey database. MacLean and Wilkinson joined Room is preparing a tool for low-and middle-income countries on licensing systems and other means of limiting alcohol
availability. Room also advised in other ways, for instance, as a technical adviser on the WHO Working Group on Substance Use and Behavioural Disorders in the revision of the International Classification of Diseases (ICD), and at the 2012 meeting of the Expert Committee on Drug Dependence.

The Kettil Bruun Society for Social and Epidemiological Research on Alcohol (KBS) is the main international research society in its field, with a regular annual meeting, as well as smaller thematic research meetings. Both series of meetings, as well as a KBS-sponsored journal, are important media for pushing research in the field forward. While KBS membership is individual, national research groups in the field have long been at its core, and since its inception CAPR has been the primary such group in Australia. CAPR had hosted a KBS thematic meeting in 2009 and a regular annual meeting in 2011 (the first in the southern hemisphere), and hosted a further thematic meeting in 2014. CAPR staff have taken on key roles in KBS: Wilkinson was elected in 2013 onto the 11-member KBS coordinating committee, joining Livingston, who in 2014 had served three years of his 4-year term. Room has been voted an honorary designation as KBS president-for-life.

Membership and research advice to public health coalitions – NAAA, APC
CAPR staff (Livingston, Wilkinson, Room) are the representatives for Turning Point on the Alcohol Policy Coalition (APC), a coalition of Victoria-based public health-oriented agencies on alcohol policy matters, and Room has served on the Executive Committee and Livingston as a member of the National Alliance for Action on Alcohol (NAAA). CAPR’s primary role has been in providing research evidence for positions and press releases, and ensuring that statements are evidence-based.

Room, Pennay and Wilkinson represent CAPR and Turning Point on the Alcohol Stakeholder Group of the Victorian Commission for Gambling and Liquor Regulation Stakeholder Group, a quarterly meeting that discusses state government initiatives around alcohol regulation.
CAPR staff also made submissions and gave consultations to a number of official bodies over the triennium.

Media contacts and response
Particularly in the latter two years of the triennium, CAPR staff published a number of news article and web communications (see “News articles and web communications” in the listing of Publications and Presentations). Over the three years, the CAPR staff also attracted a diverse range of general media attention.
Promoting CAPR’s work

The CAPR website (www.capr.com.au), administered by Callinan, Jiang and Livingston, has been used to provide exposure for the work done by CAPR and links to media CAPR staff have been involved in, as well as providing a place for research participants to find out more about current studies. CAPR also continued to use the twitter account, run by Livingston and Callinan, primarily used to promote publications and interact at conferences or other events (with 258 followers in June 2014).

CAPR has been strongly represented at the annual meetings of the Kettil Bruun Society (KBS), discussed above. Around the KBS meeting, several international projects in which CAPR is involved regularly meet – including GENACIS, the International Alcohol Control project, and the international Alcohol’s harm to others projects. Laslett coordinates the International Group for Studies of Alcohol’s Harm to Others, IGSAHO, which operates through informal meetings, for instance around the KBS annual meeting, and by email to inform and coordinate researchers from about 20 countries who are engaged in relevant studies. A coming milestone in this cooperation is a full thematic KBS research conference on the topic in Helsinki in September 2015.

Several CAPR staff members have also regularly attended and presented findings of their research at the main relevant Australian scholarly meeting, the annual Australasian Professional Society of Alcohol and other Drugs (APSAD) conference.

CAPR’s influence on research directions and on policy outcomes

This concluding section looks beyond the limits of the triennium covered in this report to offer some exemplary cases where CAPR’s research has influenced directions of research and policymaking.

Influence of CAPR research on the development of research agendas

As noted, CAPR initiated a whole new field of work of epidemiological and social research on harms to others from drinking, considered broadly across various kinds of harms and diverse types of relationships between the drinker and a person harmed. CAPR’s pioneer study, released in 2010, has had broad influence in the development of research in the field. This is seen not only in work in which CAPR is directly involved, such as the WHO/Thai health studies described above, and the pending cross-national analyses involving these data, but also in ongoing studies and proposals in the U.S., Canada, and about 10 European countries. As noted, CAPR staff also coordinate the looser collaboration including the high-income countries who have also taken up this
line of research – a line which has obvious general policy significance, beyond specific findings on means of preventing or ameliorating the problems.

Apart from its specific implications for policy, work by CAPR staff on the relation of alcohol outlet density and various alcohol problems in local geographical areas has helped to stimulate a new and rapidly growing research interest in mapping and geographic analysis of drinking patterns and problems. Such analyses have policy implications for liquor licensing laws and procedures.

CAPR staff have undertaken work that has contributed to a greater understanding of drinking cultures, particularly with respect to young people in the night-time economy. Across a range of methodologies, CAPR staff have measured rates of drinking and other drug use in the night-time economy and investigated their relationship to risky behaviour, and also gathered rich qualitative data to understand why young people engage in risky practices, and how social, cultural and environmental factors influence these behaviours (and thus what types of interventions are likely to be useful in reducing such practices). CAPR is certainly not unique in pursuing these questions, but its research and findings are increasingly influencing the direction of further work, for instance as VicHealth considers future directions in the Victorian state effort to “change the drinking culture”.

Using a variety of approaches, CAPR staff have worked on aspects of liquor licensing provisions and practice. In bringing together CAPR and other work in this area, the recent FARE book on liquor licensing, with substantially coordination and contributions from CAPR, will serve as a guidepost for future research in an area of high policy significance, which up to now had not received much research attention in Australia.

Influence of CAPR research on policy outcomes

Research can affect policy outcomes in a number of ways. The most obvious way is a direct and immediate effect of a policy impact study. For instance, such a study showing unexpected and unwanted effects of a policy initiative might result in an immediate policy change, although such a sequence of events is not that common. At the other end of the spectrum, a line of research and thinking can precipitate or contribute over the longer term to a change in policy perspectives in a field, as has happened internationally as well as in Australia concerning thinking on alcohol problems, for instance, in the 40 years since Alcohol Control Policies in Public Health Perspective was published.

CAPR-organised research had a direct effect in changing the most recent Australian low-risk drinking guidelines (2009). Involved was the global program of work on alcohol’s role in the burden of disease to which CAPR staff have contributed, but also a conceptual shift to basing the risk thresholds on absolute
risk on a lifetime basis – the basis on which other judgements about acceptable risk are made. CAPR staff also contributed detailed analyses of “trouble per litre” by age which provided a basis for shifts in the guidelines on teenage drinking.

CAPR staff have made a substantial contribution to knowledge internationally as well as in Australia on the relationship of changes in the density of alcohol sales places to rates of alcohol-related problems in the neighbourhood. It is unusual, in fact, for a single scientist to have made so broad a set of contributions in a particular research area as Livingston has on alcohol outlet density studies. This research has directly contributed to policy changes in Victoria, such as the introduction of a planning approval requirement for new packaged liquor outlets and the consideration of ‘cumulative impact’ in liquor planning decisions more broadly. It has figured explicitly in discourse and decisions on specific new license applications (where Livingston regularly acts as an expert witness), and is changing how alcohol licensing bodies think about their responsibilities and actions.

CAPR’s work on Alcohol’s harm to others has provided concrete evidence which has led to a reframing of alcohol problems emphasising that alcohol policies are not just about the harm drinkers may do to their own health. By moving the focus from individual marginalised heavy drinkers to the multiple social milieus of the ‘others’ they harm this research has encouraged a profound shift in perspective. That harm from others’ drinking is important in alcohol policy decision-making has been recognised by the World Health Organisation, which used the Australian data from CAPR’s study in its *Global Status Report on Alcohol and Health*. In Australia, this change has been resisted by commentators keen to protect their right to drink to the point of intoxication and loss of control, and pilloried by the alcohol industry as an attempt to overestimate the consequences of alcohol’s harm to others. In other places, for example Vietnam, where the culture of drinking is not so entrenched, Alcohol’s harm to others studies have played a large role in pushing for and achieving alcohol policy controls.

We expect that the new findings emerging from the Alcohol Consumption and Purchasing (ACAP) study will substantially contribute to public discourse and policymaking concerning off-premise sales of alcohol, and particularly the ready availability of low-price alcohol through liquor barns. Findings both from CAPR’s outlet density studies and from ACAP findings involving the pricing of alcohol have made clear that off-premise alcohol sales play a large role in many alcohol problems, and may have helped to precipitate such actions as the Victorian government’s inclusion of off-premise outlets in local planning responsibilities.

At the international level, CAPR staff have helped to push forward the idea of putting alcohol into a common frame with various other risky behaviours. Along this line, a recent article in *BMC Medicine* with a CAPR co-author asks why higher
risks are socially accepted for alcohol than for other voluntary or involuntary behaviours. A related initiative has been to bring alcohol and controlled drugs into a common frame of risk assessment. This has involved, for instance, persuading the WHO Expert Committee on Drug Dependence that a future meeting of the committee should take up whether alcohol should be considered for review for scheduling under the international drug conventions. Such consideration will point toward the need for an international public health agreement taking into account the special nature and problems of alcohol as commodity, as is now done for tobacco and drugs.
BOOKS AND DISSERTATIONS


CHAPTERS IN BOOKS


JOURNAL ARTICLES

July 2011 – June 2012


July 2012 – June 2013


MacLean, S., Bruun, A. and Mallett, S. (2013) ‘I’ve had a pretty tough life but that’s not why I do this’: narratives of autonomy and control among alcohol and drug service-engaged early teenagers. *Journal of Youth Studies*, 16(2); 206-221.


July 2013 – June 2014


Thompson, L., **Pennay, A.**, Zimmerman, A., Cox, M. & Lubman, D. (2014) “Clozapine makes me quite drowsy, so when I wake up in the morning...those first cups of coffee are really handy”: An exploratory study of regular caffeine consumption among individuals with schizophrenia. *BMC Psychiatry* 14:116  [http://www.biomedcentral.com/content/pdf/1471-244X-14-116.pdf](http://www.biomedcentral.com/content/pdf/1471-244X-14-116.pdf)

**On 30 June, 2014 these journal articles had been published in “early view”:**


As of 30 June, 2014, these journal articles were accepted for publication:


Cantwell, K., Morgans, A., Smith, K., Livingston, M. & Dietze, P. (in press) Improving the coding and classification of ambulance data through the application of ICD-10. Australian Health Review


**Livingston, M.** (in press) Alcohol outlet density: the challenge of linking research findings to policy. *Australasian Epidemiologist.*


Miller, P., **Pennay, A.,** et al. (in press) A comparative study of breath-alcohol concentrations in Australian night-time entertainment districts. *Drug and Alcohol Review*


REPORTS

July 2011 – June 2012


July 2012 – June 2013


July 2013 – June 2014


As of 30 June, 2014, these reports had been submitted but not published:


NEWS ARTICLES & WEB COMMUNICATIONS

July 2011 – June 2012


July 2012 – June 2013


July 2013 – June 2014


PRESENTATIONS

July 2011 – June 2012

*International presentations:*


Laslett, A.-M. Registry data studies. Harm to others from drinking workshop. Bangkok, Thailand, 16 February 2012.

Laslett, A.-M. The Australian experience of Alcohol's harm to others. Harm to others from drinking workshop. Bangkok, Thailand, 16 February 2012.


Laslett, A.-M. Perceived alcohol-related risks for children from others' drinking in Victoria, Australia. Presentation at the 38th Annual Symposium of the Kettil Bruun Society for Social and Epidemiological Research, Stavanger, Norway, 4-8 June 2012.
Laslett, A.-M. Stavanger Alcohol’s Harm to Others (HTO) workshop. Presentation at the 38th Annual Symposium of the Kettil Bruun Society for Social and Epidemiological Research, Stavanger, Norway, 4-8 June 2012.


Livingston, M. Implications of outlet density, type and concentration on alcohol consumption and harm. Centre for Addiction and Mental Health - Public Seminar. Toronto, Canada, 25 April 2012.

Livingston, M. Testing different thresholds for risk episodic drinking – what’s so special about five drinks? Presentation at the 38th Annual Symposium of the Kettil Bruun Society for Social and Epidemiological Research, Stavanger, Norway, 4-8 June 2012.

Manton, E. Differentiating between drinks: culture and consequence in rationales for tax rates. Presentation at the 38th Annual Symposium of the Kettil Bruun Society for Social and Epidemiological Research, Stavanger, Norway, 4-8 June 2012.

Pennay, A. Order and disorder: Regulating the body during a 'big night out'. Presented at the Contemporary Drug Problems Conference: Beyond the Buzzword. Prato, Italy, 3-5 October 2011.


Room, R. Social responses to heavy drinking and drug use: The role of stigma. Lecture in "Regulation of Lifestyles: Social Abandonment". Sociology Department, University of Helsinki, 13th September 2011.


Room, R. Conceptualizing and measuring harm to others from drinking: What kinds of loss and for whom? Harm to others from drinking workshop. Bangkok, Thailand, 16th February 2012.


Room, R. The nature and functions of the addiction concept. IVO Master Class on Addiction Scheveningen, The Netherlands, 19 April 2012.

Room, R. Psychoactive substances in a wider frame - global distributions and relative dangerousness. Foro Internacional sobre Politicas de Regulacion del Consumo de Drogas. Autonomous University of Mexico, Mexico City, 27 April 2012.


Wilkinson, C. Liquor licensing and alcohol-related harm: what is the role for local government? Presentation at the 38th Annual Symposium of the Kettil Bruun Society for Social and Epidemiological Research, Stavanger, Norway, 4-8 June 2012.

Zajdow, G., MacLean, S. & Wilkinson, C. Lost in the romance of The Tote: Quiet regulation loudly contested. Presentation at the 38th Annual Symposium of the Kettil Bruun Society for Social and Epidemiological Research, Stavanger, Norway, 4-8 June 2012.

Presentations in Australia

Ferris, J., Casswell-Laird, O. & Room, R. When the drinking of a family member or friend has an adverse effect: Drinking patterns and levels in those affecting and those affected.


**Ferris, J.** All you ever wanted to know about statistics - but were afraid to ask. Well almost all.... presentation at Eastern Health psychiatry trainees Ringwood Training Centre, Victoria, March 2012.

**Fynbo, L.** The Social World of DUI: How Convicted Drink Drivers Account for Identity, Control and Risk Management. VSURF Turning Point Alcohol and Drug Centre, 20 April 2012.


**Laslett, A.-M.** Alcohol and child maltreatment through the windows of child protection and a national survey. Alcohol and child maltreatment through the windows of child protection and a national survey - Completion seminar. Centre for Health and Society, School of Population Health, University of Melbourne, 9 May 2012.

**Livingston, M.** The effects of changes in the availability of alcohol on consumption, health and social problems. PhD Completion Seminar. Melbourne 21 February 2012.


MacLean, S. Policy options for marginalised young people. Presentation to students of 'Youth work policy and practice'. Australian Catholic University, Melbourne, 13th September 2011.


MacLean, S., Bruun, A., Mallett, S. ‘I've had a pretty tough life but that’s not why I do this’: 13-15 year olds and substance use as self-management. Paper presented at the Australian Sociology Conference Association annual conference in Newcastle, New South Wales, 29 November to 1 December, 2011.

MacLean, S. Substance use as part of friendships, families and environments for young people aged 13-15 who are engaged with YSAS. Presentation at Youth Advocacy and Support Services (YSAS) Research Forum, VicHealth, 7 December, 2011.


Room, R. Where we are: Key themes and issues. "Cannabis Policy: Where to from here. University of Melbourne, 7-8 November 2011.


Room, R. Preventing Alcohol Problems: Popular approaches are ineffective... effective approaches are politically impossible. Creating a safer night time environment: Addressing the impact of alcohol. Yarra Drug and Health Forum. Fitzroy Town Hall, Melbourne 22nd February 2012.

Room, R. Alcohol and growing up in a “wet” society. Presentation at a Drug Action Week Community Forum, Canberra Grammar School, 18 June 2012.


July 2012 – June 2013

International presentations:

Callinan, S., Mugavin, J. & Laslett, A-M. Predicting alcohol’s harm to others: It’s the heavy drinkers, not the demographics. Paper presented at the 39th Annual Meeting of the Kettil Bruun Society, Kampala, Uganda, 3-7 June 2013.


Laslett, A.-M. Alcohol’s harm to others: an Australian perspective and a developing international research agenda. Presentation at Norwegian Institute for Alcohol and Drug Research (SIRUS), Oslo, Norway, 11 September, 2012.

Laslett, A.-M. Australian studies of alcohol’s harm to others. Presentation at the Department of Social Science, University of Helsinki, Helsinki, Finland, August 15th 2012.

Laslett, A.-M. Examining alcohol’s harm to others in Australia: Developing the research agenda and improving the policy evidence base. Presentation at Stockholm förebygger alkohol- och drog problem (STAD or Stockholm Prevents Alcohol and Drug Problems), Centre for Dependency Disorders, Stockholm County Council, Stockholm, Sweden, 4 September, 2012.

Laslett, A.-M. Harm to others studies in Australia. Presentation at Nordic Alcohol and Drug Researchers’ and Policy Assembly, Copenhagen, Denmark, August 29th, 2012.


Laslett, A.-M. The range and magnitude of alcohol’s harm to others. Presentation at the National Institute of Health and Welfare, Helsinki, Finland, August 16th 2012.

Laslett, A.-M. The increasing policy significance of alcohol’s harm to others. Presentation at Nordic Alcohol and Drug Researchers’ Assembly, Copenhagen, Denmark, August 28th, 2012

Laslett, A.-M. Two presentations on alcohol’s harm to others at Agenzia Regionale di Sanità Toscana (The Regional Health Agency of Tuscany) in Florence (one on the international project and one summarising the Australian study), September, 2012.


Manton, E., MacLean, S., Laslett, A-M., & Room, R. Alcohol’s harm to others: using qualitative research to complement survey findings. Paper presented at the 39th Annual Meeting of the Kettil Bruun Society, Kampala, Uganda, 3-7 June 2013.


Room, R. A little history and a little epidemiology. Presented at an Alcohol & drug research methods workshop, Kampala, Uganda, 8 June 2013

Room, R. The social handling of alcohol and drug problems. Presented at an Alcohol & drug research methods workshop, Kampala, Uganda, 8 June 2013

Wilkinson, C. The right to vote: The history and current case of Victoria’s compulsory liquor licensing polls. Paper presented at the 39th Annual Meeting of the Kettil Bruun Society, Kampala, Uganda, 3-7 June 2013.

Wilkinson, C. Focusing on the local level: Recent developments in Alcohol Policy in Victoria, Australia. Presentation at the National Institute for Health and Welfare (THL), Helsinki, Finland. 16th April, 2013
Presentations in Australia:

Callinan, S. & Room, R. A comparison of harm to others in young Victorians attributable to alcohol or drugs: Does stigma affect how much harm we perceive? Presentation at the annual meeting of the Australasian Professional Society on Alcohol & Drugs, Melbourne, November 18-21, 2012.


Jiang, H., Callinan, S. & Laslett, A.-M. Caring for others because of their drinking: Informative networks and the extent of time spent looking after families and friends, Presentation at the annual meeting of the Australasian Professional Society on Alcohol & Drugs, Melbourne, November 18-21, 2012.


Livingston, M. Alcohol outlet density – a critical issue for local governments. Presentation at the annual meeting of the Australasian Professional Society on Alcohol & Drugs, Melbourne, November 18-21, 2012.


MacLean, S. Early adolescents who use alcohol and other drugs; findings of a mixed methods study. Presented to students of the Graduate Diploma in Adolescent Health, Centre for Adolescent Health, Royal Children’s Hospital, Melbourne, 12 September, 2012.


MacLean, S. Identifying the needs of early adolescents who regularly use drugs. Presented at the Turning Point Symposium, Melbourne, 29 August, 2012.

MacLean, S. Outer-suburban young adults and alcohol-related harm. Presentation to staff of Whittlesea Shire Council, 27 May, 2013.

MacLean, S. Outer urban young adults and the city night time economy; exploring policy contributions of research involving young adult drinkers from Yarra and Hume. Presentation to Victorian Department of Health Population Health Seminar Series, 21 February, 2013.

MacLean, S. Alcohol use in urban settings. Presentation to the Municipal Association of Victoria, 9 May, 2013.

MacLean, S. & Moore, D. 'You get more hyped up there' Outer urban young adults and the city night time economy. The Australian Sociological Association, Brisbane, 26-29 November, 2012.

Pennay, A. Risky drinking in the night-time economy. Presentation at the Monash University Psychiatry Symposium, Turning Point Alcohol and Drug Centre, Fitzroy, Victoria. 9th May 2013.

Pennay, A. Prohibiting public drinking: Determining the impact on police, the community and marginalised groups. Presentation to the Municipal Association of Victoria, Melbourne, 9th May 2013.


Room, R. & Callinan, S. Drinking patterns, regulation and market influences in Australia: The International Alcohol Control (IAC) survey Presentation at an ANPHA National Preventive Health Symposium, University House, ANU, Canberra, 26 June, 2013.

Room, R. Engaging in research: some case studies. Presentation and discussion at the Turning Point Engaging in Research course, 142 Gertrude St., Fitzroy, 15 May, 2013.

Room, R. The challenge of moving towards effective interventions to reduced the risks of alcohol consumption. Keynote presentation at the Behavioural Research in Cancer Control conference, Crowne Plaza, Adelaide, South Australia, 8-10 May, 2013.

Room, R. Alcohol as an issue for public health, and setting priorities for addressing the problem. Lecture in course: Public Health in Practice POPH90227. Melbourne School of Population and Global Health, University of Melbourne. 6 March, 2013.


Room, R. Bringing alcohol into international control, Presentation at the annual meeting of the Australasian Professional Society on Alcohol & Drugs, Melbourne, November 18-21, 2012.

Room, R. The drift to individualised control of drinkers: where are we headed? Presented at a Centre for Health & Society seminar, School of Population Health, University of Melbourne, Carlton, Vic., 18 September, 2012.


Room, R. Writing peer-reviewed publications. Presentation at Turning Point research seminar, 21 August, 2012.


July 2013 – June 2014

*International presentations:*


Laslett, A.-M. Scoping and assessment studies. Presented at The WHO/Thai Health Alcohol’s Harm to Others from Drinking Project Meeting, 6 & 9 October, 2013, Seoul, Korea.


Laslett, A.-M. & Wilsnack, S. (Organizers) Joint GENACIS and IGSAHO workshop: focusing on alcohol’s harm to others. 40th Annual Alcohol Epidemiology Symposium of the Kettil Bruun Society, Torino, 10th June, 2014.


Livingston, M. Improving our understanding of the links between alcohol availability, consumption and harm. Alcohol Focus Scotland Seminar, September 10, 2013: Glasgow, Scotland.


Room, R. Are there options beyond the UN Conventions? Presentation at a conference, Future Challenges for Addiction Research, 20th anniversary of the Schweizer Institut für Sucht- und Gesundheitsforschung, Universität Zürich, Zürich, 10 September, 2013.


Room, R. Suggestions on reporting the population survey in the national report on the Alcohol’s harm to others study (phase 1). Presented at The WHO/Thai Health Alcohol’s Harm to Others From Drinking Project Meeting, 6 & 9 October, 2013, Seoul, Korea.


Room, R. Are there options beyond the UN Conventions? Presented at a seminar at the Norwegian National Institute of Alcohol and Drug Research (SIRUS), Oslo, Norway, 5 February 2014.


Room, R. Alcohol’s harm to others: Building a knowledge base, and considering implications for policy. Presented at an Alcohol Forum National Conference: Alcohol’s Harm to Others, at the National Conference Centre, Dublin, Ireland, 2 April, 2014

Room, R. Alcohol as an issue for public health. Master class, Alcohol Forum National Conference, Dublin, Ireland, 2 April, 2014

Room, R. Alcohol as a health risk: New evidence requires a stronger response. Presentation at the Systembolaget Research Conference, Skarpö, Sweden, 8 May, 2014


Presentations in Australia:


Laslett, A.-M. Alcohol’s harm to others (HTO): accelerating international comparisons. Turning Point Symposium, Melbourne, Australia, 14th August, 2013.


Laslett, A.-M. Harm minimisation: assessing and managing the oral health of alcohol and other drug users. Presentation at Dental Health Services Victoria Continuing Professional Development Program, Dentistry & Chronic Disease, Graduate House, Carlton, March 5th, 2014.

Laslett, A.-M. Assessing and managing the oral health of alcohol and other drug users. At the 'Evaluating The Oral Condition' Seminar Continuing Professional Development Program. Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology, Royal Dental Hospital of Melbourne. 3 May, 2014.

Livingston, M. The impacts of policy on consumption and harm. The Australian Winter School Conference, July 18, 2013: Brisbane, Australia.


Livingston, M. Understanding recent trends in alcohol consumption and harm in Australia. Seminar at The Office of Liquor Gaming and Racing, August 1, 2013: Melbourne, Australia.

Livingston, M. *Alcohol: recent trends in consumption, harms and attitudes: are cultures already changing?* Presentation at VicHealth Alcohol Culture Change Forum, September 25, 2013: Melbourne, Australia.


MacLean, S. Alcohol-related harm for young adults in urban settings: report to Hume. Presentation to stakeholders at Hume City Council, 28 October 2013.

MacLean, S. & Warmington, S. Doing narrative analysis. Lunchtime seminar, Centre for Health and Society, University of Melbourne, 7 November 2013.


Manton, E. “Obese is when you can’t really walk:” social understandings of obesity. Seminar given to Department of General Practice, Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences, Monash University, 16 October 2013.


Pennay, A. Risky drinking and stimulant use in the night-time economy. Presentation at the 2013 Turning Point Symposium, Melbourne, Australia, 14th August 2013


Room, R. Neuroethics, psychoactivity and addiction – Implications for Australia. Presented at a conference of the University of Queensland Centre for Clinical Research, ”Neuroethics Down-Under”, 4 Oct., 2013, Brisbane


Room, R. Alcohol as an issue for public health, and setting priorities for addressing the problem. Course lecture, Public Health in Practice POPH90227, Melbourne School of Population and Global Health, University of Melbourne, 5 March, 2014.

Room, R. Alcohol and non-communicable diseases in global health, Lecture in the course, Noncommunicable disease and global health, Melbourne School of Population & Global Health, University of Melbourne, 17 June, 2014.