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For additional information on research projects or other Institute initiatives or events, see <http://www.abgaminginstitute.ualberta.ca>

The Alberta Gaming Research Institute provides grant funding to support peer-endorsed academic investigations into many aspects of gambling research. The contents, recommendations, and findings of the associated research reports represent the views of the researcher(s).

“Knowledge exists to be imparted”
- Ralph Waldo Emerson



Message from the Board Chair

I am pleased, as I complete my third and final three-year term as Board Chair of the Alberta Gaming Research Institute, to present you with the 11th Annual Report of the Alberta Gaming Research Institute for the period ending March 31, 2011. It is with a great sense of accomplishment and pride that I recognize the support of the partner universities and the gambling research expertise that has grown over the past eleven years. Equally, I would like to acknowledge the support of the Alberta government in providing funding that enabled the substantial and world-renowned scientific contributions to this youthful field. The importance of this support, was evident as we mapped out the next formal agreements with our stakeholders to ensure that the expanding research talent and remarkable multi-and interdisciplinary growth in expertise is preserved and further expanded during the next 5 years. We are anticipating a change in the Institute's name to more



appropriately recognize our focus on gambling research. We are looking forward to an update in our governance structure and a strengthening of our core scientific resources along with provision for their renewal.

As my last message in this Annual Report, I would like to recognize, in addition to our stakeholders, my fellow Board Members and in particular Mrs. S. Murphy, our ministerial representative, whose remarkable tenure is also ending. I would like to single out the dedication of our Executive Director, Mrs. V. Williams and staff: Rhys Stevens and Janet Dammann. Finally, our mission would not be fulfilled without the knowledge and creativity of our scientific community in Alberta led by our outstanding node coordinators in each university, Dr. D. Hodgins, Dr. G. Smith, and Dr. R. Williams as well as our Chair in Economics, Dr. B. Humphreys.

Sincerely,

Nady el-Guebaly, MD
Board Chair, AGRI

Message from the Executive Director

As the Institute entered its second decade of operation in 2010-11, a number of accomplishments and changes stood out. Some of the most noteworthy of these:

- the release of the long-awaited research studies on the *Social and Economic Impacts of Gambling in Alberta (SEIGA)*;
- increased consultation with stakeholders as well as the hosting of a 'knowledge translation' (KT) workshop;
- modifications to the format of the Institute's annual conference to include conversation sessions, oral presentations, and a pre-conference symposium (*Behind the Mask: A Symposium on Women Problem Gamblers*); and,
- planning, developing and drafting of two critical documents to the Institute's governance, operations, and funding, the *Memorandum of Agreement (MOA)* and the next 5-year Funding Agreement.

While these important activities were underway, at least as significant to the continuing high regard the Institute is held, was the volume and quality of research that was conducted by Institute-supported researchers. I am very pleased to recognize the valuable research conducted by the major and small grant recipients, scholarship and research allowance awardees, the senior researchers at each of the Partner Universities and the Economics Chair as well as the support provided by the library and website service providers. I also wish to acknowledge the sound advice, direction, dedication, and commitment of the Board members and the funding support of the Provincial Government. As we plan together for the next phase of the Institute's development, I invite you to read and reflect on the important and growing reputation that the Institute has attained provincially, nationally, and internationally for its sizeable and exceptional contribution to the field of gambling research.

Sincerely,

Vickii Williams
Executive Director, AGRI



About the Alberta Gaming Research Institute

CORE PURPOSES

The focus of the Institute is to facilitate and support excellent academic research that guides the development of effective public policy and contributes to developing the depth and breadth of scientific knowledge.

The Institute's core purposes are:

1 To expand the depth and breadth of scientific knowledge of gaming and gambling in the following four broad-based and overlapping domains:

- a) Bio-psychological and health-care;
- b) Sociocultural;
- c) Economic; and,
- d) Government and industry policy and practice.

2 To promote or direct research in those priorities and areas identified as part of the Strategic Research plan

3 To sponsor peer-reviewed research of the highest academic quality and related to emergent gaming activities

4 To act as a clearing house for gaming research and as a gateway to research materials;

5 To act to facilitate the ready access to, and the development of, the applicable library collections of the Institute universities

6 To forge strong collaborative links with national and international scholars and organizations involved in gaming/gambling research and studies

7 To provide education about current knowledge through research publications and reporting of research results

The Alberta Gaming Research Institute partners with research-focused organizations and individuals for the purpose of improving knowledge about gambling and gaming practice. Its goals are achieved by improving

research capacity at partner universities, facilitating knowledge transfer, and promoting strategic and collaborative initiatives. Multidisciplinary collaboration occurs within and between the Institute and Alberta's partner universities (i.e., University of Alberta, University of Calgary, and University of Lethbridge) as well as with national and international partners. Varied arrangements allow for research expertise on specific projects and initiatives to be maximized. Research capacity is improved through conference sponsorship, support of focused research initiatives, and the dissemination of information through print and electronic media.

The Institute is located at the University of Alberta, where the Institute's Executive Director and administrative staff coordinate the operations of the Institute. The Institute librarian is located at the University of Lethbridge.

CORE BUSINESSES

The Alberta Gaming Research Institute has four core businesses:

1 Develop and promote gambling-related research and disseminate results

2 Develop and sustain gambling-related research infrastructure

3 Establish and encourage national and international gambling-related research linkages

4 Establish and efficiently conduct gambling-related research governance and administration

INSTITUTE BOARD

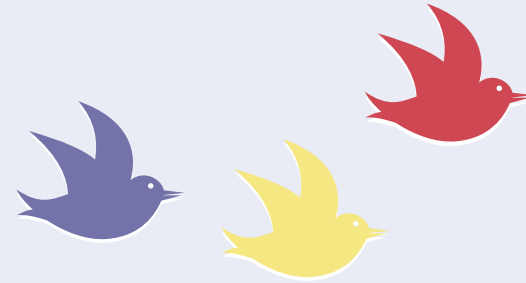
The Institute is governed and managed by a seven member board consisting of two directors appointed by and from each partner university and an 'external member' appointed by the Alberta Solicitor General and Minister of Public Security. The Executive Director serves in an advisory role on the Board.

Vision:
An Institute that is internationally recognized for its contribution to the scientific knowledge base in gambling research.

Mission:
To significantly improve Albertans' knowledge of how gambling affects society.

Ideas taking flight

Gambling Research at the Partner Universities



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Contributed by Dr. Gary Smith



Garry Smith is AGRI's gambling research coordinator at the University of Alberta; notable activities that occurred in the past year include:

- (1) The hosting of a delegation from the Osaka University of Commerce who consulted with gambling studies researchers, Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission senior staff and Alberta Health Services addiction specialists on Alberta's gambling regulatory system and its problem gambling treatment programs; (see sidebar on page 10)
- (2) the Department of Economics conducted monthly seminars on gambling-related topics and brought in several visiting scholars who spoke on economics of gambling topics; and
- (3) major research outputs include:
 - the Alberta SEIGA research team lead by Brad Humphreys (economics)—Final Report to the Alberta Gaming Research Institute on the Socioeconomic Impact of Gambling in Alberta (2011);
 - *Leisure, Lifestyle, Lifecycle Project* research team lead by Garry Smith (Faculty of Extension) and Don Schopflocher (Faculty of Nursing)—Community Attitudes Toward Legalized Gambling in Alberta; and,
 - Cam Wilde and Cheryl Currie's (Centre for Health Promotion Studies, School of Public Health) work on risk and protective factors for problem gambling amongst urban Aboriginals.

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

Contributed by Dr. David Hodgins



Dr. David Hodgins from the Department of Psychology coordinates Institute-related activities. His research specialty relates to the treatment of gambling problems,

in particular developing brief treatments that will entice a greater proportion of individuals to address their gambling problems. At the University of Calgary there is a significant cadre of graduate students working on a variety of issues such as sports betting, online gambling, stigma, motivation and treatment.

The administrative office for AGRI's LLLP (*Leisure, Lifestyle, Lifecycle Project*) is also housed at the University of Calgary and we are excited to be interviewing participants for the five year follow-up. We have amassed a very detailed and rich description of people's gambling involvements that will yield good insights into how people move into gambling and problem gambling over time.

UNIVERSITY OF LETHBRIDGE

Contributed by Dr. Rob(ert) Williams



The coordinator of gambling research at the University of Lethbridge is Dr. Rob Williams from the Faculty of Health Sciences. Dr. Williams is involved in numerous gambling research investigations. Some of his major initiatives in the past year

are a Final Report on the Social & Economic Impacts of Gambling in Alberta, a Final report on the overall Social & Economic Impacts of Gambling (internationally), and an edited volume on Internet Gambling (forthcoming).

New at the U of L this year is the 'Gambling Research Group'. This is a monthly meeting of about a dozen researchers and their students from various disciplines (Addiction Counselling, Nursing, Psychology, Native Studies, Education, Sociology, Neuroscience, and Mathematics). To date we have had presentations on the mathematics of the lottery (Dennis Connelly), the relationship between crime and gambling (Jennifer Arthur), First Nations gambling in Alberta (Yale Belanger), and the neuroscience of gambling addiction (Scott Oberg).

Major and Small Grants Projects

The Institute contributes to the development of the knowledge base in gambling-related research in a number of ways. An annual ‘call for proposals’ is issued in May (with an end of June deadline) soliciting proposals from active researchers to address ‘investigator identified’ areas in need of research. The submissions are subjected to a rigorous peer review process which involves the critical review of proposals by external experts in related areas of research. This type of review process provides the most reliable means of ensuring that only the highest quality research submissions receive Institute funding.

IN 2010-11, THREE ‘NEW” MAJOR PROPOSALS WERE APPROVED:

- Gambling and health in Alberta (#55)
- Toward understanding the comorbidity between ADHD and problem gambling (#56)
- Cross-cultural validation of problem gambling and its epidemiology (#57)

DURING THE SAME PERIOD, THE FOLLOWING MAJOR PROJECTS WERE COMPLETED:

- Culture and gambling: Research on ethno-cultural minorities’ involvement (#46)
- Risk and protective factors for problem gambling among urban aboriginals in Edmonton (#48)
- Conversations of change? Examining gamblers’ help-seeking and change-sustaining conversations (#49)
- Assessing the performance of a brief problem screen in a clinically validated sample of at-risk, problem and pathological gamblers (#53)

OTHER MAJOR PROJECTS THAT WERE ONGOING IN 2010-11 INCLUDED:

- Acculturation and gambling: The case of mainland Chinese immigrants to Calgary, Alberta (#47)
- Trauma and female problem gambling: A qualitative grounded theory study (#50)
- Evaluating the psychometric performance of the Four Es Scale: A cross-cultural comparison of factors related to gambling behavior and mental health in Canadian and American college students (#51)
- The determinants of problem and recreational gambling and the effect of gambling and health (#52)

- Motivations for and constraints to casino gambling in Alberta (#54)

As a means of encouraging young investigators to undertake gambling-related research, the Institute awards ‘small grants’ to a maximum of \$10,000 to be completed within one year. These awards support foundational efforts (examples include: pilot projects, literature reviews, and small surveys) to prepare investigators to engage more fully in future gambling-related research programs.

IN 2010-11, THREE NEW SMALL GRANTS WERE APPROVED:

- Neural and behavioral mechanisms of risk sensitivity in gambling (Dr. Marcia Spetch)
- Recovery from problem gambling as a couples’ project: A literature review (Dr. Tom Strong)
- Assessment of cognitive distortion among problem gamblers: Knowledge transfer project (Dr. David Hodgins)

DURING THE SAME PERIOD, THE FOLLOWING SMALL GRANTS WERE COMPLETED:

- Literature Review: Progression of women’s gambling behaviors into the realm of problem gambling (Dr. Noella Piquette-Tomei)
- Private stigma of disordered gambling (Ms. Jenny Horch)
- Motivational interviewing and solution-focused counselling for problem gamblers: Prevalence and considerations for a mesh of clinical and administrative discourses in Alberta (Dr. Tom Strong)

ONE SMALL GRANT WAS ONGOING IN 2010-11:

- Development of a web-based self-directed treatment for pathological gambling (Dr. David Hodgins)

Strategic and Collaborative Initiatives

Another type of funding program is related to high-priority research investigations. These large-scale strategic initiatives are identified by the Board in consultation with Institute stakeholders. Since the commencement of this program in 2003-04, the Institute has funded two major initiatives that are exclusively Alberta-based.

LEISURE, LIFESTYLE, LIFECYCLE (LLLP)

The *Leisure, Lifestyle, Lifecycle (LLLP)*, the largest ever sponsored by the Institute was initiated in Spring 2006.

Research team/Steering Committee: Dr. Nady el-Guebaly, Professor & Head, Division of Addiction, Dept. of Psychiatry, Faculty of Medicine, U of Calgary; Dr. David Hodgins, Professor, Dept. of Psychology, Faculty of Arts, U of Calgary; Dr. Garry Smith, Gambling Research Specialist, Government Studies, Faculty of Extension & Professor Emeritus, U of Alberta; Dr. Rob Williams, Professor, Addictions Counselling Program, Faculty of Health Sciences, U of Lethbridge; Dr. Rob Wood, Associate Professor, Dept. of Sociology, Faculty of Arts, U of Lethbridge; Dr. Don Schopflocher, Associate Professor, Faculty of Nursing, U of Alberta

Gambling is a normative activity in the Alberta population, with 82% of the adult population having gambled in the past year. Although the large majority of Albertans gamble responsibly, there is a small percentage that experience significant problems. The design of effective educational and legislative strategies to minimize the harm caused by gambling hinges on understanding the factors that promote responsible gambling and/or make people susceptible to problem gambling.

Longitudinal studies are the optimal methodology for investigating such questions. This methodology has been used extensively and successfully in the fields of health, mental health, sociology and addiction. Unfortunately, there is a dearth of longitudinal studies of gambling. It is this important gap in the research literature that provided the impetus to assemble a cross-disciplinary and cross-university Alberta research team to develop the present proposal.

This study is following 1808 Albertans prospectively over a five-year period from 2006 to 2011. There were five age cohorts at Wave 1 of the study: 13-15; 18-20; 23-25; 43-45; and 63-65 year olds. Part of the sample was derived from the general population and the other portion was derived from a ‘high risk’ sample of individuals who are at elevated risk for developing gambling problems, because of their greater expenditure and frequency of gambling. The sample was selected by means of random digit dialing stratified by region (Edmonton, Calgary, and rural Alberta). There will be a total of four data collections over five years, with interviews spaced every 12-18 months.

The development of a comprehensive model of gambling behavior will elucidate several questions: What are the normal patterns of continuity and discontinuity in gambling behavior? What bio-psychosocial variables and behavior patterns are most predictive of current and future responsible gambling and problem gambling? What is the impact of gambling availability, legislative initiatives, and prevention programs on the development of problem and responsible gambling? And, how do all of these things vary as a function of age and gender?

STATUS (APRIL 2011)

There were a number of objectives that were the focus of the period from October 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011. First, began data collection for Wave 4 of the study on February 7, and as of April 20, a total of 1090 participants (841 adults; 249 adolescents) had completed Wave 4. Second, completed the organization and cleaning of the data collected during Wave 3 of the study. Third, there was a continuation of the analysis of the data collected during Wave 1 and 2 of the study. This facilitated the progression of a manuscript on electronic gambling machines. Received one revise and re-submit during this period, with revisions being completed to re-submit this manuscript to the journal, *Addiction*. We also worked on creating and presenting three paper presentations during this reporting period. Finally, revised datasets were created that included only the key gambling variables and the other variables of interest, which would be more manageable for the present investigators and any investigators that would be examining this data in the future. The preliminary work for Wave 4 also involved completing the web-based surveys and attempting to track down participants that had moved through letters, emails, and telephone calls.

Time Frame: February 1, 2006 to Jun 30, 2012

COHORT GENE STUDY (LLLP)

Project Approved 2007-08

Research team/Steering Committee (additional members): Dr. Jim Kennedy, Director of Neuroscience Research at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH), Head of Neurogenetics Section, CAMH, and Head, Neuroscience Program, Dept. of Psychiatry, and l’Anson Professor, Dept. of Psychiatry & Institute of Medical Science, U of Toronto; Dr Nigel Turner, Research Scientist, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH)

This study is an extension of the Institute’s *Leisure, Lifestyle, Lifecycle Project (LLLP)*, the largest ever sponsored by the Institute. Its primary aim is to investigate genetic aspects of gambling and disordered gambling.

STATUS (COMPLETE)

A total of 679 individuals provided blood or saliva samples for the cohort gene study, which is 38% of the original sample of surviving participants from the main study (679/1789). It represents one of the world’s largest samples of DNA from gamblers.

Researchers at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) are currently examining the blood and saliva for specific genetic markers that may be associated with pathological gambling. The article entitled “*Association of dopamine D2 receptor gene variants and risk of gambling behavior*” was published in the journal *Biological Psychology*. A second article is under review. Two presentations were completed for the Alberta Gaming Research Institute and the Canadian Human Genetics Conference.

Time Frame: November 1, 2007 to December 31, 2010

SOCIAL & ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF GAMBLING IN ALBERTA (SEIGA)

The *Social & Economic Impacts of Gambling in Alberta (SEIGA)*, a much anticipated and high priority study was commenced on April 1, 2008. The primary purpose of the research investigation was to assess the costs and benefits of legalized gambling. Scientific evidence is expected to have utility in assisting provincial policy makers in their efforts to mitigate the negative impacts of gambling while maximizing its benefits.

Dr. Robert Williams, Faculty of Health Sciences, U of Lethbridge (Co-Principal Investigator); Dr. Brad Humphreys, Department of Economics, U of Alberta (Co-Principal Investigator); Dr. Yale Belanger, Native American Studies, U of Lethbridge; Dr. Harold Wynne, Wynne Resources.

The past 30 years has seen a remarkable increase in the availability of legalized gambling opportunities in Alberta, with almost all forms of gambling now being widely available in this province. Surprisingly, the decision to legalize gambling and to make it widely available has been made largely a) in the absence of good scientific evidence concerning whether the benefits of legalized gambling outweigh the costs, and b) in the absence of good scientific evidence about how best to mitigate the negative impacts. The primary purpose of this research was to provide sound scientific results pertinent to both of these issues.

The specific research elements employed were a) an extensive secondary analysis of the nature and magnitude of changes in general economic and social indicators as they relate to the introduction of expansion of gambling opportunities, b) direct investigation of the known impacts of each form of gambling, c) large-scale province-wide population surveys of gambling, with oversampling of geographic areas in the vicinity of casinos/racinos, d) key informant interviews in communities hosting casinos/racinos. These different elements provided different types of information with some degree of overlap for the purpose of triangulation and integration of findings.

Several research questions guided this research, including:

1. What is the nature, characteristics and magnitude of the social/economic impacts of legalized gambling in Alberta?
2. What is the geospatial and demographic pattern of these impacts?
3. How do these impacts differ as a function of type of gambling?
4. What is the relationship between gambling availability and gambling impacts?
5. Do these social and economic impacts change over time?
6. Which individuals, groups, organizations and sectors benefit most and least from legalized gambling?
7. What does the data suggest about potential future impacts of further gambling expansion?

The answers to these questions will be fundamentally important in a) informing Albertans about the overall benefits and costs of gambling, b) helping shape provincial government policy decisions concerning the provision of gambling, and c) the development of effective strategies to maximize the benefits and to minimize the negative impacts of gambling.

STATUS (COMPLETE)

All objectives of the project have been met. Two comprehensive socioeconomic impact analyses of gambling in Alberta have been completed.

These studies provide unambiguous information about the benefits and drawbacks of gambling in Alberta. Methodologies used serve as templates for future studies in other jurisdictions.

Time Frame: April 1, 2008 to September 30, 2010

Scholarships and Awards

SCHOLARSHIPS AND RESEARCH ALLOWANCES

In an effort to foster young researcher involvement in gambling-related research, a two-tiered (doctoral and graduate level) scholarship and research allowance program was adopted in 2008-09.

Three Scholarships were Awarded in 2010-11:

- Investigate the relationship between cognitive distortions and poker play using simulated play with a computer interface, Terri-Lynn Mackay, doctoral level scholarship, Psychology, University of Calgary (fall/winter)
- Research will examine whether gambling is part of a general propensity to engage in risky behaviour, in addition to investigating whether general risk-taking, including gambling, can be explained by predictable environmental conditions such as inequality, Sandeep Mishra, doctoral level scholarship, Psychology, University of Lethbridge (fall/winter)
- A qualitative examination of the way in which problem gamblers seeking online social support talk about and understand their gambling, Tanya Mudry, graduate level scholarship, Psychology, University of Calgary (fall/winter)



Terri-Lynn MacKay

AWARDS - AGRI RESEARCHER MAJOR AWARD RECIPIENTS IN 2010-11

In addition to the Institute-awarded 'Best Poster' and 'Best Oral Presentation' Awards given annually at the Banff Conference (listed in following section), affiliated researchers that won international recognition for their research contribution in 2010-11, include:

2010 NATIONAL CENTER FOR RESPONSIBLE GAMING (NCRG) OUTSTANDING POSTER AWARD



Cheryl Currie, a Ph.D. candidate in the School of Public Health at the University of Alberta, Canada, was the winner of the NCRG's 2010 Outstanding Poster award for her research on the relationship between prescription drug misuse and problem gambling. This study, published in the Canadian Journal of Psychiatry, is among the first to document a relationship between problem gambling and prescription drug misuse in a population-based sample. This important work will stimulate future research on why problem gamblers abuse prescription drugs so frequently and what may be done to prevent this public health problem.

Photo appears courtesy of the Alberta Innovates – Health Solutions Research News magazine]

2010 NATIONAL CENTER FOR RESPONSIBLE GAMING (NCRG) SCIENTIFIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The National Center for Responsible Gaming (NCRG) has recognized Dr. David Hodgins for his work on various aspects of recovery from gambling-related problems. They note that he has been at the forefront of finding effective recovery methods and treatments for gambling disorders, and his research and theoretical contributions have stimulated the gambling field.

Communicating Gambling Research

Highlights of 2010-11:

BANFF CENTRE SYMPOSIUM AND CONFERENCE, APRIL 8 – 10

As has become tradition, the Institute's annual conference was hosted by The Banff Centre in Banff, Alberta from April 8th to 10th, 2010. The Centre's first-class facilities and awe-inspiring mountain location were enjoyed by all despite the rather sudden arrival of a spring snowstorm. Conference organizers, Dr. David Hodgins and Ms. Vickii Williams, arranged a diverse and distinguished group of experts to present research findings to the 80+ people in attendance. In addition to traditional plenary sessions, the event introduced a number of exciting modifications to the conference's format. These included a pre-conference symposium on women's problem gambling, concurrent sessions featuring longitudinal studies and invited participant papers, a debate on how gambling problems are conceptualized, conversation sessions, awards for best oral presentation in addition to best poster, as well as a banquet to celebrate the Institute's 10th anniversary.

PRE-CONFERENCE SYMPOSIUM 'BEHIND THE MASK: UNDERSTANDING WOMEN PROBLEM GAMBLERS', APRIL 8

Organized and coordinated by: Dr. Noella Piquette-Tomei, Associate Professor & Registered Psychologist, Faculty of Education, U of Lethbridge

Women are beginning to emerge as the gender most likely to experience gambling difficulties. Since there are gender differences in the experience of gambling, it follows that understanding problem gambling in women includes exploring deficits in self-confidence and problem-solving skills, and differences between male and female gamblers' excessive reliance on particular coping styles.

Researchers, practitioners, and students were invited to this one-day pre-conference symposium on the unique characteristics of women problem gamblers.

On Thursday, April 8th, one day prior to the start of the main conference, a group of approximately 25 people were involved in a symposium entitled Behind the Mask: Understanding Women Problem Gamblers. The event was organized by Dr. Noëlla Piquette-Tomei of the University of Lethbridge and brought together researchers, practitioners, and students to discuss the

The Osaka University of Commerce, The University of Alberta, Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission senior staff, and Alberta Health Services consult on Alberta's gambling regulatory system and its problem gambling treatment programs.



Osaka U meeting provided by Chujo Tatsuya, Institute of Amusement Studies, Osaka University of Commerce

clinical issues regarding women problem gamblers. The symposium morning session featured presentations by Dr. Piquette-Tomei "Female problem gamblers: Context and considerations", Dr. Rob Williams "Characteristics of Canadian female gamblers: A comparative overview", Dr. David Hodgins "A Brief Introduction to Gambling Interventions", Mr. Rhys Stevens "Strategies for locating research resources related to problem gambling" and Dr. Matt Tata "In search of the neural correlates of gambling: Evidence from human neuroimaging". In the afternoon, participants broke into small groups to facilitate future planning and potential research partnership opportunities.

Supported by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) and the Alberta Gaming Research Institute (AGRI).



Noella Piquette-Tomei

CONFERENCE 2010: 9TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE ON GAMBLING RESEARCH, APRIL 9 & 10



An important and ongoing theme within the field of gambling research has been the development of an evidence-base for effective treatment of problem gambling. Despite research in this area having advanced a great deal in recent years, many questions still require the attention of the research community. For example: How do we make these treatments work even better? How can we maximize the number of people who are exposed to these treatments? How can we sell our treatments to those that could benefit? What new approaches are worthy of further investigation? What are the most effective knowledge transfer approaches to influence policy and practice?

To further understand these and other related issues, the Institute brought together top researchers in the field to share their recent research findings at its 2010 conference. The presentation and discussion topics included competing perspectives on the etiology and conceptualization of gambling disorders.

CONFERENCE 2010 AWARD WINNERS

Best Oral Presentation:

Terri-Lynn MacKay, PhD Clinical Psychology Student, University of Calgary

Best Research Poster:

Dr. Jennifer Buckle, Sir Wilfred Grenfell College, Memorial University of Newfoundland

This year awards were presented for both the best participant paper oral presentation as well as for best research poster. Congratulations to Ph.D. student, Ms. Terri-Lynn MacKay, from the University of Calgary who presented her paper entitled "Cognitive Distortions as a Major Risk Factor in Online Gambling" as well as Dr. Jennifer Buckle from Sir Wilfred Grenfell College, Memorial University of Newfoundland for her poster entitled "Personality factors associated with gambling behaviour in university students."

10TH ANNIVERSARY BANQUET IN RECOGNITION OF INSTITUTE'S DECADE OF ACHIEVEMENT, APRIL 9



To celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Alberta Gaming Research Institute, a very enjoyable and entertaining banquet was held on April 9. Banquet participants were treated to a series of brief speeches highlighting the Institute's major achievements over the first decade of its existence. Board Chair Dr. Nady el-Guebaly recognized Mrs. Sheila Murphy for her dedication to the Institute Board and then introduced Mr. Gerry McLennan, CEO of the Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission (AGLC). Mr. McLennan acknowledged the contribution of the Institute's research to his organization's work and affirmed his full support for a continuing partnership. The final speaker at the banquet was longtime gambling research pioneer, Dr. Garry Smith, of the University of Alberta's Faculty of Extension. Dr. Smith explained the genesis of the Institute and detailed the involvement of certain foundational individuals whose behind-the-scenes work resulted in its formation. He also discussed several key individuals affiliated with the Alberta Gaming Research Institute and recognized their unique characteristics and attributes which he felt were pivotal in contributing to the Institute's overall record of research success.

STAKEHOLDER MEETING AND KNOWLEDGE TRANSLATION WORKSHOP, APRIL 8

Another of what has become an 'AGRI tradition', was holding its annual Stakeholder Meeting, in conjunction with the Conference. In addition to affording the opportunity for a wide array of stakeholder representatives to hear current research findings from Institute researchers, stakeholders are invited to identify and prioritize their research needs. To address the common concern of interpreting research

findings for a wide range of potential users (decision makers in government and industry, treatment providers, regulators, etc.), a workshop on 'knowledge translation' (KT) was incorporated into the session. Donna Angus, Manager of Knowledge Transfer Initiatives for Alberta Innovates – Health Solutions, lead the workshop and provided foundational concepts and preliminary ideas on where to begin with implementation of a structured KT process i.e. to transfer research findings from concept to application.



Donna Angus

LIBRARY SERVICES



Institute Library and web site development activities are coordinated by Rhys Stevens at the University of Lethbridge Library.

The Institute Library contributes to the development of research capacity by supporting Institute researchers and the general public through the development of comprehensive gambling-

related research collections and the provision of innovative website services.

Selection, ordering and acquisition of research materials are administered by libraries at the University of Lethbridge, University of Calgary, and the University of Alberta in partnership with the Institute Librarian & Information Specialist (Rhys Stevens). On an annual basis, Institute collection-building funds received by each library contribute to the development of first-class research collections of books, e-books, research databases and journal title subscriptions related to aspects of gambling.

In addition to developing electronic and print research collections, the Institute Librarian enhances research capacity by offering a variety of valuable library services to Institute-funded researchers, the general public and other stakeholders. Examples include assistance with reference

requests, creation of detailed literature reviews, digitization of historically-significant publications, website creation, newsletter development, and knowledge transfer activities.

WEBSITE

The Institute website enhances research capacity by delivering information regarding Institute-funded activities, initiatives and research documentation to researchers, stakeholders and the general public.

Since the Institute’s inception in 2000, the website has undergone a number of re-developments and re-organizations designed to improve access to content and simplify site navigation. It has evolved from being a collection of descriptive, static webpages to one that is dynamically-generated by the University of Alberta’s Content Management System (CMS).

The website has become a core component of the Institute’s operations. It provides current details about the Institute’s annual activities (e.g., annual reports & business plans, grant opportunities, conferences), operational structure (e.g., executive director, board members & node coordinator biographies), research initiatives (e.g., status reports, Newsletters), and Library resources (e.g., AGRI Research Archive). It is frequently the initial point of contact for in-depth inquiries from researchers, the media and other interested parties.

RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS

The Institute encourages its funded investigators to share the research results from Institute supported projects via publication in peer-reviewed journals and by presenting them at scholarly conferences.

Following is a list of related scholarly publications (articles, chapters and reports) published between April 1, 2010 and March 31, 2011:

Belanger, Y. D. (Ed.). (2011). *First Nations gaming in Canada*. Winnipeg, MB: University of Manitoba Press.

Belanger, Y. D. (2011). Toward an innovative understanding of North American indigenous gaming in historical perspective. In Y. Belanger (Ed.). *First Nation Gaming in Canada* (pp. 10-34). Winnipeg, MN: University of Manitoba Press.

Belanger, Y. D. (2011). First Nations gaming and urban aboriginal peoples in Alberta: Does an economic ‘fit’ exist? In Y. Belanger (Ed.). *First Nation Gaming in Canada* (pp. 140-164). Winnipeg, MN: University of Manitoba Press.

Belanger, Y. D. (2011). First Nations approach to securing public trust: SIGA’s corporate response to the Dutch Lerat affair, 2000-2004. In Y. Belanger (Ed.). *First*

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NEWSLETTER

Following is a list of the contents of the Institute newsletter, ‘*Gambling Research Reveals – an Update on Gambling Research in Alberta*’ published between April 1, 2010 and March 31, 2011:

ISSUE 3, VOLUME 10 - FEBRUARY / MARCH 2011

Socioeconomic impacts of gambling in Alberta analyzed in comprehensive Institute-funded research report

ISSUE 2, VOLUME 10 - DECEMBER 2010 / JANUARY 2011

Understanding reasons behind risk taking / Published findings from the *Leisure, Lifestyle, Lifecycle Project (LLLPP)* / From the Library...

ISSUE 1, VOLUME 10 - OCTOBER / NOVEMBER 2010

Conference 2011: “*Engaging the Big Questions in Gambling Studies*” / Call for Poster & Oral Presentation Submissions / Mathematician Dennis Connolly explains expected value (EV) of lottery prizes / From the Library... / Dr. David Hodgins Receives NCRG Scientific Achievement Award

ISSUE 6, VOLUME 9 - AUGUST / SEPTEMBER 2010

Cognitive distortions and skill assessment among poker players: An interview with Terri-Lynn MacKay / From the Library...

ISSUE 5, VOLUME 9 - JUNE / JULY 2010

Findings from Canadian longitudinal studies of gambling behaviour / UBC press book includes chapter on legalized gambling in Canada

ISSUE 4, VOLUME 9 - APRIL / MAY 2010

A Report on the Institute’s 9th Annual Conference on Gambling Research: *Emergent Clinical Issues in Problem Gambling* - April 2010



Financial Statements

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2011

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Independent Auditor's Report



TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
ALBERTA GAMING RESEARCH INSTITUTE

REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Alberta Gaming Research Institute, which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2011, and the statements of operations and cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITY

My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit. I conducted my audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that I comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

OPINION

In my opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Alberta Gaming Research Institute as at March 31, 2011, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian general accepted accounting principles.

[Original signed by Merwan N. Saher]

Edmonton, Alberta

August 11, 2011

CA

Auditor General

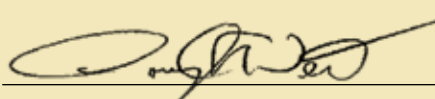
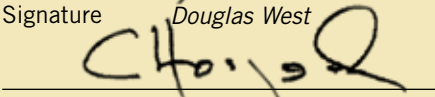
ALBERTA GAMING RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Statement of Financial Position

AS AT MARCH 31

	2011	2010
Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents (Note 4)	\$ 2,608,719	\$ 2,495,051
Prepaid expenses	4,122	6,160
	<u>\$ 2,612,841</u>	<u>\$ 2,501,211</u>
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and deferred contributions	\$ 4,665	\$ 6,506
Net Assets		
Net assets at beginning of year	2,494,705	2,585,548
Net operating results	113,471	(90,843)
Net assets at end of year	<u>2,608,176</u>	<u>2,494,705</u>
	<u>\$ 2,612,841</u>	<u>\$ 2,501,211</u>

The accompanying notes and schedule are part of these financial statements.
Approved by the board:

	<i>Audit Committee Member</i>	<i>August 11, 2011</i>
Signature	Position	Date
	Audit Committee Chair	August 11, 2011
Signature	Position	Date

ALBERTA GAMING RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Statement of Operations

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31

	2011 Budget (Note 9)	2011 Actual	2010 Actual
Revenues			
Contributions from the Department of Solicitor General	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 1,500,000
Interest and Other Revenue	480,000	-	-
Total Revenues	<u>1,980,000</u>	<u>1,500,000</u>	<u>1,500,000</u>
Expenses (Schedule 1)			
Research	1,455,000	864,889	1,120,438
Infrastructure and Library	222,000	216,764	197,253
Research Linkages	30,000	23,152	23,881
Research Administration	273,000	281,724	249,271
Total Expenses	<u>1,980,000</u>	<u>1,386,529</u>	<u>1,590,843</u>
Net Operating Results	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 113,471</u>	<u>\$ (90,843)</u>

The accompanying notes and schedule are part of these financial statements.

ALBERTA GAMING RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Statement of Cash Flows

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31

	2011	2010
Operating Transactions		
Contributions from the Solicitor General	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 1,500,000
Interest and Other Revenue	-	-
Research Expenditures	(864,889)	(1,120,438)
Infrastructure and Library Expenditures	(215,503)	(212,164)
Research Linkages Expenditures	(24,230)	(22,765)
Research Administration Expenditures	(281,710)	(250,458)
Cash used for Operating Transactions	113,668	(105,825)
Capital Transactions		
Leasehold improvements and purchase of capital assets	-	-
Cash Flows from Capital Transactions	-	-
Net Cash Generated (Used)	113,668	(105,825)
Cash and cash equivalents, Beginning of Year	\$ 2,495,051	\$ 2,600,876
Cash and cash equivalents, End of Year	<u>\$ 2,608,719</u>	<u>\$ 2,495,051</u>

The accompanying notes and schedule are part of these financial statements.

ALBERTA GAMING RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Notes to the Financial Statements

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31

Note 1 Authority and Reporting Entity

The Alberta Gaming Research Institute (the Institute) is an unincorporated organization. It is a research consortium comprised of the University of Alberta, the University of Calgary, and the University of Lethbridge (the Institute Universities). Relations between the Institute and the Government of Alberta are defined in an Agreement between the Institute Universities and the Alberta Government dated April 1, 2006. The Institute is directed by a Board comprised of seven members including two appointees (senior administrators and researchers) from each of the three Institute Universities in addition to a representative who is appointed by the Solicitor General and Minister of Public Security.

As required under the Agreement, the Institute reporting entity for the purpose of these financial statements is that portion of Institute operations funded by the Department of Solicitor General and Public Security. The Institute Universities contribute certain services and supplies, including research and administrative personnel and services, to the consortium. The fair value of these contributions, and the cost of these services and supplies, is not reflected in these financial statements.

Note 2 Purpose

The purpose of the Institute is to:

- expand the breadth and depth of scientific knowledge into gambling;
- provide education about current knowledge through research publications and reporting of research results;
- provide research related to emergent gaming activities;
- act as a clearinghouse for literature related to gambling research; and,
- forge strong collaborative links with national and international scholars and organizations involved in gaming/gambling research and studies.

Note 3 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies and Reporting Practices

These financial statements are prepared in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

REVENUE

All revenues are reported on the accrual basis of accounting. Cash received for which goods or services have not been provided by year end is recorded as deferred revenue and included in accounts payable.

EXPENSES

Grants are recorded as expenses when all the terms and conditions of eligibility have been met and the Institute has authorized payment of the grant.

ASSETS

Capital assets are recorded at historical cost less accumulated amortization. Capital assets are amortized on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives at the following annual rates:

Furniture and equipment	20%
Computer equipment	33 1/3%
Leasehold improvements	Over lease term (2 years)

LIABILITIES

Liabilities represent all financial claims payable by the Institute at the fiscal year end.

NET ASSETS

Net assets represent the difference between the book value of assets held by the Institute and its liabilities.

FAIR VALUE

Fair value is the amount of consideration agreed upon in an arm’s length transaction between knowledgeable, willing parties who are under no compulsion to act. Due to their short-term nature, the fair values of cash, accounts receivable and accounts payable and accrued liabilities are estimated to approximate their book values.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Intellectual property rights with respect to all research conducted with the financial support, or under the auspices, of the Institute are governed by the policies of the Institute University with which the researcher is affiliated. These rights do not accrue directly to the Institute and are not recognized in these financial statements. The Government of Alberta and the Institute Universities are entitled to freely use and copy, other than for commercial purposes, any intellectual property so created.

Note 4 Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents are held in trust by the University of Alberta and consist of short-term investments comprised primarily of certificates of deposit, guaranteed investment certificates, government treasury bills and commercial paper with a maturity between 90 days and one year. Interest earned on the Institute’s cash balance is credited to the Institute and is reflected in these statements. For the 2011 fiscal year ending March 31, 2011, the average effective yield was 0% (2010: 0%). Due to the short-term nature of the investments, the carrying value approximates fair value.

Note 5 Grants to Institute Universities

Grants are provided to the Institute Universities for capacity building, nodal research development, library and collections, and research node administration for gaming related operations. The following table provides an accounting for the grant funds received, and amounts spent by the Institute Universities, to the year-end. Any unspent funds held by an Institute University at the conclusion of these programs or activities will be returned to the Institute.

	2011			2010	
	University of Alberta	University of Calgary	University of Lethbridge	Total	Total
Opening balance	\$ 427,367	\$ 225,785	\$ 73,243	\$ 726,395	\$ 695,548
Funding					
Capacity building	100,000	100,000	100,000	300,000	300,000
Economics position	85,000	-	-	85,000	85,000
Nodal research development	30,000	30,000	30,000	90,000	90,000
Library and collections	-	-	150,000	150,000	150,000
Research node administration	15,000	15,000	15,000	45,000	45,000
	230,000	145,000	295,000	670,000	670,000
Total Funding Available	657,367	370,785	368,243	1,396,395	1,365,548
Actual Expenditures	(229,441)	(107,808)	(304,032)	(641,281)	(639,153)
Unexpended Funds	\$ 427,926	\$ 262,977	\$ 64,211	\$ 755,114	\$ 726,395

The balance of unexpended funds represents funding for new and continuing projects.

Note 6 Commitments

The Institute has the following commitments:

Year	Research Grants ^(a)	Lease ^(b)	Economics position ^(c)	Scholarships ^(d)	Total
2012	\$ 149,556	\$ 13,843	\$ 85,000	\$ 103,000	\$ 351,399
2013	77,941	-	85,000	-	162,941
2014+	-	-	106,250	-	106,250
Total	\$ 227,497	\$ 13,843	\$ 276,250	\$ 103,000	\$ 620,590

(a) RESEARCH GRANTS

The Institute has three types of granting programs. In response to an annual call for proposals for major grants (maximum of \$80,000/annum for up to two years to total of \$160,000) and open application period for small (developmental) grants (maximum of \$10,000 for up to one year), the Board approves researcher identified initiatives.

Upon approval of a major or small research grant and receipt of confirmation of any necessary ethics or other approvals from the host Institute University's Research Services Office, the Institute authorizes payment of 80% of the first year approved award. The remaining 20% is withheld pending satisfactory interim reporting by the principal investigator/researcher. For these types of awards extending beyond one year, authorization of subsequent period amounts is subject to satisfactory reporting and funding availability. Commitments for these awards include the balance of the approved grant awards, subsequent period amounts, and any other approved grant requests for which the researcher has not yet met all of the eligibility criteria.

(b) LEASE

The Institute entered into a lease with the University of Alberta for the period July 1, 2003 to March 31, 2006. To increase accessibility and accommodate the increased business activity of the Institute, effective April 1, 2004, the lease was transferred (with no penalty) to a new campus location. The Letter of Understanding regarding this move was signed on January 22, 2004 and necessary space improvements and computer technical changes were contracted. The Institute renewed the lease for the period April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011 (with a renewal option).

(c) ECONOMICS CHAIR

Subject to specific conditions being met, on March 24, 2004, the Board approved a total of \$595,000 payable at the rate of \$85,000/annum for seven years to support the establishment of a research position in the Department of Economics at the University of Alberta. An appointment was made on July 1, 2007.

(d) SCHOLARSHIP AND RESEARCH ALLOWANCE AWARDS

In the interest of enhancing new research capacity, the Board implemented a two-level scholarship and research allowance award program effective September 2008 for the Fall 2008/Winter 2009 terms. Graduate level scholarship awards are in the amount of \$13,000 with an additional or separate research allowance award of \$3,000. Doctoral students receive an annual maximum scholarship of \$20,000 with a research award allowance of \$5,000.

Note 7 Economic Dependence

The Institute receives its principal funding from the Department of Solicitor General and Public Security. The five year agreement between the Alberta Government and the Institute which expired on March 31, 2011 provides funding of \$1,500,000 per annum. The Institute's ability to maintain viable operations is dependent upon continued support from the Government of Alberta. The Government of Alberta has granted the Institute permission to retain and use the unexpended funds received pursuant to the prior agreement until the new agreement is finalized. The Institute working with the Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission is finalizing a new funding agreement.

Note 8 Related Party Transactions

During the year, there were no related party transactions.

Note 9 Budget

The 2010/11 budget was approved by the Institute's Board of Directors on December 15, 2009.

Schedule of Expenses

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31

	2011 Budget	2011 Actual	2010 Actual
Research			
Grant competition/strategic research (1)	\$ 850,000	\$ 303,173	\$ 645,438
Position and developmental funding (2)	515,000	471,716	385,000
Nodal research development (3)	90,000	90,000	90,000
	1,455,000	864,889	1,120,438
Infrastructure and Library			
Library and collections (4)	150,000	150,000	150,000
Events, colloquia (5)	27,000	21,764	2,253
Research nodes (6)	45,000	45,000	45,000
	222,000	216,764	197,253
Research Linkages			
Communications, exchanges (7)	30,000	23,152	23,881
	30,000	23,152	23,881
Research Administration			
Personnel costs (8)	215,000	188,330	213,750
Contract services (9)	10,000	13,116	-
Administrative hub (10)	48,000	80,278	35,521
	273,000	281,724	249,271
Total Expenses	\$ 1,980,000	\$ 1,386,529	\$ 1,590,843

- Note 1Includes annual research grant competition and Board identified areas of strategic, interjurisdictional, and interorganizational collaborative research.
- Note 2Grants to Institute Universities (\$100,000/university/year) to attract research scholars, small grant developmental funding, scholarship and research allowance awards and support (\$85,000 held centrally) for targeted position (economics).
- Note 3Grants to Institute Universities (\$30,000/university/year) to develop internal research expertise.
- Note 4Grant to the University of Lethbridge to build and maintain a special collection of gambling publications at the consortium universities. The grant also provides funding for specialized information services to interested parties on gambling and gaming matters, development and maintenance of the Institute website, and funding for a junior grade professional librarian.
- Note 5Supports program of formative and summative learning events and forums. Includes cost of an annual conference bringing together Institute associates, topical experts, and other interested persons.
- Note 6Costs associated with administering node operations including local/rotating board meetings, internal and administrative support.
- Note 7Includes print materials and promotional broadcasts, annual report development, writing, and production costs, and conference attendance by Institute representatives to facilitate information dissemination and support for Alberta scholars and experts to travel to other locales to investigate gambling-related matters as well as the travel of national and foreign scholars and experts to Alberta to assist with Institute research. In fiscal year 2011 the communications and exchanges expenses have been combined; 2010 figure have been reclassified to conform to the 2011 presentation.
- Note 8Salary and benefits compensation (Executive Director and administrative support).
- Note 9Special project consulting (eg., document drafting, graphic design work).
- Note 10Includes business and board members meeting travel, hub operational requirements.

Board of Directors

BROWN, DR. LESLEY

Dr. Lesley Brown is the Associate Vice President (Research) and a Professor in the Department of Kinesiology at the University of Lethbridge. She conducts research in the area of fall prevention in older adults as well as among people living with Parkinson's disease. Dr Brown has been a member since June 2010 (replacing Dr. Jo-Anne Fiske).

Photo credit: University of Lethbridge



EL-GUEBALY, DR. NADY

Nady el-Guebaly is Professor and Head, Addictions Division, Department of Psychiatry at the University of Calgary. He is past founding Medical Director of the Addictions Program, Calgary Health Region. His introduction to mental health and addiction medicine dates back to 1969. Currently, he is Chair, Addiction Psychiatry Section of the World Psychiatric Association; and Executive Medical Director and Past-Founding President of the International Society of Addiction Medicine. He has served on the Institute's Board since it was established in 1999 and as its Board Chair since July 2002.



ELIO, DR. RENEE

Renee Elio is Associate Vice-President (Research) and Professor of Computing Science at the University of Alberta. She joined the faculty at the University of Alberta in 1985. She currently serves on the Board of the University of Alberta Health Law Institute, the IBM-UofA Centre for Advanced Studies, and the Pacific Institute for Mathematical Sciences. She previously served as a member of the Board of Directors for the Alberta Research Council and for the Government of Alberta's Information and Communication Technologies Institute. Her research concerns computational models of higher-level human cognitive behavior, such as learning, reasoning, and planning. She served on the Institute Board from May 2008 to May 25, 2010.



FISKE, DR. JO-ANNE

Jo-Anne Fiske serves as Dean of Graduate Studies at the University of Lethbridge. An anthropologist, she researches broad issues of social policy and political economy with a particular focus on impacts of structural inequities and women. Her research has been funded by Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, BC Centre of Excellence on Women's Health, Status of Women Canada and the National Network of Aboriginal Mental Health Researchers. Her current research addresses links between social stigma in childhood and family gambling patterns. She served on the Institute Board from April 2007 to May 2010.



GIBBS VAN BRUNSCHOT, DR. ERIN

Erin Gibbs van Brunshot is an Associate Professor in the Department of Sociology and Vice Dean in the Faculty of Arts at the University of Calgary. Her research interests include crime and deviance, with a particular interest in the study of security and risk at both the individual and institutional levels. She has served on the Institute Board since August 2007.



HOSGOOD, DR. CHRISTOPHER (CHRIS)

Chris Hosgood is Dean of the School of Health Sciences at the University of Lethbridge and a member of the Department of History. His research has focused on consumerism and popular culture in Victorian Britain and, more recently in Canada, the social history of gambling in Alberta. He has served on the Institute Board since December 2001.



MURPHY, MRS. SHEILA

Mrs. Sheila Murphy is appointed to the Institute Board by the Alberta provincial government as an external member. She has previously served on the University of Calgary Senate (1990-1996) as well as the Air Cadet League of Canada and Cubs and Scouts of Canada Society. She owned and operated the Henderson Colleges of Business from 1972 to 1997. She served on the Institute Board from 1999 to March 31, 2011.



TRIMBLE, DR. LINDA

Linda Trimble is a professor in, and former Chair of, the Department of Political Science at the University of Alberta, where she has been teaching Canadian politics and gender politics since 1989. Her research explores media reportage of Canadian elections and of women politicians, especially political leaders. Dr. Trimble's most recent book, co-edited with Shannon Sampert, is titled *Mediating Canadian Politics* and she is currently writing a book about press coverage of female prime ministers in Canada, Australia and New Zealand. Her newest SSHRC-funded project analyzes television and newspaper coverage of Canadian national party leadership contests. Dr. Trimble joined the Institute Board in May 2010 (replacing Dr. Renee Elio).

Photo credit: Laughing Dog Photography Inc.



WEST, DR. DOUG

Douglas S. West is Professor of Economics and Chair of the Department of Economics at the University of Alberta, where he has been teaching economics since 1981. His fields of research and teaching include industrial organization, competition policy, spatial competition analysis, and urban economics, and he has published widely in these areas. His current research interests include brand proliferation in beer markets, and competition in liquor store and shopping centre markets. He joined the Institute Board in July 2009, and currently also serves on the Board of the Institute of Health Economics and the Van Horne Institute.



WILLIAMS, MS. VICKII

Vickii Williams has served as the Executive Director of the Alberta Gaming Research Institute since its inception and serves in an ex officio advisory capacity on the Institute Board. She represents the Institute on a number of inter-organizational and inter-jurisdictional planning bodies for collaborative research initiatives.



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