



2007 ANNUAL REPORT



NATIONAL CENTER FOR RESPONSIBLE GAMING

Advancing Research, Education and Awareness

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN



Looking back on 2007, there is much that the National Center for Responsible Gaming (NCRG) can take pride in having accomplished. While the NCRG has stayed true to its core mission — to support only the highest quality peer-reviewed scientific research — we also set an ambitious agenda to increase public awareness about disordered gambling and responsible gaming among new audiences.

On the research front, the NCRG continued to set the standard for excellence by funding, through the Institute for Research on Pathological Gambling and Related Disorders, innovative research by some of the best minds in the field. As a result of the NCRG's proven commitment to advancing the best in science-based research on gambling disorders, the past year also saw more than \$7.6 million in new commitments from the casino gaming industry. This generous support, committed over a five-year period, will allow the NCRG to continue to fund research, as well as encourage the application of new research findings to improve prevention, diagnostic, intervention and treatment strategies, and advance public education about responsible gaming.

As part of its goal to reach a broader audience, the NCRG embarked on a number of successful public education outreach initiatives in 2007. These included launching a newly designed graphic identity and Web site and completing the first two issues of a new research monograph series. The NCRG also embarked on a three-city tour in September — to Las Vegas, Kansas City and Philadelphia — to publicize the completion of its successful fundraising campaign and raise awareness about the organization and its work.

For the second year in a row, the NCRG's annual conference coincided with Global Gaming Expo (G2E) in Las Vegas. The NCRG conference still is the only annual event of its kind in the United States that allows international gaming industry and government representatives to engage in dialogue with the world's leading scientific and clinical professionals. The conference attracted close to 400 attendees from 14 countries.

In the pages to follow, you will find more about these and many other NCRG accomplishments, as well as a look at what the coming year will hold. These are exciting times and I look forward to the coming year as the NCRG reaches new audiences with its critical mission.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Philip G. Satre". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Philip G. Satre
Chairman

National Center for Responsible Gaming

NCRG STRUCTURE AND PROGRAMS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Role: Set Policy and Program Direction

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Role: Raise Funds

MISSION

Founded in 1996 as a 501(c)3 charitable organization, the NCRG's mission is to help individuals and families affected by gambling disorders by supporting the finest peer-reviewed, scientific research into pathological and youth gambling; encouraging the application of new research findings to improve prevention, diagnostic, intervention and treatment strategies; and advancing public education about responsible gaming.

RESEARCH

Institute for Research on
Pathological Gambling
and Related Disorders¹
Division on Addictions
Cambridge Health Alliance
Harvard Medical School

Internal
Research

Competitive Research
Grants to Universities

Annual
Conference

EMERGE

EDUCATION

Publications, Programs
and Presentations on
Disordered Gambling

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about the NCRG:**

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on gambling research:**

**Christine Reilly, Executive Director
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www.divisiononaddictions.org/institute

¹Independent entity supported by a contract from the NCRG

NCRG LEADERSHIP

The National Center for Responsible Gaming (NCRG) is the only national organization exclusively devoted to funding peer-reviewed research that will enhance understanding of gambling disorders and lead to effective strategies for screening, diagnosis, prevention and treatment. Founded in 1996 as a 501(c)3 charitable organization, the NCRG is the American Gaming Association's (AGA) affiliated charity. The NCRG has raised more than \$22 million to help support research and provide scientifically-based responsible gaming education and outreach programs to casino communities nationwide.

The NCRG is overseen by a board of directors and a board of trustees. Each of these boards has its own unique but complementary role within the organization. The board of directors serves as the practical, hands-on management group for the organization, focused on education, and outreach program creation and implementation, as well as continuing the NCRG's ongoing relationship with the Institute. The board of trustees consists of CEOs of NCRG donor companies and is focused entirely on fundraising activities, both to support new education and outreach efforts and to continue to support peer-reviewed scientific research grants. The following individuals served the NCRG in 2007:

Officers

CHAIRMAN

Philip G. Satre

Former Chairman and CEO
Harrah's Entertainment, Inc.

PRESIDENT

William S. Boyd

Executive Chairman
Boyd Gaming Corporation

SECRETARY AND TREASURER

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Senior Vice President
and Executive Director
American Gaming Association

Board of Directors

Robert Boswell

Senior Vice President
Pioneer Behavioral Health

Glenn Christenson

Managing Director
Velstand Investments, LLC

Sue Cox

Founding Executive Director
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Alan Feldman

Senior Vice President of Public
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Gaming Laboratories
International

Jennifer Shatley

Program Vice President,
Code of Commitment
Harrah's Entertainment, Inc.

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Frank J. Fahrenkopf, Jr.

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Executive Vice President
Ameristar Casinos, Inc.

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Chairman and CEO
MGM MIRAGE

Gary Loveman

Chairman, CEO and President
Harrah's Entertainment, Inc.

T.J. Matthews

Chairman, President and COO
International Game Technology

Virginia McDowell

President and COO
Isle of Capri Casinos, Inc.

Larry Ruvo

Senior Managing Director
Southern Wine & Spirits
of Nevada



CONTRIBUTORS

The National Center for Responsible Gaming has received generous support from various financial donors since its founding in 1996, including gaming companies, suppliers and vendors, NCRG board members, gaming employees and individuals. These contributions allow the NCRG to continue to support research, as well as encourage the application of new research findings to improve prevention and treatment strategies, and advance public education about responsible gaming.

The following is a list of contributors who supported the NCRG in 2007:

\$400,000

Harrah's Entertainment, Inc.*
MGM MIRAGE*

\$200,000

International Game Technology*

\$100,000

Argosy Gaming Company/
Penn National Gaming, Inc.*
Boyd Gaming Corporation*
Isle of Capri Casinos, Inc.*
Las Vegas Sands Corp.

\$75,000

JCM Global*

\$50,000

Columbia Sussex Corp.*
Station Casinos, Inc.*
WMS Industries, Inc.*

\$40,000

Wynn Resorts

\$25,000

Aristocrat Technologies, Inc.
GTECH Corporation

\$10,000

The Palms Casino Resort**
Southern Wine & Spirits
of Nevada*

\$3,000 and under

Canterbury Park
Harrah's Cherokee Indian Casino
& Hotel

**Indicates that the company's contribution is part of a multi-year pledge. **Indicates company made identical one-time contribution for 2008.*

As part of a major fundraising effort in 2007, the NCRG raised more than \$7.6 million in new commitments from the casino gaming industry to be allocated over a five-year period from 2008 to 2012. The new funding brings the total amount committed to the NCRG since its inception to more than \$22 million.

Below is a list of new funding commitments:

\$2,000,000

Harrah's Entertainment, Inc.*
MGM MIRAGE*

\$1,000,000

International Game Technology*

\$500,000

Ameristar Casinos, Inc.*
Boyd Gaming Corporation*
Isle of Capri Casinos, Inc.*

\$250,000

Penn National Gaming, Inc.*
Station Casinos, Inc.*
WMS Industries Inc.*

\$225,000

Wynn Resorts, Limited*

\$125,000

Bally Technologies*

**Indicates that the company's contribution is part of a multi-year pledge.*

(For a list of contributors prior to 2007, visit www.ncrg.org.)



RESEARCH REPORT

The NCRG is the leading private source of funding for science-based research and information on gambling and health in the United States. The NCRG's support of high quality research helped launch the most dramatic increase in scientific investigations of gambling over the past century. The NCRG is proud to have played a role in this expansion of knowledge about the potential health consequences of gambling.

NCRG funds for research are awarded through the Institute for Research on Pathological Gambling and Related Disorders, a program of the Division on Addictions at Cambridge Health Alliance, a teaching affiliate of Harvard Medical School. The Institute, funded by a multi-million dollar contract from the NCRG since 2000, devotes approximately one-third of its budget to a competitive extramural grants program open to institutions worldwide. NCRG support for the Institute also funds the research conducted by the Harvard Medical School faculty at the Division on Addictions. Publications of research funded through both programs are featured in the following section.

2007 Publications of NCRG-funded Research

Publishing research findings in a peer-reviewed scientific journal is how researchers share their work with their colleagues and the public and subject their methodology and analysis to the judgment of the scientific community. NCRG- and Institute-supported research has been published consistently in the highest-impact journals with the most rigorous standards. Studies published in 2007 showed the breadth of topics that has characterized the NCRG research agenda from the beginning: youth and college gambling, prevention programming, the neurobiology of decision-making, the impact of gambling on communities, and measuring the effectiveness of treatment.

■ Youth and College Gambling

NCRG- and Institute-funded research continues to expand our understanding of the gambling behaviors of young people and college students. A study led by Dr. Silvia Martins at Johns Hopkins University School of Public Health, "Mental health and gambling in urban female adolescents," was featured in a special issue of the *Journal of Adolescent Health* devoted to gambling as a health risk for adolescents. Martins and her co-investigators found that females with high levels of childhood hyperactivity are more likely to gamble in adolescence and that substance use and anxious feelings were associated with female adolescent gambling (Martins, Storr, Ialongo, & Chilcoat, 2007). In an editorial for this special issue, Harvard researchers Howard Shaffer and Richard LaBrie noted that the Hopkins study represents an important trend in the field in its use of an ongoing longitudinal study expanded to include gambling questions (LaBrie & Shaffer, 2007).

Preventing gambling problems among youth was the focus of an NCRG-funded study, "Life skills, mathematical reasoning and critical thinking: A curriculum for the prevention of problem gambling," published in the *Journal of Gambling Studies* in 2007. Dr. Nigel Turner at the Toronto-based Centre for Addiction and Mental Health developed and tested a school-based problem gambling prevention curriculum for grades 10 through 12. The prevention program focused on problem gambling awareness and self-monitoring skills, coping skills and knowledge of the nature of random events. Dr. Turner's team found significant improvement in the students' understanding of randomness, problem gambling awareness, self-monitoring and coping skills after experiencing the curriculum (Turner, Macdonald, & Somerset, 2007).



College students, another group perceived at higher risk for gambling problems, was the focus of “Sports betting and other gambling in athletes, fans and other college students,” a study by researchers at Harvard Medical School and the Harvard University School of Public Health. Published in the *Research Quarterly on Exercise and Sport*, the study of 10,559 students at 119 colleges in the U.S. found that athletes, sports fans and students enrolled at schools with a high interest in sports were more likely to gamble on college sports and, therefore, are more appropriate targets for prevention efforts (Nelson, et al., 2007).

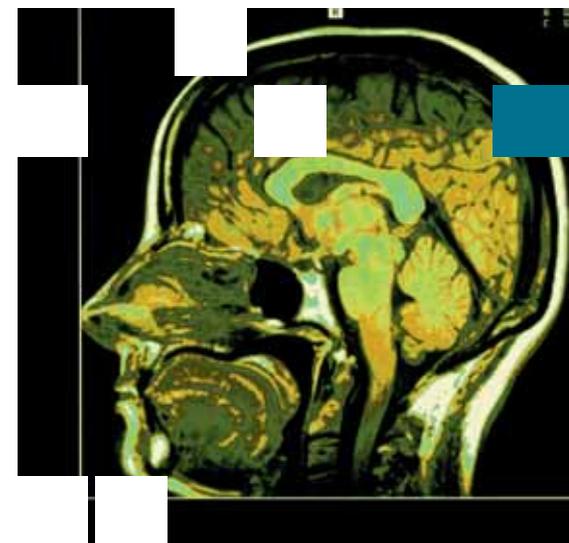
■ Measuring the Effectiveness of Treatment

Treatment is one of the most under-researched aspects of gambling disorders and, consequently, there is not yet a treatment standard for the disorder. To advance rigorous research on treatment and to address the need to know what works and what doesn't work, Dr. Randy Stinchfield at the University of Minnesota developed and tested the GANTOMS (Gambling Treatment Outcome Monitoring System), a new instrument for evaluating the effectiveness of treatment strategies. Published in the *Psychology of Addictive Behaviors* in 2007, the study revealed that GANTOMS demonstrated satisfactory reliability and validity. The instrument shows promise of substantially advancing the clinician's ability to diagnose and treat adults who suffer from gambling-related problems (Stinchfield, Winters, Botzet, Jerstad, & Breyer, 2007). The authors of the study called for further research on the GANTOMS with larger and more diverse samples.

■ The Neurobiology of Decision-making

Poor decision-making is a hallmark of all addictive behaviors, especially disordered gambling behavior. Brain imaging technology has given researchers a real-time view of the neural circuitry that is engaged when people make decisions while performing a gambling task. Such knowledge is basic to not only understanding why people with gambling problems make poor decisions, but for developing appropriate treatment strategies.

In 2007, a research team led by Dr. Jody Tanabe at the University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences Center published the findings of a brain imaging study, “Prefrontal cortex activity is reduced in gambling and nongambling substance users during decision-making,” in the journal *Human Brain Mapping*. The investigators found that defects in the brain's ventral medial frontal processing does lead to impaired decision-making among subjects with gambling problems and in subjects with both gambling and drug problems compared to controls (Tanabe, et al., 2007).



■ The Impact of New Gambling

As communities debate the expansion or introduction of gambling opportunities, concern is usually raised about the possible harmful ramifications for public health. Conventional wisdom holds that the expansion of gambling relates to increases in gambling-related problems among the population (i.e., the exposure effect). Drs. Debi LaPlante and Howard Shaffer at Harvard Medical School conducted a review of the empirical evidence to verify the accuracy of this assumption. Their findings, published in "Understanding the influence of gambling opportunities: Expanding exposure models to include adaptation," in the *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry*, indicate that while exposure does play a role in the development of gambling behavior and gambling-

related problems, the available research does not support the idea that exposure necessarily provides a direct path to addiction or even to gambling-related problems (LaPlante & Shaffer, 2007). They argue that failing to consider exposure effects with respect to processes of adaptation will yield an incomplete understanding of gambling opportunities and their impact, and that researchers, gambling industry representatives and public health officials need to work together to facilitate the process of early and positive adaptation.



Continuing Impact of NCRG Funding

Support for research often has continuing impact beyond the life of a particular grant. For example, an award made to Dr. Donald Black at the University of Iowa in 2000 for research on the role of genetics in the development of pathological gambling resulted in research that was the basis for a 2007 online continuing medical education course for physicians through the publication, *CNS Spectrums: The International Journal for Neuropsychiatric Medicine* (Shaw, Forbush, Schlinder, Rosenman, & Black, 2007).

A 1999 award to Dr. Renee Cunningham-Williams at Washington University School of Medicine financed the development of the Gambling Assessment Module (GAM) to determine the reliability of current pathological gambling disorder criteria in the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders*. In 2007, she published a study in the *Journal of Nervous and Mental Disease* demonstrating that the pathological gambling disorder diagnosis applies equally well for Caucasians and African Americans and for game-specific disorders after adjusting for age and social class differences (Cunningham-Williams, Ostmann, Spitznagel, & Books, 2007). This is important because, as with other mental health disorders, African-American and other minority groups receive disparate care from symptom recognition and diagnosis through treatment.

■ Your First Step to Change

Evaluation



Chinese translation of Your First Step to Change toolkit

An evaluation of the self-help toolkit *Your First Step to Change*, originally funded by the NCRG and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, was conducted in 2006 by the Division on Addictions at Cambridge Health Alliance and the International Gaming Institute at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, with support from the State of Nevada. The study conducted a randomized clinical trial of individuals who reported that they were concerned about their gambling behavior. The report, "An Assessment of a Brief Problem Gambling Intervention in Nevada," released in 2007, found that

individuals who received the toolkit improved more rapidly than individuals in the control group with respect to erroneous gambling beliefs and days gambled in the past month. The authors concluded that *Your First Step to Change* is a promising and relatively cost-effective early intervention tool for individuals who are concerned about their gambling.

Outreach to Asian-American Communities

In 2007, the NCRG, through the Institute for Research on Pathological Gambling and Related Disorders, awarded a directed contract of \$91,000 to the Massachusetts Council on Compulsive Gambling, the developer of *Your First Step to Change*, to translate the self-help guide into Chinese, Vietnamese and Cambodian. Although it will be developed specifically for communities in Massachusetts, the final product will serve as a template for other communities.



Chien-Chi Huang, Asian Community Program Specialist at the Mass. Council on Compulsive Gambling

New Grants for Public Health Research on Gambling

In August 2007, the Institute released a new request for applications (RFA) for grants on public health research on gambling, inviting applications from institutions worldwide on the following topics: (1) interventions for disordered gambling; (2) prevention and responsible gaming practices; (3) gambling among vulnerable and special needs populations; and (4) the proximal determinants that can influence the transition from recreational to disordered gambling. Out of the pool of 40 letters of intent to apply, 17 institutions were invited to submit full proposals in March 2008. Awards will be announced in the summer of 2008.

References

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- Turner, N. E., Macdonald, J., & Somerset, M. (2007). Life skills, mathematical reasoning and critical thinking: A curriculum for the prevention of problem gambling. *Journal of Gambling Studies* (Epublished December 20, 2007).

Program Advisory Board of the Institute for Research on Pathological Gambling and Related Disorders

Since its inception in 2001, the Institute's Program Advisory Board has played a vital role by ensuring the most rigorous standards for the conduct of intramural and extramural research. The Board performs a peer-review quality assurance function to evaluate whether the Institute's research standards have been met, using the methods of the National Institutes of Health as a reference standard. The following served on the board in 2007:

Linda B. Cottler, Ph.D.

Professor of Epidemiology in Psychiatry
Washington University School of Medicine

Joseph T. Coyle, M.D.

Eben S. Draper Professor of Psychiatry
Harvard Medical School

Jeff Derevensky, Ph.D.

Professor of Applied/Child Psychology
Associate Professor of Psychiatry
Director, Youth Gambling Research
and Treatment Clinic
McGill University

William Eadington, Ph.D.

Professor of Economics
Director, Institute for the Study of Gambling
and Commercial Gaming
University of Nevada, Reno

Richard I. Evans, Ph.D.

Distinguished University Professor of Psychology
University of Houston

Eileen Luna Firebaugh, J.D., M.P.A.

Associate Professor of American Indian Studies
University of Arizona

Jan L. Jones

Senior Vice President, Communications
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Professor of Pediatrics
Chief, Division of Pediatric Neurology
New York Weill Cornell Medical Center

Robert Ladouceur, Ph.D.

Professor of Psychology
Université Laval

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Boston College

Brian McKay, J.D.

Former Attorney General of Nevada

Lisa M. Najavits, Ph.D.

Professor of Psychiatry
Boston University

Peter E. Nathan, Ph.D.

Professor Emeritus of Community
and Behavioral Health
University of Iowa

Eric Turner

Consultant
Former Executive Director
Massachusetts State Lottery Commission

Charles Wellford, Ph.D.

Professor and Chair
Department of Criminology & Criminal Justice
University of Maryland

Ken C. Winters, Ph.D.

Professor of Psychiatry
Director, Center for Adolescent
Substance Abuse Research
University of Minnesota

Harold Wynne, Ph.D.

President
Wynne Resources, Ltd.

Principal Investigator:

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

Executive Director:

Christine Reilly

A decorative graphic at the top of the page consists of a grid of squares. Some squares are teal, some are white, and some contain small photographs of people in various settings, such as a person working at a computer. The grid is arranged in a pattern that roughly forms the shape of the letters 'NCRG'.

COMMUNICATION AND EDUCATION INITIATIVES

In addition to funding groundbreaking research, the NCRG in 2007 launched a series of communications and education initiatives to increase awareness about disordered gambling and responsible gaming.

New Look and Web Site

Early in 2007, the NCRG launched a new look, logo and Web site to reflect the organization's broader mission to expand its public education initiatives to translate research findings into practical, real-world applications. The newly designed Web site (www.ncrg.org) was successfully launched in April 2007 and continues to be a valuable source of information on NCRG activities, programs and research projects.

Annual Conference

■ Responsible Gaming, Regulation and Recovery: Testing Conventional Wisdom

The 8th Annual NCRG Conference on Gambling and Addiction, "Responsible Gaming, Regulation and Recovery: Testing Conventional Wisdom," provided industry professionals, health care providers, researchers, regulators and public officials with an opportunity to explore the latest research on disordered gambling behavior. The conference — sponsored by the NCRG and the Institute for Research on Pathological Gambling and Related Disorders — was held Nov. 11-13, 2007, at the Paris Las Vegas Hotel & Casino. The event attracted close to 400 attendees from 14 countries, representing more international participation than ever before. 2007 marked the second year

the conference was scheduled to directly precede Global Gaming Expo (G2E), the gaming entertainment industry's largest international trade show and conference event.

The conference tested conventional wisdom about how to reduce gambling-related harms and facilitate recovery from gambling addiction. Conference sessions explored a variety of topics including whether exposure to new gambling leads to gambling problems, the latest research on drug treatments, and innovative approaches to public policy such as gambling court.

As in years past, conference sessions were divided into two tracks, the first focusing on issues of particular interest to the scientific and clinical communities, and the second on practical applications for government and industry.

The opening plenary session allowed all conference attendees to have a voice thanks to the use of audience response technology. Attendees were asked to answer several questions about addiction and gambling disorders by punching in their answers on individual electronic keypads. Topics ranged from the prevalence rate of disordered gambling, treatment and relapse to the impact of introducing new gambling opportunities into communities.

One plenary session examined the hot-button question: "Are Older Adults Who Gamble Really at a Higher Risk?" Investigators Rani Desai, Ph.D. from the Yale School of Medicine and Joni Vander Bilt, M.P.H. from the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center shared their findings on how vulnerabilities of old age, such as impaired cognitive functioning, relate to gambling. Dr. Desai found that some gambling provides opportunities for socialization, and sensory and cognitive stimulation. Overall, she found that older recreational gamblers



Attendees at one of the conference's plenary sessions.

report being in better health than their non-gambling peers although continuing research is needed to better understand the benefits and costs of gambling in this population.

Another plenary session asked the provocative question, "Does Exposure to New Gambling Lead to Gambling Problems?" Université Laval professor Robert Ladouceur presented findings from a longitudinal study he co-authored on the impact of a new casino on one Quebec community. He expected the study to show that the increased availability of gambling would result in increased rates of gambling-related problems. While the study did show a significant increase in gambling activities at the one-year mark, the trend did not continue at the two- and four-year marks. The data showed that after an initial increase in gambling in the community when a new casino opens, the frequency in gambling activities decreases over time.

> > COMMUNICATION AND EDUCATION *continued*



A young investigator explains his research to a conference participant at the poster session.

The final morning of the three-day event brought attendees to the Las Vegas Convention Center where “NCRG at G2E” sessions were featured as part of G2E’s corporate social-responsibility track.

The conference also featured a poster session showcasing new gambling research by primarily young investigators. Seventeen of the 27 posters were presented by investigators from countries outside the United States. The poster review committee selected Pop-up Messages on Electronic Gaming Machines: Effect on Gambling-Related Thoughts and Behavior, presented by the University of Sydney’s Alex Blaszczynski and Sally Monaghan, for the outstanding poster award.

A daily Web log offered on-site reports from a number of conference sessions and special events, as well as audio interviews of key researchers and presenters. It allowed those unable to attend the



Dr. Gary Fisher (at podium), Don Feeney and Dr. H. Westley Clark discuss where public health policy on gambling is headed.

conference to access conference sessions and activities. The blog generated significant attention from the media and other groups this year, attracting more than 500 visitors. To view the blog visit <http://ncrgconference.blogspot.com>

NCRG conference sponsors in 2007 included Harrah’s Entertainment, Inc. (host sponsor); American Gaming Equipment Manufacturers (AGEM); Ameristar Casinos, Inc.; Aristocrat Technologies, Inc.; International Game Technology (IGT); Isle of Capri Casinos; Konami Gaming, Inc.; Penn National Gaming, Inc.; Potawatomi Bingo Casino; Responsible Gaming Association of New Mexico; San Manuel Band of Mission Indians; Shuffle Master, Inc.; Station Casinos, Inc.; Suquamish Clearwater Casino Resort; Williamsville Wellness; and WMS Gaming Inc.

Scientific Achievement Awards

Dr. Howard Shaffer, a pioneer in the field of addictions and gambling research, was presented with the 2007 NCRG Scientific Achievement Award for senior investigator at the NCRG conference. The award honors an investigator whose body of work has advanced the field of gambling-related research.

Dr. Shaffer, associate professor at Harvard Medical School and the director of the Division on Addictions at the Cambridge Health Alliance, was honored for his groundbreaking research that helped launch the field of gambling studies. Recipients of the NCRG Scientific



Dr. Richard Evans (L) congratulates Dr. Howard Shaffer on his Scientific Achievement Award.

Achievement Awards are selected by an independent awards committee of distinguished leaders in the field of addictions and gambling research chaired by Joseph Coyle, the Eben S. Draper Professor of Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School.

Recognizing outstanding contributions to the study of gambling disorders, the Scientific Achievement Awards have proven to be a highlight of the NCRG conference since their creation in 2002. The award was presented at a special evening reception sponsored by International Game Technology that featured a video tribute produced by MGM Mirage.

Three-City Outreach Tour

The NCRG completed a three-city tour in September 2007 to publicize the completion of its successful fundraising campaign and to raise awareness about the organization and its work with media and other important audiences. The tour brought Phil Satre, chairman of the NCRG, and Chris Reilly, executive director of the Institute for Research on Pathological Gambling and Related Disorders, to Las Vegas, Kansas City, Mo., and Philadelphia, Pa. The Las Vegas leg of the tour included the University of



©2007 Photo courtesy Richard McGarvey

Phil Satre testifies before the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board during the three-city tour.

Minnesota's Dr. Ken Winters, an expert in the area of youth gambling. Communications activities included interviews with top members of the media in each market and special briefing events for regulators, legislators, treatment providers, community organizations and industry professionals.

Research Monograph Series

The NCRG launched a new series of publications in May 2007 — *Increasing the Odds: A Series Dedicated to Understanding Gambling Disorders* — to translate for the public peer-reviewed scientific research on gambling. The first issue of the series focused on youth and college gambling. The second issue, released at the NCRG conference, focused on “roads to recovery” from gambling addiction. Each publication, written in layman's terms, presents a snapshot of the most critical peer-reviewed research on gambling disorders available to date — authored by the lead researcher of each study. Two new monographs will be released in 2008.

Educational Resources

The NCRG provides financial support for the *BASIS* (*Brief Addiction Science Information Source*) (www.basisonline.org) and The *WAGER* (*Worldwide Addiction Gambling Education Report*), one of several science reviews published by the *BASIS*. Published

by the Division on Addictions since 1995, The *WAGER* provides brief, critical reports on recent gambling research, has a monthly readership of more than 8,000 and reaches more than 40 countries. The *BASIS* also offers free access to the self-help tool *Your First Step to Change*, an interactive, confidential program for people thinking about changing their gambling behavior. The *BASIS* attracts more than 40,000 unique visitors annually. More than 10,000 visitors used the interactive program *Your First Step to Change* in 2007.

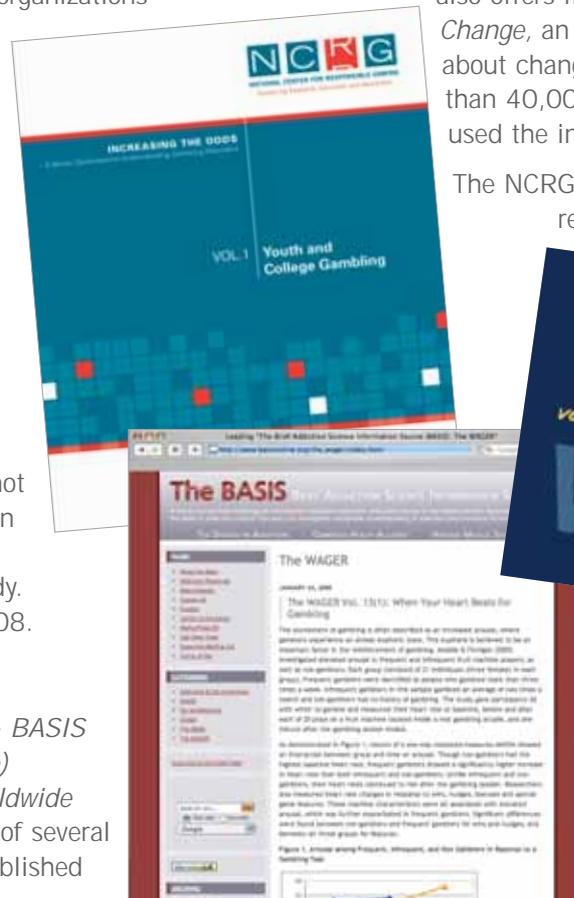
The NCRG also produced materials to support industrywide responsible gaming initiatives in 2007. To celebrate the

10th anniversary of Responsible

Gaming Education Week, the NCRG published *In Their Own Words: Voices of Responsible Gaming*.

The publication featured the 15 winning essays from the American Gaming Association's (AGA) national employee responsible gaming essay contest, as well as essays on responsible gaming from

leading gaming executives, regulators, treatment providers, researchers and others. The essays provide a wide range of perspectives on the meaning of responsible gaming and its importance in the community and casino settings.



A decorative graphic at the top of the page consists of a grid of squares. Most squares are teal, but one square is red. The grid contains various images, including a globe, a person, and abstract patterns. The text "FUNDRAISING EVENTS" is written in red, bold, uppercase letters across the middle of the grid.

FUNDRAISING EVENTS

Several major fundraising programs and events, including the American Gaming Association's (AGA) Gaming Hall of Fame Charity Dinner and Induction Ceremony, Responsible Gaming Education Week (RGEW), the JCM-AGA Golf Classic tournament and Global Gaming Expo's (G2E) annual gift to the NCRG, helped raise more than \$377,000 for the NCRG in 2007.

> > FUNDRAISING EVENTS *continued*

2007 JCM-AGA Golf Classic

Sponsored each year by JCM Global (JCM) in conjunction with the AGA, the JCM-AGA Golf Classic is an important fundraising event for the NCRG held each April. In 2007, the tournament raised \$75,000.

The 2007 tournament was held at the Arroyo Golf Club at Red Rock Country Club in Las Vegas. The tournament attracted 136 players, including industry operators and representatives from industry manufacturers and suppliers. Since the JCM-AGA Golf Classic began in 1999, it has raised nearly \$600,000 for the NCRG.

The following companies generously supported the event:

Sponsors

Ascend Media Gaming Group
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Bally Technologies, Inc.
Betson Imperial Parts & Services
(Richard Bayas-Bazan)
Corestaff Services
DLA Piper
G & D America
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(GLI)
Global Gaming Expo (G2E)
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Las Vegas
Scenic Airlines
Siena Golf Club
Silverstone Golf Club
Silverton Casino
Southern Wine & Spirits
of Nevada



Gary Loveman (far left) and Frank Fahrenkopf (far right) pose with Hall of Fame inductees David Copperfield, Clifford Perlman, Michael Mina and John Wilhelm.

2007 Gaming Hall of Fame Charity Dinner and Induction Ceremony

The 19th Annual Gaming Hall of Fame Charity Dinner and Induction Ceremony, held Sept. 20, 2007, at Caesars Palace Las Vegas Casino and Hotel, raised more than \$155,000 in support of the NCRG's research and education initiatives. The fundraiser, organized by the American Gaming Association, recognizes the importance of funding gambling-related research and promoting responsible gambling, and has become one of the gaming industry's most time-honored traditions.

The four men honored for their work and achievements in the gaming industry were John Wilhelm, hospitality industry president for UNITE HERE!; Clifford Perlman, former CEO of Caesars Palace; legendary magician and entertainer David Copperfield; and celebrity chef Michael Mina. More than 400 guests from the gaming community gathered to celebrate the 2007 honorees' induction into the Gaming Hall of Fame.

The following companies and individuals generously supported the Gaming Hall of Fame event:

MAJOR UNDERWRITERS

Harrah's Entertainment, Inc.
Southern Wine & Spirits of Nevada

PLATINUM SPONSORS

Culinary Workers Union,
Local 226
Las Vegas Convention and
Visitors Authority
The Read Foundation
UNITE HERE!

GOLD SPONSORS

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Andre & Diane Duggin

TABLE SPONSORS

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Fierce Isakowitz
Global Gaming Expo (G2E)
MGM Grand Hotel and Casino
Clifford and Nancy Perlman
PricewaterhouseCoopers, LLP
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The Rogich Communications
Company
Shuffle Master, Inc.
The Wade Group, Inc.
WMS Gaming Inc.

ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTORS

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Hogan & Hartson
JCM Global
The Laxalt Group
Lionel Sawyer & Collins
Robert Romeo
Tom Sawyer
SK+G
Glenn Tredwell
Marilyn Tredwell
Kevin Wolff

Additional Programs

In accordance with the annual giving campaign Global Gaming Expo (G2E) launched two years ago, a special donation to the NCRG was announced at the 2007 G2E event. Reed Exhibitions, the AGA's partner in G2E, donated \$110,721 to the NCRG. The donation is made up of contributions from exhibitors and attendees at this premier gaming trade show.

The continued sale of the AGA's "Keep it Fun" responsible gaming awareness wristbands also provided significant support for the NCRG last year. More than 92,000 bands were sold in 2007, yielding \$37,000 for the NCRG. Since it was launched in August 2005 during Responsible Gaming Education Week, the wristband program has raised more than \$152,000 for the organization.



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