

## **ATCA CONVENTION 2004**

### **SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES**

#### **Day One: Wednesday 27th October 2004**

##### **James A. Pitts, M.A.**

###### **Chief Executive Officer, Odyssey House McGrath Foundation**

James Pitt has worked in the alcohol and drugs field for the past 26 years. He is the Chief Executive Officer of Odyssey House McGrath Foundation, which provides services for young men, women, and their dependent children whose lives have been adversely affected through their misuse of alcohol and other drugs. As CEO, James manages the human and fiscal resources needed to effectively operate the Odyssey House.

James has been selected to a number of prominent boards within the alcohol and other drugs field. The authorship of many papers on residential treatment in the alcohol and other drugs field has seen James invited to present his offerings at many venues.

James has been recognised for his achievement by being awarded the Ted Noffs Foundation Award for Individual Achievement in the alcohol and other drugs field in 2000. James was awarded the Australia Day Medal in 2001 by the Alcohol and Other Drugs Council of Australia (ADCA) in recognition of his contribution and commitment to the alcohol and other drugs field. In 2001, James was awarded the inaugural fellowship by the Harvard Club of Australia, Not For Profit Fellowship Program, to attend the course, "Strategic Perspectives in Non-Profit Management". James was an Order of Macarthur nominee in 2003.

##### **Dr Kevin McNamara, MB.BS,FRANZCP, FACHAM**

###### **Associate Professor of Psychiatry, Faculty of Health Sciences & Medicine, Bond University**

###### **Director, Drug and Alcohol/Co-morbidity Program, Palm Beach-Currumbin Clinic**

Dr McNamara is a Fellow of both the College of Psychiatrists and the College of Physicians Chapter Of Addiction Medicine. He is also a member of the American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry and APSAD, with 20 years experience working as a clinician in the fields of psychiatry and addiction.

##### **Matt Stubbs**

###### **Manager, Ted Noffs Institute**

Matt Stubbs is the Manager of the Ted Noffs Institute, a newly formed division of the Ted Noffs Foundation. Matt has a wide range of experience in youth work and drug and alcohol work in NSW and Victoria. Matt is currently involved in developing and facilitating training packages for use within the Ted Noffs Foundation as well as in various Government and Non-Government organisations throughout Australasia. Matt's interests centre around working therapeutically with young people

experiencing violence and aggression, working with reluctant clients and ethical frameworks for professionals working with young people.

### **Neos Andrew Zavrou MAPS**

**Director, Odyssey Institute of Studies**

**President, Victorian Alcohol And other Drugs Association (VAADA).**

Neos joined Odyssey House Victoria, in February 1986 first as the Clinical Coordinator of the residential service and in 1988 as the Director of Clinical Services across the entire agency. His responsibilities at Odyssey House have been in the areas of quality assurance in provision of drug and alcohol treatment and ensuring best practice in all areas of Drug and Alcohol assessment and rehabilitation. Neos has developed and implemented a range of rehabilitation, training and professional development programs for both professional staff and clients undergoing treatment. He currently is the Director of the Odyssey Institute of Studies which as a Registered Training Organisation provides accredited training to both professionals within the health and welfare sector and clients who access a range of accredited training, vocational and employment services through the Institute. Neos has also worked on a number of research and evaluation projects that constitutes the other main area of the Institute's work. He has worked directly as a consultant on projects ranging from the evaluation of the National Drug Strategic Framework, to developing drug action and drug prevention strategies in both place based and ethnic communities, to evaluating other service providers and assisting other providers develop integrated service models.

Neos has a strong interest in program development and evidence based practice. He has worked on developing a range of add on and aftercare programs to improve success rates of the alcohol and other drug specific interventions. He has particular interests in culturally sensitive approaches, and working with families from diverse backgrounds and has worked with clients from various ethnic communities and the gay and lesbian community. Neos has also been in private practice for over 20 years and has worked with clients with complex needs. He has been an honorary lecturer Monash University – Faculty of Education - Psychology, since 1998 and guest lectures at both Latrobe University and Deakin University – Psychology Departments since 1999 onwards.

Neos is recognized as highly knowledgeable in the areas of addiction and treatment and was contracted as the lead National Expert Content Reviewer of Drug and Alcohol Competencies for Alcohol and Drugs Toolbox undertaken by Holmesglen TAFE that won the award in excellence from the Australian National Training Authority. He also has been involved in a number of cross sector working groups such as the development of the Protocol between Drug Treatment Services and Child Protection for Working with Parents with Alcohol and Other Drug Issues.

Neos has worked in areas ranging from direct treatment, policy, drug prevention and community development. He sits on various state, national and industry reference groups, committees and steering groups. Current committees included but are not limited to the High Performance Indicator Reference Group for the Commonwealth Department of Family and Community Services, the Client Satisfaction steering group, Significant Treatment Goals working group, Forecasting Future Service Demand reference group, amongst many others for the Victorian Department of Human Services – Drugs Policy Service Branch.

### **Nick Prendergast**

#### **Training and Workforce Development Manager, Odyssey Institute of Studies**

Nick is currently working with a number of organisations in the development of workforce responses to identified drug and alcohol issues. The convener of both a Certificate IV and Diploma course in Alcohol and Other Drugs Work at the Odyssey Institute of Studies for the past three years. Nick has worked with adult students from a diverse range of vocational and practice skill levels in the allied health sectors. Nick has previously been a Team Leader for the Adolescent Forensic Health Service and Senior Project Officer/Training Facilitator for the DEET Student Participation Drug Education Project at the Centre for Adolescent Health. In the past, Nick has been coordinator of the Juvenile Justice Drug Education Program in Victoria, assisted in the writing of a manual for this and other projects and assisted in the development of generic drug training for young people. Nick has experience in the delivery of health promotion initiatives with schools, TAFE and university students, health professionals and police. He has been employed by RMIT to run tutorial sessions with students from the BA Youth Affairs course.

### **James McGregor**

#### **Quality Manager, Gold Coast Drug Council Inc.**

James has been associated with the Gold Coast Drug Council Inc. since 1995 when he worked as a counsellor and subsequently as Quality Manager. He has facilitated the Gold Coast Drug Council Inc. through three Quality Accreditation Reviews. He is a counsellor in private practice specialising in working with abusive men and a Consultant in Quality Improvement to several local services. James has worked in both educational and therapeutic environments in both Queensland and NSW.

### **Frederick K Loke**

#### **Associate Executive Director, Daytop Village Foundation, New York, USA**

Frederick Loke has spent the last 30 years developing and managing Therapeutic Communities (TCs) in Asia, Africa, Europe, South America and now in the USA. For the last 12 years, he has been working as one of the principal training consultant for the Bureau for the International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Agency of the USA State Department and The World Federation of Therapeutic Communities. He has done TC training and consultation in nearly 40 countries around the world. Frederick was a Technical Consultant for over 3 years, in Bangkok, for the Office of Narcotic Control Board of Thailand, assisting the Thai Prison Department in developing treatment programs utilizing the TC concept in their drug prisons. He has a Bachelor Degree in Professional Studies, and a Master in Public Administration from the College of Human Services and Audrey Cohen College, NY, USA.

### **Lynne Magor-Blatch**

#### **Director of Client Services, Clinical Director, Alcohol and Drug Foundation ACT**

Lynne has extensive experience within the Alcohol and Other Drug field in both the Government and non-government sectors. She is currently Director of Client Services with ADFACT, and has previously been a teacher, policy officer and consultant. She has worked at Government level as Interim and Assistant Manager of the ACT Alcohol and other Drug Policy Unit, as Secretariat Manager to the National Mental Health Working Group and the National Co-morbidity Taskforce, and has training in crisis mental health counselling, child and adolescent mental health, neuropsychology and forensic services. She is currently completing a Masters in

Forensic Psychology and undertaking a research project with ACT Corrective Services.

### **Martin Elly**

#### **A/Professor, Faculty of Health Sciences and Medicine, Bond University GOLD Program, Goldbridge Rehabilitation Services**

Born in the north of England (Manchester), Martin came to Australia in 1979 to work with an Anglican Religious Community in outback Queensland. After three years in Charleville, he attended St Francis Theological College, Brisbane to undertake his theological education and priestly formation, and was ordained to the ministry of the Anglican Church in 1985. As a priest he served in the parishes of Southport, Bundaberg, Brisbane Valley, and as Prep School Chaplain at The Southport School for nine years. Martin achieved a Post Graduate Diploma in Counselling in February, 2001 and a Master of Counselling degree in June 2003, both from Bond University.

Since January, 2000, Martin has worked as a counsellor in private practice and in the field of addictions. He has worked in three Therapeutic Communities providing in-house treatment for people experiencing chronic addiction to alcohol and other drugs, as well as managing and developing two out client addiction programs. Martin has also taught counselling subjects to both undergraduate and postgraduate students at Bond University.

Currently, Martin is developing the clinical communications components of the Bond Medical degree. He is also working in out client drug and alcohol counselling with Project GOLD, an outreach component of Goldbridge Rehabilitation Services, in Southport, and maintaining a small counselling private practice on the Gold Coast.

### **Dr Basil Buntting**

#### **Consultant Psychiatrist, Gold Coast Hospital**

Born in South Africa, Basil Buntting is a Consultant Psychiatrist who has run "The Nuts and Bolts of Psychiatry" workshops throughout New Zealand, while employed at psychiatric hospitals in Gisborne and Hamilton. He earned his basic medical degree, MB, ChB, from the University of Natal, South Africa, before embarking as a solo General Medical Practitioner in Nigel near Johannesburg. After six years as a GP, he specialised in Psychiatry and gained a Master of Medicine degree at the Natal University. Through the same university he gained the research degree, Doctor of Medicine or MD. He practised as a solo Consultant Psychiatrist in private practice in Durban, South Africa, for a period of six years before moving to New Zealand in February 1998. Since September 2003, he has worked at the Gold Coast Hospital. Since coming to Australia, he has run workshops at Cairns, Brisbane and the Gold Coast.

### **David Crosbie**

#### **Chief Executive Officer, Odyssey House, Victoria**

David has been a successful senior manager and policy advocate in the Australian alcohol and drug field for over 15 years. He has written over 100 articles, presented more than 100 papers, and conducted over 500 media interviews, but perhaps his greatest achievement is that he has significantly advanced all the non government organisations he has managed.

He is a member of the Prime Minister's Australian National Council on Drugs; National Expert Advisory Committee on Alcohol; National Alcohol Campaign Reference Group; National Illicit Drugs Campaign Reference Group; Board Director of the Alcohol Education and Rehabilitation Foundation; Interim Board Director of the Not for Profit Council of Australia and Chair of the National Illicit Drugs Community Partnerships Reference Group

## **Day Two: Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2004**

**Professor John W. Toumbourou, BA(Hons) MA, PhD,  
Associate Professor, Dept. of Paediatrics, University of Melbourne  
Senior Researcher, Centre for Adolescent Health.**

John Winston Toumbourou is Associate Professor within the Department of Paediatrics at the University of Melbourne, and a Senior Researcher at the Centre for Adolescent Health. John is a founding member and previous Chair of the College of Health Psychologists within the Australian Psychological Society. John's interests include evaluation, drug abuse prevention and treatment, and the role of community, family and peer groups in adolescent health promotion.

In the early 1990s John completed a large longitudinal research study investigating outcomes following different levels of treatment at the Victorian Odyssey House Therapeutic Community.

**John J Costanzo  
Magistrate, SE Queensland Drug Courts**

**Department of Justice and Attorney General, Queensland**

John became a Barrister in Queensland in 1980. He has served as a Crown Prosecutor; Senior Crown Prosecutor and Director of Criminal Law for the Department of Justice and Attorney General, Queensland.

In 1998, he was the States Representative/Australian Delegate at the United Nations Convention (Rome), to establish a permanent International Criminal Court. He has been a Tutor (Law of Evidence) for the Queensland University of Technology and authored annotations and updates for the Crimes (Confiscation) Act 1989 and Criminal Proceeds Confiscation Act 2002 (Carters Criminal Code).

He has been a Magistrate since 2000, and currently works as part of the Drug Court Pilot Program running three Courts in Beenleigh, Ipswich and Southport.

**Andrew Conroy  
Research Officer, Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs Unit (ATODS),  
Queensland Health**

Andrew Conroy is a research officer with the Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs Unit of Queensland Health. He has been involved in varied research activities, including the development of the National Minimum Data Set and service development research for the 'Biala' Alcohol & Drug Service in Brisbane. His current interests include the health of amphetamine users and education for injecting drug users.

**Yvonne Devey****Social Worker, Birribi / Youth Substance Abuse Service**

Yvonne Devey is a social worker who has worked extensively in the Victorian drug & alcohol field in a range of settings. She is currently the Program Co-ordinator at Birribi, a YSAS therapeutic community for young people. Over the years Yvonne has held a range of voluntary positions, including Vice President of VAADA (Victorian Association of Alcohol & Drug Agencies), President of ARRO (Association of Residential Recovery Organizations) and Secretary of the Eastern RADAC (Regional Alcohol and Drug Advisory Committee).

**Brigitte Walker****Social Worker, Odyssey House Victoria**

Brigitte Walker is a qualified Social Worker. She has been working at Odyssey House since January 2003. Brigitte has previously worked with Young People in crisis, as a Family Reconciliation Worker and as a Project Worker on a Public Housing Estate. Her work within the Therapeutic Community has identified the power of "action" as a therapeutic methodology and as a result she is training in psychodrama.

**Suzanne Crellin****Manager of Client Training & PSP, Odyssey House Victoria**

Suzanne has worked at Odyssey House for 4 years as the client training manager, after 20 years teaching in secondary schools and TAFE, coordinating a community based RTO in a Neighbourhood House and as project manager of industry based training projects. In 2000 Suzanne won a National Assessment Award for development of the assessment materials for the Plastics Rubber and Cablemaking Industry Training Package. Returning to work in community services and developing industry standard training for drug and alcohol clients in a residential setting has been an exciting and rewarding process!

**Lynne Magor-Blatch**

**Director of Client Services, Clinical Director, Alcohol and Drug Foundation ACT**  
See Biography on page 3.

**Mackenzie Clare****Case Manager, Karralika TC, Alcohol and Drug Foundation ACT**

Mackenzie has been at Karralika for the past two and a half years, and is also undertaking a degree course in community education at the University of Canberra, majoring in counselling studies. The Belongings Project came about as a result of previous university research. This led Mackenzie to ask the question of clients, "Where do you belong in the scheme of things?" Almost all clients responded that they felt they had never belonged to anything. Using an ecological approach, Mackenzie has developed a program that has been piloted at Karralika Therapeutic Community to enhance the recovery of clients in treatment.

**Lesley Moseby****Administrator, Aftercare Program, Odyssey House**

Ms. Lesley Moseby is the Administrator of the Odyssey House Aftercare Program which is funded by the Alcohol Education Rehabilitation Foundation (AERF). Ms Moseby is in her second year of a Bachelor of Counselling degree at the University of New England.

**Miranda Manning, BSW; Grad.Dip.Soc.Sci.(Addiction Studies); Family Therapist; Cert 4 Assessment and Workplace Training; MSW****Social Worker & Family Therapist, Odyssey Institute of Studies, Victoria**

Miranda Manning is a social worker and family therapist with 24 years experience working in the addiction field within TC's and Community Service settings in the USA and Australia. Miranda is an experienced clinician having worked with adults and adolescent of complex clinical presentations. She is an experienced group, individual and family therapist and an advocate for family inclusive practice within the drug treatment field. Presently she works with the Odyssey Institute of Studies, part of Odyssey House Victoria and is involved in a number of projects that includes secondary consultation, program development, training and research predominantly in the area of family inclusive practice. She has developed a number of initiatives such as a Multi Family Therapy Group approach, a program for drug dependant individuals and their families as well as projects for culturally and linguistically diverse populations. Interest in the CALD communities has stemmed from her experience working with refugees in the Philippines and Australia.

**Day Three: Friday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2004****Neos Andrew Zavrou MAPS****Director, Odyssey Institute of Studies****President, Victorian Alcohol And other Drugs Association (VAADA)**

See Biography on page 2.

**Miranda Manning****Social Worker & Family Therapist, Odyssey Institute of Studies**

See Biography on page 7.

**Ani Catterson****Odyssey House Victoria**

Ani Catterson has been working at Odyssey House Victoria for 10 months. During this time, Ani has been involved in the Genesis program working with residents at the beginning of their treatment. Ani has also worked closely with the female residents, specifically in women's group and women's recreation. Prior to Odyssey, Ani worked in the Theatre Arts industry, being trained both in performance and technical skills, which informs her work as a therapist and staff member. As with many other staff members at Odyssey, Ani has experienced her own journey of recovery from addiction, however her journey started with 12-step recovery programs in 1989. Ani has a Post Graduate Degree in Counselling and Psychotherapy from La Trobe University which she completed in October 2003.

**Professor Richard Mattick, BSc Mpsych (Clinical) PhD**

**Professor & Director of Drug and Alcohol Studies  
National Drug & Alcohol Research Centre, University of NSW**

Richard P. Mattick is the Professor of Drug and Alcohol Studies at the University of New South Wales, Sydney within the Faculty of Medicine where he is the Director the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre. He has authored over 100 scientific articles and books on the assessment, nature and treatment of emotional, cognitive and psychological and neuropsychological problems. His major current research interests are in clinical trials for management of opioid dependence, psycho stimulant substitution therapy, treatment of young drug dependent people, and the effects on cognitive functioning of exposure to psycho stimulants and opioids. He was the coordinator of the federally funded National Evaluation of Pharmacotherapies for Opioid Dependence studying 1500 opioid dependent patients assessing the impact of naltrexone, methadone, buprenorphine, and LAAM. He has conducted the largest randomised clinical trial of buprenorphine versus methadone, and this study is a pivotal study for the US FDA registration of buprenorphine. He is an Editor on the Cochrane Review Group for Drugs and Alcohol, and Assistant Editor and Executive Editor (respectively) on the international journals *Addiction* and the *Drug and Alcohol Review*.

**Dr. Linda R. Gowing**

**Manager, Evidence-Based Practice Unit, Drug and Alcohol Services Council of SA**

Linda Gowing is the Manager of the Evidence-Based Practice Unit at the Drug and Alcohol Services Council of South Australia, and an Affiliate Senior Lecturer in the Department of Clinical and Experimental Pharmacology at the University of Adelaide. Her main research activity is the preparation of systematic reviews of clinical interventions for drug and alcohol dependence. Recent publications include *Evidence Supporting Treatment: The effectiveness of interventions for illicit drug use*, published by the Australian National Council on Drugs; a review of the health effects of ecstasy, published by the World Health Organization; four Cochrane reviews and two monographs published by the Drug and Alcohol Services Council on the management of opioid withdrawal.

**James Toth**

**Registered Psychologist BA M.Ed**

James (Jamie) is originally from Canada and has been working in the AOD field for approximately 15 years. Much of his clinical experience has been working with adolescents and their families. He has been in Australia for the last 8 years and has lectured for the University of Queensland in the Queensland Alcohol and Drug Education and Research Centre (QADREC) as well as managing a private practice and consultancy. He is currently the Clinical Coordinator for Goldbridge Recovery Services.