

## An Educational Forum on Casino Gaming:

### Problem Gambling

June 18, 2012

**Debi LaPlante**, Ph.D., is the Director of Research & Academic Affairs at the Division on Addiction, Cambridge Health Alliance, and an Assistant Professor in Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School. Dr. LaPlante received her Ph.D. in social psychology from Harvard University during 2001. At the Division, Dr. LaPlante is involved in research, teaching, and public outreach activities related to many aspects of addictive behavior. Her areas of interest include addiction in special populations, the intersection of technology and addiction, and the etiology of addictive behavior. Together with Drs. Howard Shaffer and Sarah Nelson, Dr. LaPlante recently edited the American Psychology Association's two-volume Handbook of Addiction Syndrome. Dr. LaPlante has published numerous book chapters and peer reviewed papers. She also has been involved in the development of several technology-based addiction-related tools including: (1) the Your First Step to Change problem gambling self-help toolkit; (2) the e-Brief Biosocial Gambling Screen brief intervention system; (3) the Health-E Gambling mobile learning system; and (4) The Brief Addiction Science Information Source (BASIS), a free weekly science review. Dr. LaPlante's studies of gambling have been wide-ranging. She has collaborated on studies of the development and stability of gambling problems, the gambling involvement effect, the effects of changing gambling exposure on gambling and gambling disorder, gender differences in gambling problems, and studies of actual Internet gambling behavior.

**Kevin P. Mullally** is the General Counsel and Director of Government Affairs of Gaming Laboratories International, Inc. (GLI) with its Headquarters located in Lakewood, New Jersey. He serves as GLI's primary liaison to elected officials at the state and federal level, regulatory agencies, key organizations devoted to developing gaming and casino policy as well as senior level executives of gaming equipment manufacturing companies. He is also a key liaison with regulators internationally. Mr. Mullally brings to GLI 24 years of diversified leadership in law, management, public policy, public relations, economic analysis, and organizational administration. Mr. Mullally began his career in the gaming industry as Deputy Director of the Missouri Gaming Commission for seven years and subsequently served as the Executive Director MGC for six years. Mr. Mullally has provided leadership to numerous professional and community organizations, including serving as the Vice-President of the North American Gaming Regulators Association (NAGRA), Chairman of the NAGRA Policy Committee, and a Member of the National Center for Responsible Gaming

(NCRG) Board of Directors and Chairman of the Regulator's Internet Gambling Task Force. Prior to his service at MGC, Mr. Mullally was Chief of Staff for Senator Harry Wiggins for eight years.

**Jodie Nealley, Scott Seely, Karen Sicher** - Speakers with experience with gambling problems.

**Sarah E. Nelson**, Ph.D., is the Associate Director of Research at the Division on Addiction, Cambridge Health Alliance, and an Assistant Professor in Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School. Dr. Nelson received her Ph.D. in social psychology from the University of Oregon in 2003. At the Division, Dr. Nelson's focus is on the interface between addiction and other problem behaviors. In pursuing this focus, Dr. Nelson has studied the etiology of addiction among adolescents, the relationship between mental health, criminal behavior, and DUI behavior, and the epidemiology and etiology of gambling problems.

Dr. Nelson's studies of gambling have been wide-ranging. At the Division, Dr. Nelson has collaborated on studies of the development and stability of gambling problems, gambling self-exclusion problems, the effects of exposure on gambling, gender differences in gambling problems, and studies of actual internet gambling behavior and its relationship to gambling problems.

When not immersed in the study of addiction, Dr. Nelson spends time trying to keep up with her 4- and 5-year old boys and satisfying her own addiction to chocolate, baseball, and ultimate Frisbee.

**Christine Reilly**, MA, is the senior research director for the National Center for Responsible Gaming, based in Beverly, Massachusetts. In this capacity, Reilly administers the NCRG's research grant programs and coordinates educational activities such as the annual NCRG Conference on Gambling and Addictions and the EMERGE Training program (*Executive, Management, and Employee Responsible Gaming Education*). She is the staff liaison with the NCRG's Scientific Advisory Board, a group of independent scientists charge with supervising the NCRG's grants program. Previously, Reilly served as the executive director of the Institute for Research on Pathological Gambling and Related Disorders, based at the Division on Addiction, Cambridge Health Alliance, from 2000 to 2009. She also was the first executive director of the National Center for Responsible Gaming (NCRG), from 1997 to 2000. Prior to her involvement with the NCRG, Reilly served as executive director of the Missouri Humanities Council, the state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Reilly served on the Missouri Governor's Literacy Task Force and the board of LIFT-Missouri, a nonprofit organization focused on adult literacy. She also served as associate director of the Alabama Humanities Foundation and director of continuing studies for the Vanderbilt University Divinity School. She received her B.A. from Randolph-Macon Woman's College, *magna cum laude*, and an MA in American religious history at Vanderbilt University.

**Kathleen M. Scanlan**, MA, is senior advisor for special projects at the Massachusetts Council on Compulsive Gambling. From 1998 to 2011, she served as executive director of the Mass. Council and prior to that, as program director for eleven years. Throughout the years that gambling expansion has been discussed in Massachusetts, Ms. Scanlan has provided information, technical assistance, testimony, and advice on problem gambling to the Department of Public Health, and the Executive Office of Health and Human Services, the Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development, to the Legislature, and in 2007 to Governor Patrick's study group on the impact of expanding gambling. In 2002, she served as a representative of Treasurer O'Brien on Governor Swift's Commission to Study the Potential of Legalized Expanded Gambling.

**Mark Vander Linden**, MSW, is executive officer of the Office of Gambling Treatment and Prevention at the Iowa Department of Public Health, where he oversees all problem gambling services for the state, including treatment, prevention, workforce development, social marketing and evaluation. He also provides consultation to government, industry and the media at a state and national level. He is president of the Association of Problem Gambling Service Administrators; he holds key advisory positions with other related organizations. He received a bachelor's degree from the University of Iowa and a master's degree in social welfare from University of California, Berkeley. He has a wide range of clinical social work and administrative experience working with children and families, substance abuse, HIV/AIDS and problem gambling.

**Rachel A. Volberg**, Ph.D. has been involved in epidemiological research on gambling and problem gambling since 1985. Dr. Volberg has directed or consulted on numerous gambling studies throughout the world. She has worked with large, multi-disciplinary teams examining the social and economic impacts of gambling in several U.S. states as well as at the national level in Britain and the United States. Dr. Volberg is presently engaged in a range of projects internationally. She is beginning work on a new 3-year study to assess the impacts of the legalization of online gambling in Ontario and is a principal investigator on another study to identify best practices in the population assessment of problem gambling. In addition to these engagements, Dr. Volberg is a member of research teams in Australia, New Zealand, and Sweden conducting large-scale longitudinal studies to identify predictors of transitions into and out of gambling and problem gambling. In addition to her own consulting business, Dr. Volberg holds appointments at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, NORC at the University of Chicago and the Auckland University of Technology in New Zealand.

**Marlene D. Warner, MA, Executive Director** Marlene D. Warner has been with the Massachusetts Council on Compulsive Gambling since 2001, serving first as Program Director and later became Executive Director in 2011. During that time Ms. Warner has led the Council to achieve many milestones including: offering both online and regional training opportunities for clinicians, expanding the Helpline to offer live chat, working with financial services industries and the corrections community to build capacity of professionals to understand the impact of problem gambling, and developing programming and services to serve ethnic and linguistic minority populations experiencing problems with the disorder. Also under her leadership, the Council successfully secured grant funding and developed curriculum and materials to support financial education programs, co-chaired the National Council on Problem Gambling's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference in Boston with nearly 600 people in attendance, and managed the development and promotion of the state's first certificate for problem gambling clinicians—Mass. Problem Gambling Specialist Certificate (MAPGS)

Ms. Warner received her M.A. from The George Washington University in Washington DC and B.A. from Gettysburg College in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. Prior to joining Council, she worked for The National Breast Cancer Coalition in Washington DC