

36th Annual Alcohol Epidemiology Symposium of the Kettil Bruun Society, Lausanne

Abstract

Background

In 2007, every inhabitant in Switzerland aged 15 or over consumed an average of 10.3 litres of pure ethanol. Although alcohol can be considered part and parcel of our culture, its consumption is associated with a range of major disease outcomes. An important task for public health is the development of prevention measures based on sound empirical evidence in relation to alcohol use in general, and risky drinking in particular. This was the reason why the Kettil Bruun Society (KBS) was founded in 1987. The central aim of this society is to promote a comparative epidemiological, social and cultural understanding of patterns of alcohol use and related problems. Nowadays, with 187 active members from more than 30 countries, the KBS is among the most important alcohol research networks worldwide.

Aim

The 36th KBS annual meeting will be held in Lausanne from May 31 to June 4, 2010, and hosted by the Swiss Institute for the Prevention of Alcohol and Drug Problems (SIPA). With the present proposal to the Swiss Foundation for Alcohol Research (SSA), the organisers of this meeting would like to submit a request for funding to help cover the costs of preparing the conference programme and the conference CD which will feature the papers to be presented. To guarantee a wide dissemination of the research results, this CD will be included in the conference bag and be given to all conference participants. All parties who have provided funding will also be given a copy of this CD.

Expected value

The 2010 KBS conference in Lausanne will offer prevention workers, policy makers, substance use and addiction researchers, and scientists from other disciplines in Switzerland a unique opportunity to participate in a large-scale conference devoted to social and epidemiological research on alcohol and other psychoactive substance, without incurring exorbitant travel costs. It will also be an ideal occasion to promote substance use and addiction research, as well as cross-national collaboration in Switzerland.