

Kettil Bruun Society for Social and Epidemiological Research on Alcohol

The aim of the Kettil Bruun Society is to promote social and epidemiological research which fosters a comparative understanding of the social aspects of alcohol use and alcohol problems. We aim also to promote a spirit of international cooperation.

The Kettil Bruun Society for Social and Epidemiological Research on Alcohol was formed in 1987 to bring together **three existing traditions of international work**.

The first of these is an **Annual Alcohol Epidemiology Symposium**, held for a week each year, usually in early June. The first symposium was held in 1975 as part of a larger meeting of the International Council on Alcohol and Addictions; the symposium began operating as a freestanding meeting in 1982. At the Symposium, the aim is to maximize discussion. Papers are precirculated and introduced rather than read, and participants are assigned to give prepared commentaries. Papers on any topic broadly related to the Society's scope are welcomed; "epidemiology" is broadly construed to include also such strands as policy studies, historical and ethnographic research, cultural studies, and experimental social psychology. Symposia normally have 150-200 participants from more than 20 countries.

The second tradition is of **thematic meetings**, with each focusing on a particular topic from an international perspective. On average two such meetings are held each year, usually for 4 or 5 days and with 30-50 participants. The tradition of such meetings began under the sponsorship of the former International Group for Comparative Alcohol Studies (IGCAS) in 1982.

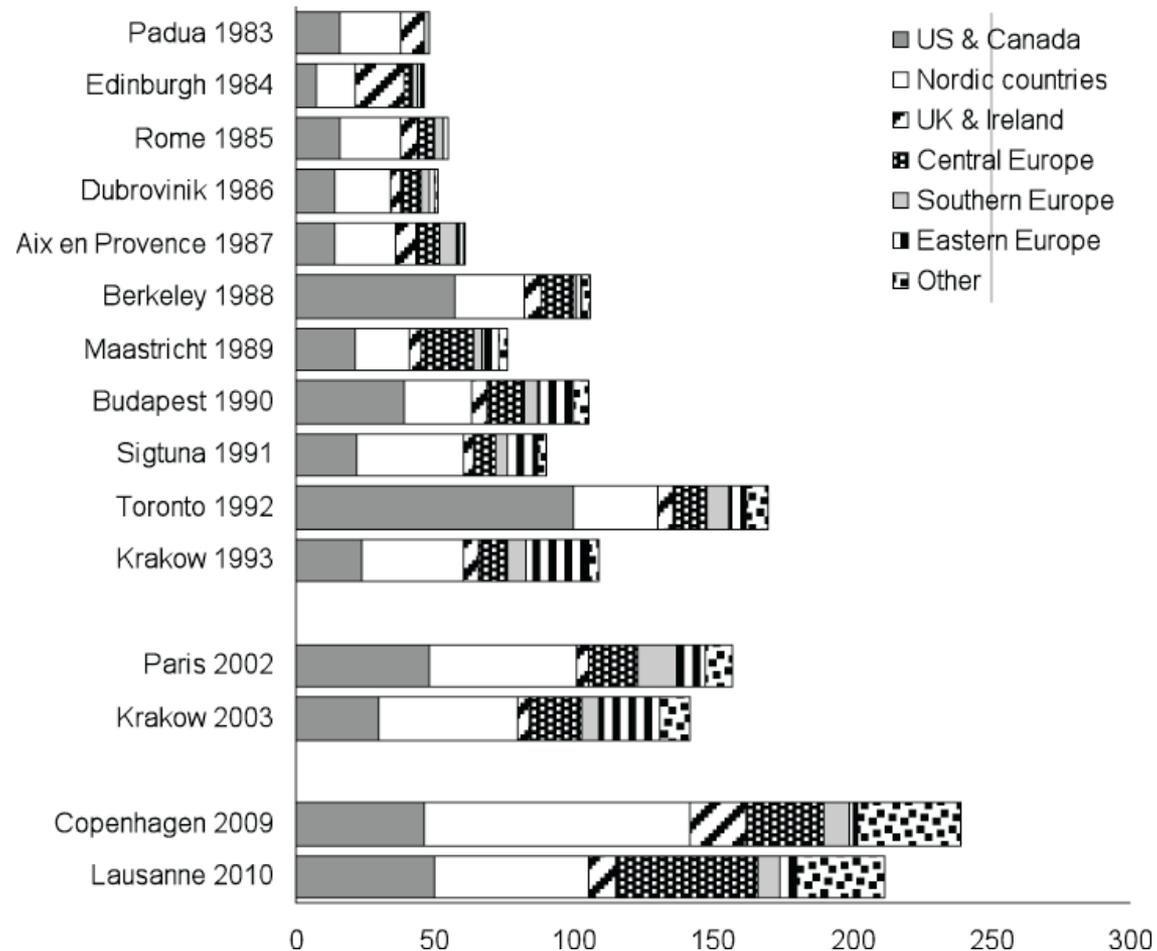
The third tradition is of **collaborative international research projects**, which operate autonomously under the umbrella of the Kettil Bruun Society. The 1973-1975 "purple book" project led by Kettil Bruun might be regarded as the first of these, and IGCAS was the third. There have since been a number of such projects. One current example is the International Research Group on Gender and Alcohol (IRGGA), which meets each year before the KBS June Symposium.

Kettil Bruun

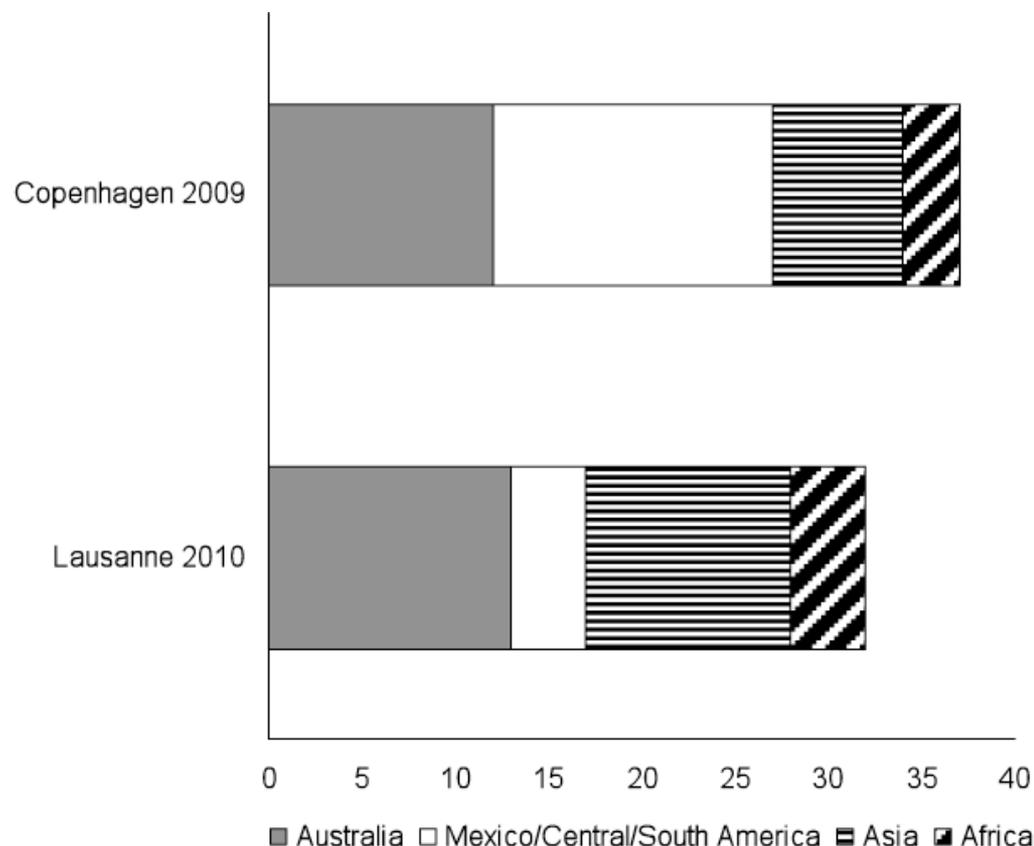
Kettil Bruun was a pioneer in many areas of alcohol social research. During the 1960s he published studies in which he described and critically reviewed official management and control of deviant behaviour. **His approach was to focus attention at the level of policy, rather than on the problem individual. Kettil Bruun subsequently headed the team of authors which in 1975 released the study Alcohol Control Policies in a Public Health Perspective.** The 'purple book', as it became known, made a profound impression on the international discussion of alcohol control policies and research in this field.

Kettil Bruun was also known for his innovative use of a range of research designs and methods. **Not only did he conduct experiments, but he used interview material, official statistics, participant observation, fiction, expert interviews and archive records.** He completely ignored the academic controversy about 'hard' and 'soft' methods. At the time of Kettil Bruun's death, Klaus Makela and Robin Room both paid tribute to his skills as a facilitator and team leader. He attracted research teams combining many age groups, scientific fields and cultures, and had an exceptional talent for eliciting collective scientific thinking from the most unlikely combinations. **He was committed to collegial work in a community of scholars and to putting knowledge to use in the world.**

Number of participants of KBS meetings grouped by geographical region



Specification of the category “Other”



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Garretsen, H., Audenaardt, M., van de Goor, I., van de Mheen, D., Roeg, D., van der Sar, R. & Schoenmakers, T. (2012). Social and epidemiological research on alcohol: Research presented at meeting of the Kettil Bruun Society between 1983 and 2010. *International Journal of Alcohol and Drug Research*, 1(1), 95-110. doi: 10.7895/ijadr.v1i1.44 (<http://dx.doi.org/10.7895/ijadr.v1i1.44>)

***International Journal of Alcohol and
Drug Research (IJADR)***
<http://www.ijadr.org/>

The official journal of the Kettil Bruun Society for Social
and Epidemiological Research on Alcohol



Aims and Scope

Aims

As the official journal of the Kettil Bruun Society for Social and Epidemiological Research on Alcohol (KBS), the overall goal of the *International Journal of Alcohol and Drug Research* (IJADR) is to further the main aims of the Kettil Bruun Society which are **to promote social and epidemiological research on alcohol and foster a comparative understanding of alcohol use and alcohol problems in a spirit of international cooperation.**

In furtherance of this overall goal, the aims of the *International Journal of Alcohol and Drug Research* are to:

- publish high quality, peer reviewed articles addressing substance use and substance-related problems, as well as addictive behaviours generally, from an international perspective,
- increase international knowledge and understanding about substance use and substance-related problems by providing mentoring and other assistance to research colleagues in countries where there are fewer resources and less infrastructure and traditional support of research on alcohol and drugs,
- promote involvement of early career researchers and researchers from less resourced countries in all aspects of the journal operations, and
- provide an open access online journal accessible to the research community, educators, policy makers and others interested in the area of substance use and substance-related issues.

Scope

The *International Journal of Alcohol and Drug Research* publishes both quantitative and qualitative research as well as scholarly commentaries, case studies, book reviews and other types of reports relating to all aspects of alcohol and drug use provided the focus is on enhancing understanding from an international perspective. This includes research reports from countries where there is little current knowledge about substance use as well as cross-national comparisons and other studies that have global implications.

Peer review process

The Editorial Team manages submissions to the *International Journal of Alcohol and Drug Research* by assessing whether the manuscript addresses the aims of the journal and is of sufficient scientific quality to be considered for publication. That is, the study must meet an acceptable level of scientific rigor and make a significant contribution to knowledge to be considered for peer review. Each manuscript is sent to two experts in the topic area for peer review. This review process is managed by one of the Editorial Team directly or through one of the Consulting Editors or Special Issue Editors.

Submitted manuscripts are evaluated using the following guidelines:

- originality, contribution to the field of substance use and substance-related issues,
- soundness of methodology, analyses and interpretation/discussion of analyses,
- clarity of presentation, and
- ability to communicate to readers (grammar, language).

The Editorial Team may suggest advice from or collaboration with a Consulting Editor or a mentor from the International Society of Addiction Journal Editors (ISAJE) mentoring program to authors of manuscripts that have the potential to meet the aims of the journal but require extensive revisions. The Editorial Team is committed to providing mentorship to authors who are early career researchers and/or researchers from less resourced countries.

Some accomplishments

- Began publishing in 2012
- 3 issues in 2013, 4-5 issues will be published in 2014
- The first issue included selected papers from the thematic meeting in Kampala, Uganda
- Good response to journal
- Manuscripts generally high quality and relevant
- Special issues and special issue editors have played a major role in building the journal
- Special issues, e.g., issues on FASD, likely to have major impact in the field
- Considerable diversity in range of papers and countries of submission – generally reflecting KBS diversity
- Substantial proportion of publications from new researchers and researchers from low and middle income countries

Conclusion: Journal appears to fill important niche

Editorial Team

Editors-in-Chief: John D. Clapp (USA), Kate Graham (Canada), Sandra Kuntsche (Switzerland)

Associate Editors: Neo Morojele (South Africa), Mark B. Reed (USA), Paul Shuper (Canada)

Consulting Editors: Linda Berends (Australia), Jakob Demant (Denmark), Christina Chambers (USA), James Lange (USA), Robert Mann (Canada), Kathleen Parks (USA), Svetlana Popova (Canada), Monica Swahn (USA), Nazarius Tumwesigye (Uganda), Shoshana Weiss (Israel)

Editorial Advisory Board: Jürgen Rehm, Thomas Babor, Charles Parry, Kerstin Stenius

Manuscript Coordinator: Danielle Ruderman

Manuscript formatting: Sue Steinback

Technical Support: Reg Quinton

Relationship between society and journal

- Journal adopted by majority vote at AGM
- Report on progress each year at AGM
- Society provided some funding for the first time in 2014
- Will be working this year on formalizing relationship