

THE BECKLEY FOUNDATION

BECKLEY FOUNDATION
GLOBAL DRUG POLICY SEMINAR 2005
HOUSE OF LORDS, PALACE OF WESTMINSTER, LONDON
21-22 NOVEMBER 2005

THE BECKLEY/FORESIGHT SEMINAR
ON FUTURE POLICY CHALLENGES

TUESDAY 22 NOVEMBER
MOSES ROOM, HOUSE OF LORDS

We would like to invite you to a seminar which will seek to consider how we respond to the fundamental questions raised in the Foresight project report entitled '*Drugs Futures 2025?*'

The Foresight project is a UK Government initiative that brings together teams of scientists and policy analysts to look at future scenarios in specific areas of policy identified by ministers, and to highlight the key opportunities and challenges of the next 20 years.

In July 2005, the project produced its report on '*Drug Futures 2025?*' This report (available online at www.foresight.gov.uk) identified future possible availability and use of psychoactive drugs, and our ability to manage such use. It raised 18 fundamental questions regarding the nature and effectiveness of future policies in the light of scientific and social advances.

The UK Government department responsible for the Foresight project asked the Beckley Foundation to help independently review their findings, and to promote debate on the issues that have arisen. This joint seminar, therefore, will contribute to the development of a sustainable policy on the future management of psychoactive substances.

The outcomes from this seminar will feed into the work that the government has asked the Academy of Medical Sciences to take forward, which will look at the 18 strategic choices.

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TO BE HELD IN THE MOSES ROOM

HOUSE OF LORDS, PALACE OF WESTMINSTER, LONDON
ON TUESDAY, 22 NOVEMBER 2005
9.15 AM - 6.00 PM

- 9.15am ARRIVE
- 9.40am WELCOME
Amanda Neidpath - Beckley Foundation
- CHAIR INTRODUCTION
Lord Layard - London School of Economics
- 10.00am INTRODUCTION & STRATEGIC CHALLENGES
To explore the implications of the findings of the Foresight report, 'Drug Futures 2005?' for the development of a sustainable policy on the management of psychoactive substances.
Andrew Jackson - Foresight
- 10.15am THE SCIENCE BEHIND THE FUTURE OF RECREATIONAL DRUGS
Prof. David Nutt - University of Bristol
- 10.35am OPEN FORUM
- HARM REDUCTION AND THE WIDER SOCIAL CONTEXT
- 10.55am SOCIAL, ETHICAL AND REGULATORY IMPLICATIONS
Should governments be promoting the development of safer alternatives, such as drug quality tests and alternative psychoactive substances? How do we create an environment for careful use?
Prof. Gerry Stimson - International Harm Reduction Association & Imperial College, London
- 11.15am DISCUSSANT
Prof. Peter Reuter - University of Maryland
- 11.30am OPEN FORUM
- 11.50am COFFEE BREAK

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REGULATION AND UNDERLYING REASONS FOR DRUG USE

- 12.10pm WHY DO PEOPLE USE DRUGS?
What are the social drivers for drug use? How can we influence how and what people use?
Prof. Robert MacCoun – *University of California*
- 12.30pm DISCUSSANT
Prof. Mark Kleiman – *UCLA*
- 12.45pm OPEN FORUM
- 1.05pm LUNCH RECEPTION
Will be held in the Terrace Pavilion, House of Commons. Hosted by the Rt. Hon. Dr. Brian Iddon M.P. and Amanda, Lady Neidpath.
- 2.45pm CHAIR INTRODUCTION
Prof. David Nutt – *University of Bristol*
- 3.00pm BLURRING THE BOUNDARIES – THE FUTURE OF COGNITIVE ENHANCERS
Do we want to allow cognition enhancers for the healthy?
Prof. Trevor Robbins – *University of Cambridge*
- 3.20pm DISCUSSANT
Prof. Barbara Sahakian – *University of Cambridge*
- 3.35pm OPEN FORUM
- 3.55pm COFFEE BREAK
- ETHICAL DILEMMAS
- 4.15pm RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES
How can we find the right balance between the individual's freedom to use psychoactive substances and their responsibility to society?
Dr. Sandy Thomas – *Nuffield Centre for Ethics*
- 4.35pm DISCUSSANT
Prof. Alastair Campbell – *University of Bristol*
- 4.50pm OPEN FORUM
- 5.10pm CLOSING COMMENTS AND DISCUSSION
Prof. Colin Blakemore – *Chief Executive, Medical Research Council*
Dr. Charles R. Schuster – *Former Director of NIDA, USA*
- 6.00pm CLOSE