

Save the Date for NASCSA's Annual Conference 2024!

Mark your calendar! It's hard to believe that plans are well underway for our 40th annual conference taking place at the Hyatt Regency in downtown Greenville, South Carolina October 28-31, 2024. We have some exciting plans for this year's conference so check the [website](#) on a regular basis for updates. Conference and Hotel Registration information is already available online.

The 2025 Conference will take place October 20-23, 2025 - Renaissance New Orleans Arts Hotel - New Orleans, Louisiana

NASCSA Committee Announcements

NASCSA President Eric Griffin created a number of committees that have been appointed and will be meeting throughout the year on a variety of projects. Committee members, who are comprised of volunteers from member states and associate members, are the backbone of the organization. For a list of committee members click [here](#).

If you are interested in volunteering to serve on a committee, please contact the office.

Drug Diversion Misuse

President's Message

Dear Members, Sponsors, and Colleagues,

I am honored to have been elected to be the President of the National Association of State Controlled Substance Authorities (NASCSA). We are a very vital association dedicated to advocating for state controlled substance authorities, prescription monitoring programs, and its members in their work to advance the public's health and safety. I would like to thank all the members of the current and past executive committees who have helped guide and build the association over the past 40 years. Additionally, I would like to recognize Kathy Keough, our Executive Director and all the many volunteers who devote their time and talents to support NASCSA's mission.

Over the past couple of years, we have navigated through the COVID pandemic and continued to be responsive to real time issues, provide support to our members, be a trusted resource to all stake holders, and extended our educational outreach. As controlled substances regulations are ever changing, NASCSA has built a strong professional network of experts from across the country who are always willing to provide guidance and assistance when called upon.

As 2024 will bring new challenges, I am excited for future opportunities for NASCSA to be a strong advocate and resource for its membership. We are always open to feedback. Please feel free to reach out to myself or any of the Executive Committee members with ideas or issues. I look forward to serving the association to the best of my ability.

Respectfully,

Eric Griffin
NASCSA President

Policy & Communications Update

Ralph Orr, Policy & Communications Director

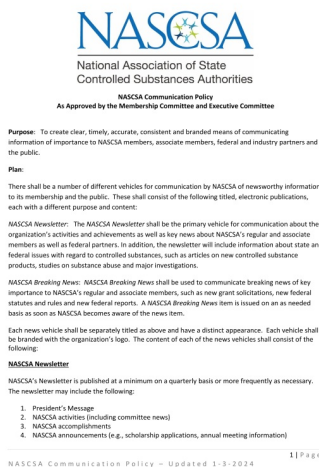
Brochure Available

The drug diversion misuse brochure produced by Scripps Safe that lists commonly misused controlled substances as well as non-federally scheduled drugs is now available online [here](#).

NASCSA Adopts New Communications Policy

NASCSA's Membership Committee, Chaired by Jason Slavoski (DE), who is also a member of the Executive Committee, recently updated the organization's communication policy to more accurately reflect communication with members and interested parties. Other members include Lisa Sherrell (AK), Justin Arnold (TX), Darren Nathan (Pfizer); Mary Lou Schoonover (Par Pharmaceuticals) and Chris Von Zwehl (Scripps-Safe).

A copy is found below:



State News

Missouri Implements PMP

December 13, 2023 - JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. – The State of Missouri's statewide prescription drug monitoring program (PDMP) was activated on Wednesday, December 13, 2023. The purpose of PDMP is to reduce abuse and misuse of

NASCSA members passed Resolution 2023-3 at the annual meeting earlier this fall. The resolution resolved, among additional items, that "NASCSA's executive committee is directed to seek opportunities to support the states' PMPs and encourage states to review current funding processes and examine federal and state opportunities to secure sustainable, non-competitive funding for the continued enhancement and maintenance of PMPs."

To that end, NASCSA has been collaborating with partners to reach out to Appropriations Committee members in the House and Senate to ask them to support language removing barriers to funding found in some federal grant programs. Action on appropriations bills is still pending. NASCSA has also reached out to Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) members to include requested language in the SUPPORT Act reauthorization bill. This language directs the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) to not require the use of a specific PMP vendor or interoperability hub when soliciting to provide funding for state PMP enhancement efforts or operational expenses. While some helpful language is included in the Senate version, NASCSA hopes clearer language can be approved in the final version of the SUPPORT Act. Further congressional action on that legislation is pending.



2023 Annual Conference Recap

controlled substances such as opioids by making dispensation information for such substances available to prescribers, dispensers, and health care providers. Now, pharmacies in the state of Missouri are required to submit information to the PDMP when they dispense any prescribed Schedule II, III, or IV controlled substances to patients in Missouri. The program was established in 2021 with the signing of [Senate Bill 63](#).

“SB 63 (PDMP) will help provide necessary information to health care professionals and empower them to make decisions that better serve their patients and assist in fighting the opioid epidemic in Missouri,” said **Governor Parson** at the time of the bill signing.

After the passage of SB 63, the Missouri Joint Oversight Task Force for Prescription Drug Monitoring (JOTF) was created, which is the body that oversees the collection and use of patient dispensation information submitted to Missouri's PDMP. The JOTF chose Bamboo Health as its vendor to administer Missouri's PDMP services. Bamboo Health currently provides PDMP services to more than 40 other state PDMPs.

“Missouri's Statewide PDMP will be an important patient safety tool healthcare providers can now use to make more informed decisions and reduce risks for patients,” said Christian Tadrus, Pharm.D., JOTF member.

Previously, 75 jurisdictions within the state opted to provide controlled substance information to the PDMP operated within the St. Louis County Department of Public Health. With the transition to the State's PDMP, the St. Louis County PDMP will dissolve operations. For more information on Missouri's PDMP, please visit pdmp.mo.gov.

We Need Your News!

We would love to hear more from our members about news from your state, territory or district, or industry news of importance. Please pass this information along.

The 39th annual conference took place in October in Minneapolis, Minnesota which offered a terrific venue for the meeting. In addition to attendees from over 35 states as well as industry leaders, there were representatives from a variety of federal agencies including the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) as well as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). In an effort to "go green," presentations are posted online and can be found [here](#).

We would like to offer our deep appreciation of this year's sponsors who recognize the value of partnership with NASCSA. A complete listing of sponsors is located [here](#).

Highlights of the 2023 conference include the following:

Election of Officers:

The following slate of officers and executive committee members were approved at this year's conference:

- Eric Griffin (OH) -President
- Sidney Seal (MS) - Vice President
- Melissa DeNoon (SD) - Secretary/Treasurer
- Jason Slavoski (DE) - Member at large
- Rodrick Marriott (CT) - Member at large
- Stella Bailey (NC) - Member at large
- Haley Winans (MI) – Member at large
- Alan McGill (PA) - Chair of the Executive Committee

Contact information and Biographies of the Executive Committee are found [here](#).

Adoption of Resolutions:

The membership voted to approve five resolutions at the annual conference:

- NASCSA Resolution 2023-03 A Resolution in Support of State Prescription Monitoring Programs (PMPs) That Encourages States to Identify and Implement Sustainable Non-Competitive Funding for PMPs
- Resolution 2023-04 - A Resolution Recognizing Karen Tannert
- Resolution 2023-05 - A Resolution Recognizing Joshua Vinciguerra

Copies of these resolutions as well as all resolutions adopted by NASCSA's members can be found [here](#).

Bylaws/Annual Conference Business Meeting:

A small change to the bylaws was approved by the membership. For the current bylaws click [here](#). In addition, minutes from this year's business meeting

can be found [here](#).

NASCSA Webinars

NASCSA Education Committee works throughout the year to offer programming via various webinars that are offered to members.

Our next webinar will take place January 31, 2024 3-4 pm ET - Controlled Substance Management in Veterinary Medicine 101 Registration for each of the upcoming webinars is found [here](#).

Note Attendance is solely limited to members and sponsors.

Important Membership News

Dues Notices will be sent electronically in the late spring. Please note that invoices will be able to be paid securely by credit card or members can download the invoice for payment by their accounts payable department. More information will be send in the next several months however if you have any questions please contact the office at 617-347-1455 or kathykeough@nascsa.org.

Have You Checked Out NASCA's Youtube Channel?

NASCSA maintains its own YouTube Channel where a select number of our webinars are uploaded several months after they take place. Quite a few webinars were recently uploaded, so please visit the YouTube channel and subscribe as well. More information is found [here](#).

DEA Practitioner's Manual Released

On June 14, 2023, DEA posted its newly revised Practitioner's Manual



2023 President's Award Recipient Recognized

At this year's annual conference, President Alan McGill presented the President's award to [Terry Witkowski](#), Executive Officer of the Iowa Board of Pharmacy.

Ms. Witkowski began her employment with the Iowa Board of Pharmacy more than 35 years ago. Terry has assisted with or managed special projects and investigations, administered the licensure and registration programs and databases, as well as developed and monitored the Board's budget.

In 2005, Terry headed activities that culminated in the establishment and implementation, effective March 2009, of the Iowa Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP) and has been active in promoting and advocating for PMPs and their goal of improving patient care.

Terry has served on NASCSA's Resolutions and By-Laws committee for several years and continues to support NASCSA's efforts for the effective regulation of controlled substances without impeding patients' access to needed treatment.

on its Diversion website. A copy of the guide is attached to this email for your convenience. The manual is current and includes the recent elimination of the requirement for a special registration to treat opioid use disorder (DATA-Waiver). [https://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/GDP/\(DEA-DC-071\)\(EO-DEA226\)_Practitioner's_Manual_\(final\).pdf](https://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/GDP/(DEA-DC-071)(EO-DEA226)_Practitioner's_Manual_(final).pdf) The 2023 edition replaces all previous versions of the Practitioner's Manual issued by DEA, both hard copy and electronic.



Industry News

Lykos Therapeutics has completed two Phase 3 trials for PTSD and submitted a new drug application (“NDA”) to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (“FDA”) for MDMA (midomafetamine capsules) used in combination with psychological intervention, which includes talk therapy, and other supportive services provided by a qualified healthcare provider. If approved by the FDA, investigational MDMA-assisted therapy would be the first psychedelic-assisted therapy approved for PTSD. The NDA submission included results from numerous studies including two randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled Phase 3 studies (MAPP1 and MAPP2) evaluating the efficacy and safety of MDMA-assisted therapy versus placebo with therapy in participants diagnosed with moderate or moderate and severe PTSD, respectively. For more information click [here](#).



Sponsor Spotlight

COMPASS Pathways is delighted to be a sponsor of NASCSA and looks

2023 Bill Ward Education Award Recipient Recognized

Haley Winans was the recipient of the 2023 Bill Ward Education Award which recognized an individual who has gone above and beyond to volunteer for NASCSA. Haley Winans is the Specialist for the Michigan Automated Prescription System (MAPS), within the Bureau of Professional Licensing at the State of Michigan. Haley serves as the primary liaison for MAPS and administers the program in partnership with their vendor, Bamboo Health. Specifically, she serves as the contract administrator and oversees projects, grants, and enhancements of MAPS, including the transition from a homegrown system to the PMP AWAARxE software platform, implementation of NarxCare, OpenBeds, and statewide integrations. She generates and reviews controlled substance prescribing and dispensing reports and assists practitioners, pharmacists, law enforcement officials, and benefit plan managers with registration and data submission to MAPS.

As a part of the Enforcement Division, Haley is the point-person for analytics of MAPS and assists in reviewing data to open over-prescribing, over-dispensing, and drug diversion cases. As follow-up, she works closely with the Investigators of these cases, as well as the Assistant Attorneys General who litigate these cases by understanding the data and testifying at hearings if required. Haley has been with the State of Michigan for the past 12 years, 11 of which have focused on MAPS. Prior to joining the State of Michigan, she worked as a pharmacy technician at Meijer Pharmacy. Haley graduated from the University of Michigan-Flint with a Bachelor's in Health Care Administration.

Federal News

forward to both engaging with controlled substances authorities, NASCSA leadership, and members to learn about their important work, and educate about our company's mission and the innovations underway using novel therapies.

COMPASS Pathways is a mental health care company dedicated to **accelerating patient access to evidence-based innovation in mental health**. Our focus is on improving the lives of those who are suffering with mental health challenges and who are not helped by current treatments. We are developing innovative therapies and, when appropriate, combining them with psychological support and next-generation digital tools to forge new, sustainable mental health care pathways.

Our investigational COMP360 psilocybin therapy is currently undergoing phase 3 investigation in treatment-resistant depression. We are also assessing COMP360 in anorexia nervosa and post-traumatic stress disorder, across multiple clinical studies. Learn more <https://compasspathways.com>

DEA Controlled Substance Destruction Alternatives to Incineration:

On December 20, 2023, the DEA Diversion Control Division announced a 60-day extension to the comment period for the Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPRM) titled "Controlled Substance Destruction Alternatives to Incineration." The original 60-day comment period ends on January 2, 2024. The extension has yet to be posted to the Federal Register. In the preamble to the ANPRM, DEA states: "In an effort to identify chemical and technological methods of destruction of controlled substances other than incineration which may meet the disposal requirements of DEA registrants, and to promote the public exchange of technology and process development information, DEA invites comment to the questions provided in this advanced notice of proposed rulemaking."

Here is a link to the ANPRM itself with related comments:

<https://www.regulations.gov/docket/DEA-2023-0148/comments>

DEA 2024 Schedule I and II Aggregate Production Quota

The US Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) has issued its 2024 aggregate production quotas and assessment of annual needs for the schedule I and II controlled substances and the list I chemicals ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, and phenylpropanolamine that is found [here](#) effective January 3, 2024.

Planned Agency Action of Interest

Twice per year, the Office of Management and Budget, Office of Regulatory Affairs (OIRA) publishes a list of planned Federal agency regulatory actions. Pursuant to Executive Order 12866, this effort is intended to promote a level of transparency and offers an insight into agency workings. On December 6, 2023, OIRA published its Fall regulatory agenda [here](#). Agencies are listed under the parent agency; for DEA, that means the Department of Justice. The RIN number for each proposed rule contains the title, a brief synopsis of the action, as well as a dated history and additional information.

NASCSA in the Media

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