Conference attracts highest attendance of 25 years

Enjoying perfect weather in Boston over the 4th of July weekend, 515 attendees engaged in over 50 sessions and workshops given by almost 150 presenters and still found time to network with fellow professionals and to enjoy the sights and history of Boston. NCPG Executive Director Keith S. Whyte and Massachusetts Council on Compulsive Gambling Executive Director Marlene Warner welcomed everyone at a reception the evening before the conference.

Attendees included professionals from all aspects of the field, as well as high school students and Lillian Custer, widow of problem gambling pioneer Dr. Robert Custer. A high point was the ferry at sunset to Georges Island for a New England clam-bake.

Sponsors and contributors set record

Sponsors and contributors were very generous to the 2011 conference, giving $197,200 to ensure its success. 36 sponsoring organizations and donors provided scholarships to over 200 recipients.

"My sincere thanks to the scholarship committee and sponsors. This conference was one of the best that I ever attended." - a counselor

Photos: Marvin Steinberg accepts Robert Custer Lifetime Award with Keith Whyte, Lillian Custer; Dr. Howard Shaffer, keynote speaker. Breakouts in progress x2. Our ferry boat. Michael completes his walk across America.

Left: Workshop in progress. Right: Michael completes his walk from Seattle to Boston with his two dogs, raising awareness of gambling addiction recovery.

"Overall, the conference was excellent. A lot of resources, knowledge, networking opportunities, and great workshops." — an outreach person

"Excellent – very useful in building a base of information on responsible gaming." - a gaming industry person

The participants’ self-defined background was diverse:

Counselors 52%
Administrators 20%
Government 9%
Researchers 6%
Gaming Industry 1%
Other 12%

The most important reason to attend the conference was given as:

CEU's/Training 53%
Networking 31%
Location 7%

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