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## intro

### Issue 4, May 2001

## From the Editor

Anniversaries can be exciting, and we are elated that this fourth issue marks our first year anniversary of electronic publishing. One of our goals is to offer international coverage of gambling issues. We are glad to have articles about developments in gambling treatment and policy in Switzerland, northern Cyprus and Australia as well as from the USA and Canada.

A new section for [Case Conferences](#) begins in this issue (it's listed in the sidebar at left as **Case Study**). Alex Blaszczyński describes a case from his practice, a client whose severe back pain was relieved by gambling intensely and chasing his losses. Three other clinicians comment on the case and its ramifications for treatment in general, and Dr. Blaszczyński concludes with an overview of the discussion.

This issue presents some new ideas on how gambling can fit into our communities in a healthy manner. One article offers developments in the concept of a public health approach to both help assess the benefits of gambling and prevent and treat its negative effects (Feature; David Korn). Another describes how Swiss gaming policy requires that potential casino operators compete to offer better prevention, treatment and research facilities in order to win the right to run casinos (Policy; Daniela Dombrowski and colleagues). Another article takes the case of poor gaming policy and questions the ability of jurisdictions to manage gaming policy effectively by

examining these issues in a centre-periphery context, that of northern Cyprus (Research; Julie Scott).

I invite readers who enjoy these articles to tell their friends about the *Electronic Journal of Gambling Issues: eGambling*, and I ask those who would like to write to contact me. Please tell us what you think of our journal.

Phil Lange, Editor

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## Statement of Purpose

The *Electronic Journal of Gambling Issues: eGambling (EJGI)* offers an Internet-based forum for developments in gambling-related research, policy and treatment as well as personal accounts about gambling and gambling behaviour. Through publishing peer-reviewed articles about gambling as a social phenomenon and the prevention and treatment of gambling problems, it is our aim is to help make sense of how gambling affects us all.

The *EJGI* is published by the [Centre for Addiction and Mental Health](#) and is fully funded by the Ontario Substance Abuse Bureau of the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. We welcome manuscripts submitted by researchers and clinicians, people involved in gambling as players, and family and friends of gamblers.

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[Phil Lange](#)

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