

Executive Summary

Strategic Workshop: Harmful Use of Alcohol: Challenges and Opportunities

The event took place on November 08, 2016, from 09:30AM to 17:30PM, and the major goal was to encourage experience exchange and new research arrangements among distinct groups working with alcohol and health. These partnerships will help Brazil to reduce harmful consumption by 10% by 2025, as proposed by the World Health Organization (WHO).

Prof. Hamilton Varella, technical advisor of PRP-USP's office, Prof. Margarita Antonia Villar (EERP-USP), Prof. Arthur Guerra de Andrade (FM-USP) and Prof. Marta Teresa da Silva Arretche (PRP-USP), talked at the opening ceremony.

The workshop was divided into three parts: 1) **Harmful Use of Alcohol**, discussed the state of the art for the reduction of harmful use, recognized by the WHO as a serious public health problem in Brazil and in the world. Among the speakers were Prof. Brian Rush (University of Toronto), Prof. Laura Helena Silveira Guerra de Andrade (FM-USP) and Dr. Paulina do Carmo Arruda Vieira Duarte, Director of the Department of Public Security of the OAS. The mediation was made by Prof. Ricardo Abrantes Amaral (FM-USP); 2) in the session **Alcohol and driving**, Dr. Flavio Adura, scientific director of Abramet, Dr. Vera Viviane Schmidt (FAPESP), Prof. Vilma Leyton (FM-USP) and Prof. Flavio Pechansky (UFRGS) addressed the issue of public policy and science on alcohol use and driving. The mediation was made by Prof. Maria Helena Prado de Mello Jorge (FSP-USP); in the last part, **Tackling Strategies**, Professors Margarita Antonia Villar Luis (EERP-USP), Divane de Vargas (EE-USP), Arthur Guerra de Andrade (FM-USP) and Zila van der Meer Sanches Dutenhfner (UNIFESP) spoke on strategies to prevent and reduce harmful use of alcohol. Prof. Erikson Felipe Furtado, FMRP-USP, mediated the session.

The event was attended by 55 people plus 88 online. It was concluded that, the implementation of public policies based on scientific data is still scarce. The need to improve communication among academy, public policy and industry was stressed. It was clear that alcohol regulation already exists, but enforcement of laws is still very weak, hence the ineffectiveness of the laws. Major changes in this area have already occurred in Brazil, and the general expectation of the participants of the meeting was optimistic. New meetings will be organized to discuss partnership proposals, and a joint project will also be drawn up.