

# **Nevada Leads Project Committee**



Chair, ACPG

#### **Alan Feldman**

Distinguished Fellow Responsible Gaming, UNLV International Gaming Institute Mr. Feldman is an internationally recognized expert in corporate communications and responsible gambling, honored as a member of the American Gaming Association's Hall of Fame. He has built strong relationships with gaming executives, legislators, regulators, academics, and public health officials, and is a sought-after speaker on responsible gaming issues worldwide. As Chair Emeritus of the International Center for Responsible Gaming and Chair of the Nevada ACPG, he plays a pivotal role in promoting responsible practices. Additionally, he serves on the faculty of the International Executive Development Program at the University of Nevada, Reno, teaches at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas' Greenspun School of Journalism, and is a frequent guest lecturer at NYU's Stern School of Business.



Vice Chair, ACPG

## Denise Quirk

#### Therapist, Red Hawk Counseling

Mrs. Quirk has been an addictions counselor and Marriage and Family Therapist in Reno, Nevada, since 1992, when she founded Red Hawk Counseling. She served as CEO and Clinical Director of the Reno Problem Gambling Center (2006–2022) and teaches a course on gambling behaviors at the University of Nevada, Reno. An advocate for high standards among certified problem gambling counselors, she testified for AB 102, enabling treatment diversion for gamblers in the legal system. Quirk co-authored the Gambling Patient Placement Criteria handbook, supervised interns statewide, and received the Nevada Council on Problem Gambling's Bybee Award for her contributions to education and advocacy. She continues to evaluate incarcerated individuals.



Member, ACPG

## **Stephanie Goodman**

Executive Director, Dr. Robert Hunter International Problem Gambling Center

As a former Chief of Staff to Mayor Oscar Goodman, business owner, and current Nevada Systen of Higher Education Regent, Stephanie Goodman is dedicated to giving back and making a positive impact in her community. As Executive Director of the Dr. Robert Hunter International Problem Gambling Center, she has led her team to increase enrollment by over 100%. A native of Las Vegas and a woman in gaming, Goodman found that she could make an impact increasing awareness and helping the subset of our population that has a gambling addiction. She believes that their work is vital to the state and is passionate about sharing a narrative for gambling addiction.



Member, ACPG

#### **Constance Jones**

Director of Responsible Gaming, Association of Gaming Equipment Manufacturers Constance Jones is Director of Responsible Gaming (RG) for the Association of Gaming Equipment Manufacturers (AGEM). Her role has helped to strengthen the bridge of communication and understanding between the gaming industry, specifically that of a gaming technology providers, and the problem gambling communities. With over 20 years of experience in the gaming industry, Jones has presented at numerous conferences and events on the gaming manufacturer's role in RG and the evolution of RG technologies.



Member, ACPG

## Dr. Shane Kraus

Associate Professor of Psychology and Director, Behavioral Addictions Lab, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Dr. Shane W. Kraus is a licensed clinical psychologist and expert in psychopathology, trauma, substance use disorders, gambling disorders, and other behavioral addictions. An assistant professor of psychology, Dr. Kraus has published over 190 scholarly works on the topic of behavioral addictions. He received his PhD in clinical psychology from Bowling Green State University in 2013 and in 2015, he completed his postdoctoral psychology (addiction) fellowship at Yale School of Medicine, Department of Psychiatry.



Member, ACPG



Technical Advisor. ACPG

## William "Ted" Hartwell

**Executive Director, Nevada Council on Problem Gambling** 

Mr. Hartwell holds a Master's degree from Texas Tech University and recently retired after 32 years on the research faculty at the Desert Research Institute to become Executive Director of the Nevada Council on Problem Gambling (NCPG). He is in long-term recovery from a gambling disorder, and has spent 15 years promoting awareness, prevention, and treatment. He was a speaker for many years in the UNLV International Gaming Institute's Responsible Gaming Ambassador program and has collaborated with organizations such as Las Vegas Sands, MGM Resorts, and the US-Japan Business Council. Mr. Hartwell also introduced gambling awareness programs in Nevada schools and recently secured an NFL-sponsored grant through the National Council on Problem Gambling for expansion of a student-athlete gambling awareness program in Nevada.



## **Dr. Jeff Marotta**

Senior Consultant, Problem Gambling Solutions, Inc.

Dr. Jeff Marotta has specialized in the field of problem gambling for 28 years with over 200 publications and national presentations. Dr. Marotta has a doctorate in Clinical Psychology from the University of Nevada, Reno and is an Internationally Certified Gambling Counselor - II. Utilizing his background in research and evaluation, clinical practice, service administration, and program and policy development, he now serves as President and Senior Consultant with Problem Gambling Solutions, Inc. In this role, Dr. Marotta has assisted with the development of programs and policies to address problem gambling in many jurisdictions within the U.S. and abroad.



**Gambling Treatment** Evaluator, ACPG

## Andrea Dassopoulos

Project Manager, Nevada Problem Gambling Study, University of Nevada, Las Vegas Andrea Dassopoulos is a sociologist, researcher, and instructor at the UNLV International Gaming Institute. She specializes in gambling harms, and research-based insights to inform state policies and interventions. She is currently the Project Manager for the Nevada Problem Gambling Study, with more than a decade of experience monitoring and evaluating Nevada's programs and tracking outcomes for people with gambling problems.



Workforce Development Specialist, A<u>CPG</u>

## **Jeanyne Ward**

Project Manager, The Center for the Application of Substance Abuse Technologies (CASAT), University of Nevada, Reno School of Public Health

Since 2018, Jeanyne Ward has been actively involved in developing the problem gambling treatment workforce. She created and manages the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services' Division of Public and Behavioral Health's Bureau of Behavioral Health Wellness and Prevention's Problem Gambling Workforce Development Initiative Scholarship Opportunity, which incentivizes individuals to become certified problem gambling counselor interns (CPGC-I) in Nevada. Additionally, in collaboration with the Nevada Board of Examiners for Alcohol, Drug, and Gambling Counselors, she advocates for regulatory changes to expand clinical supervision opportunities for these interns, further enhancing pathways into the problem gambling treatment workforce.

## **Nevadans in Recovery**



#### **Nann Meador**

Operations Manager, Nevada Council on Problem Gambling

Nann Meador is a devoted mother and grandmother who cherishes family time and has been a resident of southern Nevada for 35 years. For the past eight years, she has served as the Operations Manager at the Nevada Council on Problem Gambling, supporting the awareness and prevention of gambling harm. As a person in long-term recovery from a gambling disorder, Meador found inspiration through her journey to help others find hope and healing.



## Nat Thomas

Sparks resident

Nat Thomas is a Reno-Sparks native and retired municipal roadworks expert. He is a devoted husband to his wife of 42 years, Sherrie, with whom he has raised two children and welcomed three grandchildren. Thomas struggled with gambling disorder as a young man, which was coupled with issues with alcohol and smoking. He found support in Alcoholics Anonymous and at his church—he hasn't gambled in over 30 years. He also credits his healing to Sherrie, who he says has been instrumental in his recovery. Thomas shares his experience to help other Nevadans realize that gambling can be harmful and for those who struggle, it's important to seek support.