

**Training Leader:** Dr. Wesley Perkins

Biographical Summary

H. WESLEY PERKINS received the B.A. in Sociology from Purdue University; a M.Div. degree from Yale University Divinity School; and the M.A. and Ph.D. in Sociology from Yale University. He is Professor of Sociology in the Department of Anthropology and Sociology at Hobart and William Smith Colleges in Geneva, New York. In 1993, he was honored with Hobart and William Smith's faculty prize for outstanding scholarship; and in 1997, he received the faculty prize for outstanding service honoring his work to reduce alcohol abuse among students. He is Project Director of the Alcohol Education Project at Hobart and William Smith, an initiative providing research, educational resources, and strategies to reduce alcohol and other drug abuse throughout the U.S. and internationally. In 1999, and again in 2005, the Project received a national award from the U.S. Department of Education as a Model Prevention Program in Higher Education.

Dr. Perkins, editor of the recent book *The Social Norms Approach to Preventing School and College Age Substance Abuse* has published extensive research on alcohol and other drug problems among college students, adolescents, and young-to-middle aged adults in professional journals. He was a pioneer in work uncovering peer misperceptions of alcohol and other drug norms and he developed the theory underlying the social norms approach to prevention. He also conducts research on problems facing collegiate children of alcoholics, gender-related aspects of drug use, stress and drinking, religious-ethnic differences in drinking and other drug use, and evaluation studies of secondary school and university environments. He has delivered over 300 guest lectures, keynote addresses, and workshops for colleges, universities, secondary schools, and professional conferences in the United States and internationally. Dr. Perkins has also served as a consultant to schools throughout the United States as well as to state and national drug abuse agencies. His authority on this subject has even led to him testifying at a Senate hearing on problems of alcohol abuse on campuses. In 1999, he received the Outstanding Service Award by the Network of Colleges and Universities Committed to the Elimination of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse for his significant career contributions to prevention work in higher education at both the local and national level. Dr Perkins' work has been frequently cited in the press and television news coverage including the New York Times, the Los Angeles Times, CNN, New York Times Magazine, Newsweek, and Time Magazine.

Dr. Perkins' other research interests and publications include studies on the family's role in the well-being of young adults and comparative studies on the social values and religion in Great Britain and the United States. He is also conducting an extensive research project on forgiveness and health in the life course of young and middle-aged adults and a new project on social norms and bullying in adolescence.