

## Member Spotlight

### Canada Spotlight

Professor Alvin Chan retired in December 2010 after 30 years of teaching, research and service at University of Ottawa. Dr. Robin Duncan will be joining the Department of Kinesiology, University of Waterloo, as an Assistant Professor in July 2011. She completed her PhD at the University of Toronto with Dr. Michael Archer and a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of California Berkeley with Dr. Hei Sook Sul. Dr. Duncan's research is focused on the identification and characterization of novel genes in lipid and energy metabolism. Also from the University of Waterloo, Dr. Rhona Hanning was recently appointed to the Board of Directors of the Canadian Foundation for Dietetic Research (2010-2012). Dr. Raylene Reimer, University of Calgary, was promoted to Professor effective April 1, 2011. Dr. Carolanne Nelson from the Department of Family and Nutritional Sciences, University of Prince Edward Island, was promoted to Associate professor. From Brescia University College, University of Western Ontario, Dr. Len Piché's textbook, *Nutrition Concepts and Controversies: Second Canadian Edition* by F. Sizer, E. Whitney & L. Piché, 2012, has recently published by Nelson Education.

Gordon A. Zello, Ph.D.  
College of Pharmacy and Nutrition  
University of Saskatchewan  
[gordon.zello@usask.ca](mailto:gordon.zello@usask.ca)

### Caribbean/Latin America Spotlight

*From Guatemala:* CeSSIAM had visits from two distinguished overseas members of the Society in February. Tom Clandinin of the University of Alberta in Edmonton passed through to visit the field site in Quetzaltenango of the collaborative research with CeSSIAM on dietary suppression of giardiasis. Colleen Doak, of the Vrije Universiteit (VU), was also in Quetzaltenango to inaugurate the tours of duty of four VU exchange students in the projects on early feeding of infants and toddlers, in conjunction with her CeSSIAM collaborator, Marieke Vossenaar. While in Guatemala, she gave a short course on Qualitative Research Methods for Nutrition in conjunction with the

Quetzaltenango campus of the Universidad "Rafael Landivar."

Noel Solomons attended the Nestle Nutrition Institute Workshop on Micronutrient Requirements for Health and Development in Cebu, Philippines, where he served as a discussant for the general theme session of the event. Presenters from ASN include Lindsay Allen, Robert E. Black, Michael Hambidge, Ferdinand Haschke, Richard Hurrell, Sean Lynch, Mary Penny, Irwin Rosenberg, Aron Troen, and Michael Zimmerman. Gabriela Montenegro-Bethancourt visited Berlin and attended the inaugural General Assembly of the Global Young Academy (GYA); she was named Leadership Coordinator for Latin America of the GYA.

In the month of March, on his visit to the Boston for attendance at the New Developments on Carotenoid Research in Boston, Dr. Solomons received his letter of appointment as Adjunct Professor in International Health at the Boston University School of Public Health. In the same month, he was appointed by Dean Eileen Kennedy as an Adjunct Professor in the Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy of Tufts University. Noel has also been appointed as Associate Editor for Nutritional Biology and Epidemiology for the *Food and Nutrition Bulletin*. Caitlin Crowley, Klaus Schumann and Noel Solomons combined in a presentation in the Symposium on iron and malaria on the topic of Targeted provision of iron: The evolution of a practical screening option.

*INCAP:* In May, the Institute of Nutrition of Central America and Panama along with UNICEF, the World Food Program and USAID sponsored four members of the Society: Omar Dary, Rafael Flores, Reynaldo Martorell, and Juan Rivera in a special program in Guatemala City entitled "Advances in Nutrition and Perspectives for Overcoming Malnutrition in Guatemala."

*From Mexico...* This year the Center of Research in Nutrition and Health – CInyS at the National Institute of Public Health (INSP) in Cuernavaca, Mexico, is celebrating its 10th anniversary. In a very emotive reception at INSP, all CInyS members, directors of other of INSP's centers, and national and international outstanding researchers in nutrition and related fields, remembered the origins of the CInyS and recognized its achievements. The ceremony was led by Mario Henry Rodríguez

López, General Director of INSP, Juan Rivera Dommarco Director and Founder of the CInyS, Mauricio Hernández Ávila, Undersecretary of Health in Mexico, Jaime Sepulveda from Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and Adolfo Chávez from the National Institute of Medical Sciences and Nutrition "Salvador Zubiran". Juan Rivera made an account of the history of CInyS and its contributions to science and to nutrition and health policy. Reynaldo Martorell, Jaime Sepúlveda, Ricardo Uauy and Mauricio Hernández Ávila congratulated the CInyS for its commitment with the Public Health and Nutrition and to Juan Rivera for his leadership that has been of paramount importance for all CInyS' achievements. The former, along with J-P Habicht, received a medal and diploma in recognition of their mentoring and continuous support in the creation and Development of CInyS. Salvador Villalpando, representing the CInyS personnel gave a very moving speech about Juan Rivera's leadership. Among the most important CInyS attainments are the generation of sound and useful scientific evidence to influence the design of new policies and public nutrition programs and to modify the current programs and policies. Some clear examples of these achievements are the documentation of nutritional status of the Mexican population in the last 20 years, the role of CInyS researchers as advisors of the Secretariats of Health and Social Development in the design and evaluation of public policies in Mexico (i.e. Federal Nutrition Programs aimed at preventing undernutrition such as Oportunidades, a national milk distribution program (Liconsa), a national Nutrition Program for remote rural areas (PAL), the National Plan to Prevent Obesity in Mexican Population, and Food regulation within the school system, among others). CInyS has achieved credibility from decision makers in Mexico through high standards of a research which has produced evidence for the design of public policies. Congratulations to all members of CInyS on their 10th anniversary!

In April 2011, Juan Rivera, Salvador Villalpando, Teresa Shamah Levy, and Alejandra Jáuregui from INSP Mexico, attended Experimental Biology in Washington DC. All of them presented several papers and posters depicting their work and that of their collaborators. Among the most relevant are: Physical activity prevents fat mass gain in Mexican school-age girls (Alejandra Jáuregui, Salvador Villalpando, et al), and Efficacy of

a strategy of school children's feeding and physical activity behavior related to overweight and obesity in Mexico (Teresa Shamah Levy and colleagues)

Homero Martinez  
Senior International Health Researcher  
[homero@rand.org](mailto:homero@rand.org)

## East Spotlight

*From the Office of Dietary Supplements...*  
ODS Director Paul Coates is the 2011 recipient of The Conrad A. Elvehjem Award for Public Service in Nutrition. In addition to directing ODS, Dr. Coates now serves as Acting Director of the NIH Office of Disease Prevention (ODP). ODS is one of the offices within ODP, which also includes the Office of Rare Diseases Research and the Office of Medical Applications of Research. Jody Engel has been busy giving presentations on the ODS iPhone app! She gave a presentation to area dietetic interns titled *"The Social RD: Why You Should Tweet, Link, and Be Appy!"* in January, and presented this information in a Federal Mobile Apps Webinar Series sponsored by the National Technical Information Service and at the Washington D.C. Health 2.0 STAT Meet-up. Jody also participated in the panel presentation, *Real Time Mobile: Stories from the Trenches* on March 17 and gave a presentation titled *"MyDS Mobile App: From Concept to the App Store and Beyond"* at the 2011 Government Web and New Media Conference held in March. Kathryn Camp gave a presentation titled *Federal Perspectives on Medical Foods* in February at the National Organization for Rare Disorders (NORD) Medical Foods Conference. Paul Thomas gave a Grand Rounds presentation to medicine residents at the University of Illinois College of Medicine titled *What Sup, Doc? Dietary Supplements and the Physician*. He also gave a talk to consumers titled *Vitamins and Supplements: What Works & What Doesn't?* in March. He also gave a talk at the "Focus on You" Wellness Lecture Series titled *Dietary Supplements: What You Need to Know* at NIH. Paul Coates chaired and Kathryn Camp participated as a panelist in a session titled *Meeting Nutritional Needs* in March at the Genetic Diseases of Children, Advancing Research and Care Conference. Desperate for more information on the ODS? Sign up for The Scoop, a new newsletter! Sign up on the ODS listserv ([http://ods.od.nih.gov/News/ODS\\_ListServ.aspx](http://ods.od.nih.gov/News/ODS_ListServ.aspx)) to receive the newsletter by email.

*From Nutritional Sciences at Rutgers University...* On behalf of the Get Moving - Get Healthy New Jersey team, Nurgul Fitzgerald (PI, multi-PIs: Annette Devitt, Daryl Minch, Kathleen Morgan, Marilou Rochford) accepted the Society for Nutrition Education, Public Health Nutrition Program Award at the Society for Nutrition Education Annual Conference in Reno, NV on July 25, 2010. Get Moving - Get Healthy NJ is a multifaceted initiative that brings together the Extension, academic, public and private partners' resources to promote healthier lifestyles for children, youths, and adults. Nurgul Fitzgerald has been elected as the Co-Chair of the New Jersey Chronic Disease Council which provides guidance for the State Chronic Disease Public Health System and the Chronic Disease Prevention and Control Program. Dr. Fitzgerald was awarded a USDA Hunger Free Communities grant targeting food insecurity at the community level. Dr. Fitzgerald also attended the National Hunger Free Communities Summit in Washington, DC. On March 15th Malcolm Watford gave an invited talk "Glutamine metabolism in adipose tissue: a link from obesity to inflammation" at the Center for Animal Biotechnology and Gene Therapy, Autonomous University of Barcelona, Bellaterra, Spain. John Worobey was the invited discussant for two symposia at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development held in Montreal, Canada, April 2, 2011. The titles of the two sessions were "Parents' role in children's obesity risk" and "Infant feeding practices and toddler obesity: Findings from low-income national samples." Graduate students Isabel Ramos and Carolina Espinosa (Nutritional Sciences), along with John Worobey (Nutritional Sciences) co-authored a poster titled "Maternal feeding style and children's weight: Do associations hold for Latino dyads?" at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development held in Montreal, Canada, March 31-April 2, 2011. John also authored a poster titled "Daughters who diet: Family influences on co-eds' dieting behavior."

*From the University of Pennsylvania...* Stella Volpe began as Professor and Chair of the Department of Nutrition Sciences at Drexel University on January 3, 2011. She had previously been on faculty at the University of Pennsylvania, where she remains an Adjunct Professor. Dr. Volpe was also recently appointed to the President's Council on Fitness, Sports and Nutrition Science Board (a three-year term).

*From Pennsylvania State University...* Barbara Rolls was elected to the ASN Fellow Class of 2011, and received this honor at the ASN Awards Ceremony at Experimental Biology in Washington, DC, April 2011. Leann Birch was elected to the ASN Fellow Class of 2011. Young AH Seo won the 1st place in poster competition in VMRS (vitamin and mineral research interest section) at the Experimental Biology Mtgs., Washington, DC, April 2011. Nick McCormick was one of 6 students chosen (out of 130+ submissions) to present his poster at the Student Interest Group poster competition. Sharon M. Nickols-Richardson, received the 2011 Emily Quinn Pou Professional Achievement Award from the College of Family and Consumer Sciences, The University of Georgia. A. Catharine Ross, presented a keynote lecture in the Tufts/USDA conference on New Developments in Carotenoids Research, March 11-12, 2011, where she talked on Vitamin A. and Immunity. Dr. Ross, Professor and Dorothy Foehr Huck Chair, presented a seminar on "Recommendations for Calcium and Vitamin D: What Have We Learned" to the Graduate Program in Nutrition in February 2011. Betsy Lozoff, Research Professor, Department of Pediatrics and Communicable Diseases, University of Michigan, presented the lecture "Brain and Behavior in Early Iron Deficiency" for a co-sponsored event by the Departments of Biobehavioral Health, Human Development and Family Studies, and the Nutritional Sciences in March 2011. Lawrence Appel, Professor of Medicine and Director of the Welch Center for Prevention, Epidemiology and Clinical Research, The Johns Hopkins University, presented the talk "The Case for Population-Wide Reduction in Sodium Intake: from Evidence to Policy" to the Graduate Program in Nutrition in January 31, 2011. Mary Ann Johnson, Bill and June Flatt Professor of Foods and Nutrition, Faculty of Gerontology, Department of Foods and Nutrition, The University of Georgia, presented the lecture "Health and Nutritional Consequences of Food Insecurity in Older Americans," to the Graduate Program in Nutrition in March. Virginia A. Stallings, Professor of Pediatrics, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, presented the lecture "Nutrition Policy and Advocacy: Foods in Schools" as part of the Graduate Program in Nutrition colloquium in Spring 2011. Elizabeth M. Gardner, Associate Professor of Food Science and Human Nutrition, Michigan State University, received the Ruth L. Pike Lecture Award and presented a seminar titled "Energy Restriction and the Primary

Response to Influenza Infection: Does it Hinder or Help?" as part of the Graduate Program in Nutrition colloquium in April 2011.

*From University of Connecticut...* Ji-Young Lee received the inaugural ASN's Korean Nutrition Society (KNS) Award in recognition of her outstanding research and scientific contributions to nutritional Science at the 2011 Annual EB Meeting in Washington DC. This award was created by the Society last year to improve understanding and co-operation between ASN and KNS, and to promote excellence in nutrition research conducted by a North American scientist who is an ASN member. Maria Luz Fernandez was a peer reviewer in the Consortium for Drug Discovery Panel held in Montreal, Canada on March 28. Dr. Fernandez was an invited speaker for the symposium "Exploring the factors that impact blood cholesterol and heart disease risk: is dietary cholesterol as bad for you as history leads us to believe?" held at Experimental Biology 2011.

*From the University of Maine...* Professor Emeritus Katherine Musgrave has been named to the Maine Women's Hall of Fame. Alfred Bushway is the 2011 recipient of the Maine Distinguished Professor Award, the highest honor that can be bestowed upon a faculty member. Doctoral student Aleksandra Kristo received the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry and Agriculture Dow Griffee Award and a Graduate School Presidential Teaching Fellowship to assist Professor Dorothy Klimis-Zacas with an introductory nutrition class. Doctoral student Jennifer Walsh Roy was honored by the Society of Nutrition Education for the paper she presented at the association's conference. Mary Ellen Camire was invited to present "Grain-based strategies to combat childhood obesity" at the Latin American Cereal Conference II in Santiago, Chile in April.

*From Yale University...* Rafael Pérez-Escamilla was an invited panelist at the food insecurity videoconference organized by the Food and Nutrition Security Observatory of the Universidad Veracruzana de Xalapa, Veracruz, México, February 23. This panel also included the participation of Patricia Palma de Fulladolsa, Director of the Central American Food and Nutrition Security Regional Special Program (PRESANCA), and a representative from FAO's Regional Office. The partnerships between Rafael and Brazilian academic institutions in the area of household food insecurity continue

to grow. As part of this effort he hosted in March Professor Gilberto Kac from the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro and will be hosting Professor Rodrigo Vianna, from the Federal University of Paraiba, for a six-month sabbatical starting in May. Pérez-Escamilla was a member of the expert panel providing guidance to the DHHS Office of Minority Health for the evaluation of the National Partnership for Action to End Health Disparities (NPA). Information on the recently released NPA recommendations and activities are available at <http://minorityhealth.hhs.gov/npa/>. Susan Mayne was an invited speaker at a conference hosted by the Jean Mayer USDA Human Nutrition Research Center on Aging at Tufts University on New Developments in Carotenoid Research; her topic was "Beta-carotene: Lessons learned from epidemiological and human supplementation studies." Dr. Mayne also was an invited speaker at the Experimental Biology annual meeting, where she participated in the Food and Nutrition Board update session, discussing the Dietary Reference Intakes for Calcium and Vitamin D.

*From The Center for Genetics, Nutrition and Health...* Artemis P. Simopoulos attended the 3rd Neonatal Nutrition Conference in Cartagena, Colombia on February 25-26, 2011 and gave two presentations: "A Vision of Nutrigenetics/Nutrigenomics," and "Evolutionary Aspects of the Omega-6/Omega-3 Fatty Acid Ratio." On March 7, 2011 Dr. Simopoulos presented a cardiovascular research seminar on "The Importance of The Omega-6/Omega-3 Fatty Acid Ratio in Cardiovascular disease and Other Chronic Diseases" at Saint Louis University School of Medicine's Cardiovascular Research Seminar in St. Louis, Missouri. Dr. Simopoulos attended the 7th International Anti-Aging Congress in Sao Paulo, Brazil on June 1-4, 2011 and gave two presentations. Dr. Simopoulos attended the 26th Lipid Forum Symposium in Alesund, Norway on June 19-22, 2011 and spoke on "Omega-6 Fatty Acids Intake vs. Omega-3 Fatty Acids Impact on Metabolic Health."

*From the Jean Mayer USDA Human Nutrition Research Center on Aging at Tufts University...* Jeffrey Blumberg, Director of the Antioxidants Research Laboratory, was named Guest Editor, *Nutrients*, Special Issue on Dietary Antioxidants. Sarah Booth, Director of the Vitamin K Laboratory, and Xiang-Dong Wang, Director of the Nutrition and Cancer

Biology Laboratory were named Associate Editor, *Advances in Nutrition*. Dr. Wang also received the Mary Swartz Rose Senior Investigator Award at the ASN Meeting and Experimental Biology in April, 2011. Alice Lichtenstein, Director of the Cardiovascular Nutrition Laboratory, was the recipient of the 2010 Excellence in Dietary Guidance Award, sponsored by the Food and Nutrition Section of APHA. Simin Nikbin Meydani co-hosted, with Robert Russell, the New Developments in Carotenoids Research conference in March 2011 at the HNRCA in Boston. Jose Ordovas, Director of the Nutrition and Genomics Laboratory, was selected as the Member of Honor of the Royal Academy of Medicine in Zaragoza (Spain). Dr. Ordovas was also selected to receive the 2011 Pan-American Nutrition, Food Science and Technology Award, and has published a new book, *Obesity*.

*From Northeastern University in Boston...* Carmen Sceppa has received tenure in the Department of Health Sciences. Katherine Tucker, chair of the Department of Health Sciences, visited the Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia to review their graduate programs in nutrition, to lecture on nutritional epidemiology, and to advise graduate students on their research. She recently joined the International Life Sciences Institute (ILSI) North America, Food, Nutrition and Safety Program (FNSP) Scientific Advisory Board. Dr. Tucker also recently gave an invited lecture in Bogota, Colombia on Moderate alcohol consumption and osteoporosis at the Simposio Internacional Moderado Consumo de Alcohol: Riesgos y Beneficios Para La Salud. *Asociacion Colombiana de Endocrinologia*.

Send your submissions to: Robert Jackson  
bojack@umd.edu

## North Spotlight

### *University of Illinois-Urbana*

The Division of Nutritional Sciences received a five-year \$4.5 million USDA NIFA grant to establish the Illinois Transdisciplinary Obesity Prevention Program (I-TOPP), an innovative research-based program that will combine a Ph.D. with a master's in public health (MPH) degree focused on child obesity prevention. Sharon Donovan is PI of the grant, with 3 other co-PI's: David Buchner, Barbara Fiese, and Rodney Johnson and 11 co-investigators. The new degree will integrate innovative research

in nutrition, child development and family studies, physical activity, public health science and practice, economics, practices in child care centers, and the effects of media. Graduate students in the I-TOPP program will develop and test transdisciplinary interventions to prevent childhood obesity. For more information on the I-TOPP program or on how to apply to the graduate program, please visit [www.go.illinois.edu/itopp](http://www.go.illinois.edu/itopp).

The Division of Nutritional Sciences was pleased to host Pamela Anderson (Abbott Nutrition), Staci Bilbo (Duke University), Michael Keenen (Louisiana State University), and Peter Havel (University of California, Davis) in its spring 2011 Seminar Series.

On April 6, 2011, Brian Wansink, (John Dyson Professor of Marketing and the Director of the Cornell Food and Brand Lab, Dept. of Applied Economics and Management, Cornell University) was the keynote speaker at the Division of Nutritional Sciences' "Nutrition Symposium 2011", which was organized by the NS Graduate Student Association. Dr. Wansink's presentation was entitled "Modifying the Built Environment: From Mindless Eating to Mindlessly Eating Better". This year the event also included a mini-symposium "Nutritional Strategies to Mitigate Immune-to-Brain Communication" featuring presentations from the following DNS faculty: Robert Dantzer, Gregory Freund, Rodney Johnson, and Jeff Woods.

The College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences (ACES) recognized the following Division faculty at its awards banquet on April 18rd, 2011: Rodney Johnson received the Paul A. Funk Recognition Award, Kelly Swanson received the Faculty Award for Excellence in Research, and Kelly Tappenden received the Senior Faculty Award for Excellence in Teaching.

John Erdman chaired the Institute of Medicine's Committee on Nutrition Research, whose report, "Nutrition and Traumatic Brain Injury: Improving acute and subacute health outcome in military personnel" was recently published. Karen Chapman-Novakofski presented "Nutrition Implications for People with diabetes consuming Alcohol" as part of the 17th Annual International Diabetes Outreach Programme, in Ocho Rios, Jamaica. The Division welcomed Soo-Yeun Lee, PhD, Dept. Food Science and Human Nutrition, University of Illinois, as a new member in May.

### *Iowa State University*

Don Beitz was named a Fellow of the Iowa Academy of Science for excellence in his professional career.

### *Michigan State University*

Theobald Moshia, Sokoine University of Agriculture, Morogoro, Tanzania, will host 12 students from Michigan State University when they spend 3 weeks in July in Tanzania on a Study Abroad Program focused on Food, Nutrition and Health.

### *University of Minnesota Nutrition Department*

Mindy Kurzer gave an invited talk entitled "Soy: poison or panacea?" at the NIH Office of Dietary Supplements in February 2011. This was followed by an interview on the topic for a cover story in the Endocrine Society publication Endocrine News. Dr. Kurzer also gave an invited talk entitled "Soy isoflavones and soy: a review of benefits and science" at the Women's Health 2011: 19th Annual Congress, in Washington, DC, in April 2011.

Melissa Nelson Laska was recently inducted as a Fellow in The Obesity Society. She was also an invited speaker at the Michael & Susan Dell Center for Advancement of Healthy Living (School of Public Health, University of Texas Health Sciences Center, Austin Regional Campus), as well as a featured speaker at South Dakota State University's 28th Annual Health & Nutrition Conference. Her presentations were entitled, "Promoting healthy food choices during the adolescent transition to young adulthood: The Generation Y challenge."

Kim Robien has been promoted to Associate Professor (with tenure). She will also become Program Director for the University of Minnesota's Public Health Nutrition program in the School of Public Health as of July 1, 2011.

### *Ohio University*

Darlene Berryman gave a talk entitled "Growth hormone and adipose tissue: it's all in the depot" at University of Virginia for Endocrine Ground Rounds on April 26, 2011. She also gave a talk entitled "Chewing the fat: the susceptibility of growth hormone antagonist mice to diet-induced obesity" at a Endocrine Retreat in Paris France on May 13, 2011. Her student, Stephanie Harshman, won an Endocrine Society summer research fellowship as well as an award from the American

Dietetics Association. Rob Brannan was promoted to Associate Professor.

### *Ohio State*

Earl Harrison, Steve Schwartz, Matt Fleshman (doctoral student advised by Earl Harrison) and Mark Failla each presented invited lectures in the all day symposium titled Vitamins: Effectiveness of Supplements vs. Food at the 241st National Meeting of the American Chemical Society.

### *Wayne State University*

Dr. Cathy Jen has announced the establishment of a joint program with Macomb Community College. Students enrolled in this program will receive a Culinary Arts Certificate from Macomb Community College and a BA in Nutrition and Food Science from Wayne State University.

Dr. Yifan Zhang's article "Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus in Retail Meat, Detroit, Michigan, USA" will be published and included in the media highlight of the CDC journal Emerging Infectious Diseases in June 2011. This article revealed that in the US, meat contamination may come from human meat handlers, not the animal themselves.

## **Rocky Mountains/Great Plains Spotlight**

If there is anyone in Arkansas, Colorado, Kansas, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, Utah or Wyoming that is not receiving a request for Nutrition Notes entries, please send me an e-mail to n-turner@tamu.edu so that I may include you in my listserv.

### *From Baylor College of Medicine*

Bill Wong was an invited speaker on the "Use of Stable Isotopes for Assessment of Body Composition and Metabolic Function in Mothers and Infants" at the Workshop on Prenatal Stress and Fetal Programming of Health and Disease Risk, University of California, Irvine, March 11-12, 2011. Drs. Wantanee Kriengsinyos and Pattanee Winchagoon from the Institute of Nutrition at Mahidol University in Thailand visited the Gas-Isotope-Ratio Mass Spectrometry Laboratory on March 23 and 24, 2011 at the Children's Nutrition Research Center to learn about the doubly labeled water method for estimation of energy expenditure under free-living conditions and observed the post-session assessments in the Healthy Kids-Houston project.

### *From Texas A&M University*

Dr. Robert Chapkin was recognized by the Board of Regents of the Texas A&M University System in December, 2010. He was awarded the prestigious designation of "Regents Professor" in recognition of his research accomplishments. Dr. Nancy Turner gave an invited presentation to the Department of Health & Kinesiology at Texas A&M University on February 14 entitled "Molecular Mechanisms Underlying Dietary Chemoprevention of Colon Cancer". On February 21, Dr. Turner gave a seminar entitled "Sorghum Grain – Its Relevance to Human Health" to the Faculty of Food Science and Technology at Texas A&M University. The Intercollegiate Faculty of Nutrition had the pleasure of hosting the following speakers at the Fall Seminar Series: Dr. Robert Bresalier from the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center; Dr. William Helferich from the University of Illinois; Dr. Rick Kreider from Texas A&M University; Dr. Amy Subar from the National Cancer Institute; Dr. Yves Boisclair from the University of Cornell, Dr. Chery Smith from the University of Minnesota, Dr. Da-wei Gong from the University of Maryland; and Cindy Guo, Thaddeus Adams, and David Silvey, all graduate students from Texas A&M University. Ms. Harmony Turk and Ms. Autumn Billimek, graduate students from the laboratories of Dr. Robert Chapkin and Dr. Clinton Allred, respectively, were among the 12 students selected to participate in the graduate student competition at EB11. Ms. Harmony Turk was among the three students selected as winners of the competition.

### *From South Dakota State University*

The 28th Annual Health and Nutrition Conference was held on the SDSU campus March 14-15th. The Ethel Austin Martin Distinguished Lecturer was Laurie J. Moyer-Mileur, Research Professor, Pediatrics, University of Utah, who presented "Stress Relief for Preemies: How Massage Therapy Benefits Growth, Development and Metabolism." Other invited speakers and their lecture titles included: Janine Albers, Avery McKennan Hospital, Hy-Vee Dietitian, "NuVal: Nutrition by the Numbers"; Tasha Ballard, Lifestyle Medicine Education Coordinator, Family Medicine Residency Program, Poudre Valley Health Systems, Fort Collins, Colorado, "Lifestyle Medicine: Promoting Lifestyle Change in Disease Management"; Martha Belurly, Carol S. Kennedy Professor of Nutrition, Ohio State University, "Dietary Fats that Alter Body Fat: Surprising Effects & Possible Mechanisms";

Leslie Bonci, Director of Sports Nutrition, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, "The Winning Plate in Sports Nutrition"; Amy Elliot, Director, Health Disparities Research Center, Sanford Research, University of South Dakota, "Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders"; Paul Ten Haken, President, Click Rain, Inc., "Online Marketing in Healthcare: Where Are We Headed?"; Joan Hegerfeld Baker, Instructor and Extension Specialist, Department of Health and Nutritional Sciences, South Dakota State University, "The Value of Virtual Labs – Food Safety Technical Applications"; Roger Shewmake, Professor and Director, Nutrition Program, Sioux Falls Family Medicine Residency, Center for Family Medicine, and Mark Huntington, Assistant Director, Sioux Falls Family Medicine Residency, Center for Family Medicine, "Bariatric Surgery: Nutritional Consequences for Health"; Melissa Nelson Laska, Assistant Professor, Division of Epidemiology & Community Health University of Minnesota "Promoting Healthy Food Choices During the Adolescent Transition to Young Adulthood: The Generation Y Challenge"; and Leah Whigham, Research Nutritionist, Grand Forks Human Nutrition Research Center, "Can Eating Vegetables Really Help Me Lose Weight?". Teresa M Kemmer and three students traveled to Montana de la Flor, Honduras in January as part of the SDSU Study Abroad Program and travel studies course. The nutrition and health assessment project is completed in collaboration with the Honduran Ministry of Health (MoH); Honduran military medical personnel, the U.S. Military Medical Element in Honduras, and Mission Honduras LeMars from Iowa. The team was comprised of 28 participants. The objectives of the ongoing project are to identify nutrition and health risks within children in rural Honduran communities, build local health care capacity and support the MoH nutrition priorities.

### *From the UT Southwestern Medical Center*

Elizabeth Parks presented the City-wide Endocrine Grand Rounds at the University of Toronto in January 2011. Her talk was entitled "Lipogenesis: Regulation and Role in Human Metabolism."

## **Southeast Spotlight**

Submit your submissions to: [dekipp@uncg.edu](mailto:dekipp@uncg.edu)  
*East Carolina University*...Kathy Kolasa presented at the North Carolina Dietetic Association "IN4Kids: Integrating Nutrition for

Kids: Study Findings" along with the IN4KIDS Team from Duke University (Gwen Murphy, Lori Carter-Edwards, Meghan Mayhew, and Mina Silberberg). She also presented along with Sheree Vodicka of the NC Division of Public Health, "Disengaging Auto Pilot: Empower Weight Management Clients with Mindfulness". Kolasa taught two webinar for the University of Texas, one on The Mediterranean Diet and the other on the Healthy Hospital Initiative.

#### *University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill...*

Our students did exceptionally well at the April 2011 EB meeting. Justin Milner (mentor Melinda Beck) received a best poster award from the Nutritional Immunology RIS. Lindsay Jaacks (mentor Beth Mayer-Davis) was one of twelve finalists for the ASN Nutrition Epidemiology RIS Student Poster Competition at EB 2011. Her title was "Age-specific Trends in Prevalence of Overweight in China: 1991-2009." Eva Erber (mentor June Stevens) won the ASN Nutrition Epidemiology RIS student poster competition. Her title was "Long- and Short-Term Weight Change and Incident Coronary Heart Disease: The Atherosclerosis Risk in Communities Study." In addition to these student awards, Samantha Attard (mentor Miroslav Styblo) received the Ethel J. Coleman Endowed Scholarship in Nutritional Biochemistry, and, Beth Hopping (mentor Peggy Bentley) was awarded a 3 year Graduate Research Fellowship from the National Science Foundation to study sustainable approaches to local agriculture and improved food security and nutrition in the Galapagos Islands.

Brante Sampey (a postdoctoral fellow with Liza Makowski) was selected to present a summary of his work at the UNC Integrative Vascular Biology/McAllister Heart Institute Spring Research Symposium. Rosalind Coleman was asked to participate as a member of an NIH expert panel to evaluate GMS Glue Grants. At EB 2011 she gave a hot topics talk on "The fate of fat: the use of knockout mice to examine lipid partitioning" for the ASN Energy and Macronutrient Metabolism RIS. Gina Sacks, a 2011 BSPH graduate (mentor Liza Makowski) won a UNC Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship and an Honors Thesis Award. Penny Gordon-Larsen will present an invited Mars keynote lecture on linkages between biology, behavior, and environment in the development of obesity at the Society for the Study of Ingestive Behavior in July 2011. In January 2011 Miroslav Styblo participated on

an expert panel for a workshop on the "Role of environmental chemicals in the development of diabetes and obesity" organized by the National Toxicology Program.

#### *University of North Carolina at Greensboro...*

Wei Jia gave a keynote speech at the Oriental Science Forum in Shanghai, China. The title of his presentation was, "*Metabolomic Study of Metabolic Disorders*". He also presented his research work on, "*Cancer Metabolomics: Identifying Biomarkers and Druggable Targets*" at the Gentriss Corporation, NC. Margaret Savoca, presented seminar at the North Carolina Dietetic Association's 78th Annual Meeting and Expo in Winston-Salem, NC. The title of her presentation was, "*The Meal Pattern Timeline: Viewing Eating With the Context of Daily Life*". Michael McIntosh, presented seminars on, "*Anti-inflammatory Properties of Grape Polyphenols*" to members of the Linus Pauling Institute and the Department of Food Science at Oregon State University. These seminars were sponsored by the Oregon Wine Research Institute. During the Spring semester, the department had the following guest speakers for a seminar: Craig Hadley, Emory University, Title: "*The causes and consequences of food insecurity among refugees resettled in the USA*"; Julie Wallace, Northern Ireland Center for Food and Health, University of Ulster, Title: "*Vitamin D-factors which alter synthesis and status.*"

Deborah Kipp and Martha Taylor were recipients of 2011 Outstanding Contributions to the School of Human Environmental Sciences Awards. Martha Taylor is retiring from UNCG in July 2011 and will receive Emeritus status upon retirement. Kristina Martinez, PhD candidate (Mentor: Michael McIntosh), was awarded a travel scholarship to attend the "Lipid Biology and Lipotoxicity" meeting in Killarney, Ireland in May 2011. Kristina was also the 2nd place winner of the Nutrient Gene Interaction RIS Poster Competition held at EB 2011 in Washington, DC. The title of her poster was, "The diacylglycerol kinase inhibitor R59022 attenuates trans-10, cis-12 conjugated linoleic acid (CLA)-mediated inflammatory signaling and insulin resistance in primary human adipocyte." Heesun Nam, PhD candidate (Mentor: Ron Morrison), is the recipient of the ASN Wrigley Predoctoral Fellowship for 2011, in recognition for excellence of her proposal entitled: "Molecular Mechanisms Regulating the Development of Obesity-induced Inflammation



in Adipocytes.” The award was presented at the ASN Awards Ceremony, Washington, DC. Bradley S. Ferguson, PhD candidate (mentor: Ron Morrison), was awarded a Keystone Symposia travel award to attend the meeting titled, Obesity & type II diabetes, insulin resistance, and metabolic dysfunction, held in Keystone, CO. Irene Acheampong (Mentor: Lauren Haldeman) has been awarded the first 2011 First International Nutritionist/Dietitian (FIND) Fellowship for Study in the USA. She will be recognized for this award at the Foundation’s gala dinner during ADA’s Food & Nutrition Conference & Expo in San Diego, CA. Two master’s students are winners of a scholarship from the Society for Nutrition Education Foundation (SNEF): Irene Acheampong and Sara Himmelrich (Mentor: Lauren Haldeman). They will receive the award at the SNEF Annual Business Meeting and Awards Ceremony in Kansas City, MO. Two undergraduate students, Avis Murphy and Kerri Lindberg, were recipients of The Lloyd’s International Honors College Student Excellence Awards. This is UNCG’s highest academic honor for undergraduates. They received the award at the Honors Convocation on April 8, 2011.

*From the University of Alabama at Birmingham...* Dr. Krista Casazza joined the UAB Department of Nutrition Sciences in February 2011 as an Assistant Professor. She has most recently been awarded The Endocrine Society 2011 Early Investigators Award and is also selected as the Distinguished Torch Award Recipient for the Robert Stempel College of Public Health & Social Work, which honors distinguished alumni of Florida International University. Jamy Ard, M.D., medical director for UAB EatRight Weight Management Services and associate professor in the UAB Department of Nutrition Sciences, has been named associate dean for clinical affairs in the School of Health Professions. Three UAB School of Health Professions professors in the Department of Nutrition Sciences were named recipients of the 2011 Graduate Dean’s Award for Excellence in Mentorship. Congratulations to Drs. Timothy Garvey, Barbara Gower and Tim Nagy for their accomplishment. The award, now in its fourth year, recognizes exceptional faculty mentorship and demonstrates that UAB is a university that values the commitment to excellence in mentorship that is exhibited by its faculty.

Isao Eto, Ph.D., associate professor and scientist, presented a keynote speech entitled “S9: upstream molecular signaling pathways of p27(kip1) expression in human breast cancer cells” at the 2010 Chongqing International Symposium of Oncology and Translational Cancer Research Conference in Chongqing, China in November 2010.

Chandrika Piyathilake, Ph.D., associate professor and associate scientist, presented a keynote speech entitled “The Cancer Protective Effect of Fruit and Vegetable Intake: Epigenetics Evidence” at The 1st Indonesian International Nutrigenomics Conference in Jakarta, Indonesia on November 3, 2010.

Wendy Demark-Wahnefried, Ph.D., R.D., professor and Webb Endowed Chair, presented a keynote speech entitled “Low-fat diet reduces NF-κB regulated inflammatory cytokines and angiogenic factors in plasma of men with prostate cancer” at the American Association for Cancer Research 2010 Frontiers in Cancer Prevention Research in Philadelphia, in November 2010.

## West Spotlight

*From Stanford University*

Last November, a “Food Summit” was held on Stanford campus, with more than 350 attending. To see a description of the event please go to: <http://foodsummit.stanford.edu>

*From University of California-Davis* the following publications were released:

Ellis CL, Edirisinghe I, Kappagoda T, Burton-Freeman BM. Attenuation of meal-induced inflammatory and thrombotic responses in overweight men and women after 6-weeks daily strawberry (*Fragaria*) intake: a randomized placebo-controlled trial. *Journal of Atherosclerosis and Thrombosis* 2011; 18 (In-Press).

Ellis CL, Rutledge JC, Underwood MA. Intestinal microbiota and blue baby syndrome: probiotic therapy for term neonates with cyanotic congenital heart disease. *Gut Microbes* 2010, November/December; 1(6): 359-366. DOI: 10.4161/gmic.1.6.14077.

Shane AL, Cabana MD, Vidry S, Merenstein D, Hummelen R, Ellis CL, Heimbach JF, Hempel S, Lynch SV, Sanders ME, Tancredi DJ. Guide

to designing, conducting, publishing, and communicating results of clinical studies involving probiotic applications in human participants. *Gut Microbes* 2010, July/August; 1(4): 243-253. DOI: 10.4161/gmic.1.4.12707.

de La Serre CB, Ellis CL, Lee J, Hartman AL, Rutledge JC, Raybould HE. Propensity to high-fat diet-induced obesity in rats is associated with changes in the gut microbiota and gut inflammation. *American Journal of Physiology – Gastrointestinal & Liver Physiology* 2010, August; 299(2): G440-G448. Epub 2010 May 27. PMID: 20508158. DOI: 10.1152/ajpgi.00098.2010.

*From AIBMR Life Sciences, Inc.:* Alexander G. Schauss, PhD, FACN, authored *Acai: An Extraordinary Antioxidant-Rich Palm Fruit From The Amazon*, Third Edition, published by Biosocial Publications in Tacoma, Washington. Within four months of its publication, the third edition has been translated into eight languages. The second edition was published in Norwegian and Spanish, with new translations of the third edition planned for these two languages and four more.

In April 2011, papers co-authored by Dr. Schauss with scientists at the USDA Arkansas Children's Hospital, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, and the Shanghai Institute of Pharmaceutical Industry, related to the chemistry and mechanisms of action of the tropical palm fruit, acai (*Euterpe oleracea* Mart.), were published in the journals *Atherosclerosis*, *Food Chemistry*, and the *Journal of Medicinal Food*. He will be chairing a panel on ergothionine research to be held at UCLA in July. He also has a chapter on inflammation and food polyphenols to appear in *Bioactive Foods in Chronic Disease States* (Elsevier, Oxford, UK), a chapter on citicoline (CDP-choline) to appear in the seminal *Textbook of Natural Medicine*, Fourth Edition (Elsevier, Amsterdam and New York), and a chapter on culinary species in cancer chemoprevention in the work, *Bioactive Foods and Extracts: Cancer Treatment and Prevention* (CRC Press, Boca Raton, FL).

Jeffrey S. Bland, PhD, FACN, FACB was awarded the Linus Pauling Functional Medicine Lifetime Achievement Award at the 2011 International Symposium of The Institute For Functional Medicine (IFM) in Bellevue, Washington. The award recognizes Dr. Bland's substantial

contributions to the advancement of functional medicine. Dr. Linus Pauling was one of the most influential chemists and scientists of the 20th century and is known for his groundbreaking research in the concept of molecular disease and the role of vitamin C. Dr. Bland is the founder of the IFM and is the Chief Science Officer for Metagenics, Inc.

Submitted by:  
Mark Kern  
***kern@mail.sdsu.edu***

Lynn Adams  
***Stedda68@gmail.com***