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American Society for Nutrition
Excellence in Nutrition Research and Practice
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Message From the President:
Simin Nikbin Meydani, DVM, PhD

I have been honored and privileged to serve as ASN President for the past year. This role has given me a true understanding of how influential the Society is and how wonderful its members are. During the last year I have connected with hundreds of members and made new friends. Working with the Board of Directors, Dr. Courtney and staff, ASN has accomplished much; a concise summary can be found in these [slides](#). These accomplishments would not be possible without the members who contributed their time, ideas and feedback. The Society is at an important junction in its existence, and I am confident that the incoming Presidential line, Patrick Stover, Marian Neuhouser and Mary Ann Johnson, will successfully guide ASN through future opportunities and challenges. I look forward to helping them whenever I can. Thank you for allowing me to serve!

Simin Nikbin Meydani, DVM, PhD
ASN President



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ASN News

Elections

ASN's Councils and Research Interest Sections conduct elections throughout May to elect leaders for the coming year. Watch your inbox for ballots and participate in your

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Upcoming Deadlines & Events

May 17-19. [Digestive Disease Week](#). Visit ASN at Booth #3147. Washington, DC.

May 27-28. [FDA Science Forum 2015](#). Silver Spring, MD.

May 28-30. [Canadian Nutrition Society Annual Conference](#). Winnipeg, MB.

June 4. NSC Webinar: [What is the role of GI microbiota in obesity?](#)

June 7. Early registration deadline for FASEB [Science Research Conference on Human Milk](#), organized by ASN Lactation RIS.

group's election. Note: only Primary members of each Council can vote for their representatives. The Young Professional and Student Interest Groups are also seeking applications for open positions on their Boards. Watch the listservs to apply.

Want to search nutrition.org?

The search engine on [ASN's website](#) (top of the page) has been updated to search internal content specific to the site, and to search archived issues of *Nutrition Notes*. This update makes topical and year-based searching quicker and the results more relevant.

Upcoming Meetings

New Webinar Series on the Microbiome

ASN's Nutritional Sciences Council is conducting a free, four-part webinar series to describe the different approaches used to characterize the human microbiome, review current knowledge about gastrointestinal (GI) microbiota and obesity, and discuss the interactive role of GI microbiota and nutrition in chronic health and disease. [Register](#), [view previous programs and learn more about future webinars in the series](#).

[What is the role of GI microbiota in obesity?](#)

June 4 at 1 pm ET

Speakers:

Andrew Gewirtz, PhD, Georgia State University, Institute for Biomedical Sciences

Lee Kaplan, MD, PhD, Massachusetts General Hospital

[What are the independent and interactive roles of GI microbiota and nutrition in modifying chronic disease risk?](#)

June 17 at 1 pm ET

Speakers:

WH Wilson Tang, MD

Johanna Lampe, PhD

ASN's Scientific Sessions and Annual Meeting at EB 2016

Mark your calendars for April 2-6, 2016 for [ASN's 80th Scientific Sessions & Annual Meeting at Experimental Biology](#), taking place in San Diego, CA.

Late-breaking session proposals are due **September 8, 2015**.



Public Policy News

Dietary Guidelines: Written Comments

ASN recently submitted [written comments](#) on the advisory report of the Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee (DGAC). The Society commends the work of the DGAC and the contributions of many ASN members which led to the report. Key recommendations in the comments include:

- Craft dietary recommendations with a strong scientific basis, anchored by evidence-based, peer-reviewed literature
- Create clear, consistent messages that most effectively communicate dietary recommendations to the general public
- Maintain a focus on healthful dietary patterns and a total diet approach
- Consider cultural, social, and economic factors that affect food intake and other food-related behaviors, such as accessibility, affordability, marketing, and cultural norms

June 16. ASN Press

Conference: A Transparent, Actionable Framework for Food and Nutrition Research Public-Private Partnerships. Washington, DC. 10:00-11:00 am.

June 17. [NSC Webinar on microbiota](#).

June 30. [Ferrero Hazelnut Award Competition](#) deadline. Prize: 160,000 Euros.

Sept. 8. [EB 2016](#) late-breaking proposals.



AAALAC Awards

The IQ Consortium and AAALAC International are pleased to announce the 2015 Global 3Rs Awards Program, which will recognize significant innovative contributions toward the 3Rs of animal research to advance ethical science by any researcher (nominated author, principal investigator, or research team leader), in academia or industry in any area of bioscience (e.g., basic science, discovery, development, teaching, testing, manufacture for new medicines, vaccines, medical devices or healthcare products for humans and animals).

- Refine how we grade the quality of research to reinforce the evidence base for future guidelines

Senate Forms NIH Caucus

On May 5, Senators Richard Durbin (D-III.) and Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.) launched the bipartisan Senate National Institutes of Health (NIH) Caucus, aimed at offering senators opportunities to educate their colleagues about the importance of biomedical research. The goal of the caucus is to "seek a bipartisan strategy to restore the purchasing power that NIH has lost and provide steady, predictable growth for biomedical research in the future."

USDA Seeking Research Assistants for Nutrition Evidence Library

The USDA [Nutrition Evidence Library](#) is recruiting candidates for its Abstractor Program. Qualified applicants will assist in the development of evidence portfolios to inform federal nutrition policies and programs, such as the [Dietary Guidance Development Project for Infants and Toddlers from Birth to 24 Months and Women Who are Pregnant](#). The specific responsibilities, qualifications, time commitment, stipend, and application form can be found [here](#).

Visit the [ASN website](#) to read the entire policy update.

Journal Highlights

Impact Statements Showcase High Impact and Value of ASN Journals

So, you know that the Impact Factors of ASN journals place them in the top 10% of all journals indexed by Thomson Reuters, but did you know that research reported in ASN journals provides vital supporting evidence for guidelines, reports, and recommendations issued by governments, foundations, and professional organizations? Did you know that approximately 25% of all citations articles published by journals in the Thomson Reuters Nutrition & Dietetics category in a given year are to ASN Journals? Read about the high value and influence of ASN journals in the [AICN](#), [JN](#) and [AN](#) Impact Statements. _

Advances in Nutrition

The May [issue](#) of *Advances in Nutrition*, ASN's international review journal, features several new takes on topics in nutrition:

- Is it possible to replace unhealthy saturated fats with healthy fats in food manufacturing and processing? "The substitution of highly unsaturated fats for solids fats could have negative nutritional consequences unless technologies are utilized to prevent their oxidation," according to AN review
- Can low-income families afford to comply with Dietary Guidelines for Americans? Some population subgroups have successfully adopted dietary guidelines at unexpectedly low costs. AN review further notes, "constructing a healthy diet based on dietary guidelines can be done, provided that nutrient density of foods, their affordability, as well as taste and social norms are all taken into account."

The American Journal of Clinical Nutrition

Read the [media alert](#) for summaries and analyses of each study.

- *How effective are current dietary guidelines for cardiovascular disease prevention in healthy middle-aged and older men and women? A randomized controlled trial*
- *Flavonoid intake and all-cause mortality*

The Journal of Nutrition

Summaries and analyses are found in the [media alert](#).

- *Chronic intake of sucrose accelerates sarcopenia in older male rats through alteration*

Up to Four Global Awards (North America, Europe, Pacific Rim, and the Rest of World) will be presented annually in the amount of \$5,000 (USD).

Application Deadline: July 1, 2015

For more information and to apply, go to www.aaalac.org.



Member Spotlight

- **Dr. Cheryl Lovelady**, UNC-Greensboro, has been named the Lake Simpson Dickson Distinguished Professor effective July 1, 2015.
- **Dr. Steve Schwartz** received the 2015 Distinguished Senior Faculty Research Award from the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center at the Ohio State University.
- Browse the [list of members](#) who joined ASN in April 2015.

Have you received an award, been quoted in the media or published a book recently? ASN is proud of its members and wants to know about such accomplishments. Send the information to Suzanne Price at sprice@nutrition.org to be featured in an upcoming newsletter.