The end of 2015 has proven to be an active time for ASN. The highlight was the fifth annual Advances & Controversies in Clinical Nutrition conference, held in Long Beach. This conference continues to showcase the most recent breakthroughs and best science in clinical nutrition year-after-year.

Looking ahead, I hope everyone has ASN’s Scientific Sessions & Annual Meeting on their calendars. Plans for the Presidential Symposium on April 4: “Systems Approaches to Nutrition: Where We are and Where We are Going” are finalized. I hope you can join us in San Diego this April!

There has been much attention focused on the impact of funding and its various sources on the nutrition research enterprise. ASN, as the home of nutrition researchers from academia, government and the private sector, is well positioned to be a leading voice on such issues by serving as a platform to address the various perspectives of our members, as well as external constituencies who contribute to the public dialog. The ASN Board of Directors is actively engaged in meeting these challenges with a long-term view of how best to position the society to meet our mission and stakeholder expectations. Please feel free to reach out to me regarding this topic, or any other topic related to ASN.

We appreciate your 2015 year-end support to ASN and the ASN Foundation, and look forward to a successful year ahead!
Nutrition Education in Professional Schools

ASN’s Nutrition Education in Professional Schools Committee continues to work to develop a coordinated effort to advocate and support the advancement of nutrition education for health professional schools. Below are a few updates:

- Ed Saltzman, MD represents ASN on the IOM Global Forum on Innovations in Health Professional Education. We encourage you to check out this group’s reports at http://iom.nationalacademies.org/Activities/Global/InnovationHealthProfEducation.aspx.
- Nanette Steinle, MD represents ASN on IOM’s collaborative on integrated community and clinical care related to nutrition and physical activity. This effort is part of the IOM Roundtable on Obesity Solutions, and information about this effort can be found at http://iom.nationalacademies.org/activities/nutrition/obesitysolutions.aspx.
- Last April in Boston, we conducted the Meeting of New England/Mid-Atlantic Regional Medical School Educators to offer a mentoring and networking event to share current curriculum options, review implementation examples, and broaden our network of nutrition educators.

We had more than 40 participants, including several international instructors from the UK and New Zealand. We plan to conduct a similar event at ASN’s Scientific Sessions at EB 2016 in San Diego.

- Early in the new year, we plan to release the 2016 applications for ASN’s Clinical Nutrition Internship Program for medical students as well as ASN’s Physician Nutrition Specialist Award. Please stay tuned for additional details.

Submitted by Doug Seidner, MD, Co-Chair and Carine Lenders, MD, Co-Chair
Transition Team Guides Planning of ASN’s Flagship Meeting

Under the guidance of ASN’s Transition Team, plans are in motion for the launch of ASN’s nutrition-focused meeting in 2018.

ASN is evaluating potential host cities, zoning in on those that offer the right hotel and meeting space package to create the perfect environment for sharing science, learning and connecting. Spring has emerged as the most popular time for the new meeting, which will be scheduled outside the academic year with care taken to avoid conflicts with other nutrition meetings. Stay tuned for news on the dates and location by EB 2016.

Members will not have to wait until 2018 to benefit from the numerous improvements identified as part of the planning for the independent meeting. Whenever possible, innovative ideas are being incorporated into ASN’s current meetings.

For Advances and Controversies in Clinical Nutrition (ACCN) ASN is publishing accepted abstracts in Advances in Nutrition and developing promotional partnerships with the related national and local societies, universities and other health systems.

For ASN’s Scientific Sessions and Annual Meeting at Experimental Biology (EB) 2016, the Scientific Program Committee has been expanded and a more proactive approach has been implemented to develop core sessions. We have refined the abstract scoring process and established a consistent speaker reimbursement policy. ASN will continue to present programming at EB concurrent with the launching and managing a successful independent meeting in 2018.

These improvements coincide with the launch of ASN on Demand—a new universal digital platform which will make ASN post-meeting content accessible beginning in January.

Work is underway to identify the perfect name for ASN’s flagship meeting—one that’s informative and appeals to our constituents, but is also bold and conveys something new and different. The brand identity will help educate the outside world about nutrition science, the work of ASN members, and the value of ASN.

Under the leadership of James O. Hill, PhD, Chair, and ASN President, Patrick J. Stover, PhD, Co-Chair, the Transition Team provides advice and counsel to the staff, ensuring that ASN membership is in the know and involved in the planning. Your suggestions are always welcome at meetings@nutrition.org.

American Society for Nutrition (ASN) Partners with African Graduate Nutrition Students Network (AGSNet)

ASN has signed a strategic partnership agreement with African Graduate Nutrition Students Network (AGSNet) to work together to combat malnutrition on the African continent. “As a global leader, ASN is ideally positioned to help AGSNet in our joint vision of improved nutrition through education of aspiring health professionals,” said Executive Officer John Courtney, PhD.

AGSNet is a network of more than 400 African graduate students and young professionals from more than 30 countries across four continents—Africa, Europe, North America and Asia. It was created by students of Cornell University in Ithaca, New York in 2002. AGSNet’s mission is to create a forum to promote relations and networks, build appropriate attitudes and values among its members, nurture leadership capacities, and present a unified front to improve nutrition on the African continent. ASN’s more than 5,000 members work in diverse areas of nutrition and are located in more than 65 countries. Through the highest-rated nutrition research and practice, ASN’s members enhance scientific knowledge, promote science-based messages, and ultimately seek to enhance quality of life.

“AGSNet is undergoing a transformation to meet the network’s objectives within current global circumstances,” said Joseph Ashong, AGSNet Coordinator. At the core of the transformation is the opportunity to bring to the forefront the critical role of African graduate students and young professional in the ‘fight’ against malnutrition on the African continent. “The partnership between ASN and AGSNet is a key part of the transformation”, said Brenda Zarhari, AGSNet Steering Committee.

Under this strategic partnership, ASN and AGSNet will collaborate in five focal areas:

- Leadership and mentorship – AGSNet leadership will benefit from a strong relationship with ASN and their Global Nutrition Council and learn from ASN experience in providing strong organizational leadership;
- Improved Networking Opportunities – AGSNet will work closely with Cornell, Wageningen and ASN to plan, raise funds and implement conferences and other programs to meet, network and discuss issues important to AGSNet and African nutrition matters.
- Access to publications and journals – AGSNet and ASN will encourage publications and improved research output from AGSNet and collaborate to provide access to ASN articles and journals and build the capacity of AGSNet members to publish in the highest global impact nutrition journals.
- Website Hosting – ASN will host AGSNet website and provide technical assistance on the management of the website.
ASN-ANDP Partnership

The Association of Nutrition Departments and Programs (ANDP) and the American Society for Nutrition (ASN) signed a Memorandum of Understanding on October 27, 2015, to strengthen their progress on mutual interests in advancing nutrition science and policy, academic nutrition training, professional development of members, and related areas.

Under the three-year agreement, ASN and ANDP will work collaboratively to serve department heads and their faculty and students with educational/professional development activities, journals and membership; and continue to identify and address the unique needs of nutrition department heads and program directors. Both organizations will retain their independence and continue to represent only themselves in meetings and forums with agencies, organizations, and other groups and individuals. ANDP will continue to hold its annual meeting each fall, and co-sponsor programming and events at ASN’s Scientific Sessions and Annual Meeting and other ASN meetings.

ASN and ANDP will work together to identify mutually beneficial ways to support both organizations’ missions, such as promoting or advocating for issues of concern to each organization’s members, or providing incentives for each organization’s members to participate in activities of the other organization. The two organizations have also begun to identify areas in which administrative services could be managed together for greater efficiency and benefit to the membership of both societies.

Together ASN and ANDP will broaden and enhance the community of nutrition educators by provide networking opportunities for faculty in undergraduate and graduate nutrition programs and related disciplines.

Policy-related Highlights

- As a direct result of a sign-on letter campaign initiated by the American Society for Nutrition, followed by additional letters and meetings, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) announced they are staying portions of the 2013 final Guidance on INDs, effective immediately. FDA is staying “portions of subsection VI.D.2, ‘Conventional Food,’ and all of subsection VI.D.3, ‘Studies Intended to Support a Health Claim,’ except as to studies intended to evaluate whether a food substance reduces the risk of a disease in individuals less than 12 months old, those with altered immune systems, and those with serious life-threatening medical conditions.” A CFSAN Constituent Update and a Federal Register notice provide more information.
- ASN organized a sign-on letter to USDA and HHS to highlight the importance of the Dietary Reference Intakes (DRIs) and the urgent need to ensure that they are updated to reflect the best science available. The letter gained more than 30 signatories.
- ASN submitted comments to the Food and Drug Administration on the proposed rule “Food Labeling: Revision of the Nutrition and Supplement Facts Labels; Supplemental Proposed Rule to Solicit Comment on Limited Additional Provisions.”
- ASN and the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics partnered to author a letter to Congress seeking support of the 2015 Dietary Guidelines process without interference by Congress. ASN has been actively urging members of Congress to remove language from appropriations bills that would restrict the implementation of the Dietary Guidelines.
- ASN was a partnering organization for the first-ever National Obesity Care Week, which took place November 1-7. The week was named to bring attention and spark a movement to help the third of U.S. adults affected by obesity receive respectful and comprehensive care. Partners recognize that a multi-faceted strategy is needed to treat obesity and encourage healthcare professionals to use these tools and resources for engagement and treatment of obesity patients.
A sampling of sessions includes:

• The Presidential Symposium, **Systems Approaches to Nutrition – Where We Are and Where We Are Going**, is taking a cross disciplinary approach that will interest basic, clinical, translational and public health researchers. Systems approaches are emerging rapidly and revolutionizing our approaches to studying and understanding the complexity of human metabolism, physiology and behaviors, as well as the environment that sustains life and its relationships to the food system. The convergence of “big data”, the genomics revolution, and the computer and engineering sciences with the nutrition sciences promise to transform dietary approaches for the prevention and management of chronic disease through personalized nutrition, as well as implementation of more effective nutrition interventions and food systems that support global and public health. This session will highlight the current state and future prospects of systems approaches across the spectrum of the nutritional sciences, from both insider and outsider perspectives.

• **Food Systems for Public Health** will open a dialogue on agricultural production and human nutrition and explore climate change and other challenges and approaches facing the agricultural system specific to calls for dramatic increases in fruit and vegetable consumption. The all-star lineup will include National Geographic’s Dennis Dimick, Executive Environment Editor, and NASA’s Cynthia Rosenzweig, a climatologist named by Nature as one of the top ten influential scientists of 2012.

• **Biology of Linear Growth** will explore pathways of growth from embryo-fetal life through childhood that may respond to nutrition interventions. A clear understanding of the growth process and its nutritional requirements from conception through early childhood can guide selection of growth indicators and biomarkers for public health use, interpretation of growth profiles, choice, timing and duration of strategy, expectation of impact, and interpretation of findings. This session is timed to help inform and guide global momentum to reduce childhood stunting in undernourished and transitional societies.

• **MicroRNAs** has been implicated in all aspects of human health and disease including bone health, female and male reproduction, immune function, arthritis and inflammatory bowel disease, transmission of virulence factors, and cancer. **Nutrition, microRNAs and Human Health** will expose nutritionists to emerging research on endogenous and dietary microRNAs and how they can affect gene expression to alter disease risk.

• **Sex and Metabolism** will explore late breaking research on the role of estrogen receptors in cardiometabolic health. Through an integrative physiology approach, presentations will explore emerging research that may shape our understanding of sex-specific metabolic differences and lead to better preventative and treatment strategies to improve women’s cardiometabolic health.

**Special thanks** to all of our abstract reviewers who scored nearly 1,800 abstracts. Each year, about 25% of abstracts are programmed into oral sessions (minisymposia) and the remainder are featured in poster presentations. ASN’s Research Interest Sections oversee the review and programming of our abstracts, an integral part of ASN’s Scientific Sessions.

New this year, all of the scientific symposia will be recorded for viewing after the conference in a new, online portal titled **ASN on Demand**. We have received numerous requests for such a service – particularly from international nutrition scientists – and we are pleased to launch it this year. More details will be forthcoming on scientificsessions.nutrition.org.

For a second year, the Emerging Leader Poster Competition will highlight the best research submitted by students and young professionals. Please be sure to join us for this exciting event on Saturday evening.

An invaluable part of ASN’s Scientific Sessions is the networking opportunities provided by all of ASN’s communities. This year, we are working to better integrate the activities of ASN’s Research Interest Sections via the inclusion of RIS Forum in the scientific program. Through these programs, each RIS can conduct a hot topic session, networking event or discussion to help build their community of researchers.

As in prior years, the program will also feature International Forum, organized by international nutrition societies to highlight research being done outside the US.

This and so much more will await you at ASN’s Scientific Sessions and Annual Meeting at EB 2016. Come join us and participate in our high quality learning and networking experiences.

Visit scientificsessions.nutrition.org for details.

Submitted by Susan Fried, PhD
Boston University School of Medicine.
ASN’s 5th Annual Advances and Controversies in Clinical Nutrition

Clinical Nutrition was at the forefront at ASN’s fifth annual Advances and Controversies in Clinical Nutrition (ACCN15), December 4-6, 2015. Nearly 300 health care professionals, nutrition scientists, faculty, and public health professionals gathered in Long Beach, California to advance their understanding of the latest developments and most discussed areas in clinical nutrition. The conference featured sessions, workshops, and nearly 50 oral and poster presentations, showcasing new and original research.

The opening session, The Microbiome: What We’re Learning from Human Studies featuring Rob Knight, PhD was kicked off by Connie W. Bales, PhD, RD, Chair, ASN Medical Nutrition Council. Over the three days, attendees participated in sessions addressing some of the most hotly debated areas in nutrition:

- Gluten Sensitivity: New Epidemic or Current Craze?
- Highlights from the 2015 Dietary Guidelines Committee Report
- Saturated Fats: To Eat or Not to Eat?
- Carbs Under Attack: Helping your Patients Navigate the World of Carbohydrates
- Low and No Calorie Sweeteners and Weight Management
- Is there an Optimal Diet for Patients with Diabetes?
- Lifestyle Approaches to the Management of Sarcopenia in the Elderly
- Nutritional Approaches to Non-Alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease
- Dietary Supplements: Is There a Recommended Approach for Evaluating the Evidence?
- Fit Bits, Apps and Weigh Ins: What do we Know about Self-Monitoring?

Kathryn I. Pollak, PhD, Associate Professor, Duke University School of Medicine, Durham, NC led multiple, small group workshops on Motivational-Interviewing Techniques to Encourage Lifestyle Changes/Weight Loss. The intimate setting enabled participants to practice interviewing skills.

In addition to the formal ACCN15 program, exhibits were available for interactive learning during the breaks. Many participants also opted to attend sponsored satellite programs held in conjunction with the conference sponsored by the Egg Nutrition Center, Hass Avocado Board, and Atkins Nutritional, Inc.

Co-Chairs Joel B. Mason, MD, Professor of Medicine and Nutrition, Tufts University, Boston, MA and Kelly A. Tappenden, PhD, RD, Kraft Foods Human Nutrition
Endowed Professor, University of Illinois, Distinguished Teacher-Scholar, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, IL, led the Program Committee in planning the can’t-miss program.

Connie W. Bales, PhD
Ruth E. Grossmann, RN, MNHP, PhD
Melina B. Jampolis, MD
Scott Kahan, MD, MPH
Zhaoping Li, MD, PhD
Susan Raatz, PhD, MPH, RD
Ed Saltzman, MD
Tom R. Ziegler, MD

Catherine Barrell Wall, RN, MSN, PNP-BC, CPON

Long Beach, with its water views, walkability and warm weather, was a beautiful back drop to the annual conference with summer-like weather, water views and a walkable city. Don’t miss the opportunity to be a part of ACCN16. With the successful conclusion of ACCN15, ASN is back to work creating cutting edge program and selecting the perfect destination for next year’s conference. Watch http://www.nutrition.org/meetings/ for more information.

Be sure to visit the ASN blog (http://www.nutrition.org/asn-blog/) to read up on what you missed – Better yet, access ACCN15 sessions via ASN on Demand beginning in early 2016. Purchase a pass to ASN on Demand (NEW) for only $200 to enjoy 24/7, mobile/online viewing of all sessions from the 2015 conference.
I am extremely pleased to announce the results of the Nutritional Sciences Council (NSC) Governing Committee election. Please join me in welcoming the committee for the upcoming year:

**Nutritional Sciences Council**

**Chair:** Cindy Davis (14–16)

**Chair-Elect:** Sean Adams (14–16)

**Past-Chair:** Malcolm Watford (10–16)

**Secretary-Treasurer:** Michelle (Shelley) McGuire (14–17)

**Members-at-Large:**
- Tracy Anthony (14–16)
- Zora Djuric (15–17)
- Janos Zempleni (15–17)
- Cynthia Ogden (14–16)
- Sarah Johnson, Postdoc (14–16)
- Katie Hootman, Student (15–17)

**Staff:** Moira Guenther

I want to thank everyone who volunteered to be on the ballot. It was an excellent group of candidates and an extremely close election.

Over the spring and summer the NSC organized a series of webinars 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.

- **Webinar 1:** What is the microbiome and what is the evidence that diet can modify GI bacteria? This webinar had 530 participants register and 315 attended. Since the link has been up, the first recording has been viewed over 925 times!

- **Webinar 2:** The GI microbiota: How do you determine who is there and what they are doing? This webinar had 524 people register and 297 attended. About 300 people have viewed the recording.

- **Webinar 3:** What is the role of GI microbiota in obesity and metabolic syndrome? This webinar had 645 people register and 328 attend. About 450 people have viewed the recording.

- **Webinar 4:** What are the independent and interactive roles of GI microbiota and nutrition in modifying chronic disease risk? This webinar had 580 register and 244 attend. About 150 people have viewed the recording.

These webinars are still available!! If you would like to view them, please go to: http://www.nutrition.org/education-and-professional-development/the-microbiome-webinar-series/

The NSC is gearing up for ASN’s Scientific Sessions at EB 2016, April 2-6 in San Diego. A highlight is always the graduate student research award competition on Saturday afternoon. In addition, we are sponsoring a number of symposia including:

- Nutrition, microRNAs and Human Health Regulation of Health and Disease by Sulfur Amino Acid Metabolism
- Omics Applications to Understand Metabolic Physiology
- Big Data and Other Innovative Approaches to Understanding Dietary Patterns and Health (ILSI Saturday session)
- Optimizing the Aging Brain through Nutrition
- Architecture of Healthy Muscles The interplay between exercise and nutrition on muscle metabolism
- Heritable Factors and Complex Diseases: Using Genetic Epidemiology to Draw Inferences about Nutrition-Disease Relationships

We’ll have our annual business meeting at 7:00 am on Saturday, April 2. Stay tuned for details about the location. We will have a breakfast buffet and look forward to discussing our plans for the upcoming year and to hearing all of your good ideas for NSC activities. We will also have elections for open spaces on the council leadership team—please let me know if you are interested in running. We hope you make plans to join us!!

The NSC governing committee holds monthly conference calls and we are always receptive to any suggestions and topics for discussion from the membership. Feel free to contact any member of the committee if you have any questions or suggestions.

Submitted by Cindy Davis, PhD
davisci@mail.nih.gov

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It was wonderful to see so many of our Medical Nutrition Council members at Advances and Controversies in Clinical Nutrition this December in Long Beach, CA. Thanks to all who were able to join us. We had a terrific program and look forward to beginning work on next year’s program.
Nutrition Notes

Weren’t able to make it to the conference? For the first time, Advances and Controversies in Clinical Nutrition conference was recorded for on-demand viewing from the comfort of your own home or office! Don’t miss our innovative lectures and cutting-edge science available to you without the added expense of travel. See speakers including Rob Knight, MD, Ronald M. Krauss, MD Gary D. Foster, PhD, Alison Evert, MS, RD and many more! Check out ASN on Demand on www.nutrition.org in February.

Submitted by Connie Bales, PhD
connie.bales@duke.edu

Global Nutrition Council

First I’d like to thank those that volunteered to review abstracts. ASN is proud to incorporate peer review into their meeting planning process to assess and monitor the quality of the science being presented at their meetings. If you would like to know more about this process, please go to http://www.nutrition.org/education-and-professional-development/abstract-development/. The Governing Committee (GC) is already working to plan poster sessions and minisymposia. Planning the scientific GNC scientific programs is one of the several key functions that the GNC GC plays.

For updates on GNC events at EB 2016, please make sure to visit ASN’s Scientific Sessions website periodically: http://scientificsessions.nutrition.org/. As always we will look forward to seeing you at EB in San Diego and ask that you please all add the business meeting to your agendas for Monday, April 4, 2016. Other program information, including GNC-endorsed sessions can also be found on the webpage listed above.

Lastly, after a highly successful renewal of the Micronutrient Forum in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in June 2014, we are pleased to announce that the next Micronutrient Forum Global Conference will take place in Cancun, Mexico, 24-28 October 2016. The focus of the Micronutrient Forum is to create a stronger platform for exchange between academia and programs; Bridging Discovery and Delivery. To do this academics, program implementers, policy makers and others working on issues relevant to micronutrients from multiple sectors including nutrition, health, agriculture, food security and business from around the globe will gather to share up-to-date evidence, program experiences and innovative ideas. Look for the Call for Abstracts in early December. To view the preliminary program and for registration information visit www.micronutrientforum.org and sign up for the MNForum email newsletter

Submitted by Lynette Neufeld, PhD
lneufeld@gainhealth.org

Announcement of Editor Search

The American Society for Nutrition announces the search for the Editor of a new open access journal to be launched in January 2017. The five-year appointment will begin in the summer of 2016 to allow ample time for the new Editor to participate in decisions related to journal development, strategic direction and selection of Associate Editors and the journal editorial board. The new journal will provide a global forum for the rapid publication of research findings on a broad range of topics in nutrition, placing particular emphasis on new article types and topics underserved or not served by current ASN publications. Fully peer reviewed, the new publication will broaden access to nutrition research to investigators with limited access to subscription-based journals.

Deadlines: expression of interest (brief biographical sketch with c.v.): February 15, 2016; full application: March 1, 2016. For information on the full application process, please visit: www.nutrition.org/publications/editor-search
From the RIS Director

In the last issue of Nutrition Notes, we reviewed the success of ASN’s Scientific Sessions and Annual Meeting at EB 2015. It is now December and we are already preparing for the 2016 meeting in San Diego. Thank you to those that submitted abstracts; we look forward to seeing you at the meeting in April. We also want to thank those that volunteered to review abstracts – this is a huge task that is very important, and the number of volunteers that have agreed to help in this process has been stupendous. ASN is proud to incorporate peer review into their meeting planning process to assess and monitor the quality of the science being presented at their meetings, as well as serve as a means to mentor graduate students in the abstract writing process. The RISs should be particularly proud as they led the initiative to have all abstracts reviewed for quality and scientific integrity.

This year ASN is continuing to use the results of the abstract scoring to help plan a competitive program, as well as highlighting abstracts in the 2nd ASN Emerging Leader in Nutrition Science Poster Competition organized by all the RISs, along with the GNC and MNC. We hope that this event will continue to:

1. Provide graduate students, medical students and young investigators a unique forum to experience the research world, present their research, interact with other scientists, and compete for prizes.
2. Offer greater recognition to participants in ASN’s poster competitions.
3. Provide uniformity in how ASN conducts poster competitions across all ASN groups, including the RISs and Councils, as well as various Committees.
4. Enable improved management of poster competition events by ASN staff and volunteer leaders.

The highest-scoring abstracts will be considered finalists and will be invited to participate in the competition. Each RIS will recruit a panel to judge the finalists within their respective abstract categories. For those interested in being a judge, keep an eye out this Spring when we recruit volunteers for onsite judging. It should be a great event!

All abstracts are currently being reviewed and will be scheduled in the coming weeks. Please make sure to check for updates on ASN’s Scientific Sessions website which is updated regularly: http://scientificsessions.nutrition.org/. Programming notifications should go out close to the early registration deadline (around the end of January).

For those that were unable to submit by the regular submission date, please consider submitting to the Late Breaking topic categories. The deadline for submission is January 28, 2016. More information can be found at http://scientificsessions.nutrition.org/abstract-information/. If you have further questions, please email Moira Guenther (mguenther@nutrition.org).

I look forward to seeing everyone at EB and encourage the membership to be involved in RIS-related activities as much as possible. Mentoring and developing the young investigators in our discipline is a major goal of the RISs as a whole, and I think the new activities that we have developed over the past year and introduce this year will contribute greatly to that mission.

Submitted by Kevin L. Schalinske, PhD
kschalin@iastate.edu

Aging & Chronic Disease

We are getting closer to EB2015 in San Diego – April 1st, 2016!

Mini-symposia and Poster Sessions
Our RIS will be sponsoring the following abstract submission categories that will be used for ACD programming:

- 5000-ASN Nutrient Needs and Impact on Aging and Health (New!)
- 5001-ASN Nutritional Assessment in Older Adults and Populations (New!)
- 5002-ASN Nutrition and Cardiometabolic Health (New!)
- 5003-ASN Nutrition and Musculoskeletal Health (New!)
- 5004-ASN Nutrition and Gastrointestinal Health (New!)
- 5005-ASN Nutrition Across the Lifespan: Nutrition, Neurobiology, Mood and Behavior (Co-sponsor: Aging, Obesity and Nutrition Translation)

Business Meeting
The Aging Chronic Disease RIS will sponsor our 5th annual graduate student poster competition, and our 3rd postdoctoral fellow poster competition as part of the Emerging Leaders in Nutrition Science Poster Competition on Saturday, April 2, 2016 in San Diego. If
you submitted your abstracts to the categories above, you will automatically be considered to compete in this prestigious competition.

We will award monetary awards to first and second place for each competition. These awards will be distributed to the winners at EB2016 during the business meeting.

The basic requirements to qualify for the competition are as follows:
• The abstract must be accepted to one of the poster or oral mini-symposia topics sponsored by the Aging & Chronic Disease RIS.
• The graduate student or post-doctoral fellow must be first author on the abstract; and
• At least one co-author must be a member of the Aging and Chronic Disease RIS.
• More information can be found on the website: http://scientificsessions.nutrition.org/

Membership Updates and Plans
Our leadership committee has changed in the last few months. In addition to myself, Carmen Castaneda Sceppa, MD, PhD, [Northeastern University]; Past-Chair, Christy C. Tangney, PhD, [Rush University Medical Center]; and Chair-Elect, Bahram H. Arjmandi, PhD, RD, [Florida State University], we welcome Kathryn N. Porter Starr, PhD, RD, [Duke University Medical Center] as RIS secretary; Marshall G. Miller, PhD, [Tufts University] as Postdoctoral Representative; and Robert Bergia, MS, [Purdue University] as Graduate Student Representative.

Don’t forget to check out our RIS website: http://www.nutrition.org/about-asn/research-interest-sections/aging-and-chronic-disease-ris/. Let us know if you would like other announcements posted. Please do not hesitate to suggest other issues important to our RIS with me directly (c.sceppa@neu.edu) or through our listserv AgeChron@lists.nutrition.org.

Contributed by Carmen C. Sceppa, MD, PhD, Chair
Northeastern University
C.sceppa@neu.edu

CARIG
CARIG 2016 Conference will be held on April 1, the Friday afternoon before the Saturday opening of the ASN program. EB 2016 also will feature a CARIG/VARIG trainee poster and award session and business meeting during the annual social following the CARIG Conference.

Late-breaking categories as well as resources for writing your abstracts can be found on the ASN Scientific Sessions and Annual Meeting at EB 2016 site: http://scientificsessions.nutrition.org/abstract-information/.

Additional information on the upcoming 2016 events will appear through the listserv and in subsequent issues of Nutrition Notes, as well as on the site linked above, under program.

Submitted by Sherry Tanumihardjo, PhD

Community and Public Health Nutrition
Many thanks to everyone who not only submitted abstracts to Community and Public Health Nutrition (CPHN) RIS categories but also to those that volunteered to review abstracts. We have new and exciting sessions being scheduled for EB 2016. Visit the ASN website for the latest information at http://scientificsessions.nutrition.org.

We look forward to a productive EB meeting in spring 2016. Our RIS is partnering with the Nutrition Education & Behavioral Science RIS of ASN as well as the Society for Nutrition Education and Behavior (Guest Society) to coordinate and host several events including:

1. Major Symposium: Please plan on attending our first ever major symposium at EB titled “Innovative techniques to evaluating behavioral nutrition interventions in the community.” We have invited four speakers from different disciplines who will briefly discuss alternative methods to evaluating behavioral nutrition interventions in the community including the use of: functional MRI, smartphone biosensors, eye tracking technology and, skin carotenoid status.

2. Speed Networking Event: After a short business meeting, we will host a joint speed networking event as an opportunity to connect with other EB attendees in the fields of Nutrition Education & Behavioral Science and, Nutrition Education & Behavioral Science RIS. Please be sure to refer to the ASN site (http://scientificsessions.nutrition.org/) for specific dates and times. We hope you can join us!

The CHPN RIS will participate in the ASN Emerging Leader in Nutrition Science Poster Competition at EB 2016. No separate submission is needed and all submissions are reviewed for this competition. Notifications will go out with program notifications in early spring.

Finally, planning for EB 2017 has already begun. If you have ideas for symposia, please send a draft proposal to Dr. Sarah Colby (scolby1@utk.edu) before March of 2016. We look forward to hearing from you about the symposium plans and seeing you in San Diego!

Have a happy new year!

Submitted by Sarah Colby, PhD, Chair
Diet and Cancer RIS

EB 2016 is approaching. We accepted abstracts in below categories:

5040 – ASN  Diet and Cancer: Molecular Targets  
5041 – ASN  Diet and Cancer: Animal Studies  
5042 – ASN  Diet and Cancer: Clinical and Human Studies

There will be a student and post-doc poster competition similar to EB 2015 and the winners will be announced at the 2016 Diet and Cancer RIS business meeting. All those who submitted abstracts to the categories above will be automatically considered for the Emerging Leaders in Nutrition Science Poster Competition.

We are also working on setting up social media sites for Diet and Cancer RIS so stay tuned.

For our RIS forum/business meeting, we are planning a hot topic session related to recent WHO-IARC’s conclusion on red meat and processed meat and cancer.

We are also happy to announce that Jin-Rong (Joseph) Zhou, Ph.D. (Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and Harvard Medical School) was elected to the Diet and Cancer RIS as Chair-Elect. He will serve the RIS in 2016-2017.

We will see you at EB 2016 in San Diego!

Contributed by Eunyoung Cho, ScD, Chair

Dietary Bioactive Components

Greetings DBC RIS members – ASN and the leadership across all the RIS groups are busy planning for Experimental Biology. Abstract review should be complete by early December, and programming information will be distributed in early 2016. Notifications for the Emerging Leaders in Nutrition Science Poster Competition will also be distributed through the EB site. We are excited to be a part of this competition again and will be soliciting onsite judges in early spring. Please consider signing up if you will be at the meeting on Saturday, April 2.

In addition, EB attendees can look forward to a DBC Hot Topics Session. Stay tuned for more information on EB activities as well as other updates via the listserv. On behalf of our other RIS officers (Chair, Joshua Lambert, PhD; Chair-elect, Andrew Neilson, PhD; Past Chair, Janet Novotny, PhD; Secretary, Liwei Gu; Treasurer, Nikki Ford; and Student Representatives, Sydney Moser and Hamed Samavat), have a great holiday season.

Submitted by Joshua Lambert, PhD, DBC Chair

Energy and Macronutrient Metabolism

Greetings from EMM! It’s a busy time a year with our national conference only about 4 months away. Looking ahead to EB2016, this year’s “Hot Topics” speaker will be Dr. Krista Varady of University of Illinois, Chicago. Her talk, “Alternate Day Fasting for Weight Loss Maintenance” will describe her newest findings on this innovative dietary approach. Be sure to attend the EMM business meeting to catch this provocative presentation. EMM will also sponsor a late-breaking symposium, “Sex and Metabolism: Late Breaking Research on the Role of Estrogen Receptors in Cardiometabolic Health.”

New this year, the top abstract submitted by an early-career member from each EMM-sponsored mini symposium will be selected to receive travel awards. These winners will be acknowledged at the EMM business meeting and one overall winner will be announced and receive a grand prize. More details on this will be forthcoming. In addition, like last year, the top scored abstracts submitted by graduate student and other early career scientists will be invited to enter the ASN RIS-wide Emerging Leaders in Nutrition Science Poster Competition. Be sure not to miss this lively event where a sampling of the best research across RIS groups will be displayed during this fun social networking opportunity for all.

As always, please send us your comments, questions, thoughts. We hope your year is finishing up on a great note!

I wish you all the very best in 2016! May your papers get published, your grants get funded, your degrees get finished, your students excel, and that you continue to push the nutrition field forward to improve health, prevent disease, and enhance quality of life for all!

In peace and health,

Vicki Vieira Potter, PhD, Chair  
vieirapotterv@missouri.edu  

Stefan Pasiakos, PhD, Chair-Elect  
stefan.m.pasiakos.civ@mail.mil
Experimental Animal Nutrition

Thank you to everyone who submitted an abstract for Experimental Biology 2016. I look forward to seeing you all there in April 2016!

This year we accepted abstract submissions in the following 4 categories:

- Animal Models of Fetal Nutrition, Programming and Neonatal Development
- Comparative Animal Nutrition and Physiology
- Animal Models of Nutrition and Disease
- Animal Models for Nutrition across Physiological States

Abstract review will be completed in early December and authors should receive final decisions regarding acceptance and programming, as either a poster or a presentation, in early 2016. Approximately 25% of the abstracts are programmed as oral presentations. If you are interested in serving as Chair or Co-Chair for one of these sections at EB 2016, please contact me (kajuwon@purdue.edu). We are also in the process of planning our annual business meeting. We will also be participating in the Emerging Leaders in Nutrition Science Poster Competition. Specific information regarding the poster competition will be disseminated via the listserv in early 2016, especially to recruit onsite judges for the live event. If you are interested in judging the poster competition or wish to suggest the name of a colleague who might be interested in judging, please contact our Chair-Elect, Ryan Dilger (rdilger2@illinois.edu). If you have industry contacts who you believe would be interested in helping to fund these RIS-associated events, please contact me, Kola Ajuwon (kajuwon@purdue.edu). If you have any ideas for new minisymposia categories or full symposia topic ideas for EB 2017, your suggestions are welcome. Thank you again for your continued support of the Experimental Animal Nutrition RIS and I look forward to seeing you all in San Diego!

Submitted by Kola Ajuwon, PhD, Chair
kajuwon@purdue.edu

Immunology and Inflammation

Fall semester has come to an end. Hopefully you submitted your Experimental Biology abstracts to the Nutritional Immunology RIS topics and are excited about the upcoming Experimental Biology meeting in San Diego.

We are looking forward to the Emerging Leaders in Nutrition Science Poster Competition. The top 20% of trainee abstracts submitted to the Nutritional Immunology and Inflammation topic categories will be selected for the competition which will take place on Saturday night in conjunction with the other RIS’ competitions. This year, there will not be a separate abstract submission process for trainees interested in entering this competition. If you haven't connected with the RIS via Facebook (www.facebook.com/NutImmRIS) or Twitter (Nutrition Immune RIS, @NutImmRIS), please consider connecting. We post articles of interest, fun science, nutrition and/or immunology related links. We also have a LinkedIn community (Nutritional Immunology RIS) that is a subgroup of the American Society for Nutrition group.

Submitted by Michelle Schelske Santos, PhD

Maternal, Perinatal, and Pediatric Nutrition

There is a lot of news from the RIS as we find ourselves towards the end of the calendar year. Hard to believe! This is the first Nutrition Notes since we officially changed the name of our RIS to reflect an expanded scope to better engage pediatric researchers. Thanks to all who have voted and provided feedback!

Experimental Biology 2016 in San Diego, CA

This year ISRHML will be a guest society for ASN’s Scientific Sessions at EB2016. This means that ISRHML members can register for the meeting at member rates. The meeting will be held on April 2-6, 2016. There are numerous new and exciting topics related to our RIS priorities:

- Relationships of Maternal Diet and Health to Lactation Performance and Infant Health
- Predictors of Lactation Initiation and Duration; and Interventions to Improve Lactation Success
- Bioactive Components and Other Milk Constituents and Their Effect on the Infant 5123
- Biology of Lactogenesis, Lactation and Milk Composition
- Early Childhood Nutrition
- Feeding Behavior of the Mother, Infant, and Other Caregivers on Health and Disease Prevention
- Mechanisms and Tools to Assess How Nutrition Affects Physical Growth (linear and body composition)
- Developmental Changes, Nutrient Requirements and Nutrient Assessment (maternal/fetal exchange, nutritional needs of preterm infants, etc)
- Nutritional Care of Preterm Infants
- Nutrition and Physical/Intellectual Disabilities
- Prenatal Nutrient Programming in Humans

Robert Suskind and Leslie Lewinter-Suskind Pediatric Nutrition Lifetime Achievement Award

This award will be presented for the first time in 2016 to a physician, clinician, or investigator who has made a significant lifetime contribution to the field of pediatric nutrition. The award is designed to recognize an individual whose lifetime body of work includes meaningful contributions related to the importance of childhood nutrition in health and disease. The recipient’s impact

Submitted by Michelle Schelske Santos, PhD
The International Society for Research in Human Milk and Lactation (ISRHML)

On March 3-7, 2016 ISRHML will hold its 18th Conference in Stellenbosch, South Africa entitled, “International and Mechanistic Perspectives on Human Milk and Lactation.” The deadline for abstracts just recently passed but there is still time to make reservations for registration/accommodation. We are excited to be a part of the science being presented at the annual meeting. For more information please see: https://www.nutrition.org/about-asn/awards/

As a reminder for students and postdoctoral fellows, please consider joining the ISRHML Trainee Interest Group (TIG) to interact and network with other breastfeeding/lactation researchers at a similar career stage. To do this, please contact Sara Moukarzel: mksara@alumni.ubc.ca. You have to be an ISRHML trainee member to join the TIG; applications are easily done online (http://isrhml.net/membership-application-form/).

Social media roundup
Please like us on Facebook (Maternal, Perinatal and Pediatric RIS of ASN) and follow us on Twitter (@Lactation_RIS). You can also like ISRHML on Facebook (https://www.facebook.com/groups/ISRHML/) even if you are not a member of the Society.

Submitted by David A. Sela, PhD, Chair-Elect
davidsela@umass.edu

Nutrient-Gene Interaction

As another years draws to an end, we look forward to seeing each of you at the ASN’s Scientific Sessions and Annual Meeting at EB 2016. Thank you much to those that submitted work under subtopics sponsored by NGI. We also want to thank those that volunteered to review abstracts. ASN is proud to incorporate peer review into our planning process to assess and monitor the quality of the science being presented at the annual meeting. We are excited to be a part of the Emerging Leader in Nutrition Science Poster Competition again and will soon be asking for onsite judges to help us select our winners. We hope that our senior members will join us that Saturday to help mentor our students and young professionals as well as network with fellow RIS members. Other events and programming information can be found on ASN’s Scientific Sessions website which is regularly updated (http://scientificsessions.nutrition.org/). Once the business meeting/event is finalized, you will be able to find details on this website as well. We trust that all NGI members will take advantage of our networking effort (i.e., LinkedIn, Twitter, Facebook) to grow membership and provide effective communication regarding exciting events sponsored by our RIS. Safe travels and see you in San Diego!

Submitted by Thomas Wang, PhD, Chair
tom.wang@ars.usda.gov

Nutrition Education & Behavioral Science

Our Research Interest Section (RIS) has been busy planning for the 2016 Experimental Biology (EB) meeting and several new projects this year. We are in the process of launching a website page for the ASN website and a Facebook page with thanks to our Social Media committee (Jinan Banna, Marjorie Freedman, Rachel Scherr). Furthermore, our Awards committee (Irene Hatsu, Henna Muzaffar, Jennifer Martin-Biggers) is busy updating final language and guidance to propose new career recognition awards for our members in the field of Nutrition Education and Behavioral Science. We hope to have approval for 2017. Please stay tuned for further details.

We look forward to a productive EB meeting in spring 2016. Our RIS is partnering with the Community & Public Health RIS of ASN and the Society for Nutrition Education and Behavior (Guest Society) to coordinate and host several events including:

1. Major Symposium: Please plan on attending our first ever major symposium at EB titled “Innovative techniques to evaluating behavioral nutrition interventions in the community.” We have invited four speakers from different disciplines who will briefly discuss alternative methods to evaluating behavioral nutrition interventions in the community including the use of: functional MRI, smartphone biosensors, eye tracking technology and, skin carotenoid status.

2. Speed Networking Event: After a short business meeting, we will host a joint speed networking event as an opportunity to connect with other EB attendees in the fields of Nutrition Education & Behavioral Science and, Community & Public Health Nutrition. Please be sure to refer to the ASN site (http://scientificsessions.nutrition.org/) for specific dates and times. We hope you can join us!
Also, if you are interested in serving as a poster competition judge for our RIS during EB or have any questions or suggestions, please contact Amy Mobley at amy.mobley@uconn.edu. We are always seeking members (including students and post-docs) to become active volunteers as an executive officer or committee member.

We hope to see you in San Diego!

Amy R. Mobley, PhD, RD, Chair

Nutrition Translation

New for EB 2016: Nutrition Translation Award Competition
This new award provides an opportunity for early-career scientists and clinicians to demonstrate how their research is translational to multiple audiences and can be practically applied to improve public health. Finalists will be identified through a juried abstract review and compete in a special oral presentation session in which they present their research findings.

Postdoctoral fellows, medical trainees or other early-career investigators are encouraged to apply! Abstracts to be considered for the Nutrition Translation Award must have been submitted for programming at the ASN Scientific Sessions and Annual Meeting at EB 2016.

Looking Ahead: Networking at the Annual NT-RIS Business Meeting
If your research or professional interests involve the translation of nutrition knowledge to improve human health, we encourage you to attend our annual NT-RIS meeting. We’ll be serving lunch and are finalizing a speaker on the topic of communicating science in the media and current food and nutrition environment. Our annual business meeting will be held at Experimental Biology 2016 in San Diego, CA. Like last year, the business meeting will be a luncheon where members can network with each other.

We are currently seeking sponsors who are interested in helping us co-fund key activities including symposia, the new student poster competition, and our annual business meeting and luncheon. If you are interested in sponsoring this event, please contact Michelle Braun (michelle.braun@dupont.com) for more information.

Meet the new NT-RIS Officers
The NT-RIS leadership election took place after the annual meeting held at Experimental Biology 2015. The NT-RIS is pleased to announce the following officers for 2015-2016:
- Michelle Braun, MS, PhD, RD, Chair
- Lisa Sanders, PhD, RD, Chair-Elect
- Beth Rice Bradley, PhD, Past Chair
- Kay Hongu, PhD, Med, RD, Secretary
- Shellen Goltz, PhD, RD, Treasurer
- Nicole Litwin, MS, RD, Communications Chair

Meet the NT-RIS Board of Advisors
The 2015-2016 Board of Advisors are:
- Guy Johnson, PhD
- Erin Glynn, PhD
- Feon Cheng, MPH, RD, Student Representative
- Robert Post, PhD, Med, MSc
- Frances Coletta, PhD, RD

Submitted by Nicole Litwin, MS, RD, LDN

Nutritional Epidemiology

A warm hello to all Nutritional Epidemiology RIS members, as we gear up for EB 2016 with EB deadlines that are around the corner.

Thanks to all of you who signed up online to review abstracts submitted to our RIS for EB 2016. The scores from your review will be used to select abstracts for the graduate student and postdoc competition, as well as planning the minisymposia at EB. Your active participation in this and other activities described below keeps our RIS energized, helps us plan EB sessions and other events, and is much appreciated.

The Nutrition Epidemiology RIS is looking forward to putting an interesting program for the San Diego meeting related to abstract categories noted below. We hope that you submitted your abstracts for these before Nov 5.
- Innovation and Validation of Dietary Assessment Tools and Their Applications
- Epidemiological Research Addressing Diet and Health Outcomes
- Nutrition and Chronic Disease Epidemiology
- Research with Dietary Supplements and Bioactive Components
- Advancing Nutritional Epidemiology with Public Use and Commercial Data Sets
- Epidemiologic Methods in Examining Health Outcomes in Diverse Populations (Co-sponsor: Minority Affairs Committee)
- Exploring Geographic Based Methods in Nutrition Epidemiological Research

As for the last EB meeting, ASN will be holding the Emerging Leaders in Nutrition Science Poster Competition as a joint event for all RISs together at EB 2016. We hope that if you are a graduate student or post-doc, you submitted your best work to these categories to showcase your research; the highest scoring abstracts will be selected for the poster competition. If selected, you would not only participate at the poster competition but also present your work (as poster or oral presentation) for the RIS abstract session category.
that you submitted your abstract for. **Good news:** The more abstracts that are submitted to the RIS, the greater the funding we will have from ASN to award to the competition winners in both the graduate students and postdoc categories. Posters will be evaluated by judges from our RIS membership at the onsite competition in San Diego and the finalists will be presented certificates and awards at the RIS business meeting/mixer.

Watch your emails for messages from the ASN and the Nutrition Epi Listserve on call for volunteers to serve as on site judge for this poster competition. We had a very successful turnout at the competition last year - thanks to all of you who served as judges and those who attended this session, provided feedback and encouraged the participants on their work. We hope that we will have many of our members attend our poster competition and serve as a judge at the San Diego meeting as well.

We look forward to seeing you at EB at our minisymposia and poster sessions, symposia, business meeting/mixer as well as another mentoring event that we are planning in San Diego. If interested in volunteering and helping with either the business meeting/mixer or the mentoring event, please contact Nick Ollberding (Nicholas.Ollberding@cchmc.org) or Shivani Sahni (ShivaniSahni@hsl.harvard.edu). It is a great way to meet people, get more involved with RIS events, and reaching out to our RIS members.

Also, please visit our RIS’s webpage on the ASN homepage (https://www.nutrition.org/about-asn/research-interest-sections/nutritional-epidemiology/) regularly for updates and contact the Steering Committee members if we you have any questions/ideas/feedback for future EB programming or communications with RIS members.

Looking forward to hearing from you and thank you for being Nutritional Epidemiology RIS member.

Submitted by Naman Ahluwalia, PhD, Chair naman.ahluwalia@cdc.gov

### Obesity

Thank you to all those that voted for the Obesity RIS’ new Steering Committee. Below is information about the new committee.

**Mission of the Obesity RIS:** The purpose of this RIS is to facilitate and promote scientific exchange among ASN members who focus on research, teaching, and outreach activities in the area of Obesity. OBRIS provides a mechanism for representing and integrating the disease of obesity within ASN’s governance and activities. Activities of this RIS target a more effective programming of symposia, mini symposia, and controversy sessions at scientific meetings such as Experimental Biology that meet the needs of all ASN members and promote dialogue on the most interesting and most rigorous obesity science. Some of our major goals include promoting a better understanding of the metabolic and behavioral heterogeneity of obesity and fostering the development and mentoring of young investigators interested in obesity.

**Leadership:**

**Chair**

David B Allison, Ph.D., Distinguished Professor, Quetelet Endowed Professor of Public Health, Associate Dean for Science; Director, Office of Energetics; Director, Nutrition Obesity Research Center, University of Alabama at Birmingham.

Dr. Allison’s current research interests include mentoring, obesity, quantitative genetics, clinical trials, statistical and research methodology, and research reproducibility and integrity.

**Post Chair**

Mark Cope, Ph.D., Clinical Nutrition Scientist, DuPont Nutrition & Health

Dr. Cope’s current research interest includes muscle health (sports and sarcopenia), obesity and clinical research design focused primarily on body composition related to metabolic disorders.

**Chair-elect**

Andrew W Brown, Ph.D., Scientist, Office of Energetics and Nutrition Obesity Research Center, University of Alabama at Birmingham.

Dr. Brown’s current research interests include, 1) synthesizing the best available obesity literature to inform science based treatments and policies; 2) evaluating research reporting practices to encourage high caliber research reporting; and 3) determining the effects of research reporting practices on the communication of science within and beyond the research community, particularly as these topics relate to nutrition and obesity.

**Secretary/Treasurer:**

Shanon Casperson, Ph.D., Research Biologist, Grand Forks Human Nutrition Research Center.

Dr. Casperson’s current research interests include, 1) determining how changes in the macronutrient composition of meals throughout the day affect energy metabolism, specifically how the daily distribution of protein and calories affect energy expenditure and substrate oxidation and how it relates to achieving and maintaining a healthy body weight; 2) determining the ratio of macronutrient components that provides optimum
health; and 3) understanding how individual foods and food combinations provide a drug-like effect to help combat chronic diseases/conditions.

**Outreach Coordinator:**
**Kathaleen Briggs Early, Ph.D., R.D., C.D.E.,** Associate Professor of Nutrition and Biochemistry, Pacific Northwest University of Health Sciences, College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Dr. Briggs Early’s research focuses on community-based adult and childhood interventions and observational studies emphasizing behavior change and health disparities among people with obesity and diabetes.

Postdoc representative: Roxanne Dutia, Ph.D., R.D., Associate Research Scientist, Columbia University Medical Center.

Dr. Dutia’s research interests include hormonal regulators of obesity and related co-morbidities. Her early work studied the role of the melanocortin system in the regulation of energy balance and metabolism in rodent models and her current research investigates the mechanisms responsible for the improvement in metabolic disease after gastric bypass surgery in humans.

**Student representative:**
**Samantha M.R. Kling., Ph.D.** Candidate, Department of Nutritional Sciences, The Pennsylvania State University; Graduate Research Assistant, The Laboratory for the Study of Ingestive Behavior directed by Barbara Rolls, Ph.D., The Pennsylvania State University Fellow; USDA Childhood Obesity Transdisciplinary Training Program, The Pennsylvania State University.

Ms. Kling’s research focuses on investigating the effects of food factors, including portion size and energy density, on preschool children’s intake in the childcare center. She is also interested in expanding this line of research by investigating the effects of family factors and behaviors, other food characteristics, and the eating environment on the development of child eating behavior and obesity.

Submitted by Roxanne Dutia, PhD, RD

**Vitamins and Minerals**

The VM RIS Leadership team hopes that everyone is having a very productive fall! We are looking forward to EB 2016 in San Diego April 2nd – 6th!

**The 2015 – 2016 VM RIS Leadership team members are:**
**Lisa Tussing-Humphreys, PhD, RD,** University of Illinois at Chicago, Chair
**Sushil Jain, PhD** Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center, Past-Chair
**Deshanie Rai, PhD, Bayer Healthcare, Chair-elect

**Nana Gletsu-Miller, PhD, Purdue University, Secretary-Treasurer**
**Joanna Kalina Urbanek, Doctoral student, Pennsylvania State University, Student Representative**
**Sahar Ajabshir, Doctoral student, Florida International University, Student Representative**

**EB 2016 Mini-symposia and Poster Sessions**

Our RIS is currently supporting the following topic areas for EB 2016 which will be programmed for the mini-symposia and poster sessions:

- 5280 - ASN Vit Min: Water and Fat Soluble Vitamins and Chronic Disease
- 5281 - ASN Vit Min: Micronutrient Bioavailability and Antioxidant Function
- 5282 - ASN Vit Min: Zinc
- 5283 - ASN Vit Min: Selenium
- 5284 - ASN Vit Min: B-vitamins and One Carbon Metabolism
- 5285 - ASN Vit Min: Micronutrient Interventions
- 5286 - ASN Vit Min: Trace Element Transport and Homeostasis in Health and Disease

**EB 2016 Symposia**

We are excited to let you know that our RIS will sponsor a symposia on obesity, iron metabolism dysfunction and chronic disease. This symposia will be moderated by our own Lisa Tussing-Humphreys and Nana Gletsu-Miller. Speakers and topics include:

**Elizabeta Nemeth, PhD,** Systemic Iron Regulation in Health and Disease
**Alyssa Hasty, PhD,** Macrophage Iron Handling in Health and Disease
**Donald McClain, MD, PhD,** Novel Target in Obesity and Diabetes: The Role of Iron and Hypoxia in the Regulation of Appetite and Metabolism
**Jose Manuel Fernandez-Real, MD, PhD,** Brain Iron Accumulation, Insulin Resistance, and Cognition in Obese Adults

**VM RIS Outstanding Investigator 2015**

We are seeking nominations for the VM RIS 2016 Outstanding Investigator Award. The recipient will receive recognition at the VM RIS business meeting during EB 2016 in San Diego, CA. The award is to recognize excellence in the area of vitamins and minerals research. The award is open to investigators at any stage of their career. Candidates must be VM RIS members and actively publishing research. Nominations must include a one-page bio stating current position, academic training, brief description of research interests, and list of recent publications. Self-nominations will be accepted. This year’s winner will be asked to present a 30 minute talk during the VM RIS EB 2016 business meeting. Please send your nominations electronically to: Dr. Lisa Tussing-Humphreys (ltussing@uic.edu) by January 31, 2016. The Outstanding VM RIS Investigator for 2016 was awarded to Dr. Marianne Wessling-Resnick of Harvard
University. We again extend our congratulations to this remarkable awardee!

**EB 2016 Business Meeting**

Our annual business meeting will be held at EB 2016. This will be an opportunity to network and to discuss strengthening our RIS. We will also present the Outstanding VM RIS Investigator award and the winner will lecture on his/her research. We are also asking some of our outstanding junior members to showcase their research at this event.

**Emerging Leaders Poster Competition, Judges Needed!**

We are seeking judges for the ASN Emerging Leaders student/post-doc poster competition. Please email Deshanie Rai (deshanierai@gmail.com) if you are interested.

Please anticipate email announcements regarding VM RIS EB 2016 activities and other VM RIS activities during the next several months via our Facebook page [https://www.facebook.com/asnvandmris](https://www.facebook.com/asnvandmris) and the VM RIS listserv ([VitMin@lists.nutrition.org](mailto:VitMin@lists.nutrition.org)). Please let us know if you have announcements to share with the VM RIS membership (no job announcements please).

Please don’t hesitate to contact the leadership ([ltussing@uic.edu](mailto:ltussing@uic.edu); [VitMin@lists.nutrition.org](mailto:VitMin@lists.nutrition.org)) with suggestions important to our RIS and its members.

Thank you for continuing to support the VM RIS!

Submitted by Lisa Tussing-Humphreys, PhD, MS, RD, Chair ltussing@uic.edu

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**Institute of Human Nutrition**

The Institute of Human Nutrition Director, Richard Deckelbaum, MD, delivered the Department of Medicine at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons Grand Rounds on Wednesday, September 16. His talk, “Omega-3 fatty acids: the fishy dilemma(s),” reviewed the current research on omega-3 and omega-6 fatty acids (FA), and the role omega-3 FA play in non-alcoholic fatty liver disease, and cardiovascular disease.


Sharon R. Akabas, PhD and Erin Paxson, MS of the IHN along with Regan Bailey (Purdue University), Shilpa Saklani and Katherine L. Tucker (University of Massachusetts, Lowell) presented “Novel Tool to Highlight Nutrient Shortfalls in Older Adults” at the American Public Health Association Annual Meeting in Chicago, October 26 – November 4, 2015.

Submitted by Shelley Weinstock, PhD

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**Pennsylvania State - Graduate Program**

**Gordon Jensen**

Gordon Jensen gave the following presentations:
- BMI: Mortality and Health Outcomes – NY Academy of Science – New York, NY – 9/15
- Nutritional Status and Public Resources – Brazilian Congress – Brasilia, BR – 10/15
- Aging and Gastrointestinal Function – Brazilian Congress – Brasilia, BR – 10/15
- Obesity Paradox – Brazilian Congress – Brasilia, BR – 10/15

**Catharine Ross**

Catharine Ross attended the 1st Symposium of the University of Nebraska COBRE program on Prevention of Obesity Diseases, where she spoke on “Lipid emulsions in the prevention of Non-Alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease,” Sept. 28, 2015.
Paul Coates was a co-author on the August AJCN article, “Introduction to the series ‘Best (but Oft-Forgotten) Practices.’” Karen Regan, Rebecca Costello, and Abby Ershow were co-authors on the poster “Trials are needed to evaluate nutrition interventions for heart failure (HF): an analysis of the federal Nutrition and HF Research Portfolio” presented at the Heart Failure Society of America’s 19th Annual Scientific Meeting in September at National Harbor, MD, and published in the Journal of Cardiac Failure. Adam Kuszak co-authored the September Journal of Biological Chemistry article, “Evidence of distinct channel conformations and substrate binding affinities for the mitochondrial outer membrane protein translocase pore.”


Joseph Betz co-chaired and moderated the “Analytical Roundtable for Regulators and the Regulated: Analytical Laboratories and the Dietary Supplements cGMP Challenge” session at the 129th AOAC Annual Meeting in Los Angeles in September. Dr. Betz also gave the invited keynote “Vitamin D Initiatives from the Analytical Methods and Reference Materials Program at the NIH Office of Dietary Supplements” at the 15th International Nutrition & Diagnostics Conference, Prague, Czech Republic, and the invited lecture, “The International Vitamin D Standardization Program” at the Endokrinologicky ústav (Institute of Endocrinology), Prague, Czech Republic. Dr. Betz gave the keynote lecture, “Certified Reference Materials for Natural Products” at the 8th Shanghai International Conference on Traditional Chinese Medicine and Natural Medicine in October, in Shanghai, China.


ASN and ASN Foundation Donors

ASN and the ASN Foundation extend our deepest appreciate to the following individuals for their support of our mission and programs in 2015.*

continued on pg. 21
In Memoriam: 2015

Emerita N. Alcantara, PhD (2014)
Felix Bronner, PhD, Fellow
James D. Finkelstein, MD (2014)
Walter H. Glinsmann, MD, Fellow
Gail G. Harrison, PhD, President SINR 1998-1999, Fellow
Jules Hirsch, MD, President ASCN 1977-1978, Fellow
Murray L. Kaplan, PhD (2014)
Barbara P. Klein, PhD
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Ekhard E. Ziegler, MD

*Reflects gifts as of December 11, 2015. For a correction or inquiry, please email contribute@nutrition.org
# 2016 Program Tracks

ASN’s Scientific Sessions at EB 2016

| Cellular and Molecular Nutrition | • Nutrition, microRNAs and Human Health  
| • Postprandial Inflammation: Endotoxin or Free Fatty Acids?  
| • Regulation of Health and Disease by Sulfur Amino Acid Metabolism  
| • Omics Applications to Understand Metabolic Physiology  
| • Obesity, Iron Metabolism Dysfunction and Chronic Disease  
| • Sex and Metabolism: Late Breaking Research on Role of Estrogen Receptors in Cardiometabolic Health  
| • The Presidential Symposium: Systems Approaches in Nutrition  
| • Promise of Metabolomics for Advancing Nutrition Research |

| Nutrition Across the Lifespan: From Pediatrics to Geriatrics | • Biology of Linear Growth  
| • Program Effectiveness for Addressing Undernutrition During the First 1000 Days  
| • Optimizing the Aging Brain through Nutrition  
| • Transdisciplinary Training in Childhood Obesity Prevention: Approaches, Successes and Challenges |

| Clinical and Translational Nutrition | • Flesh Foods for Health: Controversies on Dietary Guidance for Red Meats  
| • Dietary Fiber’s Essentiality for the Intestine and the Microbiota  
| • Architecture of Healthy Muscles: The interplay between exercise and nutrition on muscle metabolism  
| • Health Recommendations for Dietary Sugars: Why Can’t We All Agree? |

| Global and Community Nutrition | • Food Systems for Public Health: Assessment, impact and implications of meeting fruit and vegetable consumption recommendations on environmental, economic and agricultural sustainability  
| • Delivering Nutrition Interventions to Women During Pregnancy: Beyond Individual Interventions to Comprehensive Antenatal Guidelines and Care  
| • Innovative techniques to evaluating behavioral nutrition interventions in the community  
| • Nutrition and Public Health Policy: Progress, Opportunities, and Challenges |

| Nutritional Epidemiology | • Big Data and Other Innovative Approaches to Understanding Dietary Patterns and Health  
| • Nutritional Status Monitoring in the U.S. over 45 years in the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES): Updates and Challenges  
| • Heritable Factors and Complex Diseases: Using Genetic Epidemiology to Draw Inferences about Nutrition-Disease Relationships |

| Education | • Amid Controversy and Caveats: The Future of the Post-Doc  
| • Making Your Scientific Discoveries Known – Best Practices for Effective & Credible Communication |
ASN SCIENTIFIC SESSIONS & ANNUAL MEETING
at EXPERIMENTAL BIOLOGY

APRIL 2–6, 2016 • SAN DIEGO, CA
SAN DIEGO CONVENTION CENTER • ASN HEADQUARTERS HOTEL: HILTON SAN DIEGO BAYFRONT

Featured Symposia
★ Presidential Symposium: Systems Approaches to Nutrition: Where We Are, and Where We Are Going
★ Flesh Foods for Health: Controversies on Dietary Guidance for Red Meats
★ Big Data and Other Innovative Approaches to Understanding Dietary Patterns and Health
★ Nutrition, microRNAs and Human Health
★ Obesity, Iron Metabolism Dysfunction and Chronic Disease
★ Postprandial Inflammation: Endotoxin or Free Fatty Acids?
★ Omics Applications to Understand Metabolic Physiology
★ Transdisciplinary Training in Childhood Obesity Prevention: Approaches, Successes and Challenges
★ Sponsored Satellite Programs

Early Registration Deadline
March 1, 2016

Late-Breaking Abstract Deadline
January 28, 2016

Hotel Reservation Deadline
February 23, 2016

Early Registration
Member: $400
Non-Member: $590
Student Member: $85
Young Professional: $335
Select registration rates; see website for full details

Sponsorship Opportunities
Scientific Sessions, Networking Events, Research Interest Sections and More! Meetings@nutrition.org

Guest Societies—Members of ASN and guest societies save!
Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
African Graduate Students Nutrition Network
American Academy of Pediatrics
American Society for Animal Science
Association of Nutrition Departments and Programs
Brazilian Society for Food and Nutrition
Canadian Nutrition Society
Chinese Nutrition Society
ILSI North America
Institute of Food Technologists
International Colleges for the Advancement of Nutrology
International Society for Research in Human Milk and Lactation
Japan Society of Nutrition and Food Science
Korean Nutrition Society
National Board of Physician Nutrition Specialists
North American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition
Nutrition Society of Taiwan
Plant Phenolics and Human Health Research Interest Group
Society for Nutrition Education and Behavior
Society for Pediatric Research
The Nutrition Society UK
Southern Society for Clinical Investigation

Presidential Symposia • Controversy Sessions
Posters • Exhibits • Professional Development
Award Lectures • Networking • Social Events
Mentoring Events
The end of 2015 has proven to be an active time for ASN. The highlight was the fifth annual Advances & Controversies in Clinical Nutrition conference, held in Long Beach. This conference continues to showcase the most recent breakthroughs and best science in clinical nutrition year-after-year.

Looking ahead, I hope everyone has ASN's Scientific Sessions & Annual Meeting on their calendars. Plans for the Presidential Symposium on April 4: “Systems Approaches to Nutrition: Where We are and Where We are Going” are finalized. I hope you can join us in San Diego this April!

There has been much attention focused on the impact of funding and its various sources on the nutrition research enterprise. ASN, as the home of nutrition researchers from academia, government and the private sector, is well positioned to be a leading voice on such issues by serving as a platform to address the various perspectives of our members, as well as external constituencies who contribute to the public dialog. The ASN Board of Directors is actively engaged in meeting these challenges with a long-term view of how best to position the society to meet our mission and stakeholder expectations. Please feel free to reach out to me regarding this topic, or any other topic related to ASN.

We appreciate your 2015 year-end support to ASN and the ASN Foundation, and look forward to a successful year ahead!

President's Column
Greetings from the President: Patrick J. Stover, PhD
Cornell University

Nutrition Notes
December 2015

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Meetings & Events Co-Sponsored by ASN
• Apr. 2-6, 2016. ASN Scientific Sessions and Annual Meeting at Experimental Biology 2016. San Diego, CA.

Other Meetings & Events
• Mar. 4-6, 2016. 1st Inaugural Asia Pacific Congress: RECONUT. Bangkok, Thailand.
• Mar 3-6, 2016. 4th International Conference on Prehypertension, Hypertension and Cardio Metabolic Syndrome. Venice, Italy.
• May 16-18, 2016. 39th National Nutrient Databank Conference. Alexandria, VA.
• Apr. 22-26, 2017. ASN Scientific Sessions and Annual Meeting at Experimental Biology 2017. Chicago, IL.

Upcoming Events and Deadlines

Meetings & Events Co-Sponsored by ASN
• Jan. 22. Student Interest Group (SIG) Travel Award.
  EB 2016 Late-Breaking Abstract submission.
• Feb. 12.
  Maximizing Access to Research Careers (MARC) Travel Award.
• Feb. 23.
  EB 2016 Discounted Housing.
• Mar. 1.
  EB 2016 Early Registration.
• Apr. 2-6, 2016. ASN Scientific Sessions and Annual Meeting at Experimental Biology 2016. San Diego, CA.

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