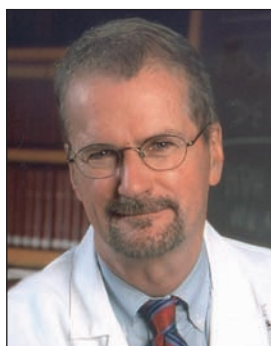


## President's Column



### Greetings from the President: **Robert M. Russell, MD**

We are now fast approaching EB 2011, which will be my final EB as ASN President. We made a lot of progress over the last year and a half. I am proud of the

strides the Society has made in encouraging younger members to participate in committees, and our expanded outreach to nutrition counterparts in other countries. My expectation is that international activities will continue to grow. There have been many successes this past year – our membership has grown by more than 400, and our educational activities continue to increase. We also have started a new journal, *Advances in Nutrition*, and launched our first clinical-focused conference, ASN's Advances and Controversies in Clinical Nutrition. This was held in San Francisco in late February and spearheaded by the Medical Nutrition Council. Conference attendance far exceeded our expectation with 340 attendees representing nutrition research backgrounds and professions as diverse as the ASN membership. I'd like to thank our speakers, attendees, and poster presenters for the tremendous success of this event.

The spring is always ASN's busiest season, as everyone is preparing for ASN's Scientific Sessions and Annual Meeting at Experimental Biology. I am excited that this year's meeting is going to be held in Washington, DC. Registration is expected to reaching record levels. If you

are attending EB, the Society's Annual Business Meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 12, from 6-7 pm. The change in day allows members to attend the talk given by NIH Director Francis Collins, MD, PhD, on Monday night, April 11. I'm also pleased to announce that ASN is holding an advocacy workshop on Tuesday, April 12, 7:30 am-9:00 am. Attendees will learn what staffers on Capitol Hill are seeking and how to successfully advocate for nutrition research. Thank you to our Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB) partners for collaborating on this.

On the policy front, perhaps the biggest news of the year so far has been the release of the Dietary Guidelines for Americans. The Executive Summary emphasizes calorie balance, nutrient-dense foods, and foods to reduce. Congratulations to the ASN members who served on the committee which developed the new guidelines.

Finally, I am pleased to announce ASN's 2011 Award Winners, featured in this issue of *Nutrition Notes*. I look forward to seeing you in Washington in April!

### IN THIS ISSUE

Award Winners – Page 2

Committee News – Page 13

Council News – Page 15

Research Interest Section News – Page 17

Member Spotlight – Page 25

**PRE-CONFERENCE  
EB SATELLITE**



HERBALIFE  
NUTRITION  
INSTITUTE



**The Global Nutrition Transition:  
The Role of Protein Supplementation**  
Thursday, April 7, 2011 • Washington, D.C.

## Award Winners



### Senior Investigator Awards



**The Centrum Center for Nutrition Science Award** is given in recognition of recent investigative contributions of significance to the basic understanding of human nutrition. The 2011 award is made to **Barbara Strupp, PhD**, Cornell University. Strupp is a Professor in the Division

of Nutritional Sciences, Cornell University. She joined the Cornell faculty in 1993, as an Associate Professor of Human Nutrition with an adjunct appointment in the Department of Psychology. She received her B.S. in Ethology from Washington University, and her PhD in Biopsychology from Cornell University. Her professional training included a postdoctoral fellowship at the National Institutes of Health.

Dr. Strupp's research primarily deals with causes of human cognitive dysfunction, studies that involve both children and rodent models. She is recognized internationally as a leading expert in developing sensitive tasks to tap various domains of rodent cognition and affect. The goals of her studies are to determine the nature and underlying neural basis of the cognitive dysfunction, with implications for therapeutic intervention and for elucidating basic brain-cognition relationships. Her curriculum vita lists 80 peer-reviewed scientific publications and documents her professional service including expert advisory panels,



Ellie Krieger received the Nutrition Science Media Award in 2010.



## NutritionNotes

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Federation of American Societies  
for Experimental Biology

### Editor

Neil Shay, PhD, Oregon State University

Please refer to pp. 17-25 for contact information for the Regional Associate Editors.

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### Changes to *Nutrition Notes*

Effective June 1, 2011, *Nutrition Notes* will be sent to all members exclusively in a digital format. This change was recommended by the ASN Finance and Audit Committee in 2009, and subsequently approved by the ASN Executive Board. This change is being made in response to a number of factors. In addition to promoting a more environmentally-friendly format, the change allows members to receive their *Notes* in a quicker timeframe. It also reduces the financial burden on ASN to print more than 4,000 copies four times a year. For those members who value the print version, the price to continue receiving a hard copy will be only \$30/year. A print subscription option will be offered when members join or renew their membership in the Society (similar to how members can opt in to receive AJCN or JN via hard copy). This option will be enabled on the ASN website by May 1, 2011. Prior to that time, if you wish to subscribe to the paper version, please email [sprice@nutrition.org](mailto:sprice@nutrition.org). You can also communicate any suggestions for continued improvement of this publication to [sprice@nutrition.org](mailto:sprice@nutrition.org).

Letters will be published at the discretion of the editor. They should be constructive and of general interest to the reader. Deadline for Submission of **ALL** copy: First day of February, May, August, or November.

teaching acumen and commitment to training doctoral students.

Her recent studies, which played an important role in this award, have focused on the lasting beneficial cognitive effects of perinatal choline supplementation in a mouse model of Down Syndrome and Alzheimer's Disease. This research, conducted in collaboration with her former graduate student, Dr. Jisook Moon, and other colleagues at Cornell and the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center, demonstrated that supplementing the maternal diet with excess choline during pregnancy and lactation substantially improved adult function of the adult trisomic offspring.



**The Conrad Elvehjem Award for Public Service in Nutrition**, sponsored by Kraft Foods, is given in recognition of specific and distinguished service to the public through the science of nutrition. The awardee is **Paul Coates, PhD**, who has directed the NIH Office of Dietary

Supplements since 1999. During that time, he has stimulated awareness among those in the field of the need for well-designed, credible research on dietary supplements. He has led the development of strategies to enhance this research, including: support of a wide array of research grants with NIH Institutes and Centers; an evidence-based review program to evaluate efficacy and safety of dietary supplements; an analytical methods program to provide tools for scientists, regulators, and manufacturers; and a database program to provide scientists and consumers with access to information about the contents of dietary supplements. These resources have proven useful well beyond the borders of dietary supplement research, resulting in significant improvements in the tools available for the study of nutrients in both foods and dietary supplements.

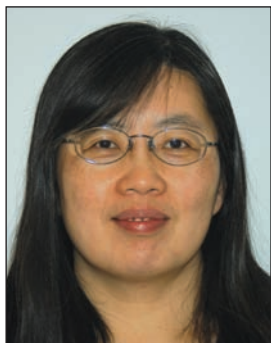
The principle that guides him in approaching the challenges faced by both scientists and policymakers in the field is that collaboration is crucial, a strategy he has used since his research endeavors in inborn errors of metabolism at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. He has engaged partners throughout the US government, not just

at the NIH, but in sister agencies of HHS, USDA, DoD, and beyond. Coates established a federal working group on dietary supplements, reflecting the fact that there are many issues in this field that touch agencies throughout the government. Indeed, some of his most ambitious efforts have engaged collaborators in other governments as well, since many of the same issues that we confront in the US arise in countries around the world. A good example of this is the leadership that his office has provided for vitamin D research and policy initiatives.



**The David Kritchevsky Career Achievement Award**, sponsored by Kraft Foods, is awarded in 2011 to **James O. Hill, PhD**, University of Colorado School of Medicine. Hill is the Founding Executive Director of the Anschutz Health and Wellness Center at the University

of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus. He is also Professor of Pediatrics and Medicine. He holds a B.S. degree from the University of Tennessee and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of New Hampshire in Physiological Psychology. He served as Chair of the first World Health Organization Consultation on Obesity in 1997. He is Past President of ASN and The Obesity Society. He was a member of the Expert Panel on Obesity of the National Institutes of Health that developed first U.S. guidelines for the treatment and prevention of obesity. Dr. Hill has published more than 400 scientific articles and book chapters in the area of obesity and nutrition. Many of these focus on the importance of healthy eating and physical activity in weight management. He is the recipient of the 2007 TOPS award from The Obesity Society. He has received the Centrum Center and McCollum awards from the American Society for Nutrition. Dr. Hill is a cofounder of the National Weight Control Registry, a registry of individuals who have been successful in maintenance of a reduced body weight. He is co-founder of America on the Move, a national weight gain prevention initiative that aims to inspire Americans to make small changes in how much they eat and how much they move to prevent weight gain. He is the author of the *Step Diet Book*, published in June 2004.



**The E.L.R. Stokstad Award** is given for outstanding fundamental research in nutrition, with preference for early stage scientists. This year's recipient is **Qing Jiang, PhD**, Purdue University. Dr. Qing Jiang obtained MS in chemistry from Peking University and PhD in biochemistry from

Washington State University. After conducting postdoctoral research with Prof. Bruce Ames at UC Berkeley, she became an Assistant Professor in the Department of Foods and Nutrition at Purdue University. She has recently been promoted to Associate Professor. Her research has been focusing on investigation of different forms of vitamin E and their novel metabolites with respect to their biological activities, mechanisms of action, bioavailability and potential roles in disease prevention and therapy. Dr. Jiang and her collaborators have pioneered in demonstrating that gamma-tocopherol, the major form of vitamin E in US diets, has unique anti-inflammatory and anticancer properties that are not shared by alpha-tocopherol, the only vitamin E form that has traditionally been extensively studied. Dr. Jiang's laboratory has shown that specific forms of vitamin E including gamma-tocopherol induce cancer cell death by modulation of *de novo* biosynthesis of sphingolipids, which is considered a novel chemopreventive mechanism. She and her coworkers have recently discovered that specific forms of vitamin E are metabolized to novel metabolites, i.e., sulfated long-chain carboxychromanols and their unconjugated counterparts, in human cells and in rats. More importantly, some long-chain carboxychromanols have potent anti-inflammatory activities by inhibition of cyclooxygenases- and 5-lipoxygenase-catalyzed generation of eicosanoids, which are key regulators of inflammation and contribute to cancer development. These studies strongly suggest that specific forms of vitamin E and their metabolites may be useful in prevention or therapy of chronic diseases including inflammatory diseases and cancer.

**The E.V. McCollum Award**, sponsored by Pfizer, is given to a clinical investigator who is perceived as a major creative force who sees to the execution of studies testing the



validity of new concepts. The 2011 recipient is **Claude Bouchard, PhD**. Bouchard is Professor and Director of the Human Genomics Laboratory at Pennington Biomedical Research Center in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. He has held the John W. Barton, Sr. Endowed Chair in Genetics and Nutrition

since 2010. He has a Ph.D. from the University of Texas at Austin. Over the past 30 years, his laboratory has generated evidence for a role of genetic differences in the regulation of body weight, body composition, and fat distribution, as well as in the ability to benefit from regular exercise. He held the Donald B. Brown Research Chair in Obesity at Université Laval, Quebec City. In 1999, he became Executive Director of Pennington Biomedical Research Center, where he held the George A. Bray Chair in Nutrition for 11 years. Awards he has received include the Willendorf Award from the International Association for the Study of Obesity in 1994, the Sandoz Award from the Canadian Atherosclerosis Society in 1996, the Albert Creff Award in Nutrition from the National Academy of Medicine of France in 1997, the TOPS Award from The Obesity Society in 1998, and the Honor Award from the American College of Sports Medicine in 2002. He has been a foreign member of the Royal Academy of Medicine of Belgium since 1996. He became a member of the Order of Canada in 2001 and a Knight in the Ordre National du Québec in 2005. Dr. Bouchard received Honoris Causa Doctorates from the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven in 1998 and from the University of South Carolina in 2009, and he will receive one later this year from the University of Guelph. He is a Fellow of the American Society for Nutrition, the American College of Sports Medicine, the American Heart Association, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science.



**The Gilbert A. Leveille Lectureship and Award** recognizes outstanding research in nutrition science and food technology and is awarded for the first time to **Connie Weaver, PhD**, Purdue University. Trained in

both food science and nutrition, Dr. Weaver has conducted a wide range of clinical studies, but she is most regarded for her work on defining the factors in food that influence calcium bioavailability, for her work on calcium metabolism in adolescents. Among her discoveries include that oxalate is the most important inhibitor of calcium absorption, phytate is a strong inhibitor of zinc absorption but only modestly inhibitory of iron and calcium, and soybean hull is a rich source of micronutrients without the components that inhibit mineral bioavailability. She has pioneered the development and application of techniques for stable isotopes and kinetic models to study calcium distribution within the body. She has examined how issues from calcium level to calcium source to other dietary factors influence calcium metabolism in humans. This work serves as the foundation for our understanding of how diet influences bone health. Over the past 7 years, Dr Weaver has again extended the technological boundaries of the study of calcium metabolism by serving as the Principal Investigator of a NIH Botanical Research Center that brought nutrition, food science, biology, chemistry, physics, and statistics together to develop innovative ways to study bioavailability and function of bioactive compounds. Her project developed a rapid screening approach for assessing efficacy of interventions for reducing bone resorption in postmenopausal women. The intersection of food science and nutrition has been evident in Dr Weaver's leadership and has been critical to many associations, companies and individuals. She is a past president of the ASN, a fellow of IFT, and a member of the IOM. She served on the 2005 Dietary Guidelines for Americans Advisory Committee and serves on the ASN/IFT/IFIC/ADA Food and Nutrition solutions task force. Dr Weaver is one of the rare individuals who have successfully had one foot in the nutritional sciences professional environment and the other in food science. Her work has provided a golden example of translational research that has had a tremendous impact on the establishment of RDAs for calcium and has provided a scientific basis for enrichment of foods and supplements.

**The General Mills Institute of Health and Nutrition Innovation Award** is given to an investigator whose scientific contributions advance the understanding of the health benefits of whole grains. This year's recipient



is **George Fahey, PhD**. Fahey joined the faculty of the University of Illinois in 1976 and currently is Professor Emeritus of Animal Sciences and Nutritional Sciences. From 2006 to 2010, he held the position of Kraft Foods Endowed Professor of Human Nutrition and, in 2009, was named a CSIRO Flagship Fellow by the Australian government in recognition of his work in the area of carbohydrate nutrition. The overarching goal of Dr. Fahey's research program has been to define the role of dietary fibers and other fermentable carbohydrates in gastrointestinal tract physiology and health. His publication record reflects a career of achievement that spans the entire spectrum of this particular area of nutrition - from detailed studies on the chemical and physical properties of dietary fibers, oligosaccharides, resistant starches, novel maltodextrins, and whole grains, to their *in vitro* fermentation characteristics, to their impact on *in vivo* nutrient digestion, to the metabolic, fermentative, and immunological responses of humans and animal models to these dietary components once ingested. His breadth of expertise in this field ranges from the basic to the applied, resulting in his appointment to five National Academy of Sciences committees and one Institute of Medicine committee, all of which resulted in significant publications in the human and animal nutrition fields. In addition, he has held or currently holds appointments to the scientific advisory boards of many companies that provide either complete foods or carbohydrate ingredients to nutrition-related organizations and (or) consumers. Dr. Fahey serves his professional societies as a member of the Board of Directors and as present or past member of many editorial boards and program committees. The most significant accomplishment of his nearly 35 year academic career is his mentorship of 17 postdoctoral research associates, 71 M.S. and Ph.D. students, and nearly 150 undergraduate student researchers.

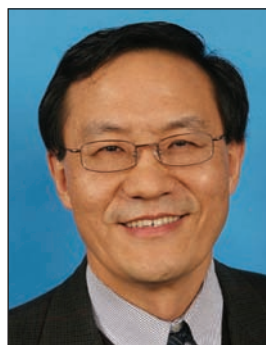
**The Kellogg International Prize in Nutrition** is awarded to a member of the International Nutrition Council actively engaged in research to benefit populations in non-industrialized countries. This year it is



presented to **K. Michael Hambidge, MD, ScD**, University of Colorado Health Science Center. Dr. Hambidge has worked for the past 30 years as a physician scientist defining our knowledge of zinc metabolism, zinc requirements, and the consequences of zinc deficiency for human

health. He has conducted metabolic studies, clinical studies and more recently moved into community-based approaches to prevention, as well the articulation of science in global policy in this area. Hambidge received his BA at Cambridge and then received his MD from the University of London. He completed postgraduate medical training at various institutions in the UK, and in 1966, he became a research fellow in pediatrics at the University of Colorado Medical Center. Thereafter, he became assistant, associate and then full professor of pediatrics. In 1988, he was awarded the ScD degree from the University of Cambridge. From 1988-1998 he was Head of the Center for Human Nutrition, and from 1994-1998 he was Chair of the Nutrition Section, Department of Pediatrics, University of Colorado, School of Medicine. In 1998, he became Professor Emeritus. Hambidge served as the elected treasurer of the ASCN from 1996 to 1999 and spent over 10 years on the Food and Nutrition Board of the Institute of Medicine. In addition, he has been a strong leader with the International Zinc Consultative Group (IZNCG) helping to shape recommendations for assessment, policy and programs with scientific information. Awards he has received include the Borden Award in Nutrition from AIN, the Nutrition Award from AAP, the Award for Excellence from the Colorado Dietetics Association, honorary membership in the ADA, the Lucille S. Hurley Distinguished Lecturer Award, the William Evans Fellowship at the University of Otago, New Zealand, the Underwood Memorial Lectureship Award and the Sewall Award for Exceptional Leadership and Vision from the University of Colorado.

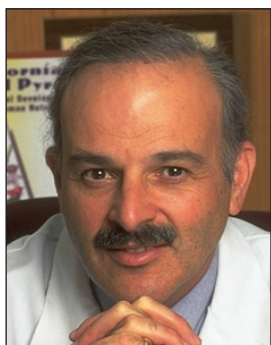
**The Mary Swartz Rose Senior Investigator Award**, sponsored by Council for Responsible Nutrition, is given to an investigator for outstanding research on the safety and efficacy of bioactive compounds for



human health. In 2011, **Xiang-Dong Wang, PhD**, of Tufts University, is the recipient. Dr. Xiang-Dong Wang earned his medical degree from Peking University Medical College in 1982 and completed resident training at the Peking Union Medical College Hospital in

1986. Following postdoctoral research with Dr. Douglas W. Wilmore at Harvard Medical School, he pursued a Ph.D. in Nutrition under the mentorship of Dr. Robert M. Russell at Tufts University in 1998. After graduating in 1992, he joined the faculty of the Jean Mayer USDA Human Nutrition Research Center on Aging (JM USDA HNRCA) at Tufts University. He became a senior scientist at the HNRCA and a full professor of the Tufts Friedman School of Nutrition Science in 2007. Presently, he is the director of the Nutrition and Cancer Biology Laboratory at the HNRCA at Tufts, and Co-leader of the Nutrition and Cancer Program at the Tufts Cancer Center. Dr. Wang has published over 100 peer-reviewed original research manuscripts, reviews and book chapters and given a number of invited presentations throughout North and South America, Europe and Asia. He has received a number of awards including the 2005 ELR Stokstad Award from the American Society for Nutrition, and was elected Vice Chair for the Gordon Research Conference on Carotenoids in 2007 and 2010. His main research achievement has been the molecular understanding of both the beneficial effects (low dose) and harmful effects (high dose, specifically interacting with cigarette smoke and alcohol intake) of carotenoid/retinoid supplementation on carcinogenesis. He has become a recognized leader in the field of nutrition and cancer prevention, with special emphasis on carotenoids and retinoids using animal models (in particular the ferret model). His recent contribution of contemporary significance to the understanding of carotenoids is the demonstration of the biological functions of carotenoid excentric cleavage products and their interaction with signal transduction pathways against certain chronic diseases.

**The McCormick Science Institute Research Award** is presented to an investigator conducting clinical, translational, in



vitro or ex vivo research whose contributions have advanced the understanding of the potential health benefits of culinary herbs and spices. **David Heber, MD, PhD, FACP, FACN**, is this year's recipient. He is the Director of the Center for Human Nutrition at UCLA. He

graduated from UCLA Magna Cum Laude in Chemistry in 1969 and from Harvard Medical School in 1973, and completed his internship at Beth Israel Hospital and his residency and fellowship training at Harbor General Hospital in Torrance, California. He completed his Ph.D. in Physiology at UCLA in 1978. Dr. Heber has been on the faculty of the UCLA School of Medicine since 1978 and is currently Professor of Medicine and Public Health, founding Chief of the Division of Clinical Nutrition in the Department of Medicine and Founding Director of the UCLA Center for Human Nutrition. Dr. Heber is board certified in Internal Medicine, Endocrinology and Metabolism and in Clinical Nutrition. Dr. Heber is Director of the Certification Board for Nutrition Specialists of the American Society for Nutrition, and past chair of the Education Committee and the Medical Nutrition Council of the American Society for Nutrition. He has written over 200 peer-reviewed scientific articles and over 60 book chapters, and two professional texts: *Dietary Fat, Lipids, Hormones and Tumorigenesis*; and *Nutritional Oncology*, a 49 chapter text published by Academic Press in 1999 with a second edition in 2006. Dr. Heber is included in the 1996, 2000, 2007 and 2010 listings of *The Best Doctors in America* and was listed in *Who's Who in America* as of 2001. He has written four books for the public: *Natural Remedies for a Healthy Heart* by Avery Publishing Group in 1998, *The Resolution Diet*, by Avery Publishing Group in 1999, *What Color is Your Diet?* published by Harper Collins/Regan Books in 2001, and the *L.A. Shape Diet* published by Harper Collins/Regan Books in 2004. His main research interests are obesity treatment and nutrition for cancer prevention and treatment.

**The Norman Kretchmer Memorial Award in Nutrition and Development**, sponsored by Abbott Nutrition, is given to a scientist for a substantial body of independent research



in the field of nutrition and development with potential relevance to improving child health. The 2011 winner is **Dana Dolinoy, MS, PhD**. Dolinoy is the Searle Assistant Professor of Environmental Health Sciences at the University of Michigan School of Public Health. Her

research investigates how nutritional and environmental factors interact with epigenetic gene regulation to shape health and disease. Using the viable yellow agouti mouse as an epigenetic biosensor, Dr. Dolinoy has shown that genistein, the major phytoestrogen in soy, increases DNA methylation of the *Agouti* gene, resulting in decreased incidence of adult-onset obesity, diabetes, and cancer. She has also shown that both methyl donors, such as folic acid, betaine and choline, and genistein counteract DNA hypomethylation caused by bisphenol a (BPA), an endocrine active agent used to make polycarbonate plastic, showing that simple dietary changes can protect against the deleterious effects of environmental toxicants on the fetal epigenome. Dr. Dolinoy holds a BA in environmental sciences from Duke University, a MS in environmental health from the Harvard School of Public Health, and a PhD in Genetics and Genomics and Integrated Toxicology from Duke University.



**The Osborne and Mendel Award**, sponsored by ILSI North America, is given in recognition of outstanding recent basic research in nutrition. The 2011 awardee is **Daniel Hwang, PhD, USDA**, ARS Western Human Nutrition Research Center. Hwang is a Research

Molecular Biologist at the ARS, USDA Western Human Nutrition Research Center, and adjunct faculty member of the Nutritional Biology and Immunology graduate groups at the University of California-Davis. Dr. Hwang's group was the first to reveal that saturated fatty acids stimulate, but the n-3 polyunsaturated fatty acid docosahexaenoic acid inhibits the activation of the signaling pathways of Pattern Recognition Receptors (PRRs), including Toll-

like receptors (TLRs) and Nucleotide-binding Oligomerization Domain proteins (NODs). His group also found that certain plant-derived polyphenols inhibit the activation of PRRs by interfering with receptor dimerization. These findings laid the conceptual foundation that PRR-mediated sterile inflammation and its functional consequences can be modulated dynamically by our diet. TLRs and NODs activate innate immune responses for host defense by recognizing pathogen-associated molecular patterns (PAMPs) derived from invading pathogens. PRRs are activated by endogenous molecules derived from tissue injury and elicit sterile inflammation to initiate wound-healing processes. PRRs can also detect metabolic disturbances and bridge immune responses to metabolic homeostasis. Such functional diversity of PRRs may be achieved by their ability to recognize a wide variety of so-called "danger associated molecular patterns" (DAMPs). However, such a broad specificity of PRRs in sensing DAMPs can make them vulnerable to dysregulation leading to chronic inflammation, which in turn can promote the development and progression of chronic diseases. Although PRR-mediated innate immune responses are an essential part of host defense and wound healing, resolution of these responses is required to prevent collateral tissue damage and development of chronic inflammation. Identifying additional dietary and metabolic components that modulate PRR-mediated inflammation, and understanding the mechanism of their actions, should provide new opportunities to reduce risk and to manage chronic inflammatory diseases resulting from the dysregulation of PRRs by what we eat.



**The Robert H. Herman Award** is given to a clinical investigator in recognition of contributions of significance to the biochemical and metabolic aspects of human nutrition. The 2011 award is made to **Robert Eckel, PhD.**

Eckel is Professor of Medicine with appointments in the Division of Endocrinology, Metabolism and Diabetes and the Division of Cardiology, and Professor of Physiology and Biophysics at the University of Colorado Denver (UCD) and is Director of the Lipid Clinic at the University of Colorado

Hospital. He is Director of the Discovery Translation Program of the recently NIH funded Colorado Clinical Translational Sciences Institute. Dr. Eckel was recently a member of the Scientific Advisory Council of the National Institute of Diabetes, Digestive and Kidney Diseases at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and was President of the American Heart Association in 2005. Eckel's NIH funded research has focused on the broad area of preventive cardiology in the areas of the pathogenesis and treatment of lipid disorders and obesity. Studies in animals and humans focus on the impact of nutrition/hormones on lipid and carbohydrate metabolism. In humans, Dr. Eckel has examined the nutritional/metabolic predictors of weight change, lipid disorders and atherosclerosis. In the laboratory, he uses mice with tissue-specific modification of gene expression to address similar issues in more extensive detail. Overall, his research is targeted to favorably modifying the metabolic profile to reduce the risk for heart disease and stroke.

### Senior Educator and Mentor Awards



**The Excellence in Nutrition Education Award**, sponsored by Cengage Learning, is given for outstanding contributions to teaching nutrition. This year's recipient is **David Levitsky, PhD**, Cornell University. Levitsky stated that, "teaching nutrition is one of my greatest

passions. When I was asked to take over the teaching of our introductory nutrition class (n=39) about 30 years ago, I promised myself that I would not teach it the same way that I learned it. Rather than teach nutrition directly, I embed it in a discussion of pathologies. I teach lipids within the rubric of cardiovascular disease. I teach the B vitamins within energy production and energy balance in weight control.

I emphasize critical thinking. I use exams not only as a measuring instrument, but as a learning experience. I offer the students an opportunity to rebut my answer on an exam by sending me a brief argument as to why they believe their incorrect answer was correct using support from the scientific literature.

If they convince me, I give them credit for the question. Their term paper consists of reviewing four recent scientific articles, two on one side of a controversy, two from the other. They critically evaluate each of the studies and draw a conclusion.

I want the students to feel that the course is fair. If the students feel that they knew the answers on an exam, but didn't understand the questions, I offer them the opportunity to take an oral exam with me. I want the students to feel that I will do everything I can, to help them get the highest grade possible; that I am on their side.

The class has grown to about 600 students and has won numerous teaching awards including State University of New York Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching, Stephen H. Weiss Presidential Fellow in Teaching, Cornell University, Innovative Teaching Award, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Cornell University, and the USDA Excellence in College and University Teaching Awards (Regional)."



**The Dannon Institute Mentorship Award** is given for outstanding mentorship in the development of successful nutritional research science investigators. The 2011 awardee is **Harvey Anderson, PhD**, University of Toronto. Dr. Anderson is Professor, Departments

of Nutritional Sciences and Physiology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto and Director of the University-Industry Program in Food Safety, Nutrition and Regulatory Affairs. He received his B. Sc. (Agriculture) and M. Sc. (Animal Nutrition) at the University of Alberta and his Ph.D. (Nutritional Sciences) at the University of Illinois. After postdoctoral experience at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, he joined the University of Toronto. He has served the University in the positions of Associate Dean, School of Graduate Studies, Dean and Associate Dean for Research, Faculty of Medicine, Chair of the Department of Nutritional Sciences, and member of the University's Governing Council. Dr. Anderson has also held academic appointments at many Chinese Universities. He was selected as a

Ministry of Health Scholar of China in 1987 and led the development of clinical nutrition research training and teaching programs at Sun Yat-sen University of Medical Sciences, Guangzhou, Guangdong Province, PRC (1986-1997). His research and training programs have received continuous peer-reviewed grant support since he joined the University of Toronto in 1970 and has led to the training of more than 100 M.Sc. and Ph.D. students and postdoctoral fellows and many summer and research course undergraduate students. He currently supervises 7 PhD, 7 MSc, 2 PDF and one senior research associate. Many of his graduates have achieved distinction, in Canada and internationally, for their research and administrative leadership in universities, government and industry. His teaching awards include the Hollington Award for outstanding teaching of medical students in their preclinical years and the Faculty of Medicine Graduate Teaching Award for Sustained Contribution to Excellence in Graduate Teaching. He is a Fellow of the American Society for Nutrition.



**The Roland L. Weinsier Award for Excellence in Medical/Dental Education**, sponsored by Dannon Institute, is presented in recognition of an outstanding career in medical/dental nutrition education. The 2011 recipient is **Patsy Brannon, PhD,**

**RD**, Cornell University. She is a Professor of Nutritional Sciences and Director of the Dietetic Internship at Cornell University. She was a Visiting Professor at the National Institutes of Health Office of Dietary Supplements (2007-2008) and served as the Chair of the Department of Nutrition and Food Science at the University of Maryland-College Park (1994-1999). She has been actively engaged in educating dietitians and pre-medical students for twenty-seven years through her teaching and leadership. Her courses in nutrition and the life cycle and maternal and child nutrition stress understanding and critically assessing the evidence base for nutrition, diet and health promotion, and integrate the biological and social sciences in understanding nutritional and dietary needs across the life cycle. She initiated and developed a strong leadership component in the Dietetic Internship to enhance

effectiveness of dietitians in medical nutrition practice. Recently, she led the development and launch of a new combined PhD-RD program that emphasizes translational research in practice and policy. Nationally, she contributed to the future development of dietetics education through the American Dietetic Association's Visioning (1994), Dietetics Education Task Force (2005-2006) and Future Connections-Summit on Dietetics Practice, Credentialing, and Education (2011). Her research focuses on diet-gene interactions in the regulation of the exocrine pancreas and placenta function and, in particular, the mechanisms whereby maternal nutrition regulates placental growth. Her professional service is extensive including the IOM Committee to Review the DRI for Calcium and Vitamin D (2009-2010), past Chair of ASN's Nutrition Sciences Council and chair of the Public Policy Committee (2009-present), NIH Consensus Panel on Lactose Intolerance (2010) and State of the Science Panel on Multivitamin/mineral Supplements and Chronic Disease Prevention (2006). She received her BS and MS in Nutrition and Food Science from Florida State University and her PhD in Nutritional Biochemistry from Cornell University.

## Young Investigator Awards



**The Bio-Serv Award in Experimental Animal Nutrition** is given for meritorious research in nutrition accomplished by an investigator within ten years of postgraduate training. The recipient in 2011 is **Ling Qi, PhD**, Cornell University. Ling is an assistant professor in Division of Nutritional

Sciences at Cornell. Beginning in 2004 as a fellow with Dr. Marc Montminy, he began to dissect and delineate the underlying molecular mechanisms contributing to obesity and type 2 diabetes. Through the use of various mouse models, he identified novel players in biological pathways that play critical roles in mediating and influencing energy homeostasis. His work has been published in *Nature*, *Science* and *Cell Metabolism*.

Upon establishing his own laboratory at Cornell in 2007, his research focused primarily on both the physiological role of the unfolded protein response (UPR) and the role of

inflammation in the pathogenesis of obesity. His group was the first to link ER function with adipocyte differentiation and to quantitate the extent of ER stress under physiological and disease settings. These studies are of both fundamental and clinical relevance as they may lead to the identification of novel therapeutic targets. In recognition of his achievements, Ling has received the 2008 Rosalinde and Arthur Gilbert Foundation/AFAR New Investigator Awards and the American Diabetes Association Junior Faculty Award.

In his career, three great mentors have been instrumental to his success. Dr. Suzanne Ostrand-Rosenberg at University of Maryland was the first mentor who inspired him to love biomedical research and to be confident in himself; Dr. Carol Greider at Johns Hopkins University was the one who showed him what it takes to be successful; and Dr. Marc Montminy at Salk Institute was the one who facilitated the elevation of his scientific training to the next level. Collectively, they provided the road map to knowledge that now guides his strategies with lab management, student training and research. In the future, Ling will continue studying the basic fundamental questions that have not been addressed in our fight against obesity and diabetes.



**The Mary Swartz Rose Young Investigator Award**, sponsored by Council for Responsible Nutrition, is given to an investigator within ten years of postgraduate training, for outstanding research on the safety and efficacy of bioactive compounds for human health. The 2011 recipient

is **Mario Ferruzzi, PhD**, Purdue University. Dr. Mario Ferruzzi is currently an associate professor of Food Science and Nutrition at Purdue University in West Lafayette, IN. While at Purdue, Dr. Ferruzzi has developed a research program active at the interface of food science and nutrition disciplines. Specifically, his efforts have contributed to understanding the impact of the food matrix and food processing on phytochemical stability, bioavailability and metabolism. Supported by research grants from the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture National Research Initiative, National Institutes of Health and food industry, Dr. Ferruzzi's research has

contributed knowledge on how interactions between macronutrients, micronutrients and phytochemicals may impact digestive behavior, intestinal absorption and metabolism of carotenoids and polyphenols from whole foods and beverages. His work has direct impact the design and development of food ingredient systems and products that optimize delivery of health promoting phytochemicals.

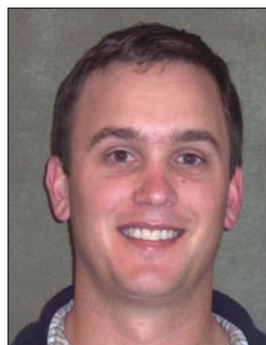


**The Mead Johnson Award for Research in Nutrition** is given to an investigator for a single outstanding piece of nutrition research or a series of papers on the same subject accomplished within ten years of completing postgraduate training. The award is made in 2011 to

**James Collins, PhD**, University of Florida.

Collins received a B.S. degree in Biology from the University of the South (Sewanee), an M.S. in Molecular Biology from Middle Tennessee State University and a Ph.D. in Molecular Physiology from Vanderbilt University. He subsequently did post doctoral training at the University of Arizona and then spent three years at SUNY Buffalo as an Assistant Professor, prior to moving to the Food Science & Human Nutrition Department at the University of Florida in the fall of 2008. Dr. Collins has been investigating molecular genetic aspects of intestinal nutrient transport for more than a decade, initially focusing on sodium and phosphate followed by more recent studies on intestinal iron and copper homeostasis. His interest in iron/copper interactions in the gut stems from a series of studies published over the past 6 years, which utilized microarray methodology to analyze global gene expression patterns in the intestinal epithelium during iron deprivation. These papers described the identification of novel genes which were induced during iron deficiency. Proteins encoded by these genes are involved in copper homeostasis, intestinal lipid metabolism and the response to hypoxia; several were selected for more detailed molecular analysis. Subsequent studies were designed to test the hypothesis that copper plays an important physiological role in the compensatory response of the intestinal epithelium to iron deficiency.

Dr. Collins suggested that genes related to intestinal copper transport, which were upregulated by iron deficiency, might be coordinately regulated with those encoding proteins involved in iron absorption. A recent study has in fact demonstrated that the *Atp7a* gene is a target of a hypoxia inducible *trans*-acting factor (HIF2 $\alpha$ ), providing evidence of coordinate regulation of *Atp7a* with genes related to intestinal iron absorption (e.g. Dmt1, Cybrd1, Fpn1). Ongoing studies remain focused on iron/copper interactions during iron deficiency, with a current goal of identifying the molecular mechanisms underlying the induction of two multi-copper ferroxidases that play known (hephaestin) or potential (ceruloplasmin) roles in intestinal iron transport.

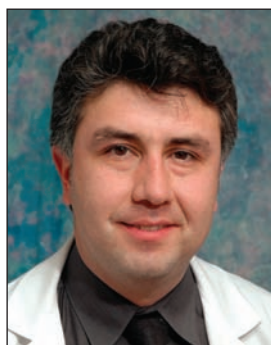


**The Peter J. Reeds Young Investigator Award** is given for outstanding research in macronutrient metabolism accomplished within five years of receiving a PhD or completing a residency training. The 2011 recipient is **Nicholas Gabler, PhD**, Iowa State

University. Gabler is currently an Assistant Professor in swine nutrition and physiology in the Animal Science Department at Iowa State University. He is establishing a research program that aims to understand and define the physiology and molecular pathways that define feed efficiency differences and secondly, to investigate gastrointestinal integrity and function in swine. His current research efforts are examining the effects of residual feed intake selection (feed efficiency indices) on body composition, whole body and cellular metabolism differences in pigs. Further research efforts are examining the effects of dietary fatty acids on circulating endotoxin concentrations, metabolism and intestinal integrity and function.

Dr. Gabler obtained his Ph.D. from La Trobe University (Melbourne, Australia) where he used the pig as a model to study the cardiovascular and antioxidant health benefits of dietary onion, broccoli and olive oil intake. Upon completion of his dissertation, he joined the Animal Science Department at Purdue University as a postdoctoral research

associate in 2004 in the laboratory of Dr. Michael Spurlock. He then moved to the Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition at Iowa State University in 2005 and continued his postdoctoral research. His main postdoctoral research emphasis was on evaluating the use of n-3 fatty acids (docosahexaenoic acid and eicosapentaenoic acid) in swine production and health. This work showed that dietary n-3 fatty acids may be an effective means of influencing the inflammatory status of pigs, particularly for those pathways influenced by Toll like receptor 4 signaling. Additionally, weanling piglet jejunal glucose flux is up-regulated if exposed to n-3 fatty acids, particularly during gestation alone and in gestation plus lactation. This increase in glucose uptake appeared to be orchestrated by changes in glucose transporters and energy sensing.



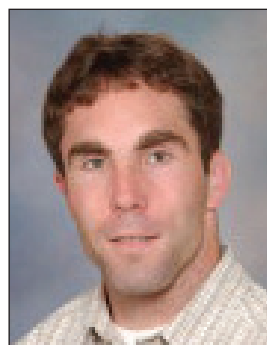
**The Samuel J. Fomon Young Physician Award,**

sponsored by Néstlé Nutrition Institute, is given to a physician within ten years of completion of medical postdoctoral training, for outstanding work in the general area of pediatric nutrition, infant growth or body composition. As

the award honors Dr. Fomon, preclinical and/or clinical research that contributes to medical applications or produces impacts upon the practice of infant feeding will be recognized. This award will be presented for the first time at the ASN Scientific Sessions and Annual Meeting at Experimental Biology 2011 to **Renán Orellana, MD**, Baylor College of Medicine.

Orellana is currently a Pediatric Intensive Care physician at Texas Children's Hospital and Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston. He received his M.D. degree from the University of El Salvador in Central America, where he briefly worked as a rural physician and served as faculty in the Department of Community Medicine at his Alma Mater. He completed his pediatric Residency as Chief Resident at Nassau County Medical Center in New York. He then pursued further training in Pediatric Critical Care at Texas Children's Hospital and as a nutrition scientist at the USDA/ARS Children's Nutrition Research Center under the mentorship of Teresa Davis,

Ph.D. He has focused his research on the regulation of muscle protein metabolism in pediatric critically ill patients, with the goal of understanding molecular mechanisms and building knowledge to develop nutritional support therapies for critically ill pediatric patients. By using the neonatal pig as a model for the human neonate, he has examined the role of the insulin and amino acid interphase on the regulation of protein synthesis during sepsis and the mechanisms behind muscle wasting induced by mechanical ventilation and sepsis. Dr. Orellana is a member of the *American Society for Nutrition* (ASN) and of critical care and pediatric societies and has received Educational Scholarship and Post-Doctoral Fellow awards from the Society of Critical Care Medicine and ASN. Despite his role as a junior faculty clinician in a busy pediatric intensive care unit, he has mentored post-doctoral M.D. fellows in the area of muscle protein metabolism, authored more than twenty peer-reviewed publications, and presented his work at more than 25 international conferences. Thus, Dr. Orellana is a role model for the young clinician-scientist in the field of pediatric nutrition.



**The Vernon R. Young Award,**

sponsored by Ajinomoto, is given for a single outstanding piece of research or for a series of papers in a related area on amino acid metabolism completed early in the recipient's career (usually within ten years of postgraduate training). In 2011, the recipient is

**Gregory Henderson, PhD**, Rutgers University.

Henderson is currently an Assistant Professor at Rutgers University. While a graduate student at the University of California, Berkeley, in the laboratory of Dr. George Brooks, he contributed to the stable isotope analyses for investigating whole body leucine kinetics in the context of caloric restriction and exercise and then co-authored a subsequent publication reporting the findings. During his postdoctoral training in the laboratory of Dr. Sree Nair at the Mayo Clinic, he contributed to the design and execution of an ongoing study assessing the effects of exercise training upon muscle protein synthesis in young and old people. As well, during the fellowship, as part of a

team investigating various aspects of protein metabolism, Dr. Henderson published papers on effects of caloric restriction in obesity, as well as effects of aging and gender upon muscle and whole body protein metabolism. During postdoctoral training Dr. Henderson also co-authored a paper describing a novel application for using stable isotopes to assess metabolism of specific proteins.

## Media Award



### The Nutrition Science Media Award is

presented for consistent, accurate nutrition science reporting for a general audience over the last year. The 2011 recipient is **Kathleen Zelman, MPH, RD, LD**, Director of Nutrition for WebMD. Among other duties, Zelman serves as senior

nutrition correspondent, writes features, columns, diet book reviews, and newsletters, provides expert editorial review of diet and nutrition articles, and covers national meetings.

Zelman has extensive media experience, including co-hosting a weekly radio program, 12 years as a national spokeswoman for the American Dietetic Association, and numerous print and television appearances including CNN, *Good Morning America*, *NBC Nightly News*, *The Wall Street Journal*, and *The New York Times*. She is a contributing writer for newspapers, magazines, and books including *Paul Prudhomme's A Fork in the Road*, *Healthy Eating for Babies and Toddlers*, and *A Harvest of Healing Foods*. Zelman is active in local, state, and national dietetic associations. She was recently elected to serve as the director-at-large on the American Dietetic Association board of directors. She served as a trustee of the Georgia Dietetic Foundation and two terms as the Georgia delegate to the American Dietetic Association. She received her master's degree in public health from Tulane University and her bachelor of science from Montclair State University.

## Committee News



### Graduate and Professional Education Committee (GPEC)

We've been staying busy – there's no off-season. We're looking forward to seeing many of you at the upcoming ASN Scientific Sessions and Annual Meeting at Experimental Biology and seeing what you think about our two pre-conference satellite symposia and our expanded education track.

We invite you to attend on Thursday, April 7, the pre-EB satellite "The Global Nutrition Translation: The Role of Protein Supplementation" and on Friday, April 8, "Heart Healthy Omega-3s for Food: Stearidonic Acid (SDA) as a Sustainable Choice."

If you answer **yes** to any of the following questions, **then you should plan to come to our education track sessions:**

- Are you looking to take the next step in your career, and are interested in finding the tools and resources you need to make that happen?
- Do you want to meet and hear from up-and-coming ASN students and young professionals vying for prizes and stature in the Clinical Emerging Leader Award and Graduate Student Research Award Competitions?
- Are you a nutrition educator looking to train health professionals?
- Are you curious to know how the face of nutrition is changing in the US?
- Are you interested in integrating nutritional genomics and nutritional genetics into your nutrition curriculum?
- Are you not quite up-to-date on the clinical nutrition areas of renal nutrition, nutrient deficiencies after bariatric surgery, inflammation, nutritional concerns in HIV/AIDS or artificial nutrition and hydration at the end of life?
- Interested in micronutrient measurement quality best practices?

Thank you to all of you who have helped put together these great education track programs and to the ASN Scientific Programs Committee for their partnership in making them happen. We're looking forward to delivering them

in Washington, DC, in April. Check the ASN website and read these newsletters for other updates on upcoming programs and activities.

In addition to numerous live activities, we're also looking to build a searchable collection of presentations, videos, reports, slides, research, white papers, images and other educational tools and resources in the near future to add to the web site. If you have any such materials you'd like to donate to ASN for its use, please contact Moira Holt at [mholt@nutrition.org](mailto:mholt@nutrition.org) with a list of what you'd like to provide. If you are from academia, industry, or government, we want you to contribute. Please send these items to us on a CD to the American Society for Nutrition, Attn: Moira Holt, Teaching Resources, 9650 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20814, or via FTP site (if you have one to use).

And, as always, reach out to me at [rwood@nutrition.umass.edu](mailto:rwood@nutrition.umass.edu) or Ryan Cliche at ASN at [rcliche@nutrition.org](mailto:rcliche@nutrition.org) with any questions or suggestions regarding ASN education and professional development.

*Contributed by Richard J. Wood, GPEC Chair, and Ryan Cliche, ASN Education and Professional Development Manager*

### Student Interest Group (SIG)

The SIG is looking forward to EB 2011! We would especially like to highlight the following events. A complete listing of student activities will be forwarded to the SIG listserv before EB.

#### *Sunday, April 10, 7:00am, Student Breakfast and SIG Travel Award Poster Competition.*

A great way to meet and network with your peers over breakfast! Top quality student research will be showcased as the finalists for our merit-based travel award present their posters! Sponsored by the National Dairy Council.

*Tuesday, April 12, 10:30-12:30, SIG Special Session, "The Changing Face of Nutrition in the United States: How Policy is Changing the Practice of Nutrition."* We have speakers from a variety of government organizations, who will be addressing Disease Prevention and the Affordable Care Act, Implementation of Innovative Food Policies in New York City schools, The Role of Nutrition

Science in Shaping Public Policy, and Policy Challenges and the USDA.

Don't miss out on the SIG drawing for a \$250 travel award. You are eligible simply by attending the SIG events at EB and filling out an entry slip. The winner will be drawn at the conclusion of the meeting. More SIG events attended increases your chances of winning!

We would like to thank the students that submitted entries for our annual T-shirt contest. We appreciate your involvement in our group and are excited to debut the newest design at Experimental Biology. The t-shirt sale is our primary fundraising event, and proceeds are used to put on EB activities and provide EB travel awards to students.

Thanks to those students who filled out our short survey. Your responses will help to inform our future activities and events! Based on your responses, we intend to host a "Careers In Nutrition" webinar sometime this summer, and we are currently looking to provide opportunities for student mentoring. Stay tuned for more details in the future.

As always, if you have any questions about the SIG or ideas for us to better serve you as students, please contact Rachel Kopec, chair of the SIG, at [kopec.4@osu.edu](mailto:kopec.4@osu.edu).

### Young Professionals Interest Group (YPIG)

ASN's Young Professionals Interest Group would like to invite all postdoctoral fellows, medical residents and junior faculty to attend our Networking Reception at EB 2011. The reception will be held on Sunday, April 10 in the Renaissance Washington at 7:00 pm. Also, look for our table at the ASN mixer on Saturday night and come say hi or learn more about our mission!

**Chair:** Robin Minor

**Vice-Chair:** Vicki Vieira Potter

**Leadership Committee:** John Apolzan, Holiday Durham, Charles Guo, Veronica Lopez, April Stull

**Advisors:** Regan Bailey, Elizabeth Parks

**Board Liaison:** Penny Kris-Etherton

## Minority Affairs Committee (MAC)

The Minority Affairs Committee (MAC) is looking forward to the second committee-sponsored symposium at the ASN Scientific Sessions and Annual Meeting at Experimental Biology 2011. The symposium is titled "Health Disparities in Early Nutrition: Where the Problem Begins?" and is being chaired by Drs. Rafael Pérez-Escamilla and Odilia Bermúdez, both members of the MAC. The session is scheduled for **Tuesday, April 12 at 10:30 a.m. in Washington Convention Center, Room 151B**. Join us before at **7:00 a.m.** near **Room 153** for the ASN Minority Affairs Committee Meet and Greet with Symposium Speakers and MARC Travel Award Winners Coffee Hour.

The manuscripts from the first MAC symposium on "Nutrition and Health Disparities," will be published in a forthcoming *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition* supplement. These papers address acculturation and type 2 diabetes among Latinos, vitamin D deficiency among African Americans, healthy food access among Native Americans, and BMI and body fat among Asian-Americans. Let us know if you have innovative ideas about future ASN MAC EB symposiums.

This fall, Dr. Denis Medeiros represented the ASN MAC in Charlotte at the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS). Dr. Medeiros reports the ASN booth had a great number of young students stopping by eager to learn about career and research opportunities in nutrition. The ASN MAC is finding more and more young minority investigators looking for opportunities for research in nutrition. If you are looking for a way to work with these students, visit [www.faseb.org/MARC](http://www.faseb.org/MARC). We need members like you who are willing to host students in your lab for Summer Research Opportunities (SROP).

Thank you to the support of the FASEB MARC Program for allowing ASN to offer travel awards to the following student members to attend the annual meeting: Juan Andrade, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign; Vanessa Arias, University of California, Davis; Maria Dao Tufts University; Kimberly Cephas, University of Illinois; Marcus Elam, Florida State University; Ryan Grant, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign; Jennifer Jones, University of Connecticut; and Krystle Zuniga, University of

Illinois Urbana-Champaign. Congratulations! We look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

*The ASN Minority Affairs Committee is chaired by Dr. Kristie Lancaster, [kjl1@nyu.edu](mailto:kjl1@nyu.edu), of New York University and co-chaired by Dr. Rafael Pérez-Escamilla, [rafael.perez-escamilla@yale.edu](mailto:rafael.perez-escamilla@yale.edu), of Yale University. If interested in the work of the Minority Affairs Committee and how you can get involved in opportunities funded by the FASEB MARC program, email Katrina Dunn, [kld@nutrition.org](mailto:kld@nutrition.org).*

## Council News



### International Nutrition Council (INC)

Research on international nutrition will be well represented at this year's Experimental Biology in Washington, DC. Come early and stay late! As there will be a record number of symposia, mini-symposia, and poster sessions of great interest to our council members, you might want to invest a few moments before you get on the plane and use the EB personal planner to make sure you do not miss anything. Here are some of the sessions that will be of interest to you:

#### Saturday

Tackling Iron Deficiency and Anemia in Infants and Young Children in Malaria-Endemic Areas: Moving from Controversy towards Guidance for Safe, Effective and Feasible Policies and Programs

#### Sunday

Ethics in Nutrition Research  
The Presidential **Symposium**: Ameliorating micronutrient deficiencies through biofortification: The science and prospects  
CARIG: Biofortification of provitamin A in maize for Africa.

#### Monday

Food Aid Commodities: Optimum Micronutrient Composition  
Recovery from stunting after age 2 y: how often does it happen, and what are the cognitive and developmental benefits?  
Building convergence among scientific, programmatic and policy communities working on childhood undernutrition in developing countries

## Tuesday

The global beverage picture: Where is the science today as beverage consumption relates to cardiometabolic health?  
Enteric Infections meet the Mucosa – How Micronutrients Regulate Gut Mucosal Barrier Function

Please join us for the INC council business meeting on **Monday April 11th, 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM** and be ready to discuss symposia ideas for 2012, the new council bylaws, and other council initiatives. The meeting will include the Kellogg lecture presentation, and will be an opportunity to congratulate our the three winners of the student travel grants as well as the student and researcher winners of our new international travel award. The winners will put up their posters and will be ready to discuss their work with you before the meeting starts – so come early! The new travel award will help bring our international colleagues to the EB. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet with them – take advantage of the INC reception that will immediately follow the business meeting, to socialize with your colleagues.

I look forward to seeing you in Washington.

*Contributed by Grace Marquis*  
grace.marquis@mcgill.ca  
Chair, International Nutrition Council

## **Medical Nutrition Council (MNC)**

The Medical Nutrition Council is pleased to announce the first in a series of annual *Clinical Nutrition Updates*, programmed to take



*Members of the Brazilian delegation meet with the Clinical Conference Program Committee Chair Penny Kris-Etherton.*

place at ASN's Scientific Sessions and Annual Meeting at Experimental Biology on Tuesday, April 12 at 8:00 am. The 2-hour session offers updates in five critical topic areas of particular interest to academic faculty who have the responsibility for teaching required courses in medical nutrition therapy/diet therapy. The topics for 2011 include Renal Nutrition, Nutrient deficiencies after Bariatric Surgery, Inflammation: Redefining Malnutrition as We Know It, Nutritional Concerns in HIV/AIDS, and Artificial Nutrition and Hydration at the End of Life. The session will also appeal to clinicians seeking a general update in topics other than their specialty, students, and others for whom general clinical expertise compliments their teaching and/or research. Please join us April 12 for this exciting session and help us plan for future Clinical Nutrition Updates!

Other MNC-sponsored events and symposia at the **ASN Scientific Sessions and Annual Meeting at EB 2011** are:

### Saturday, April 9

1:30-2:30 pm:

MNC Business Meeting

### Sunday, April 10

10:30am-12:30 pm:

Ethics in Nutrition Research (co-sponsored with the Nutritional Sciences Council)

### Sunday, April 10

3:00pm-5:00 pm:

Maternal Obesity and Long-term Programming

### Wednesday, April 13

8:00am-10:00 am:

Blood Cholesterol - CVD Risk

### Wednesday, April 13

10:30am-12:30 pm:

Saturated Fat - CVD: Question Recommendation?

Thank you to everyone from the Council who attended ASN's *Advances and Controversies in Clinical Nutrition Conference*, which took place February 25-27, 2011.

See you in Washington, DC, at ASN's Scientific Sessions at EB!

## **Nutritional Sciences Council (NSC)**

The NSC implemented a new process for the selection of the 12 student award finalists this year, and it worked quite well. To ensure that all student abstracts are reviewed by experts in

their field, we divided the submitted abstracts into 3 groups: 1) cell and molecular or animal studies, 2) human clinical intervention, and 3) epidemiology and public health. We received 246 abstracts. Groups of about 40 abstracts were first reviewed by at least 2 individuals each, and the top 10 of these selected. Abstracts selected by both or all reviewers were compiled. Each reviewer then ranked the abstracts on this list based on overall quality, innovation, and impact, and the sum of the rankings were compiled across reviewers. The top abstracts, proportionally within each group, were then selected as finalists. The following reviewers are thanked for their careful work: Malcolm Watford, Judy Storch, Werner Bergen, Janos Zemplini, Vicki Viera, Rudy Valentine, Elizabeth Parks, Nancy Englemann, Tracy Baynard, Cindy Fitch, Shivani Sahni, and Katherine Tucker. We understand that Coca Cola and Tate and Lyle will sponsor the competition this year, and we would like to thank them for supporting our young scientists. The finalists have some very impressive and interesting work to report, and we look forward to hearing their presentations from 2:00-5:00 on Saturday, April 9.

Please be sure to attend the business meeting and breakfast just before the Presidential symposium (Sunday, April 10, 7:00-8:00 am) to hear more about our activities and to get involved in the NSC. Don't miss the NSC sponsored symposium workshop: Genetic polymorphisms as sources of nutritional/metabolic variation – a methods workshop, chaired by Steve Zeisel and Werner Bergen, on Monday, April 11, 8:00-10:00 am, or the co-sponsored symposium with the MNC on Ethics in Nutrition Research (Sunday, April 10, 10:30-12:30). We are currently planning symposia for EB2012, due in March, so please send any suggestions to [kl.tucker@neu.edu](mailto:kl.tucker@neu.edu).

If you haven't already, please do join the NSC Subgroup of the ASN on LinkedIn to network with and seek help from other NSC members. We look forward to seeing everyone soon in Washington D.C.

*Submitted by* Katherine Tucker  
[Kl.tucker@neu.edu](mailto:Kl.tucker@neu.edu)

## Research Interest Sections (RIS)



### RIS Director



Each year, I look forward to the *Experimental Biology* meeting. This year is particularly special to me as I return to Washington DC, my home for over 20 years and a place of career opportunities and lasting friendships. *EB* provides a wonderful opportunity to hear about the latest research, meet outstanding scientists, interact with colleagues, and make new friends. A really great way to do this is by attending the Research Interest Section (RIS) business meetings and many of the RIS sponsored sessions. The RIS represent ASN's strong commitment to provide community, interaction and mentorship by facilitating and promoting scientific exchange among ASN members who focus on specific scientific topical areas. Each RIS business meeting offers an opportunity to meet, interact and network with others in a particular interest area. As a member of the RIS you can participate in and contribute to a variety of *EB* activities. Many of these activities support and shape the ASN program to include major symposium topics and speakers, mini symposium talks and posters, panel discussions and hot topics. Currently there are 15 RIS groups representing a wide variety of research interests, so please join one or more and become more involved in these and other activities for *EB* 2011 and beyond.

You can read more about the activities and programs of each RIS group in the individual reports that follow my report. One of my goals this year is to improve communication with RIS groups and for RIS groups to communicate often and effectively with members. The RIS reports reflect this goal as you will see from the information shared. Also, there has been an increase in the timely exchange of information to include calls for abstracts and nominations for student awards as well as announcements about both ASN and RIS sponsored webinars.

So when a RIS related email comes your way, please take time to look at it to keep informed of RIS events and opportunities.

Looking ahead, I encourage you to review the online ASN program and plan your schedule to include RIS sponsored symposium, and oral and poster sessions as well as attend one or more RIS business meeting. Also, if you would like to contribute to or have any ideas for topics for future ASN programs contact the appropriate RIS chair. Remember to join a RIS at *EB* or if already a member, get more involved.

If you have any suggestions or comments, please feel free to contact me at shirley\_gerrior@msn.com.

*Contributed by Shirley Gerrior  
ASN RIS Director*

## Aging and Chronic Disease

*EB2011* is just around the corner. Our annual business meeting and luncheon will be held on Sunday, April 10th from 12:30 to 2:00 pm. In addition to the business meeting, we will have representatives from various aging and chronic disease cohorts present an overview of their cohort and the nutrition data available followed by a discussion of potential collaborations and project ideas.

We have four minisymposia sessions scheduled at *EB 2011*:

- Nutrition and Physical and Cognitive Function, Sunday, April 10th, 10:30am-12:30pm;
- Nutrition Interventions for Risk Factor Modification in Chronic Disease, Sunday, April 10th, 3-5pm;
- Nutritional Assessment and Status in Older Populations, Monday, April 11th, 3-5pm; and
- Nutrition and Age-Related Changes in Body Composition, Tuesday, April 12th, 8-10am.

Poster sessions for Nutrition and Physical and Cognitive Function, Community Nutrition and Aging, and Nutritional Assessment and Status in Older Populations will be held on Monday, April 11th. Nutrition Interventions for Risk Factor Modification in Chronic Disease and Nutrition and Age-Related Changes in Body Composition poster sessions will be held on Tuesday, April 12th.

We look forward to seeing you in Washington, D.C. in April.

*Contributed by Denise Houston  
Chair, Aging & Chronic Disease RIS  
[dhouston@wfubmc.edu](mailto:dhouston@wfubmc.edu)*

## CARIG

A **Cognition, Eye Health, and Lutein Advisory Board Conference** was held January 14, 2011 in New York City sponsored by the Abbott Nutrition Health Institute. The Conference was Co-Chaired by Lewis P. Rubin, MD (USF) and Gary Chan, MD (U of Utah). Several ASN and CARIG members participated. In addition to the Co-Chairs, Speakers were: Paul Bernstein, MD, PhD (U of Utah); Anne Fulton, MD (Harvard); John Landrum, PhD (FIU); Jane Carver, PhD (USF); Elizabeth Johnson, PhD (Tufts, USDA Nutrition Center).

The preliminary objectives included:

- Discuss lutein's potential role in eye development and therefore brain (cognitive) development
- Assess the protective benefits of lutein for eye and brain health based on published scientific evidence and the advisors' findings and experience
- Discuss the potential synergistic role of lutein and DHA in eye and brain development
- Reach consensus and develop a lutein position statement as well as further scientific content

Other Upcoming Conferences this Spring/Summer:

- **ASN Scientific Sessions & Annual Meeting at EB.** The ASN Meeting will be held at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center, Washington, DC, USA from April 9 - 13, 2011. The pre-conference **CARIG Symposium** will be held on Friday, April 8, 2011 at 1:00 pm EST in the Convention Center Room 102B.
- **Macular Carotenoids & AMD, 2011.** Downing College, University of Cambridge, UK 12 - 15 July 2011. Visit the conference website: [www.macularcarotenoids.org](http://www.macularcarotenoids.org). A conference for macular carotenoid researchers, exploring up-to-date and evidence-based hypotheses and the supporting research data into the role of the macular carotenoids in age-related macular degeneration (AMD).

- **The 16th International Symposium on Carotenoids** will be held in July 2011 in the World Heritage city of Krakow, Poland. Jagiellonian University will be hosting this Symposium. Registration system is now open to congress participants at: [www.carotenoid.pl](http://www.carotenoid.pl)

Lewis P Rubin  
CARIG Chair

## Diet and Cancer

We are glad to see many submissions to our RIS for Experimental Biology (EB) 2011. Based on the content and number of abstracts received, the chairs and co-chairs of the sessions reorganized our RIS minisymposia and poster sessions under three themes: Translational, Clinical and Survivorship Issues, Animal Studies, and Molecular Targets. The schedule of these sessions is listed below. Please come and join us at these sessions on Monday and Tuesday during EB 2011.

### Minisymposia (Monday, April 11th, 2011)

5042 Diet and Cancer: Translational, clinical and survivorship issues. 8-10am

5041 Diet and Cancer: Animal studies. 10:30am-12:30pm

5043 Diet and Cancer: Molecular targets. 3-5pm

### Posters (Tuesday April 12th, 2011)

Diet and Cancer: Animal Studies

Diet and Cancer: Translational, Clinical and Survivorship Issues

Diet and Cancer: Molecular Targets

Please also make an effort to attend our RIS business meeting and student poster competition at Renaissance Washington, 12:30-2:30 on Sunday, April 10th. Come and enjoy the fine research of the young members and offer your insights on the future our RIS.

Our RIS members can get involved in many opportunities such as future symposia planning and fundraising. We appreciate the generous support from American Institute for Cancer Research and Harlan Laboratories, Inc. for our business meeting and student poster competition this year.

*Contributed by Huanbiao Mo*  
Chair, Diet and Cancer RIS  
***hmo@twu.edu***

## Dietary Bioactive Components

ATTENTION STUDENTS AND POST DOCS! The DBC RIS has a lot to offer you at EB. We will be holding our poster competition during our reception and business meeting on Saturday April 9 from 5-8 pm. Finalists will present posters for judging during the reception. Awards will be provided to the winning presenters thanks to a generous gift from the Council for Responsible Nutrition.

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER! Our RIS will be running Twitter feeds (@BioactivesRIS) during symposia and minisymposia this year to collate questions from the audience. Our student co-chairs will help us compile questions and direct them to the speaker during the discussions. Special thanks to Dr. Keith Harris, the originator of the idea and this year's "Twitter Chair."

Have you been thinking about your future career plans? Don't miss "Career Vision for Students in Dietary Bioactive Components" with a panel discussion including professionals from Industry, Academia and Government. This event includes a boxed lunch, and will take place at EB on Monday from noon to 1:30 pm. You must be a DBC RIS member to attend, and pre-registration will be required at the DBC RIS business meeting on Saturday.

Member news: Congratulations to Nancy Engelman who recently received a Pelotonia Postdoctoral Fellowship from the James Comprehensive Cancer Center at Ohio State University.

As EB approaches, watch for email communications through our listserv. If you have suggestions for our RIS, or if you would like to provide sponsorship to help us deliver the best possible experience for our students, please feel free to contact me or any of the other officers: Mario Ferruzzi, Past Chair; Susanne Talcott, Chair-Elect; Kee-Hong Kim, Secretary Treasurer; or Jenna Cramer, Student representative.

*Contributed by Nate Matusheski*  
Dietary Bioactive Components RIS Chair  
[dietarybioactivesris@gmail.com](mailto:dietarybioactivesris@gmail.com)

## Energy and Macronutrient Metabolism (EMM)

The Energy and Macronutrient Metabolism Research Interest Section (EMM-RIS) welcomes ASN members interested in the function, metabolism, and utilization of carbohydrates, lipids, proteins, and amino acids. We are always looking for new members who share these common interests. If you are interested in becoming a member of the EMM-RIS, go to your member profile on the ASN website and select the EMM-RIS.

**Please mark your calendars for the following EMM-RIS events at EB 2011:**

### Hot Topics Seminar, Business Meeting and Reception

Saturday April 9th

- 5:00 – 6:00 pm Hot Topics Seminar which will be presented by Rosalind Coleman from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The title of her presentation will be "The fate of fat: The use of knockout mice to examine lipid partitioning."
- 6:00 – 6:30 pm Business Meeting
- 6:30 – 8:00 pm Reception including presentation of student and postdoc abstract award winners

### Minisymposia

- Carbohydrate digestion; energy boundary between plant and animal kingdoms. Sunday, April 10th, 10:30am – 12:30pm
- Energy balance, macronutrient and weight. Sunday, April 10th, 10:30am-12:30pm
- Lipid and fatty acid metabolism and transport. Sunday, April 10th, 3-5pm
- Obesity and metabolic syndrome: Emerging concepts. Monday, April 11th, 8-10am
- Obesity and metabolic syndrome: Role of vitamin D and related dietary variables. Monday April 11th, 10:30am-12:30pm
- Nutrient regulation of protein anabolism: mechanism and metabolic effects. Monday April 11th, 3-5pm
- Regulation of food intake. Tuesday, April 12th, 8-10am
- Dietary factors affecting lipid metabolism. Tuesday, April 12th, 10:30am-12:30pm
- Polyunsaturated fatty acids and health. Tuesday, April 12th, 3-5pm

## Posters

Sunday April 10th: Lipid and Fatty Acid Metabolism and Transport, Dietary Factors Affecting Lipid Metabolism, Carbohydrate Digestion: Energy Boundary between Plant and Animal Kingdoms, and Regulation of Food Intake

Monday April 11th: Energy Balance, Macronutrient and Weight, Obesity and the Metabolic Syndrome: Biochemical and Molecular Factors, Obesity and the Metabolic Syndrome: The Effects of Food and Dietary Supplements, and Polyunsaturated Fatty Acids and Health

Tuesday April 12th: Obesity and the Metabolic Syndrome: Diet, Lifestyle, and Intervention Effects, Protein and Amino Acid Metabolism, and Metabolic Phenotyping, Metabolomics, and Biomarkers

We look forward to seeing everyone in Washington D.C. for EB2011!

Kimberly K. Buhman, Chair  
([kbuhman@purdue.edu](mailto:kbuhman@purdue.edu)).

on behalf of: Douglas G. Mashek, Chair-Elect  
([dmmashek@umn.edu](mailto:dmmashek@umn.edu)) and

Sean H. Adams, Past-Chair  
([sean.h.adams@ars.usda.gov](mailto:sean.h.adams@ars.usda.gov))

## Lactation

It's time again for **Experimental Biology**, and I would like to draw your attention to some of this year's Lactation RIS activities and events.

**Symposium**, Tuesday, April 12, 8-10 am  
"Impact of Maternal Nutritional Status on Breast Milk Quality and Infant Outcomes", chaired by Dr. Donna Chapman and Dr. Laurie Nommsen-Rivers.

**Minisymposium**, Sunday, April 10, 3-5 pm  
"Human Milk Biology", chaired by Dr. Lars Bode and Katherine Hunt

**Minisymposium**, Monday, April 11, 8-10 am  
"Breastfeeding: determinants and the effect on health outcomes", chaired by Dr. Laurie Nommsen-Rivers and Dr. Yeon Bai

**Posters**, Sunday April 10  
"Human Milk Biology"

**Posters**, Sunday April 10,  
"Breastfeeding: Determinants and the Effects on Health Outcomes"

This year's Lactation RIS Business Meeting and Luncheon is sponsored by Medela, Inc.

and will be held on April 11, 12:30-2:30pm, in conjunction with the Business Meeting of the International Society for Research in Human Milk and Lactation (ISRHML). An important agenda item for our business lunch will be the selection of the new Chair-Elect. Please consider nominating yourself or another ASN member for this important position. According to the revised operating procedures for the Lactation RIS, the Steering Committee is composed of the Past Chair, current Chair, and Chair-Elect. The Chair-Elect will serve a two-year term before progressing onto Chair for two years, and then Past Chair for two years. The new term will begin June 1, 2011. The business meeting is open to everyone who is interested in Lactation Research. Attend, participate and get involved!

The first **International Conference on the Glycobiology of Human Milk Oligosaccharides** will be held in May 16-17, 2011 in Copenhagen, Denmark. The conference is being organized by Glycom and will be chaired by Dr. Clemens Kunz (University of Giessen, Germany) and Dr. Sharon Donovan (University of Illinois, Urbana). A preeminent panel of invited speakers will review the emerging knowledge of the biology of human milk oligosaccharides and their principal components, including: Drs. Lars Bode, Hudson Freeze, Rudolf Geyer, Thierry Hennot, Motomitsu Kitaoka, Carlito Lebrilla, David Mills, Norbert Sprenger and Tadasu Urashima. In addition, abstracts will be selected for oral or poster presentation. The conference will be free to academic participants (PhD students, postdocs, professors).

See you at Experimental Biology in April!

*Contributed by Lars Bode  
University of California, San Diego  
Chair-Elect, Lactation RIS  
**lbode@ucsd.edu**  
with the support of Sharon Donovan*

## Nutrient-Gene Interaction

Hello NGIRIS members! I am sure by the time you receive your March Nutrition Notes, EB 2011 will be right around the corner. The NGI-RIS and VM-RIS have been working hard the last few months to ensure we have a successful business meeting and poster competition. As a reminder, this joint session will be held on Saturday, April 9th, from 6:00 – 7:30 pm, with the hour before 6:00 pm to allow students

to set up their posters and get everything ready. Both Carol Johnston (VM-RIS Chair) and I will send out a brochure at a later date as a reminder of the day and times, and the location, which we are still waiting on. The steering committees for both RISs have been working hard to get sponsor donations for this meeting and so far we have met with a decent amount of success and we have a number of potential sponsors still pending. So, I am fairly confident our meeting will be well supported!

Another item related to our business meeting on Saturday that I would like everyone to give some thought to is nominations for our next Chair-elect. Our current Chair-elect is Kate Claycombe, and as most of you know, we entertain nominations at our EB business meeting for the next Chair-elect, and then conduct a vote at a later date. To be honest, in all the years I've been attending this RIS, getting nominations has not been particularly abundant—so please give it some thought ahead of time, and maybe that will result in greater numbers. No doubt being Chair and Chair-elect takes time. To that end, I do have a recent document that was developed describing the responsibilities of all RIS Chairs that I would be happy to share with you. A major key to both of these positions is the change from being Chair-elect to Chair; thus, the Chair-elect is involved in all of the Chair responsibilities throughout the year, making the transition much easier.

Last, I am looking for at least 3 (or more) individuals that would be willing to serve as judges for our graduate student/postdoc poster competition. This is obviously an essential task, and if I have a few people lined up ahead of time, it helps immensely. Judges would likely need to be at the meeting around 5:30 so we can get the judging going prior to the start of the business portion of the meeting. Just send me an email if this is something you would be willing to do.

## Minisymposium and Posters Sessions

We had a number of ASN Minisymposia that the NGI-RIS was planning on sponsoring for EB2011, and we are now in a position to list them here. Based on abstract submission and presentation preference by the author, our minisymposia for 2011 are:

*Nutrient-Gene Interactions*  
Chair: Y-X. Pan; Co-chair: Dongmin Liu  
*Nutrient-sensing Mechanisms*

Chair: Hong Chen; Co-chair: TBA  
*Maternal-fetal Programming of Gene Expression*

Chair: Angela Devlin; Co-chair: Kate Claycombe

All of these minisymposium sessions will be held on Tuesday, April 12 – see the EB program for specific times and locations. The other proposed minisymposia that received abstracts have been scheduled as poster sessions (various days throughout EB), and they are:

*Epigenetics and Nutrition*  
*Diet and DNA Methylation*  
*Dietary Bioactives and Gene Expression*

I look forward to seeing everyone in Washington and thank you for supporting our RIS!

*Contributed by Kevin Schalinske*  
Chair, Nutrient-Gene Interaction RIS  
***kschalin@iastate.edu***

## **Nutrition Education**

The Nutrition Education Research Interest Section is excited to invite you to our 2011 Experimental Biology Meeting mini-sessions and annual business meeting. Oral mini-sessions will be held on Saturday, April 9th from 3:00-5:00 pm, Sunday, April 10th from 10:30-12:30 am, and Tuesday, April 12th from 8:00-10:00 am. Poster sessions will take place on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday. Please plan to also join us for our annual business meeting from 5:00-6:30 pm on Monday and become a member of our RIS.

These are exciting times for nutrition educators as we find ourselves working with teams of researchers to combat the ever growing problem of child and adult obesity. It is my pleasure to introduce you to a research project that was recently funded by USDA Nutrition Institute for Food and Agriculture (NIFA) on which Dr. Melinda Manore, one of our RIS members, is a co-project director. Melinda is a professor in the Department of Nutrition and Exercise Science at Oregon State University and will be working with a group of investigators on the "Generating Rural Options for Weight-Healthy Kids and Communities" (GROW HKC) project. The overarching goal of this project is to prevent obesity in rural children, and it will use a two pronged

approach. The first aim is to understand the rural obesogenic environment. To do this Oregon State University's core team will partner with Extension Services in six Western states (Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Nevada, Texas, and Washington) to engage rural people in community-based participatory research to assess features in rural communities that either prevent or promote obesity, community resources and readiness that could help with prevention efforts. The second aim is to plan, implement, and evaluate a multi-level intervention targeting rural home, school, and community behavioral settings to promote healthful eating and increase physical activity, and thus improve body mass index (BMI) among rural children aged 5-8 years old. Drs. Deborah John (Public Health/Extension FCH) and Kathy Gunter (Nutrition & Exercise Science/Extension FCH) are the study PIs and they will be working with Melinda and other Co-PI's including Dr. Roger Rennekamp (4-H), Dr. Gail Langellotto (Dept of Horticulture) and Lena Etuk (Extension FCH). They will develop and test the GROW HKC obesity prevention program in rural communities from three counties in Oregon. Applying a "people and places" framework, their intervention will utilize evidence-based strategies to affect positive changes in person-level attributes and in family home, school, and community environments related to healthful eating and physical activity.

We wish Melinda and the GROW HKC team great success as they embark on this exciting and comprehensive project and also hope that you will join us at our Experimental Biology scientific sessions where we will promote the discovery of many of our Nutrition Education RIS members.

*Contributed by Georgianna Tuuri*  
Chair, Nutrition Education RIS  
***gtuuri@lsu.edu***

## **Nutritional Epidemiology**

There are several important issues to relate this Spring, and for some we need to receive your input.

Change in RIS Chair elect:

Dr. Sangita (Gita) Sharma cannot continue to serve as the RIS Chair elect or future RIS Chair in our RIS due to an unexpected situation. Recently our RIS Advisory Steering Committee elected Boushey for the position. Boushey has

been providing outstanding service to our RIS as a committee member for several years. Here is her contact information:

Carol Boushey, PhD, MPH, Associate Professor  
Department of Foods & Nutrition, Purdue University  
***boushey@purdue.edu***

New election of the next RIS Chair elect:

We will need to elect a new chair elect to serve as after Boushey. We plan to hold the election after EB. Please let current RIS Chair, Dr. Youfa Wang (ywang@jhsph.edu) know if you'd like to nominate a candidate. Please first help obtain the candidate's commitment to serve in the position if elected and then send his/her short blurb and updated CV to Dr. Wang by March 31.

Free Webinars:

The RIS, led by Dr. Regan Bailey, has been organizing several free webinars. Most recently one was held on February 15, 2011. Title: Epidemiology of Nutrients and Chronic Disease: Contributions to the evidence base used in setting DRIs for vitamin D and calcium, and implications for future nutritional epidemiology studies. The speakers are Patsy Brannon, Cornell University; Christine Taylor from Institute of Medicine; and Susan Taylor-Mayne from Yale School of Public Health.

Please pay attention on the email messages you'll receive from our RIS regarding future ones or contact Dr. Bailey (regan.bailey@gmail.com) if you have questions or suggestions.

Experimental Biology 2011 in Washington DC: Our RIS will sponsor or co-sponsor several symposia, including two regarding the new 2010 Dietary Guidelines. Please come to enjoy the conference and we look forward to meeting with you then.

*Contributed by Youfa Wang, Chair*  
***ywang@jhsph.edu***

## Nutritional Immunology

Hello. The Annual Experimental Biology Meeting is almost here. Please mark your calendars for the Nutritional Immunology RIS Business Meeting, to be held on Saturday April 9, 2011 from 4-6 pm. The location for the

meeting is the Convention Center, Room 155. We will be hosting the symposium "Metabolic regulation and immune cells: implications for chronic and infectious disease" on Monday April 11, 2011 from 3-5pm. Also note we have two minisymposia – Nutritional Immunology (5420-ASN) and Immune Modulating Nutraceuticals and Functional Foods (5241-ASN). Please try to attend these exciting events.

## Poster competition deadline and travel awards for students

Our annual student poster competition will take place at the Nutritional Immunology RIS Business Meeting. Students must have their posters on poster boards by 4pm. All undergraduate, graduate and post-doctoral fellows are eligible for the poster session. Based on the poster competition, two \$500 travel awards will be made at the meeting. Awards will be made based on merit and need.

Please send me the following information for the poster sessions: 1) Full name 2) University affiliation 3) Name of advisor 4) Extended abstract – 2 pages maximum including key data 5) Your contact email. Email this information to: shaikhsa@ecu.edu and be sure to make the subject line "Poster competition for NI-RIS".

*Contributed by S. Raza Shaikh, PhD*  
Secretary, NI-RIS  
***shaikhsa@ecu.edu***

## Nutrition Translation

NT will sponsor one mini-symposium, four poster sessions, and two scientific symposia for EB 2011. The mini-symposium, *Nutrition Science Translation for Policy, Practice, and Consumers*, will be chaired by Patricia S. Williamson-Hughes and Donna Winham, includes seven papers, and is scheduled for Tuesday, April 12 from 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM, with complimentary papers on this topic presented in a poster session on April 12. Three additional poster sessions will address these topics: *Understandings and Communicating Benefits/Risks of Natural-State Foods* on April 10; *The Use of Consumer Insights to Guide Scientific Research*, April 12; and *Balancing Foods and Nutrients in the Diet (e.g. Nutrient Density, Ratios, and Types)*, April 12. The two scientific symposia are: *Is Processed Foods a Four Letter Word?* Which will be presented on Monday, April 11, from 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM with generous funding support from The

Campbell Soup Company; and, *Evidence-based analysis – Is it appropriate for nutrition?* will be presented on Wednesday, April 13 from 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM with generous funding support from Kraft Foods.

**NT-RIS Business Meeting on Saturday, April 9 from 2:00 to 3:00 PM** will showcase 6 representative posters to reflect the range of topics and interests within the membership.

**TusaRebecca E. Schap, MSc, RD**, from Purdue University joins the NT-RIS Advisory Board as a student representative. She is a doctoral student, Interdepartmental Nutrition Program, in the Foods and Nutrition Department where her major advisor is Dr. Carol Boushey. TusaRebecca received her BS degree with a double major in dietetics, fitness and nutrition from Purdue University; an MS degree in Food Science, Technology and Nutrition from the Dublin Institute of Technology; with internships in community nutrition and genetics and metabolism from TX Migrant Council, Kokomo IN, and Riley Hospital for Children, Indianapolis IN, respectively. She has received multiple scholarships and awards, is the co-author of two publications in peer-reviewed journals and 16 abstracts. The NT-RIS looks forward to receiving input from this talented, young professional.

## Vitamin and Minerals

**EB 2011 is almost here!** We hope to see many of you at the annual VMRIS poster competition and business meeting on Saturday evening, April 9. For the second year in a row, we are planning a joint meeting with the Nutrient Gene Interaction RIS; we anticipate a lively event with much interaction and discourse (and food!). The event is scheduled from 5:00 pm to 7:30 pm at the Renaissance Washington. An informational flyer will be sent out with all the details as EB 2011 approaches.

We encourage all graduate students and post-docs who submitted an abstract to EB 2011 as first author to participate in the VMRIS Poster Competition. Presenters must be a member of ASN and VMRIS. To join VMRIS, ASN members can log into the members page at **www.nutrition.org** using their username and password and click on Update My Profile. Once on this page, select VMRIS. Make sure to click the submit button at the bottom of the Update My Profile page. The single-spaced extended



*The member reception and university mixer is a highlight of the Annual Meeting.*

abstract is to include: A) title and author, B) introduction and justification, C) methods and procedures, D) results, and E) conclusions and significance. Posters will be displayed during the VMRIS reception and business meeting. Winners will be announced at the end of the business meeting, and all winners will receive certificates and monetary awards. We have lined up an impressive panel of judges and anticipate much excitement at this event.

## **Come congratulate the winner of the first annual VMRIS investigator award!**

This past year we initiated a new award to recognize an outstanding VMRIS investigator in the area of vitamin or mineral research. This award is open to investigators at any stage of their career who are VMRIS members and actively publishing research. We are now reviewing the nominations received for this award, and we will announce the award winner at the business meeting. Please consider nominating a colleague for the 2012 outstanding VMRIS investigator award in the year to come. We hope that this recognition helps increase the visibility of the VMRIS and our members.

The VMRIS actively seeks financial support each year to help fund the annual business meeting, the graduate student awards, and the outstanding VMRIS investigator award. This year the VMRIS has been successful in securing funding and appreciate your support. If you know of any possible avenues to pursue financial support, please contact Susan Zaripheh or myself with the information and we will do the footwork. Or, if you chose to pursue

the funding yourself on behalf of the VMRIS, we can provide you with a letter template that may be used to solicit support.

I look forward to seeing each of you at EB 2011!

Carol Johnston, PhD, RD  
VMRIS Chair  
Arizona State University  
***Carol.Johnston@asu.edu***

## Member Spotlight



### Canada Spotlight

*From the Canadian Nutrition Society...* The first year of the Canadian Nutrition Society (CNS, [www.cns-scn.ca/](http://www.cns-scn.ca/)) has been exciting and characterized by growth and opportunity for the nutrition community in Canada. Our organization has identified key goals and objectives in four areas: 1) Outreach to Nutrition Professionals and Scientists; 2) Outreach to Nutrition Industry; 3) Outreach to Government and the Public; and 4) Outreach to Trainees. The 2011 Annual Meeting will be held at the University of Guelph, June 2-4, 2011. An exciting program has been developed and a few of the topics include: update on Vitamin D and calcium requirements; update on sodium in Canada; exercise and metabolism; nutrition and health status of immigrants; micronutrients in mental disorders; and, methyl donors in health and disease. The CNS welcomes you to participate at the meeting.

*From the University of Alberta...* Vickie Baracos continues in her appointment in the Department of Oncology, where she is studying nutrition in the cancer patient and building bridges to nutritional sciences at the University of Alberta and other institutions

*From the University of Saskatchewan...* Drs. Carol Henry, Gordon Zello and Susan Whiting were awarded funding from the Canadian International Development Agency for their project "Strengthening capacity for nutrition and food security in Ethiopia". They are also team members on an International

Development Research Centre Canadian International Food Security Research Fund project to examine food security in the highlands of Ethiopia through improved and sustainable agricultural productivity and human nutrition. All will be travelling to Ethiopia to teach and conduct research with MSc nutrition students at Hawassa University, Awassa. Dr. Hassan Vatanparast is leading a nationally funded project investigating the impact of socio-economic and cultural factors on household food insecurity of refugees.

*From the University of Guelph...* Dr. Janis Randall Simpson is Acting Chair of the Department of Family Relations and Applied Nutrition. Dr. Andrea Buchholz is currently on a sabbatical leave at Purdue University in Indiana where she is working with Dr. Connie Weaver. A number of new faculty have joined the Department of Human Health and Nutritional Sciences: Dr. Graham Holloway (Assistant Professor) studies the regulation of mitochondrial fatty acid oxidation in skeletal and cardiac muscle. His work has application to human exercise performance, as well as type 2 diabetes; Dr. Jeremy Simpson (Assistant Professor) uses classical physiology and proteomic techniques to study cardio-respiratory physiology and related pathophysiology; Dr. Stephen Brown (Assistant Professor) uses biomechanical techniques to study function, injury, adaptation and rehabilitation of the spine and related skeletal muscle. He is interested in the causes and consequences of low back pain; and, Dr. David Wright (Associate Professor and Tier II Canada Research Chair in Lipids, Metabolism and Health) studies the mechanisms which regulate the effects of diet and exercise on adipose tissue and skeletal muscle metabolism.

*From the McMaster University...* The research group in pediatric obesity welcomes Dr. Constantine Samaan, a pediatric endocrinologist who joined the Department of Pediatrics as a Clinician-Scientist in October 2010. Dr. Samaan will be conducting research initially in collaboration with Dr. Gregory Steinberg. Together they will focus their research in the area of understanding the role of inflammation in obesity and how this contributes to the development of insulin resistance and atherosclerosis. Stephanie Atkinson, Rhonda Bell from University of Alberta and Anne Junker from UBC have organized a one day Workshop on "Breaking the Obesity

Cycle: Understanding the origins in maternal/ infant dyad”, sponsored by the Maternal, Infant, Child and Youth Research Network (MICYRN) and held in conjunction with the 2nd National Obesity Summit in Montreal, April 28-May 1, 2011 (<http://www.con-obesitysummit.ca/>). Dr. Stephanie Atkinson was appointed by CIHR as Chair of the Institute Advisory Board of the CIHR-Institute of Nutrition, Metabolism and Diabetes (INMD). In September 2010, Dr. Atkinson was inducted as a Fellow of the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences. Fellows of the Academy are elected on the basis of their demonstrated leadership, creativity, distinctive competencies and commitment to advance academic health sciences.

*From Health Canada...* In June 2010, Dr. William Yan was appointed to the position of Director, Bureau of Nutritional Sciences, Food Directorate in Health Canada. Dr. Yan obtained his Ph.D. degree in Medical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases from the University of Alberta in 1990. He began his career at Health Canada as a Research Scientist in 1995 in the Food Directorate's Bureau of Microbial Hazards. He was also Head of the Office of Biotechnology, Food Directorate, from 1999 to 2002, Chief of the Evaluation Division, Bureau of Microbial Hazards, from 2002-2008, Director of the Health Effects Division of the Pest Management Regulatory Agency from 2008-2009, and A/Director of our Bureau of Nutritional Sciences since November 2009.

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

## East Spotlight

*From the Graduate Program in Nutrition at The Pennsylvania State University...* Gordon Jensen presented “Etiology Based Malnutrition: Status and Update” – American Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition – Vancouver – January 2011. Miriam E. Nelson, Ph.D., Assoc. Prof. at the Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy and Director, John Hancock Research Center on Physical Activity, Nutrition and Obesity Prevention, Tufts University, present the lecture “Dietary Guidelines for Americans: Energy Balance and Weight: as part of the Graduate Program in Nutrition Colloquium Series in December 2010. Barbara Lohse was an invited participant



*Attendees network with clinical conference exhibitors including Carol Sloan of the California Walnut Board.*

to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Ed) Listening session hosted by USDA, FNS in Alexandria, VA on December 9, 2010. Listening Session participants considered legislative, policy, and socioeconomic implications impacting SNAP-Ed to frame a vision for the future of SNAP-Ed. Catharine Ross visited the National Institute of Nutrition in Hanoi and presented lectures on Vitamin A and Immunity at the Vietnam Nutrition Association (VINUTAS) National Scientific Conference on Food and Nutrition, held in Ho Chi Minh City on Nov. 12; the Ho Chi Minh City University of Pharmacy and Science Program in Endocrinology; and the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, Jichi Medical University, Omiya, Japan. She also presented a seminar to the Nutrition program and Biochemistry and Molecular Biology program at East Carolina University Dec. 6, and participated in an ASN/ ASBMR/ IOM-sponsored webinar on the 2011 IOM Report on Calcium and Vitamin D on Dec. 16, 2010.

*From Drexel University Department of Nutrition Sciences...* Stella L. Volpe took a position as Professor and Chair of the Department of Nutrition Sciences at Drexel University. Dr. Volpe was on faculty at the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing prior to her appointment at Drexel.

*From Yale University...* Rafael Perez-Escamilla has been appointed Chair of the IOM Workshop

Planning Committee for Updating the USDA National Breastfeeding Campaign. Dr. Rafael Perez-Escamilla is a co-author, together with Ana Maria Segall-Correa and Leticia Marin-Leon, of an invited book chapter on the development and use of the Brazilian Food Insecurity Scale (EBIA). The chapter highlights the major impact that EBIA has had informing policy makers and documenting national and regional household food security improvements during President Lula's administration. The book containing this chapter is introduced by President Lula and describes the goals, structure and performance of the Fome Zero program during his eight-year administration. It is available online at [www.mds.gov.br](http://www.mds.gov.br) free of charge. Rafael is collaborating with FAO-Rome in the adaptation and validation of the Albanian Food Insecurity Scale. He participated, in his role as a Scientific Advisory Board member, in the UCLA Center for Population Health and Health Disparities Launching Meeting, Los Angeles, January 20th. He was invited to speak on food insecurity and childhood obesity at the 14th Public Health Research Congress, National Institute of Public Health, Cuernavaca, Mexico, March 1st.

Susan Mayne was reappointed to another 3 year term on the U.S. Food and Nutrition Board. She served on the Committee on Dietary Reference Intakes for Vitamin D and Calcium, Institute of Medicine, National Academy of Sciences; the Committee's report was released in November, 2010. Dr. Mayne presented the new DRIs for Vitamin D and Calcium to the Food and Nutrition Board at their meeting in December 2010 in Washington, D.C. She also participated in a webinar on the new DRIs sponsored by the American Society of Nutrition/Institute of Medicine/American Society for Bone and Mineral Research in December 2010. Dr. Mayne has recently been appointed to the External Steering Committee, Nutritional Sciences Research Group, Division of Cancer Prevention, National Cancer Institute where she will be advising on the development of a new webinar series on Nutrition and Cancer Prevention.

*From Rutgers University Department of Nutritional Sciences...* Dawn Brasaemle (Rutgers University) was invited to present a talk on "CGI-58: an emerging and central player in cellular and whole body lipid homeostasis" at the 2010 Scientific Sessions of the American Heart Association in Chicago, IL November 13-17. Nurgul Fitzgerald (Rutgers University)

(co-presenters Karen Chapman-Novakofski and Elena Serrano) gave an invited webinar, "Good Reviewing Practices" on December 10, 2010 (available at: <http://www.jneb.org/>). Judith Storch (Rutgers University) has been appointed to the Editorial Board of the Journal of Biological Chemistry. In September, Dr. Storch presented a talk at the 2010 Scientific Conference on Niemann-Pick Type C Disease, held in Tucson, Arizona. Wardlaw's Perspectives in Nutrition, 8th Ed. (McGraw-Hill), co-authored by Carol Byrd-Bredbenner (Rutgers University), Gaile Moe (Seattle Pacific University), Donna Beshgetoor (San Diego State University), and Jacqueline Berning (University of Colorado at Colorado Springs) has been translated into Spanish and Korean, with a Chinese edition coming soon.

*From the University of Vermont...* Lyndon B. Carew, Jr., Professor, Department of Animal Science, and Department of Nutrition & Food Sciences, has published a book, "Musings of a Vermont Nutritionist," recently released by Wind Ridge Publications (<http://www.shelburnenews.com/wrp-book-division>).

*From New York University...* Marion Nestle was the Peggy Friedman Annual Social Justice Speaker at Piscataway High School, New Jersey, and keynote speaker at annual meetings of the Science Teachers Association of New York State, and the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry. Dr. Nestle also gave lectures at Sandia National Laboratories in Albuquerque, Linfield College, the Gustavus Adolphus College Nobel Conference, Delaware Valley College of Science and Agriculture, University of Washington, Sterling College, Princeton, Upstate Medical University, and the New School, and to the University of California's Student Cooperative Association. Niyati Parekh conducted Nutrition Education sessions at a Bronx middle school in New York City support by the Melinda and Bill Gates Foundation. She conducted 2 sessions for 8th and 9th graders to educate them on portion sizes, healthful foods, incorporating fruits and vegetables and whole grains into the diet. Dr. Partekh also conducted a survey to evaluate their consumption of fruits and vegetables to create awareness of their own dietary habits. Beth Dixon is a co-investigator on a RWJF grant and also on an AETNA Foundation grant to evaluate financial incentives for new supermarkets in low-income areas.

*From University of Connecticut Department of Nutritional Sciences...* Bruce A. Watkins recently joined the Department of Nutritional Sciences after official retirement from Purdue University as Professor Emeritus of Foods and Nutrition for his distinguished service.

*From the Division of Nutritional Sciences at Cornell University...* Michael Latham participated in the International Congress on Public Health Nutrition held in Porto in Portugal in October 2011. He presented an invited paper entitled "Vitamin A supplements and morbidity in children: A conundrum unanswered?" He also, in a formal debate with Dr. Keith West of Johns Hopkins University, proposed that the massive worldwide Vitamin A capsule program be wound down. The majority of the audience voted in support of that motion. Dr. Latham in November gave the opening Key Note address at the FAO Symposium on "Food based approaches to nutrition".

The title of his address was "Perspectives on nutritional problems in developing countries: Nutrition security through community agriculture."

*From the Center for Human Nutrition, Department of International Health, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health*

Keith West debated Michael Latham on September 23rd about the public health impact of vitamin A supplementation as a means to reduce blindness and child mortality in the developing world in the first of ten debates within the field of nutrition at Oporto, Portugal at the Second World Congress on Public Health Nutrition. Keith also delivered invited presentations at the Beijing Forum 2010, on Nov 6th, on Maternal, Infant and Child Micronutrient Deficiencies and their Prevention, and at the First Global Conference on Biofortification on Nov 10, in Washington DC on "How Biofortification fits into Malnutrition Interventions".

Parul Christian and colleagues received a 3-year grant from the USDA under its Food Aid Nutrition Enhancement Program (FANEP) to test the efficacy of three products formulated for use as supplementary complementary foods in improving the growth among ~5000 infants 6 to 18 months of age in rural Bangladesh.

Youfa Wang and colleagues received an NIH R01 grant in the Fall of 2010 to study causes

and interventions for childhood obesity in the US, through a systems analysis approach. Three papers published recently by Youfa and colleagues, published in the Journal of Nutrition, Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health and Advances in Nutrition have drawn attention to associations between food prices and dietary quality, fast food consumption and body mass index among children and adolescents, relationships between children's and parents' dietary intakes, and disparities in pediatric obesity, in US populations, respectively.

*From the Office of Dietary Supplements...* Kathryn Camp joined ODS in September as a Scientific Policy Analyst. The ODS Fact Sheets on calcium and vitamin D have been updated to include the most recent IOM Dietary Reference Intake recommendations, please visit <http://ods.od.nih.gov> for more details. Joseph Betz gave the keynote address titled Reference Materials for Nutrition Research and the Public Health at the Future of Reference Materials: Science and Innovation conference in Geel, Belgium, on November 23. Paul Coates presented Economic Analyses of Nutrient Interventions for Chronic Disease Prevention at the Natural Health Research Institute 5th Annual Scientific Symposium "Natural Products – Cost-Effectiveness & Safety of Dietary Supplements" on November 18 in Bloomingdale, IL. Jody Engel presented Dietary Supplements: What Registered Dietitians Need to Know to dietetic interns in the Washington, D.C. area at the NIH on November 15. Johanna Dwyer, Leila Saldanha, Janet Roseland, and Regan Bailey presented a symposium, Help Me with Dietary Supplements, at the American Dietetic Association's Food & Nutrition Conference & Expo, November 7 in Boston. Kathryn Camp and Dianne Frazier presented The Affordable Genome: Implications and Challenges for Dietary Treatment of Inherited Metabolic Disorders and Multifactorial Chronic Conditions at the American Dietetic Association's Food & Nutrition Conference & Expo, November 7 in Boston. Joseph Betz gave a presentation titled, "Reviewing the Research and Literature" and Rebecca Costello also gave a talk with Paula Gardiner on "Dietary Supplement Resources: Point of Care Answers for the Busy Clinician" at the 8th Annual Natural Supplements: An Evidence-Based Update in January. Christine Taylor will join ODS in February as a Senior Scientific Consultant.

## Latin America/Caribbean Spotlight

**Guatemala: CeSSIAM:** Gabriela Montenegro-Bethancourt visited the University of Bonn and the Dortmund Institute for Child Nutrition, the prime institutions involved with the DONALD (Dortmund Nutrition and Anthropometry Longitudinally-Designed) Study, in November. Also, Gabriela was awarded the 2010 National Young Investigator Award of the Third World Academy of Sciences (TWAS), bestowed by the Vice-President of the Republic in the Vice-Presidential Chambers in Guatemala City in December. In the same month, the 2010 National Science and Technology Medal of the National Council of Science and Technology (CONCYT) was bestowed on Noel W. Solomons by the Vice President of the Republic and the President of the Congress in the Congressional Building. This award carries with it the permanent responsibility going forward to participate as an advisor to CONCYT through the Council of Distinguished Scientists.

Rebecca Kanter of the Bloomberg School of Public Health of Johns Hopkins University gave a seminar on "Gender differences in adult dietary intake and their association with BMI in Mexico and the United States" at CeSSIAM. Colleen Doak, Marieke Vossenaar and Gabriela Montenegro-Bethancourt initiated a pair of protocols, examining concordance with recommended early feeding practices. While on her site-visit to Guatemala Colleen provided a practical training course on Qualitative Research Methods in the city of Quetzaltenango.

Noel Solomons was a guest lecturer in the undergraduate course on Global Health at Stanford University in February. Immediately thereafter, he attended the thesis defense 2010 summer exchange student of Terri-Lynn Duffy at the University of Alberta in Edmonton, Canada. He delivered a seminar at the university entitled: Adventures in Applied Investigation in Global Health: The Case of Nutrition Research in Guatemala. Finally, Noel was in Boston in March for the Conference on Developments in Carotenoids Research at Tufts. Claudia Arriaga of the CeSSIAM staff also passed through the University of Alberta for a 5-week training period to perform ganglioside analyses on human milk samples from lactating mothers in the Western Highlands of Guatemala in the laboratory of Prof. M. Thomas Clandinin.

INCAP's Comprehensive Center for the Prevention of Chronic Diseases (CIIPEC) reached its first anniversary of successful work in Central America. Manuel Ramirez, from INCAP, has been leading the work of this Center, in collaboration with the Co-PIs from the US, including Benjamin Caballero, Eduardo Villamor and Homero Martinez. This research consortium has consolidated itself as a novel leader in the area of chronic diseases, with current funding from NHLBI, the International Organization of Atomic Energy (IOAE), and the World Diabetes Federation. Following its strategic plan for capacity building, CIIPEC's faculty continues to offer a series of certificate courses on research methods. The latest of these courses was offered in November 2010 in Panama, by Dr. Youfa Wang and Dr. Manuel Franco, focusing on bivariate data analysis, and included young researchers from all countries in Central America. Likewise, during the last trimester in 2010 CIIPEC staff offered two in-line training courses for health personnel, the first one focusing on chronic diseases and trade, the second on the basic principles for preventing cardiovascular diseases and evaluation of physical activity programs.

## North Spotlight

### *Iowa State University*

Suzanne Hendrich was named the Charlotte E. Roderuck Faculty Fellow in Food Science and Human Nutrition at Iowa State University for 2010-2012.

Christina Campbell was named the inaugural Sandra S. and Roy W. Ueiner Professor in Food Science and Human Nutrition at Iowa State University. She gave an invited presentation in a webinar titled "Hydration: The Evident, the Challenges, the Application", that was sponsored by the International Life Sciences Institute and the American Dietetic Association.

Iowa State University Nutrition and Wellness Research Center will sponsor the 2011 Symposium entitled "Origins of Obesity: Maternal, Epigenetic, and Lifestyle Factors" on May 9-11 at the Gateway Hotel and Conference Center in Ames, IA.

Don Beitz and colleagues received recognition of the Most Cited Paper in Animal Genetics in 2008 with their publication entitled "DNA polymorphisms in bovine fatty acid

synthase are associated with beef fatty acid composition”.

#### *Michigan State University*

Elizabeth M. Gardner has been selected to receive the 2011 Ruth L. Pike Lecture Series: Frontiers in Nutrition Research Award which is awarded annually by the Department of Nutritional Sciences at The Pennsylvania State University. Norman Hord presented the following lectures: “Obesity and Cancer Risk” at the Korean Nutrition Society Annual Meeting in Seoul, and “Physiological Determinants of Health Implications of Dietary Nitrate and Nitrite Intakes” at the Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, and at the Hershey Center for Health and Nutrition in Hershey, PA.

#### *Ohio State University*

James E. Kinder joined the faculty in the Department of Animal Science at OSU in 1975 in a primary teaching role, and then moved to the University of Nebraska in 1979 where he was on the faculty for 20 years. At the University of Nebraska, he had a strong graduate education program and served as Associate Director of the Center for Biotechnology for 10 years. In 1999, Dr. Kinder returned to OSU as Chair of the Department of Animal Sciences. In 2009, he accepted the additional role as Interim Chair of the Department of Human Nutrition (2009-2010), and in January 2011, was named Chair of the Department of Human Nutrition and Interim Director of the School of Physical Activity and Educational Services. In each of his administrative roles at The Ohio State University, Dr. Kinder has been and is responsible for facilitating development of a common vision and path for the future of the units and providing direction through changes and challenges encountered. Through his leadership, the Department of Animal Sciences saw a diversification of faculty, research and curriculum to meet changing needs in agriculture and students and emergence of new areas of focus, such as biomass to energy and animal welfare, while maintaining and enhancing the tradition from which the Department was established. His breadth of experience and excellence in research, teaching and extension have been recognized through appointments in administrative roles for national and international review and search committees, and leadership of strategic initiatives.

#### *Purdue University*

Connie Weaver was elected to the Institute of Medicine of the National Academies.

#### *University of Illinois at Urbana*

Rex Gaskins spent August – December 2010 on sabbatical as a CSIRO Faculty Fellow of the Preventative Health Flagship working within the Microbial Biology and Metagenomics Group at the University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia. During this time, he also traveled with Dr. Stephen O’Keefe (University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine) to KwaZulu-Natal Province of South Africa to conduct part of an NIH-sponsored study titled Diet and Gastrointestinal Cancer Risk in African Americans and Rural Africans.

Kelly Swanson gave the following invited presentations: “Gastrointestinal Health of Dogs and Cats,” Purdue University Department of Animal Sciences, West Lafayette, IN, November 12, 2010; “The Basics of the Petfood Label,” as part of the fall 2010 semester “Pet U: Learning to Care for Pets” series at the University of Illinois Veterinary Teaching Hospital, Urbana, IL, December 20, 2010; and “Research Trends in Pet Nutrition,” at the 2011 American Feed Industry Association Pet Food Conference, Atlanta, GA, January 26, 2011.

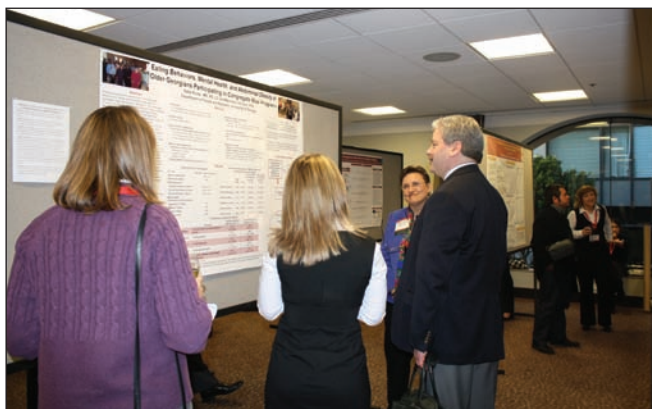
Margarita Teran and her graduate students Anthony Wang and Yingying Wang will present a poster titled: “Nature vs. Nurture: Environmental and Genetic risk factors in Childhood Obesity” at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD) from March 31st to April 2nd in Montreal, Canada.

The Division welcomed 2 new faculty into its membership in December: Jack Juvik, PhD, Dept. Crop Sciences, and Jim Pettigrew, PhD, Dept. Animal Sciences, University of Illinois at Urbana.

#### *University of Minnesota*

Mindy Kurzer gave a talk on “Urban food systems,” at the annual meeting of the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities, Dallas, TX in November.

Marilyn S. Nanney served as chair of the abstract review committee for the Society for Behavioral Medicine, 2011 annual conference: Population, Health Policy and Advocacy Track. She was also a presenter at the Minnesota



Mary Ann Johnson and Ed Saltzman visit at a poster during *Advances and Controversies in Clinical Nutrition* conference.

Action for Healthy Kids, Healthy Schools Conference on the topic "Creating a Strong Foundation for Student Success: Research to Practice" in Minneapolis on November 15, 2010.

Joanne Slavin gave the following invited talks: Evidence reviews of the work of the US Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee (DGAC) on carbohydrates including sugars, Pre-CCNSDDU technical workshop on sodium/salt and sugars, Jointly organized by the Government of Chile, PAHO, WHO and FAO, Santiago, Chile, October 2010; 2010 Dietary Guidelines: Evidence analysis in action. ADA Food and Nutrition Conference and Expo, Boston, MA, November 2010; 2010 Dietary Guidelines, Tackling Childhood Obesity and More, Calorie Control Council 2010 Annual Meeting and Educational Symposium, Naples, FL, November 2010; Are whole grains really the Holy Grail? Latest findings on whole grains and their health benefits, David and Rose Himelberg Speaker, NYU Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development, New York, NY, November 2010.

#### *Wayne State University*

Dr. Diane Cabelof traveled to Hyderabad India in January to present her research detailing the connection between DNA repair capacity and the accelerated aging of Down Syndrome. She gave a plenary lecture at the University of Hyderabad, and was an invited speaker at the Indo-US Aging, Base Excision Repair and Brain meeting.

Dr. Yifan Zhang received 2010 International Professorship for Asia Award from American Society for Microbiology (ASM) and will initiate

collaboration in food safety with Sichuan University, China, in June 2011.

## **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 so that I may include you in my list serve.

#### *From Johnson Space Center*

Dr. Helen W. Lane, as editor in chief, announces the release of an important book entitled "Wings in Orbit: Scientific and Engineering Accomplishments". As the Space Shuttle Program ends in 2011, the book provides answers to the question of "What are the accomplishments of this 30 year program?" Through research using the space shuttle as a platform, major scientific discoveries have been made about the human body's adaptation to space and microgravity effects on biological phenomena. In addition, every shuttle mission was an education mission as astronauts always took the time in orbit to engage students of all ages.

#### *From Texas A&M University*

Dr. Nancy Turner gave an invited presentation entitled "Sorghum's Multiple Roles in Human Health" at the USCP Board of Director's meeting in Lubbock, TX on December 13. Dr. Robert S. Chapkin was named Regents Professor by the Board of Regents of the Texas A&M University System. He has been selected to serve on the Editorial Board of the British Journal of Nutrition. Dr. Chapkin presented an invited talk entitled "Integrated microRNA and mRNA Expression Profiling in a Colon Carcinogenesis Model: Effect of a Chemoprotective Diet" at the Department of Food Science and Nutrition, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, on December 14. Dr. Joanne Lupton was invited by the Chinese Nutrition Society to present a talk on "Updating the DRIs in China: Key Elements to Consider from the US Institute of Medicine DRI Process" at the November 10-11 DRIs Symposium held in Beijing China. The Intercollegiate Faculty of Nutrition had the pleasure of hosting the following speakers at the Fall Seminar Series: Dr. Chaodong Wu of Texas A&M University, Dr. Shridhar Sathe of Florida State University, Dr. Rosemary Walzem

of Texas A&M University, Dr. Dawei Gong of the University of Maryland, Dr. Jim Fleet of Purdue University, Qian Jia of Texas A&M University, Dr. Andre Wright of the University of Vermont, Dr. Elsa Janle of Purdue University, Dr. Michael Bailey of Texas A&M University, Dr. Yong Chen of Wake Forest University, and Dr. John Fernstrom of the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine.

*From Oklahoma State University*

The College of Human Environmental Sciences named Professor and Department Head, Dr. Nancy M. Betts, the first Jim and Lynne Williams Professor in Nutritional Sciences. Jim and Lynne Williams of Frisco, Texas, wanted to find a way to improve human health through research on heart disease and diabetes. The couple would like to see dietary education and practice replace pharmaceuticals in doctors' offices. Nancy Betts holds doctorate and master's degrees in human nutrition from The Ohio State University. Her research focuses on factors that influence food choice behavior and nutrition and sports performance. Dr. Barbara J. Stoecker, Regents Professor, was one of three chosen to receive the prestigious 2010 Michael P. Malone International Leadership Award. The Malone Awards, dedicated to the memory of Michael P. Malone (1940-1990), were established in 2000 to provide national recognition for a career of outstanding contributions that furthers international education at state and land grant institutions. This award is meant to provide national recognition for individuals who have made significant contributions to international programs rather than those who have had a long career of international responsibilities. The USDA has funded a project that Assistant Professor Dr. Deana Hildebrand and a multi-disciplinary team of researchers hope will ultimately see middle school and junior high students consume more fruits and vegetables. The vision for the project titled "Using Positive Deviance Principles to Identify Best Practices of Choice Architecture and Build Research Capacity with School Food Authorities" is to build relationships with the Oklahoma school food authorities for the purposes of identifying and expanding the use of affordable, acceptable and sustainable choice architecture strategies to increase fruit and vegetable consumption among middle/junior high school age students.

Dr. Janice Hermann, Professor and Associate Department Head, was honored with the Distinguished Research Award by Kansas

State University. She was recognized by her alma mater during their College of Human Ecology's Celebration of Excellence on October 8. Nutritional Sciences' Assistant Professor, Dr. Deana Hildebrand, and the "Farm to You" program earned the Dr. Rodney Huey Memorial Champion of Oklahoma Health Award, at the 2010 Champions of Health Gala in Oklahoma City. The award recognized Farm to You as a collaborative project coordinated by the Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service that has taken a unique and effective approach to making major and lasting contributions to the improvement of the health of Oklahomans. The Huey Memorial award carries a \$10,000 gift to sustain the Farm to You program. Farm to You also received the champion of Children's Health Award. This recognition was given to the program for "exemplary work to improve the health of Oklahoma children and teenagers, particularly at-risk and underserved populations, through education, advocacy and/or direct health care services." Dr. Lenka Shriver, Assistant Professor, was one of eight faculty members named as recipients of the Regents Distinguished Teaching Award at the Oklahoma State University Fall Convocation on September 10. Dr. Barbara Stoecker, Regents Professor, has been appointed to the Marilyn Thomas Chair in the College of Human Environmental Sciences. Stoecker was honored during a ceremony on September 17. The Marilyn Thomas Chair was established by OSU alumni and philanthropists Carl and Marilyn Thomas to encourage excellence and scholarship in the college. As the Marilyn Thomas chair in Human Environmental Sciences, Stoecker will continue her outstanding work on the role of micronutrients and chronic disease. She will also help establish and sustain graduate nutrition programs in the five African universities that are partnering with OSU.

Dr. Nancy M. Betts is now the Chair-Elect of the Association of Nutrition Departments and Programs. On September 8, the Oklahoman/Newsok.com featured an article on the health benefits of blueberries that included the research of Dr. Arpita Basu, Assistant Professor, the principal investigator on a blueberry research study. Basu has been collaborating with Dr. Tim Lyons, a principal researcher and director of the Harold Hamm Oklahoma Diabetes Center at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center. The research indicates that the polyphenol in blueberries has heart and anti-diabetic benefits, which go hand in hand with anti-aging benefits.

*From the University of Nebraska-Lincoln*

Dr. Wanda Koszewski was awarded two AFRI grants. The Nebraska Gateway to Nutrigenomics held its annual retreat on February 28. Seminar speakers at the event included Dr. Pat Stover from Cornell and Dr. Jim Fleet from Purdue.

*From the USDA/ARS/Conservation and Production Research Laboratory, Bushland, TX*

Research Animal Scientist and Acting Research Leader Dr. N. Andy Cole was named the 2010 Senior Scientist of the Year for the Southern Plains Area of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service. The Southern Plains Area encompasses Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, and Panama. Cole was also a member of an air quality research team that received the distinguished research in agriculture award from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and the Innovative Technology Award from the U.S. Federal Laboratory Consortium.

*From the University of North Dakota*

Glenn Lykken, a professor emeritus of physics and astrophysics, retired from UND last May after a centennial of semesters. Since 2004, Lykken has been principal investigator for food-based obesity prevention and health maintenance research studies at the Grand Forks Human Nutrition Research Center, where he continues to do collaborative research on a part-time basis.

## **Southeast Spotlight**

*From East Carolina University*

Kathryn M. Kolasa, PhD, RD, LDN, Professor Emeritus, the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University, was recognized by the American Dietetic Association with a 2010 Medallion Award. She also presented a talk at the FNCE meeting about the North Carolina Eat Smart Move More Weigh Less program that focuses on mindful eating. Kathy also did two webinars for the Texas Continuing Education Network, one on the Mediterranean diet and another on healthy food environments in hospitals. The Department of Nutrition Science and the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Science jointly sponsored a seminar by A. Catherine Ross, Professor & Dorothy Foehr Huck Chair, Department of Nutritional Sciences, The Pennsylvania State University. Her talk was entitled "Vitamin A and Retinoids – Homeostasis, Inflammation and Host Defense"

*From the University of Alabama at Birmingham*

Sarah Morgan will become the President of the International Society for Clinical Densitometry in April 2011.

*From the University of Florida*

From the Food Science and Human Nutrition Department...Soonkyu Chung joined the faculty as Assistant Professor of Nutritional Biochemistry. Dr. Chung comes from Wake Forest University Health Sciences where she studied lipid metabolism with Dr. John Parks. Jamie Collins attended the International Copper Meeting: Copper in Biology from October 16-20, 2010 in Alghero, Sardinia, Italy where he presented work related to transcriptional regulation of the Menkes Copper ATPase (Atp7a) gene by hypoxia.

*From The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill*

Elizabeth Mayer-Davis has been elected President of Health Care and Education, American Diabetes Association. Steven Zeisel will speak at the US-New Zealand Health Innovation Symposium in Auckland New Zealand on Feb 19 2011 about potential collaborations between NZ and the USA in the area of nutrigenomics. Rosalind Coleman co-organized the January 2011 Keystone Symposium on Type 2 Diabetes, Insulin Resistance and Metabolic Dysfunction. In February Margaret E. Bentley will discuss "Improving growth and development under conditions of under and over-nutrition" at an AAAS Panel 'Genes, Biology, and the Environment.'

*From The University of North Carolina at Greensboro*

Debbie Kipp is serving as a member of the Board of Directors Alternative Supervised Pathways Workgroup for the American Dietetic Association. Lauren Haldeman was invited to speak at the one day conference organized by the UNCG Child and Family Research Network on January 28, 2011. The title of the conference was Promoting Child and Family Well-being in the Context of Economic Challenge: Interdisciplinary Perspectives. In Fall 2010, Wei Jia gave a number of plenary or invited talk at the international and national level: 'Metabolomics in Translational Medicine and Cancer Research', keynote speech at the International Conference on Translational Medicine and Cancer, Hangzhou, P. R. China; 'Modernization of TCM Using Metabolomics',

seminar at the School of Chinese Medicine, Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong; and, 'A Metabolomics Approach to Understanding Human Metabolic Variations and Nutritional Intervention', seminar at the Bioinformatics Department, University of North Carolina at Charlotte, NC. In Fall 2010, the department had the following guest speakers for a seminar: Joseph Grzywacz, Wake Forest University School of Medicine, 'Women's Work: Implications for Family Eating'; Dianne Figlewicz Lattemann, University of Washington, 'Dietary and Endocrine Influences on Food Reward'; and, Silvia Corvera, University of Massachusetts Medical School, 'Adipose Tissue Angiogenesis and Human Metabolic Disease.'

*From Florida State University*

Dr. Bahram Arjmandi as a guest speaker has made presentations on chronic diseases and functional foods in several countries including Korea, Taiwan, China, and Brasil since 2009. In 2009 – 2011, he has received grants by pharmaceutical companies to evaluate the effects of dietary supplements in subjects that have experienced either joint discomfort or bone loss. His postdoctoral fellow, Dr. Sarah Campbell received a USDA award (\$125,000) to study the Anti-atherogenicity of Flaxseed. She has completed the study and has recently joined Rutgers University in the fall of 2010 as an assistant professor of Exercise Science and Sports studies. Another of his postdoctoral fellows, Dr. Shirin Hooshmand, received a fellowship from Sigma Delta Epsilon/Graduate Women in Science (2009). This organization is dedicated to advancing the participation and recognition of women in science and to fostering research through grants, awards, and fellowships. Dr. Hooshmand's award, the Nell I. Mondy Fellowship, provides support to carry out her project in the area of osteoarthritis.

Dr. Arturo Figueroa has received grant funding from the National Watermelon Development Board to evaluate the effects of watermelon supplementation on arterial stiffness and vascular inflammation in older individuals with metabolic syndrome, 2010-2011. In another recently funded study, he is investigating the effect of low-intensity resistance exercise and diet on arterial function in overweight/obese postmenopausal women.

The USDA has awarded Dr. Peggy Hsieh a grant through 2012 to develop a way to detect fish allergens and contaminants in raw

or processed foods. The goal of Dr. Hsieh's research is to provide a convenient and reliable tool to enforce FALCPA and protect consumers from the ingestion of undeclared fish allergens. She also has received an award from a division of the Tanaka Kikinzoku Group of Japan to devise a rapid test to detect traces of pork fat.

Dr. Michael Ormsbee was recently hired as an assistant professor of sports nutrition (fall, 2010). Dr. Ormsbee's primary research interests include exercise training and nutritional interventions to prevent obesity, obesity-related diseases, achieve optimal body composition, and optimize human performance. Dr. Ormsbee presented on "Body Composition, Resistance Training, and the 8pm Rule," at the 2nd annual VPX Science Summit in Davie, FL in December, 2010.

Dr. Maria Spicer was awarded Outstanding Dietitian Award, Tallahassee Dietetic Association in December, 2010. The FSU internship program is up for a re-accreditation site visit in March, 2011. The internship program features two specializations: clinical nutrition and sports nutrition. Sixty-five MS dietetic interns have graduated from this program since 2001.

The Institute of Sports Science and Medicine (ISSM) received approval from The Florida State University for its scope of operation and study in December 2010. The primary mission of the ISSM is to serve as a multidisciplinary, developmental center, providing research and educational programs in sports sciences, sports medicine, athletic/human performance, and injury prevention to the medical and scientific community and the general public. The laboratory is scheduled to be completed in the summer of 2011 and will include: cardiovascular testing, biomechanical analysis, biochemistry laboratory, cryo sample storage, resting metabolic, flexibility and body composition assessment, medical examination and offices.

The Department of Nutrition, Food and Exercise Sciences at The Florida State University will be hosting the 8th Hazel K. Stiebeling Symposium on the FSU campus Friday, May 20. This year's topic is childhood obesity. Invited speakers include Dr. Kelly Brownell, Dr. William Dietz, Dr. Mary Story, Dr. David Ludwig and Dr. Russell Pate. The symposium is free of charge and CE's are being requested for Registered Dietitians and other healthcare practitioners. Registration is limited

to the first 220 participants. Contact Dr. Jodee Dorsey at [jdorsey@fsu.edu](mailto:jdorsey@fsu.edu) for information.

## West Spotlight

*From University of Arizona...* Mark Haussler, Regents Professor and Founding Head of Basic Medical Sciences at the new Downtown Phoenix Campus of the University of Arizona College of Medicine, received the SRP "Valley of the Sun" Endowed Professorship, the first endowed chair at the new campus. Mark was awarded this honor for his research on vitamin D.

*From Cal State Northridge...* The Marilyn Magaram Center for Food Science, Nutrition, and Dietetics received a \$150,000 grant on December 15, 2010 from the Joseph Drown Foundation to support operations, programs, and services. This news comes from Dr. Joyce Ann Gilbert, RD, LD; Executive Director.

*From UCLA...* Dr. Charlotte Neumann, Professor of Community Health Sciences at the UCLA School of Public Health, was the

recipient of the "Living Legends Award" in October 2009 in Bangkok at the International Congress of Nutrition Conference. The awards were given for past and current contributions to nutrition globally. Also honored were Dr. Nevin Scrimshaw and Dr. Michael Lathan. The awards were presented by the Princess of Thailand herself.

At the 4th Africa Nutritional Epidemiology Conference (ANEC) in Nairobi, July, 2010, Dr. Neumann received the Nevin Scrimshaw Award for Distinguished Services to Nutrition for 40 Years of Health and Nutrition Research in Maternal and Child Nutrition in Ghana and Kenya. She was also the keynote speaker at this Conference.

Dr. Neumann was also an invited speaker at the FAO Conference in Rome in December 2010. She presented at the "International Symposium on Food and Nutrition Security: Food-Based Approaches for Improving Diets and Raising Levels of Nutrition." Dr. Michael Lathan was the keynote speaker.



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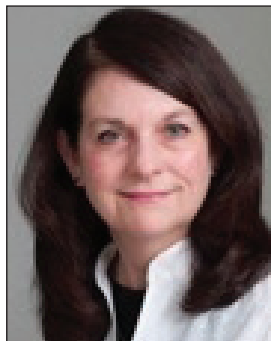
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## EXPERIENCE EB IN THE NATION'S CAPITAL



### **Interview with Dr. Marian Stone Neuhouser, ASN Secretary**

*Dr. Marian Stone Neuhouser has been a passionate advocate for nutrition research and an avid member of ASN for quite some time.*

*When asked about her election to the organization's Executive Board, Dr. Neuhouser called it "an honor" and "a wonderful opportunity to give back."*

*In addition to her work with ASN, Dr. Neuhouser is an Associate Member of the respected Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle.*

**Interviewer: What aspects of membership do you find most valuable to your professional development?**

**Dr. Neuhouser:** I don't know if I can limit it to a few things! Certainly, our annual meeting held in conjunction with Experimental Biology. It's outstanding because we get such good attendance, and such a wide variety of nutrition research is presented. Our two journals – *The American Journal of Clinical Nutrition* and *The Journal of Nutrition* – are the top publications in the field. That makes them an extremely valuable source of information as well as a great source to publish research. The organization has also provided such wonderful opportunities for education, professional development, and networking as well as collaboration with other researchers at other institutions.

**Interviewer: Tell us a bit about your experience as Secretary of ASN's Executive Board. What organizational initiative or goals are you most invested in?**

**Dr. Neuhouser:** As Secretary, some of the areas I focus on include membership and bylaw changes. We have recently made changes to the bylaws that I think will benefit the membership. We have also seen a great increase in

membership, including international members, which has been the result of hard work by all of the members of the executive board.

I'm also very interested in the organization's governance and the ways that ASN finds to push the science forward. Most of us in science are not specifically trained in governance. We learn it as we go along, but it is not part of our standard training as it might be for a business major.

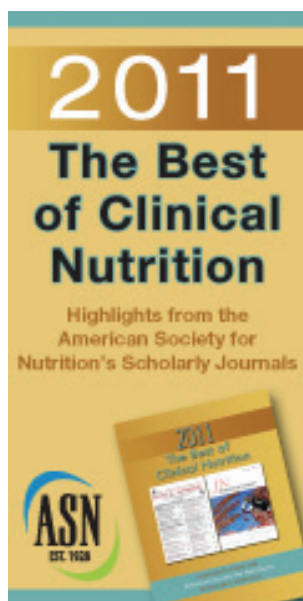
Additionally, I serve as a liaison to some of our committees, which is where a lot of the organization's work takes place. One that I am working with now is the Public Information Committee. I feel that it is extremely valuable, because we focus on how best to communicate nutrition science and knowledge to the public.

**Interviewer: What current issue or challenge in nutrition research do you think has the most potential to lead to major changes in the field?**

**Dr. Neuhouser:** There are a number of challenges facing the field today. First, in order to continue our research programs, we need funding. Biomedical research is an expensive proposition. Most of us get our funding from the federal government, particularly the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Based on what we have heard, the NIH budget over the next several years does not include substantive increases in research funding. That is a significant challenge.

A second challenge, which is not unique to nutrition science today, is the increase of obesity in America and around the world. We have a lot of work to do to understand why some people are more susceptible to obesity than others, and to determine how we can stem this rapid increase, particularly in resource-poor areas. It is really a paradoxical problem that many economically disadvantaged areas are areas that see the greatest incidence of obesity and the most expensive obesity-related conditions: heart disease, diabetes, gallbladder disease, certain cancers, etc.

## The Best of Clinical Nutrition 2011 Now Available



Now, for the first time, you can have a year's worth of the most important articles in clinical nutrition research in a single volume. The American Society for Nutrition (ASN) is pleased to offer *The Best of Clinical Nutrition 2011*, a selection of more than 40 articles from two of the society's highly respected, peer-reviewed journals, *The American Journal of Clinical Nutrition* and *The Journal of Nutrition*. These articles

were expertly chosen for their potential clinical impact. Whether you are a clinical practitioner or researcher, a policymaker or simply someone who's interested in nutrition science, ASN's *The Best of Clinical Nutrition* puts the latest information you need into one indispensable reference. The cost of the book \$29.95. Visit <http://www.nutrition.org/publications/best-of-clinical-nutrition-book/> to order.

## Joint Meeting with Nutrition Society Irish Section to Take Place in June

The Nutrition Society Irish Section Meeting is being jointly hosted by ASN on June 15-17 at University College, Cork, Ireland. This year marks the 70th anniversary, with the theme: Vitamins in early development and healthy aging: impact on infectious and chronic disease. Three full days of programming will address the following: Vitamins, neuro-development and cognitive performance; Vitamins in muscular and skeletal function; and Vitamin D and Immune function – from pregnancy to adolescence. The Scientific Steering Committee is composed of: NS: Tom Hill, Mairead Kiely, Kevin Cashman, UCC. ASN: Ryan Cliche (ASN Professional Development Officer); Simin Meydani (USDA HNRCA at Tufts University and ASN scientific representative); Richard Wood (University of Massachusetts and ASN scientific representative). Email [rcliche@nutrition.org](mailto:rcliche@nutrition.org) for more information on this event.

## Pre-Conference Animal Science Event on July 9

The American Society for Nutrition (ASN) is pleased to partner with the American Society of Animal Science (ASAS) and the American Dairy Science Association (ADSA) on a one-day pre-conference event: Agri-Medical Research: Providing Dual Benefit for Agriculture and Human Health, Saturday, July 9, in New Orleans, LA. Early registration (\$150 regular; \$50 for students) ends on May 13.

This ASN-ASAS-ADSA pre-conference to the 2011 ADSA-ASAS Joint Annual Meeting will cover biomedical and agricultural interventions or therapies to improve both human health, companion animal health and farm animal health and production. Themes include metabolism, developmental origin of adult disease and infectious (zoonotic) diseases and nutritional impact of pro-inflammatory response. Each symposium will include implications for a variety of animal species, and keynotes from outside, related disciplines will bring a unique view to the presented science.

Thanks to the Program Committee:

- Matthew R. Waldron, PhD, Assistant Professor, University of Missouri; ASN Program Chair
- Sharon M. Donovan, PhD, RD, Melissa M. Noel Chair in Nutrition and Health, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- Jack Odle, PhD, William Neal Reynolds Professor of Nutritional Biochemistry, North Carolina State University
- Kelly S. Swanson, PhD, Associate Professor of Animal and Nutritional Sciences, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- Kirk C. Klasing, PhD, Professor, University of California-Davis
- Mark Hanigan, PhD, Associate Professor, Virginia Tech
- Juan J. Llor, PhD, Assistant Professor, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- Kimberly M. Barnes, PhD, Assistant Professor, West Virginia University



## ***Breaking into the World of Nutrition Communications***



Nutrition public relations (PR) is an expanding field, ripe with opportunities for students and established professionals. There is a growing niche for nutrition experts, communicators, educators, consultants and scientists in public relations. Seasoned specialists Cathy Kapica, PhD, Sue Pitman, RD, and Meghan Flynn, MS, RD, say it takes a scientific background coupled with communication skills and passion for nutrition to find success in nutrition public relations.

People have different conceptions of the practice of public relations. But as Dr. Kapica, Senior Vice President of Global Health and Wellness at Ketchum, explained, “public relations is a way of communicating.” A major part of PR work is communication which involves education. This means educating clients, consumers, the media and yourself. As an established ASN member and nutrition academic, you might think you lack the experience to venture into a different career field such as nutrition public relations. On the contrary, nutrition public relations is another form of nutrition education, not too dissimilar from your current work.

Dr. Kapica elaborated that “a lot of public relations professionals are in fact doing nutrition education.” Nutrition is one of Ketchum’s most significant specialties. Dietitians and nutrition experts on staff work on PR materials that show up on websites, brochures, products, and ingredient labels. Kapica works as a nutrition science expert and consultant. This involves verifying the scientific accuracy, appropriateness and consistency of her clients’ messages. It is important to balance needs and explain risks in this type of work. Keep in mind the needs of the client versus the needs of the consumer versus the needs of the agency and so on.

As nutrition evolves, it is increasingly important to have a nutrition communication professional on hand to leverage emerging information. In this burgeoning field, “there are more opportunities as companies begin

to understand the value of understanding the issues and understanding the science behind the issues,” said Sue Pitman, partner at FoodMinds. FoodMinds develops marketing and communication programs for food and nutrition clients. The need for authoritative nutrition advice creates a niche for organizations like FoodMinds. In addition to a nutrition background, Pitman recommended looking for opportunities to further develop communication skills. One example is the Nutrition Science and Communications for Public Relations Professionals certificate program at Tufts University. This certificate, for which FoodMinds serves as founding sponsor, will become available Fall 2011.

To work as a nutrition educator or consultant, a nutrition education is essential. Meghan Flynn, Vice President and Director of Food and Nutrition at Coyne Public Relations, explained that “it helps to have the scientific background.” Communication skills come into play when conveying scientific knowledge into terms your audiences can understand. As a student, coupling your nutrition coursework with communication and public relations classes is elemental to success. Flynn recommends programs that marry communication and nutrition coursework. Such programs improve one’s writing skills which Flynn stresses as key.

An education is one requirement, but you also need a strong passion for nutrition to be successful in nutrition PR. According to Flynn, “if you do what you love, it comes naturally.” You can stay passionate by reading everything you can get your hands on and networking with other driven individuals. “This explains why being a member of ASN is really important,” she added. Membership in organizations such as ASN opens up networking opportunities. Interning is also an optimal way to network. “Every job I have ever had was through networking which started with my first internship,” said Flynn.

If you’re due to complete your academic training soon, internships will help you hit the ground running. Couple interning with nutrition science credentials and communication skills and you’ll have a shot at a nutrition PR career. Public relations is a viable career for nutrition students, academics and experts.

*By Mbugua Muchoki, ASN Intern*

# ADVANCES IN NUTRITION

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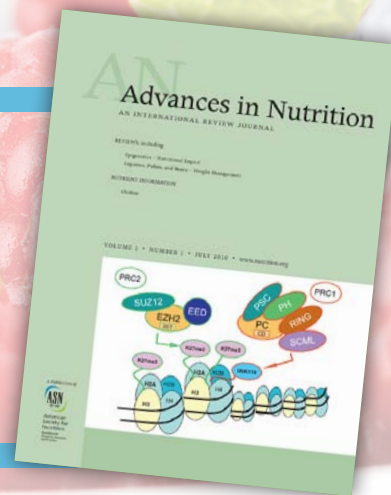
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Founding Editor

**John W. Suttie, PhD**, Professor Emeritus, University of Wisconsin-Madison

## ABOUT THE JOURNAL

ASN's newest journal—*Advances in Nutrition*—responds to the demand for a publication that gathers, synthesizes and explains the current state of knowledge in all aspects of nutrition. In addition to describing the significance of new research findings, reviews published in *Advances* also highlight research gaps and future research directions. Our new publication will keep you better informed, and assist you in applying the latest findings and best practices. **Recent review topics have included fatty acids in Type 2 diabetes; legume consumption; functional amino acids; epigenetics; and iron homeostasis.** *Advances in Nutrition* will publish review articles and disseminate **ASN fact sheets, vignettes, position papers, and other content** to nutritionists and allied health professionals. The journal will also publish supplements with important symposium and conference proceedings.



## CALL FOR PAPERS!

We encourage you to submit your reviews to *Advances in Nutrition* to give them the global attention they deserve. To ensure that a topic is of interest to the Editorial Board and that a review dealing with the same aspect of nutritional science is not currently under review, potential authors are advised to contact the Editor and provide a brief description of the potential review topic before submitting a manuscript. All submitted reviews will be subjected to peer review before being accepted. *Advances* will not assess manuscript submission fees, page charges, or charges for colored figures. In addition, all reviews published during the journal's first year of publication will be accessible online to all readers, regardless of their subscription status, in order to ensure the highest visibility and impact.

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## EDITORIAL BOARD

The editorial board for *Advances* is led by Founding Editor John W. Suttie, an internationally recognized nutritional biochemist responsible for much of our current knowledge of the biochemistry and nutritional importance of vitamin K. Dr. Suttie is joined by Associate Editors and Editorial Board members from all over the world, bringing a **global perspective** to *Advances*.

## PUBLISHING DETAILS

*Advances in Nutrition* will be available online via Stanford University's High Wire Press. The **inaugural issue debuted November 2010**, and will continue on a bi-monthly cycle. An optional print version is also available.

## ASN PUBLICATIONS

*Advances in Nutrition* joins the Society's highly regarded publications portfolio. *The American Journal of Clinical Nutrition* and *The Journal of Nutrition*, both published by ASN, are the **proven leaders in nutrition and dietetics**. AJCN (est. 1952) and JN (est. 1928) are the two most cited journals in the field, according to the 2009 ISI Journal Citation Reports®.



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### Changes to *Nutrition Notes*

Effective June 1, 2011, *Nutrition Notes* will be sent to all members exclusively in a digital format. This change was recommended by the ASN Finance and Audit Committee in 2009, and subsequently approved by the ASN Executive Board. This change is being made in response to a number of factors. In addition to promoting a more environmentally-friendly format, the change allows members to receive their *Notes* in a quicker timeframe. It also reduces the financial burden on ASN to print more than 4,000 copies four times a year. For those members who value the print version, the price to continue receiving a hard copy will be only \$30/year. A print subscription option will be offered when members join or renew their membership in the Society (similar to how members can opt in to receive AJCN or JN via hard copy). This option will be enabled on the ASN website by May 1, 2011. Prior to that time, if you wish to subscribe to the paper version, please email [sprice@nutrition.org](mailto:sprice@nutrition.org). You can also communicate any suggestions for continued improvement of this publication to [sprice@nutrition.org](mailto:sprice@nutrition.org).