



Nutrition Notes

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INCOMING PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



I feel especially fortunate to be the incoming President of the ASNS at this point in its history. Until very recently ASNS has been preoccupied with appropriate questions about how to make the society more attractive to its membership and how to attract new members. Before the annual meeting in San Diego I had decided that the main priority of my presidency must be to continue recruitment efforts, and, in the words of Janet King, to seek new ways to wire together the diverse interests of

the membership. These are still important concerns, but thanks to the efforts of our members and the Membership Task Force we had a substantial gain in the number of new members last year. The Task Force proposed a merger of the functions of the New Members Committee and Membership Committees. This new membership committee, chaired by Elaine Feldman, will continue to suggest innovative approaches to attract new members.

The other reason I feel very positively about the future of ASNS is that during the San Diego meeting it became evident that a sea change is occurring within our society. It has become a more "bottom-up" organization with a new momentum. This change has come about because former leaders of the ASNS, concerned about how to best serve the wide breadth of interests of the membership, had the foresight to establish the Research Interest Sections (RISs) and to support a new Division, the Society for International Nutrition Research.

It has taken a few years for the RISs to evolve and to establish their own priorities. Some RISs have been dissolved, others have merged, and new ones have formed. This year the RIS leaders were invited to describe their activities and priorities to the ASNS Council. The reports from the 12 current RIS groups showed them all to be growing, enthusiastic, active and ambitious. They presented ideas for symposia, summer workshops and courses, fund-raising, ways to link junior and senior investigators, and plans for interacting across FASEB societies and among RIS groups. The RIS Chairs also met together and the RIS Director, Jeanne Freeland-Graves, is an *ad hoc* member of Council. These interactions all provide opportunities to share success stories and plan joint ventures. We encourage all of the RISs to contribute to the RIS News section of *Nutrition Notes* on a regular basis.

The Graduate Student RIS is an especially welcome development. All members should remind their students of the opportunity provided by this RIS. There is clearly an increase in the participation of the Industry Liaison group,

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which has made excellent suggestions about how it can contribute to the activities of ASNS. Some members have also expressed interest in starting a Post-doctoral RIS.

Based on the large number of proposed new activities and suggestions that we heard at the *Experimental Biology* meeting, my task as President clearly is to maintain our momentum while keeping an eye on past and continuing concerns.

I am proposing some new initiatives that will require some of the committees to meet outside of the annual meeting. For example, the Long-Range Planning Committee has the important responsibility of foreseeing the longer-term opportunities and problems of the society. It is overly-optimistic to expect the committee to do this without providing its members with more time for discussion than they have at the annual meeting. This committee, with Steve Zeisel as Chair, will therefore start to develop its plan at a special meeting to be held in the near future. I am particularly interested in exploring ways in which the potential applications of new technology and methods can be shared with the membership. Some members have expressed their interest in our holding short courses and more inter-disciplinary sessions in conjunction with the annual meeting. Examples of topics might include micro-arrays, Informatics, and molecular epidemiology. Please let me or Steve Zeisel know of any other topics, issues and approaches that you think the committee should consider.

I am also encouraging the Graduate Education Committee to hold a workshop during the year, in which they would explore how ASNS might contribute to the way that Nutrition is taught at the graduate level. We have learned that a few departments are using innovative teaching approaches to link nutrition science from the molecular level to its public health applications. I believe that this approach is important if we are to maximize integration of the subject matter, the student body, the faculty, the future of the field of nutrition and hence the future of ASNS. This might be one way to provide the "wiring" sought by our Past President. I am asking the Graduate Education



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Committee to report on the results of the workshop at the next annual meeting. Please contact me, or Patrick Stover the committee Chair, if you are interested in participating in this endeavor or have successful teaching approaches to share.

The proactive and enthusiastic efforts of the RIS groups have created new challenges for the Program Planning Committee. I am encouraging this committee to ensure that the process for selecting the program for the annual meetings is as clear and as flexible as possible within the considerable constraints on time and space. We need to include more recent breakthroughs and controversies on the program, and to serve both the scientific and the professional goals of the membership. The participation of the RIS representatives on the program committee has improved the annual meeting enormously.

Although I believe that ASNS is in a healthy position, I am aware that we still face major challenges. For example, in our coalitions we seek broad support for biomedical research through groups such as FASEB and focused support when we work with specialty groups such as the North American Association for the Study of Obesity. Our challenge is to make ASNS, and the annual meetings, sufficiently interesting for those members who have more specialized interests. The Society is very open to suggestions for additional RIS groups or for sub-groups within current RISs. If your interests are not served adequately by the current structure or programs, let us know and help us to fix it!

Another challenge is to maintain and improve funding for nutrition research. As described in the last issue of *Nutrition Notes* by Tracy Lawless, the ASNS Public Affairs Officer, Phase I of the report on the reorganization of NIH's review process appeared to be illogical in its proposed approach to handling proposals in nutrition science. Many of us are alarmed by the apparent lack of understanding of the extent to which nutrition is involved in the prevention, cause, treatment or consequences of most of the major chronic diseases. Moreover, nutrition must be supported as a science in its own right with appropriate attention to nutrient requirements and metabolism. The Public Policy Committee, now chaired by Roger Sunde, will be particularly attentive to this problem. The Public Information Committee, still chaired by Dominic DePaola, will continue to highlight a monthly article for release to the Press, selected from *The Journal of Nutrition* or the *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition*. At the annual meeting many members suggested to me that ASNS should look for ways to be more recognized as an advocate for nutrition science, and as a regular source of information for the public and the mass media. This suggestion certainly deserves our attention. One opportunity to draw more attention to nutrition will be provided by the National Nutrition Summit, jointly sponsored by the USDA and HHS and to be held in Washington at the end of May. The purpose of the Summit is to increase awareness of the importance of nutrition, and identify new partnerships, actions and policies to reduce hunger, undernutrition and obesity in the United States.

I look forward to the next year with considerable enthusiasm. I encourage all of you to participate in the society on a frequent basis, in addition to the annual meeting. You can do this by visiting the ASNS web site and the RIS web sites, and by contacting me (lhallen@ucdavis.edu) and other members of the Council, the ASNS office staff, and the Committee Members listed in the FASEB Directory.

Lindsay H. Allen

PAST PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

As I look back on this past year as your President, one phrase keeps coming to mind – Nutrition in Transition. This description of the past year is not unique; it could be applied to many other years. However, it reflects many of the activities that took place this year. In thinking about our 75th anniversary in 2003, we began looking back at where we've been and what we've done. But, with all of the changes in the field of nutrition, we need to look forward as well and decide where we are going and what we want to be.

Our analysis of the basis for our recent decline in membership required that we look back as well as forward. Obviously, as members of ASNS, we need to take our responsibility for recruiting new members very seriously. But, at the same time, we felt that it was necessary to take a serious look at our Society and determine what we could do to make membership in ASNS more attractive. The Task Force on Membership, composed of the presidents of ASNS, ASCN, and SINR, chairs of the membership committees and long-range planning committee, and our executive directors, met by teleconference and at the Spring annual meeting. This group initiated a number of changes to improve ASNS membership. Those changes included 1) establishing a standing joint recruitment plan for ASNS, ASCN, and SINR, 2) facilitating formation of a Student RIS Group to incorporate ideas from our future leaders into the Society earlier, 3) providing an incentive to members to renew their membership early, 4) recommending that Council reduce the dues for new, incoming associate members by 50% for the first 3 years (Council approved this recommendation), and 5) merging the New Members Committee with the Membership Committee of ASNS and giving them a joint charge to recruit new members as well as credential and incorporate them into the Society. Having completed their task, the Task Force was disbanded at our Spring meeting. We owe this group a big vote of thanks, however. As a result of their efforts, and the positive response of you, our members, ASNS gained **100 new** members this past year.

At our Spring meeting in 1999, you told the Council that you were very concerned about the cost of the Life Sciences Research Office to ASNS. The Council took your concerns seriously and appointed an LSRO Advisory Committee, chaired by Al Merrill. This Committee drafted a mission statement, strategic plan, and operating budget for LSRO. ASNS contributed \$50,000 towards the budget for LSRO in 2000; thereafter, it is anticipated that the Office will be self-sustaining.

As we looked to the future, we recognized that better communications among the diverse interests of our membership are essential for maintaining a cohesive Society. The establishment of electronic communications among our membership through the Community of Science (COS) already has had a positive impact on how we do our work. But, maturation of the RIS groups within ASNS has had an even greater impact.

Janet King

LEGISLATIVE OUTLOOK

This quarter's Legislative Outlook will be somewhat curtailed from the usual L.O. column. The author is currently on maternity leave after giving birth to a healthy baby girl and Congress has just returned from Easter/Passover recess. Therefore, there is not much activity to report. However, things

are changing so fast it's difficult to report information that is still timely. Keep an eye out for more recent information in the electronic newsletter, *ASNS Legislative Supplement*. Below are few interesting tidbits.....

House Science Committee Releases Report to Address Biotech Fears - While some lawmakers on Capitol Hill would like to see regulatory changes that label genetically engineered (GE) foods, the House Science Committee recently released a report that offers a science-based defense of the importance for GE foods. The report, "Seeds of Opportunity: An Assessment of the Benefits, Safety, and Oversight of Plant Genomics and Agricultural Biotechnology" selected information from testimony heard last year from federal research agencies, researchers, industry and consumer groups. The report finds that regulation of food plants should be based on "the characteristics of the plant and its intended use, and the environment in which it will be introduced, not the method used to produce it." This is consistent with an FDA regulator who also stated that if a "new" fruit, vegetable or grain is substantially equivalent to others of its type, it should be treated as a whole food and, as such, not be subjected to pre-market approval. However, this is exactly what some consumer groups and members of Congress don't want. Previously mentioned in this column, legislation has been introduced by Representative Kucinich (D-OH) and Senator Boxer (D-CA) that would require foods with genetically modified ingredients to be labeled. Both would like to see genes considered food additives and genetically modified food plants subjected to more pre-market scrutiny.

NIH Appropriations for FY01 - A recent *Washington Fax* article confirmed what we have been hearing for a couple of weeks about the Labor-HHS appropriations subcommittee that oversees NIH funding. The article indicated that subcommittee Chairman Porter (R-IL) will probably be able to get a Labor-HHS bill out the subcommittee and full committee, but not without enough money to pass in the House. It also confirmed Chairman Porter's mention of a probability of a higher budget allocation in the Senate which would then allow him to recede to a higher number for NIH. In addition, Porter cautioned, "that the process will not be a straight line to the end" so the scientific community cannot waver its support and become discouraged along the way.

Agriculture Appropriations for FY01 - In early May the House and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees for Agriculture are scheduled to mark up their FY 2001 bills. Although there are few available details about the mark ups, the Subcommittees are expected to have a difficult time finding room to increase budgets, or, in some cases, to simply maintain current year budgets, for several USDA programs. A key priority for the agriculture research community is protecting mandatory funds for the Initiative for Future Agriculture and Food Systems (Sec. 401) and the Fund for Rural America. Since the signing of the Ag Research Reauthorization Act of 1998, this funding has come under attack from House Appropriators. The House Ag Appropriations Subcommittee is once again expected to try to block future spending on these programs - and maybe even try to rescind the FY 2000 funds that are presently out for competition. It is important to let House members and Senators of your delegation know about the importance of Section 401 and Fund for Rural America funding. You may also want to inform your Representatives about your campus' plans to compete for the pending FY 2000 awards that remain under a rescission threat.

Contributed by Tracy Lawless
ASNS Public Affairs Officer

FROM THE EDITOR. I continue to ask for 750-1,000 word editorials. In this issue, Noel Solomons provides his reply to Bob Olson's previous comments on the topic of fat. Also, Rob Russell discusses his thoughts on a food pyramid for the elderly.

Speaking of food pyramids, there appear to be many food pyramids for different age groups, cultures and those providing a difference of opinion compared to the original USDA Food Pyramid. I would like to highlight some of these different pyramids in a future issue of *NW*. Please send to Anne Meyers or to me a color photograph and a citation that references the use of a specific pyramid. This citation may be for a published paper, bulletin or brochure, or Web site address. Our plan is to illustrate these pyramids along with a reference for additional reader information.

The Regional Associate Editors (RAE) for *NW* met at EB 2000 and decided to expand the regions of the world covered by RAE. Our goal is to have more communications among ASNS members and others interested in nutrition from around the world. One new member to our RAE team is Emorn Wasantwisut, Institute of Nutrition, Mahidol University, Thailand numdk@mahidol.ac.th. We are looking for additional RAE outside North America. Send in your nomination or volunteer. Your ideas to improve *NW* are always welcome.

FUZZY THINKING ON PUBLIC POLICY: FRIEND OR FOE

When Dennis Gordon, the Editor of *ASNS Nutrition Notes*, established the new "Opinion Page" section with his lead Editorial in a recent issue, he hoped that it would stimulate controversy and discussion. Toward this end, he could not have begun the series with a more fitting contribution than that of Prof. Robert E. Olson in the March issue of the *Notes* entitled "Dietary fat - friend or foe?" The message itself was sufficient to accomplish the "controversy" part; but in order for it to be a "discussion," there needs to be a response. I would recommend that all of the readership reread the beguiling text, and juxtapose it with this, my reply.

For me, the "friend or foe" commentary invokes the allegory of the blind men and the elephant, but I shall try to grab a hold of it from all of its dangling members. On the surface, the editorial is about guidelines regarding the consumption of dietary fat, a field in which neither Dr. Olson nor this writer have distinguished ourselves over our respective careers. We both seem to have the same (minimal) point of entry, in having published in the field of fat-soluble vitamins: he with vitamin K and I with vitamin A and provitamin A compounds.

His exposition is a narrative of the evolution of the contribution of total fat to the North American diet from 1909 forward, the variance in the P/S ratio, and the arguments mobilized by protagonists for contrasting positions on guidelines to the public on the consumption of dietary fat. Probing deeper, however, one can see that the op-ed piece really is also about: 1. issues of scientific fact and scientific opinion; 2. the realization that they are not the same thing; and 3. how we, the members of the scientific community, should view them in the formulation of clinical advice and public policy. The most troubling aspect is the concluding passage of Dr. Olson's commentary: "Apart from the fat-soluble vitamins and essential

fatty acids, is the bulk of dietary fat a friend or foe? I guess it depends on who you are and what you believe." *Laissez faire!* Now, *laissez faire* **can** be public policy, and it has often **been** public policy. By skillfully playing both sides of the chessboard, Prof. Olson seems to be setting up the stalemate. Ironically, to come to his (neutral) final position, he has invoked the "friend or foe" image. Lest we forget its origins, this comes from the wartime challenge of combatants to an approaching stranger. The original meaning of "friend or foe," is very much centered around issues that truly are of life or death importance.

Moreover, if decisions in clinical practice and public health were supposed to be a "let every flower bloom" conclusion, then we should all be gardeners and florists, not experimental biologists. But, we have chosen to be scientists and to structure our reasoning in an evidenced-embracing approach based on the testing (accepting or rejecting) of tangible hypotheses. I would hope that we could move **toward** — rather than away from — using scientific evidence for the benefit of the health and well-being of individuals in society and for the society as a whole. To do this, however, we must not play the facts to a draw, but seek to identify the truly winning side, by placing more care in their **interpretation**.

My level of expertise on dietary fat, notwithstanding, I disagree with my colleague from Florida in one of his assertions, namely that "...fats and oils have been part of the human diet since the beginning of recorded time." Did Attila the Hun spread his bread with Blue Bonnet margarine? Did Marie Antoinette bake her cakes with Crisco? Did Davy Crockett have Mazola oil on his mountain-top in Tennessee? In fact, the widespread availability and use of **separated** fats (spreads, oils) is a development of the last century. By contrast, the evolution of *Homo sapiens* to fat consumption goes back a lot further than the turn of the 20th Century, where Dr. Olson's commentary picks up the story. The human organism's relationship and adaptation to dietary fat goes back well over 100,001 years, not just 101. It goes back through eras when no lifestyle (hunter-gathering, herding, or subsistence farming) allowed for the luxury of obesity, when all fat was **intrinsic** fat in plant and animals tissues in the diet, and when median survival was to 30 years.

Should I take a acetaminophen (tylenol) or should I take acetosalicylic acid (aspirin)? Well that depends upon whether I have a headache or a fever, arthritis or coronary thrombosis, gastric irritation or renal disease. Facts may be facts, but the devil is in the contextual and interpretive details! If I were to state that molecular weight of phylloquinone (vitamin K1) were anything other than 450.68 g/mol, I doubt that Bob Olson would say: "I guess, Noel, it depends upon what you believe." The molecular weight of this compound is a matter of empirical fact. If I were to say, however, that "vitamin K" weighs other than 450.68 g/mol then Bob would be justified in saying: "Well, Noel, that depends upon **which** vitamin K vitamer you are talking about." To probe to the medullar point of the dietary fat debate, one must go beyond facts about secular trends, about metabolic handling of lipids, and about mortality outcomes by dietary practices to the **assumptions** of what the specific public policy context is one is addressing.

As scientists, we are schooled to separate fact from fiction, and our job is to assemble facts. As we become advocates for our patients or witnesses in the arena of public policy, we must not move beyond facts, but move **with** the facts to an analysis of the specific conditions and contexts about which

we are talking. Aristotle and then the cartesian philosophers have given us the rules of logic. When it comes to persons at risk of some dietary or nutritional insight, it behooves us scientists to come forward as their "friends," not as their "foes." As a noted scholarship fund slogan goes: "A mind is a terrible thing to waste." Hence, it is better that we all strive to place a checkmate on the advance of undernutrition, overnutrition and imbalanced nutrition than that we seek the accommodation of a stalemate on our collective will to penetrate through the facts to the underlying premises and assumptions in the issues. Public health advocacy — for whatever type of guideline or recommendation — deserves better than the opening gambit of *laissez faire*.

Contributed by Noel W. Solomons, Scientific Director
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Metabolism (CeSSIAM), Guatemala City, Guatemala

A FOOD PYRAMID FOR ELDERLY PEOPLE?

As people age they eat fewer calories and therefore less nutrients. At an intake of about 1500 calories or less, the intake of many needed nutrients falls below the Recommended Dietary Allowance. Although a reduction in calories with advancing age is appropriate because of decreased energy expenditure, the reduction in nutrient intakes is not appropriate. This is especially true for nutrients for which the need is increased with age (for example, vitamin D, calcium, vitamin B6).^(1,2) In NHANES III, the percentages of people 7-79 who have dietary intakes of selected micronutrients below the two-thirds of the newly published Recommended Dietary Allowances (not yet available for vitamin A, vitamin K and most minerals) are: vitamin D 88%; vitamin E 85%; calcium 68%; zinc 52%; vitamin C 35%; vitamin B6 24%; niacin 12%; and thiamin 10%. Another problem nutrient in elderly people is vitamin B12. Many elderly people have a decreased ability to assimilate vitamin B12 from food due to lack of acid-pepsin digestion, since vitamin B12 is not freed to bind to intrinsic factor for eventual absorption. However, supplemental vitamin B12 and vitamin B12 in fortified food products are bioavailable in these individuals.⁽³⁾

At the same time that the unique nutritional needs of the elderly person are being appreciated, it is increasingly recognized that nutrients play an important role in the prevention of chronic diseases, which can plague older people. For example, vitamin E may play a role in preventing the decline in immune function with age, and antioxidants may play a role in preventing the development of chronic eye disease (cataract, macular degeneration); B vitamins may play a role in prevention of cardiovascular disease by lowering homocysteine levels and vitamin D and calcium are important in protecting against bone demineralization and osteoporosis.

Thus, there is a need for elderly people to more carefully select their food choices in order to maximize nutrient intakes. At the same time, food choices must be consistent with the changes in energy intakes of the older individual. When elderly people think of making careful food choices, they generally think of making choices that are low in cholesterol and low in fat, rather than rich in nutrients. In view of this, 3 of us at the USDA Human Nutrition Research Center on Aging at Tufts University held several meetings beginning in 1998 to design a refinement of the Food Guide Pyramid to be applied to individuals 70 years and older who are relatively healthy and active and wish to remain so.⁽⁴⁾ This 70+ pyramid is by no means an official pyramid of USDA or of the Human Nutrition Research Center at Tufts, but rather a suggestion made by 3 nutrition scientists in order to stimulate discussion and (eventual) action by the government for providing nutrition educational materials for our elderly population.

The pyramid we suggested is based on the principles of the Dietary Guidelines and those of other health organizations: i.e. variety, diets high in grain products, fruits and vegetables; diets low in cholesterol and saturated fatty acids; low to moderate use of salt, sugar and alcohol, and physical activity in balance with energy intake. The most important modification we suggested is an emphasis on nutrient dense foods such as whole grain products, fortified breakfast cereals, deeply colored fruits and vegetables, low fat dairy products, legumes and lean cuts of meat and/or fish. In addition, we suggested a fiber icon be added to the food group category blocks containing fiber. We suggested that the pyramid rest on a base of 8 glasses of fluid in order to emphasize the importance of fluid intake due to compromised homeostatic mechanisms in the aged, and due to the fact that lack of fluid can be a major contributory factor to constipation. Finally, we suggested that a small pennant be placed at the top of the pyramid to introduce the concept of targeted nutrient supplementation, particularly for calcium, vitamin D and vitamin B12. For these nutrients, it would be hard for a person above the age of 70 to obtain adequate intakes due to the reduced portion sizes and reduced number of food servings being ingested, as well as restrictions in the food choices secondary to medical conditions (for example, lactose intolerance).

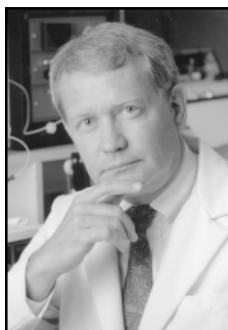
When we published our opinion piece in the *Journal of Nutrition* the response from the media, consumers and other nutritionists was immediately overwhelming. Stories on this 70+ pyramid quickly appeared in the *New York Times*, *Time Magazine* and *CNN*. The 3 of us were certainly gratified that our ideas stimulated such a great amount of interest. However, we feel it is now time for USDA to take up the challenge to create a definitive food pyramid for the elderly that is based on a broad consensus of the nutritional community and that has been fully pretested for consumer understanding, as well as applicability in different cultural settings. Elderly people, perhaps more than any other age group, wish to remain in control over their health, and actively seek out ways to prevent the chronic diseases that are normally associated with the aging process. By providing them with a sound nutritional education tool, we can take a step toward meeting this need.

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Contributed by Robert M. Russell, MD
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MAINLY FOR MEMBERS



ASNS Member Chosen by Academy

- The National Academy of Sciences recently announced the election of 60 new members in recognition of their distinguished and continuing achievements in original research. Among them was ASNS member, Robert J. Cousins, Ph.D., director, Center for Nutritional Sciences, and Boston Family Professor for Human Nutrition, Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition at the University of Florida. Dr. Cousins has previously served as

President of ASNS, chair of ASNS's Public Policy Committee and president of FASEB. Election to membership in the Academy is considered one of the highest honors which can be granted to a U.S. scientist or engineer.

New Reports on the Scientific Evidence for Behavior Change in Clinical Settings.

The Center for the Advancement of Health has just released a series of reports from its Health Behavior Change in Managed Care initiative. Funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the initiative assessed the availability, access, and integration of health behavior change strategies in managed care in 1999. As part of this initiative, the Center critically reviewed the scientific literature on behavior change interventions in clinical settings. Detailed descriptions of several hundred scientific papers on behavioral approaches to chronic disease management and risk reduction in clinical settings are available on the following topics: asthma, depression, diabetes, back pain, cardiovascular disease, smoking, physical inactivity, dietary practices, and alcohol and other drug misuse. To obtain these resources free of charge, visit the Center's website (<http://www.cfah.org>) or send an e-mail request to cfah@cfah.org. You can also access PDF files of all the reports from the website <http://www.cfah.org>.

Report from the History Committee

Buford Nichols and Frank Greer organized an interesting and informative symposium of "Accomplishments in Child Nutrition During the Twentieth Century" at *EB 2000*. More than 250 people attended the symposium and several attendees participated in lively discussion.

The History Committee is now planning next year's session, organized by Sam Kahn and Michael Golden on the "History of Food & Nutrition in Emergency Relief." The Historical Collections of the Vanderbilt University's Biomedical Library will be designing an exhibit to accompany the session. The committee invites ASNS members to contact Pat Swan (pbswan@bellsouth.net) if they have items that could be included in this exhibit. Examples might include photographs taken in emergency feeding situations or the packaging for rations provided to a population during an emergency.

Nutrition science has made remarkable strides during the twentieth century, contributing enormously to the health and well being of individuals and to populations living in non-emergency circumstances. How much has our science contributed to an understanding of the best way to provide adequate nutrition during emergencies? Certainly these situations call for the combined strength of the nutrition scientist and the food technologist in addition to those who work out the logistics, including the delivery of the food. What have we learned from past experiences and how well are we doing in this regard today?

Looking ahead, the committee hopes to have a symposium in 2002 that will examine the major advances made over the last 50 years in understanding the relationship between nutrition and immunity. This is an exciting story and will make a fascinating symposium allowing attendees to think about how we reached the present level of understanding of this relationship and its importance in world health.

The year 2003 will mark the 75th anniversary of the founding of the American Institute of Nutrition as a legal entity to own and publish the *Journal*. The committee welcomes suggestions about appropriate ways to recognize this milestone in our society's history.

Contributed by Pat Swan, History Committee

DIVISION NEWS

ASCN PRESIDENT'S COLUMN



matters to address.

It is a great honor to be chosen by the members of The American Society for Clinical Nutrition (ASCN) to be president for this millennium year. I follow a predecessor, William Dietz, whose skilled stewardship brought significant advances in the respect and stature afforded our Society, in part due to the placement of obesity on the national agenda as a major public health problem through his championing of this issue. In the coming year there are additional

This is a time of substantial change for clinical nutrition research and clinical nutrition practice that provides both unprecedented opportunities and potentially serious pitfalls. First and foremost for the continued strength of our field in general and our Society in particular is the need to enlarge the membership in both the PhD and MD categories, but especially in the MD realm. Forty years ago, at the time of the formation of The American Society for Clinical Nutrition, the vast majority of charter and early members were physicians, whereas at present substantially fewer than half of our members hold an MD degree. This is not to say that we do not treasure both types of members, but the critical shortage is in the MD arena. If the advances in the nutritional therapy that occurred at such a heady pace over the past three decades (since the initial description of total parenteral nutrition by Dudrick, Wilmore, and colleagues that changed the course of medicine) are to be continued into the future, physicians need to be enticed to acquire the special skills of the clinical nutritionist.

There are two very real problems in this regard, one affecting physician-scientists in general, and the other physician-scientists in clinical nutrition. A recent report in the February *FASEB Journal* documented the serious decline in physician-scientists who conduct translational research, despite the great need and opportunity for research of this type. Much of the problem appears to occur at the entry level and is in large part related to the financial exigencies of managed care, the lack of role models for medical students, and the relative lack of recognition for clinical research in academic medical centers. A more pressing problem for physician-nutrition specialists, which is the term coined by our Society for physician-scientists in clinical nutrition, is the even greater difficulty of overcoming the lack of financial support for clinical activities in nutrition,

which compounds the difficulty in finding support for clinical research activities.

Our Society has taken a small step with the inception of two one-year awards of \$25,000 each with matching funds of \$10,000 from the host academic institutions (either medical school or academic medical center). Two awards have been made with the generous support of AMGEN, Inc., assisted by the recent decision of the Society itself to fund a third award from endowment income. It is our hope to garner further support for this initiative from government and industry so as to meet our long-term objective of having such unique resources present at every academic medical center in the country.

The second major goal, which will occupy much of the time of my presidency and beyond, is to foster membership in our Society by seeking the participation of the new clinical nutritionists. With the recognition that clinical nutrition plays an important role in a number of disease conditions, a relatively small number of gastroenterologists, nephrologists, endocrinologists, surgical and medical intensivists, and cardiologists have become involved in the research and clinical practice of nutrition as it affects their own subspecialty. However, they have related particularly to their own subspecialty in the presentation of their research work and their memberships, which has deprived our journal and our Society of their important and critical input. I believe that recruitment of such individuals to our Society to supplement those of us who view clinical nutrition as our primary specialty will benefit both groups and enhance the field of clinical nutrition. To this end we will seek to facilitate the membership application of such individuals at the national office as well as encourage each present member to identify individuals at their institutions who might be candidates for membership in the Society to the membership committee under Elaine Feldman or to the national office for possible solicitation.

I hope that the membership agrees with these initiatives. It is my contention that a growing Society is a dynamic Society that can help make the next forty years of clinical nutrition as exciting and productive as the last forty.

Bruce Bistran

UPDATE FROM THE ASCN SECRETARIAT. As this reaches you we will be six weeks into the new ASCN business year that began at our April Business Meeting at *EB* in San Diego. Bill Dietz concluded a very successful year as ASCN President and turned the presidency over to Bruce Bistran. Our new officers were announced and invited to participate in both Council meetings held during this time. Most ASCN standing committees met onsite and the few that didn't met by conference call prior to *EB*. As you will see in the months to come the committees and the Council have set a very aggressive agenda for the coming year. We are working on a summary report of all the meetings and hope to mail it to you in the near future.

We have continued our outreach to other nutrition-related groups. This was the first year we participated as an exhibitor at the *EB* meeting and the traffic to our booth was excellent. At the end of May we exhibited at the Digestive Disease Week annual meeting in San Diego. We look forward to working with these groups more in the future since they have set nutrition as one of their priorities. Because this is the model being used to organize Nutrition Week 2002, it also afforded us the opportunity to see how this collaborative effort successfully worked. **Don't forget....** plan ahead now and mark your calendars: Nutrition Week 2002, February 24-28, 2002.

Also *EB* is a **little early** next year so mark your calendars now: March 30-April 4, 2001, in Orlando, Florida.

One final note - be sure to check out the ASCN website at www.faseb.org/ascn. It has been updated over the last few weeks with this year's award winners and deadlines for the upcoming year. It also has a link to the testimony presented by PAC Committee Chairman Richard Rivlin to John Porter's House Appropriations Subcommittee. Many thanks to our in-house computer guru, ASCN staff member Lisa Routzahn, for making the ASCN website an award winner!

NEW OFFICERS ELECTED. New officers were elected by the ASCN membership and their names announced at the business meeting in San Diego. They are Robert Russell, vice president-elect; Nancy Butte, treasurer-elect; and, Naomi Fukagawa, councilor. The nominating committee elected to chose the candidates for the year 2001 ballot are June Stevens, chair; Ronenn Roubenoff, Barry Shane, Rachel Johnson, and Thomas Ziegler. A total of 448 ballots were received and counted. Congratulations to last year's committee for contributing to an excellent slate of candidates.

ASCN EXHIBITING SCHEDULE. ASCN hopes to exhibit at several meetings including ACN (12 - 15 October in Las Vegas), ADA (16 - 19 October in Denver), NAASO (29 October - 2 November in Long Beach), and ASPEN (21 - 24 January 2001 in Chicago). Don't forget to stop at our booth if you are in any of those areas.

SINR - THE INTERNATIONAL DIVISION

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

As usual, the *EB* meeting was exciting and very busy. The growing interest in international nutrition and on global nutrition issues was underscored by the strong attendance of SINR's symposium and minisymposia, and by the many new faces I saw at our membership reception. I hope these new friends will choose to support the mission of our society by becoming members. Forms are available at www.faseb.org/asns. If you are already a member of ASNS, all you need is a signature from a regular SINR member.

Fernando Viteri from UC-Berkeley received the 2000 SINR/Kellogg award in international nutrition. The Student award went to Lisa Rogers from UC-Davis. The selection committees had a difficult task, since there were quite a few highly competitive candidates for both prizes. The call for nominations for 2001 will be issued in October, and I encourage you to nominate (or re-nominate) your candidate then. Those wishing to apply for the student award must check the appropriate box which will be included on the electronic submission form. Specific instructions will be mailed to all members in October.

By late May you will be receiving by regular mail the ballot for this year's elections. Please make sure you send back your vote, as we need a good turnout to provide a solid mandate to new officers. I will announce the results in August.

New officers will assume their posts September 1st, and at that time our current president-elect, Kay Dewey, will become the new SINR president. On behalf of all the membership, I want to extend my sincere thanks to SINR council members completing their mandate: Nancy Butte, Peggy Bentley, Keith West, and Pat Engle, and to Rey Martorell, who ends his term as past-president. And a special thanks to Kathy Rasmussen, who kept it all together for the past 4 years as secretary/

treasurer. I know all of you will continue to offer generously your leadership and enthusiasm, as you did during your term in office.

Over the past decade SINR has greatly contributed to carving a place for international nutrition research in ASNS and in the *Experimental Biology* meetings. It has also attracted numerous scientists, junior and senior, to the field of international nutrition. With the continuing support of our expanding membership, I look forward to even more SINRful years ahead.

Benjamin Caballero

RIS NEWS

The Nutrient-Gene Interaction RIS is continuing to grow and expand its activities. We now have about 150 members. At *EB2000* in San Diego, we sponsored a poster session at which 15 graduate students and postdocs discussed their research with the RIS in a relaxed but stimulating atmosphere. The event was sponsored by Pfizer and Warner Lambert/Parke-Davis. This was preceded by the business meeting, attended by about 35 members. Details of the FASEB summer conference on Nutrition and Gene Expression were presented (Saxtons River, VT, August 18-23, 2001). Programming at *EB* was discussed as part of efforts to ensure the presence of Symposia, Minisymposia and Sessions at which molecular approaches can be presented. In particular, coordinated programming with other RIS groups and relevant groups outside of ASNS may be useful.

Naima Moustaid Moussa is the new RIS Chair, replacing Hedley Freake. James Ntambi is secretary/chair elect for the coming year. ASNS members with an interest in nutrition and gene expression or other molecular approaches to nutrition are encouraged to add their names to the Nutrient-Gene Interaction RIS email list in the Community of Science Database This will keep them informed of activities in this fast growing area. In particular, graduate students and postdocs are encouraged to participate.

Contributed by Hedley Freake

STUDENT RIS

We are excited to announce that the student research interest section (RIS) is officially being formed. *Experimental Biology 2000* proved to be a success! Highlights of the conference included the graduate student breakfast. Students attended in record numbers and brought many ideas and enthusiasm with them! Additionally, the executive committee (Kara Lang, Julian Raffoul, and Tracey Milani) presented an outline of the leadership structure and possible future goals to the ASNS council during their annual meeting. This proposal can be accessed through the ASNS web-site at www.faseb.org/asns.

One of these goals was already obtained while at *Experimental Biology*: We were successful in securing a continuing column in *Nutrition Notes* devoted entirely to the student RIS! This is quite exciting, as it will provide a link between graduate students as well as foster communication between graduate programs. If you are interested in submitting any articles to be published in a future issue of *Nutrition Notes*, please contact Julian Raffoul (julian.raffoul@wayne.edu) for further information on how to get published!

From talking to the graduate students, many great ideas were generated about what direction the student RIS should take. These ranged from having student poster competitions

at future meetings to having seminars relating to job options or even setting up opportunities for students to meet with others who are well-established in their area of research. First and foremost, however, should be attracting new student members to both ASNS and the student RIS. This is an area where we would like to form a committee to plan and implement ways to reach students who are not already participating.

Finally, we are currently working with potential sponsors to begin planning an event for *Experimental Biology 2001* in Orlando. This will be the second time that the student RIS group will meet, and we want to make it even better than this year. There are endless possibilities for the direction that the student RIS can travel. We encourage you to get involved. This is your chance to make the student RIS a success!

Contributed by

Julian Raffoul (julian.raffoul@wayne.edu)
Tracey Milani (tmilani@mail.utexas.edu)
Kara Lang (kelang@gateway.net)
Student RIS Executive Committee

POSITIONS

Postdoctoral Position in Nutrition and Cancer. Cancer Research Center, University of Hawaii. A postdoctoral position is available in the epidemiology Unit of the Cancer Research Center at the University of Hawaii. The position offers opportunities for research into (1) methods of measuring and quantifying intakes of dietary supplements; and (2) associations of food and supplement intakes with cancer-related health outcomes. The successful applicant will have opportunities to conduct pilot studies and to participate in analyses of existing cohort and case-control studies, and will also contribute to ongoing efforts to expand the nutrient composition databases.

The Epidemiology Unit conducts multidisciplinary research to examine associations between diet and cancer. A Nutrition Support Shared resource provides expertise in dietary assessment and food composition. Other resources of the unit include a large multiethnic cohort of more than 200,000 subjects, a population-based cancer registry, and analytic and genomic laboratories.

SYMPOSIA/CONTROVERSY PROPOSALS EB 2002 New Orleans, LA April 20 thru 24

The ASNS Program Committee is preparing to review submissions for symposia/controversy presentations at *EB 2002*. Start planning now. **Deadline is January 15, 2001.**

Remember to keep your addresses correct and current. You have a couple of options for making sure that your society materials reach you on time and at the correct address. 1) you may communicate with the ASNS Secretariat by email or by FAX. We do not adjust addresses without a printed document for our files. 2) you may change your address yourself online at nutrition.cos.com

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Postdoctoral Position Opening At Cornell University

Postdoctoral Position Available September 1, 2000 on NIH-sponsored training grant in maternal and child nutrition based in the Division of Nutritional Sciences, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY. The Division is the largest academic unit in the US that focuses on human nutrition. Research interests of the faculty range from molecular biology to population sciences, with many opportunities in international and community nutrition. Excellent facilities are available for research. Ph.D. required. Submit the curriculum vitae with publication list, a one-page statement of your research interests and professional goals, 3 letters of reference and a transcript from your doctoral study. Send these materials by June 1, 2000 to:

Dr. Kathleen M. Rasmussen, Division of Nutritional Sciences, Savage Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853-6301. Questions about this position can be directed to Dr. Rasmussen at 607-255-2290 or kmr5@cornell.edu. AA/EOE.

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COMING EVENTS

JULY

4-7 **3rd International Conference on Homocysteine Metabolism.** Sorrento Palace Hotel, Sorrento, Italy. For information contact: Convention Planning s.a.s., Via Fuorimura, 20, 80067 Sorrento (Naples). Tel: +3908 1807 1981; FAX: +3908 1807 3039; email: homocysteinesorrento@conventionplanning.it; <http://www.conventionplanning.it/homocysteine>

9-18 **World Alzheimer Congress 2000.** Washington Hilton and Towers, Washington, DC. For conference updates or information on submitting abstracts, registering, exhibiting, or sponsoring: TEL: 1-312-335-5813; FAX: 1-312-335-1110; email: alzheimer2000@alz.org; website: www.alzheimer2000.org

30-Aug1 **Mathematical Modeling in Nutrition and Health Sciences.** The Penn State Conference Center Hotel. TEL: 1-800-PSU-TODAY (778-8632). Visit the www site at: http://outreach.psu.edu/C&I/mathematical_modeling

SEPTEMBER

10-15 **Conference: PUFA in Maternal and Child Health.** Hyatt Regency Hotel, Kansas City MO. Sponsored by the American Oil Chemists' Society (AOCS). For information to: AOCS, PO Box 3489, Champaign IL 61826-3489, TEL: 1-217-359-2344; FAX: 10217-351-8091; email: meetings@aocs.org

10-15 **9th International Magnesium Symposium.** Vichy FRANCE. For information to: Yves Rayssiguier, INRA, Clermont-Ferrand – Theix, F-63122 Saint-Genes-Champagnelle FRANCE; FAX: +33(0) 4 73 62 46 38; email: mag2000@clermont.inra.fr Website: <http://www.inra.fr/clermont/mag2000>

11-13 **5th International Meeting of the Academy of Breastfeeding Medicine.** Omni National Golf Resort and Spa, Tucson, AZ. Requests for registration and abstract submission can be obtained on the Website: www.bfmed.org

15-19 **10th International Conference of the International Society for Research on Human Milk and Lactation (ISRHML)** "Research Agenda for the Millenium: Integrating Population Outcomes, Biological Mechanisms, and Research Methods in the Study of Human Milk and Lactation". The Doubletree Hotel, Tucson AZ. Abstract deadline: June 15, 2000. For more information contact: Anne Wright, Department of Pediatrics, Arizona Health Sciences Center, 1501 North Campbell Ave., Tucson, AZ 85724. Email: ISRHML@u.arizona.edu. Website: <http://nutrition.psu.edu/ISRHML/MW4/frames/framehome.htm>.

17-20 **The Fourth International Conference on Dietary Assessment Methods.** Sheraton El Conquistador Resort, Tucson AZ. Abstract deadline, May 1, 2000. Website: www.ahsc.edu/apc/conferences/dietmethods.htm Or directly to: Douglas Taren, Conference on Dietary Assessment Methods, PO Box 245163, Tucson AZ 85724, TEL: 520-626-4609; FAX: 520-626-7906; email: dietconf@u.arizona.edu

OCTOBER

3-6 **Third Asian Conference on Food Safety and Nutrition.** Sponsored by ILSI and the Chinese Academy of Preventive Medicine. Beijing, China. Abstract deadline: April 30, 2000. To obtain a brochure: email: branch@ilsi.org For additional information: Lili Merritt, ILSI, 1126 Sixteenth St, NW, Washington, DC 20036-4810, TEL: 202-659-0074; FAX: 202-659-8654

12-15 **41st Annual Meeting, American College of Nutrition.** Las Vegas NEVADA. For additional information and abstract forms: TEL: 212-777-1037; FAX: 212-777-1103; email: office@am-coll-nutr.org - Website: www.am-coll-nutr.org

13-15 **Certification Board for Nutrition Specialists.** Certification examination for eligible advanced degree nutritionists and licensed physicians will be conducted in Las Vegas NV, at the 41st annual meeting of the American College of Nutrition. See above listing.

NOVEMBER

9-11 **The Puebla Conference –2000.** Puebla, MEXICO. Camino Real Hotel. Participation limited to 80. For information to: Dr. Stephanie Atkinson, email: satkins@fhs.csu.mcmaster.ca FAX: 1-905-521-1703

12-16 **XIIIth Latin American Nutrition Congress (SLAN 2000).** Buenos Aires ARGENTINA. For further information:

Internet site: www.slan2000.com; email: cesni@datamarkets.com.ar or FAX to Bernardo de Irigoyen: +54-11-4334-1545

12-17 **World Conference and Exhibition on Oilseed Processing and Utilization.** Moon Palace Resort, Cancun Mexico. For information to: World Conference and Exhibition on Oilseed Processing, AOCS, PO Box 3489, Champaign IL 61826-3489, TEL: 1-217-359-2344; FAX: 1-217-351-8091; email: meetings@aocs.org

23-25 **The European Congress on Nutrition and Health in the Elderly People.** Madrid SPAIN. Contact person: Angeles Carbajal, Departamento de Nutricion, Facultad de Farmacia, Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Ciudad Universitaria, 28040 Madrid SPAIN; TEL: +34-91-394-18-09; FAX: +34-91-394-17-32; email: moreiras@eucmax.sim.ucm.es; Website: <http://www.ucm.es/info/elderly3>

2001

MARCH

31-Apr 4 **EB 2001** Orlando, FL

AUGUST

27-31 **XVII International Congress of Nutrition, Vienna AUSTRIA.** For information to: AUSTROPA INTERCONVENTION, 17th International Congress of Nutrition, Währinger Strasse 6-8, A-1090 Vienna AUSTRIA; TEL: +43-1-316-80-17; FAX: +43-1-315-56-50; email: austropa.congress@verkehrsruero.at Website: <http://www.univie.ac.at/iuns2001/>

PUBLICATIONS

What Is a Nutrient? Defining the Food-Drug Continuum. Ed. W. Sansalone. Georgetown University Center for Food and Nutrition Policy. \$14.00. Order form is on Website: www.ceresnet.org. Additional information available by phone (202-965-6400), fax (202-965-6444), or E-mail (ceres@gunet.georgetown.edu).

This 90-page, soft-cover book embodies the proceedings of a Georgetown-sponsored conference on the scientific and regulatory distinctions between foods and drugs—with focus on functional foods

Fat in the American Diet: The Science and the Policy. Ed. W. Sansalone. Georgetown University Center for Food and Nutrition Policy. \$18.00. Order form is on Website: www.ceresnet.org. Additional information available by phone (202-965-6400), fax (202-965-6444) or E-mail (ceres@gunet.georgetown.edu).

In this 96-page book (with 10 illustrations), basic scientists, clinical nutritionists, and consumer researchers summarize current knowledge of dietary fat. The proceedings of this Georgetown conference end with a roundtable discussion about what dietary guidelines should tell us

Feeding the World: A Challenge for the Twenty-First Century. V. Smil. MIT Press (mitpress-orders@mit.edu) ISBN 0 262 19432 5. 360 pp. \$32.95 cloth.

Addresses the question of how we can best feed the ten billion or so people who will likely inhabit the Earth by the middle of the twenty-first century

ALDRICH: Handbook of Fine Chemicals and Laboratory Equipment. Ordering, pricing and shipping to: 800-558-9160 or by mail: PO Box 2060, Milwaukee WI 53201.

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Current Views of Fatty Acid Oxidation and Ketogenesis. From Organelles to Point Mutations. Eds. P.A. Quant and S. Eaton. ISBN 0 306 46200 1. Plenum Publishers, 233 Spring Street, New York NY 10013.

This book brings together biochemical, genetic, molecular biology, and clinical approaches to the study of fatty acid oxidation. Including current research from most of the major groups working in the field, it provides a multi-disciplinary approach to the subject and an up-to-date overview of the most recent developments and debates

Dietary Guidelines and Food Guide Pagoda for Chinese Residents. Eds. G. Keyou, K. McNutt. Reprints available from Kristen McNutt, Consumer Choices Inc., 28 W 176 Belleau Drive, Winfield IL 60190, TEL: 630-293-1996; FAX: 630-293-9124, email: KristenMcNutt@compuserve.com

This publication, in English, marks a significant milestone in the world of international nutrition. As is true for many national health policy documents around the world, this publication is the result of several years of critical thinking and thorough scientific analysis by many Chinese nutritionists.

Modern Nutrition in Health and Disease. Eds. M. Shils, J.A. Olson, M. Shike, A. C. Ross. Ninth Edition. Lippincott Williams and Wilkins. For ordering: 800-638-0672.

The objective of this volume is to serve as a comprehensive authoritative text and reference source reviewing the history, scientific base, and practice of nutrition for students, practitioners and educators

NOTICE TO MEMBERS

The deadline for submission of nominations for society awards is September 1, 2000. For detailed information about making a nomination, see the June issue of *JN*.

The deadline for nominations for Fellows of the Society is October 1, 2000. For detailed information and committee listing, see June issue of *JN*.

The abstract deadline for *EB 2001* is November 6. Watch for your Call for Papers in the early part of September 2000 and watch for meeting news in the September issue of Nutrition Notes.

DATELINES

Dateline North...with Sharon Donovan

Case Western Reserve University...**Paul Ernsberger** was an International Visiting Faculty for the Millennial Conference at the University of Alberta at Edmonton entitled "An update on eating disorders and obesity: Treatment and research" held April 28-30, 2000. **Laura Nagy** presented a seminar to the Ohio State University Nutrition Program on "Regulation of glucose transport in muscle by ethanol."

University of Illinois at Urbana...The Division of Nutritional Sciences was pleased to host the following speakers in their spring seminar series: **Rick Mattes** (Purdue University), Tamas Jilling (Northwestern University), **Susan Hutson** (Wake Forest University), **Joe Nadeau** (Case Western Reserve University), Richard Hill (University of Florida) and **George Blackburn** (Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center). **Steven Zeisel** (University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill) was the keynote lecturer at the Division of Nutritional Sciences' "Nutrition Symposium 2000", which was organized by the NS Graduate Student Association. **Dr. Zeisel's** presentation was entitled "Regulation of nutraceuticals and dietary supplements." **Richard Atkinson** was a Burroughs-Wellcome Visiting Professor for March 19-23, 2000. During his visit, he presented three classroom lectures, participated in a 1-hour live radio talk show, and delivered a keynote address on "Obesity: Is there hope for effective treatment?" **Peter Reeds** (Baylor College of Medicine and CNRC, Houston TX) was on campus from April 24-27 and gave two seminars entitled "Gut Substrate Metabolism" and "The Biology of Amino Acid Requirements." Gary Williamson, Head of Phytochemicals at the Institute of Food Research in England, visited the University of Illinois from April 25th to 27th as the first "Mars Nutrition Research Council Lecturer". He presented 4 lectures focused upon the chemistry, bioavailability and biological value of food phytochemicals, including a keynote lecture entitled "Metabolism and biological effects of dietary polyphenols: How fruits, vegetables and beverages reduce the risk of chronic disease." **Tim Garrow** was the recipient of the 2000 Mead-Johnson Award 2000 from the ASNS and the Faculty Award for Excellence in Research from the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences at the University of Illinois.

Michigan State University...Presentations given as part of the Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition Spring 2000 Seminar Series included: "Carotenoid and soy isoflavones in the prevention of prostate cancer (**Omer Kucuk**, Wayne State University) and "Estimating the public health benefits of adding trans fatty acids to nutrition labels" (**Kathleen Koehler**, Staff Fellow, FDA). Speakers at the MSU 27th Annual Food and Nutrition Conference included **Dale Romsos** ("What do we know now about obesity") and **Norman Hord** ("Guidelines, pyramids, and national dietary guidance: Past, present and future"). **Jenny Bond** was selected as one of the recipients of the Michigan State University Distinguished Faculty Award. **Gregory Miller**, National Dairy Council received this year's Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition Distinguished Alumni Award. The award was presented at the MSU Breakfast at *EB 2000*. **Joseph Schroeder** was elected Councilor of the Michigan Society of Toxicology.

Ohio State University...Two doctoral graduates, Shumin Mao (Adviser, **Denis Medeiros**) and Emily Ho (Adviser, **Tammy Bray**) have accepted post doctoral fellowships at the University of California at Berkley. The Ohio State University Nutrition

(OSUN) Program seminar during Spring Quarter includes "Future Trends in Foods" by **Pamela Anderson** and "Biotechnology and Novel Food Fatty Acids" by Victor Huang, both from Ross Products Division of Abbott Labs. Fred Dailey, Director of Agriculture for the State of Ohio discussed "Megafarms and Human Health."

Purdue University... **Bruce Watkins** (Dept of Food Science) was recently named University Faculty Scholar, and appointed Director for the multi-disciplinary Center for Enhancing Foods to Protect Health at Purdue University. **Richard Mattes** has been selected by the Executive Board of the Purdue chapter of Gamma Sigma Delta to receive the Award of Merit for research from the School of Consumer and Family Sciences. This award represents the highest honor the local chapter can give. **David Cai**, a student of **Connie Weaver**, has won the ASNS Predoctoral Fellowship for Grant Proposal Competition 2000. The awards ceremony was held in San Diego. **Dr. Weaver** was the chosen speaker for the 19th annual Lydia J. Roberts Memorial Lectureship at the University of Chicago. This was a two-day event for which she made three presentations. The formal LJR lecture was, "Calcium: New paradigms about absorption and requirements." **Dorothy Morré** presented at the 5th International Conference on Plasma Membrane Redox Systems and their Role in Biological Stress and Disease which was held in Hamburg, Germany on March 26 - 29. The title of her presentation was "A retinol-modulated oscillating NADH oxidase (NOX) protein from endoplasmic reticulum." Olivia Wood is the Mary L. Matthews Undergraduate Teaching Award recipient for the School of Consumer and Family Sciences this year. The fifth annual **Avanelle Kirksey** Lecture was February 11. The speaker was **Laura Caulfield** of Johns Hopkins University. She presented "The public health importance of maternal zinc deficiency: Lessons learned from Peru."

University of Minnesota... Chery Smith recently returned from the Universidad Ibero Americana (UIA), Mexico City, where she presented a talk entitled "Nutrition, dietary patterns and practices in a Nepalese population." Her visit was hosted by Felipe Vadillo-Ortego, Director of the Health Sciences Department at the University. The U.I.A. and the U of Minnesota are exploring ways that faculty and students can participate in international collaboration and exchanges. Lloyd Metzger, Cornell University, will join FScN on July 3, 2000 as Assistant Professor. He comes to the U of Minnesota from a research position with General Mills in Minneapolis. At the recent *EB* meeting, a number of FScN faculty and graduate students made presentations. **Dan Gallaher's** group presented posters and talks on dietary fiber and cholesterol lowering as well as dietary fat and colon carcinogenesis. **Joanne Slavin's** presentation on the effects of whole grains on insulin sensitivity resulted from a collaboration with Dave Jacobs and **Myron Gross** at the University of Minnesota Medical Center. Gary Fulcher and Paul Addis participated in a minisymposium on the health effects of whole grains and **Elizabeth Parks** co-chaired the Energy Balance symposium. At the Sixth Vahouny Fiber Symposium in March 2000, University of Minnesota Department of Food Science and Nutrition presenters included, in the Glycemic Index session, **Elizabeth Parks**: "Relationship of the glycemic index to lipogenesis;" and in the Health Effects of Whole Grains session, Gary Fulcher: "Functional compartmentalization of grain nutrients," and **Joanne Slavin**: "Further research needs."

University of Wisconsin... **Richard L. Atkinson** was Wellcome Visiting Professor in the Basic Medical Sciences at University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana, March 19-23rd; he gave the Clinical Crossroads-Medical Grand Rounds at Beth Israel-Deaconess Hospital, Boston, on March 2nd; and gave an invited lecture at the Annual Session of the American College

of Physicians on April 12th in Philadelphia, entitled "Pharmacologic and non-pharmacologic treatment options for obesity." **Denise Ney** was selected to receive a two-year Vilas Associate Award from the Graduate School, University of Wisconsin-Madison, in recognition of her research regarding the physiological effects of parenteral nutrition. **Dale A. Schoeller** presented the talk "Effective weight change on energy requirements" to the Standing Committee on Scientific Evaluation of Dietary References Intakes at *EB* 2000, San Diego, CA.

Information for Dateline North should be sent to **Sharon M. Donovan**, Division of Nutritional Sciences, University of Illinois, 449 Bevier Hall, 905 S. Goodwin Avenue, Urbana, IL 61801, phone: (217) 333-2289 or 333-417 (secretary) fax: (217) 333-9368; **email:** sdonovan@uiuc.edu

Dateline East ...with Robert T. Jackson

From CeSSIAM... An Indo-U.S. Workshop on Nutrition and Health in Infants, Children and Women was organized, in part, by the National Institute of Child Health and Development in Bethesda, in collaboration with Indian counterparts, and financed by both NICHD and USAID. **Namanjeet Ahluwalia, Kenneth H. Brown, Benjamin Caballero, Parul Christian, Susanna Cunningham-Rundles, Robert Goldenberg, Mary Frances Picciano, Noel W. Solomons, Barbara Underwood, and Fernando Viteri** were the ASNS members who were hosted at the National Institute of Nutrition in Hyderabad, India, in February.

The University of Connecticut Department of Nutritional Sciences reports that **Maria Luz Fernandez** and **Rafael Perez-Escamilla** have been awarded tenure. **Dr. Perez-Escamilla** has also been promoted to Associate Professor. The Department was well recognized at the Awards banquet for the U Conn chapter of Gamma Sigma Delta. **Ann Ferris** received the Senior Faculty and **Mary McGrane** the Junior Faculty Awards. **Rafael Perez-Escamilla** was the recipient of the Extension Award and Grace Damio, the Director of Maternal and Child Health and Nutrition Programs for the Hispanic Health Council in Hartford received the Alumni Award. **Maria Luz Fernandez** delivered two invited lectures in Hermosillo, Sonora, Mexico, March 22-23. Her talks were on "Dietary cholesterol, fatty acids, and cardiovascular disease", and "Diet and heart disease". During this trip **Dr. Fernandez** met with faculty, physicians, graduate, and medical students at the Research Center for Food and Development (CIAD) and the Hospital General. **Dr. Fernandez's** research group delivered six presentations at the *EB* meetings in San Diego. **Rafael Perez-Escamilla** was invited by the Connecticut Health Commissioner to deliver a talk on "Multicultural nutrition in women's health" as part of the Women's Health Summit in Cromwell, Conn., April 12. Ruben Grajeda (major advisor: **Rafael Perez-Escamilla**) received a \$10,000 doctoral dissertation fellowship from the Pan American Health Organization. **Dr. Perez-Escamilla** reports that following a baseline survey and in-depth needs assessments, the FIGHT BAC! food safety campaign is currently being delivered to the Latino community in Connecticut through radio, television, newspaper ads, health fairs, and school puppet shows. The effectiveness of this campaign will be evaluated during the summer.

From the Georgetown University Center for Food and Nutrition Policy (CFNP)... The CFNP is sponsoring a conference entitled "Making the Claim for Nuts" on the Georgetown University campus September 20, 2000. Examining the health benefits associated with eating nuts, identifying research gaps, and understanding how nuts fit into U.S. eating patterns are

the main topics. **Maureen Storey**, Director of DemeterSM Dialogue at CFNP, will chair the conference, which is open to the public. For more information about registration materials, visit the center's Web-site: www.ceresnet.org. **Dr. Storey** was an invited speaker at the National Academy of Sciences' Food and Nutrition Board Forum that was part of the recent *EB 2000* meetings in San Diego. Her topic was "Impact of added sugars on obesity and micronutrient intake." Richard Forshee joined the CFNP faculty as a research assistant professor on February 22, 2000. Dr. Forshee has extensive training and experience in policy analysis and statistics. He is working on several projects that involve analysis of information from databases such as CSFII (Continuing Survey of Food Intake by Individuals) and NHANES (National Health and Nutrition Examination Surveys). **William Sansalone** was appointed senior fellow at CFNP on March 14, 2000. His duties include editing proceedings of conferences sponsored by CFNP. Before coming to Georgetown, he was at the NIH for many years.

*From the Beltsville Human Nutrition Research Center ...*Paul Cotten, formerly of Howard University, has joined the Community Nutrition Research Group. **Joseph Urban** has been appointed Acting Research Leader of the Nutrient Requirements and Functions Laboratory where he will develop a research program looking at the relationship between nutrition and mucosal immunity. **Steven Zeisel** of the University of North Carolina visited the Beltsville Human Nutrition Research Center and presented a seminar entitled "Choline: A newly recommended nutrient". The Center's Nutrient Data Laboratory and he are hoping to develop a database for choline in selected foods that will become part of the National Nutrient Databank.

*From the Graduate Program in Nutrition at the Pennsylvania State University...***Roland M. Leach** was appointed Distinguished Professor on February 18, 2000 by Penn State's President Graham Spanier. **Namanjeet Ahluwalia** and **Mary Frances Picciano** were invited participants at the Indo-US Collaborative Workshop on Nutrition and Health of Women, Infants and Children, held at the National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad, India, in February 2000. **Dr. Ahluwalia** presented a talk on "Approaches for micronutrient interventions in young children and adolescents" and **Dr. Picciano** spoke on "Micronutrient intervention approaches in lactating women and infants" at this meeting addressing maternal and child health issues. **J. Lynne Brown** was recently re-appointed to the Editorial Board of the *Journal of Nutrition Education*.

*From MIT...*In February, **Vernon Young** presented at a workshop on Lysine Fortification of Cereals in Beijing, China, and then gave a presentation on Future Avenues of Nutrition Research at DIFE (German Institute of Human Nutrition) in Potsdam on the occasion of the 65th birthday of its Director, **Christian Barth**. He then spent a week in March lecturing at the Universities of Wageningen and Maastrich, the Netherlands, as the VLAG/ZVG Visiting Professor 2000. In May he was the keynote speaker at the annual meeting of the Nutrition Society, Taiwan."

*From the Department of Nutrition and Food Science at the University of Maryland in College Park...***Robert Jackson** became the Associate Editor for Nutrition for the *Journal Ecology of Food and Nutrition*. Peter Pellett of University of Massachusetts remains the Editor.

*News from the Jean Mayer USDA Human Nutrition Research Center on Aging at Tufts University...***Alice Lichtenstein**, Senior Scientist in the Lipid Metabolism Laboratory and **Susan Roberts**, Senior Scientist and Chief of the HNRCA Energy Metabolism Laboratory have been invited to serve on the Institute of Medicine's (IOM) Macronutrient Committee for the

Food and Nutrition Board, which is evaluating dietary reference intakes. **Mohsen Meydani**, Senior Scientist and Director of the HNRCA Vascular Biology Research Program was invited to speak on "Ocular antioxidants: Bridging laboratory data with clinical reality" at the Third International Symposium on Ocular Pharmacology and Pharmaceutics, February 10-12, 2000 in Lisbon, Portugal. **Mohsen Meydani**, and **Norman I. Krinsky**, HNRCA Senior Scientist and Professor, Biochemistry, chaired the New England Free Radical/Oxygen Society (NEFROS) meeting at Arthur M. Sackler Center for Health Communications, on the Tufts University Health Sciences campus on April 11, 2000. The conference featured speakers who discussed views on vitamin E and coronary heart disease. Jose Ordovas, Senior Scientist in the HNRCA Lipid Metabolism Laboratory was invited to speak on "Genetics and dietary factors affecting high density lipoprotein levels in the population" at the XII National Congress of the Spanish Society of Atherosclerosis April 12-15, 2000 in Jaca, Spain. **Ernst J. Schaefer**, was awarded the EV McCollum Award, sponsored by Novartis Nutrition, at The American Society of Clinical Nutrition 40th Annual Meeting in San Diego in April. **Dr. Schaefer** presented a talk on "Lipoproteins, nutrition and coronary heart disease". **Katherine Tucker**, Scientist I and Director of the HNRCA Dietary Assessment Program was invited to speak on "Hispanic nutrition and health" at the "Conference on Minority Nutrition and Health" at Florida State University, in Tallahassee FL, March 30, 2000. She was also invited to give a presentation on "B vitamins, homocysteine and health: Dietary sources, intake and status in populations" at the Kellogg Folic Acid Heart Health Announcement Media and Health Professional Leadership Briefing, April 4, 2000 in Washington, D.C.

Lyndon B. Carew, Departments of Animal Sciences, and Nutrition and Food Sciences at the *University of Vermont* was invited speaker at the International Conference "Food and Feed from Mucuna: Current Uses and the Way Forward." He spoke on the physiological and anatomical effects of the anti-nutritional and toxic properties of dietary *Mucuna pruriens* (velvet beans) and L-Dopa using the chicken as a model. He also ran a workshop on the future use of *Mucuna* as a feed ingredient. The conference was held in Tegucigalpa, Honduras April 26-29 and was sponsored by The Rockefeller Foundation, CIDICCO (International Center for Information on Cover Crops), CIEPCA (Clearinghouse for Cover Crops Information and Seed Exchange in Africa) and Judson College, Illinois.

Information for Dateline East should be sent to **Robert T. Jackson**, Department of Nutrition and Food Science, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, 3303 Marie Mount Hall, University of Maryland, College Park MD 20742, FAX: 301-314-9327; email: rj36@umail.umd.edu. **His deadline for submission for the September issue is August 1, 2000!!!**

Dateline Southeast... with William P. Flatt

Ed. note: Nutrition Notes is in need of a Regional Associate Editor for the Southeast. William Flatt would like to relinquish his duties. We thank him for his contribution these many issues! Interested individuals are asked to contact Nutrition Notes Editor, Dennis Gordon at 701-231-9438 or email at: dgordon@plains.nodak.edu

*News from the University of Kentucky...*Vincent S. Gallicchio has been elected to the National Academy of Sciences in Romania by the Romanian government. He will receive an award and will be a Keynote Speaker at the 8th International Congress in Physiology to be held in Bucharest in June.

*News from the Center for Disease Control...***Heidi M. Blanck**, EIS Officer, Chronic Disease Prevention Branch, presented "Angular stomatitis among adolescents in Bhutanese refugee

camp, Nepal, 1999," at Prevention 2000, the 17th Annual National Preventive Medicine Meeting, March 23-26, 2000. Atlanta, GA, as well as at the Tuesday Morning Epidemiology Seminar, Epidemiology Program Office, CDC, March 14, 2000, Atlanta, GA. **Laura Kettel Khan**, Chronic Disease Prevention Branch, presented the CDC Micronutrient Malnutrition Prevention and Control Program to the First International Scientific Conference of the Training Programs in Epidemiology and Public Health Interventions Network (TEPHINET) in Ottawa, Canada, April 17-21, 2000.

News from the University of Florida... **Jesse Gregory** recently presented a talk entitled, "Bioactive components of dietary supplements: Defining the research agenda" at the NIH Office of Dietary Supplements Conference/Workshop January 5-6, 2000, at Bethesda, Maryland. He also presented a seminar at the Clinical Nutrition Research Unit, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN, on February 17, 2000, entitled, "Stable isotopic applications in folate and homocysteine metabolism."

News from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro... **Rosemary Wander** arrived in January to assume the responsibilities as Chair of the Department of Foods and Nutrition and Foodservice Systems. **Rosemary** completed a sabbatical in the laboratory of Balz Frei at the Linus Pauling Institute on the Oregon State University campus. **Michael McIntosh** presented a research seminar on "The antiadipogenic actions of conjugated linoleic acid" to the Department of Nutrition at UNC-Chapel Hill in November. **Carla Miller** has been busy working on her recently funded grants from NIH (food purchase behavior among older adults with diabetes) and USDA (Knowledge and use of dietary supplements among women of childbearing age). **Mark Failla** visited the Phytonutrients Lab at the USDA Beltsville Human Nutrition Research Center for several months to work with **Beverly Clevidence** and **J. Cecil Smith Jr.** He then moved to Ohio State University to work with **Steven Schwartz** in the Department of Food Science and Technology. **Mark** presented invited seminars on the role of copper on immune cell functions at The University of Maryland, USDA and the NIH Workshop on Micronutrients and Infectious Diseases: Cellular and Molecular Immunomodulatory Mechanisms, and on the use of in vitro methods for assessing phytochemical bioavailability at Ohio State University, Procter & Gamble and USDA while on sabbatic leave. Recent visiting scientists for the Nutrition seminar series include: Jacquelyn McClelland, NC State University; **Kathryn Kolasa**, East Carolina School of Medicine; **Sara Quandt**, Wake Forest University School of Medicine; **Chuck Hill**, North Carolina State University; and **John Beard**, Penn State University. **Helen Anderson Shaw** will retire from her position of Dean of the School of Human Environmental Sciences on June 30, 2000. A series of events was held on April 26th to celebrate **Helen's** contributions to research, teaching and administrative service. The affair started with a Symposium with **N.J. Benevenga**, University of Wisconsin, "Bumps in the road to estimating amino acid requirements"; **Susan Hutson**, Wake Forest University School of Medicine, "Regulation of brain neurotransmitter synthesis by branched chain amino acids;" and **Judy Turnlund**, USDA Western Human Nutrition Research Center, "Stable isotope studies of trace element metabolism and requirements in humans," participating as the invited speakers. The School hosted a reception for **Dr. Shaw** after the symposium and the day ended with an evening dinner. **Cheryl Lovelady** was busy with a series of interviews broadcast on the major television networks and NPR after her paper "The effect of weight loss in overweight, lactating women on the growth of infants" appeared as the lead article in the February 17 issue of *The New England Journal of Medicine*.

Until further notice, Information for Dateline Southeast should be sent to **William Flatt**, Department of Foods and Nutrition, U Georgia, 714 Boyd Graduate Studies Building, Athens GA 30602-7501, TEL: 706-542-4820; FAX: 706-542-5059; email: wflatt@hestia.fcs.uga.edu

Dateline West...with the McGuires, Shelley and Mark

From the University of California at Berkeley... At this year's *Experimental Biology* meeting in San Diego, **Fernando Viteri** received the Kellogg Award for International Nutrition Research and gave the award lecture on the prevention of nutritional anemias at a plenary session. He also took part in a joint NIH/Indian Medical Research Council meeting in Hyderabad, India which was designed to promote collaborative nutrition research. **Joseph Napoli** was an invited speaker at a workshop on "The impact of 17Beta-hydroxysteroids on medicine" held at Elman, Germany. **Joanne Ikeda** has received a \$460,000 grant from the California Cancer Research Project to evaluate, with colleagues, the effectiveness of a nutrition education program amongst Vietnamese immigrants in promoting behavior expected to reduce cancer risks. **Hei Sook Sul** has given a seminar on the regulation of fat synthesis and adipocyte differentiation at East Tennessee State University and at the University of California at Davis. Sean Baker gave an invited seminar on "Pms2, a maternal effect in the mouse" at the Jacques Monod conference in Roscoff, France. **Kenneth Carpenter** has had his book *Beriberi, White Rice, and Vitamin B* published by the University of California Press; it extends from early studies in Japan to current problems of thiamin deficiency in alcoholism.

From the UCLA Center for Human Nutrition... **David Heber** and **Vay Liang W. Go** are program co-chairs for NAASO 2000, the annual meeting of the North American Association for the Study of Obesity, on October 29-November 2, 2000 in Long Beach, California. The meeting will encompass the latest developments in obesity in the fields of adipose cell biology, genetics, metabolism, brain biology and neurosciences, ingestive behaviors, clinical treatment and prevention, and population sciences and primary prevention. There will be two ancillary programs, one CME course called "Obesity Management for the Primary Care Physician" and the second for NIDDK's 50th Anniversary "Nutrition and Obesity Research: The Future". Additional faculty from the Center, including **Ian Yip**, Audra Lembertas, and **Diane Harris**, are co-chairs of various subject tracks subcommittees.

From Washington State University.. **Linda Massey** gave an invited presentation on "Myths about dairy products: Kidney stones, lactose intolerance and hypertension" at the Annual Physicians Conference at Loma Linda University in March. **Louise Peck** presented an invited lecture entitled "Conjugated linoleic acid (CLA): The latest in beef nutrition" at the annual meeting of the Region 5 Cattlewomen's Association in Jackson Hole, Wyoming.

From the Department of Nutrition, University of California, Davis... **Barbara Schneeman** (still on leave at USDA-Asst Administrator for Human Nutrition) gave Seminars at Food and Drug Administration, University of Connecticut, and the Beltsville Human Nutrition Research Center; also made a presentation at Dietary Fibre 2000 in Dublin Ireland in May; Served as Chair of the 2001 Danone International Prize in Human Nutrition.

From the University of Washington... **Adam Drewnowski** took part in the Behavioral Nutrition Roundtable, convened by Eileen Kennedy, Deputy Undersecretary USDA, in New Orleans

in January. He also participated in the USDA Millennial Event in Washington DC in May that addressed the future of American eating habits. In March, **Dr. Drewnowski** spoke at the 44th Annual MHMR Conference at the University of Texas in Austin on "Why we eat what we do."

Information for Dateline West should be sent to **Mark** (mmcguire@uidaho.edu) or **Shelley McGuire** (smmcguire@wsu.edu)

Dateline Rocky Mountains and Great Plains...with Nancy Turner

NASA...**Helen W. Lane**, received the Rotary Steller award. This award honors individuals who have made outstanding contributions to Aerospace and is competitive across the industry and NASA. The award represents outstanding achievements in aerospace. **Dr. Lane** received the award for her contributions to the nation's space program in nutrition and food science.

*Newman Associates, Inc., Montana...***Rosemary Newman**, a registered dietitian and a certified diabetes educator, was elected a fellow in the American Dietetics Association. She presented an invited paper, "Beneficial components of grains," at a pre-conference workshop at *EB 2000: Grains: The Foundation II - Mechanisms Underlying the Effects*.

*South Dakota State University (SDSU)...*SDSU held its 17th Annual Nutrition Seminar at the end of March. The conference featured some outstanding speakers including **John Erdman** (Univ Illinois) who spoke on lycopenes and soy; **Vernon Young** (MIT) on nutrient requirements and the new DRIs; **Dennis Heldman** (Rutgers) on processing technologies; **Don McNamara** (Egg Board) on fat intake; **Mary Story** (Univ of Minnesota) on a diabetes prevention program; and **Tim Weigner** (Food Marketing Institute) spoke on food safety. **Robert Heaney** (Creighton University) was the Ethel Austin Martin Distinguished Lecturer and spoke on calcium. Invited speakers from South Dakota included Kevin Kephart who discussed genetically modified organisms and **Danny Lattin** who talked about food safety. The newly renovated Ethel Austin Martin Hall was dedicated during the seminar. Ethel Austin Martin was an SDSU alumni and eventually director of research at the National Dairy Council. She passed away in 1993 at 100 years of age and left an endowment to SDSU to establish a program in human nutrition. **Bonny Specker**, Chair of the E.A. Martin Program in Human Nutrition, also presented a talk on the pediatric origin of osteoporosis at the Northland Chapter of the American College of Sports Medicine in St. Cloud, Minnesota at the end of March. **Karen Wosje**, graduate student with the E.A. Martin Program received the SDSU Sigma Xi Graduate Student Award for her paper presentation on high bone mass among Hutterite women.

St. Louis University School of Medicine... **James D. Shoemaker**, Director, Metabolic Screening Lab at St. Louis University School of Medicine, presented a Grand Rounds titled "Diagnostic yield of inborn error screening" at Children's Hospital Oakland, October 5, 1999 and Children's Hospital of Orange County, March 8, 2000. Nutritional etiologies were found to be 10 times more frequent than genetic causes of elevated urinary excretion of organic acids, amino acids and carbohydrates.

*Texas A&M University...***Robert S. Chapkin** presented an invited seminar entitled "How does dietary fish oil reduce colon cancer risk?" at the Department of Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Science and Department of Medicine, March 1, 2000 at the University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada. **Joanne R.**

Lupton has been appointed as the Associate Team Leader for the National Space Biomedical Research Institute's research team titled "Nutrition, Physical Fitness, and Rapid Rehabilitation". She has also accepted an appointment to the National Academy of Sciences Dietary Reference Intakes Panel on Macronutrients. In March, she gave a talk entitled "Butyrate and colon cancer: A controversy in need of resolution." to the Vahouny Symposium. Later in March she spoke about "How to live to an old age and feel great about it" to the Houston, Texas Aggie Club. She spoke about "What every smart woman should know about nutrition" at Northwood University in Midland Michigan in April. **Mee Young Hong** was one of three winners in the ASNS/Procter & Gamble Graduate Student Award Oral Competition at the *Experimental Biology* meeting in San Diego. **Nancy D. Turner** was awarded a travel grant by the Society for Experimental Biology & Medicine for her abstract entitled "Dietary phytate reduces proliferation and increases apoptosis in rat colonocytes". She presented the talk at the *Experimental Biology* meeting in April.

*Texas Tech University...***Helen C. Brittin** was recognized with two awards recently. The Distinguished Dietitian Award, the highest award given by the Texas Dietetic Association, was presented to her at their annual meeting in San Antonio. She also received the Mabel Erwin Award by the Texas Association of Family and Consumer Sciences in recognition of outstanding and lasting contributions through 40 years of service to the profession.

*University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences...***William Evans**, at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, has been appointed as the team leader for the National Space Biomedical Research Institute's research team titled "Nutrition, Physical Fitness, and Rapid Rehabilitation. This research team will be directing research with a goal of developing nutritional and exercise countermeasures for a three year voyage to Mars. **Dr. Evans** was awarded a 5 year VA merit grant titled "Chronic renal failure: Effects of exercise and a low protein diet" from the Veteran's Administration. **Dr. Evans** is the Chairman of the organizing committee for the 11th International Conference on the Biochemistry of Exercise that will be held in Little Rock, Arkansas from June 4 - 7, 2000. The conference theme is "Molecular Aspects of Physical Activity and Aging" and is partially sponsored by a conference grant from the National Institute on Aging and NASA. The web site for the meeting is <http://www.uams.edu/biochem2000/>.

*University of Missouri-Columbia...*Recent invited speakers to the F21C Nutritional Sciences Research Seminar Series include **Steven Clarke** of University of Texas, **Henry Lukaski** of USDA/ARS, Grand Forks, ND, **Vadim N. Gladyshev** of University of Nebraska-Lincoln, and **David Harris** of Washington University.

*University of Texas Medical Branch...*On Jan 26, the Food and Drug Administration published in the Federal Register a final regulation governing the aluminum contamination of solutions used for parenteral nutrition. This was the culmination of 15 years of lobbying and testifying before FDA by **Gordon Klein** and others and was based on findings our group and others published in the mid 1980s. ASCN and ASPEN were the professional spearheads of the effort to convince FDA to follow through with the regulation, and they were followed by the American Academy of Pediatrics and the North American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology and Nutrition. The regulation takes effect in January of 2001. **Xiao-jun Zhang, M.D.** was promoted to Associate Professor, in the Department of Surgery on September 1, 1999. **David K. Rassin**, was recently appointed as the Assistant Dean for Continuing Medical Education at the University of Texas Medical Branch, and was appointed as an advisor to the Mother's Milk Bank of Austin,

Texas. In October he served as a scientific site reviewer for the government of Portugal and had an interesting week visiting their government funded laboratories.

University of Utah - Division of Foods and Nutrition... Graduate student Misa Graff was selected as one of the finalists for the International Nutrition Society (SINR) graduate student presentations at FASEB meetings in San Diego in April. Her advisor is **Diane Stadler**. **Wayne Askew** gave an invited lecture on "Metabolic and physiological adaptations to heat and cold" and conducted a workshop on "Nutrition planning and food item selection for backpacking and expedition rations" to members of the Wilderness Medical Society at their winter meeting in Breckenridge, CO in February.

USDA/ARS Grand Forks Human Nutrition Research Center, Grand Forks, North Dakota... **Curtiss Hunt** was appointed to the Editorial Board of the *Journal of Trace Elements in Experimental Medicine* in March 2000. **Leslie Klevay** gave the presentation "Does low dietary copper explain the epidemiologic link between ischemic heart disease and osteoporosis?" to the University of Arizona, College of Medicine in Tucson, AZ, on December 28, 1999. **Janet Hunt** spoke at the American Pharmaceutical Association Annual Meeting about dietary supplements for women in March 2000, in Washington, DC.

UT Southwestern Medical Center... Teddy Yang, a postdoctoral Fellow in the Center for Human Nutrition and the Division of Clinical Biochemistry and Human Metabolism, Department of Pathology, UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas, was one of the two recipients of the MARS Nutrition Research Council Postdoctoral Fellowship award. The award was created to encourage young scientists to focus their research on the investigation of the effects of functional food/food ingredients on human nutrition and health. Dr. Yang's research project will study the effect of flavonoids on oxidative stress and inflammation.

Information for Dateline Rocky Mountains and Great Plains should be sent to **Nancy Turner**, Department of Animal Science, Texas A&M University, Room 218 Kleberg Bldg, College Station, TX 77843-2471, TEL: 409-847-8714; FAX: 409-862-1862; email: nancy-turner@ansc.tamu.edu

Dateline Latin America and the Caribbean...with Homero Martinez

From Argentina... We would like to remind the membership and readership of this column that the 13th Latin American Congress on Nutrition, sponsored by the Sociedad Latinoamericana de Nutrición (SLAN), will be held in Buenos Aires from November 12 to 16. Among the events planned will be a McCollum International Lecture, to be presented by **Ricardo Uauy-Dagach**, who was nominated for this honor by outgoing SINR President, **Benjamin Caballero**. The thematic program for the event will cover the following topics: The New Latin American Nutritional Paradigm: Obesity - Chronic Growth Retardation - Hidden Hunger; The "Third Age" as an Emerging Nutritional Problem; The Nutritional Reasoning Behind Dietary Prevention and Nutritional Assistance Programs; Nutritionally-Modifiable Risk Factors; Towards a New Approach to Clinical Nutrition in Latin America; How and With What Will Latin America Feed Itself in the Year 2020?

There are currently plans for holding the Second Latin American Leadership Workshop for young professionals from the region as a post-Congress activity in Buenos Aires.

From Guatemala... **NOTE:** CeSSIAM has a **new** address: cessiam@guate.net

Carlos Tejada Valenzuela, former research professional in nutritional pathology at INCAP and its Director from 1976 through 1980, and Ricardo Bressani, former head of the Food and Agriculture Division of INCAP (and a corresponding member of the U.S. National Academy of Science) were awarded (in Guatemala) the Order of the Quetzal medal, the highest national honor, for their contributions to medicine and science. Kim Michaelsson of Denmark was a recent visitor to Guatemala, working with INCAP on a prospective study on child growth. He presented a seminar on the paradoxes in secular trends related to growth and decreasing infant mortality. **Michael Hambidge** was in Guatemala to deliver the supply of low-phytate maize used in his collaborative study at CeSSIAM with Manolo Mazariegos on improving zinc availability from the traditional Mayan diet. **Noel Solomons** started the new year with a trip to Nashville, for the ASPEN meeting and to Hyderabad, for the Indo-U.S. Workshop on Nutrition and Health in Infants, Children and Women. He spoke on the topic of "Methods for the measurement of nutritional impact and adaptation of laboratory methods into field settings to enhance and support community-based nutrition research." Returning through Europe he was the guest in Munich of Klaus Schümann and Andreas Mäurer; in Stuttgart of **Peter Furst** and Hans Biesalski; and in Switzerland, of **Henri Dirren**. **Dr. Solomons** was in Sydney, Australia in March to participate in the program of Nouveau Nutrition: Traditional Foods, Contemporary Science with a talk entitled "Plant-based diets are traditional for developing countries: 21st century challenges for better nutrition and health." He traveled to Madrid, Spain, in May to attend the public defense of the doctoral thesis of María-Angeles Sesmero-Lillo, for whom he had been a co-thesis advisor. Jesus Bulux of CeSSIAM participated in the session entitled "Toward full adequacy of vitamin A nutrition in at-risk populations: where are the pitfalls and where are the potentials for provitamin A from edible plants?" at the CARIG meeting. He had been in Europe earlier in the year in Wageningen, working on his PhD dissertation with **Jo Hautvast** and **Clive West**, in Turkey, and at the Nestlé Research Center in Switzerland as a guest of **Henri Dirren**.

Information for Dateline Latin America and the Caribbean should be sent to **Homero Martinez**, Investigator, Cardenales No 76, Aguilas, Mexico City, DF, Mexico 01710, FAX: +525 761 0952; **email:** homero@solar.sar.net

Dateline Canada ...with Gordon Zello

The 2000 Earle Willard McHenry Award, Canadian Society for Nutritional Sciences, has been awarded to **Bruce Holub** of the University of Guelph in recognition of his many contributions to our nutrition community. He is well known for his research in the fields of platelet function and the influence of dietary lipids in health and disease. As a leading advocate of functional foods for health, he is a member of key national research and policy committees. He is also very active in health promotion and educating the public about nutrition and chronic disease prevention. **Dr. Holub** will receive his award at the Canadian Federation for Biological Societies Meeting to be held in Ottawa in June. Rhona Hanning has accepted a faculty position in the Department of Health Studies & Gerontology, University of Waterloo, starting July 2000. She is currently coordinator of Nutrition and Dietetic Education at St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto and Associate Professor in the Department of Nutritional Sciences at the University of Toronto. **Michael McBurney** of the Kellogg Company in Battle Creek, Michigan, recently has been appointed Adjunct Professor in the Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition at Michigan State University. He also continues to be Adjunct Professor of Nutrition in the Department of Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Science at the University of Alberta.

Susan Barr, University of British Columbia, continues her work on the Subcommittee on Interpretation and Uses of the Dietary Reference Intakes. She gave an invited presentation on the DRIs at the 14th Annual Update for Dietitians in Oregon in March. In April, she gave invited presentations on calcium, exercise and bone health at a Women's Health Conference in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. **Mary L'Abbé** of Health Canada gave a seminar at the University of British Columbia on the fortification recommendations for vitamins and minerals in foods last December.

Susan Whiting, University of Saskatchewan, spoke on the Dietary management of osteoporosis at the Bone Power 2000 meeting held at the Baycrest Geriatric Centre in Toronto and on Dairy products and osteoporosis at the Healthy People 2000 Symposium on Dairy Products and Human Nutrition, Loma Linda University. **Gordon Zello**, University of Saskatchewan, recently gave a talk to the faculty and students at the School of Dietetics and Human Nutrition, McGill University, titled "Human investigations impact veterinary nutrition research."

Carla Taylor, University of Manitoba, was invited to present research from her ILSI Future Leader Award in Nutrition, "Dietary zinc and T lymphocyte signal transduction proteins", at the ILSI Annual Meeting in Florida in January. **Stephanie Atkinson**, McMaster University, was a workshop speaker at the meeting of the Society for Pediatric Research (SPR) in Boston in May. The workshop focused on "The importance of breast feeding for premature infants: Management during and after hospital discharge."

The Annual Research Day of the McGill University Nutrition and Food Science Centre was held in March. Keynote speaker Robert Ross, Queen's University, spoke on "Independent roles of diet and exercise in the prevention of the insulin resistance syndrome." **Katherine Tucker**, Dietary Assessment Research Program/Nutritional Epidemiology Program, Center on Aging at Tufts University was an invited speaker at the School of Dietetics and Human Nutrition, McGill University, talking on "B vitamins and vascular disease."

John Hoffer, McGill University, was invited to serve on the American Society for Clinical Nutrition Annual Awards Committee, and spoke on "Protein requirements in Diabetes Mellitus," and "Sulfur amino acid metabolism: An overview" at the *Experimental Biology 2000* meeting. Stan Kubow, McGill University, was a keynote speaker at the 20th Congress of La Société Québécoise de Biochimie Clinique. His talk was entitled: "The role of free radicals and antioxidants in health and disease." **Peter Jones**, McGill University, gave several presentations including to the Japanese Association for the Advancement of the Study of Obesity (JAASO), Tokyo, Japan in which he spoke on "Use of doubly labeled water in understanding human energy metabolism," and to the University of Tsukuba, Japan where he gave a presentation entitled: "Energy requirements of older Canadian women."

Tim Johns, McGill University, gave a presentation titled "Traditional food additives of East African Pastoralists as potential nutraceuticals" at the International Conference on Ethnomedicine and Drug Discovery, in Washington, DC. He co-taught the Panama Field Study Semester: "Humans in tropical environments," in Panama as part of the McGill University School of the Environment undergraduate program.

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Dateline Europe...with Anna Winkvist

*From the Netherlands...*The Department of Human Nutrition and Epidemiology at the University of Wageningen in the Netherlands celebrated its department's anniversary. Among the honorees were **Nevin Scrimshaw** who spoke on "The damage of hidden hunger to developing countries"; P. Dasgupta who spoke on "The economics of poverty"; and **Per Pinstrup-Andersen**, whose theme was "Modern biotechnology for food and agriculture in developing countries." **J.P. van Wouwe**, former regional associate editor of *Nutrition Notes*, has joined the Child Health Division, Department of Prevention and Health, of the Organisation for Applied Scientific Research (TNO) in Leiden, the Netherlands. The Child Health Department is divided into three sections: Reproduction and Perinatology (folic acid supplementation practice); Health and Health Care for Children Aged 0-19 (growth and obesity trends, regional differences in nutritional intake); and Quality of Life (outcome of health in phenyl ketonuria restricted diets). In cooperation with the Child Health Center of the Leiden University Medical Centre, research is carried out which combines specialized pediatric knowledge about sick children with Child Health expertise on healthy children. **Dr. Van Wouwe's** field of research includes the environmental factors that contribute toward the onset of diabetes type 1; prevention strategies on cot death in a low incidence country; and the specific health care needs for children with Down Syndrome.

*From Sweden...*The Swedish network in nutritional epidemiology (NEON, www.umu.se/phmed/epidemi/neon/) held its second annual meeting at the Nordic School of Public Health in Gothenburg, April 13-14. The title of the meeting was "Doctoral students of today, researchers of tomorrow—research education and current research in nutritional epidemiology." Among organizers were **Lauren Lissner** of Gothenburg University and **Anna Winkvist** of Umeå University. Among the 50 people attending the meeting were ASNS members **Henrik Andersson** of Gothenburg University and **Petra Lahmann** of Lund University.

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