

The American Institute of Nutrition

The American Institute of Nutrition (AIN) was established as a scientific society in 1933 with a charter granted by the Regents of the University of the State of New York. Its establishment marked the founding of the first independent society devoted exclusively to the discipline of nutrition. Today AIN is the principal professional organization of nutrition research scientists in the United States. It is comprised of approximately 3,000 members from over 40 countries. Members are nominated by fellow scientists on the basis of demonstrated research competence and productivity in experimental nutrition or service to the discipline of nutrition through teaching, administration or technical service. Associate Membership is available to investigators before they qualify for full membership and to nutrition professionals in fields other than nutrition research. AIN Student Memberships are available to graduate students who intend to pursue careers in nutrition research.

The American Society for Clinical Nutrition (ASCN) is the clinical division of AIN. Any member of AIN who has conducted meritorious research in clinical nutrition is eligible for membership in the ASCN. The American Institute of Nutrition is a corporate member of the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB). FASEB is comprised of seven constituent societies representing a broad range of biomedical disciplines.

The objectives of the American Institute of Nutrition are the development and extension of knowledge in the field of nutrition and the facilitation of personal contact between investigators in nutrition and related scientific disciplines. Various programs and activities are supported by the Institute to achieve these goals. The AIN convenes an annual scientific meeting in the spring in conjunction with other FASEB societies. This meeting provides a forum for the presentation of original research findings and for the review of major topics in the field of nutrition. In addition, AIN publishes *The Journal of Nutrition*, a monthly scientific journal which includes reports of original research in nutrition, critical reviews of literature relevant to the field, and commentaries on issues or developments in nutrition. *Nutrition Notes* is a quarterly newsletter which provides information about professional activities and issues in nutrition of national and international significance.

The American Institute of Nutrition includes several standing and ad hoc committees which serve to govern the Institute, recognize outstanding contributions from individual members, provide factual information to the public and professionals, and promote graduate education in the field of nutrition. The Graduate Nutrition Education Committee maintains information on graduate programs of nutrition education in the United States and administers a program of predoctoral fellowships for graduate students in nutrition. In 1989, AIN administered four predoctoral fellowships sponsored by the Nutrition Department of General Mills, Inc., Gerber Companies Foundations, Hershey Foods Corporation and Nabisco Brands, Inc. at the level of \$5,000 each. The recipients of the awards were:

Timothy S. Elliot of the Department of Nutritional Sciences, University of Illinois for proposed research on dietary fat and gene expression;

Terry D. Faidley of the Department of Food and Nutrition, Iowa State University for proposed research on dietary fat and the conversion of plasma cholesterol;

Carsten R. Smidt of the Department of Nutrition, University of California, Davis for proposed research on the nutritional essentiality of pyrroloquinoline quinone; and

Scott M. Smith of the Department of Nutritional Science, The Pennsylvania State University for proposed research on thermogenesis and reproductive hormones in iron deficiency.

American Institute of Nutrition 1989–1990 Officers and Council: President-Samuel J. Fomon, President-Elect-Vernon R. Young, Past President-Gilbert A. Leveille, Secretary-Janet C. King, Treasurer-Barbara O. Schneeman. Councilors-John A. Milner, Orville A. Levander, David H. Baker, Ex Officio-Patricia B. Swan, Robert J. Cousins.

Richard G. Allison, Ph.D.
Executive Officer