COUNCIL MEETING

The Council of the American Society for Nutritional Sciences (ASNS) met on Saturday, April 1 (Kathleen Rasmussen, presiding). Following are the actions taken by Council:

Adopted the symposia program (as approved by the Program Committee) for 2006.

Approved unanimously the Membership Committee actions.

Received and approved the Finance Committee report.

Received the Tellers’ report and confirmed the Council composition for 2005–2006. President: Dennis Bier; Past President: Kathleen Rasmussen; President-Elect: Joanne Lupton; Treasurer: Denise Ney; Secretary: Susan Fried; ASCN Representative: Janet King; SINR Representative: Rebecca Stoltzfus; Councilors: Teresa Davis, Gretel Pelto, Jack Odle.

SCIENTIFIC AND SPECIAL SESSIONS

Seven corporate societies of the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB) met in San Diego, CA for the Experimental Biology 2005 meeting. ASNS programmed 1290 abstracts for presentation in 48 minisymposia, 77 poster sessions, 1 Procter & Gamble Graduate Student Award Special Session, the ASCN Young Investigator Award Special Session, and 3 additional Special Sessions. There were 14 major Symposia; 4 Presidential Lectures (including the Atwater Lecture); 4 additional Award Lectures; 4 Conferences; and 1 Workshop—for a total of 157 sessions. The following sessions, reviewed by the Program Committee, were presented:

Symposia

*PhenHRIG 8th Annual Symposium.* Chairs: M. Gross and P. Bowen
*Nutrients, Nuclear Receptors, Inflammation and Immunity.* Chairs: C. B. Stephensen and M. Cantorna
*Food Assistance Programs and Well-Being of Low-Income Families.* Chairs: S. Jones and E. Frongillo
*Calcium-Related Chronic Diseases in Ethnic Minorities: Can Dairy Consumption Reduce Health Disparities?* Chair: J. Nicholls
*Molecular Actions of Botanicals and Dietary Supplements.* Chair: N. F. Shay
*Historical Contributions of Isotopes to the Understanding of Nutrient Metabolism.* Chair: D. M. Bier

Lectures

*ASNS Presidential Lecture.* Lecturer: D. J. Mangelsdorf
*ASCN Presidential Lecture.* Lecturer: A. M. Spiegel
*The W. O. Atwater Memorial Lecture.* Lecturer: D. A. Schoeller
*SINR Presidential Lecture.* Lecturer: R. Uauy-Dagach

Conferences

*29th National Nutrient Databank Conference*
*ILSI North America Functional Foods Conference.* Chair: J. Milner
*CARIG Conference.* Chairs: J. Mares, W. White, A. Dur- ing, and E. Johnson
*Carnitine Conference.* Chair: P. Borum

Workshop

*Assessing the Health Effects of Bioactive Food Components.* Chairs: L. Saldanha and P. Coates

On Saturday afternoon, April 2, the ASNS/Procter & Gamble Graduate Student Research Awards oral competition session was held. The 12 winners of the graduate student abstract competition, selected in December 2004, presented their papers. The session was chaired by the ASNS senior Councilor, Joanne Lupton. Travel awards of $750 were given to the 12 winners of the abstract competition, and additional awards of $500 were presented to the 3 winners of the oral competition. The 12 winners of the abstract competition were:
Giana Angelo, JM USDA HNRC on Aging at Tufts University
Advisor: Richard Wood
Nick Bellissimo, University of Toronto
Advisor: G. Harvey Anderson
Laureen Lui Yan Chan, The University of Hong Kong
Advisor: Edmund T. S. Li
Soonkyu Chung, University of North Carolina at Greensboro
Advisor: Michael McIntosh
Janette Harkins, Michigan State University
Advisor: Kate J. Claycombe
Penny Davila Hicks, University of California at Davis
Advisor: Bo Lonnerdal
Jiyoung Kim, Tufts University
Advisor: Amy Yee
Jerry Pinghwa Pian, University of Kentucky
Advisor: Linda Chen
David Scott, University of North Carolina at Greensboro
Advisor: George Loo
Jeongmin Seo, Texas A&M University
Advisor: Robert Chapkin
Alexia Smith, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Advisor: Rosalind Coleman
Kader Yagiz, Purdue University
Advisor: Dorothy More

This year, once again, the ASNS, in concert with its Graduate Nutrition Education Committee (chaired by Carol Lammi-Keefe), administered the Predoctoral Fellowship Program. Fifty-five proposals were submitted for this competition. The 6 available fellowships (each for $5000) were awarded as follows:

Mary Yeh from Emory University (Advisor: Lou Ann Brown) won the Cargill Fellowship for her proposal: Assessing the effects of pulmonary oxidant imbalance on alveolar macrophage function and determining the potential of restoring glutathione in chronic alcoholics.

Nadine Tassabehji from Florida State University (Advisor: Cathy Levenson) received the Gerber Foundation Fellowship for her proposal: The role of zinc deficiency and supplementation on hippocampal neurogenesis.

Kristin Nieman from Iowa State University (Advisor: Kevin Schalinske) won the Kraft Foods Fellowship for the proposal: Perturbation of methyl group and homocysteine metabolism by diabetes.

David S. Paul from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (Advisor: Miroslav Styblo) received the Mars Fellowship for his proposal: Arsenic interferes with glucose homeostasis: Mechanism of arsenic-induced type-2 diabetes.

Rahul Rawat from Cornell University (Advisor: Rebecca Stoltzfus) was awarded the McNeil NutritionalFellows for his winning proposal: Determining safe and efficacious iron supplementation to HIV-infected women with iron deficiency anemia (IDA).

Yue Li from the University of Illinois-Urbana Champaign (Advisor: Manabu Nakamura) received the Wyeth Consumer Healthcare Fellowship for her proposal: Peroxisome proliferators-activated receptor α (PPARα) regulation of highly unsaturated fatty acid synthesis—determine endogenous PPARα ligand under essential fatty acid deficiency.

BUSINESS MEETING

The annual business meeting of the Society was held on Monday, April 4, 2005 with Kathleen Rasmussen presiding. President Rasmussen welcomed the membership to the 77th business meeting of the American Society for Nutritional Sciences.

The agenda was adopted.

Approval of the Proceedings of the 68th annual meeting as published in the September 2004 issue of The Journal of Nutrition (Vol. 134, No. 9) was passed by voice vote.

President’s report—Kathleen Rasmussen

Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. I’d like to call this meeting to order. I am Kathy Rasmussen, President of ASNS. I’d like to note as we begin that we have a conflict this evening. In fact we have two of them. One is between the beginning of the SINR business meeting and the other is with the tipoff of the Final Four. The blue that I am wearing is not taking a position.

I would like to introduce Chuck Nolan. We have a Parliamentarian who is with us this evening to my right.

I’d like to begin by calling for adoption of the agenda which you received on your way in the door, and approval of the Proceedings from the 68th annual meeting last year as printed in The Journal of Nutrition. Hearing no objection we will accept these by unanimous consent.

The next item on our agenda is the President’s report, and in my presentation to you last year I spoke of the challenges and opportunities that I thought faced ASNS. In addition to offering ideas of smaller things that I thought we could do in the coming year, I described the opportunity that I thought existed to develop a better nutrition society. It would be an understatement to say that this work has been a major focus of my efforts and those of many others in this past year. As a consequence of this and to permit as much time as possible for comments and questions about this topic in our tight agenda, I will devote my President’s report to this subject alone. I would like to begin by describing the process by which we have come to this point; then I will discuss the proposal upon which you will be asked to vote and let you know how this vote will occur.

This effort actually began 2 years ago when Steve Zeisel, then ASNS President, charged the Presidents-Elect of ASNS and its divisions with considering what could be done to improve their interrelationships with one another. Sam Klein, Becky Stoltzfus, and I considered this issue carefully and, at our October 2003 Joint Council meetings, we reported that a real solution to the dilemmas we saw probably required a reorganization of our societies. Moreover, we felt that such a reorganization also could address a number of other concerns. The Councils agreed that this was worth considering more carefully and created the Guiding Coalition to do so and charged it with providing some options for Council consideration. The Guiding Coalition then developed a more thorough situation analysis, which was published in the September 2004 issue of Nutrition Notes. This documented the motivation for considering this kind of change.

Both ASNS and ASCN describe themselves as being premier societies in nutrition research. Yet in a time of high interest in nutrition, our membership is not growing. The difference between the two societies is not clear to much of our external audience, and thus it is not clear which society should be called for expert advice on a particular subject or which society deserves a donor’s financial support. In fact, ASNS and
ASCN are more alike than different and have become more alike over the years. So the confusion is understandable. Both societies contain interests which range from basic to translational research in nutrition. In fact our common ground is a strong reason for consolidation. You have heard from me several times in my columns for Nutrition Notes about the challenging environment we face as a society that publishes a scientific journal. Finally, we have continued to experience the administrative problems that result from the peculiar structural relationship between ASNS and ASCN, which have existed since ASCN’s founding several decades ago. As many of you know, ASCN is both an independent scientific society and a division of ASNS. All ASCN members are also members of ASNS, which complicates the relationship between the societies.

You saw the first result of the deliberation of the Guiding Coalition at this meeting last year. Some of you hated its proposal; some of you liked it. I am grateful for the anonymous postdoctoral fellow from NIH who called it a millennial idea.

The Guiding Coalition understood from the reaction given to this proposal that it was a start but it was not yet ready for prime time. The Guiding Coalition then went back to the proverbial drawing board and developed another and better proposal, which it presented to the November 2004 Joint Council meeting. The Councils liked this proposal and thought that it was worth developing all the way to new bylaws and a vote of the membership as soon as practical. To carry this out, they created the Joint Council Advisory Group, which includes Denny Bier, Sharon Donovan, and me from ASNS; Sam Klein, Naomi Fukagawa, and Ronenn Roubenoff from ASCN; and Becky Stoltzfus and Grace Marquis from SINR.

The Joint Council Advisory Group posted the proposal on the newly dedicated website in January 2005 and invited all members to view and comment on it either directly to the Joint Council Advisory Group or publicly via an electronic bulletin board on the website. In response to the comments it received, the Joint Council Advisory Group revised the proposal in early March and posted this revised version along with the proposed revised bylaws on this same website. You were invited to view this site once again, and our e-mail indicates that many of you have done so. We also provided a question-and-answer session for you just 2 days ago on Saturday. So now I'd like to draw your attention to some of the key elements of the proposal.

Let’s begin with the vision that the Councils have for this new society. This new society will be the leading nutrition research society dedicated to improving the health and well-being of individuals and populations worldwide. This comes with a rather longer mission statement than is on the website. The new society would have a structure that is both similar to and different from ASNS at the present. It would have an Executive Board, which would be supported by a staff led by an Executive Officer. The Executive Board would be responsible for the committees and various scientific elements of the society. The scientific elements would include scientific councils—everyone would belong to at least one of these—and research interest sections (RISs), which would include only some of the members and could reflect interests that cross-cut the scientific councils. These RISs would be analogous to the RISs in ASNS today.

Now let’s look at some of this in greater detail. The Joint Council Advisory Group is proposing to adopt the model currently used by ASCN, which provides a longer period of engagement for the person who will be President. It’s still a 1-year term as President. The governing structure also explicitly includes the scientific interests of the members. All members will join at least 1 scientific council, so that everyone will have a home that is smaller than the society as a whole. We will start with at least 3 of these scientific councils and expect that this number will grow over time. The size of these councils is also arbitrary, as it is unknown how you will choose to distribute yourselves among them when they are available. The scientific councils could not be separately incorporated societies, which would eliminate the major structural problem in the current relationship between ASNS and ASCN. In addition, both the councils and the RIS groups will be electing voting members of the Executive Board. The Joint Council Advisory Group proposes to expand the current criteria for membership and thus expand our membership. In addition, we will preserve all current awards and retain the RISs as 1 indicated. They’ve had a strong role in programming Experimental Biology, which we will retain, and we are proposing to improve their link to the governing structure. The size of the RIS groups will vary, and the relationships between RISs and elements of the society can take many forms—within a scientific council, between scientific councils, among scientific councils, having joint membership among them, sort of half in and half out of the new structure—which is how the International Society for Research on Milk and Lactation currently functions.

In this proposal, the Joint Council Advisory Group has eliminated duplicate committees and tried to identify places of synergy by, for example, combining the graduate and professional education committees. ASCN and ASNS can be proud of their two fine journals, and this proposal would preserve their unique character and editorial independence. The management of the new society would look for opportunities for savings that could accrue from the joint fiscal management of these publications. All of these changes that I have described here have financial implications for the proposed society; obligatory expenses would be reduced, and having multiple journals with different target audiences would afford us some buffer in today’s difficult publishing environment.

The Guiding Coalition employed a financial consultant, John Rice, who has long experience with FASEB societies, to provide an estimate of the kinds of costs and savings that might accrue from consolidation. After one-time costs, he estimated that a savings of $200,000 would be realized. These savings could be used to reduce operating costs or deployed to provide desired services to members.

Thus, overall, the Councils feel that for both ASNS and ASCN, consolidation of our two societies offers improvement over our current situation. This is true in terms of what we will be able to accomplish toward our shared vision of being the leading nutrition society dedicated to improving the health and well-being of individuals and populations worldwide as well as our financial ability to achieve this vision.

I recognize that this proposal is controversial and some of you oppose it. From the comments that I have heard and the others that the Joint Advisory Group has received, I also recognize that many of you find this to be something worth supporting. For those of you who wonder if this would work if we approved it, I have good news to report. I have been pleased with the outcomes in which ASNS and ASCN have had to cooperate this year, as well as in some instances where teamwork was not required, (but certainly was desirable), I have observed a positive spirit of cooperation that gives me great optimism for the future. I know that we have it in us to work together for the betterment of nutrition research in this country. I hope that you will give the Councils’ proposal for consolidation your
careful and thoughtful consideration as a way to achieve our goals.

To give the greatest number of our members the opportunity to vote on this proposal, the Councils have elected to use a mail ballot so that you will not be asked to vote on this proposal during this meeting. The vote will be on the proposed bylaws with an accompanying ballot to determine the name of the new society. The ballot will provide you with a copy of the bylaws on which you will vote as there are likely to be some minor changes before the vote. We encourage you to provide your very best ideas for names for the new society to any member of the Joint Council Advisory Group.

I would like to end with a note of thanks. ASNS could not have accomplished as much as it has this year without the hard work of many of you. I would particularly like to acknowledge our Council, the Guiding Coalition, and the Joint Council Advisory Group for service above and beyond the call of duty. Not only has this year demanded a lot from its members, it has also demanded a lot from the fine staff of ASNS office led by Dick Allison. Speaking for myself and on your behalf, I thank them sincerely.

As I noted last year, ASNS exists to provide its members a way of sharing their interests and expertise in the science of nutrition with one another and the world. It is essential for our long-term future that we make changes to our organization if we are to be able to continue to achieve our scientific goals. As one person noted on Saturday, in addition to what we might want to preserve, we need to adapt, evolve, and grow.

In developing the proposal on which you will soon be asked to vote, the Councils wanted a structure that was flexible and would be able to meet the unique needs of our various scientific subgroups. We also wanted to develop a society that would be recognized by the outside world as the voice of nutrition researchers in the United States. The Councils felt that by restructuring we would have a society of greater vitality, strength, and unity, and, as a result we would all be better able to achieve our goals as nutrition researchers.

Again, I thank you for giving me exciting and challenging opportunities as your president. It has been my privilege to serve you this year.

The floor is now open for 15 minutes, during which you may make comments or ask questions. To permit as many people as possible to speak during this short period, please limit your comments to 2 minutes. The Parliamentarian has a timer. I will recognize opposing points of view in turn. If you wish to speak, please come to the microphone and identify yourself when it is your turn. There is one microphone in the front center aisle.

**John Suttie:** For 2000 people, we do not need 3 governing structures. So I think that we should have one society. I have a major concern with the current plan in that it does not tell us what the Councils are going to do. If the Councils are a mechanism for seeking input from people with certain expertise that then will be acted upon and disseminated by the governing structure, I think that is fine. If the Councils are going to maintain the same degree of independence that the current divisions do, I don't think we have made a step anywhere. I think we are right where we are today. So I think it will be very helpful if, before you ask people to vote, you clearly define what a Council is in terms of what they are going to do. That would help a little, but I still take your point. You are not happy with that. We will respond to that.

**Robert Olson:** I feel like Senator Byrd addressing the U.S. Senate. As you know, for the past 2 days I have been making speeches opposing this merger because I think the very point which John Suttie has made about what the Councils are going to do applies very specifically to the American Society for Clinical Nutrition. We have been an organization that basically is autonomous, was incorporated before it was included in the AIN as a division, and has run its own business with its own journal, with its own funds, and with the support of a number of biologists, 100% of them physicians to start with and more recently human nutritionists. I visualize this merger as primarily a device to destroy the ASCN as an autonomous unit and become a council with unknown powers. It is clear from the discussion you have given today that the governing council (the Executive Board) will be the council in charge; you will receive the funds; you will dispose monies as you please; the composition will change from time to time, but there will be more stability, as you point out; and the question is, how will the American Society of Clinical Nutrition or its remnant, operating as a council, be able to improve clinical investigation of nutritional problems, either with physicians or Ph.D.s? Another disturbing point in your proposal is to actually reduce the research potential of this organization by admitting physicians with no research record and biologists with out a Ph.D. degree. That means to me that you are diluting the society to improve politics but to decrease science.

**Kevin Fritsche, chair of the Joint Membership Committee:** We had a committee meeting this morning. We discussed this proposal as a committee and are supportive of the efforts to do something to address the lack of growth of this organization. The committee at this time believes that it would be in the best interests of the organization to actually open up our membership to people who don't necessarily have a Ph.D. degree or an M.D. We believe we should maintain the 3 different categories where there are full members and associate members and student members and that the associate membership category would be opened up to people with interests in nutrition research but not necessarily advanced degrees. We feel that the organization would not be weakened but, in fact, would be invigorated by the increased participation. The structure of the society could include mechanisms to protect and promote the core research mission of this organization. Some examples of potential members might be lab technicians.

**Nancy Loo:** I can't agree more with the previous speaker. I am looking at some data that I picked up at the door and I see that the regular membership is actually declining. I have been a member of ASNS for 20 years. I know that the philosophy of the organization has been that small is beautiful. I have always been proud to be one of its members. But, throughout the years, my RD students have become members of ADA. ADA members do not attend this meeting. This is one of the issues: since we are enlarging our society, I would like to see us include more nutrition-related organizations so we can contribute together.

**Ronnen Roubenoff:** I think that the historical changes that have happened over the last 50 years in both the clinical society and in the ASNS are what are being recognized now. This reorganization has both an internal and an external purpose. The external purpose, I think, is to recognize that the ASCN, which started out as 100% physicians, is now about 30% physicians, and that most of the ASCN members do work that is essentially indistinguishable from the non-ASCN membership of ASNS. So I think that in part what we are seeing is...
a structure that is historically rooted but not necessarily par-
ticularly functional, and that the concerns about what the
councils will do, which are natural, are really suggesting that
there is some sort of external takeover. There isn’t really. I am
not particularly worried about how it will go. We have some
safeguards in there about how the money flows, so the councils
do have proportional representation financially as well as on
the Executive Board. On the extrinsic side, the reason that we
have gone this far down this road is because of the recognition
of what the obesity epidemic has done to nutrition; what the
AIDS epidemic did to infectious disease. It has taken what was
a very small and sleepy area and put it front and center in the
middle of a hurricane. I expect that if we want to have a voice
in how scientific progress will be made, we need to have that
ability to grow and become one voice. The science in the
future of biology is going to be much more like physics— big
science with big projects—and it is not necessarily going to be
little one-man shows as it has been in the past. I think that is
why we need to be able to not have the voice of nutrition lost
in the disease-specific societies that will otherwise take over
this policy area.

Charles Halsted: I have a concern that one of the prin-
ciples or goals of the ASCN is not stated clearly in this vision;
that is the education of future doctors in nutrition principles
and in the education of practicing physicians.

Kathleen Rasmussen: This is in the purpose mission state-
ment that is in the bylaws.

Charles Halsted: I still have concerns because with the
council structure, though there will be a council on medical
nutrition, it is not clear what priorities will be given and what
resources will be allocated for this particular ASCN goal,
which will then be incorporated into the society. It is all very
well and good to say we will have this in the structure, but it
doesn’t really say how you argue for the funds to carry it out,
like the physician nutrition scientist program. Is this some-
thing that will have to be negotiated each year, or is this built
into the society the same way as it is into the ASCN?

Sam Klein: What we have learned the last couple of days
here, plus the purpose of having the bylaws put on the website,
is to get feedback from members as to what is important.
I think that this issue that we have become very appreciative of—
the importance of medical nutrition—has really stood up
above many of the rest, and I think that we should understand
that what is now on the website and what you see is not the
final version. We will take these into consideration to make
those changes and safeguard medical nutrition for the future
potential society.

Robert Cousins: I think it is time that we do more forward.
I think we need to establish a 1-person, 1-vote policy. It is very
good to have multiple interests, but I don’t think you should
be able, because of those multiple interests, to have 2 or 3
votes on an issue or on an elected position.

Kathleen Rasmussen: It is structured as you have de-
scribed it.

Secretary’s report—Sharon Donovan

This is just a brief summary of the actions of the Council in
the past year. Most of our activities were tied up with the
Guiding Coalition and establishing the Joint Council Advis-
sory Group. We also, as a society, adopted a position in
opposition to the NIH policy on public access, like many other
scientific societies, however unsuccessfully. We carried out a
travel grant program to support the International Congress of
Nutrition; both Councils allocated funds and monies from an
NIH grant. We established a minority affairs committee,
which is chaired by Kristie Lancaster, and supported travel
awards for students to this EB meeting. We formed an agree-
ment with Ajinimoto to establish an award in honor of our esteemed colleague, Vernon Young, in the area of protein
and amino acid metabolism. The award will be given for the
first time in 2006. So look for that notice in the Call for Nomina-
tions in The Journal of Nutrition. Also, when Dale Bauman was
president, he negotiated for a teaching award in nutrition.
This will also be given for the first time at the award ceremony
in 2006. Also this year at EB, with our colleagues in ASCN,
we jointly sponsored a media reporting and interpretation
award, which was supported by the joint PIC committee and
was given last evening to Sally Squires.

In our membership figures we are continuing to see a very
good and strong increase in our student and associate numbers.
We need to consider how our society is going to retain and
continue to get these young people to carry our future forward.
They really are our future. Our membership is relatively stable,
although we actually went down a bit this year. Overall, our
membership numbers have been fairly constant for the last
several years.

I will now read the names of the members who have passed
away during the last year and I would ask, at the end, for a
moment of silence.

Lynn D. Abbott, Richmond, VA
Aaron Arnold, Alameda, CA
George K. Davis, Gainesville, FL (Fellow)
Peter Furst, Bonn, Germany (Fellow)
Annette T. Gormican, Roseville, MN
William J. McGanity, Galveston, TX
Helen G. Oldham, State College, PA (Fellow)
David Sklan, Rehovot, Israel
Clive E. West, Wageningen, The Netherlands
Jong-Tseng Yen, Clay Center, NE

I’d like to introduce the brave individuals who agreed to
run for office. We had 779 ballots counted, which is typical of
our elections. Elected for ASNS Council: President-Elect,
Joanne Lupton; Councilor, Jack Odle; Secretary, Susan K.
Fried. Our nominating committee, which will be chaired by
Linda Meyers, includes Douglas G. Burrin, William H. Dietz,
Linda J. Wykes, and Susan M. Hutson. It should be noted that,
if the Council does reorganize, these officers will not take
office. We will likely go into a transitional structure with
elections to be held at a later date.

Because of an existing protocol, which resolves that the
American Society for Nutritional Sciences wishes to recognize
the contribution of these members to the nutrition community
and orders that biographical statements on the Fellows of the
Society be placed in the Proceedings as a permanent record,
this follows:

George K. Davis was born in Pittsburgh, PA on July 2,
1910. He received his B.S. from Penn State University in
1932; his Ph.D. from Cornell University in 1937. He served
from 1933 to 1937 as an assistant in nutrition at Cornell; as
Assistant Professor at Michigan State University from 1937
to 1942; and after that his career continued at the Univer-
sity of Florida at Gainesville for 38 years. He became
emeritus in 1979. During his active research career, Dr.
Davis authored or coauthored over 250 scientific publica-
tions and 300 popular articles. His early work pioneered the
use of radioactive isotopes in nutrition research. He made
major contributions to knowledge of the role of chelation
in trace element nutritional availability and the metabo-
lism of micronutrients. While at Florida Dr. Davis was
successively Director of Nuclear Sciences, Director of Biological Sciences, and Director of Sponsored Research. He supervised the nutrition component of USDA’s Competitive Research Grants Program. Dr. Davis received many awards, including the AIN Borden Award in 1964. He was a member of the National Academy of Sciences (NAS), served as Chairman of the Board of Agriculture and Renewable Resources for NAS-NRC, and was active in international scientific affairs as Chair of the U.S. Committee for the International Union of Nutrition Sciences, as well as the President of the XII International Congress of Nutrition.

Peter Furst was born in Budapest on April 17, 1936. He studied music for 7 years in his native city, before registering in the Medicine School of Budapest. Nevertheless, the events that happened in 1956 in his country prevented him from graduating. Along with other Hungarians who had supported the overthrown government of Imre Nagy, he was forced to emigrate, first to Austria and later to Sweden. In Sweden, he studied medicine at the Karolinska Institute and completed his doctorate in biochemistry at the University of Stockholm. He held several positions, one of special note—Director of the Metabolic Research Laboratory of the Hospital Saint Erik, Stockholm (from 1972 to 1981). In the 1980s, Dr. Furst settled in the city of Stuttgart, where he served as university professor and head of the Department of the Institute of Biological Chemistry and Nutrition at the University of Hohenheim. Dr. Furst worked in multiple fields related to nutrition, particularly in the metabolism of amino acids and peptides. He published over 501 articles.

Dr. Furst also worked in underdeveloped countries—Guatemala, Maldives, and Ethiopia—where he established nutritional programs for the community. He was dedicated to the mentoring of new nutritionists. He is credited with the establishment of the European Society of Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition (ESPEN). After its foundation, Dr. Furst supported the overthrown government of Imre Nagy, he was forced to emigrate, first to Austria and later to Sweden. In Sweden, he studied medicine at the Karolinska Institute and completed his doctorate in biochemistry at the University of Stockholm. He held several positions, one of special note—Director of the Metabolic Research Laboratory of the Hospital Saint Erik, Stockholm (from 1972 to 1981). In the 1980s, Dr. Furst settled in the city of Stuttgart, where he served as university professor and head of the Department of the Institute of Biological Chemistry and Nutrition at the University of Hohenheim. Dr. Furst worked in multiple fields related to nutrition, particularly in the metabolism of amino acids and peptides. He published over 501 articles.


Helen G. Oldham was born in Iowa and received her B.S. degree from Iowa State University in 1925. She earned her M.S. degree and then her Ph.D. (1939) at the University of Chicago. As a research associate in the Department of Pediatrics at Chicago, her work on the iron requirement of infants, published in 1937, was definitive. It became the basis for the U.S. government’s Recommended Dietary Allowances in 1945 and continued to be cited through 6 revisions. Dr. Oldham became Assistant Professor in the University of Chicago’s Department of Home Economics in 1940 and Associate Professor in 1948. Her work on riboflavin and thiamin requirements has become classic, and these studies have been used in the formulation of the RDA for decades. Perhaps the most prescient of Dr. Oldham’s research studies were those on the effect of energy intake on nitrogen utilization during pregnancy. The results were published in 1951. Dr. Oldham pointed out the lower limit of energy intake required for adequate utilization of protein during pregnancy; by the 1980s the full impact of this work became apparent.

Dr. Oldham taught and directed the research activities of many graduate students in the Department of Home Economics at the University of Chicago. When the department was disbanded in 1952, she joined the Human Nutrition Research Branch of the USDA in Beltsville, MD. She was responsible for contracted research until her retirement in 1967. She worked closely with nutritionists all over the country in the design of studies, the laboratory methods employed, and the interpretation and presentation of data. Policy at that time did not permit the names of USDA nutritionists to appear on publications and, as a result, many other significant contributions are identified with Dr. Oldham only in the memories of those with whom she collaborated, particularly on problems of amino acid and lipid utilization.

Dr. Oldham was a member of a special mission to Germany following World War II and was an honorary member of the Friends of the University of Heidelberg. She joined AIN in 1946; was a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and a member of Sigma Xi and Iota Sigma Pi.

Treasurer’s report—Penny Kris-Etherton

You have a copy of the ASNS budget (Table 1) and I would like to direct your attention to the 2 columns in the middle: Budget 2004 and Actual 2004. But before I begin, I have a couple of very general comments. First, in terms of our audited budget for 2003, everything is in place, neat and tidy. Our 2004 budget is currently being audited. Second, because we have such a strong budget, there is no reason to have a dues increase. We have not recommended a dues increase for about 10 years. Overall, the revenue flow is really good and we have revenue over expenses. We are about $130,000 ahead. When you look at sources of revenue, just note that our major sources are from membership and, as you heard from Sharon, our numbers are holding strong though there are shifts in the membership categories. We are doing very well in terms of revenue from the annual meeting, and, in fact, that is why we are about $100,000 ahead in terms of our actual budget for 2004 compared to what was budgeted. And so we received an additional $100,000 from our 75th gala celebration last year. I would like to note a very significant resource—the EB meeting. In addition, our journal is really keeping us very strong. One other thing to point out is that we are doing very well on our investments. You can see the figures for realized gains on investments and unrealized gains on investments in the budget statement. We do not have those numbers for 2004 because we do not see them until the budget is audited. Over a 5-year period from December 31, 1999 until December 31, 2004 our assets are up 32.7%—much better than the stock index. In fact the NASDAQ index during that period of time is down 45.5%. We are doing extremely well. All in all, we have about $2.8 million in investments.

FASEB report—Bruce Bistrian

ASNS is one of the 22 members of the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB), which advocates and conducts activities on a number of public affairs issues, some of which I will go through briefly today. I have been your representative to the FASEB Board and to the FASEB Public Affairs Executive Committee for several years. We make recommendations to the major funding agencies, recommending $200 million for the National Research Initiative for the Competitive Grants Program; the creation of a national institute of food and...
agriculture with a budget of $240 million; a 6% increase for NIH, which of course was not realized. The President’s 2006 budget provides an increased amount of money for the Nutrition Research Initiative as well as increasing the indirect costs from the present 25% to be now competitive with what NIH provides. However, there is a planned phase-out of Hatch-McIntyre-Stennis fund programs in animal health and disease—the land-grant colleges. I’ve heard today that this is at least on hold for the next year but is something that needs to be addressed by your society as well as FASEB in the future.

One of the things we’ve addressed this year is the NIH policy on public access. You’ve heard about this: in the future, when research is funded by the NIH, authors are being requested to voluntarily submit their final approved manuscript to PubMed Central, for release to the public. This has some implications for the journals and the JN and AJCN are both going to comply with the regulation. There are some conflict-of-interest rules, which were just released, and we had serious concerns about making NIH scientists, in-house scientists, being competitive. Hopefully these conflict-of-interest rules will be amended over time. FASEB has undergone the rigors of a strategic plan; we are in the final stages of approval and just beginning implementation. The changes you see were to increase transparency and the participation of the full Board, and we have done things to improve our financial status. We will have a dues increase, which will have some impact; it will be minimized so that it can never increase more than 30% in one year. The other issues that we have addressed this year are stem cells, training and career opportunities, animal rights issues, visa clearances, and a new editor for the FASEB Journal.

Public Policy Committee report—Patsy Brannon

I want to begin with a major activity that the Public Policy Committee has undertaken this year, which is to develop a policy action plan. The feature of this plan, which is in process now, is to become strategic and proactive. There is a strong sense that we’ve been very reactive in our policy efforts. We need to be proactive. We’re identifying goals and objectives and actions that will allow us to plan our activities as well as an annual process for establishing priorities—particularly allowing us to be flexible to hot-button issues but also to have ongoing multiyear efforts related to policy. We have done this with participation from the ASCN Public Affairs Committee and with SINR. We are working together with them and finalizing a plan to submit this to Council in June.

In addition to this, we have a number of ongoing legislative advocacy activities. Chief among these relate to the NIH and USDA budgets. We’ve done this in conjunction with FASEB and CoFARM. We’ve also worked on nutrition monitoring in conjunction with the coalition and I’d like to note that ASN’s was the lead organization in securing Congressman Hinchey’s support for the nutrition monitoring, which was a major and important effort. We’ve been active on agency policy issues, chief among them at NIH related to conflict of interest and open access, and we worked on open access with our publications committee. We’ve also submitted a nomination for the NICHD Advisory Council. Related to FDA, we’ve commented on the bioactive food components definition jointly with ASCN, and we joined a new coalition on food research.
an advocacy coalition, and we are working out the details and priorities of that effort.

The Journal of Nutrition Editor’s report—Catharine Ross

I would like to begin by thanking the Council and the Society for the honor of serving as the 10th editor of The Journal of Nutrition, which was founded in 1928. We are now in the 76th year of publication. I stepped into the large shoes of John Suttie, made comfortable by the fact that The Journal was already in very good shape. Our philosophy for The Journal is “Accepting the best.” In 2004 The Journal received 1271 manuscripts for review, 15% over that in 2003—representing a continuous increase over the last several years. Over 2000 reviews were conducted; 413 manuscripts were accepted and, by and large, these are research articles. They represent publications emanating from 34 countries. The editorial objectives are to maintain The Journal’s reputation for fair, high-quality, and constructive reviews; to increase The Journal’s stature; and to continue to represent the broad interests of the society membership. We publish high-quality research, ranging from articles on humans, animal models, molecular biology, immunology, molecular genetics—as illustrated by The Journal of Nutrition cover illustrations. We’ve published one or two RANS articles in each issue. These are the Recent Advances in Nutritional Sciences that provide excellent scientific updates, and here I would like to thank John Suttie for continuing to edit them.

I would like to encourage those of you who teach to take The Journal of Nutrition into your classroom and show it to your students because it contains a great deal of relevant and exciting science. I’d like to take this opportunity to thank the editors completing their terms, Joanne Lupton and Joe Prohaska. I also want to thank the continuing editors and mention that we have a new person joining in 2005 as an Associate Editor, Jesse Gregory. Thanks also to the members of the Editorial Board and the many ad hoc reviewers who helped The Journal in the last year. I know that many of you are in our audience tonight.

Some selling points for The Journal, because I consider you our salesmen: our turnaround times are favorable; The Journal’s citation index has been increasing; JN reaches the nutritional scientists around the world, and it speaks for nutritional scientists around the world. We want your best papers.

We maintain high-quality editing and production oversight; we publish interesting, high-quality symposia; and that is really the responsibility of Kathy Harden, our Assistant Editor, and Karen King, Director of Communications. They have been invaluable to me in the last year in getting started; additional staff have also been very helpful. We also publish supplements, edited by guest editors. Again, they provide detailed and specialized material that is important to nutritional sciences. Finally, trends in 2005: submissions are up 21% over the first 3 months of this year as compared to the first 3 months of last year. The pages budgeted, however, have not increased and so competition for page space is up. That means that we as editors need to carefully select priority manuscripts. The priority has, in fact, become a bigger issue than it was at one point. We also have to manage effectively. And so, if you, as an author, receive a request to shorten your article, please understand that this is in part pressure that we need to exert. And we are using technology effectively to increase the use of supplementary material that is online only—so that the printed pages can be preserved for the really necessary materials.

In conclusion, we are accepting the best and we would really like to position The Journal of Nutrition as a premier nutritional sciences journal, one of the many science journals published in the United States which represents internationally important work.

Executive Officer’s report—Richard Allison

I want to thank everyone for continuing to keep our abstract submissions for this annual meeting up . . . we seem to creep up a little every year. Great participation! A couple of reminders of the Presidential Lectures still to be presented: at noon tomorrow, Dale Schoeller will be presenting the Atwater Lecture in the Convention Center in Room 6D, and then tomorrow evening David Mangelsdorf will present the final Presidential Lecture, also in the Convention Center, Room 6D. A reception will follow both of these lectures. I remind you that there was a mistake in the publication of the SINR meeting, which begins immediately following this meeting. Kathy reminded you at the beginning of the evening; I’ll remind you again. The meeting is in Marina D of this hotel. I hope to see you next year in San Francisco.

Kathleen Rasmussen: Thanks to the Council members who will be rotating off. Thanks to Dale Bauman, our past president; Sharon Donovan, Secretary; our Treasurer, Penny Kris-Etherton; and our Senior Councilor, Joanne Lupton. (applause)

Incoming President’s Address—Dennis Bier

I have had the opportunity to serve with many society presidents in the course of my academic career. I have had the opportunity to work with Kathleen Rasmussen for a year, and she is absolutely among the best. I think the Society owes her a tremendous debt of gratitude for all the work she has done in the last year. She has also reminded us that some Council members are going to rotate off, and, given the status of the current initiatives of the new society, I am not sure who is going to rotate off!

Some of us are old enough and many of the people in the audience have been lucky enough to have actually seen and heard Pete Seeger when he performed. He was one of the authors of a song that the Weavers used to sing, “Wasn’t That a Time!” Well, in his case, it was really a terrible time. But I think what we have been hearing in the last several days is not a terrible time, but we are thinking about another time. I’ve learned that you can’t have any credibility anymore unless you take a perfectly good English word and add “-omics” to it. So I am calling this postomics. This was the time . . . there were only 4 basic food groups. The NIH had real money. You could get a grant funded with a priority of 300. Academics all met together in Atlantic City. And the elite members were members of the ASCI and the AAP, and people really died to get into those societies, whose meeting totals in the current year are less than the people in this room. There was an Institute of Nutrition, not of Nutritional Sciences. The reason I bring that up is because we have heard from many people who would be disturbed that the word sciences leaves our name. But remember that “sciences” was not in the name of the American Institute of Nutrition, and no one had any problem telling what it did. Its members were primarily Ph.D.s. Most of the medical subspecialty societies were either nonexistent or very small, and the ASCN members were almost all M.D.s, and people trusted their doctor.

The majority of time in science should really be spent looking ahead and not behind. The quote below, which I actually heard in the hallway of an EB meeting about 2 years ago, refers to the nutritionists: “I’ve never seen a discipline that spends so much of its time on the past.” We shouldn’t be spending our time on our past. So what about what I would call A.omics, either ASNS- or ASCNomics? Where have all the physicians gone? Well, they have gone to these subspe-
cialty societies, who now have nutrition councils and nutrition subunits that are far bigger than some of our societies.

I remember very well, at the American Diabetes Association meeting, sitting at a dinner when the American Diabetes Association announced to the approximately 300 elite physicians of that association that they were going to open the membership to nonphysician academics, i.e., diabetes educators, nurse practitioners, and the like. I thought it was the dumbest thing I had ever heard. Well, 30 years have proven me absolutely wrong. Not only has this society grown by leaps and bounds, the level of science has grown, the level of participation has grown, the level of commercial activities has grown. All of these organizations have grown because they have recognized the contributions of all the people who can participate in those subspecialty societies.

In the case of this society, we are all interdisciplinary scientists. We heard about the obesity epidemic. We are not going to solve that without the participation of people like social scientists, behavioral scientists, and others who can contribute their expertise to these areas and make these societies stronger. So, what about futures? At the Council meeting the other day, the Long Range Planning Committee gave us a list of 9 big-picture concepts. Seven out of the 9 are all strengthened by our societies becoming one and speaking with one voice and expanding the membership to the kind of areas that I talked about. This was an assessment by the Long Range Planning Committee that was independent of the Guiding Coalition assessment. I think that they came to a group of activities that are going to require our societies to consolidate and expand the membership in the way we have talked about.

So finally I have come to synergomics, and the brand identity of ASNS and ASCN and SINR is general nutrition, academics, and scholarship. ASCN is not a brand identity described as “primarily medical practice.” It’s academic medical nutrition. The thing that ties us together is the fact we are general nutrition societies. We don’t have a vested interest in one aspect of nutrition. We are all academically inclined and we engage in scholarly activities. In my opinion, these interests are best served by a single society speaking with one voice.

If anyone remembers the last verse of Pete Seeger’s song, isn’t this a time. I think this is the time for us to do this because society, research, nutrition have changed; medical practice has changed. In my opinion, these interests are best served by a single society speaking with one voice.

Kathleen Rasmussen: This meeting is adjourned.

AWARD WINNERS—2005

Dr. Bassaganya-Riera uses the pig as an animal model to study effects of conjugated linoleic acid (CLA) on amelioration of morbidity caused by viral and bacterial infections. His work has suggested mechanisms of action for the anti-inflammatory effects of CLA. He has also shown that prevaccination consumption of CLA enhances the responsiveness to microbial vaccines and also induces functional modifications in porcine CD8 T-cell populations. Dr. Bassaganya-Riera’s work in immunology and nutrition will no doubt lead to new approaches for minimizing the morbidity associated with bacterial and viral disease entities.

The Centrum Center for Nutrition Science Award made available by Wyeth Consumer Healthcare is given in recognition of recent investigative contributions of significance to the basic understanding of human nutrition. It consists of an award of $1500 and an inscribed plaque. The 2005 award is made to James O. Hill, Director, Clinical Nutrition Research Unit, University of Colorado Health Science Center.

Dr. Hill is a well-recognized expert in weight management and behavior. He is the cofounder of the National Weight Control Registry, at the University of Colorado, where he tracks over 3000 people who have lost weight and kept the weight off permanently. In addition to his significant research contributions on obesity and the numerous clinical trials he has designed, coordinated, and published, he has spent the last several years translating the science of weight management into simple programs that work in the community. One of his most recent successes in this regard is a lifestyle program called Colorado on the Move, which has recently become adopted as a national program for lifestyle modification to increase physical activity in order to prevent weight gain—America on the Move. Dr. Hill’s work is particularly relevant as the “obesity epidemic” is broadly being discussed and debated both in the United States and abroad. His research has in part laid the groundwork for a more complete understanding of the scientific foundation of the problem of obesity and how to combat it.

The Conrad A. Elvehjem Award for Public Service in Nutrition is given in recognition of specific and distinguished service to the public through the science of nutrition. The award of $1500 and an engraved plaque is made available by Kraft Foods. In 2005 the award is made to Johanna T. Dwyer, Senior Research Scientist, ODS/NIH.

Johanna T. Dwyer has had an illustrious career in nutrition and public service that spans 30 years. As a scientist and registered dietitian, she has made numerous contributions to nutritional research for which she has been recognized by her peers who awarded her the prestigious USDA W. O. Atwater award for her work on nutritionally related issues of children,

The Bio Serv Award in Experimental Animal Nutrition is given for meritorious research in nutrition by an investigator who received the doctoral degree in the 10 years preceding the month the award is presented. The work recognized must involve the nutrition of experimental animals used as models. The award of $1000 and an inscribed plaque is made available by Bio-Serv, Inc. In 2005 the award is presented to Joseph Bassaganya-Riera, Assistant Professor, Department of Human Nutrition, Foods and Exercise, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.
vegetarians, and the elderly. She has been a pioneer in communicating nutrition to the public; has authored nationwide newspaper columns, as well as over 150 reviews that communicate nutrition to a diverse audience of health professionals. She is the current editor of Tufts University "Nutrition Today" Newsletter, and serves as a nutrition consultant to many popular consumer publications.

Dr. Dwyer has a distinctive record of professional public service. She participated in the early White House conference on nutrition; was a staff assistant in both the House and Senate, where she participated in setting national nutrition policy. More recently she has served as the Assistant Administrator for Human Nutrition for the USDA and is currently working in the NIH Office of Dietary Supplements, where she is helping to set research policy in this evolving area. She is an elected member of the Institute of Medicine, Food Nutrition Board (NAS); has participated in the deliberations of the FDA Center for Science and Applied Nutrition, the Office of the Surgeon General, and the Office of Technology Assessment; has occupied high offices in all the major nutritional professional societies, including ASNS, ASCN, SNE, and ADA. In all of these endeavors, Dr. Dwyer has worked diligently and untringly in the cause of nutrition—always creating and disseminating accurate, meaningful scientific information to the public.

Dr. Xingen Lei has been awarded the Mead Johnson Award for 2005 based upon his pioneering research on selenium-dependent glutathione peroxidase-1 (GPX1), the most abundant biochemical form of body selenium. Dr. Lei has applied the newly developed GPX1 overexpression and knockout mouse models to demonstrate unequivocally that GPX1 is not only protective against acute oxidative stress, but also is a mediator of body selenium for the oxidative protection in mice. His research provides the first direct evidence that GPX1 functions as an antioxidant enzyme in vivo. It has also shown that the protection of GPX1 depends on the level of stress imposed on the animal and the body selenium status. Perhaps the most exciting discovery by Dr. Lei's research team is the development of insulin resistance and obesity in mice overexpressing GPX1. The insulin resistance is associated with significant reductions in the insulin-stimulated phosphorylation of insulin receptor in the liver and Akt in liver and muscle. This is the first report on the development of insulin resistance in mammals with elevated expression of an antioxidant enzyme.

The Osborne and Mendel Award, which is made available by ILSI North America, is given in recognition of outstanding recent basic research in nutrition. The 2005 award, consisting of $2500 and an engraved plaque, is made to Donald B. Jump, Professor of Physiology, Biochemistry, and Molecular Biology, Michigan State University.

Dr. Jump has, in the past decade, significantly advanced our understanding of the important role for dietary PUFAs in gene regulation. Fatty acids’ effects on gene expression are cell-specific and influenced by fatty acid structure and metabolism. Fatty acids interact with the genome through several mechanisms. They regulate the activity or nuclear abundance of several transcription factors. He has identified specific transcription factors including PPAR-α and SREBP-1c involved in PUFA regulation on specific genes, and has ruled out other factors. More recently, he has turned his attention to cell specific metabolism of PUFAs, including regulation of chain elongation and retroconversion of PUFAs, to understand what controls the cell concentrations of the most bioactive PUFAs species. He has published 14 substantial original research contributions to this area of research in the past decade. Dr. Jump has also contributed 19 invited reviews/chapters to the field. His work on fatty acid-regulated pathways has provided insight into the role dietary fat plays in human health and the onset and progression of major chronic diseases, like coronary heart disease, inflammation, diabetes, cancer, and depressive disorders.
Experimental Biology and Animal Science meetings; and introducing people at meetings whom he thinks need to know each other. Dr. Beitz’s students have gone on to successful nutrition science careers in academia, government and industry.

The Peter Reeds Memorial Young Investigator Award, established in 2002, with an initial contribution from the Children’s Nutrition Research Center at Baylor College of Medicine, is awarded in 2005 to Bart Deplancke, Postdoctoral Fellow, Program of Gene Function and Expression, Department of Molecular Medicine, University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester.

The Peter Reeds Memorial Young Investigator Award is given for outstanding research in macronutrient metabolism accomplished within 5 years of receiving a Ph.D. or completing residency training. The $1500 award includes an engraved plaque.

Dr. Deplancke received his master’s degree in bioengineering from Ghent University, Belgium, and his doctoral degree at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign under the mentorship of Rex Gaskins. His doctoral work focused on how host genetic background affects disease outcome in response to bacterial-derived environmental insults. After his graduation in 2002, Dr. Deplancke was nominated as King Baudoin-Belgian American Educational Foundation Fellow, which allowed him to start a postdoctoral fellowship in the functional genomics field (in the laboratory of Marc Vidal at Harvard Medical School) under direct supervision of Marian Walhout. Dr. Deplancke joined Dr. Walhout in 2003 at the University of Massachusetts Medical School, where he is deciphering the transcription regulatory networks underlying intestinal development and homeostasis.

The E.L.R. Stokstad Award is given for outstanding fundamental research in nutrition, with preference to scientists at relatively early stages in their careers. The award of $2500 and an engraved plaque is supported by an endowment from the family of E.L.R. Stokstad. In 2005, the award is made to Xiang-Dong Wang, Associate Professor and Director, Nutrition and Cancer Biology Laboratory, HNRCA at Tufts University.

Dr. Wang is cited for his innovative research on the role of carotenoids in cigarette smoking–related lung carcinogenesis and metabolism of Vitamin A in liver disease. Epidemiological and intervention trials with high doses of β-carotene supplementation in cigarette smokers indicated that paradoxically high doses of β-carotene did not prevent lung cancer but appeared to enhance disease progression. Dr. Wang focused his research efforts on mechanisms of β-carotene stability, conversion to retinoids and other metabolites, and on understanding, at the molecular level, the harmful effects of β-carotene in cigarette smokers. He showed that anticarcinogenic and procarcinogenic responses to β-carotene in people are related to dosage used in intervention trials. In addition he showed that in a free radical–rich environment in lungs of smokers, the β-carotene molecule becomes unstable and retinoid signaling is diminished due to a suppression of the retinoic acid receptor–β gene expression and overexpression of the activator protein–I gene. Dr. Wang also showed that chronic alcoholism leads to impaired retinoid signaling and enhancement of retinoid catalysis. These pioneering studies with carotenoids and retinoids have resulted in new understanding in nutrient–disease interactions and opened avenues for better targeting of disease-prevention strategies.

FELLOWS—2005

The 5-member Fellows Committee selects fellows of the Society. They are scientists who have had distinguished careers in nutrition and are at least 65 years of age.

David Baker, Professor Emeritus of Nutrition and University Scholar, University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign.

Dr. Baker has made significant contributions to the knowledge of nutritional requirements for the bioavailability of nutrients in experimental and food-producing species. His creative research designs have answered difficult questions and his findings have stood the test of time. Although Dr. Baker was elected to Emeritus status in 1999, he continues to maintain a very active research laboratory and accepted a new Ph.D. candidate in the fall of 2004. Also in 2004, he authored over a dozen research papers and still has that burning desire to design the next study. In his career, he has directed 36 students to Ph.D. degrees and 18 to the M.S. degree. For his longtime contributions to the development of numerous successful investigators in nutritional science, Dr. Baker received the 2003 Danon Institute Mentorship Award from ASNS.

Over 35 years of ASNS membership, Dr. Baker has missed but one annual meeting. Among his almost 500 peer-reviewed publications, 90 have been published in The Journal of Nutrition. Among his many contributions to the society, he has served on the Editorial Board of The Journal, on numerous ASNS committees, including the ASNS Council, the History of Nutrition Committee, and the Public Policy Committee.

Bruce Bistrian, Chief, Clinical Nutrition, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School.

Dr. Bistrian has been a powerful force in bringing science to clinical nutrition. Even before he obtained his Ph.D., but already possessing his M.D., his M.P.H., and his green beret for service in Vietnam, Bruce and George Blackburn wrote that famous article on the skeleton in the hospital closet. From then on, and especially after completing his work at MIT with Nevin Scrimshaw, Dr. Bistrian has gone on
to publish a remarkable corpus of studies on various clinical matters.

At Harvard Medical School, he is a superb teacher and master clinician. He has always kept his hand in international matters and continues to provide public service whenever he is asked. His contributions in recent years to the National Academy’s Committee on Military Nutrition have been splendid. It goes without saying that his services to ASNS, to ASCN, and now as incoming FASEB president have been extraordinary.

**Elsworth Buskirk**, Marie Underhill Noll Professor of Human Performance and Director, Noll Laboratory for Human Performance Research, Emeritus, The Pennsylvania State University.

Dr. Buskirk retired in 1992 from the Noll Laboratory and now holds the rank of Emeritus Professor. He has had a distinguished career in both exercise/environmental physiology and nutrition. His general research focus has been on energy turnover, calorimetry, and heat exchange. Early in his career, “Buz” worked on metabolic aspects of semistarvation at the University of Minnesota and for the U.S. Army. Later, while at NIH, he developed and used body composition components as a reference for physiological and nutritional variables. He was recruited to Penn State in 1963 as Professor of Applied Physiology and Director of the Noll Lab. The lab became world renowned during his 30-year tenure as director.

Dr. Buskirk has been a member of ASNS since 1967; served on the editorial board of the American Journal of Clinical Nutrition; and has been honored by other professional societies. His contributions to basic nutrition science are significant.

**Elizabeth Davis**, Assistant Deputy Administrator and Acting Deputy Administrator for Human Nutrition, Food and Social Sciences, Cooperative State Research Service, USDA, retired.

Dr. Davis has had a productive and active career as a university and government scientist. She is probably best known for her ability to work with small groups of scientists toward the common goal of increased support for nutrition research. In her USDA position, she served as a research facilitator and coordinator for regional research programs in land-grant universities. She reviewed university project proposals in nutrition and foods. Dr. Davis traveled nationally and during on-site visits always made researchers aware of similar projects in progress at other universities, giving them an opportunity to see how their research was part of a larger area of study. During this time, the National Research Initiative did not exist. Dr. Davis was the initiative, and she succeeded in getting funds earmarked for grants to nutritional scientists who used developing technologies to study mechanisms of nutrient functions. Studies of vitamin A and essential fatty acids reached new levels of sophistication because of her insight and efforts.

A special and telling piece contributed by Pat Swan, who worked with Dr. Davis at the USDA, is included: In addition to being a good scientist and holding high scientific standards, in her role as an administrator at the USDA for many years, Betsy was a highly effective champion of nutrition research and funding for that research through the land-grant universities. In collaborating with her for a year and a half at USDA, I observed first-hand the significant support she was able to garner for nutrition science.

**Peter Furst**, Institute for Biological Chemistry and Nutrition, University of Hohenheim, Stuttgart (sadly, Dr. Furst died at the end of 2004).

Dr. Furst was internationally recognized for nutrition-related research, particularly related to advances in enteral/parenteral nutrition and in the area of metabolic abnormalities and their nutritional implications in patients with renal disease. More than 300 publications in the Medline 1966-to-date database are attributed to him. Further, he was recognized for his signal contributions through various prestigious awards and recognitions, among which were the Wretlind Lecture of the European Society for Enteral and Parental Nutrition (this society’s highest research award) and the E. V. McCollum International Lecture in Nutrition (delivered at the XVI International Congress of Nutrition in Montreal in 1997).

**Leif Hambraeus**, Professor Emeritus of Nutrition, Faculty of Medicine, Uppsala University, Sweden.

Dr. Hambraeus has been a fundamental leader in the field of nutrition in Sweden, and has had a long and close association with ASNS as well as with many of its members. After completing his Ph.D. and M.D. degrees at the Caroline Institute in Stockholm, Dr. Hambraeus moved to the Department of Pediatrics, Uppsala University hospital, where he established a metabolic unit for the diagnosis and treatment of children with inborn errors of metabolism. Dr. Hambraeus remained at Uppsala University until his retirement in 2001. Since 2002, he has been affiliated with Karolinska Institute, Department of Biosciences at Novum, Unit for Preventive Nutrition.

Dr. Hambraeus’ area of research has been concentrated around energy and protein turnover in humans, including studies on metabolic disorders in amino acid metabolism, nutritional aspects of breast milk composition, as well as of dairy products and vegetable products, with special relevance for global nutrition and nutrition in athletes. He has published more than 370 scientific articles and served as editor or author of 10 books. Recent studies on metabolic disorders led him into the field of nutrition, where he has been using stable isotope technique and direct and indirect calorimetry to study energy and protein interaction and substrate utilization and their relation to physical activity and protein intake in humans. This endeavor has resulted in a very active cooperation with colleagues in the United States, especially with the late professor Vernon Young at MIT.
Joseph (Joe) Hautvast, Emeritus Professor and retired Director of the Wageningen Centre for Food Sciences, The Netherlands.

Dr. Hautvast, for the past 35 years, has worked tirelessly to promote high-quality nutrition research and improve policy in Europe and in developing countries worldwide. Almost single-handedly, Joe built up Nutrition in the Netherlands from obscurity into a generally acknowledged branch of medical science and an important policy subject. The department at Wageningen University, which he created and which he headed for so long, has by now trained some 1500 nutrition scientists, and Wageningen has become a hub of research and development in nutrition. Dutch scientists are now major contributors to the American Journal of Clinical Nutrition, and most of them are pupils of Joe. He has also created chairs of nutrition in many Dutch medical schools, and he made nutrition an integral part of the Netherlands Health Council, which advises the government on health policy. Joe created the European Nutrition Leadership Program (ENLP), an intensive 1-week training, which since 1992 has trained hundreds of young Ph.D.s in leadership techniques. Many trainees have by now moved into responsible positions, and profit greatly from their network of ENLP graduates. ENLP trainings have now been set up on other continents as well. Another creation of his is a 5-month advanced course at Wageningen, which for the past 20 years has trained hundreds of people from Third World countries in food and nutrition sciences—and then allowed them to participate in another of Joe’s programs at Wageningen, the Ph.D. program in nutritional sciences.

Dr. Hautvast has been an unobtrusive but important source of excellent research ideas, which he planted among his staff without demanding much recognition in return.


Dr. Mathias’ commitment to the nutrition profession at the national level culminated with his outstanding performance between 1990 and 2003 in the Cooperative State Research Service (which combined with the Cooperative Extension Service to form the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service—CSREES). As a spokesman for the relevance of nutrition to the food and agriculture and military communities, his involvement included evaluating drafts of reports and preparing background papers on budgetary issues, congressional testimony, GAO fact-finding investigations, proposed legislation, and requests for applications for funding. When Congress combined the research and extension agencies into CSREES, he understood the unique opportunities for nutrition and was a strong advocate for the potential synergies and the scholarly possibilities for the extension faculty. Mel’s support for competitive grants programming within CSREES was undaunted. Several documents supporting the revitalization of Competitive Research Grants Organization as the National Research Initiative were developed. He directed two competitive grants programs legislated by Congress in the area of functional foods; led a workshop demonstrating the synergies when nutrition is joined with the agricultural sciences, as well as when the outreach and research functions are integrated. At the time stakeholder feedback became important to CSREES’ programming, he elicited several statements supporting the nutrition programs. Dr. Mathias played an influential role in showcasing the land-grant universities’ nutrition programs to the federal sectors; and fulfilled another responsibility to CSREES—that of leading teams of nutritionists in the review of academic departments. His scientific interests include linoleic acid and the antioxidant vitamins. He teamed up with numerous researchers to enhance our fundamental understanding of how these nutrients alter eicosanoid metabolism in the normal and several disease states.

Fernando Monckeberg, Dean of the Faculty of Sciences and Health, Universidad Diego Portales, Santiago de Chile.

Dr. Monckeberg has had a long and distinguished career in research and has been responsible for the training and mentoring of a vast number of Chilean and Latin American scientists. He played a key role in the development of research and training institutions in Chile. Dr. Monckeberg covered basic, clinical, and public health aspects of nutritional sciences at various stages of his career. The impact of his work on the social and human development of his native Chile distinguishes him from many others, who may have also excelled as scientists but refrained from taking the bold steps that Dr. Monckeberg took in creating policy and practice from nutritional sciences. He was able to take what he learned or discovered in the laboratory to the community, creating programs and shaping policy, which have led to a reduction in death and disability of the children of Chile and elsewhere. His contributions to society serve to exemplify how nutritional sciences can serve humankind—especially the most vulnerable, independent of the political realities of the moment.

Dr. Monckeberg created an awareness that childhood malnutrition was a critical problem affecting the future of Chile. This led to placing the eradication of malnutrition as a high priority in the national agenda. By the late 1980’s malnutrition as a public health problem was virtually eradicated. In addition to his research and public health work, Dr. Monckeberg was the founding director in 1973 of the Department of Nutrition and Food Technology of the University of Chile, leading to the establishment of the Instituto de Nutrición y Tecnología de los Alimentos (INTA) in 1976. Dr. Monckeberg served as Director of INTA until 1994.
During her time at HHS, her contributions to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion in the United States. Dr. Nestle began her involvement with nutrition policy in 1986. In 1986, she became staff director for nutrition policy in the San Francisco School of Medicine (where she developed a nutrition program). Her tenure is a program unique among nutrition departments in the United States. The food studies program at NYU has formed the scientific background to the 1990 Dietary Guidelines for Reducing Chronic Disease Risk. Dr. Nestle moved to NYU, where she became Chair of the Department of Nutrition. Resulting from her tenure is a program unique among nutrition departments in the United States. The food studies program at NYU has combined the study of the cultural, gustatory, and historical significance of food with an understanding of the science of nutrition.

Dr. Nestle has published extensively: Recent publications include Food Politics, in 2002. In 2003, she followed with the publication of Safe Food, Bacteria, Biotechnology and Bioterrorism. Her focus on public policy issues has made her a widely sought after source for the nation’s press. She is recognized as a credible source by reporters and is quoted extensively in the major news stories dealing with food topics in most of the nation’s leading newspapers and news magazines.

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