Volume OS spring 2012

The Edge

Pushing the Boundaries of Nutrition

Division of Nutritional Sciences - University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign



Recent and Upcoming Events

DNS New Website LaunchFebruary 2012
www.nutritionalsciences.illinois.edu

DNS Recruiting Weekend March 8-10, 2012 Urbana, IL

ACES Funk Awards Ceremony April 16, 2012 Urbana, IL

Kraft Endowed Professorship Investiture April 17, 2012 Urbana, IL

NSGSA Nutrition Symposium April 18, 2012 Urbana, IL

Experimental Biology MeetingApril 21-25, 2012
San Diego, CA

ACES Graduation Ceremony May 12, 2012 Urbana. IL

DNS Regulatory Affairs Summit May 21-22, 2012 Washington, DC

Fall External Advisory Committee Meeting September 19-20, 2012

September 19-20, 2012 Urbana, IL

Fall Nutrition Quiz Bowl October 17, 2012 Urbana, IL



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DNS puts the 'nutrition' in Center for Nutrition, Learning and Memory

When the University of Illinois and Abbott announced the establishment of the new Center for Nutrition, Learning and Memory (CNLM) last year, DNS faculty and students took pride in having introduced Abbott to the university and looked forward to continuing their longstanding relationship.

"Our faculty and students have worked successfully with Abbott for more than 20 years," acknowledged DNS director Rodney Johnson. "Our collaboration on nutrition-related projects has been really successful for them and has offered great opportunities for us."

The new venture, which begins with a five-year, multi-million-dollar commitment, will broaden the field of nutrition science into new territory, with a focus on resources that have rarely been applied to nutrition research. The Center for Nutrition, Learning and Memory will lead directed and solicited research on the impact of nutrition on learning and memory.

"Enhancing learning and memory through nutrition could have truly transformative effects on childhood development and resisting the effects of aging and disease," proposed Neal Cohen, a CNLM director.

CNLM utilizes two world-renowned research facilities on campus, the Institute for Genomic Biology and The Beckman Institute for Advanced Science and Technology, in addition to DNS and the Neurosciences Program.

"Combining Abbott's leadership in science-based nutrition with the best-in-class capabilities at Illinois and the world's best scientific minds in the areas of nutrition, brain, and cognition will allow us to advance unique and meaningful breakthroughs in this area of research," remarked Robert H. Miller, Divisional Vice President for R&D and Scientific Affairs, Abbott Nutrition.

University of Illinois best-in-class capabilities first came to Abbott's attention, Johnson believes, when DNS students interned at Abbott's facility at the U of I Research Park.

"In those years, the company doubled its capacity in Urbana and the number of students working there. When company leadership became interested in looking at how nutrition can affect cognition and brain function, locating the center at U of I was a natural. At Illinois we have fantastic world leaders in cognitive neurosciences and functional imaging," he said.

Sharon Donovan agrees. "This is the fruition of years of quality investment in building a relationship between Abbott and U of I. Although DNS has been a strength on our campus for many decades, in the future I believe that these years in which CNLM was created will be recognized as the time that nutrition truly emerged as a distinctive attribute of research excellence at U of I."

DNS is well represented in both Abbott and CNLM leadership. Keith Garleb, the Abbott Nutrition Director of Global Discovery Research is a Division alum, and former and current DNS directors Donovan and Johnson are on the Center's executive committee.

Johnson is proud of the prestige the Division has developed.

"The Center for Nutrition, Learning and Memory is disseminating an interest in DNS's work across campus, which is terrific for us," Johnson said. "With so many scientists interested in nutrition who have not before participated in such research, there's a fantastic potential for significant breakthroughs in new areas," he said.

By Phyllis Picklesimer

The Edge is published by the University of Illinois Division of Nutritional Sciences

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ACES Information Technology
and Communication Services



A Word from the Director

The Division has a long and successful track record of engaging industry partners (e.g., companies, commodity organizations) in activities that are mutually beneficial. For example, DNS faculty have consistently secured funding from industry to support research, graduate students, post doctorates, and academic professionals, while companies have capitalized on the amazing talents of our faculty, students and staff as well as the technologically advanced facilities available at the Illinois campus. Recently, Kraft Foods earned major name recognition when a distinguished member of our faculty, Dr. Kelly Tappenden, was appointed the new Kraft Foods Endowed Professor of Human Nutrition, and several incoming graduate students were awarded Kraft Fellowships. Further, the Nutrition Symposium organized by the Nutritional Sciences Graduate Student Association was supported with major investments by seven companies and organizations including Abbott, Dairy Research Institute, Kellogg's, Kraft Foods, Mead Johnson Nutrition, Pepsico, and Wrigley. Most sent representatives to participate in a full day of symposium activities. DNS values these partnerships.

Now we have helped forge a new model for industry-university engagement by joining with several interdisciplinary programs and Abbott to establish the Center for Nutrition, Learning and Memory (CNLM). The CNLM is a research initiative designed to support pioneering research on nutritional compound utilization and mechanisms that enhance learning and memory throughout various stages in the lifespan. It is funded by Abbott. In the first year alone, the CNLM funded 13 projects that range from \$175K to \$2.5M. In an amazing demonstration of the interdisciplinary nature of the program, projects selected for funding involve 45 researchers representing 16 Illinois departments or units, from seven Illinois colleges, with collaborators from eight national and international facilities. DNS faculty are well-represented amongst the 13 projects selected for funding - 3 of our faculty are project PIs, and 10 of our faculty members are co-investigators on one or more of the projects.

If companies have new innovative ideas to pursue that are consistent with our goal to be an internationally recognized center of excellence for preparing future leaders in nutrition, we want to talk!

Go Illini!

Rod Johnson

Experimental Biology 2012

University of Illinois Nutrition Mixer

Monday, April 23 ~ 7-9 p.m. Hilton Bayfront San Diego, CA

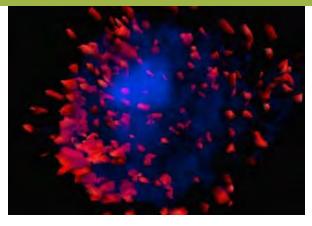
Co-sponsored by

Alum Ed Ulman, Research Diets, Inc.
Division of Nutritional Sciences,
Department of Food Science and
Human Nutrition,
Department of Animal Sciences

DNS Nutrition Policy and Regulatory Affairs Summit

DNS is excited to announce the 2nd annual Nutrition Policy and Regulatory Affairs Summit. This program in Washington, D.C. is ideal for students who are interested in gaining greater exposure to all aspects of nutrition, food policy and regulation. The summit will take place May 21-22, and will provide information on the role of nutritional science in creating food and nutrition policy, discussion of regulatory affairs and consideration of careers in government and industry. In a change from last year's event, this year the Summit will include students from Cornell, Virginia Tech, Purdue and UMASS, which should provide a great opportunity for DNS students to network with graduate students from other institutions who share an interest in nutrition policy/regulatory affairs.

Focus on Research



Research Spotlight

Illinois scientists link dietary DHA to male fertility

By Phyllis Picklesimer

Who knew that male fertility depends on sperm-cell architecture? A University of Illinois study reports that a certain omega-3 fatty acid is necessary to construct the arch that turns a round, immature sperm cell into a pointy-headed super swimmer with an extra long tail.

"Normal sperm cells contain an arc-like structure called the acrosome that is critical in fertilization because it houses, organizes, and concentrates a variety of enzymes that sperm use to penetrate an egg," said Manabu Nakamura, a U of I associate professor of biochemical and molecular nutrition.

The study shows for the first time that

....when DHA was

introduced into the

mice's diet, fertility was

completely restored.

docosahexaenoic acid (DHA) is essential in fusing the building blocks of the acrosome together. "Without DHA, this vital structure doesn't form and sperm cells don't work," said Timothy Abbott, a doctoral student who co-authored the study.

Men concerned about their fertility may wonder what foods contain DHA. Marine fish, such as salmon or tuna, are excellent sources of this omega-3 fatty acid.

The scientists became intrigued with DHA's role in creating healthy sperm when they experimented with "knockout" mice that lack a gene essential to its synthesis. "We looked at sperm count, shape, and motility, and tested the breeding success rate. The male mice that lacked DHA were basically infertile," Nakamura said.

But when DHA was introduced into the mice's diet, fertility was completely restored. "It was very striking. When we fed the mice DHA, all these abnormalities were prevented," he said.

The scientists then used confocal laser scanning (3D) microscopy to look at thin slices of tissue in progressive stages of a sperm cell's

development. By labeling enzymes with fluorescence, they could track their location in a cell.

"We could see that the acrosome is constructed when small vesicles containing enzymes fuse together in an arc. But that fusion doesn't happen without DHA," he said.

In the absence of DHA, the vesicles are formed but they don't come together to make the arch that is so important in sperm cell structure, he noted.

Nakamura finds the role this omega-3 fatty acid plays in membrane fusion particularly exciting. Because DHA is abundant in specific

tissues, including the brain and the retina as well as the testes, the scientists believe their research findings could also impact research relating to brain function and vision.

"It's logical to hypothesize that DHA is involved in vesicle fusion elsewhere in the body, and because

the brain contains so much of it, we wonder if deficiencies could play a role, for example, in the development of dementia. Any communication between neurons in the brain involves vesicle fusion," he noted.

The Illinois scientists will continue to study sperm; meanwhile, Nakamura has sent some of his DHA-deficient knockout mice to other laboratories where scientists are studying DHA function in the brain and the retina.

The study was published in a recent issue of Biology of Reproduction. Co-authors are Manuel Roqueta-Rivera, Timothy L. Abbott, Mayandi Sivaguru, and Rex A. Hess, all of the U of I. The work was supported in part by a CONACyT Mexico fellowship award.

About Professor Manabu Nakamura



Dr. Nakamura's research interests focus on biochemical and molecular nutrition, metabolism and function of polyunsaturated fatty acids, gene regulation by macronutrients, dietary treatment of obesity and prevention of cardiovascular disease and nutrition education.

Polyunsaturated fatty acids (PUFAs) and their metabolic products are essential for a variety of physiological functions in the body. However, the function of an omega-3 PUFA, docosahexaenoic acid (DHA) is not well understood although DHA is enriched in brain, retina and testis in humans. The current focus of the Nakamura lab is to elucidate the function of DHA using gene-knockout mice our lab has created. The study will provide a basis for dietary recommendations of PUFAs in various stages of our life cycle.

2012 ACES Louis V. **Logeman Graduate Student Teaching Award**

Emily Radlowski

2012 ACES Graduate **Student Research Award**

Michelle Johnson

2012 Margin of **Excellence Travel Award Recipients**

Jennifer Barnes Jill Burdette Lauren Conlon Dipti Dev Amy Elsen Shelly Hester Hannah Holscher Michelle Johnson Jodee Johnson Katherine Kerr Naiman Khan Kilia Liu Emily Radlowski Elizabeth Reznikov **Brendon Smith Anthony Wang**

Travel funds provide the opportunity for students to travel to national and international scientific conferences to present their research and interact with leading researchers and other graduate students.

Krystle Zuniga

2012 Endowed Student **Award Recipients**

David H. Baker Nutrition **Scholar Award:** Hannah Holscher

James L. Robinson Nutrition **Impact Award:**

Jennifer Barnes

Toshiro Nishida Research Travel Award:

Timothy Abbott Lauren Conlon

William C. Rose Research **Travel Award:**

Claudia Luevano Contreras Dipti Dev Michelle Johnson Katherine Kerr Krystle Zuniga

Frank W. Kari Memorial **Travel Award:**

Amy Elsen Peter Fitschen Naiman Khan Nathan Pratt Joshua Smith



Student Recognition

2012 Margin of Excellence Research Fund Recipients

Research funds support research conducted by students and provide them with experience in preparing research proposals. Students are selected by the quality of the proposed research and are provided \$400 to \$1,000.

Gabriel Chiu (M.S. Freund)

Adenosine Receptor-induced activation of Caspase-1 during hypoxia & reoxygenation

Lauren Conlon (M.S. Erdman)

Prevention of prostate cancer metastasis by dietary interven-

Amy Elsen (M.S. Erdman)

Hepatic mRNA expressions of PPARS and their target

Peter Fitschen (Ph.D. Wilund)

Effects of intrafialytic protein supplementation and endurance exercise on co-morbid disease in hemodialysis patients

Heather Mangian (Ph.D. Tappenden)

Butyrate induced up-regulation of intestinal glucose transport and signaliing pathways in vivo represents possible nutrient therapy for individuals with malabsorptive

Morgan Moon (M.D./Ph.D. Freund)

Biobehavioral disruption by the diabesity-associated neuroimmune stimulus, palmitic acid

Nathan Pratt (Ph.D. Nakamura)

Incorporation of the Four Nutrient Profiling System (4NPS) into an education program for sustained weight loss

Joshua Smith (M.S. Erdman)

Investigation of the effects of dietary carotenoids on prostatic peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor gamma (PPARy) signaling in mice with altered carotenoid metabolism

Anthony Wang (M.S. Teran-Garcia)

Investigating the role of genetic variations in the transcriptional activation of Gpr41 and Gpr42

Krystle Zuniga (Ph.D. Erdman)

Tomato and soy germ for prevention of metastasis of Prostate Cancer

2011 Nutritional Sciences Gamma Sigma Delta Awards Banquet



Focus on Students



Student News

Awards, Service and Personal Achievements

- Jennifer Barnes (PhD, Tappenden) received the Harry M. Vars Research Award from the American Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition, the Promising Investigator Award from the American Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition, the James L. Robison Nutrition Impact Award from DNS, and holds a Ruth L. Kirschstein Fellowship. Barnes serves on the American Society for Nutrition as the Student Interest Group Liaison to the Graduate and Professional Education Committee.
- Michelle Johnson (MS, de Mejia) was selected as winner of a College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Science 2012 Graduate Student Research Award. Johnson also received the Graduate College Spring 2012 Conference Travel Grant and the 2012 William Rose Endowed Award. She also had her research published in the December 2011 Journal of Food Science and continues to serve on the NSGSA Fundraising Committee.
- Katherine Kerr (PhD, Swanson) serves as a student liaison for the Comparative Nutrition Society Board of Directors, and is a Companion Animal Program Committee Member with the American Society of Animal Science. Kerr received the AYRE International Research and Learning Fellowship Award for research in New Zealand and the 2011 IIC Pinnacle Award for outstanding work in the field of animal nutrition.
- Anthony Wang (MS, Teran-Garcia) was accepted into the UIUC Medical Scholars Program and is now an MD-PhD student
- Fang Yang (PhD, Schook) gave birth to a baby boy, Frank Jiang on January 23rd Congrats!
- Krystle Zuniga (PhD, Erdman) is currently the Student Representative to the ASN Food and Nutrition Sciences Solutions Task Force

DNS Students on the UIUC List of Teachers Ranked as Excellent Spring 2011 Summer 2011 Fall 2011

Ghazal Naseri Kouzehgarani CPSC 440 Applied Statistical Methods I <u>CPSC 542 Applied Statistical Methods II</u>

Jennifer Barnes - FSHN 220 Principles of Nutrition

Hannah Holscher - FSHN 220 Principles of Nutrition

Emily Radlowski - FSHN 220 Principles of Nutrition Emily Radlowski - FSHN 120 Contemporary Nutrition

Emily Tomayko - FSHN 120 Contemporary Nutrition Food Chemistry Laboratory

Amy MacInnes - FSHN 302 Sensory Evaluation of Foods

Michelle Johnson - FSHN 416

Results for the "List of Teachers Ranked as Excellent" are based on Instructor and Course Evaluation (ICES) questionnaire forms maintained by Measurement and Evaluation, UIUC Center for Teaching Excellence.

2012 Business Administration Certificate Scholarship Recipients

Gabriel Chiu • Dipti Dev • Amy Elsen • Nathan Pratt • Jennifer Rytych

The University of Illinois College of Business Certificate in Business Administration program is designed to provide non-business graduate students with a strategic framework for making informed business decisions. The course offers a concentrated, detailed program that examines an array of topics such as: marketing, financial management, organizational behavior and leadership, innovation technology and management, business ethics. Scholarships for this program are sponsored by Abbott Nutrition.

2011 DNS Graduates

December Graduates

- Ghazal Naseri Kouzehgarani: MS Advised by Karen Chapman-Novakofski
- Emily Tomayko: PhD Advised by Kenneth Wilund
- Yingying Wang: MS
 Advised by Margarita Teran-Garcia
- Gabriel Wilson: PhD Advised by Donald Layman



Officers (I to r): Joshua Smith, Brendon Smith, Naiman Khan, Amy MacInnes, Nathan Pratt, Elizabeth Reznikov, Jane Naberhuis, Amy Elsen, and Gabriel Chiu

NSGSA Officers

Nathan Pratt Chair

Jane Naberhuis
Co-Chair

Amy Elsen Treasurer

Joshua Smith Co-Treasurer

Amy MacInnes
Secretary

Elizabeth Reznikov Media Representative

Brendon Smith
Student Representative
to Faculty

Naiman Khan Grievance Committee Representative

Gabriel Chiu
Networking Chair

2011-2012 DNS Executive Committee

Alan M. Diamond
Professor
Dept. of Pathology
College of Medicine
University of Illinois-Chicago

Sharon M. Donovan Professor of Nutrition/ Melissa M. Noel Chair in Nutrition and Health Dept. of Food Science and Human Nutrition College of ACES

John W. Erdman, Jr. Professor of Nutrition Dept. of Food Science and Human Nutrition College of ACES

Gregory G. FreundProfessor and Head
Department of Pathology
College of Medicine

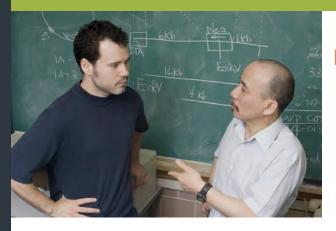
Kelly A. Tappenden
Professor of Nutrition and
Gastrointestinal Physiology
Dept. of Food Science
and Human Nutrition
College of ACES

Matthew A. Wallig Professor of Comparative Pathology Dept. of Pathobiology College of Veterinary Medicine

Kenneth R. Wilund Associate Professor Dept. of Kinesiology and Community Health College of Applied Health Sciences

Jeffrey A. Woods
Professor of Kinesiology
Dept. of Kinesiology
and Community Health
College of Applied
Health Sciences

Brendon Smith
Ph.D. Candidate
Erdman/O'Brien Labs



Faculty Updates

John Erdman received the Dannon Institute Mentorship Award at Experimental Biology 2012

Nicki Engeseth received the 2012 William V. Cruess Award from the Institute of Food Technologists and the Northern California Section of IFT. This award honors an IFT member who has achieved excellence in teaching food science and technology. Engeseth will receive the award at the IFT Annual Meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada in June 2012.

Sharon Donovan served as President of American Society for Nutrition for 2011-2012, during which time the society updated its Strategic Map for 2012-2015. She will serve as Past-President and will focus her efforts on launching the ASN Learning Library of Education Resources and becoming involved in the ASN Foundation. Donovan's NIH-funded research was highlighted in the October 2011 edition of *Innovation International*, which is Research Media's publication for the wider dissemination of research findings to the scientific, technology and medical communities. The Healthcare issue had a special focus on NIH/NICHD funded projects.

James Drackley was listed on the "List of Teachers Ranked as Excellent by Their Students" for his Fall 2011 ANSC 420 Ruminant Nutrition course.

Charles Hillman received the 2011 Applied Health Sciences Excellence in Guiding Undergraduate Research Award. Hillman is also a co-PI for the NIH National Institute of Child Health and Human Development study titled *Enhancing Children's Cognitive and Brain Health through Physical Activity Training*.

Juan Loor received the Mead Johnson Award at Experimental Biology 2012.

Paul McNamara led an educational study tour in Sierra Leone in January 2012. McNamara and his students were assigned to conduct a rapid assessment of inland valley rice swamps development by a USAID-funded project, Promotion Agriculture, Governance, and Environment (PAGE), which is facilitated by World Vision and ACDI/VOCA.

Elvira de Mejia received the McCormick Science Institute Research Award at Experimental Biology 2012.

Michael Miller was included on the Spring 2011 "List of Teachers Ranked as Excellent by Their Students" for FSHN 573 Advanced Food Microbiology. Miller is also a co-PI for the USDA/NIH joint program project titled *Prevention of Campylobacterjejuni disease in humans by reducing pathogen load in poultry*. He also served Co-Chair for the 2012 Institute of Food Technologists Annual Meeting Symposium as well as a Food Microbiology Subpanel Chair at the 2012 Institute of Food Technologists Annual Meeting.

Yuan-Xiang Pan received the Norman Kretchmer Memorial Award in Nutrition and Development at Experimental Biology 2012.

Kelly Swanson presented "Canine and Feline Gut Microbiomes: Role in Health and Disease" while on sabbatical in Leicestershire, England and he continues to serve on editorial boards for the British Journal of Nutrition, Journal of Animal Science, Journal of Nutritional Science, and Animal Feed Science and Technology.

Kelly Tappenden received the Excellence in Nutrition Education Award at Experimental Biology 2012 and was named the new DNS Kraft Human Nutrition Endowed Professor.

Bryan White was listed on the "List of Teachers Ranked as Excellent by Their Students" for his Fall 2011 ANSC 350 Cellular Metabolism in Animals course.

Congratulations to Kelly Fappenden, the new DNS Kraft Human Nutrition Endowed Professor!

DNS Faculty Awards a 2012 ACES Awards Banquet

H. Rex Gaskins (ANSC)
Paul A. Funk Recognition Award

William G. Helferich (FSHN) Paul A. Funk Recognition Award

Karen M. Chapman-Novakofski (FSHN) Faculty Award for Excellence in Extension

The Division would like o congratulate Sharon Donovan, 2011-2012

ASN President

2012 DNS Faculty Awards at EB

Elvira de Mejia (FSHN) McCormick Science Institute Research Award

John Erdman (FSHN) Dannon Institute Mentorship Award

Juan Loor (ANSC) Mead Johnson Award

Kelly Tappenden (FSHN)
Excellence in Nutrition Education

Yuan-Xiang Pan (FSHN) Norman Kretchmer Memorial Award in Nutrition and Development

Focus on Alumni



Alumni Updates

DNS Alumni!

Let us know how you are doing. Please send updates from your accomplishments or those of your Illinois alum colleagues to **nutritionalsciences@illinois.edu** to be included in the Fall 2012 issue of *The Edge*.

D. Lee Alekel (Ph.D. 1993) serves on several NIH Committees and received the 2011 NCCAM Director's Merit Award for outstanding leadership of the *Clinical Studies Working Group*.

Jamie I. Baum (M.S. 1997) holds an Assistant Professor of Nutrition position at the University of Arkansas.

Jessica Hartke (Ph.D. 2006) was recently appointed Assistant Director of DNS. Among other responsibilities, Dr. Hartke will assist the Director by providing oversight of the day-to-day operations of the Division and exercise greater authority for the development and administration of programs and special projects.

Carolyn E. Huntington (M.S. 2000) received the 2011 Mississippi State University Faculty Irvin Atly Jefcoat Excellence in Advising Award and the 2011 National Academic Advising Association (NACADA) Outstanding Advising Award in the Faculty Advising category.

Brian L. Lindshield (Ph.D. 2008) serves as a Chair for the ASN Diet & Cancer Research Interest Section as well as Chair for the ASN Diet & Cancer Helpful or Harmful: Soy, Isoflavones and Cancer Risk Symposium, Experimental Biology 2012. He serves as one of multiple Principal Investigators for "Novel Sorghum-based Fortified Blended Foods for Infants and Young Children" sponsored by the McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program, Micronutrient Fortified Food Aid Products Pilot (MFFAPP) United Stated Department of Agriculture (USDA) Foreign Agriculture Services (FAS).

Emily Tomayko (Ph.D. 2011) recently received the position of Dietetic Intern at the University of Houston.

Ghazal Naseri Kouzehgarani (M.S. 2011) is a Ph.D. candidate in the UIUC Neuroscience Graduate program.

Gabe Wilson (Ph.D. 2010) is a Postdoctoral Fellow in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at the Indiana University School of Medicine in Evansville, Indiana.

Barb Yudell (Ph.D. 2009) is employed as grant coordinator in Ken Wilund's lab and competed on television for the title of WCIA Morning Show's Heart Healthy Top Home Chef in February.



Congratulations to Nancy Moriarty, recipient of the 2012 College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences Alumni Award of Merit!

Pictured to the left is Alan Puzey, winner of the University of Illinois Lou Liay Spirit Award and Nancy Moriarty, winner of the ACES Alumni Award of Merit. Moriarty graduated with her Ph.D. from the University of Illinois Division of Nutritional Sciences in 1987.

2011-2012 External Advisory Committee

Arti Arora, PhD
Principal Manager
Scientific & Regulatory Affairs
The Coca-Cola Company

Naomi Fukagawa, MD, PhD Professor of Medicine University of Vermont College of Medicine

Keith Garleb, PhDDirector, Pediatric R&D
Abbott Nutrition

Susan Hutson, PhD
Department Head
Human Nutrition, Foods,
and Exercise
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Brian Larson, PhD Independent Nutrition Consultant JG Nutrition Consulting Services

William Layden, BS
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Barbra Lyle, PhD Program Manager Principal Scientist Kraft Foods Global, Inc.

Luis Mejia, PhD
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Martha Stipanuk, PhD
James Jamison Professor
of Nutrition
Division of Nutritional Sciences and
College of Ecology
Cornell University

Hugh Tucker, PhDVice President
Mead Johnson Nutrition



Support DNS

The Division launched its Endowment Initiative in 2001, and we are very thankful to the faculty, students, alumni and friends who have supported DNS through contributions to the Endowment Fund and the Annual Fund. Contributions of all amounts are greatly appreciated. DNS would like to ask that you consider taking this opportunity to help secure our brilliant future by making a new contribution or an additional contribution to your alma mater.

Exciting Beginnings and Celebrations

Dear DNS Friends,

It's springtime on our campus ...a time for exciting beginnings and celebrations for the faculty, students, and stakeholders of the University of Illinois Division of Nutritional Sciences (DNS).

One such celebration occurred on April 17th. We gathered for a special ceremony-an investiture. We celebrated with Dr. Kelly A. Tappenden, professor of nutrition and gastrointestinal physiology, in her new role as the Kraft Foods Human Nutrition Endowed Professor. Professorships are established with a commitment of funding to support the scholarship of the professorship. The funds from this endowment provide opportunities for the holder to excel and defy presumed limits.

Kraft Foods has established this endowment to benefit both the students and the faculty in the DNS through the establishment of two Kraft Foods Human Nutrition Graduate Fellowships, the Kraft Foods Human Nutrition Professorship and the Kraft Foods Human Nutrition Undergraduate Scholarship Program within the Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition

Kraft Foods' partnership with the DNS expands their search for fresh ideas that will contribute to the improvement of nutritional health throughout the world. And specifically, Dr. Tappenden's internationally recognized research into intestinal health. We are deeply appreciative of the funding support given to us by Kraft Foods.

Another celebration was the successful Nutritional Sciences Graduate Student Association Nutrition Symposium on April 18th. Dr. James O. Hill, professor of Pediatrics and Medicine at the University of Colorado School of Medicine and director of the Center for Human Nutrition at the University of Colorado Healthy Sciences Center and the Colorado Nutrition Obesity Research Center, served as the keynote speaker. His research focuses on translating the science of weight management into simple, effective programs that work in the community. Once again, the students outdid themselves with planning and delivered a professional and organized event.

A third celebration was commencement weekend (May 12th-13th) where we recognized our students' achievements. It is truly exciting and rewarding to see talented students move into their professional careers prepared to make a difference!

You too can make a difference and enjoy all that is fresh and renewed in your Division of Nutritional Sciences. Since its organization in 1968, the DNS model of multi-disciplinary collaboration continues to evolve and provide superior graduate education.

Whether you provide private support, sponsor a seminar, mentor a student, or hire our graduates, your investment is critical and appreciated. Gifts can be made conveniently online to the Division of Nutritional Sciences at http://nutrsci.edu/invest_in_dns. You may even consider making a long-term donation through your estate planning.

For more information, please contact me at the

ACES Office of Advancement at kmeenen@illinois.edu or 217-333-9355.



Thank you, Kimberly Meenen '87 BS ACES, '08 EdM Director of Development

Giving Options

- DNS Excellence Endowment Fund (#773001): Provides permanent funding for the recruitment and retention of the best graduate students and enhanced research and professional development experiences for all DNS students
- DNS Excellence Fund (#336514): Provides current funding for research and professional development opportunities for DNS students
- DNS Annual Fund (#332984): Provides unrestricted support for DNS
- David H. Baker Nutrition Scholar Award Fund (#771806): Recognizes students who display excellence in research as documented through peer-reviewed publications, awards and research grants
- James L. Robinson Nutrition Impact Award Fund (#772698): Recognizes students who display excellence in professional service through activities in the NSGSA or to promote and enhance DNS and/or nutrition at the campus, state or national level
- Frank W. Kari Memorial Award Fund (#773054): Provides travel awards to DNS students to present their scientific findings at professional meetings, such as Experimental Biology
- Toshiro Nishida Research Award Fund (#772951): Provides support for travel to national and international scientific conferences
- William C. Rose Award Fund (#770331): Provides travel awards to DNS students to attend scientific conferences in the field of nutritional sciences