AWARDS CEREMONY
2017

Presented at the 81st Scientific Sessions at Experimental Biology 2017

Sunday, April 23, 2017 at 6:00 – 7:30 PM

McCormick Place Convention Center, Room S100BC
Chicago, IL
The American Society for Nutrition (ASN) and ASN Foundation (ASNF) are pleased to recognize the following recipients of 2017 awards. It is a great honor to celebrate the contributions and achievements of the scientists, clinicians and scholars present. Last year, ASN and ASNF granted more than $250,000 in scientific awards, student grants, travel awards and honoraria to experts and emerging leaders in nutrition science and practice.

We would like to congratulate the distinguished group honored in 2017, whose hard work and dedication have promoted the dissemination and application of nutrition science to improve public health and clinical practice worldwide.

Our awards program is possible through the generous donations of time and funding. We extend our deepest appreciation to the volunteers, nominators, jurors and award partners and donors. We have several awards that are in need of funding. If you or your organization is interested, visit www.nutrition.org/contribute or send an e-mail to contribute@nutrition.org.

Thank you,

Marian Neuhouser, PhD, RD
President, American Society for Nutrition

Robert M. Russell, MD
Chair, American Society for Nutrition Foundation

Cover photo by: Dick Rabii, Slice Works
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These awards are managed by ASN Councils, Committees or other bodies.

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These awards are managed by the Secretariat and recognize early-stage leaders in nutrition science and practice.

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These awards are managed by the Secretariat and recognize commitment to mentorship, training and education.

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These awards are managed by the Secretariat and honor lifelong contributions to nutrition science and practice.

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These awards are managed by the Secretariat and represent the Society’s highest honors.

The American Society for Nutrition’s Awards Program is administered through the ASN Foundation.

The ASN Foundation was formed to advance understanding of nutrition science; support meritorious research; recognize and support outstanding investigators in all career stages; and explore the future of nutrition science and practice.

There are numerous ways to support the Foundation:

- Donate to an ASN programmatic area such as student awards and scholarships;
- Make a tribute or memorial gift to honor a colleague or mentor;
- Remember the ASN Foundation in your estate planning. Planned giving options include bequests, beneficiary arrangements and more.

Visit www.nutrition.org or contact contribute@nutrition.org to learn more.
The ASN Class of 2017 Fellows

To be inducted as a Fellow of the Society is the highest honor ASN bestows. The ASN Fellows program, in existence since 1952, recognizes the following members of the Class of 2017 for their distinguished careers in the science of nutrition.

Raymond F. Burk, MD
Roger A. Clemens, DrPH
Gerald Combs, Jr., PhD
Susan J. Fairweather-Tait, DSc
Katherine M. Flegal, PhD
James O. Hill, PhD
Kathryn M. Kolasa, PhD, RDN, LDN
Christine L. Taylor, PhD
Malcolm Watford, PhD
Steven Zeisel, MD, PhD

Special Awards & Competitions

KOREAN NUTRITION SOCIETY (KNS) AWARD
Given to improve understanding and co-operation between KNS and ASN in nutritional matters of common interest and concern and to promote excellence in nutrition research

Nikhil V. Dhurandhar, PhD
Texas Tech University

SUSTAINING PARTNER ROUNDTABLE AWARD OF DISTINCTION
Given to recognize the outstanding contributions of time, talent and leadership made by an individual ASN member representing a Sustaining Partner company

Beate Lloyd, PhD, RD, LD
The Coca-Cola Company

NUTRITION SCIENCE MEDIA AWARD
Presented for consistent, accurate nutrition science reporting for a general audience over the last year

Julia Belluz
Senior Health Correspondent, Vox Media

SCIENCE POLICY FELLOWSHIPS
Organized by the Public Policy Committee

Alison Brown, MS
PhD Candidate, Food Policy and Applied Nutrition
Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy, Tufts University

Laura C. Hopkins, MSPH, RD, LD
PhD Candidate, Interdisciplinary Program in Nutrition, Human Sciences Department – Human Nutrition
The Ohio State University

MILTON L. SUNDE AWARD
Given for publication in The Journal of Nutrition of outstanding experimental, applied or fundamental research in nutrition that uses an avian species

Lv-Hui Sun
Huazhong Agricultural University, China
In honor of M.L. Sunde, PhD (1921-2015)
Endowed by the Sunde Family
Special Awards & Competitions

GLOBAL NUTRITION EARLY CAREER SCHOLAR AWARD
Supported by Mondelēz International
Organized by the Global Nutrition Council
Chaza Akik
American University of Beirut, Lebanon

CLINICAL EMERGING LEADER AWARD
Organized by the Medical Nutrition Council
Lauren E. O’Connor
Purdue University
Neil R. Brett
McGill University
Yancui Huang
Illinois Institute of Technology
Diana DiMarco
University of Connecticut
Melanie M. Mott
Boston University School of Medicine

GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH AWARDS
Organized by the Nutritional Sciences Council
Amy L. Leiferman
University of Nebraska
Chao Yang
Purdue University
Crystal D. Karakochuk
University of British Columbia
Didier Brassard
Laval University
Janie Allaire
Laval University
Jean-Philippe Drouin-Chartier
Laval University
Jessica L. Ellis
Tufts University
Jiayi Xu
Cornell University
Ryan Calvert
Purdue University
Sarah Dumas
Cornell University
Wei Guo
University of North Carolina at Greensboro
Yuan Ru
Cornell University
Special Awards & Competitions

YOUNG MINORITY INVESTIGATOR ORAL COMPETITION AWARD
Supported by DSM Nutritional Products
Organized by the ASN Minority and Diversity Affairs Committee

Erika L. Garcia-Villatoro
Texas A&M University

Samantha M. Gonzalez
Texas Tech University

Luis E. Maldonado
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Maria J. Romo Palafox
University of Connecticut

Lyndsey D. Ruiz
University of California, Davis

Annette M. Washington
University of Georgia

PREDOCRATIONAL FELLOWSHIPS
The Gerber Foundation Predoctoral Fellowship
Adrienne A. Cheng
University of Wisconsin

The Pfizer Predoctoral Fellowship
Jiayi Xu
Cornell University

The Mars, Inc. Predoctoral Fellowship
Kirsten Berding Harold
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Special Awards & Competitions

POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH AWARDS
Endowed by DuPont Nutrition and Health
Organized by the Early Career Nutrition Interest Group

Xian Wu, PhD
Jean Mayer U.S.D.A. Human Nutrition Research Center on Aging at Tufts University

Manish K. Saraf, PhD
University of Arkansas Medical Sciences, Arkansas Children’s Nutrition Center

Kelly Sheppard, PhD
The Research Institute at Nationwide Children’s Hospital

Ambika Satija, ScD
Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health

Jason L. Robinson, PhD
USDA/ARS Children’s Nutrition Research Center

Mahsa Jessri, PhD
University of Toronto

TRANSLATION RESEARCH AWARD COMPETITION

Carrie-Ellen Briere
Connecticut Children’s Medical Center

Mary Christoph
University of Minnesota

Shauna Downs
Johns Hopkins University

Minghua Tang
University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus

Yasmeen Nkrumah-Elie
University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus
Nonalcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD) is a chronic liver disease that increases morbidity and mortality, affecting 75-100% of obese and morbidly obese individuals. Despite these staggering numbers, causes of NAFLD, the factors that trigger disease progression and effective treatment strategies remain poorly defined. Dr. Rector’s primary research interests include taking a translational approach to examine the molecular mechanisms responsible for NAFLD development and progression. His ongoing work is examining nutritional, lifestyle and pharmacological interventions in multiple animal models and studies in humans to help fight the NAFLD epidemic. Dr. Rector’s completed and ongoing studies range from utilizing murine models with primary defects in hepatic mitochondrial \( \beta \)-oxidation to the use of rodent models of hyperphagia and diet-induced obesity to gain a better mechanistic understanding of the contribution of single gene vs. polygenic changes on NAFLD. His lab has helped firmly establish the importance of increased physical activity and fitness in the prevention of NAFLD. In addition, his lab has also developed a more appropriate large animal swine model of childhood obesity to study the negative effects of obesity on metabolic health during development and maturation. Moreover, he has ongoing studies in obese children that are examining the relationship between adipose tissue inflammation and the presence/severity of NAFLD. Dr. Rector’s work has been supported by several industry and federal grants, including the NIH and Veteran’s Health Administration.

Supported by Bio-Serv
E.L.R. Stokstad Award
Given for outstanding fundamental research in nutrition, with preference for early stage scientists

J. MARK BROWN, PHD
CLEVELAND CLINIC

Dr. J. Mark Brown is an Associate Professor in the Department of Cellular and Molecular Medicine at the Cleveland Clinic Lerner Research Institute. Dr. Brown completed his doctoral training in the area of cellular and molecular nutrition at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro in 2004 and completed his postdoctoral training in animal models of atherosclerosis and lipoprotein metabolism at Wake Forest University under the leadership of Dr. Lawrence L. Rudel in 2009. Since then, Dr. Brown’s independent research program has focused on the interrelationship between nutrient metabolism and the development of chronic metabolic diseases such as obesity, type II diabetes and cardiovascular disease. Dr. Brown’s laboratory has spearheaded several NIH funded research programs studying mechanisms by which gut microbial metabolites drive liver and cardiovascular diseases. This line of work is examining how microbe-derived metabolites can act as hormones in the human host to drive disease pathogenesis. Another major focus of Dr. Brown’s research program surrounds functional characterization of a family of proteins known as alpha/beta hydrolase domain (ABHD) containing proteins. These proteins are highly conserved lipid metabolizing enzymes, and mutations in several of these proteins have been implicated in inherited inborn errors in lipid metabolism.

In Memory of E.L.R. Stokstad (1913-1995)
Endowed by the Stokstad Family
Mary Swartz Rose Young Investigator Award

Given to an investigator within ten years of postgraduate training, for outstanding research on the safety and efficacy of bioactive compounds for human health

SHU WANG, MD, PHD
TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

Shu Wang, MD, PhD, is an associate professor in the Department of Nutritional Sciences at Texas Tech University. Dr. Wang conducts cutting-edge research in nutrition and nanomedicine. Her research focuses on using biocompatible and biodegradable nanocarriers to enhance bioactivities of phytochemicals for the prevention and treatment of chronic diseases, especially cardiovascular disease and obesity. Particularly, she studies targeted delivery of a green tea catechin to plaques for atherosclerosis prevention and treatment. Dr. Wang also studies resveratrol and other bioactive compounds for combating obesity. Within the last seven years, she has been funded by a variety of federal, industry and foundation agencies, especially two NIH awards. Dr. Wang has received several research honors to recognize the quality of her research. These include the American Heart Association Young Investigator Award Finalist, the Outstanding Research Award from the Texas Tech University College of Human Sciences and 2014 Chancellor’s Council Distinguished Research Award in the Texas Tech University system. Dr. Wang is a member of the Journal of Nutritional Biochemistry editorial board.

Dr. Shu Wang received her medical degree from Jilin University in China, her master’s in biochemistry and molecular biology from Capital Medical University in China, and her PhD in nutritional biochemistry and metabolism from Tufts University in Massachusetts.

In Memory of M.S. Rose (1874-1941)
Supported by the Council for Responsible Nutrition
Mead Johnson Award for Research in Nutrition
Given to an investigator for a single outstanding piece of nutrition research or a series of papers on the same subject accomplished within ten years of completing postgraduate training

KRISTA A. VARADY, PHD
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS, CHICAGO

Krista Varady, PhD, is an Associate Professor of Nutrition at the University of Illinois, Chicago. Her research focuses on the efficacy of alternate day fasting for weight loss, weight maintenance and cardio-protection in obese adults. Her work is funded by the National Institutes of Health, American Heart Association, International Life Sciences Institute and the University of Illinois. She has published more than 50 publications on this topic and is also the author of a book for the general public, entitled the “Every Other Day Diet”.

Supported by the Mead Johnson Pediatric Nutrition Institute
Peter J. Reeds Young Investigator Award

Given for outstanding research in macronutrient metabolism accomplished within five years of receiving a PhD or completing a residency training

TRUDY VOORTMAN, PHD
ERASMUS UNIVERSITY, ROTTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS

Dr. Trudy Voortman works as a nutrition scientist in the Department of Epidemiology of the Erasmus University Medical Center in Rotterdam, the Netherlands. Her research focuses on the role of nutrition in health throughout the life course, with a particular emphasis on nutrition in early life. Her studies include analyses in several large cohort studies and systematic reviews and meta-analyses.

Trudy Voortman holds a BSc and an MSc degree in Nutrition and Health from Wageningen University, an MSc degree in Epidemiology from the Netherlands Institute of Health Sciences and a PhD degree in Epidemiology from Erasmus University. Previously, she worked as a nutrition scientist at Unilever Research and Development in Vlaardingen, the Netherlands; a visiting postdoctoral scientist at Harvard School of Public Health in Boston; and a visiting scientist at Nestlé Research Center in Lausanne, Switzerland.

She has been selected to receive the 2017 Peter J. Reeds Young Investigator Award for her work on protein intake in early childhood in relation to body composition. This study was embedded in a large population-based cohort among almost 10,000 women and their children in the Netherlands. With her study, Dr. Voortman and colleagues were the first to report that higher protein intake in early childhood is not only associated with a higher body weight in childhood, but that this specifically reflects a higher fat mass and not fat-free mass. This association was mainly driven by protein from animal food sources and was irrespective of whether protein intake was consumed at the expense of carbohydrates, fats or specific subtypes of fats.

These findings, together with evidence from trials on protein intake in infancy and body weight, can inform the development of dietary guidelines for young children and food reformulation strategies in order to prevent childhood adiposity on a population level.

In Memory of Peter J. Reeds, PhD (1945-2002)
Partially endowed with an initial contribution in 2002 from the Children’s Nutrition Research Center at Baylor College of Medicine
Samuel J. Fomon Young Physician Award

Given to a physician within ten years of completion of medical postdoctoral training, for outstanding work in the general area of pediatric nutrition, infant growth or body composition

AMY B. HAIR, MD
BAYLOR COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

Dr. Hair is an Assistant Professor in the Section of Neonatology and Department of Pediatrics at Baylor College of Medicine, in Houston, Texas. She is the Program Director of the Neonatal Nutrition Program at Texas Children’s Hospital. As a Neonatologist, Dr. Hair’s research focuses on neonatal nutrition, specifically growth, body composition and the use of human milk in very low birth weight infants. Dr. Hair was recently awarded a grant from the Gerber Foundation to study targeted fortification in extremely premature infants.

Dr. Hair earned a Bachelor of Science degree in biology with honors and Magna Cum Laude, at the University of Georgia in Athens, GA and her Doctor of Medicine degree at the Medical College of Georgia in Augusta, GA. Her postgraduate training included a pediatrics residency at the University of Virginia, in Charlottesville. Dr. Hair completed post-doctoral fellowships in neonatal-perinatal medicine at Baylor College of Medicine and in nutrition at the USDA/ARS Children’s Nutrition Research Center in Houston.

In Memory of Samuel J. Fomon, MD (1923-2007)
Endowed by the Nestlé Nutrition Institute
Vernon R. Young International Award for Amino Acid Research

Given for a single outstanding piece of research or for a series of papers in a related area on amino acid metabolism

STEFAN M. PASIAKOS, PHD
US ARMY RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF ENVIRONMENTAL MEDICINE

Dr. Pasiakos is a Nutritional Physiologist in the Military Nutrition Division at the United States Army Research Institute of Environmental Medicine (USARIEM), and current Chair of the Energy & Macronutrient Metabolism Research Interest Section for the American Society for Nutrition. Dr. Pasiakos’ research focuses on nutritional requirements for the protection of skeletal muscle during environmental and physiological stress. Dr. Pasiakos’ most influential work to date has been a series of manuscripts resulting from a multi-institute collaborative project (USDA ARS Grand Forks Human Nutrition Research Center, University of North Dakota and Eastern Michigan University), which he designed and led, examining the impact of dietary protein level and high-quality amino acid containing meals on skeletal muscle retention and calcium homeostasis in response to sustained energy deficit. Notably, this project resulted in eight peer-reviewed publications in prestigious journals, including the American Journal of Clinical Nutrition. As a result of this study, military dietary protein requirements have been amended and a scientific consensus derived from subject matter experts in the fields of amino acid and muscle physiology has been published (Pasiakos et al. Journal of Nutrition 2013) providing dietary protein recommendations for war fighters exposed to severe underfeeding. This study provided Dr. Pasiakos the foundation to greatly expand his research program, leading complex human studies with countless academic, industry and international military partners, evaluating nutritional countermeasures and requirements during a variety of military stressors, including starvation, captivity, cold-weather and sustained high altitude operations.

In Memory of V.R. Young, PhD (1939-2006) Endowed by the Ajinomoto Company, Inc.
Dannon Institute Mentorship Award

Given for outstanding mentorship in the development of successful nutritional research science investigators

BARRY SHANE, PHD
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

Barry Shane, PhD, is a Professor of Nutrition at the University of California, Berkeley. He was born and educated in England and received his PhD in biochemistry from the University of London in 1970, followed by postdoctoral studies at the University of California, Berkeley with Esmond Snell and E. L. Robert Stokstad. He held a faculty position in Biochemistry at the Johns Hopkins University before returning to Berkeley in 1985. Dr. Shane’s research has focused on various areas of biochemical nutrition including the metabolic role and interrelationships of water-soluble vitamins. His current research concerns nutritional genomics and how genetic variation influences disease risk, and mechanisms of interaction between folate and vitamin B12. He has served on the Editorial Boards of the American Journal of Clinical Nutrition, the Journal of Biological Chemistry, the Journal of Nutrition and the Journal of Nutritional Biochemistry, and has served on the FASEB Board. He was awarded the Mead Johnson Award by the American Institute of Nutrition in 1984. He was elected to the Johns Hopkins Society of Scholars in 2002 and a Fellow of the American Society for Nutrition in 2016. He has had the opportunity to train many graduate students and postdoctoral fellows from around the world and continues to collaborate with many of them.

Supported by the Dannon Institute

SENIOR INVESTIGATOR – EDUCATOR & MENTOR AWARDS
Excellence in Nutrition Education Award

Given for outstanding contributions to teaching nutrition

ELIZABETH J. MAYER-DAVIS, PHD
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA, CHAPEL HILL

Dr. Elizabeth J. Mayer-Davis is the Cary C. Boshamer Distinguished Professor of Nutrition and Medicine and Chair of the Department of Nutrition at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Her research focuses on type 1 and 2 diabetes in youth and young adults. Dr. Mayer-Davis’ work utilizes observational epidemiology and translational research to develop, implement and evaluate interventions designed to improve diabetes self-management, metabolic status and quality of life. Her students and fellows have significant opportunities to participate in research, both in studies that are based within her lab and those that are part of large multi-center efforts. Collectively, her students and fellows have produced nearly 90 papers. Driven by her research, she has worked tirelessly to train students and health professionals whose career trajectories lead them to clinical practice or research.

Dr. Mayer-Davis relies on public service and political engagement to educate her students by highlighting important linkages between clinical and public health services. As an example, nutrition became an integral part of the coursework for her MSPH and doctoral students in the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics in order to emphasize the importance of nutrition research that impacts clinical practice guidelines. Her primary teaching responsibilities include teaching nutrition to second year medical students at the UNC School of Medicine and a popular course on “Nutrition Translational Research and Applications” to MPH/RD students. As Chair of the UNC Department of Nutrition, she exemplifies leadership in nutrition education. Dr. Mayer-Davis acted on her vision to bridge Registered Dietitian nutrition training and continuing education with healthcare services to establish PACE (Practice Advancement and Continuing Education) at UNC. She is also Past-President, health care and education, of the American Diabetes Association. Dr. Mayer-Davis is passionate about working with students and preparing them to achieve a high level of scholastic achievement.
Roland L. Weinsier Award for Excellence in Medical/Dental Nutrition Education

Presented in recognition of an outstanding career in innovations in medical nutrition education

CAROLE A. PALMER, EDD, RD, LDN
TUFTS UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE

Carole A. Palmer EdD, RD, LD, is tenured Professor and Head of the Division of Nutrition in the Department of Comprehensive Care at Tufts University School of Dental Medicine. She directs the Oral Health and Nutrition curriculum for dental students and chairs the Faculty Appointments, Promotions and Tenure and the Outcomes Assessment Committees. Dr. Palmer received her undergraduate degree in nutrition at Simmons College, her Master’s degree/Dietetic Internship at Tufts University and the New England Medical Center Hospital (now Tufts Medical Center) and her Doctorate in Educational Policy, Planning and Administration at Boston University. In addition to her full-time position at the dental school, Dr. Palmer is also the Professor and head of the Master’s Degree component of the Frances Stern Combined Dietetic Internship Master’s program at Tufts’ Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy and Adjunct Professor at Tufts University School of Medicine, Department of Public Health.

Dr. Palmer’s primary research emphasis has been the study of relationships between diet and/or nutrition and oral conditions and effectively communicating of these issues to professionals and the public. She is also a leader in developing models for implementing nutrition care in clinical dental settings. Her current interests are nutrition and early childhood caries, teacher training and Interprofessional Education (IPE) training for faculty and students. She is active in the American Dental Education Association, Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics and the American Society for Nutrition. She currently serves as a member and past-chair of the New Hampshire Board of Licensed Dietitians.

She has written extensively in the professional and lay literature, has consulted widely on nutrition and oral health issues and has appeared frequently on radio, television, and in print media. The third edition of her acclaimed textbook: Palmer, C; Boyd L. Diet and Nutrition in Oral Health, was published in July 2016.

In Memory of R.L. Weinsier, MD, DrPH (1942-2002)
Supported by the Dannon Institute
W.O. Atwater Lectureship

To recognize scientists who have made unique contributions toward improving the diet and nutrition of people around the world. Atwater, considered the father of modern nutrition research and education, was the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s first chief of nutrition investigations.

DENNIS BIER, MD
BAYLOR COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

Dennis M. Bier, MD, is Professor of Pediatrics and Director of the Children’s Nutrition Research Center at Baylor College of Medicine. He is a Member of the National Academy of Medicine (USA), a Fellow of the American Society for Nutrition and a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Dr. Bier serves as Editor-in-Chief of *The American Journal of Clinical Nutrition*. He was formerly an Associate Editor of the *Annual Review of Nutrition* and a former Editor-in-Chief of *Pediatric Research*. Previously, Dr. Bier was Chairman of the Food and Nutrition Board of the Institute of Medicine, National Academy of Sciences (USA). He served as President of the American Society for Nutrition (with Dr. Naomi Fukagawa), the American Society for Nutritional Sciences, the American Society of Clinical Nutrition, and the NIH General Clinical Research Centers Programs Directors Association. He has also been a Councilor of the American Pediatric Society, Chairman of the NIH Nutrition Study Section, Chairman of the NIH General Clinical Research Centers Committee, a member of the FDA Pediatric Advisory Committee and the FDA Food Advisory Committee and Chairman of the Board of the International Life Sciences Institute Research Foundation.

Dr. Bier was formerly a member of the Scientific Advisory Board of ConAgra Foods, a member of the Global Advisory Council of the McDonald’s Corporation and a member of the Scientific Advisory Committee of Mars, Inc. He has served as a consultant to a wide variety of food and pharmaceutical companies.

Dr. Bier has authored more than 270 scientific publications.
The Gilbert A. Leveille Lectureship and Award

GUY H. JOHNSON, PHD
JOHNSON NUTRITION SOLUTIONS, LLC

Dr. Guy H. Johnson is principle of Johnson Nutrition Solutions LLC, a nutrition-oriented consulting firm dedicated to providing its clients with high caliber, creative solutions tailored for today's fast-paced environment. JNS provides industry and professional organizations with comprehensive support for nutrition-related communications, scientific and regulatory initiatives designed to achieve business objectives. Prior to founding JNS, Guy was vice president of nutrition for Kellogg USA where he was responsible for identifying and executing nutrition-related business opportunities and developing nutrition standards for the U.S. business. Dr. Johnson's background also includes extensive experience in applied nutrition science. From 1989 to 1998, he was director of nutrition and labeling services for The Pillsbury Company and before that he was director of infant nutrition for Gerber Products Company. Dr. Johnson is an Adjunct Associate Professor in the department of Food Science and Human Nutrition at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and received the Alumni Award of Merit from the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences at that institution in 2008. Guy currently serves as Executive Director of the McCormick Science Institute where he chairs a blue-ribbon Scientific Advisory Council dedicated to advancing scientific knowledge on the health benefits of culinary herbs and spices. Dr. Johnson, a fellow of the Institute of Food Technologists and the American Society of Nutrition, earned a BS in food science and a PhD in nutritional sciences at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
Kellogg Prize for International Nutrition Research
Awarded to a member of ASN's Global Nutrition Council (GNC) actively engaged in research to benefit populations in non-industrialized countries

BEATRICE LORGE ROGERS, PHD
TUFTS UNIVERSITY

Bea Rogers, PhD, is Professor of Economics and Food Policy at the Tufts University Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy and Director of the Food Policy and Applied Nutrition Program at the School. The Food Policy and Applied Nutrition Program focuses on the economic, political and social science dimensions of global nutrition challenges.

Dr. Rogers is an economist whose research focuses on economic determinants of household food consumption, including price policy, food aid, food price subsidies and income transfers. Her current research assesses the effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of alternative supplementary foods for the treatment and prevention of moderate acute malnutrition in children, based on field studies in three sub-Saharan African countries. She recently completed a multi-country study in Bolivia, Honduras and India, on how the benefits of food assistance programs can be made sustainable after the programs are closed – research that should inform the design of future development projects to ensure that interventions produce lasting change without creating dependence on external support. She has conducted research on the determinants of intra-household allocation of resources, focusing on the role of female household headship among other factors. She has worked in South and East Asia, Central and South America and North and Sub-Saharan Africa. She is a leader in the development of interdisciplinary graduate education in food and nutrition and has conducted funded research on appropriate graduate training for global nutrition and food policy professionals.

Her PhD is from the Florence Heller School at Brandeis University. Her dissertation on consumer food price subsidies in Pakistan was based on a national household income and expenditure survey, which she directed. Dr. Rogers received the Friedman School’s Distinguished Faculty Award in 2008 and the Dannon Mentorship Award from the American Society for Nutrition in 2014, both honoring her mentorship of doctoral students. She is a Fellow of the American Society for Nutrition.

Supported by the Kellogg Company
Robert Suskind and Leslie Lewinter-Suskind Pediatric Nutrition Lifetime Achievement Award

Presented to a physician, clinician or investigator who has made a significant lifetime contribution to the field of pediatric nutrition. The award is designed to recognize an individual whose lifetime body of work includes meaningful contributions related to the importance of childhood nutrition in health and disease.

KENNETH H. BROWN, MD
BILL AND MELINDA GATES FOUNDATION

Kenneth Brown, MD, is a pediatrician and nutritionist who completed medical studies at the University of Pennsylvania and pediatrics training at the Boston Children’s Hospital Medical Center. He has conducted research and published widely on the causes, complications, treatment, and prevention of childhood undernutrition in low-income countries, focusing on infant and young child feeding practices, relationships between infection and nutrition, and control of specific micronutrient deficiencies, including zinc, iron and vitamin A. He has served as the Founding Director of the Program in International and Community Nutrition at the University of California, Davis; Chair of the International Zinc Nutrition Consultative Group; expert committee member for the World Health Organization, the Pan American Health Organization, UNICEF and the US Institute of Medicine; and editorial board member of several leading nutrition journals. He is a past-President of the Society for International Nutrition Research, Fellow of the American Society for Nutrition, and a recipient of the Kellogg Award for International Nutrition Research, the McCollum Award, the Rainer Gross Award, and the Prince Mahidol Award for nutrition and public health.

Established and endowed in 2015 by Dr. Robert Suskind and Leslie Lewinter-Suskind.
Conrad A. Elvehjem Award for Public Service in Nutrition

Given in recognition of specific and distinguished service to the public through the science of nutrition

KATHLEEN M. RASMUSSEN, SCD, RD
CORNELL UNIVERSITY

Kathleen M. Rasmussen is the Nancy Schlegel Meinig Professor of Maternal and Child Nutrition in the Division of Nutritional Sciences at Cornell University. She is known internationally for her research on maternal and child nutrition. Her research accomplishments have led to service on numerous expert committees at the Institute of Medicine, including the Committee on Nutritional Status During Pregnancy and Lactation and its Subcommittee on Nutrition During Lactation as well as the Committee on Scientific Evaluation of Nutrition Risk Criteria. More recently, Dr. Rasmussen served as the chair of the Committee to Reexamine IOM Pregnancy Weight Guidelines, which revised the 1990 guidelines in 2009, and also the Committee on Review of WIC Food Packages, which just released its recommended revisions to these packages. Dr. Rasmussen has also served on expert panels at the World Health Organization and also on panels that are part of the effort by the US Departments of Agriculture and Health and Human Services to develop dietary guidelines for pregnant women and children from birth to 24 months of age. Dr. Rasmussen served the American Society for Nutritional Sciences as President during the year the decision was made to restructure it to create the American Society for Nutrition and on the Transitional Executive Board as this restructuring occurred. She has also served as the President of the International Society for Research on Human Milk and Lactation. Dr. Rasmussen has contributed to the development of future leaders in nutrition in two major ways. She is currently in her 26th year as Program Director of an NIH-sponsored training grant in maternal and child nutrition. She also helped to develop the Dannon Nutrition Leadership Institute and continues to serve as its principal nutrition faculty member. This organization has already provided leadership training to 200 promising researchers in nutrition.

In Memory of C. A. Elvehjem, PhD (1901-1962)
Supported by Mondelēz International
David Kritchevsky Career Achievement Award in Nutrition
Presented in recognition of an outstanding career in nutrition

CONNIE M. WEAVER, PHD
PURDUE UNIVERSITY

Connie M. Weaver, PhD, is a Distinguished Professor at Purdue University in the Department of Nutrition Science in West Lafayette, Indiana. She is an elected member of The National Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine since 2010 and a member of the Food and Nutrition Board. She is a member of the FDA Science Advisory Board and the NIH Advisory Committee on Research on Women’s Health. She is founder and director of the Women’s Global Health Institute (WGHI) at Purdue University. She is Deputy Director of the National Institutes of Health funded Indiana Clinical and Translational Science Institute since 2008. Her research interests include mineral bioavailability, calcium metabolism and bone and cardiovascular health. Dr. Weaver is past-president of the American Society for Nutritional Sciences. She is on the Board of Trustees of the International Life Sciences Institute, Showalter Biomedical Research Committee and the Science Advisory Board of Pharmavite. Her honors include the Purdue University Health Promotion Award for Women (1993), the IFT Babcock Hart Award (1997), the USDA A.O. Atwater Lecture Award (2003), the NAMS/Glaxo Smith Kline Consumer Healthcare Calcium Research Award (2006), the American Society for Nutrition Robert H. Herman Award (2009), the Natural Products Association’s Burton Kallman Scientific Award (2010), the Linus Pauling Research Prize Award (2011), the Spirit of the Land Grant Award (2013), the Herbert Newby McCoy recipient (2012), this award is the most prestigious research honor given by Purdue University and the Trailblazer Award (2016) by the Institute of Food Technology (IFT) and the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (AND), an award to recognize “exceptional leaders” who have advanced the science at the interface of dietetics and food science. Dr. Weaver was appointed to the 2005 Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee for Americans. She has published over 390 research articles to date.

In Memory of D. Kritchevsky, PhD (1920-2006)
Supported by Mondelēz International
E.V. McCollum Award

Presented to a clinical investigator who is perceived as a major creative force, actively generating new concepts in nutrition and personally seeing to the execution of studies testing the validity of these concepts

KEVIN D. HALL, PHD
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF DIABETES, DIGESTIVE AND KIDNEY DISEASES, NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

Dr. Kevin Hall received his PhD in Physics from McGill University and is now a tenured Senior Investigator at the National Institute of Diabetes & Digestive & Kidney Diseases (NIDDK), one of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in Bethesda MD. His main research interests are the regulation of food intake, macronutrient metabolism, energy balance and body weight. Dr. Hall’s laboratory performs experiments in humans and rodents and develops mathematical models and computer simulations to help design, predict and interpret the experimental data. Dr. Hall is the recipient of the NIH Director’s Award, the NIDDK Director’s Award, the E.V. McCullum Award from the American Society for Nutrition, the Lilly Scientific Achievement Award from The Obesity Society and the Guyton Award for Excellence in Integrative Physiology from the American Society of Physiology. His award-winning Body Weight Planner (http://BWPlanner.niddk.nih.gov) has been used by millions of people to help predict how diet and physical activity dynamically interact to affect human body weight.

In Memory of E.V. McCollum, PhD (1879-1967)
General Mills Bell Institute of Health and Nutrition Innovation Award

Given to an investigator whose scientific contributions advance the understanding of the health benefits of whole grains

SIMIN LIU, MD, SCD
BROWN UNIVERSITY

Dr. Simin Liu is Professor of Epidemiology and Medicine and Director of the Center for Global Cardiometabolic Health at Brown University. He has been principal investigator of NIH-sponsored studies ranging from basic inquiry of the genetic basis of metabolic diseases to molecular epidemiology and clinical risk modeling and interventions for cardiometabolic health. His work has led to the identification of several genetic and biochemical markers and gene-nutrient interactions for diabetes and cardiovascular disease, including several germ-line mutations in the SHBG gene for diabetes susceptibility. Incorporating genotypes and plasma phenotypes into risk prediction, his team was the first to show a causal role of SHBG in diabetes pathogenesis and validate its clinical utilities in diverse human populations, opening a new path for early detection and risk management of the disease. He was the first to apply biomarkers to evaluate the quality and quantity of carbohydrate intake for cardio-metabolic health, particularly in validating dietary glycemic load (GL) in population-based studies, and to prospectively link high GL to increased cardiovascular risk. In a series of original reports, his research team identified whole grains, nuts, fruits/vegetables, dietary fiber and micronutrient profiles as important dietary factors contributing to lower plasma levels of insulin and glucose, markers of systemic inflammation and a reduced risk of CVD and diabetes. He has published approximately 300 research reports, some of which are among the most frequently cited. For his contribution to innovative teaching and mentoring programs internationally, Dr. Liu has received several teaching and mentoring recognitions including awards from UCLA, the Burroughs Wellcome Fund and the American Heart Association. At Harvard, UCLA and Brown, he mentored more than 80 trainees and junior investigators, many of who have gone on to become leading investigators in both medicine and public health.

Endowed by the General Mills Bell Institute of Human Health & Nutrition
Mary Swartz Rose Senior Investigator Award

Given to an investigator for outstanding research on the safety and efficacy of bioactive compounds for human health

GIULIO MARIA PASINETTI, MD, PHD
ICAHN SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AT MOUNT SINAI

Dr. Giulio Maria Pasinetti is The Saunders Family Chair and a Professor of Neurology, Psychiatry and Geriatrics and Adult Development and the Director of the Center for Molecular Integrative Neuroresilience (CMIN) at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai in New York, NY. The CMIN is a National Institutes of Health Office of Dietary Supplements (ODS) and National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health (NCCIH)-funded Center for Advancing Research on Botanical and Other Natural Products program. The primary goal of Dr. Pasinetti’s NIH/NCCIH/ODS-funded P50 Botanical Center is to identify specific dietary polyphenol components from bioactive botanical supplements that underlie their bioactivities. In addition to the identification of these components, the goal of the grant awarded to Dr. Pasinetti is to also characterize specific cellular/molecular mechanisms contributing to the attenuation of physiological stress, such as the association with stressful life events that have detrimental impacts on psychological health, cognitive functions, and ultimately, overall wellbeing that can be specifically targeted by these dietary supplements. These translational studies utilize the latest research technologies and novel approaches to diagnostics to promote disease prevention and drug discoveries that are impacting the population. This has allowed Dr. Pasinetti to make significant strides in the field of integrative therapeutic approaches through characterization of dietary botanical polyphenols as he continues to provide contributions and remarkable productivity, particularly in the field of bioactive dietary compounds and their efficacious application in human health. The significance of his pioneering work is evident through his 300 peer-reviewed publications throughout his career. In his professional positions, Dr. Pasinetti merges a variety of disciplines in order to provide research discoveries aimed at reducing the burden of stress-associated and age-related psychological and cognitive impairment stress through the utilization of bioactive bioavailable dietary compounds.

In Memory of M.S. Rose (1874-1941)
Supported by the Council for Responsible Nutrition
McCormick Science Institute Research Award

Presented to an investigator conducting clinical, translational, in vitro or ex vivo research whose contributions have advanced the understanding of the potential health benefits of culinary herbs and spices

JOHN C. PETERS, PHD
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

One of Dr. Peters’ main interests is investigating ways to improve diet quality and eating behavior to improve health and quality of life. This has involved understanding the physiological and behavioral regulation of food intake and preference. His early work investigated the link between dietary composition and brain neurotransmitter synthesis in rats as one mechanism by which food may directly influence eating behavior (Am J Physiol 252:R901-R911, 1987; Physiol Behav 27:287-298, 1981). Later, Dr. Peters worked at the Procter and Gamble Company for 26 years as a research scientist and then research manager doing basic science and clinical trials exploring ways to apply scientific knowledge and food technology to products and services that can help people achieve better health. Much of this work focused on finding ways to reduce dietary fat, saturated fat and calories while preserving food liking. His team developed novel reduced calorie triglycerides like Caprenin, composed of medium chain and very long chain fatty acids and demonstrated a calorie value in humans of only 5 kcal/g yet preserved functional properties and liking (Int J Toxicol 10:357-367, 1991). He studied the effects of a zero calorie fat substitute, olestra, on control of food intake and found that there is no fat-specific appetite such that fat replacement can reduce fat and saturated fat while preserving food liking (J Nutrition 127:1719S-1728S, 1997; Am J Clin Nutr 76:928-34, 2002). This work highlighted the importance of flavor and mouthfeel as key elements of food liking. More recently, he has focused on exploring strategies for helping people meet the dietary guidelines (e.g., reducing saturated fat and sugar) by using herbs and spices to improve the liking of healthy foods (Appetite 79:183-8, 2014; J Food Sci 79(10):S2117-26, 2014). This strategy is important as it supports current consumer trends to seek foods with natural ingredients and fewer additives.

Endowed by the McCormick Science Institute
Osborne and Mendel Award

Given in recognition of outstanding recent basic research in nutrition

J. THOMAS BRENNA, PHD
CORNELL UNIVERSITY

Tom Brenna, PhD, was appointed in 2017 as Professor of Pediatrics and of Chemistry at the Dell Medical School of the University of Texas at Austin, after 27 years as a Professor of Human Nutrition, and of Food Science at Cornell University in Ithaca, NY. His group’s basic research into the chemical, biochemical, metabolic, genetic and ecological aspects of fatty acids have had a decisive influence on modern knowledge of these key nutrients. Dr. Brenna’s group discovered a specific polymorphism in fatty acid desaturase 2 (FADS2) that controls endogenous synthesis of long chain polyunsaturated fatty acids (LCPUFA) and drives human evolutionary adaptation. Their work has transformed our understanding of the LCPUFA biochemical pathways. In addition to being a Δ6-desaturase, his group showed that FADS2 is a Δ4-desaturase directly synthesizing omega-3 docosahexaenoic acid (DHA). They characterized how saturated palmitic acid (16:0) can compete for FADS2-mediated desaturation with PUFA substrates 18:2n-6 and 18:3n-3, a finding that suggests how excess de novo saturated fat synthesis may inhibit LCPUFA synthesis, thereby creating a demand for dietary LCPUFA. His group has contributed to the ecology and evolutionary aspects of LCPUFA, showing that omega-3 DHA nutrition limits growth in nestling tree swallows, and elements of the case for omega-3 nutrition in the evolution of the large human brain. More recently, his group has pioneered nutritional studies of branched chain fatty acids. They showed that branched fat-rich vernix caseosa, the first solid meal of humans, has a strong effect on development of nascent microbiota and that branched fats are ubiquitous in the food supply. Dr. Brenna is the fourth scientist to be honored with both ASN’s Osborne and Mendel Award for outstanding contributions to basic research in nutrition and the ASN’s Robert Herman Memorial Award for advancement of clinical nutrition (2013).

In Memory of T.B. Osborne, PhD (1859-1929) and L.B. Mendel, PhD (1872-1935)
Supported by ILSI North America
Pfizer Consumer Healthcare Nutritional Sciences Award

Given in recognition of recent investigative contributions of significance to the basic understanding of human nutrition

MICHELE R. FORMAN, PHD
PURDUE UNIVERSITY

Dr. Forman is currently the Department Head, Nutrition Science at Purdue University. Prior affiliations include the NIH Intramural Program, CDC, Johns Hopkins University and the University of Texas at Austin. Her research career focuses on early life exposures and growth and biomarkers of health across the life course. As her research foci have shifted from low birth-weight to chronic disease, the still point has remained fixed; she examines the developmental origins of disease. Her laboratory focuses on formative research in diet and growth in children where as part of the National Children’s Study they demonstrated ulnar length is an accurate measurement in lieu of recumbent length. Development of a paper grid for measurement led to the recognition of a new field and hospital appropriate tool for anthropometric assessment. Her research on preeclampsia has identified the offspring, not just the mother, at risk for obesity, insulin resistance and high blood pressure in adolescence while the androgenic pregnancy reduces risk for hormonal cancers in the mother and offspring. Her research in pediatric acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL) paved the way identifying the high birthweight at risk for pediatric ALL and now addresses the role of epigenetics in explaining the obesogenic in utero environment in ALL. This research is coupled with her prospective cohort study of epigenetics in pregnancy and its influences on obesity in early childhood that reported how breast feeding can modify the epigenetic effects from diet in pregnancy on obesity risk by three years of age.

Supported by Pfizer Consumer Healthcare
Robert H. Herman Award
Given to a clinical investigator in recognition of contributions of significance to the biochemical and metabolic aspects of human nutrition

DAVID JA JENKINS, MD, DPHIL, DSC, FRSC, FRCP
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

David Jenkins is currently a professor in both the Departments of Nutritional Sciences and Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto, a scientist in the Li Ka Shing Knowledge Institute and Director of the Clinical Nutrition and Risk Factor Modification Center, St. Michael’s Hospital. He was educated at Oxford University, where he obtained his DM, DPhil and DSc. He is a fellow of the Royal College of Physicians (London) and of the Royal College of Physicians of Canada.

He has served on committees in Canada and the United States that have formulated nutritional guidelines for the treatment of diabetes and recommendations for fiber and macronutrient intake for the general population under the joint United States-Canada DRI system (RDAs).

He has over 300 original publications on the treatment of hyperlipidemia and diabetes. His team defined the concept of the glycemic index of foods. They demonstrated the effects of viscous soluble fiber, on blood glucose and cholesterol lowering. His dietary portfolio of cholesterol lowering foods has entered guidelines as an effective dietary alternative to drug therapy (statins) for some people.

He has worked with the food industry to make therapeutic diets more accessible to the public (e.g., Loblaws ‘Too Good To Be True’ and ‘Blue Menu’ line of products).

He is a fellow of the American Society for Nutrition and was awarded the W.O. Atwater Award of the USDA and the American Society for Nutrition for his studies on functional foods for the treatment of disease (2013).

He believes in the value of plant based diets, and that a major effort is required to mount large studies to determine the extent of their health benefits. He also believes that diets have to be environmentally sustainable.

In Memory of R.H. Herman, MD (1925-1980)
Make a Lasting Impression

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