

# Dietitians in Nutrition Support

a dietetic practice group of the  
 Academy of Nutrition  
and Dietetics

## Dietitians in Nutrition Support: Immediate Past-Chair Report Dema Halasa Esper, MS, RDN, LD Accomplishments 2013-2014

### DNS Executive Committee: 2013-2104

**Chair - Dema Halasa Esper**

**Chair Elect - Beth Taylor**

**Immediate Past Chair - Gail Cresci**

**Treasurer - Susan Roberts**

**Secretary - Mary Marian**

**Nominating Committee Chair - Britta Brown**

Started the year with the following goals based on the 2013 Retreat in Charleston, SC:

1. Development of a Strategic Planning Task Force to update our Strategic Plan to align with the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.
2. Discussion of DNS organizational structure and creation of new EC position – Professional Development Chair
3. Ideas on growing leaderships
4. Ideas for product development
5. Establishment of a DNS shared site for the holding of files and developing a calendar of events to guide DNS leadership team.
6. Continue the efforts with an Pilot Advance Practice Residency (APR)

### **New and Approved Vision, Mission, and Values Statements as of May 2014:**

**DNS Vision:** Optimize the health of individuals who require nutrition support therapy

**DNS Mission:** Empower members to be leaders in the science and practice of nutrition support therapy

#### **DNS Values:**

**Integrity** - Act ethically with accountability for lifelong learning and commitment to excellence

**Innovation** - Embrace change with creativity and strategic thinking

**Social Responsibility** - Make decisions with consideration for inclusivity as well as environmental, economic and social implications

**Membership through June 2013-May 2014 --- 3486 members**

**Web address: [www.dnsdpg.org](http://www.dnsdpg.org)**

### **2013 Symposium in Charleston, SC:**

- The Start of the Year kicked off with our Symposium in Charleston, SC. 92 total people were in attendance (63 two-day participants, 3 on Friday only; 15 speakers, and 11 sponsors/exhibitors). A new venture, on-line access to power point slides with recording of sessions, available for purchase after the event, was tried instead of using symposium books. This generated 30 online orders (7 full access at \$129 and 23 on-line individual links at \$15.00 each) for a total amount of \$499.20 due to DNS (which is 40% of a total \$1248.00)
- Thanks to our Industry Liaison who secured the following industry support in the amount of \$22,000 from the following sources: Abbott Med Ed Grand for \$14,619; Coviden supported \$5000; Baxter supported \$800; Nestle supported \$750 for table top II exhibit; Nutricia North American supported \$1000 for general expenses; and Coram supported \$500 for table top I exhibit.

### **DNS New Website:**

- The beginning of the year focused on the completion and launching of our DNS website. This was accomplished during the month of September. This site provides a central communication site for our members as well as providing the following, based on our Web Committee Chairs: a more friendly platform, searchable Support Line, a networking site for members to participate in on-line forums and networking groups, a better calendar option, and access to Academy and DNS material (i.e. guideline principles, policies, mission and values statements, and HOD updates).
- A networking chair was chosen to coordinate the web-movement our 6 networking specialty areas (critical illness, GI, homecare, transplant, pediatrics, research) and a total of 22 volunteers were recruited to assist with keeping these networking areas going.
- The website created a new network of volunteers to assemble and work together on updating the many facets of the new site.

### **FNCE, 2013 Houston, TX**

- **DNS Spotlight session:** Improving Outcomes in Severely Obese Populations after Bariatric Surgery: Speakers were Drs. Bruce Wolfe and Charlene Compher. Speakers and session were well received.
- **DNS 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reception:** Our Guest Speaker was Marion Winkler with an address titled “DNS Past, Present and Future.” Her presentation was remarkable. The evening ended with our membership chair providing a slide show and was later featured on our DNS website – capturing the whole event.
- **DPG membership showcase.** DNS exhibited and provided white pens as our giveaway.
- DNS supported the Student Stipend and the Academy Foundation with a silent auction gift (designer bag with NFPA video, stethoscope; and blood pressure cuff)

### **Strategic Planning Task Force:**

- Sarah Peterson led the task force, which had a total of 8 members. It was first assembled at FNCE in Houston, TX. Adam Ross, an outside facilitator, provided

moderator assistance. The committee held several conference calls throughout the year to establish a final document for review to the EC in January.

- Aligned DNS Mission and Vision statements with the Academy; approved by both the DNS Executive Committee and Academy BOD (new statements are above).
- Three goals with tactics were devised. Documents were presented for final review at the 2014 Retreat.
- DNS organization structure and two job descriptions for possible two new EC positions (Directors of Professional Development and Communication) were included for review at the Retreat.

#### **DNS and Academy Awards and Recognition:**

- **Professional Development Scholarships:** Continued to provide DNS professional scholarships to 4 members. Had 7 applicants during the Fall period and 10 applicants during the Spring period. Committee requested to provide 2 additional scholarships per year for a total of 6 scholarships.
- **Academy Ballot:** 2 out of 3 DNS members were selected to Academy positions.
- **DNS ballot:** 5 positions were open and 6 members were selected for these positions. The committee acknowledged the difficulty in finding willing and eligible members to run for DNS EC positions. The 5-year rule for Chair-Elect position limits the potential to 3-4 candidates each year.
- **DNS Awards:** DNS recipients for DNS Distinguished Practice and DNS Distinguished Service Awards are Susan Brantley and Cindy Hamilton, respectively.
- **Academy awards:** Three were submitted and all the applicants won – Excellence in Clinical Nutrition: Beth Taylor; Excellence in Dietetic Research: Gail Cresci; and Medallion: Mary Marian. Congratulations to all!
- Nominating Committee is initiating discussions to assess if a change to a 2-tier committee structure, as opposed to a 3-tier committee structure, is best.

#### **Networking with Other Professional Groups/ Stakeholders in Nutrition Support:**

- **ASPEN/Clinical Nutrition Week 2014:** Continue to provide highly attended nutrition focused physical exam skills workshop training at Savannah, GA. Two sessions were provided with 150 in total attendance at both each session. Also we participated Exhibitors Booth. Furthermore, we supported our own DNS member – Ainsley Malone, the President of ASPEN, 2013-2104 with an additional donation to the Rhodes Foundation in honor of her presidency.
- **Oley Foundation:** We are sending our homecare-networking chair to Oley Foundation to exhibit at their Meeting in June 23-26, 2014. A formal Networking application was submitted to the EC to review so DNS can establish a formal relationship with them via the Academy.

#### **DNS Membership Benefits and Products Initiatives:**

- **Individual Mentoring Program:** A new mentoring coordinator was appointed and she launched a new professional mentoring program with an application and advertisement through the website in November. This program attracted over 23 mentees and 12 mentors. This program was very successful and exceeded past enrollment.

- **DNS Writers Mentoring program:** Writer’s mentoring program had 7 mentors/mentees paired together from summer to fall. Four articles were published to date from this program.
- **Support Line (SL):** 6 high-quality issues were published. Approximately **16 CPE** credits were offered to our members through SL. The item-writing committee continues to comply with Professional Development standards to ensure we maximize CE credits for our members via SL. Industry Liaison secured sponsorship through Nestle (3 issues) and Covidien (4 issues) for a total of 7 issues through FY 2013-2014.
- **Item-Writing Committee/CPE:** worked on four past webinars from 2012 to be offered as post-listening webinars with CPE credits. These post webinars will be sold through the website new store feature this upcoming summer. The committee is also working on extending the 2013 symposium recordings by working on CPE questions for each of the lectures provided. Three new members were added to the committee and participated in training via a seminar in Philadelphia to assist with the committees extended work efforts.
- **Webinars:** The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics helped host our webinars with our new Webex platform. Provided six webinars free to members this year because our DNS website store was not available:
  1. How to Apply Malnutrition Criteria for Nutrition Support Practitioners (956 participants)- Ainsley Malone
  2. Wound Healing and Pressure Ulcer Management (341 participants) - Jennifer Doley
  3. Perioperative Nutrition Support (193 participants) - Dr. Robert Martindale
  4. So You Think You Know S\*#t (259 participants) - Beth Taylor
  5. Nutrition Support in the Pediatric and Adult Burn Patient (85 participants) - Deb Hutsler
  6. Advanced Practice Dietitians: The Nutrition Support Practice Model (322 participants) - Jennifer Wooley and Rebecca Brody
- **EN/PN Slide Set:** The decision was made to complete the EN/PN set first and then move into subspecialty sets later (e.g. homecare, pediatrics, critical illness). A final set was provided for review for the EC at the Retreats. Plans will be made to sell these in the upcoming year.
- **Products:** Summary of Products Sales for the year below:

○	<b>Physical Assessment Encore DVD**</b>	<b>Evidence &amp; Practice: Are You on Target</b>	<b>Additional Prepaid or Submitted CPE</b>	<b>Total Sales (includes s/h and tax)</b>	<b>CPE submitted Are You on Target</b>
<i>6/1/13 - 5/1/14</i>	23	6	4	\$1,270.00	15

**Academy Supported Efforts**

- **Public Advocacy Leader (PAL):** DNS continues to support and send one member per year to the Public Policy Workshop. The Washington DC office wants to establish efforts with DNS to provide Congress with data regarding how the Drug-Shortage is affecting TPN-dependent patients. DNS will continue to support and educate members on the Academy efforts with the new RDNs' ability to write diet orders in acute-care settings.
- **SOP/SOPP:** Revision of the Standards of Practice and Standards of Professional Performance for Registered Dietitian Nutritionists in Nutrition Support accomplished via efforts of a joint DNS/A.S.P.E.N. committee. After review and approval by DNS Executive Committee, Academy Quality Management Committee, and A.S.P.E.N. Clinical Practice Committee and Board of Directors, joint publication of the document is expected in late 2014 in JAND and NCP.
- **Advanced Practice Residency/Credential:** DNS continues to communicate with the Council of Future Practice Committee regarding DNS plans for a pilot Advance Practice Residency (APR). Furthermore, DNS also is in communication with members of the CDR regarding the advanced practice credential exam, with an expected broad-based clinical exam in 2015. A webinar was provided for our members to update them on the results of CDR survey in May. Participation in an APR will not required to sit for the advanced practice examination.
- **House Delegate DPG:** Our Delegate participated in and represented our DNS membership at the Fall and Spring HOD meetings.
- **Practice Paper Publication:** Critical Thinking Skills in Nutrition Assessment and Diagnosis: **Authors from DNS:** Pamela Charney, PhD, RD, CHTS-CP, Sarah J. Peterson, MS, RD, CNSC, Reviewers from DNS: Robert DeChicco, MS, RD, LD, CNSC; Mary Marian, MS, RD, CSO. Academy Positions Committee: Ainsley M. Malone, MS, RD, CNSC, LD; Trisha Fuhrman, RD, LD, FADA, CNSD (content advisor).