

**Dietitians in Nutrition Support (DNS)**  
**A Dietetic Practice Group of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics**  
**2012-2013 Annual Report**  
**Submitted by Gail Cresci, PhD, RD, LD**  
**Immediate Past-Chair**

**DNS Mission/Vision**

Mission: To serve dietetic practitioners who provide nutrition support therapy across the continuum by offering evidence-based resources, educational products and programs as well as opportunities for networking.

Vision: To serve members so they will possess knowledge, skills, and attitudes required to provide safe and efficacious nutrition support therapy.

**Summary of Immediate Past-Chair**

DNS had a very productive and successful year. DNS offered numerous educational events that were both well-attended and well-received. *Support Line* continues to be a favorite member benefit and the issues this past year and for next year focus on topic areas of member interest. DNS was well represented at numerous conferences such as FNCE®, Clinical Nutrition Week and Oley Foundation. DNS is has developed a reputation for driving nutrition support practice forward and this is reflective in the huge interest in the advanced practice skills workshops. DNS continues to develop an advance practice residency program in line with The Academy's Council on Future Practice. Realizing the internet is key for communication, a decision was made by the DNS Executive Committee (EC) to redesign the website to make it more appealing, accessible, easier to navigate and accommodate important DNS initiatives. The new website is due to go live in Summer 2013. DNS is only successful due to its volunteers which are all incredibly busy professionally. To assist with organization and continuity of efforts, an Administrative Assistant was hired to assist the Chair and other EC and committee chairs. Additionally, new volunteers were identified and integrated into various efforts such as the website, webinars, and product development. Mentoring efforts continue to foster interested members in becoming more involved to grow new DNS leadership.

**2012-2013 Challenges**

Webinar platform changed mid-year from GoToWebinar to WebEx. At the time, this limited the number of participants we could host, how participants joined the webinar (view via computer but listen only via phone), how program materials were distributed to registrants (individual emails), inability to access reports that contained the attendance numbers, not compatible with Mac computers, inability for attendees to access completion certificates online so need to be individually emailed.

- In an effort to support DNS initiatives, improve customer requests and services, DNS decided to locate a new web designer.

### **New Position**

An Administrative Assistant, Katelyn Bush, was selected and hired in June 2012 and began working for DNS in July 2012. DNS Chair worked closely with Katelyn in developing roles and orienting and guiding her through the Academy and DNS policies and procedures.

### **Website**

The DNS Website was in need of revision and during the 2012-2013 EC Retreat discussions focused on how to move forward with the website. The EC agreed to investigate new web designers. The website committee, with the guidance of Beth Taylor, MS, RD, LD, CNSC, investigated potential website designers. A RFP was posted in Fall 2012 and a decision to contract with DryWash Media was made. The DNS Website is to launch summer 2013. The website committee is working diligently to make it a timely and successful process. The new website will allow for many features such as searchable *Support Line* issues, user friendly navigation, attractive web pages, industry advertisement sites, and many more. The website committee recognizes the need to have active involvement with keeping the website fresh and updated therefore increasing the number of volunteers on this committee is desired.

### **Budget**

DNS is financially sound, ending the fiscal year with a \$90,000 plus surplus with healthy reserves at >180%. Efforts were made to use excess funds towards direct member benefits such as product development and educational offerings.

### **Advanced Practice Residency (APR)**

Work continued with APR from the prior year. Knowing this is a great effort, a co-chair was added. Currently both Jennifer Wooley, MS, RD, LD, CNSC and Cindy Hamilton, MS, RD, LD co-chair this committee. A timeline was developed to keep the project on track. The APR committee met in April 2013 in Cleveland, OH to develop competencies. Work continues on this project and funds have been allocated in 2013-2014 POW to support these efforts.

### **Public Policy**

Sandy Austhoff, MS, RD, LD, CNSC, incoming Public Policy Liaison, attended the Academy's Public Policy Workshop held in Washington, DC March 10-12, 2013. She educated policy makers on the Farm Bill, Older Americans Act, Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Reauthorization, Preventing Diabetes in Medicare Act of 2011, Access to Frontline Healthcare Act, and CMS Rule on Therapeutic Diet Orders. Elizabeth Pash, MS, RD, LD, CNSC was the outgoing Public Policy Liaison. Throughout the year she kept DNS members updated on public policy related topics and issues through website postings and she wrote an article for *Support Line* on Public Policy MNT.

### **Research Award: \$5000**

Kathy Barco, RD, LD, CNSC

Project Title: "DECLOG: Dietitian's Evaluation of Clearing Luminal Occlusions of Gunk"  
Outpatient Clinical Dietitian

Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, Ohio

### **Membership**

DNS Membership has remained stable at 3560 members as of May 2013. Several new volunteers have been incorporated into various committees including website and webinar committees. Member survey results were evaluated and considered when reviewing needs for several important high member interest areas such as DNS website redesign and topics for *Support Line*. EC discussed raising membership rates but voted not to change the rate.

### **Educational Events**

**FNCE® 2012** – Philadelphia, PA

**Pre-Conference Workshop:** “Power Up Your Toolbox: Assessment Skills for Building Your Practice” Presenters from DNS: Mary Marian, MS, RD, LD, CSO, Lindsay Dowhan, MS, RD, LD, CNSC, CSO, Planned with the Academy Coding and Coverage Committee.

**Spotlight Session:** Advanced Practice Dietitians: The Future Nutrition Support Model. Presenters: Jennifer Wooley, MS, RD, LD, CNSC, Alison Stieber, PhD, RD, LD, Moderator: Gail Cresci, PhD, RD, LD

**Other DNS Submitted Session:** “Drug Shortages”, presenters: Mandy Corrigan, MS, RD, LD, CNSC, Jay Mirtallo, PharmD, Moderator: Cindy Hamilton, MS, RD, LD.

**FNCE Innovations Session:** Presenter: Jennifer Wooley, MS, RD, LD, CNSC – presented on the DNS Model for Advanced Practice Nutrition Support Dietitian

DNS also participated in the DPG/MIG Showcase with a display, had a member reception sponsored by Covidien, and a Past-Chair and current EC dinner sponsored by Abbott Nutrition.

### **Webinars**

DNS sponsored 6 webinars. The last two webinars were complimentary due to difficulties DNS was having with the new webinar platform. Webinar participation ranged from 30 – 117 attendees, with the complimentary webinars having the largest attendance (92 and 117, respectively).

- 10/25/12- Pediatric update for Non-Pediatric Dietitians- Sarah Vermilyea, RD, CNSC
- 12/4/12- Nutrition Support Case Studies in the Critically Ill- Mandy Corrigan, MPH, RD, CNSC, Amy Berry, MS, RD, CNSC
- 1/31/13- Management and Treatment of Enterocutaneous Fistulas- Beth Taylor, MS, RD, CNSC, FCCM
- 4/1/13- Complementary and Alternative Medicine- Mary Marion, MS, RD, LD, CSO
- 5/16/13- Feeding the Patient with Spinal Cord Injuries- Natalia Bailey, MS, RD
- 6/13/13- Enteral Practices to Minimize Aspiration- Susan Brantley, MS, LDN, CNSC

**ASPEN CNW 2013** – Phoenix, AZ, February 9-12, 2013

DNS sponsored an Advanced Practice Skills Workshop which was coordinated by Mary Hise, PhD, RD, offering abdominal and chest radiograph interpretation, hand-grip, blood

pressure, abdominal examination, malnutrition assessment for micro- and macronutrients, and case-studies. This was well attended remaining highly rated via attendee evaluations and waiting list.

**DNS Symposium** - "Charting the Course to Advance Your Practice", Charleston, SC, June 7-8, 2013. Planning for this event occurred throughout 2012-2013. This was a successful event. DNS had 15 speakers, 11 sponsors/exhibitors, and 92 member participation. Mary Marian and Susan Roberts, MS, RD, LD, CNSC did an exceptional job putting together this symposium and member feedback was very positive and DNS made a profit. Detailed financial follow-up will appear in 2013-2014 chair report.

### **Other Organization Support**

#### **ASPEN**

- Had a display booth in Exhibit hall of CNW 2012.
- Donated money to ASPEN Rhoads Research Foundation (\$500) and Silent Auction Item (\$100)

#### **Oley Foundation**

- Had a display booth at Oley Foundation Meeting July 2012, Neha Parekh, MS, RD, LD, CNSC represented DNS.

#### **NATCO (Transplant Conference)**

- Provided \$500 support for DNS member/speaker at symposium

### **Support Line**

*Support Line* continues to be the biggest member benefit. We had six high quality issues this year. Mandy Corrigan, MS, RD, LD, CNSC is the current editor and doing a great job with issues planned through 2014. Mary Russell's role as Industry Liaison allows DNS to continue to have industry support for this benefit, Nestle Healthcare Nutrition, Inc. and Covidien. *Support Line* provided 3 CPE hours with each issue thanks to the DNS Item Writing Committee. Ongoing collaborations with AGC and Deb Kuhlman (copyeditor) were key to *Support Line* success.

### **Products (Current)**

**Physical Assessment DVD** – DNS current version continues to sell despite being >10 years old. Two hundred more copies were made this year. Efforts were made to update the DVD. This effort is being restarted and a new committee to be formed. **"Evidence in Practice: Are you on Target?"** – product sales began May 2012 – as of June 2013, 52 books have sold. CPE approved until April 2015.

### **New Product Development**

Recognizing the need for DNS to increase products for members several initiatives occurred this year.

**Webinars** – Item writing committee preparing CPE for the highest-attended webinars from prior years (5). These will be available for purchase in near future.

**Enteral & Parenteral Slide Sets** –Continued to revise and update the enteral and parenteral slide sets for topics: Parenteral Nutrition in Adults, Enteral Nutrition in Adults,

Home Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition. Currently these sets are in review and should be available for sale Fall 2013.

**DNS Symposium Recordings** – Contracted with Intelliquest to record June 2013 Symposium podium sessions for future member purchase and will have a revenue sharing with Intelliquest.

### **Award and Recognition**

- Student Scholarships
  - (2012)Elizabeth Gallent (\$500)- FNCE 2012
- Professional Development Scholarships
  - Spring 2012- Kate Wilcutts (\$1250)- international dietetic meeting in Australia; Jodi Wolff (\$1000) CNW 2013
  - Fall 2012- Patricia Esposito (\$1250) and Stephanie Dobak (\$1000) – both attended CNW 2013
  - Spring 2013- Diane Marie Snyder, MS, RD, LD, CNSC FNCE 2013 (\$1250), Shawna Tholen, RD (\$1000)
- DNS Awards
  - 2012- Distinguished service- Mary Hise
  - 2012 Distinguished Practice- Carol Rees Parrish
  - 2012 Academy Excellence in Management Practice- Cynthia Hamilton
  - 2012 Academy Medallion Award- Annalynn Skipper

### **Mentoring**

This continues to be of interest for DNS. The writer's mentoring program had 5 mentor/mentee pairs and one successful submission to Support Line. DNS continues to develop and launch a mentoring program. The launch of the new website will greatly facilitate this effort.

### **DNS Workgroups**

Currently DNS has workgroups for transplant, pediatrics and new this year GI. We would like to expand these and increase their visibility with the new website.

### **New Volunteers:**

Public Policy Liaison – Sandy Austhoff, MS, RD, LD, CNSC

Webinar Committee Chair: Mary Ellen Beindorf, MS, RD, LD, CNSC

Webinar Committee – Malissa Warren, RD, LD, CNSC