



DNS Graduate Program Ranks High Among Peers

In September 2010, the National Research Council released its rankings of graduate programs, including programs in nutrition. The rankings for nutrition were developed from data provided by 44 participating programs. There are many ways to analyze the data, but nearly every way reveals the DNS to be a top 3 or top 10 program. Congratulations to all students, faculty, and staff, past and present, for helping DNS achieve this lofty ranking. To learn more, visit: <http://graduateschool.phds.org>

Upcoming Events

DNS Recruiting Weekend
March 10-12, 2011
Urbana, IL

NSGSA Nutrition Symposium
April 6, 2011
Urbana, IL

Experimental Biology
April 9-13, 2011
Washington, DC

U of I Nutrition Mixer at EB
April 11, 2011
Washington, DC

ACES Graduation Ceremony
May 14, 2011
Urbana, IL

Inaugural DNS Regulatory
Affairs Summit
May 23-27, 2011
Washington, DC



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University of Illinois Nutrition Symposium unveils new format in 2011

Award-winning researcher Brian Wansink of Cornell University will highlight the University of Illinois Nutrition Symposium on Wednesday, April 6, from 4 to 5 p.m. in 103 Mumford Hall on campus. The seminar is open to the public.

Wansink's message, "Modifying the Built Environment: From Mindless Eating to Mindlessly Eating Better," will emphasize that most people don't overeat because they are hungry.

"We overeat because of family and friends, packages and plates, names and numbers, labels and lights, colors and candles, shapes and smells, distractions and distances, and cupboards and containers," he said.

Based on 20 years of research, he will discuss how people can turn mindless eating around by setting up their homes, tables, and offices so they mindlessly eat less rather than mindlessly overeat.

In addition to directing the Cornell Food and Brand Lab, Wansink has authored more than 100 academic articles and books, including the best-selling *Mindless Eating: Why We Eat More than We Think* (2006) along with *Marketing Nutrition* (2005), *Asking Questions* (2004), and *Consumer Panels* (2002). He was granted a leave of absence from 2007 to 2009 to accept a Presidential appointment as Executive Director of the USDA Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion.

A new format will greet participants of this annual symposium organized by the DNS graduate students.

In addition to Wansink's keynote address, participants will engage in a mini-symposium of world-class U of I faculty researchers on Wednesday from 9 to 11 a.m. Their discussions will address nutritional strategies to mitigate

immune-to-brain communication.

Robert Dantzer, a U of I College of ACES professor in the Department of Animal Sciences, will discuss his research on "Inflammation, Tryptophan Metabolism and Depression."

Jeff Woods, a U of I College of Applied Sciences professor in the Department of Kinesiology and Community Health, will present "A Primer on How the Immune System Says Hello to the Brain."

Greg Freund, a U of I College of Medicine professor in the Department of Pathology, will present "Dietary Fiber to Remedy Behavioral Disorders Related to the Overweight/Obese State."

Rodney Johnson, a U of I College of ACES professor in the Department of Animal Sciences, will close the mini-symposium with his presentation, "Can Dietary Flavonoids Restore 'Old' Microglia to Their Youthful State and Delay Cognitive Aging?"

From 12:45 to 3:30 p.m., graduate student oral presentations will highlight research in DNS. A poster session will take place and hors d'oeuvres will be served from 5:15 to 6:30 p.m. A special awards presentation will complete the symposium at 6:30 p.m.

The Nutrition Symposium is sponsored by ADM Cares Foundation, Abbott Nutrition, Coca-Cola, The Kellogg Company, Kraft Foods, Mead Johnson Nutrition, PepsiCo, Wrigley and Zinpro. Symposium friends include the General Mills Bell Institute of Health and Nutrition, the U of I Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition, the U of I Department of Animal Sciences, and the U of I Department of Kinesiology and Community Health.

Nutrition Symposium

Wednesday, April 6
U of I ACES Library
& 103 Mumford Hall

Keynote Speaker:
Brian Wansink

2010-2011 External Advisory Committee

Lee Alekel, Ph.D.
Professor
Dept. Food Sciences
and Human Nutrition
Iowa State University

Arti Arora, Ph.D.
Principal Manager
Scientific & Regulatory Affairs
The Coca-Cola Company

Richard Black, Ph.D.
Vice President
Global Nutrition/Chief Nutrition
Officer
Kraft Foods Global, Inc.

Naomi Fukagawa, M.D., Ph.D.
Professor of Medicine
College of Medicine
University of Vermont

Keith Garleb, Ph.D.
Director, Pediatric R&D
Abbott Nutrition
Abbott

Eric Hentges, Ph.D.
Executive Director
International Life Sciences
Institute North America

Brian Larson, Ph.D.
Private Nutrition Consultant

Gilbert Leveille, Ph.D.
Sr. Consultant, Scientific &
Regulatory Affairs
Cargill, Inc.
Executive Director
Wrigley Science Institute

Gregory Miller, Ph.D.
President
Dairy Research Institute
Executive Vice President
Research, Regulatory and
Scientific Affairs
National Dairy Council

John O'Connell, Ph.D.
Chief Scientific Officer/
Vice President
Pfizer Nutrition R&D

Greg Paul, Ph.D.
Global Director
Nutrition Strategy
The Solae Company

Martha Stipanuk, Ph.D.
James Jamison Professor
of Nutrition
Division of Nutritional Sciences
and College of Ecology
Cornell University

Hugh Tucker, Ph.D.
Vice President
Mead Johnson Nutrition



A Word from the Director

It's a pleasure to introduce *The Edge—Pushing the Boundaries of Nutrition*. This new electronic newsletter published by the Division of Nutritional Sciences is designed to keep our alumni and friends informed of ongoing division activities and accomplishments. Included in each issue will be student and faculty profiles, information on important events, stories about exciting research in DNS, recognition of current students and faculty receiving awards or achieving significant accomplishments, and other interesting tidbits. *The Edge*, which will replace the traditional newsletter mailed each year, has several important benefits. First, although this edition was printed and mailed, over time *The Edge* will only be available electronically in order to eliminate costly printing and postage fees. To this end, it is important that you complete and return the attached card. Second, because printing and mailing costs will be eliminated, DNS can publish two newsletters each year instead of one. Compared to the old newsletter, *The Edge* will include more current news and information. Third, in addition to being sent via email, current and past editions of *The Edge* will be available at the DNS website (A new website is currently under construction). Finally, this new means of communication allows DNS to “go green,” to some extent. I'm sure some will miss the old format, but I hope everyone recognizes the need for this transition and, in time comes to enjoy the new format. Inside this edition, you can find a small sample of the great things going on in DNS.

Enjoy and best wishes,
Sincerely,

Rod Johnson

**Join us at
Experimental Biology 2011!**

**University of Illinois
Nutrition Mixer**

Monday, April 11 ~ 7-9 p.m.

Renaissance Washington

**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 launch of a new student program: the DNS Nutrition Policy and Regulatory Affairs Summit. This three-day program in Washington, DC, is ideal for students who are interested in gaining greater exposure to all aspects of nutrition/food policy and regulation. Our first summit will take place on May 24-26, 2011, 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. This event is sponsored by Kraft Foods and ILSI North America.



Research Spotlight:

An Apple a Day?

*Study shows soluble fiber
boosts immune system*

by Phyllis Picklesimer

About Professor Gregory Freund



After receiving his bachelor's degree in studio art from Wesleyan University, Gregory G. Freund, M.D., studied medicine and pathology at the University of Rochester. There, he became interested in the immunological complications of obesity and type 2 diabetes (diabesity) and has been researching in this area ever since. Currently, he is Professor and Head of Pathology at the University of Illinois, examining the biobehavioral impact of diabesity, especially as it relates to interleukin-1/interleukin-1 receptor antagonist balance and diabesity-associated anti-inflammatory cytokine resistance. His current research focuses on the neuroimmune complications of diabesity and the development of nutritional countermeasures to protect against adverse behaviors associated with pro-inflammatory conditions and their contribution to impaired brain function.

A new University of Illinois study touts the benefits of soluble fiber—found in oats, apples, and nuts, for starters—saying that it reduces the inflammation associated with obesity-related diseases and strengthens the immune system.

“Soluble fiber changes the personality of immune cells—they go from being pro-inflammatory, angry cells to anti-inflammatory, healing cells that help us recover faster from infection,” said Gregory Freund, a professor in the U of I’s College of Medicine and a faculty member in its Division of Nutritional Sciences.

This happens because soluble fiber causes increased production of an anti-inflammatory protein called interleukin-4, he said.

In the study, laboratory mice consumed low-fat diets that were identical except that they contained either soluble or insoluble fiber. After six weeks, the animals had distinctly different responses when the scientists induced illness by introducing a substance that causes the body to mimic a bacterial infection.

“Two hours after lipopolysaccharide injection, the mice fed soluble fiber were half as sick as the other group, and they recovered 50 percent sooner. The differences between the groups continued to be pronounced 24 hours later,” said Christina Sherry, who worked on the study.

“In six weeks, these animals had profound, positive changes in their immune systems,” Sherry said.

Now Freund has a new question: Could soluble fiber offset some of the negative effects of a high-fat diet, essentially immunizing obese persons against the harmful effects of fat?

Scientists have long known that obesity is linked to inflammatory conditions, such as diabetes and heart disease.

Yet, in a recent study, the U of I scientists demonstrated that fat tissue produces hormones that appear to compensate for this inflammation. They would like to find a way to keep some of the anti-inflammatory effects that develop over time with a high-fat diet while reducing that diet’s negative effects.

“It’s possible that supplementing a high-fat diet with soluble fiber could even delay the onset of diabetes,” Freund said.

This study is one of the first to provide two valuable lessons, said Sherry. The first, already noted, is that soluble fiber has direct anti-inflammatory effects and builds up the immune system. The second is that the amount of soluble

“It’s possible that supplementing a high-fat diet with soluble fiber could even delay the onset of diabetes.”

fiber necessary to achieve these health benefits is a reasonable, not a pharmacological, amount.

Good sources of soluble fiber are oat bran, barley, nuts, seeds, citrus fruits, apples, strawberries, and carrots.

The study appeared in the May 2010 issue of *Brain, Behavior, and Immunity* and is available online at www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/08891591.

Co-authors are Stephanie S. Kim, Ryan N. Dilger, Laura L. Bauer, Morgan L. Moon, Richard I. Tapping, George C. Fahey Jr., and Kelly A. Tappenden, all from the U of I. The research was funded by the National Institutes of Health, the American Heart Association, and the USDA among others.

This research was featured in many well-known publications, including Reader’s Digest, Self, Shape, Women’s Health, Fitness, Good Housekeeping, Eating Well, and AARP Newsletter.

New DNS Students

Shuowen Chen

M.S. candidate, B.S. in Biological Sciences. Advised by Juan Loor.

Lauren Conlon

M.S. candidate, B.S. in Animal Sciences. Advised by John Erdman.

Peter Fitschen

Ph.D. candidate, B.S. in Biochemistry; M.S. in Biology. JBT Fellowship. Advised by Kenneth Wilund.

Jennifer Ivarson

M.S. candidate, B.S. in Molecular and Cellular Biology. Advised by Rodney Johnson.

Michelle Johnson

M.S. candidate, B.S. in Biochemistry. Advised by Elvira de Mejia.

Brett Loman

M.S. candidate, B.S. in Animal Sciences and Human Nutrition. JBT Fellowship. Advised by Kelly Tappenden.

Kilia Lu

M.S. candidate, B.S. in FSHN. Advised by Sharon Donovan.

Amy MacInnes

M.S. candidate, B.S. in Biology. Advised by Sharon Donovan/Soo-Yeun Lee.

Jane Naberhuis

M.S. candidate, B.S. in Biomedical Science. University Fellowship. Advised by Kelly Tappenden.

Evelia Milan Noris

Ph.D. candidate, B.S. in Biochemical Engineering, Food Technology. CONACYT Fellowship. Advised by Schuyler Korban.

Ginger Reeser

M.S. candidate, B.S. in Biology. Advised by Kelly Tappenden.

Jill Shunk

M.S. candidate, B.S. in Human Nutrition & Dietetics. Advised by Sharon Donovan.

Joshua Smith

M.S. candidate, B.S. in Dietetics. University Fellowship. Advised by John Erdman.

Anthony Wang

M.S. candidate, B.S. in Molecular and Cellular Biology. Advised by Margarita Teran-Garcia.



Student Recognition

DNS students honored at the 2010 ACES Graduate Fellows and Gamma Sigma Delta Awards Ceremony include: (front l-r) Ryan Grant, Nikki Ford, Desiree Lavin, Matthew Thorpe, Heather Mangian; (back l-r) Director Rod Johnson, Emily Tomayko, Krystle Zuniga, Lillian Diaz Rios, Radhika Ganu, Claudia Luevano Contreras, Kimberly Cephas, Morgan Moon.

2009-2010 and 2010-2011 Fellowship Recipients

CONACYT Scholarship:

Lillian Diaz Rios
Claudia Luevano Contreras
Evelia Milan Noris

Egg Nutrition Center Fellowship:

Gabriel Wilson

Graduate College Fellowship:

Krystle Zuniga

JBT (ACES):

Timothy Abbott
Shelly Davis
Peter Fitschen
Brett Loman

NIH Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute Fellowship:

Matthew Thorpe

NIH Predoctoral Fellowship:

Jennifer Barnes
Shelly Davis
Desiree Lavin
Morgan Moon
Jennifer Woodard

UNCF Fellowship:

Ryan Grant

USDA National Needs Predoctoral Fellowship:

Jodee Johnson
Henna Muzaffar
Nathan Pratt
Krystle Zuniga

University Fellowship:

Jodee Johnson
Jane Naberhuis
Nathan Pratt
Joshua Smith

Kraft Foods Human Nutrition Fellows

Kimberly Cephas
Melissa Kaczmarek
Emily Tomayko

2010 Margin of Excellence Research Fund Recipients

Jennifer Barnes
Kimberly Cephas
Amy Elsen
Nikki Ford
Jodee Johnson
Ann Liu
Rita Strakovsky
Emily Tomayko
Sonja Volker
Krystle Zuniga

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. DNS also supported travel for 22 students to attend national and international scientific meetings.

DNS Students Receive Fellowships at 2010 EB

Jen Barnes, Pfizer, Inc., Predoctoral Fellowship

Nikki Ford, Kraft Foods Predoctoral Fellowship

Emily Radlowski, McNeil Nutritionals Predoctoral Fellowship

2010 Endowed Student Award Recipients

David H. Baker Nutrition Scholar Award: Nikki Ford

James L. Robinson Nutrition Impact Award: Nancy Engelmann

Toshiro Nishida Research Travel Award: Krystle Zuniga

William C. Rose Research Travel Award: Mina Mojtahedi, Erica Nehrling, Rita Strakovsky, Emily Tomayko

Frank W. Kari Memorial Travel Award: Sonja Volker



2010-11 New DNS Students

Front (l to r): Kilia Liu, Evelia Milan Noris, Jennifer Ivarson, Amy MacInnes, Ginger Reeser. Back (l to r): Michelle Johnson, Shuowen Chen, Anthony Wang, Peter Fitschen, Jane Naberhuis, Joshua Smith, Jill Shunk. Not pictured: Brett Loman, Lauren Conlon.



Student News

2010-2011 NSGSA officers include (l to r): Jen Barnes, Katie Kerr, Gabe Chiu, Nathan Pratt, Lizzy Reznikov, Brendon Smith, Amy Elsen, Naiman Khan, and Jonathan Mun. Not pictured: Jodee Johnson.

Awards, Service, and Personal Achievements

- **Jennifer Croix** (Ph.D. 2010) is an M.D. candidate at the UIUC College of Medicine.
- **Nancy Engelmann** (Ph.D. 2010) is a student member of the ASN Nutritional Sciences Council Steering Committee. She received the ACES Teaching College Certificate and the Center for Teaching Excellence Graduate Teaching Certificate. She won the ASN CARIG Poster Competition Award and the DNS Nutrition Symposium Poster Competition Award. Nancy accepted a postdoctoral position at Ohio State University.
- **Nikki Ford** (Ph.D. 2010) was a student representative for the Gordon Carotenoids Conference and the ASN-RIS CARIG. She was a finalist in the ASN/NSC abstract competition, received first in the CARIG poster competition, and presented her dissertation work to the DNS External Advisory Committee. Nikki accepted a postdoctoral position at the University of Texas at Austin and became engaged to Manu Sharma in 2010.
- **Tristan Kraft** (Ph.D. 2010) is an M.D. candidate at the UIUC College of Medicine.
- **Rose Ann Mathai** (Ph.D. candidate) and her husband, Shiren, welcomed a new baby girl, Anya Mariam Mathai, on Dec. 14, 2010.
- **Mina Mojtahedi** (Ph.D. 2010), former U of I wheelchair basketball team member, is playing professional wheelchair basketball in Giessen, Germany, for the RSV Lahn Dill Wheelchair Basketball Team.
- **Henna Muzaffar** (Ph.D. candidate) received the ASN Graduate Student Research Award at the 2010 EB meeting for "Middle Schoolers Want More than Games for Health Education on the Internet."
- **Erica Nehrling** (M.S. 2010) is a Clinical Dietician at Decatur Memorial Hospital.
- **Layne Norton** (Ph.D. 2010) has started his own company, BioLayne, LLC, in Tampa, Florida.
- **Min Jung Park** (Ph.D. 2010) accepted a postdoctoral position in the Department of Neuroscience at Johns Hopkins University.
- **Maria Schreckinger** (M.S. 2010) is an intern at Nestle.
- **Matthew Thorpe** (Ph.D. 2010) is an M.D. candidate at the UIUC College of Medicine.
- **Jennifer Woodard** (Ph.D. 2010) is a Senior Nutrition Scientist with Mead Johnson Nutrition.

Research Funding

Nancy Engelmann was co-author of an NIH R21 grant funded for \$201,229, "Novel 13-C Tomato Carotenoids for Absorption and Metabolism Studies in Humans." The project will be a collaboration between the labs of Dr. Erdman (UIUC) and Drs. Clinton and Schwartz (OSU).

Emily Tomayko received a \$5,000 Student Grant Award from the American College of Sports Medicine Foundation to study the effects of exercise training on vascular calcification and cardiovascular disease risk in hemodialysis patients.

2010 Business Administration Certificate Students

Sponsored by Abbott Nutrition

Allyson Bares	Desiree Lavin
Jennifer Barnes	Rose Ann Mathai
Nikki Ford	Christopher Moulton
Katherine Kerr	Ghazal Naseri Kouzehgarani
Fang Yang	

2010 DNS Graduates

May Graduates

- **Tristan Kraft**: Ph.D.
Advised by Mary Ann Lila
- **Layne Norton**: Ph.D.
Advised by Don Layman
- **Jennifer Woodard**: Ph.D.
Advised by Kelly Tappenden
- **Katherine Kerr**: M.S.
Advised by Kelly Swanson
- **Desiree Lavin**: M.S.
Advised by Greg Freund
- **Jonathan Mun**: M.S.
Advised by Mary Ann Lila
- **Maria Schreckinger**: M.S.
Advised by Elvira de Mejia

August Graduates

- **Mina Mojtahedi**: Ph.D.
Advised by Ellen Evans
- **Min Jung Park**: Ph.D.
Advised by Greg Freund
- **Matthew Thorpe**: Ph.D.
Advised by Ellen Evans
- **Erica Nehrling**: M.S.
Advised by Kelly Tappenden

December Graduates

- **Allyson Bares**: M.S.
Advised by Sharon Donovan
- **Jennifer Croix**: Ph.D.
Advised by Rex Gaskins
- **Nancy Engelmann**: Ph.D.
Advised by John Erdman
- **Nikki Ford**: Ph.D.
Advised by John Erdman
- **Leia Kedem**: M.S.
Advised by Karen Chapman-Novakofski

NGSA Officers

- **Jennifer Barnes**
President
- **Nathan Pratt**
Co-Chair
- **Jodee Johnson**
Treasurer
- **Amy Elsen**
Co-Treasurer
- **Brendon Smith**
Secretary
- **Jon Mun**
Web Designer
- **Lizzy Reznikov**
Media Representative
- **Katie Kerr**
Student Representative to Faculty
- **Naiman Khan**
Grievance Committee Representative
- **Gabe Chiu**
Networking Chair

2010-11 DNS Executive Committee

J. Lee Beverly

Professor of Nutrition
Dept. of Animal Sciences
College of ACES

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. Freund

Professor and Head
Department of Pathology
College of Medicine

Kelly S. Swanson

Associate Professor of Animal
and Nutritional Sciences
Dept. of Animal Sciences
College of ACES

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

Jeffrey A. Woods

Professor of Kinesiology
Dept. of Kinesiology and
Community Health
College of Applied
Health Sciences

Katherine Kerr

DNS Graduate Student



Faculty Updates

Current DNS Director Rod Johnson, former DNS Director Sharon Donovan, and former DNS Director John Erdman, Jr., celebrate Donovan's 10 years of outstanding service as DNS Director last May. She was toasted (and roasted!) by a large group of students, alumni, faculty, and friends.

Karen Chapman-Novakofski received the 2010 Medallion of Honor Award from the Moms Association of the University of Illinois and serves as the Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Nutrition Education and Behavior*.

Sharon Donovan assumed the vice presidency for ASN in June 2010 and serves on the Strategic Oversight Committee and on various nomination and selection committees. She also continues to serve on the NIDDK Review Panel on Digestive Diseases and Nutrition Fellowships (2008-2011). She also edited a monograph entitled "Prebiotics in Infant Nutrition" featured as material on an accredited education website managed by Discovery Institute of Medical Education: see <http://www.pediatricnutritionce.org>.

John Erdman, Jr., became Professor Emeritus in September 2009 but continues to have a very active research laboratory. He presented the James Allen Olson Memorial Lecture at the EB meetings in 2010; was named Executive Director of the Wrigley Science Institute; is a member of the ASN Strategic Oversight Committee; serves as Chair, Committee on Nutrition, Trauma and the Brain, Institute of Medicine, National Academy of Sciences; and is a member of the Board of Trustees, ILSI-NA.

Rex Gaskins was on sabbatical August to December 2010 in Brisbane, Australia, at the University of Queensland, pursuing a project titled "Toward an Understanding of Microbial Hydrogenotrophy in the Human Colon." He was supported by a Preventative Health Faculty Fellowship from CSIRO.

Diana Grigsby-Toussaint was awarded a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation New Connections and Healthy Eating Research grant for junior investigators for "Examining Food Marketing and Promotion to Children in the Retail Food Store Environment."

Craig Gundersen was named Executive Director of the National Soybean Research Laboratory. He is a member of the Editorial Board for the *Journal of Nutrition*, the RIDGE Center for Targeted Studies Advisory Board, and a member of the Technical Advisory Group for Feeding America. He received a grant from the Merck Foundation for his project, "Grandparents, Grandchildren, and Hunger in the U.S.: Assessing Food Insecurity in Multigenerational Households."

Paul McNamara led the ACES in Sierra Leone trip and coordinated the Njala/Illinois joint short course on International Nutrition and Food Security, which was co-sponsored by World Vision's nutrition programs.

James L. Robinson was a contributing author to an IFT Scientific Review, Feeding the World Today and Tomorrow: The Importance of Food Science and Technology, published in *Comprehensive Reviews in Food Science and Food Safety*, v. 9, pp. 572-599, (2010) by John Floros et al.

Kelly Swanson received the North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) Teacher Fellow Award; is a member of the Editorial Boards for *Animal Feed Science and Technology*, *Journal of Animal Science*, and the *British Journal of Nutrition*; and had projects funded by the American Academy of Veterinary Nutrition, General Mills, Tate & Lyle, and the Ruprecht Company.

Kelly Tappenden is Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition* and received the 2010 U of I Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching Award.

Ken Wilund received a \$2.1 million NIH grant titled "Efficacy of Intradialytic Oral Protein Supplementation and Exercise Training in Hemodialysis Patients," a randomized multicenter clinical trial to evaluate the effect of protein supplementation and endurance exercise training on cardiovascular disease risk, physical function, bone health, and quality of life in hemodialysis patients.

NSGSA Faculty Award

"For extraordinary contribution, support and encouragement of DNS Graduate Students"

2010 NSGSA Faculty Award
George Fahey

DNS Faculty/Alum Awards at 2010 ACES Awards Banquet

Sharon Donovan
Paul A. Funk Recognition Award

Bryan White
Spitze Land-Grant Professorial
Career Excellence Award

Manabu Nakamura
Karl E. Gardner Outstanding
Undergraduate Adviser Award

Michael Plewa
Senior Faculty Award for
Excellence in Research

Juan Loor
College Faculty Award for
Excellence in Research

Sharon L. Hoerr
ACES Alumni Association
Award of Merit

2010 DNS Faculty Awards at EB

Hong Chen (FSHN)
Mary Swartz Rose Young
Investigator Award

Ryan Dilger (ANSC)
Peter Reeds Young
Investigator Award

Kelly Swanson (ANSC)
Bio Serv Award



Alumni Updates

Sean Adams (Ph.D. 1994) serves on the Editorial Board of the *Journal of Nutrition*. He has been given the opportunity to serve on the Editorial Board of a new ASN-sponsored reviews journal, *Advances in Nutrition*, as well as a new journal, *Nutrients*. He has given several invited talks and presentations at Auburn University, University of Illinois, Texas A&M University, and University of California—Davis.

Clinton Allred (Ph.D. 2002) received the 2010 ILSI Future Leaders Award and welcomed a daughter, Ashlyn, in April 2010. Clint is a member of the Endocrine Society, the American Society of Nutritional Sciences, and the Society of Toxicology.

Manuel Baldeon (Ph.D. 1998) was sworn in as the new Minister of Science and Technology for Ecuador in spring 2010.

Brian Berg (Ph.D. 2004) has started a new position as a Scientist in Global Discovery, Mead Johnson Nutrition; contact him at dr.brianberg@gmail.com.

Leslie Bourquin (Ph.D. 1993) was promoted to Full Professor in the Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition at Michigan State University. She is a member of the International Food Protection Training Institute and an advisory council member for the Global Food Safety Initiative.

Mary Dean Coleman-Kelly (M.S. 2001) is an Assistant Professor in Nutritional Sciences at Penn State University and can be reached at mdrd44@hotmail.com.

Coryn Commare (M.S. 2003) continues to work for Abbott Nutrition as a Senior Scientist in Pediatric Nutrition Science and Research, R&D Division.

Lauren (Petr) Cromer (M.S. 2004) was elected treasurer for the Tennessee Dietetics Association (2010-2012) and recently got married. She took a new position in fall 2010 as a full-time instructor in the Nutrition and Food Science Department at Middle Tennessee State University.

Bart Deplanke (Ph.D. 2002) can be reached at bart.deplancke@epfl.ch.

Beth (Reason) Flickinger (Ph.D. 1995) is a member of the Obesity Society, ASN, ASAS, and American Dietetics Assn.

Kevin Fritsche (Ph.D. 1988) is one of three project leaders for the new Botanical Center at the University of Missouri. The \$7.6-million-dollar, 5-year award (NIH, NCI, and NCAAM) will support numerous graduate and post-doc positions. Anyone interested in receiving training in nutritional modulation of the immune system and host infectious disease resistance should contact Kevin at FritscheK@missouri.edu.

Dana Ghareeb (M.S. 2009) is an adjunct professor at the American University of Kuwait and an Assistant Regional Manager with the Organic Division & Company Dietitian at Al Yasra Food Company.

Alejandra Gratson (Ph.D. 2005) was promoted to Senior R&D Scientist with Pfizer Consumer Healthcare.

Christopher Guest (Ph.D. 2008) earned selection to the Gold Humanism in Medicine Honor Society and Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Society.

Sharon Hoerr (Ph.D. 1985) presented “Maternal Parenting Behaviors During Childhood Relate to Weight Status and Diet Intakes in Late Adolescence” in June 2010 at the International Society of Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity and is a board member for Society of Nutrition Education.

Anna Keck chairs the Carle Hospital Scientific Review Committee, and is a member of the Carle Continuing Education and Graduate Medical Education Committees.

Hyun Young Koo (Ph.D. 2008) accepted a postdoctoral position at Northwestern University.

Guy Johnson (Ph.D. 1976) received the 2010 ASN Sustaining Member’s Award of Distinction, is the Executive Director of McCormick Science Institute, serves on the Sustaining Member’s Committee for ASN, and is treasurer of the ASN Nutrition Translation Research Interest Section.

Denise King (Ph.D. 1989) serves on the Institute of Food Technologists’ Food and Health Program Subcommittee 2010-11; National Nutrient Databank Conference Communications Committee 2010-11; is a member of the Association of Clinical Research Professionals; and is a preceptor for Fairview Dietetic Internship rotation at Nutrition Coordinating Center.

Keng-I Lin (M.S. 2006) completed the Dietetics Preceptor Training Program (CDR certified) in June 2010 and completed Breastfeeding Competencies Training with International Board Certified Lactation Counselor, May 2010.

Brian Lindshield (Ph.D. 2008) received an NIH Center of Biomedical Research Excellence, Epithelial Function in Health and Disease Pilot Project Grant “5alpha-reductase Inhibitors for Reduction of Prostate Epithelial Cell Growth.” He was honored as the 2010 Outstanding Alumnus & Commencement Speaker, Pratt Community College, and received the 2010 Outstanding Faculty Member Award, Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity.

Quiang Liu (Ph.D. 1997) has been awarded a Chinese Medical Board Distinguished Professorship.

Laura Rosch (M.S. 1986) is an Illinois Osteopathic Medical Society Board Member and a delegate for Illinois for the American Osteopathic Association.

Dan Schaefer (Ph.D. 1979) has agreed to serve as Interim Associate Dean for Instruction in the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences at the University of Wisconsin-Madison after serving 10 years as Chair of the Department of Animal Sciences.

Christina Sherry (Ph.D. 2009) has accepted a Senior Scientist position in Pediatrics R&D at Abbott Nutrition.

Jin-Rong Zhou (Ph.D. 1994) was promoted to Associate Professor of Surgery, Harvard Medical School, in 2010.

New DNS Faculty

Ryan N. Dilger
Assistant Professor
Dept. of Animal Sciences
College of ACES

John A. Juvik
Professor
Dept. of Crop Sciences
College of ACES

James E. Pettigrew
Professor
Dept. of Animal Sciences
College of ACES

Margarethe E. Hoenig
Professor
Dept. of Veterinary
Clinical Medicine
College of Veterinary
Medicine

In Memoriam

Mary Frances Picciano, a former DNS faculty member and beloved wife of John Milner, a former DNS Director, died on Sunday, August 29, 2010. Mary Frances was a faculty member at the University of Illinois and at Penn State. She will be greatly missed.



Support DNS

DNS 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. Your contributions are greatly appreciated and provide critical support for our students and programs. 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.

A Note From ACES Advancement

Dear DNS friends,

I hope you are enjoying the first issue of *The Edge*. Rod Johnson and his team have worked hard to bring this new communication piece to you!

At a time when so many of us have had to make tough financial choices, why do alumni and friends choose to give back to the Division of Nutritional Sciences (DNS) at the University of Illinois? To find out the answer to this question, our student callers asked donors *Why do you give? during a recent thanking drive*. Responses included *loyalty, being part of a family, it's the right thing to do, outstanding faculty and staff, great preparation for professional success, I want to be associated with a winning program, and because I was asked*. Whatever your reason for giving back, thank you! Please know that we couldn't do it without your continued support.

Be assured that we do not take a single gift for granted. From funding merit- and need-based awards through annual gifts or endowments, to updating classrooms with the latest instructional technology, to providing opportunities for students to engage in research with faculty, private support impacts every aspect of your alma mater.

I am pleased to highlight three recent gifts to DNS that benefit its people and programs. Terry Hatch (M.D., Indiana University.; B.S., U of I) created a fund in honor of

his mentor William Rose to provide travel awards for DNS students to present their scientific findings at professional meetings. Abbott Nutrition provides support for DNS students to participate in the Certificate in Business Administration program offered by the College of Business. This program exposes students enrolled in DNS to the rigors of working in industry. Kraft Foods recently announced its support of the new Nutritional Sciences Regulatory Affairs/Policy Trip to Washington, DC, so DNS students can learn about the impact of policy.

Continued financial support is critical to the success of the Division of Nutritional Sciences at the U of I. If DNS played a role in your personal or business success, then please consider giving back. Gifts can be made online at www.aces.nutrsi.illinois.edu/endowment_fund/contributions.html by following the instructions on the "How to Make a Contribution" page. (For a list of funds, please see below.) You may even consider making a long-term donation through your estate planning.

For more information, please contact me by email at kmeenen@illinois.edu or call 217-333-9355.

Thank you,
Kimberly Meenen, '87 BS ACES, '08 EdM

Giving Options

- **DNS Excellence Endowment Fund (#773001)**: Provides permanent funding to sustain the excellence of DNS by providing grad students with enhanced research and professional development experiences
- **DNS Excellence Fund (#336514)**: Provides current funding for 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)**: Supports 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 awards to DNS students to attend scientific conferences in the field of nutritional sciences
- **Willard J. and Priscilla F. Visek Lecture Fund (#773812)**: Supports collaborative scholarly activities in the science of nutrition at the U of I by providing funding for a lectureship