

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS VIRTUAL MEETING**  
**FEBRUARY 25, 2022**

**eat right.** Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics

Following are activity highlights since our September 2021 meeting.

**‘Commit to Act Boldly’: FNCE® Opening Session Remarks**

I opened the 2021 Food & Nutrition Conference & Expo™ virtual event on October 17 by encouraging all members to be “open-minded, agile and responsive enough to meet our challenges....Let’s all of us, all 112,000 credentialed practitioners, commit to act boldly. Let us identify and tackle the challenges that come our way. We lead. We form the path that’s changing the face of nutrition, dietetics and health care.”

**Public Health Week of Action**

The Academy participated November 15 to 19 in the Coalition for Health Funding’s Public Health Week of Action. The [initiative](#) addresses social determinants and promotes health equity.

**Food Issues Forum: Plant-Based Meat Alternatives**

I presented opening remarks in November at a forum co-hosted by the Academy and the Consumers League titled “Meeting Consumers’ Needs for Modernizing Food Standards of Identity: General Principles for Naming and Labeling Plant-Based Meat Alternatives.” More than two dozen speakers, including numerous Academy members, from industry, academia and health care spoke on trending issues. Academy staff member Jeanne Blankenship spoke on “The Need for Modernizing Food Standards to Enhance Healthier Purchasing Decisions.”

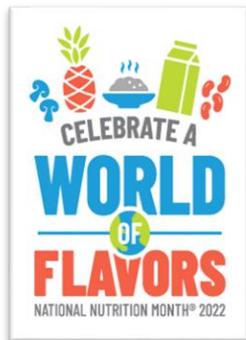
**Academy Kicks Off 2022 at Nasdaq**

I was proud to represent the Academy January 3 in [Nasdaq’s closing bell ceremony](#) to support and promote awareness of health, physical activity and wellness on the first day of Nasdaq’s Wellness Week celebration. Ringing the bells at Nasdaq is always an exciting opportunity for the Academy and is an acknowledgement by Nasdaq of the Academy’s and members’ expertise in the wellness arena.

**Member Representing the Academy at the American Association of Clinical Endocrinology**

Academy member and RDN, Nina Crowley, will represent the Academy and participate in a new initiative titled the *AACE Obesity Consensus Conference- Improving Obesity Outcomes Together*. The Consensus Conference will be held in San Diego, CA on Sunday, May 15 following the AACE Annual Meeting (May 12-14th). The Obesity Consensus Panel will bring together thought leaders from multiple segments of society, including representatives from professional and patient advocacy organizations, to discuss key aspects of the growing obesity epidemic.

**Celebrate a World of Flavors: #National Nutrition Month®**



Thousands of members provided input in August on potential [National Nutrition Month® 2022](#) themes and graphics. The clear preference was *Celebrate a World of Flavors*. The theme embraces global cultures, cuisines and inclusion and showcases the expertise of registered dietitian nutritionists. For the second year, the Academy will provide cultural adaptation and translation of promotional resources for National Nutrition Month®. Tip sheets, activity handouts and other content now available on the NNM website in Arabic, Chinese, Hindi, Spanish, Tagalog and Vietnamese language and culture. Spread the word about National Nutrition Month® on social media with this [interactive toolkit](#)! It includes a Twitter chat schedule, hashtags, cover photos and shareable graphics. Registered Dietitian Nutritionist Day will be celebrated on Wednesday, March 9.

### **New Journal Article: Academy's IDEA Efforts**

A new article titled *Advancing equity: The Academy's commitment to supporting inclusion, diversity, equity and access* is available online in the *Journal's* "From the Academy" section. It provides a comprehensive overview of the Academy's past, current and future efforts to advance inclusion, diversity, equity and access in the nutrition and dietetics profession.

### **Roundtable on Global Food Security**

I represented the Academy on February 10 and 11 at the Council on Research's Roundtable on Global Food Security. The event identified key areas of influence and potential strategies for action by the nutrition and dietetics research community. Additionally, it offered an opportunity to discuss applications of an inclusive approach on how to address food security and nutrition security and their impact on malnutrition.

### **Ethics in Practice Article**

An article addressing "Guidance for Professional Use of Social Media in Nutrition and Dietetics Practice" was authored with the Ethics Committee and published as a pre-proof article online in the *Journal*. A webinar titled "A Fork in the Road: Responsible Approaches to Ethical Dilemmas," was presented by members of the Ethics Committee as part of the Center for Lifelong Learning's webinar series, with attendance exceeding 300.

### **Academy's 2022 National Election**

Voting in the Academy's national election took place February 1 to 15. Congratulations to the following individuals elected from among many excellent candidates! For more information click [here](#).

#### **Board of Directors**

- President-elect:** Lauri Wright, PhD, RDN, LD/N, FAND (FL)
- Treasurer-elect:** Krista Yoder Latortue, MPH, RDN, LDN, FAND (FL)
- Director-at-Large:** Leslene Gordon, PhD, RDN, LDN (FL)
- House of Delegates Speaker-elect:** Ainsley Malone, MS, RDN, LD, FAND (OH)
- House of Delegates Director:** Sherri Jones, MS, MBA, RDN, LDN, FAND (PA)

#### **House of Delegates**

- At-Large-Delegate: Retired:** Janice Fisher, PhD, RD (IA)
- At-Large-Delegate: 30 Years of Age and Under:** Mary Curnutte, MS, RD, LD (KY)

#### **Nominating Committee**

- National Leader:** Barbara Grant, MS, RDN, CSO, LD, FAND (ID)
- National Leader with BOD Exp in the Past 10 Years:** Mary Russell, MS, RDN, LDN, FAND (IL)
- National Leader in Practice for 15 Years or Less:** Yolanda Jackson, MS, RD, LD (KY)

#### **Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics**

- Practitioner Representative, RDN:** Gloria Verdino, MS, RD, CDN (NY)

#### **Commission on Dietetic Registration**

##### **Registered Dietitian Nutritionist**

- Anisha Chhibber, MS, RDN (NJ)
- Christopher Messenger, PhD, MS, RD, LD (TX)

##### **Nutrition and Dietetics Technician, Registered**

- Christopher Mills, MPH, DTR (AZ)

##### **Nominating Committee Registered Dietitian Nutritionist Representative**

- Monique Richard, MS, RDN, LDN, FAND (IAAND)

### **Extended Renewal Period for Academy Position Papers**

In December, the Council on Research discussed and voted on increasing to seven years the amount of time for position papers to be renewed, matching Standards of Practice/Standards of Professional Performance, and to make this action retroactive. The website will be updated to reflect new expiration dates.

### **Congratulations to Pat Babjak: Unanimous Election to Interprofessional Education Collaborative Board**

Pat Babjak will serve on IPEC's board with distinguished colleagues representing the Association of American Medical Colleges, American Dental Education Association, American Association of Colleges of Nursing, American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine and Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health. The IPEC board recognized Pat's background and expertise and I am confident she will be an excellent representative of the Academy. Her term begins immediately; the timing could not be better, given the Academy's strategic advancement with other interprofessional education initiatives.

### **Academy Members in the News**

#### **Brandstetter Receives Well Community Award**

Congratulations to Deanne Brandstetter, Academy treasurer-elect and vice president of nutrition and wellness at Compass Group North America, for being honored with the International Well Building Institute's 2021 Well Community Award.

#### **NAFEM Honors**

The North American Association of Food Equipment Manufacturers recently honored immediate Past President Linda Farr and me with its 2021 Doctorate of Foodservice Award, recognizing our contributions to the foodservice/hospitality industry.

#### **Gregoire Receives University's Career Achievement Award**

Mary B. Gregoire, who retired in 2019 as the executive director of the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics, received the Kansas State University College of Health and Human Sciences' 2021 Career Achievement Award. This is the second time the college has recognized Gregoire: in 2007, she received the Distinguished Research Award.

#### **Martin Featured in Article: Providing School Meals Amid Economic Challenges**

Past President Donna S. Martin, director of school nutrition in Burke County, Ga., was featured in a November 24 Washington Post article on how schools are addressing difficulties in feeding children nutritious meals at a time of supply chain problems, labors shortages, rising prices and other issues.

#### **Scaroni Takes Gold at Tokyo Paralympic Games**

Academy member Susannah Scaroni won gold and bronze medals at the recent Tokyo Paralympic Games, the third Paralympics in which she has participated. A PhD student in nutrition at the University of Illinois – Urbana, where she trains, Scaroni won the 5,000 meters and finished third in the 800 meters. She has also competed in numerous marathons, winning the Los Angeles Marathon in the wheelchair category in 2013 and 2014. Scaroni works with Illinois Wheelchair Athletics, assisting students on issues of nutrition and athletic performance.

### Members Nominated to USDA Equity Commission

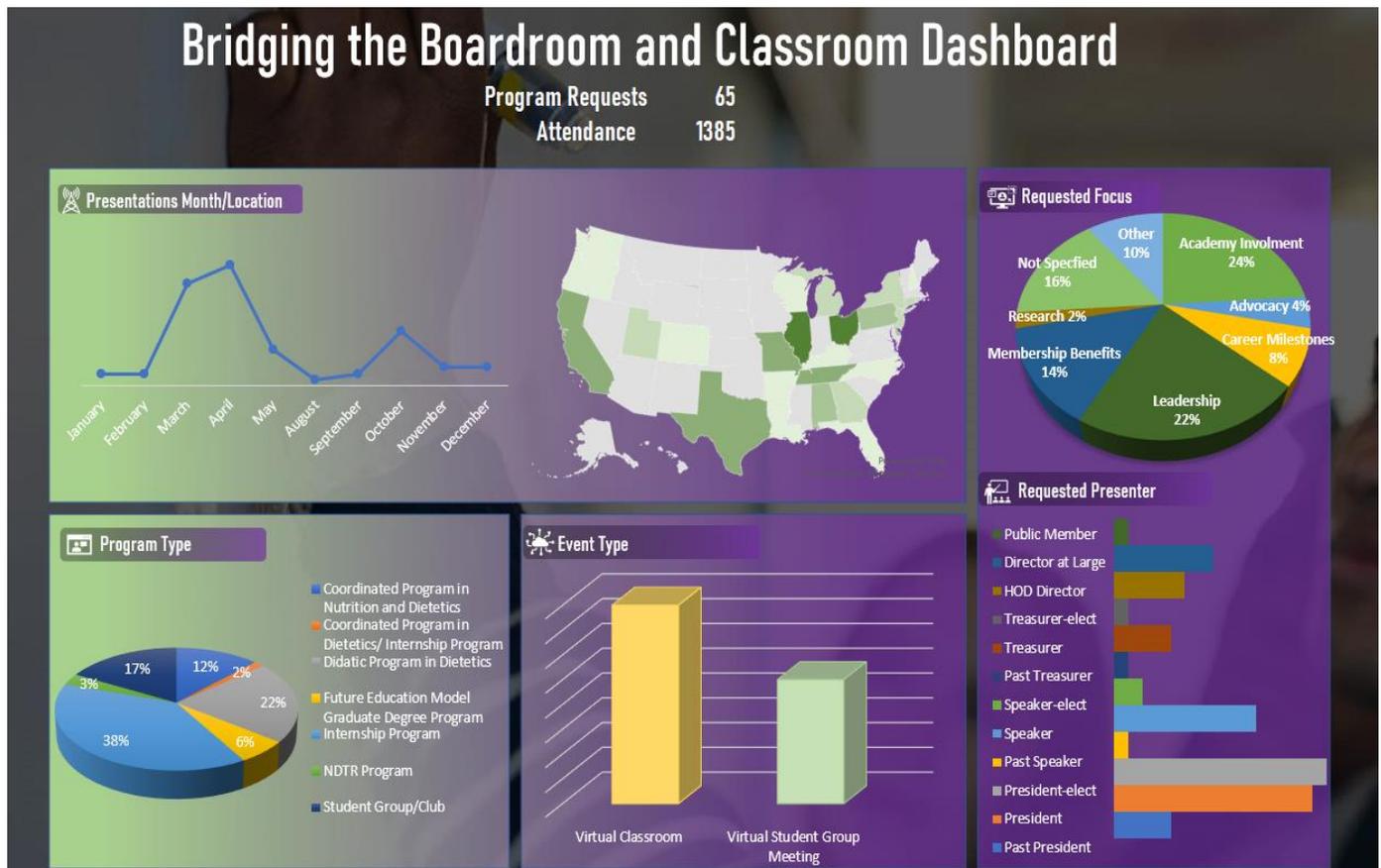
The Academy has nominated Tessa Nguyen and Avtar Nijjer-Sidhu to serve on a new Equity Commission to examine racial equity issues within the U.S. Department of Agriculture and its programs. According to the USDA, “the purpose of the EC is to advise the Secretary of Agriculture by facilitating identification of critical USDA programs, policies, systems, structures and practices that contribute to barriers to inclusion or access, systemic discrimination or exacerbate or perpetuate racial, economic, health and social disparities.”

### Association of Diabetes Care & Education Specialists

I appointed Academy member and RDN, Andrea V. Dunn, to represent the Academy to the Association of Diabetes Care & Education Specialists. The Academy and ADCES look forward to developing a longstanding alliance and continuing our collaborations with this important strategic relationship.

### Bridging the Boardroom and Classroom Program (B2C)

It’s been a year since the launch of the *B2C* presentations. To date, we have received 65 program requests, 60 were unique (first time) requests and five were repeat requests. As estimated by program directors, approximately 1,385 students will have participated in the *B2C* program during its inaugural year. Last October, we included a code (B2C22) to help track memberships that can be attributed directly to this initiative. Presentations for 2022 are just beginning, and more information will be available in the coming months.



**Letter to the Editor of *Critical Care Medicine***

In February, I submitted a letter to the editor of *Critical Care Medicine* clarifying the important part the RDN plays as a key team member in the ICU, working to improve patient outcomes. The letter was accepted for publication and is scheduled to appear in the next available issue.

**Academy Statement on Bob Dole**

The Academy mourned the December 5 death of former U.S. Sen. Bob Dole (Kan.). Dole was a strong supporter of child nutrition and anti-hunger issues during more than 30 years in Congress. As ranking member of the Senate Agriculture Committee, Dole played a significant role in expanding SNAP and the school lunch program and the establishment of WIC. The Academy continues to support and advocate for each of these crucial nutrition security programs.

**Awards Updated to Elevate and Amplify Members**

As part of the Academy's commitment to our vision and mission, the Board of Directors requested new name recommendations from the Honors Committee for the Marjorie Hulsizer Copher Award and the Lenna Frances Cooper Memorial Lecture Award. The awards will now recognize and honor the accomplishments of the award recipients, rather than their namesakes. They were renamed, respectively, the Lifetime Achievement Award and the Distinguished Lecture Award. Nominations for this year's awards are open through March 1.

**National Board for Health and Wellness Coaching Task Force**

The Academy recently received a proposal to participate in a collaborative project with the National Board for Health and Wellness Coaching. A task force has been formed and charged to evaluate the risks and benefits of the proposal. The task force has met virtually over the past two months and recommendations will be presented to the Board at our February 25 meeting.

**SUBMITTED BY:** Kevin L. Sauer, PhD, RDN, LD, FAND