
**PRESIDENT’S REPORT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS VIRTUAL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 23, 2022**

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Following are activity highlights since our May meeting.

Welcome New Board Members

Since our last meeting, the Board of Directors has been joined and strengthened by RoseAnna Boyle Holliday, chair of the department of health sciences human services at the College of Southern Idaho, as a House of Delegates Director; and Sonia Vora; chief human resources officer at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, as a Public Member. Welcome to RoseAnna and Sonia!

Academy’s Efforts on Aetna’s Mid-Level Practitioners Policy and Reimbursement

The Academy has been working with Aetna on changes to the company’s Mid-Level Practitioners policy, which had resulted in a 25% reduction in the fee schedule for RDNs. The Academy recently held a successful meeting with Aetna executives in which the company decided to reverse its previous decision to reduce payment rates to RDNs, effective July 1 – a big win for the nutrition and dietetics profession.

White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition and Health and Follow-Up Member Town Hall

I will be representing the Academy at the second White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition and Health on September 28. In addition, Former Academy President and RDN, Donna Martin, has been invited by the White House to take part in a panel discussion at the conference on “Food Access for Children and Families.” This is an amazing opportunity for the Academy and for all RDNs.

On September 29, I will join members for an online conversation about the White Conference, covering lessons learned from the conference and how registered dietitian nutritionists can add our support to future initiatives.

The Academy has been advocating since 2018 for a follow-up to the first conference, held in 1969. On August 23, the Policy Initiatives and Advocacy team provided the Board members with an update on history of the first White House Conference, the Academy’s involvement in the celebration of its 50th anniversary, the process that led to the current event, the Academy’s involvement to date with the September conference planning, and opportunities for BOD involvement in supporting the Academy’s participation in conference activities.

Academy Nominates Members to Serve on Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee

In July 2022, the Academy [submitted the names of 25 member experts](#) as nominees to serve on the 2025-2030 Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee. The U.S. Departments of Agriculture and Health and Human Services will select the individuals to serve on the committee, which will be tasked with reviewing scientific evidence on crucial nutrition and health topics to and develop a report on their findings. The committee’s report, as well as comments submitted by the Academy, individuals, other members of the public and other government agencies, will help guide the development of the 2025-2030 *Dietary Guidelines for Americans*.

Letter from Sen. Stabenow: Thanks for Academy’s Support of Child Nutrition Programs

I received a letter August 5 from U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow (Mich.) thanking the Academy for our “hard work and dedication in our fight to provide resources and give greater flexibility to child nutrition providers across the country.” Sen. Stabenow noted our advocacy for the Support Kids Not Red Tape Act

and the Keep Kids Fed Act, saying our work “was critical in gaining the overwhelming bipartisan support we needed to get a bill signed into law by the President on June 25, 2022. It certainly was not easy! But working together on behalf of kids across the country, we were able to get something meaningful done.”

Memorandum of Understanding: Academy and National Baptist Convention USA

The Academy and the National Baptist Convention USA, the nation’s oldest and largest African American religious convention, have signed a memorandum of understanding to pursue the goal of a strategic partnership aimed at reducing health disparities for African Americans. The joint initiative will consist of developing print and media resources that can be used in faith-based health ministries on issues such as diabetes, obesity, high blood pressure, heart disease, stroke, eating on a budget and living with kidney disease. NBCUSA member churches will be encouraged to use the resources by incorporating them into new and existing programs and services including sermons focused on biblical connections to food and nutrition.

Letter to the editor of *The Economist*: hospital RDNs and MQii

In response to an article in the September 8 issue of *The Economist* on improvements in hospital food, I submitted a letter to the editor that highlighted the role of registered dietitian nutritionists in the care of patients and in particular our unique and effective MQii initiative. The letter is scheduled to be published in the magazine’s September 21 issue.

Research and Technology Initiatives

- A nutrition diagnosis for “food insecurity” has been approved in the Nutrition Care Process (NCP) terminology. This definition aligns with the Gravity Project in which the Academy was a terminology lead. The Gravity project has made possible the codification of social determinants of health in electronic health records.
- Professionals have specific terms to document patient reported experience measures and patient reported outcome measures. NCP terminology is being updated to reflect PROMs/PREMs in related nutrition diagnoses like poor food or nutrition quality of life.
- Seventy-five NCP terminology concepts were accepted and included in the July 31 SNOMED CT release as part of the Academy-SNOMED [agreement](#) executed by the Data Science Center.
- Nutrition terminology progress was presented at the September 22 SNOMED meeting for terminology experts around the world.
- Experts have reviewed the Academy’s nutrition status value set and are reviewing malnutrition value sets in the U.S. Value Set Authority Center.
- The creation of a new format to export data from the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Health Informatics Infrastructure (ANDHII) was completed in May and is being used for data analysis in Data Science Center and Nutrition Research Network projects. This format will make data analysis for research projects utilizing ANDHII more seamless and efficient.
- ANDHII is in use by multiple registry studies: Breastfeeding Registry Study, RESTORE (COVID-19) Study and Gestational Diabetes Guideline Implementation Project. In progress is the Food as Medicine Retail nutrition project.
- ANDHII is in use for several ongoing research studies implemented by Nutrition Research Network, including Oncology Outcomes Pilot, Malnutrition MCC validation study and Assessing Uptake and Impact of Guidelines for Clinical Practice in Renal Nutrition (AUGmeNt).
- ANDHII is in use in student-led clinics at Bowling Green State University, Auckland University in New Zealand and for a master’s-level student-led research project at Bern University in Switzerland.
- A new NCP scorecard tool has been developed to help practitioners evaluate their level of NCP implementation.

- An educational resource has been developed in collaboration with the Academy’s Lifelong Learning Team to support the implementation of NCP by clinical nutrition managers.
- The Research, International and Scientific Affairs (RISA) team in collaboration with Chris Taylor at Ohio State University has designed and delivered a digital NCP training/outcomes study in Mexico with grant support from the IIAND. Collected data were used to evaluate the efficacy of the program with potential for a broader international reach. Countries such as Nigeria and Israel have expressed interest in a larger NCP training study. New to this effort is a manuscript describing the efficacy of the digital NCP workshop which has been accepted for publication in *Topics in Clinical Nutrition*.
- In collaboration with Lauri Wright at the University of North Florida, Diabetes Registry data were analyzed as part of a doctoral thesis project. Key findings show successful application of the NCP model increases the odds of resolving nutrition diagnoses in adults with diabetes. New to this effort is a manuscript under review.
- A new NCP quality audit tool, the NCP-QUEST (NCP QUality Evaluation Standardized Tool) has been developed and validated for wide use by practitioners. This joint project between RISA’s Data Science Center and the Veteran’s Administration has been accepted in a peer-reviewed [manuscript](#). Also, an accompanying [manual](#) has been developed. The NCP QUEST is emerging in [new literature](#) as a powerful tool in nutrition and dietetics education.
- The INIS (International NCP/T Implementation Survey) consortium has exceeded 20 countries in participation as it gears up for INIS 2.0 in 2023. The most recent published [manuscript](#) of this international research NCP initiative reveals the predictors for NCP adoption across the globe.
- A newly accepted [manuscript](#) in the *Journal* describes all pillars of RISA (EAC, NRN, DSC) and its major initiatives and deliverables. The aim of the paper is to encourage members to get involved in research by describing Academy-based research resources and opportunities.

CFP Representative at BOD Meetings

Academy member and RDN, Rory Pace, chair of the Council on Future Practice, will represent CFP at Board meetings for the 2022-2023 program year. She will work with CFP’s futurist to identify change drivers that are applicable to the profession and share them as they relate to the BOD’s dialogues.

Nomination for ICDA Director

Former Academy President, Marty Yadrick, has been nominated to be a director of the International Confederation of Dietetic Associations. His was confirmed by affirmative vote of ICDA members during the election at ICDA’s annual meeting September 14.

Members Reappointed to AMA’s Current Procedural Terminology Advisory Committee

Academy members and RDNs, Keith Ayoob and Jessie Pavlinac, have been named to serve another term as the Academy’s primary and alternate advisors to the AMA’s Current Procedural Terminology Advisory Committee. They represent RDNs’ interests as codes for services are developed and revised.

Academy Representative: Association of Diabetes Care & Education Specialists

I appointed Academy member and RDN, Andrea V. Dunn, to represent the Academy for 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.

Members Selected to Serve on National Quality Forum Workgroups

Academy member and RDN, Jennifer Wills Gallagher, will serve on the 2022-2023 Measure Application Partnership Hospital Workgroup, which provides input to the Coordinating Committee on the selection and coordination of measures for hospitals including inpatient acute, outpatient, cancer and psychiatric

hospitals. Academy member and RDN, Rena Zelig, will serve on the 2022-2023 MAP Post-Acute Long Term Care Workgroup, which provides input on the selection and coordination of measures for PAC/LTC providers including hospices, inpatient rehabilitation facilities, long-term care hospitals, skilled nursing facilities and home health care.

Academy Representative: MACRA Wave 5 Clinician Expert Workgroup

Academy member and RDN, Linda W. Moore, has been named to the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act (MACRA) Episode-Based Cost Measure Wave 5 Clinician Expert Workgroups. Based on her clinical credentials, expertise and experience, she has been selected to participate on the Kidney Transplant Management workgroup.

Meetings

June

- June 7: Tammy Randall presented *Bridging the Boardroom and Classroom* at BeWell Solutions.
- June 8: Lauri Wright presented *Bridging the Boardroom and Classroom* at Nova Southeastern University
- June 23: I represented the Academy at the Connecticut Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics transition meeting
- June 27: Jeanne Blankenship represented the Academy at the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences meeting in Orlando, Fla.

July:

- July 10-12: Kevin Sauer represented the Academy at the School Nutrition Association's annual national conference in Orlando, Fla.
- July 12: Lauri Wright presented *Bridging the Boardroom and Classroom* to the Keith & Associates Distance Dietetic Internship
- July 28: Ainsley Malone presented *Bridging the Boardroom and Classroom* to the Sodexo Dietetic Internship Program

August

- August 3-5: I represented the Academy and delivered a keynote address at the 47th convention of the Puerto Rico College of Nutrition and Dietetics
- August 18: Academy member and RDN, Elizabeth K. Friedrich, represented the Academy at the National Pressure Injury Advisory Panel Summer Panel meeting in Boston, Mass. She collaborated with Nicole Barrett from the Academy's Center for Lifelong Learning to coordinate a webinar on nutrition and wounds, featuring RDN speakers from the Academy, Mary D. Litchford and Nancy M. Munoz.

Upcoming:

- Alison Steiber will represent the Academy at the National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health's October 17-18 virtual Stakeholder Meeting for Research on Whole Person Health.

SUBMITTED BY: Ellen R. Shanley, MBA, RDN, CDN, FAND