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**CEO'S REPORT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS VIRTUAL MEETING  
JANUARY 13, 2022**

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Following are activity highlights since our September meeting.

**MOU with National Baptist Convention USA: Reducing Health Disparities, Increasing Numbers of African American RDNs and NDTRs**

On January 9, I joined President Ellen Shanley at the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with the National Baptist Convention USA (NBCUSA) in Birmingham, AL.

In my presentation I thanked Reverend Dr. Jerry Young for inviting us to their midwinter meeting. I also expressed my appreciation to Richard Boykin of the organization Building Bridges for helping me facilitate this strategic partnership.

The Memorandum of Understanding highlights the impact of food and nutrition on the health of marginalized communities and creates awareness for African Americans to access careers and leadership roles in food and nutrition. The Academy is working to diversify the workforce, since cultural competency and relatability are the cornerstones for success for motivating people to change dietary patterns and better serve community needs.

**Introductory Meeting: Dietitians of Canada's New CEO**

I met on October 26 with John-Paul Cody-Cox, the new CEO of Dietitians of Canada, to discuss our long standing partnership. We mutually agreed to connect quarterly to discuss new opportunities for collaboration.

**Meeting of the DPG Advisory Council to the CEO**

The DPG Advisory Council to the CEO has been reinstated for the 2022-23 program year. The Council is designed to address questions, solve problems and share ideas. The first meeting of the Council was held virtually in October. Representatives from the Cardiovascular Health and Well-being, Clinical Nutrition Management, Diabetes, Dietetics in Health Care Communities, Dietitians in Business and Communications, Dietitians in Nutrition Support, Food and Culinary Professionals, Healthy Aging, Management in Food and Nutrition Systems, Nutrition Entrepreneurs, Pediatric Nutrition, Public Health/Community Nutrition, Sports and Human Performance Nutrition and Weight Management DPGs joined for an interactive and dynamic dialogue on a variety of topics, including the new DPG/MIG showcase at FNCE, the Treasurer's report to DPGs and the varying challenges facing the practice groups. The Council will meet next in early 2023.

**Research, International & Scientific Affairs**

The Academy's research team has had a busy fall wrapping up data collection for the Academy-ASPEN Indicators for Malnutrition Validation and Staffing Study, the Assessing Uptake and Impact of Guidelines for Clinical Practice in Renal Nutrition (AUGMENT) study testing guideline implementation in hemodialysis clinics and the Nutritional Care Practices and Status Of SARS-CoV-2 Patients (RESTORE) study on patients

with COVID-19 in intensive care units. The data from these studies are being analyzed and will be submitted for publication in journals this spring. The Council on Research kicked off its new task force on research mentoring for dietitians and students from diverse backgrounds. At FNCE the Academy's research was showcased in nine different sessions with topics ranging from Food as Medicine in Retail, Pediatric and Adult malnutrition, Flavan-3-ols and cardiometabolic health, and Nutrition and Physical Activity guidelines for the public. In December, the Academy's research team in partnership with the Foundation's Fellow presented preliminary data from the Saqmolo Study at the International Congress of Nutrition. This study is being conducted in Guatemala with funding from the Egg Nutrition Center.

Research publications between September 2022 and January 2023:

#### Journal of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics

- *Medical Nutrition Therapy Interventions Provided by Dietitians for Adult Overweight and Obesity Management: An Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Evidence-Based Practice Guideline*
- *Authors Response to Letter to the Editor Regarding: Treatment of Pediatric Overweight and Obesity: Position of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics on Systematic Reviews*
- *Research at the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics: What, How and Why? and The need for and challenges of nutrition and dietetics registry studies: An update on the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Health Informatics Infrastructure (ANDHII)*

#### Frontiers in Nutrition

- *A quasi-experimental study provides evidence that RDN care is aligned with the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics evidence-based nutrition practice guidelines for type 1 and 2 diabetes*

#### Journal of Clinical Lipidology

- *Effectiveness of medical nutrition therapy in the management of adult dyslipidemia: A systematic review*

#### Advances in Nutrition

- *Flavan-3-ols and Cardiometabolic Health: First Ever Dietary Bioactive Guideline*

### **2022 FNCE® Report**

- The 2022 Food & Nutrition Conference & Expo® included participation from 63 countries and US territories.
- The Academy is committed to ensuring FNCE® is both accessible and inclusive to remove barriers that exclude people from participating. Here are some of the considerations that were incorporated in 2022:
  - ✓ Ensured all accessibility needs were addressed.
  - ✓ Offered a tranquility room for prayer, meditation, and mental well-being.
  - ✓ Provided land and territorial acknowledgment of U.S. Indigenous Peoples' Day.
- A total of 8,292 attendees participated; 68.4% in-person in Orlando, Fla, and 33.6% virtually. The overwhelming majority of attendees within both platforms were Active members who indicated their primary reason for attending was professional development, followed by networking and earning continuing professional education hours.
- Students and interns accounted for 19% of attendees, slightly lower than historical averages of around 25%.

- Over 30% of attendees voluntarily provided session evaluations for the overall program, resulting in a score of 4.47/5, indicating a significant increase since 2019, where the overall session quality was 4.33/5. Any session or average score over 3.8/5 is considered successful, per the Committee for Lifelong Learning.
- FNCE 2022<sup>®</sup> Collections and Individual Sessions were released for sale on eatrightSTORE.org beginning December 6
  - ✓ Advance Your Career
  - ✓ Behavioral Health
  - ✓ Best of FNCE<sup>®</sup> 2022
  - ✓ Cardiovascular Health
  - ✓ Community Nutrition
  - ✓ Leadership
  - ✓ Maternal Health
  - ✓ Medical Nutrition Therapy
  - ✓ Nutrition and Chronic Disease
  - ✓ Nutrition for the Older Adult
  - ✓ Pediatric MNT
  - ✓ Public Health
  - ✓ Weight Management.
- The FNCE 2023 Call for Sessions concluded in mid-November with 296 submissions, a 35% increase over 2022.
- The Committee for Lifelong Learning will meet at Academy Headquarters January 25-27 to design the 2023 educational program. The FNCE<sup>®</sup> [Call for Abstracts](#) opened January 1.

## Update on Florida Licensure Case

On December 5, the Academy communicated to practitioners that the U.S. Supreme Court declined to hear an appeal of a lower court's ruling in the Del Castillo licensure case. This represents a victory for consumers, protecting people from the harm that can come from health care services provided by unqualified or unlicensed practitioners. The Court's announcement leaves in place a February 2022 ruling by the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. The Academy (which is not a party to the Del Castillo lawsuit) supports the Florida law and has maintained throughout the case that medical nutrition therapy and other complex nutrition and dietetics services should only be provided by qualified individuals with the specialized education and training of RDNs or, at minimum, meet state licensure standards.

## State Licensure Highlights

The Academy continues to advocate for regulatory policies that protect consumers and ensure individuals can trust their health care services are provided by qualified practitioners. The Academy's National Licensure Strategy saw multiple states seeking to update and modernize their statutes in advance of the next legislative session in January 2023: Georgia, Louisiana, Michigan, Nebraska, New Mexico, New York and Wisconsin. In addition, multiple states sought staff assistance in updating regulations and in answering member concerns with existing regulations. Staff also worked with states on red-tape reduction efforts by state legislatures looking to reform regulatory procedures.

## Honors Committee

The Honors Committee is accepting nominations for 2023 National Honors and Awards. These include the Lifetime Achievement Award, Distinguished Lecture Award, Honorary Membership Award, Medallion Awards and Excellence in Practice awards. Deadline is March 1.

## **IDEA Committee**

The IDEA Committee is accepting applications for 2023 IDEA awards and grants, including the IDEA Promotion Grant and the IDEA Action Award. IDEA Liaisons have the exclusive opportunity to apply for mini-grants on behalf of the Academy groups they represent to put towards group IDEA initiatives. Deadline is March 1. The IDEA Committee sponsored three sessions at FNCE®: “From Digital to Physical Spaces: Designing More Inclusive Workplaces,” “Dishing Up Diversity and Inclusion: Innovative Menu Planning and Design,” and “Innovative Strategies to Open the Nutrition and Dietetics Education Pipeline.” The sessions were great successes and can now be accessed through [eatrightSTORE.org](http://eatrightSTORE.org).

## **Members Communicating to Capitol Hill**

From January 1 through December 15, 33,322 messages have been sent to Congress to support the Academy’s advocacy and policy efforts.

**SUBMITTED BY:** Patricia M. Babjak