Vol.9 Issue 1, 2002

**Welcome to Dietetics Around the World**

Hello everyone. This is the first edition of Dietetics Around the World in this format. The Dietitians Association of Australia is pleased to support ICDA by editing the newsletter and we look forward to many contributions from you all. The Board of ICDA has worked hard to move the newsletter to an “on line” newsletter and we will gradually be changing over to this format. The new website has just gone live and in the future we will be using it in a more interactive way. The global village is here. But be assured we will be posting hard copies to those associations who do not have access to the web or email, so that no one misses out. By being available on the web, the newsletter will reach many more people and not only dietitians, so it will be an even better vehicle for sharing news and views.

A very big thank you to the team, which has been bringing us the print version of Dietetics around the World so successfully over these last few years.

Don’t forget to keep those articles and interesting snippets coming in. There is a set of guidelines for submission and these are available from each member nutrition and dietetics association, or from the website.

You will have heard that ICDA has changed from the International Committee of Dietetic Associations, responsible for the 4 yearly congress, into the International Confederation of Dietetic Associations, a truly international organization working for dietetics everywhere. There must be lots of stories and interesting news that we can share. Please feel free to send articles to us through your national association – we are eager to hear from you.

The next deadline for articles and information will be the end of July so that we can get the next issue ready for September. So please, get those fingers typing.

Best wishes to you all.
Sandra Capra, Editor

**From the Boardroom**

The launch of Dietetics Around the World online is an exciting step in the realisation of ICDA’s mission "to support dietetic associations and their members by achieving an integrated communications system". An online newsletter was identified as a priority at the ICDA Delegates meeting in Edinburgh in July 2000.

Dietetics Around the World was piloted in 1994 to link dietetic associations globally and to provide an opportunity for sharing news items of international interest. Since then it has been published twice a year and available on a limited basis to dietitians.

Since its inception, a number of people have helped and encouraged the production of this newsletter and we wish to record our thanks to them. Funding for this initiative
was made available through a grant from the Wimpfhemeir – Guggenheim Fund for International Exchange in Nutrition, Dietetics, and Management of the American Dietetic Association Foundation. This fund was established, through the generosity of Alice Adelheid Wimpfheimer, to benefit the nutritional well-being of the world community. ICDA is indebted to Alice for her commitment and valuable support of the ICDA newsletter, including its distribution to our member associations over the past eight years. For the past four years, Pat Stahl has been editor and we are extremely grateful to her for the excellent work she has done in this capacity. An editor’s task is not an easy one. Pat’s dedication and hard work in editing and revising articles and gently reminding us of deadlines has contributed to the success of Dietetics Around the World.

The American Dietetic Association undertook the publication and distribution of the newsletter, and ICDA is grateful for this assistance. Thanks are also due to two of our Board members - Marsha Sharp, Canada, who has been instrumental in developing the ICDA website and Sandra Capra, Australia, our new editor for this online version of the newsletter.

By being available online Dietetics Around the World will now be readily accessible to a wider readership. Variations exist around the world in the practice of dietetics and I hope that national dietetic associations will regularly use this newsletter to share information about their activities and achievements.

Irene C. I. Mackay
Chairperson, International Confederation of Dietetic Associations

Secretary’s Report

In January, the ICDA Board of Directors met by teleconference to monitor progress on our action plan. One of the highly visible signs of our transition to the International Confederation of Dietetic Associations is the web site at www.internationaldietetics.org launched in March 2002. Official Representatives of Member associations can obtain complete Minutes of the Board Meeting from the web site Representatives area - login now to obtain your copy!

The transition of Dietetics Around the World to an online version has been accomplished on schedule. The Dietitians Association of Australia, serving as editor, is finalizing guidelines for national dietetic associations to use in preparing articles.

Planning for the XIVth International Congress of Dietetics is also on target - visit the Congress Planning Centre on the web site to obtain information on submitting program proposals, poster abstracts, supporting travel grants to the Congress for dietitians from developing countries and other up-to-date information on the Congress.

Over the next year each national dietetic association will receive an ICDA survey designed to collect data about the education, standards, and work of dietitians. Data will be presented and discussed at the XIV International Congress of Dietetics in Chicago, May 2004. By responding to the survey national dietetic associations will ensure that their members are represented in our collective understanding of the profession of dietetics around the world.

The Board is pleased to report that Sudan has been reinstated and that Pakistan has joined ICDA. The Board also received
notice that the Taiwan association previously representing dietitians in China will not be continuing its membership and that another association in China is expected to make an application for membership.

The next Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for June 2002.

Overview of www.internationaldietetics.org
Public area-accessible to anyone, anywhere
-- Creates an international public profile for the profession.
-- Creates a primary point of contact with ICDA, national dietetic association
Members of ICDA and their web sites
-- Encourages national dietetic associations to join ICDA.
-- Encourages dietitians to join the Dietitian Networking area and to register to receive news about the Congress and notice of new issues of Dietetics Around the World.

Private area-accessible to dietitians anywhere
Dietitians who register have access to more content and to over 150,000 dietitians around the world! Those who register can participate in discussion groups by posting questions and replies, sharing information or resources, and locating others with similar interests or experts.

An Official Representative of each national dietetic association is registered in a more secure private area that has the tool for submitting articles for Dietetics Around the World, the central library where ICDA board minutes, reports, policies, meeting agendas, and resolutions can be viewed and printed, and where discussion of ICDA business will take place. Representatives can download copies of Minutes of Board and Representatives meetings held since July 2000.

National dietetic associations are encouraged to keep their personal and association profiles up-to-date in the Representatives area. Up-to-date information is required to ensure that official Representatives receive broadcast messages sent by the Secretariat and also to ensure that national dietetic associations are well represented on the public area of the website. By keeping your personal and your association profile current at www.internationaldietetics.org you can help meet our goals of an integrated communications system amongst national dietetic associations.

Announcements

Welcome Pakistan Dietitians and Nutritionists
The Pakistan Dietetic and Nutrition Association (PDNA) has 260 members, and will grow as nearly 300 dietitians are graduated each year. It is the only national organisation representing nutrition and dietetics professionals in Pakistan. Just over half of the members work in hospitals and rehabilitation centres, with the next largest group in universities and colleges. About one in six members are in health education/public health. The Association is actively setting up systems and processes to advance dietetics in Pakistan.

We look forward to hearing more about PDNA in the future and about the food and nutrition issues that are opportunities and challenges for the Association and its members.

National Association Reports

Austria

Quality Assurance Project in Austria
The Austrian department of public health
commissioned our association to develop in cooperation with representatives of higher-level medical-technical services, the basis for quality assurance of the individual professional branches. Subsequently our professional branch established a project team, consisting of eight dieticians. Hereby follows a presentation of the current status of this 2 yearlong project.

The planned project period extends until September 2002 and the first phase consists of establishing and defining a description of our profession.

Therefore the first step was to determine the actual situation of the job requirements of the Austrian dietitians. A comprehensive questionnaire with 45 questions was sent to 790 dietitians (members and non-members) in Austria and those working in foreign countries. The response of 36.8 percent (291 questionnaires) was very good.

We received a great amount of data and the evaluation of the results amount to over 1000 pages. We now have to structure and interpret this information into our professional profile.

The first preliminary results (job description, core competence, areas of responsibility, cooperation and (perspectives) were presented early July 2001 in an advisory board meeting with representatives of the medical doctors association, governmental health department, labour union and other public institutions.

This is probably the most comprehensive inquiry in the 40-year history of the Austrian association of dietitians. The data is rather valuable for us and serves as basis for the quality assurance of our profession. Among other things it describes and defines areas of responsibility and required qualifications of dietitians and nutritional consultants. This knowledge is of utmost importance for the appropriate positioning of the profession within the public health system.

The next step of the project is to draw up a manual of dietary practice. Such a manual is necessary to make transparent, by diagnosis/symptoms, the application of particular diagnostic and therapeutic processes which are necessary. The results and recognitions from this project also serve as basis for the new amendment of the laws of medical-technical services in our country.

Canada

E-learning Takes Hold at DC
Dietitians of Canada (DC) applied new education technology to offer professional development in a new knowledge area that is expected to alter dietetic practice over the next few years. This past fall, Dietitians of Canada launched its first online education courses; marking another milestone in the ways we support professional development for dietetic professionals. As we developed our e-learning courses we thought about providing a service that dietitians could access from anywhere in the world. Dietetic professionals everywhere - practitioners, researchers and scientists - can access professional development courses and tools for use with your clients at www.dieteticsatwork.com. The courses include interactive learning tools, such as pop up slides and audio clips, self testing every few pages, case examples, an end of course exam, and a certificate for successful completion of the final course test.

The first series of online courses feature the new system of Dietary Reference Intakes, an entirely new approach for describing human
nutrient requirements in health and disease, as well as, upper safe limits of nutrient intakes. We selected this topic because the new DRI system developed in North America will change the basic tools that dietitians use in practice, such as nutrition recommendations, dietary guidelines, and nutrition management practice guidelines - and members identified the need for professional education. Health Canada, our national health department, let us know that leadership for applying Dietary Reference Intakes to clinical practice is expected to come from the professional association, while government would lead application to public policy. Members let us know that professional education was needed before dietitians could begin to apply DRI to practice.

As Dietary Reference Intakes replace former estimates of nutrient requirements (i.e. the former version of the RDA) in the scientific literature, in nutritional databases, and reference books every dietitian will need to learn about the DRI system and the advice contained about every nutrient in human health. The best way to provide widespread access to new information is the Internet. We worked with DC members who sat on the US National Academy of Sciences (NAS) expert committees, such as Dr Susan Barr who chaired the NAS Applications and Uses Committee. We worked with other members to identify best practices for online education and to determine interest and support for online courses. We maintained communication with Health Canada, the National Academy of Sciences, and dietetic regulatory bodies across Canada while the courses were being developed. In November we launched www.dieteticsatwork.com, and since then interest in the courses has been high and feedback has been positive. Health professionals and scientists everywhere are welcome to visit the site to test their knowledge about nutrient requirements and to sign up to take these courses.

Health System Reform Focus is the Role of Dietitians in Primary Care
Health system reform has been underway for over a decade, not unlike many countries throughout the world. Over the years Dietitians of Canada has participated through preparation of briefs and in numerous national consultation and visioning initiatives. During the past year we completed “The Role of the Dietitian in Primary Health” a position paper that we use to advocate for a meaningful role for dietitians as new settings and new roles emerge in community based health services. A copy of this paper can be obtained from www.dietitians.ca/news/media_role_rd/html.

Turkey
This year marks the 40th anniversary of the Department of Nutrition and Dietetics at Hacettepe University. This event will be celebrated with many activities. Every month there is a conference or seminar, and there is also a photography competition on the topic of nutrition. We are all very excited to be celebrating 40 years of dietetics in Turkey.

United States
Associations Trending Toward Membership Inclusivity - ADA Adds International Category
Organizations are increasingly recognizing the need to identify new groups who qualify for membership, in a shift toward inclusivity versus exclusivity in requirements. The appropriate composition of membership categories is critical to achieve the mission of organizations. In keeping with its
strategic focus, the American Dietetic Association (ADA) has approved a new membership category that will allow dietetics professionals from outside the United States to become members of ADA.

Qualifications for international membership in ADA will include completion of formal training in food, nutrition or dietetics received outside the United States or U.S. Territories, as verified by the country’s professional dietetics association and/or national regulatory body. Membership benefits include a monthly subscription to the Journal of the American Dietetic Association, an affiliate (chapter) membership, access to scientific summaries on ADA’s member-only web site, options to join Dietetic Practice Groups (DPGs), and attend meetings, at reduced rates. For a complete list of the ADA international membership benefits, please check the ADA web site at www.eatright.org

Membership will take effect June 1, 2002. Applications are now being accepted. International membership dues are $170 per year, plus a one-time $25 application fee, payable in U.S. dollars.

Collaboration with food and nutrition professionals in the international arena will increase ADA’s global outreach. Additionally, enhanced creativity, enriched programming, and more informed decision-making are some of the positive outcomes, which can result when associations have a variety of cultural backgrounds and viewpoints. Nutrition professionals from outside the United States who are interested in becoming ADA members can contact Carolyn Clark at 312-899-4827 or send an e-mail to cclark@eatright.org.

Awards

The American Dietetic Association Foundation is pleased to announce the following international awards and fellowships available in 2002. For more information or an application, please contact the ADA Foundation at 800/877-1600, ext 4803 or szerbian@eatright.org. Applications may also be downloaded from our website at www.adaf.org beginning January 2002.

Colgate-Palmolive Fellowship in Nutrition and Oral Health/Dental Education

New This Year! The ADA Foundation offers this award in conjunction with Colgate Palmolive. This award will provide financial support up to $15,000 over a two-year period to support doctoral research in nutrition and oral health or dental education. The award is given on a competitive application basis to support research in nutrition and oral health or dental education by doctoral students seeking a doctorate in nutrition and oral health/dental education. The Recipient(s) of this award must have as short and long term goals a career in nutrition and dental /health professions education. For further information on this fellowship, please contact the ADA Foundation at 1-800-877-1600, ext. 4803. Applications will be available on the ADA website at www.eatright.org on February 1st. Deadline: April 30, 2002.

First International Nutritionist Dietitian (FIND) Fellowship for Study in the USA

This award is given to a professional foreign dietitian/nutritionist, preferably from a developing country, to enable him/her to attend a workshop or seminar, or to participate in a continuing education program or orientation project in the United States. Priority will be given to a qualified nutritionist/dietitian who has a high financial need and a definite goal of applying the United States experience in his/her native
Wimpfheimer-Guggenheim Fund for International Exchange in Nutrition, Dietetics and Management
This award will be given for an essay describing an international partnership to advance the nutritional well being of a specific population. The essay must describe the applicant's professional involvement in a program to raise the nutritional standard of a particular population group, such as the elderly, children, or those living with HIV/AIDS. The specific international nutrition project must be effective, practical and attainable and should serve as a model for further collaborations. The author must be willing to submit the essay for publication in the Journal of the American Dietetic Association. Essays should be between 5 and 7 typewritten pages, double-spaced. Deadline: May 30, 2002.

XIV International Congress of Dietetics Travel Grants
Planners of the XIV ICD have begun to develop a special fund that will be awarded to dietitians from developing countries to subsidize travel expenses to the Congress. Dietitians of Canada and the American Dietetic Association are seeking contributions to the fund from their members, Congress sponsors, and national dietetic associations. We are excited to report that the DC Nutrition and Food Security Network has made the first pledge to the fund. Through the generosity of dietitians, dietetic associations and corporate sponsors we hope to award several travel grants in 2003. Watch for news about the Travel Grants Fund donations and application processes at www.internationaldietetics.org/icd_planning.asp

Resources
Additions to DAA Website
The Dietitians Association of Australia (DAA) have some exciting new additions to their website, in particular the new Smart Eating section. Visit http://www.daa.asn.au/public/smart_eating/index.asp and see for yourself. It is a great resource available to the public and includes features such as Smart Eating Tips, Recipes, Study Centre (with links to nutrition resources on the net suitable for the novice through to the professional), Nutrition A-Z, DAA Statements, Links and My Smart Eating Coach and Healthy Eating Self-Assessment. Have a look at the great offerings - then let your friends, colleagues and clients know about the many useful features.

New Professional Resource will help Dietitians Explain Food Biotechnology
While food biotechnology continues to grow as a topic of great interest to a wide variety of stakeholders - regulators, health professionals, scientists, food producers and processors, and consumers - Dietitians of Canada set out to develop a resource for professionals that would provide balanced information on the issues presented by advances in food biotechnology. Dietitians have maintained a high rating of credibility with consumers and others by providing science based, understandable information on complex nutrition topic. Taking leadership in public education on food biotechnology has been expected of the profession, and yet dietitians have been challenged in this role by issues and beliefs that have often over-shadowed the science and shaped public debate and opinion. Modern Food Biotechnology: Principles and Perspectives is a resource intended to help dietitians explain food biotechnology by
providing a balanced perspective on the issues that concern consumers, dietitians, and other professionals. The 100-page resource, available in English or French, can be obtained from www.dieteticsatwork.com in April.

Nestlé Nutrition Institute Africa, South East Africa
Nestlé have recently launched the Nestlé Nutrition Institute Africa. The Institute aims to create a scientific network in the field of nutrition and paediatrics, and provide a framework for the development of products specific to the needs of the people of Africa. Their site at www.nestlenutrition.co.za is aimed at health professionals, and provides a variety of resources, including activities for continuing medical education.

ICDA Alliances
Pacific Islands Nutrition Newsletter
December 2001
The Kingdom of Tonga is located in the South Pacific and encompasses a total sea area of around 360,000 square km. The land area is around 750 square km and includes 171 islands, 41 of which are inhabited. There are four main island groups. Around 100,200 people live in the Kingdom, with more than 60% living on the main island of Tongatapu. More than half the households are involved in agriculture, fisheries or making handicrafts.

Data from 1996 show that on average 2.62 kg of root crops are available per head per day, more than sufficient to meet needs. Estimates are difficult but around 3,000 tons of fish are available each year. When imported foods are considered, the amount of food available per individual has increased since 1983. In 1999 estimates of food availability were 4050 kcal, 105g protein and 73g fat per day per individual. Animal foods account for 90% of the available fat. Recent studies showing rises in diabetes, heart disease, and obesity and shifts away from the traditional eating pattern among young people. People are also becoming less active.

Calendar of Events
19-21 April 2002: 12th Annual Advances and Controversies in Clinical Nutrition
Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort
Destin, United States
Contact: 1 904 953 7114
Fax: +1 904 953 2954
Email: cme-jax@mayo.edu

24 - 27 April 2002: 2002 Essential Fatty Acids and Human Nutrition and Health International Workshop
China Nutrition Society
Shanghai Science and Technology Association, Shanghai, China
Contact: email welcome@efaconf.org
http://www.efaconf.org

5 May 2002: Omega-3 Fatty Acids in Mental Health: What Do We Really Know?
Montreal, Quebec, Canada.
Contact AOCS, PO Box 3489, Champaign IL 61826-3489;
www.aocs.org/am2002.htm

7-11 May 2002: Fifth Congress of the International Society for the Study of Fatty Acids and Lipids (ISSFAL): Dietary Fats and Health
Montreal, Quebec, Canada.
Contact the ISSFAL 2002 Secretariat, c/o Golden Planners, Inc, 126 York Street, Suite 301, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1N 5T5; Phone 613 241-9333; fax 613 565-2173; info@goldenplanners.com; www.issfal.org.uk

2-6 June 2002: The 11th International Symposium on Trace Elements in Man and Animals (TEMA 11)
Berkeley CA, USA.
Contact Barbara Sutherland, Nutrition Department, Meyer Hall, University of California, Davis, 1 Shields Avenue, Davis CA 95615-8783; fax 530 752-7588, bsutherland@ucdavis.edu

5-9 June 2002: VVXII FIMS World Congress of Sports Medicine
Budapest, Hungary.
Contact Congress Bureau, Asszisztencia, H-1132 Budapest, Visegradi u. 25; 36 1 350 1854; fax 36 1 350 0929; assziszt@euroweb.hu; www.sportdoctor.org

24-26 June 2002: 9th World Congress on Clinical Nutrition
Church House Conference Centre, Westminster, London UK.
Contact Heema Skukla, Secretary General, 9th WCCN congress Secretariat, University of Westminster, Room 409, 9-18 Euston Centre, London NW1 3ET UK; +44(0)20 7911 5752; fax +44(0)20 7911 5026; skuklah@wmin.ac.uk

Wageningen University and Research Centre, the Netherlands

Contact K de Graaf, Dept Human Nutrition and Epidemiology, Wageningen University, PO Box 8129, 6700 EV Wageningen, the Netherlands; 31 317 484451; fax 31 317 483342; kees.degraaf@staff.nutepi.wau.nl

Intercontinental Hotel, Nairobi.
www.itana2002.org/home/

18 - 21 Aug 2002: 3rd Asian Congress of Dietetics
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Contact: Email: fatimah@edic.ukm.my
Phone: 0011 60 3 440 5511, Fax: 0015 60 3 294 7621

24-29 August 2002: 9th International Congress on Obesity
Sao Paulo, Brazil.
Contact Cerne Consultoria de Erentos, +55 11 3812 4845/3813 9353; cerne@uol.com.br

31 Aug - 4 Sep 2002: 24th ESPEN Congress - Patients Progress, the Journal from Science to Practice Date
Glasgow, Scotland
Contact: Chantal Leverat or Antonio Guadagnoli, Email: espen@mci-group.com
Phone: 41 22 33 99 580; Fax: 41 22 33 99 621

30 September-4 October 2002: Twelfth Latin American Congress of Nutritionists and Dieticians
Caracas, Venezuela.
Contact Lesbia Gonzalez, Confederation Latinoamericana de Nutricionistasy
Dietistas, Centro Comercial Uslar, Torre de Oficina, Piso 9, Of 94, Montalban, Caracas, Venezuela; +58 212 44 27 911; fax +58 212 44 28 101; colnutri@cantv.net

www.confelanyd.org


Philadelphia, PA, USA
Contact ADA, 216 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, IL 60606-6995; 312 899-0040; fax 312 899-0008; mtgsinfo@eatright.org

www.eatright.org


Perth, Western Australia, Australia
Contact: Katie Clarke, Email: kclarke@congresswest.com.au

Phone: (08) 9322 6906, Fax: (08) 9322 1734

5 - 8 Nov 2002: 19th International Conference of the International Society for Quality in Health Care

Conference Centre, UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, France
Contact: ISQua 2002 Email: isqua@isqua.org.au Phone: (03) 9417 6971 Fax: (03) 9417 6851

www.isqua.org.au

26-29 January 2003: Fifth International Conference on Dietary Assessment Methods

The Dusit Island Resort Hotel, Chang Rai, Thailand.
Contact Pattanne Winichagoon, Institute of Nutrition, Mahidol University, Phutthamonthon 4 Road, Salaya, Nakhon Pathom 73170, Thailand; 66 2 889-2168; fax 66 2 441 9344; muabp@mahidol.ac.th

www.mahidol.ac.th/mahidol/nu

2-5 April 2003: IV International Nutrition and Dietetics Congress

Antalya, Turkey
www.nutritioncongress2003.hacettepe.edu.tr

Keep a look out for deadlines for abstracts. Conferences in late 2002 will close soon.

Deadline for articles for next issue of Dietetics Around the World - July 31st, 2002

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To apply for membership, contact ICDA Secretariat, Dietitians of Canada, 480 University Ave, Suite 604, Toronto, Ontario, M5G1V2, Canada; phone 1 416 596 0857; fax 1 416 596-0603; or use Contact Us at www.internationaldietetics.org and select ICDA Office

Editor: Sandra Capra, Dietitians Association of Australia, can be contacted through Contact Us at www.internationaldietetics.org and select Newsletter.