Please note that the 21st IUNS-ICN will now be held on 15th - 20th October 2017. Remember to put it in your diary!
Contents

Update from the President................................................................. 3
Report of 55th IUNS Council Meeting........................................... 4
IUNS at FENS conference 2015...................................................... 5
Obituaries....................................................................................... 5
Task Forces Update......................................................................... 6 - 7
Report of IUNS-SLAN breakfast................................................... 7
Report of FANUS conference......................................................... 8
Re-Integration Grant........................................................................ 9
Ruth Charrondiere wins Nevin Scrimshaw Award......................... 9
Contact us...................................................................................... 10
Dear IUNS Adhering and Affiliated Bodies,

I bring you greetings from our Council. In February 2016, we had our face-to-face Council meeting in UK. I am happy to inform you that work on revising our Statutes to bring them up to the level expected of a modern scientific organisation is complete. We now have our revised Statutes and Rules as separate documents. I take this opportunity to thank the initial drafting Committee (with Professor Lindsay Allan as Chair, other members were Ricardo Uauy, Emorn Udornkesmalee, Paul Amuna and Suzanne Murphy). We thank the Nutrition Society UK, for the huge support they gave IUNS in this effort. We are also grateful to our Adhering Bodies who worked closely together with Council as we undertook this exercise. In a majority decision, our Adhering Bodies have given us the permission to start working with our new Statutes and Rules effective January 2016. We have made major changes to our Statutes, key among them is that one can serve on Council for no more than three terms (total twelve years) as opposed to the previous four terms. Another major change is in regards to receiving nominations for Council and Officer positions. Nominations would no longer be accepted from the floor of the General Assembly. In this regard, I urge Adhering Bodies to take note of this significant change and ensure that you submit your nominations in time when the window for the call for nominations is opened.

Our re-integration grant has been announced for qualified graduates from Africa, Asia and Latin America to apply. Please visit our recently revamped iuns.org website for information on eligibility and to access the application form. The deadline for receipt of applications at the secretariat is June 30, 2016.

The IUNS-ICN in Buenos Aires, Argentina, is fast approaching. Please take note of the date:


The planning committee is working hard to bring you a cutting-edge scientific program. Please visit the congress website for information on abstract submission and more please visit:

www.icn2017.com

See you all in Argentina in 2017!!!

Sincerely,

Anna Larney [PhD]
[IUNS President 2013-2017]
The 55th IUNS Council Meeting took place on the 1st & 2nd February, at the Nutrition Society Offices in London, UK. The main agenda items discussed and decisions made were as follows:

**IUNS Statutes and Rules**

The Council made some small amendments to the revised Statutes and Rules and approved them for ratification at the General Assembly in 2017. These will now be type set and printed. One significant change in the Statutes is that Council Members will now only be able to serve on IUNS Council for three terms (12 years) instead of the previous four terms (16 years) as four terms was deemed as too long by Council Members and some Adhering Bodies.

"The website has been updated and re-designed to ensure a more logical set up"

**IUNS website**

This has been updated and re-designed to ensure easier access to IUNS publications and a more logical set up. Visit www.iuns.org to take a look!

**21st IUNS-ICN 2017**

Dr Mabel Carrera, President of the 21st IUNS-ICN and members of the Fase20 technical secretariat for the 21st IUNS-ICN in Buenos Aires, Argentina joined IUNS Council for the first morning of the meeting. They reported on the progress of the IUNS-ICN and informed Council of a change of venue and date. The IUNS-ICN will now be held on 19th – 26th October 2017. Remember to put it in your diary! Please also remember that Adhering Bodies with unpaid dues are not eligible for any of the IUNS benefits such as Travel grants, election of officers and Council members, Re-integration grants (see below), etc. Do make sure your dues are up to date.

**Task Forces**

Particular commendation was given to Dr Cristina Tirado, Chair of the Nutrition and Climate Change Task Force, who has worked hard to disseminate the work of the Task Force, including at the COP21 meeting in Paris with presentations on ’Climate Change, Food Security and Nutrition’ and ‘Co-benefits of nutrition sensitive adaptation and mitigation’. Further updates on the IUNS Task Forces can be found on page 6.

**Unilever**

Unilever have agreed to hold 3 salt summits in collaboration with IUNS. In addition to this the Capacity Development arm of the collaboration with Unilever has launched the ‘Re-Integration’ grant to enable students who have completed their doctoral training in a developed country to return to their home country to begin their careers. More information on the Re-Integration grant can be found in the Capacity Development Task Force update on page 6.

**Conflict of Interest**

IUNS Council reviewed the Conflict of Interest documents (for Council Members) and made some amendments to the documents during the meeting. These were then approved. The Private Engagement Policy document was sent out for further consultation and will be finalised at the next Council meeting.
IUNS at FENS conference 2015
Professor Helmut Heseker, IUNS Treasurer

The 12th European Nutrition Conference FENS 2015 was conducted from 23 to 26 October 2015 in Berlin, Germany. More than 1600 nutrition scientists from Europe and many other countries participated in this large conference held between the IUNS-ICNs, with 5 plenary talks, and more than 90 sessions, symposia and posters.

The International Union of Nutritional Sciences (IUNS) provided $10,000 for the promotion of young scientists from Africa, Asia and Latin America for active participation at the FENS Conference. Grants were awarded up to a maximum of $1,500 per person for travel costs, accommodation and conference fees. The scholarship was intended to give young scientists the opportunity to present own nutrition related scientific contribution in the form of a lecture or a poster at the FENS Conference. Young Scientists fulfilling the criteria were encouraged to submit an application with a deadline of April 2015.

Juliana Araujo Teixeira (Brazil). Factors associated with not using folic acid supplements in the first trimester of pregnancy
Samson Gebremedhin Gebresilassie (Ethiopia): Magnitude of childhood overweight and obesity in Sub-Saharan Africa
Sophia Doyo Amenyah (Ghana): Body image perception and associated obesity risk in Ghanaian adolescents
Kaoutar Benjedou (Morocco): Anthropometric assessment and vitamin D status among school children in a rural region of Morocco.
Miria Twinomugisha (Uganda). Operationalising local level governance for nutrition based on the system approach.
Bayejid Hosen has also received one of three FENS poster awards.

IUNS Officers with Travel Grant Awardees at the 2015 FENS conference in Berlin.

Overall IUNS received 67 applications for the grant. In an evaluation process seven applicants were chosen on the basis of the submitted abstract and their curriculum vitae to receive a grant from IUNS. The awarded young scientists came from Algeria, Bangladesh, Brazil, Ethiopia, Ghana, Morocco and Uganda.

Naziha Fedala (Algeria): Nutritional status of school adolescents in Algiers, Algeria: Prevalence of overweight and obesity
Bayejid Hosen (Bangladesh): Dietary exposure of heavy metals, minerals and trace elements

Obituaries

Professor Gail Harrison
(1943 - 2015)

In September 2015, IUNS received the sad news that Professor Gail Harrison had passed away. Professor Harrison was involved in many teaching and research endeavours, focusing on the nutrition and health of impoverished children, mothers, and families. She was repeatedly called upon to consult with the World Health Organisation, US Women Infants and Children feeding program (WIC), and UNICEF and was elected to membership in the Institute of Medicine in 2003. A memorial website has been set up for her to which those of you who know her can add memories, the website address is available below:

http://www.forevermissed.com/gail-harrison/#about

Dr Jin-Soon Ju
(1921 -2015)

In November 2015, IUNS received the sad news that Dr Jin-Soon Ju had passed away. Dr Ju was the President of the Korean Nutrition Society from 1974 to 1975, council member of IUNS from 1982 to 1989 and an elected scientist in nutritional science at the National Academy of Sciences, Republic of Korea.

IUNS would like to express their deepest condolences to the families and friends of both Professor Harrison and Dr Ju.
Task Forces Update

Risk and Benefits of Iron
Chair: Dr. Parisha Sant-Ryan

The Risk and Benefits of Iron Task Force has focused on a formal risk-benefit analysis of iron supplementation and related interventions when deployed in the public health context, to children under two years of age. The group has met by teleconference monthly since July 2014. They will use a microsimulation model to provide country specific information for iron interventions to children less than two years of age comprising, 1) the net benefit from iron interventions in terms of averted Disability Adjusted Life Years (DALYS), 2) the cost per DALY averted in each country and 3) the cost per DALY as a proportion of GDP in each country. A peer-reviewed report and publication in an international journal is planned for 2016, with a presentation at the Micronutrient Forum 2016 and IUNS-ICN 2017.

Multidimensional Indicators of Child Growth and Development
Chair: Dr. Hinke Haisma

This Task Force has been involved in several activities over the past year, including: Developing a research proposal on multidimensional child growth; Developing a research proposal on ethnography of child growth; A preliminary analysis of the Electronic Human Relations Area Files, Yale University as a cross cultural ethnographic database to understand perceptions about child growth; Conducting research to assess and compare the current growth monitoring practices in countries with different stages of nutrition transition; A research workshop was held on child malnutrition as a preparatory event to EXPo Milano 2015. In a two-day workshop in February 2015, task force members discussed the progress of the VIDI project.

Capacity Development in Nutrition
Chair: Prof. Anna Larkey

This year the Capacity Development in Nutrition Task Force has been working on three key areas:
1. Re-integration grants
This grant is to enable early career scientists who have completed their doctoral training in a developed country to return to their country of origin and start their career. These grants of $10,000 each are available for scientists in Latin America [1], Africa [1] and Asia [1]. This grant was agreed at the FENS Officers meeting and is now available for applications. The deadline is June.
2. E-Nutrition Academy
E-Nutrition Academy is a joint venture between IUNS, The Nutrition Society of UK and Ireland (NSNI), Federation of African Nutrition Societies (FANUS) and The American Society for Nutrition (ASN). In March 2015 it launched its first course ‘Assessment of Dietary Intake for Individuals’. At present this is a pilot course.
3. Support of students to regional conferences
The Capacity Development Task Force support students to attend regional conferences. In 2015 over 17 students were assisted to attend conferences such as FENS, SLAN and FANUS.

Traditional, Indigenous and Cultural Food and nutrition
Chair: Dr. Harriet Kuhnlein

Drs Kuhnlein and Longvah attended the FAO in Rome in February 2015 and brief presentations were made at the IFAD Indigenous Peoples’ Forum. Dr Kuhnlein was also part of the panel presentation for the IFAD Governing Council. In addition to these activities a web publication is in the process of construction on Traditional Animal Food Resources of Indigenous Peoples in North America. This is written in conjunction with Dr Murray Humphreys of McGill University, Canada. Publication is anticipated for 2016.

Prevention and Control of Malnutrition
Chair: Prof. Ann Ashworth-Hill

This Task Force was involved in several capacity building and training activities during 2015. A joint WHO/IMTF symposium entitled ‘Prevention and treatment of acute malnutrition: What we know, and what challenges remain for effective interventions’ was held at the recent SLAN conference in the Dominican Republic. IMTF has launched an e-learning course entitled ‘Caring for infants and children with acute malnutrition’. 2015 has also seen the emergence of two new working groups within the IMTF ‘IMTF Body Composition Group’ and ‘IMTF Food Technology Group’. In addition to this the IMTF and Action Le Faim have agreed to a closer working relationship through which IMTF will provide advice and support.

INFOOD
Chairs: Dr. Ruth Charrondiere
Prof. Henrietta Ene-Obong

The INFOOD Task Force has been involved in many activities globally and regionally in 2015. This includes initiating work on the FAO/INFOODS evaluation framework and translation of FAO/INFOODS databases and guidelines into Spanish and French. Publications such as the Food Chemistry supplement with the articles of the 10th International Food Data Conference have been published and many Universities have incorporated the FAO/INFOODS e-learning Course on Food Composition Data into their curricula. Activities at a regional level have included the coordination of AFRINFOODS, ASEANINFOODS, EUROINFOODS, LATINFOODS, MEFINFOODS, GULINFOODS, NEASIAINFOODS, NORAMINFOODS, SAARINFOODS and OCEANINFOODS. These regional branches of INFOODS hold regular meetings, publish research and organise international symposia.
Gene-Nutrient Interactions: Knowledge to Action  
Chair: Prof. Alfredo Martinez

This Task Force has taken part in many activities and congresses in the past year, holding multiple symposia and training events on personalised nutrition. Congresses attended include: 3rd Congress FESNAD “Food and nutrition: global need” 9th Annual Congress of the International Society of Nutrigenetics and Nutrigenomics 37th ESPEN Congress on Clinical Nutrition & Metabolism – Healthy Life through nutrition “Towards personalised nutrition” III World Congress of Public Health, II Latin American Congress of Community Nutrition, X Congreso de la Sociedad Española de Nutrición Comunitaria (SENC) – Public Health Nutrition: The core of international cooperation for development. In addition to this the Task Force has published several papers including:  

Nutrition and Climate Change  
Chair: Dr. Cristina Tirado

The IUNS Task Force on Climate Change and Nutrition was extremely busy in 2015, it has been actively taking advantage of the unique changing global agenda that is influencing policies that affect nutrition. The task force has implemented activities in preparation for the new climate agreement by the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change at the COP21 in Paris 2015, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 and the work on the new Sustainable Development Goals and the 2030 Development agenda. The Task Force contributed to a Symposium at UCLA Law School with the new UN Rapporteur for the right to food Hilal Haval in March 2015. Focus was the right to food in the context of the UN Framework Convention for Climate Change. In addition to this the task force contributed to the Food and Nutrition Security Forum learning event on Climate Change, Food Security and Nutrition with a background presentation on Climate Change and Nutrition.

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Report of SLAN-IUNS breakfast

Dr. Lynette Neufeld, IUNS Council Member

Members of the IUNS Council met Dr. Mabel Alicia Brigida Carrera, President, and other members of the Organising Committee from Argentina during the Latin American Society of Nutrition (SLAN, for its name in Spanish) meeting in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic last November.

Preparations are well underway for the upcoming 21st International Congress of Nutrition to be held in Buenos Aires, Argentina from 15 to 20 October 2017. The conference promises an exciting program. The pillars of the program include: Advances in Nutrition Research; Nutrition Through Life Course; Public Health Nutrition and Environment; Nutrition and Management of Diseases; Nutrients and Nutritional Assessment; Functional Foods and Bioactive Compounds; Food culture practices and Nutritional Education; Agriculture, Food Science and Safety. The November meeting focussed on review of the logistical and program preparations and updates on the timeline for call for abstracts, registration and other key milestones.

The IUNS will continue to support the team in Argentina through the formation of a small committee, led by Drs Alfredo Martinez and Angel Gil. Watch for regular updates on the website http://icn2017.com/ and we look forward to seeing all of you there!
Report of FANUS conference
Professor Helmut Heseker, IUNS Treasurer

The Federation of Africa Nutrition Societies (FANUS) was established to promote collaboration and capacity-building among Africa-based nutrition scientists and practitioners affiliated with national nutrition societies. During its decade of existence, the Federation has carried out two four-yearly conferences and the third conference was held in Arusha, Tanzania from 23rd to 29th May 2015. The theme of this conference was “Nutrition in Africa at Crossroads”. The organisers of the conference were FONATA, SUA and TFNC. The aim of the conference was to provide nutritionists and other professionals a platform to interact and share experiences in the field of nutrition. It was also an opportunity to share research findings as well as identifying areas for synergism and complementarities and future research agenda.

Three hundred delegates from over 26 countries attended the conference. These were from Africa (Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Mali, Morocco, Nigeria, Rwanda, Somalia, South Africa, Uganda, Zimbabwe, Zambia, and Tanzania). From Asia (India), Australia, America and Europe (UK, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Switzerland, Sweden and Austria). The delegates were from various sectors including nutrition, academia, agriculture, food science, medicine, policy planning, research, government, economics, consumer organisations and communications.

Participating organisations / Developmental partners attended include: IUNS, ANS, The Nutrition Society of UK and Ireland, Nestle Nutrition Institute, the SUN Movement Secretariat, REACH, LCIRAH, IFPRI, UNICEF, Irish Aid, FAO, DFID, Mwanza Bora Nutrition Programme (MBNP), GAIN, World Vision, USAID, IAGRI, CRS, FANTA, FHI 360, HKI, Save the Children Parasitological Pension Fund (PPF), the National Health Insurance Fund and Bonite Bottlers.

The scientific and abstract committee was mandated to receive, review and categorise the abstracts in appropriate themes. In the review process, abstracts were either accepted or rejected based on a number of established criteria, which included: originality, merit/relevance, findings/results, objectives [for panel/symposia abstracts], clarity, overall impression and relevance to conference theme. Finally, the abstracts that were able to stimulate discussion, had a current issue in nutrition, cutting edge issues, innovative ideas, employed new method and technology developments were accepted for oral presentation and the rest were accepted for poster presentation.

The announcement of IUNS scholarships and the criteria for selection were posted on the FANUS and TFNC websites. A list of criteria was developed to be used for selecting the applicants. More than 19 applications were for IUNS support. We must acknowledge that this was a very challenging process. Many applicants met all the criteria but the funding was not enough to support all. At the end of the day IUNS supported 10 participants to this conference.

All the IUNS delegates had either oral or poster presentations. The committee was satisfied with the quality of presentations in terms of knowledge exchange and new developments with regards to methodologies and analysis of nutrition related disciplines. IUNS Conference delegates who attended presentations that were held in various venues also had a chance to attend the different symposia, training sessions and discussion clinics. The IUNS delegates had good presentations and were able to share their research findings and experiences.

The selection process was very competitive and challenging because of the limited funding.

Timely feedback to the applicants was important and in the future it would facilitate the planning and logistical arrangements for delegates.

IUNS Travel Grant Awardees attending FANUS in Tanzania, 2015

Travel costs were very high and utilised most of the IUNS funds because tickets were booked at a late date. In future it would be necessary to start this process early enough to minimise travel costs. Too many applicants needed support and unavailability of funding was a major limitation in terms of participation of young scientists to the conference. FANUS is working on establishing a fund that will be used to support young researchers to attend conference for the purpose of gaining experience and to learn new things.

Those who were selected and able to participate expressed sincere gratitude for the opportunity. For some of them it was an awesome experience. Applicants expressed their wishes that more young scientists could get this opportunity.

The conference was a big success. Almost all the conference activities went on well as planned. With the funding we obtained from IUNS we were able to ensure that 10 young professionals participated in the conference. On travel, some participants had issues with their air ticket and visas, however these were rectified and they participated smoothly. The committee tried to quickly rectify any challenges/anomalies that featured during the conference.
Ruth Charrondiere wins Nevin Scrimshaw Award

IUNS Task Force Chair Dr. Ruth Charrondiere has become the 4th recipient of the Nevin Scrimshaw Award. The award, in honour of the late Nevin Scrimshaw (an American pioneer in the fight against malnutrition and hunger), was awarded to Ruth in recognition of her exceptional contributions to the field of food composition and capacity development. Ruth today works as a Nutrition Officer at the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO). Not only has Ruth designed guiding mechanisms for nutrition and development practitioners, she has performed extensive research on the relationship between cancer and nutrition as part of the European Prospective Investigation into Cancer and Nutrition (EPIC) study. Ruth is the co-chair of the IUNS INFOODS Task Force, a global network of food composition experts working to improve the quality, reliability, availability and use of food composition data. Congratulations Ruth from IUNS Council, keep up the good work!

Re-Integration Grant - Apply now!

Under the IUNS Task force on Capacity Development, a re-integration grant has been established for the period 2013-2017 tenure. This grant is to enable early career nutritionists who have completed their doctoral training in a developed country to start their career and or settle in their jobs in their home country.

Funds may be used for the purchase of books, laptops, set up office, support a pilot research, etc.

Three grants of $10,000 each will available for persons from the following regions: Africa (1 grant), Asia (1 grant) and Latin America (1 grant). Applicants must have completed their doctoral training in nutrition science within the last two years.

Application requirements:

1. Filled application form [to be downloaded from IUNS website - link below]
2. Supporting letter from main thesis supervisor
3. Supporting letter from employer in home country
4. Letter from Applicant indicating how grant funds would be applied; the letter should also indicate how the applicant would support the activities of the Nutrition Society in their home country.

Condition for application:

Applicants must come from countries which are Adhering Bodies of IUNS is in good standing. To verify the status of your country’s status please contact the secretariat at: office@iuns.org

Please visit www.iuns.org/resources/iuns-re-integration-grant-application-form/ to download the application form.

Completed application forms need to be emailed to office@iuns.org by the deadline of 30th June 2016.
The 3rd edition of ‘Nutrition for Developing Countries’ published by Oxford University Press and edited by Felicity Savage King, Ann Burgess, Victoria J. Quinn and Akoto K. Osei with a Foreword by Anna Larrey is available as a paperback (with 30% discount until March 2017), e-book or online.

Details of how to purchase the book are available on the IUNS website, please visit http://www.iuns.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/NFDC-e-flyer-IUNS-Feb-2016.pdf, for more information about purchasing the book.

Contact us

IUNS Secretariat
C/o The Nutrition Society
10 Cambridge Court
210 Shepherd’s Bush Road
London
W6 7NJ

Email: office@iuns.org
Website: www.iuns.org