

BENEFITS OF BEING AN ADHERING BODY OF IUNS

The objectives of the IUNS are to promote advancement in nutritional science, research and development through international co-operation at the global level and to encourage communication and collaboration among nutrition scientists through modern communication technology.

IUNS was established in 1948 to represent the broad interests of nutrition scientists globally. Its' members are country and regional Nutrition Associations (Adhering Bodies) and other international organisations such as UN agencies and regional or global scientific groups with a nutrition related emphasis (Affiliated Bodies). Currently there are approximately 80 Adhering Bodies, but others are joining from all continents. IUNS works with regional bodies such as the Federation of European Nutrition Societies (FENS) and the Federation of Asian Nutrition Societies (FANS), Federation of African Nutrition Societies (FANUS), OCEANIA, Sociedad Latinoamericana de Nutricion (SLAN) on a range of issues including the provision of Travel Grants for students and young scientists to attend their conferences.

The promotion of advancement in nutrition science at the global level is the IUNS' number one priority in terms of development within the organisation. The feedback received from our Adhering and Affiliated Bodies will be used to construct strategies and developmental plans to encourage positive, effective and continuous communication and collaboration between the Adhering Bodies of the IUNS in order to strengthen and improve the global family of nutrition scientists within IUNS.

Being a member of the IUNS provides an Adhering Body with the opportunity to be linked in with developments in nutrition science. The IUNS International Congress of Nutrition (IUNS-ICN) that takes place every 4 years allows all Adhering Bodies to come together and exchange on the latest findings in nutrition science research. Participation in IUNS-ICN presents an excellent opportunity to contribute to global discussions and most importantly, meet and communicate with other nutrition scientists which further encourages communication between the members of the IUNS. Travel grants to the IUNS-ICN are available for selected applicants.

The highest decision making body of the IUNS is the General Assembly which meets at the IUNS-ICN. As an IUNS member, adhering bodies are eligible to vote at the General Assembly, which means there is an opportunity to influence IUNS policy. You also have the opportunity to participate in Nutrition Leadership Programs and professional development programs at regional conferences, as well being eligible for occasional grants from IUNS or its associated bodies, such as ICSU and IUFoST among others.

We promote the events and activities of our Adhering Bodies and involve our members in global issues their participation in our task forces. The IUNS task forces, which receive IUNS funding, tackle current global nutrition issues. The current task forces approved for 2013 - 2017 period are listed below.

1. Toward Multidimensional Indicators of Child Growth and Development
2. Traditional, Indigenous, and Cultural Food and Nutrition
3. INFOOD (Food Biodiversity)
4. Prevention and Control of Malnutrition

5. Redefining Diet Quality
6. Capacity Development and Leadership in Nutrition
7. Gene- Nutrient Interactions: Knowledge to action
8. Nutrition and Climate Change
9. Risk and Benefits of Iron

Adhering Bodies of the IUNS have the opportunity to get involved in these task forces and their development by contacting the Chairman of the Task Force IUNS gives visibility to its task forces among its membership as well as at other events.

In addition, IUNS invites applications from early career nutrition scientists (whose national Adhering Body is in good standing) for the IUNS Re-Integration grant. This grant is designed 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.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch with any further enquiries.