

Faculty and Staff News



Pete Anderson continues to teach Nutri Sci 132 and PE 100 in a professional life centered around introductory nutrition. He keeps himself entertained by finding new, better, and more to-the-point ways of presenting long-standing and developing information in the field. That keeps it interesting, and writing a textbook in introductory nutrition keeps him on task. There is always a better way to teach it, and a better way to say it. He recently adopted twin two-year old girls, which more than fills any spare time he can find. So far, his energy level has kept up with theirs, but it's a challenge. They never sit still unless being read to. He managed to stay active, running, roller skiing, and biking to work until he broke his foot (very annoying), and canoeing and yoga after that.



Gayle Coleman is an Extension Specialist in Nutritional Sciences. Gayle works with curriculum and training for nutrition programs serving low-income audiences and she serves as nutrition advisor to nutrition educators in the Northern and Southern Extension Districts. **Betsy Kelley** also works as a part-time Extension Specialist in Nutritional Sciences, as well as coordinating a statewide program to coordinate practicum experiences for undergraduates in dietetics.



David Eide's research currently explores how cells deal with deficiency of metal nutrients such as zinc. His group has discovered that the expression of many genes change in response to zinc status and these genes are involved in maintaining zinc levels within cells as well as allowing cells to adapt to the stresses that result from zinc deficiency. His primary teaching responsibility is in Biochemistry/Nutritional Sciences 510: Biochemical Principles of Human and Animal Nutrition, which he co-teaches with Dr. Smith in the fall and Dr. Sunde in the spring. When the weather is nice, Dr. Eide can often be found sailing on Lake Mendota on his boat, "Papilio."



Rick Eisenstein's lab works on understanding how the metabolism of iron is controlled in health and what the mechanisms and consequences are of improper regulation of iron metabolism in disease states. The Eisenstein lab continues to focus on the role of iron regulatory proteins (IRP) which are key sensors of cellular iron status that act to control the rate of synthesis of proteins required for the transport, storage or use of iron. Former lab members that they have heard from recently are all doing well. They would be thrilled to hear from any and all former lab members. Best wishes for the coming new year.



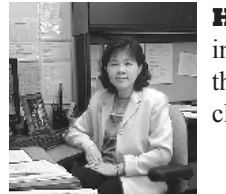
Guy E. Groblewski's laboratory's major focus is to elucidate the precise down-stream molecular events that occur as a consequence of acutely elevated messengers in secretory epithelia. There are currently three PhD students in the lab. Megan Baumler, who is working on heat shock protein regulation of pancreatic function, will likely graduate in the next year. Michelle Falkowski is a third year student who successfully completed the preliminary examinations this past year and is working on identifying synaptotagmin proteins in acinar cells that modulate calcium-dependent exocytosis. Scott Messenger is a second year student working on CRHSP28/D52 modulation of membrane trafficking.



After spending 4 years honing her clinical skills, **Michelle Johnson** returned to Nutritional Sciences in the fall of 2006. Currently, she is teaching NS 520 with Lynette Karls. The size of the class has grown so much that they now have two sections with about 20 students in each section! She also works with Susan Nitzke doing research that involves gathering behavioral data on young adults. From this data they plan to develop intervention tools geared toward preventing obesity in this age group. Sherry Tanumihardjo has asked Michelle to help her develop a nutrition course for students entering Chiropractic School. This has been a great opportunity to review basic nutrition and biochemistry while looking at methods of course development. In addition to the obvious 'nutrition' link, it has been interesting to see how all of these opportunities directly connect with teaching college students. In summary, while she is wearing many hats and is a bit busier than she probably should be, she really enjoys what she is doing and the people she works with! On the home-front, Michelle and her husband adopted a little girl from Guatemala. Ana was only 4 months old when they got her. Today she is 6 ½ years old and a first grader! She is a treasure. She has been blessed in many ways and hopes you have as well.



Lynette Karls has been working for the department for 26+ years now and is teaching the dietetics capstone course (Applications in Clinical Nutrition) and the introductory "Professions of Dietetics and Nutrition" class. In addition, she is responsible for coordinating the Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD). After over a year of work, she completed the self-study document for the ADA accreditation of our DPD this fall. This won't have to be done again until 2018! The enrollment in the dietetics program continues to rise and this keeps me "out of trouble". In her free time, she is enjoying her 4 year-old granddaughter Sienna and has developed a passion for quilting.



HuiChuan Lai's research focuses on understanding how nutrition affects the onset and progression of pediatric chronic diseases. This research began in cystic fibrosis, and recently expanded to asthma and obesity. She is the Director of the Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) and teaches NS431 (Nutrition throughout the life cycle), NS631 (Clinical nutrition) and NS520 (Capstone: Application in clinical nutrition). Her hobbies include reading, cooking and listening to classical music.



Denise Ney is enjoying the time to bring a greater focus to her research programs in intestinal adaptation with application to the human condition of short bowel syndrome and phenylketonuria (PKU) since stepping down as Dept Chair (1997- 2003). The PKU research (initiated in 2003) has provided the opportunity for interactions with the medical foods and whey processing industries and invited speaking engagements – California and Pennsylvania, as well as Switzerland, Iceland and Spain in 2008. The meeting of the European Society of PKU in Reykjavik, Iceland this October which was attended by families, scientists and clinicians from 20 European countries was a wonderful opportunity to share our efforts to improve the PKU diet with the world. You can learn more about this research by viewing a vignette shown on Wisconsin Public Television Jan 2008 – <http://www.wpt.org/inwisconsin/index.cfm?did=31002>

At home, son Austin is enjoying his sophomore year at Oregon High School and learning to drive (sort of scary for Mom)! Denise's husband Philip Helmke is now Professor Emeritus of Soil Science and enjoying his retirement as well as operating the 240 acre family farm (cash crops only, no animals) in Stratford, WI. They now have more time to pursue their hobby of ballroom dancing and recently performed a waltz in a Ballroom Dance Showcase at the Great Hall, Memorial Union.



Susan Nitzke has two research projects underway. One looks at the basic motivators and barriers of young adults when it comes to healthy lifestyle practices, particularly eating fruits and vegetables. One of her earlier projects in this area just won an award from one of ADA's practice groups. You can check it out online at www.nutrisci.wisc.edu/fav. The other project is one that she and Betsy Kelley are working on in conjunction with the other five colleges/universities in Wisconsin that offer degrees in dietetics. Together they have designed a website to help dietetics students find opportunities for practicum experiences as part of their training to become future nutrition professionals. The website for that project is www.nutrisci.wisc.edu/pphn. She teaches a course community nutrition and nutrition policy and contributes to their course on nutrition in the life cycle by giving lectures in nutrition education and food assistance programs. My biggest hobby is watercolor painting, although that pastime is being put on hold for now while I work on a book called "Feeding Young Children: Connecting Science and Practice in Early Childhood Settings." With luck, the book will be published in fall 2009 by Redleaf Press.



James Ntambi is interested in the genetic basis of obesity and diabetes and how the metabolism of dietary factors influences these disease states. In particular his lab studies the regulation of the mammalian stearoyl-CoA desaturase (SCD) genes that encode an enzyme involved in the biosynthesis of monounsaturated fatty acids. His lab group genetically engineered mice that are born without the stearoyl-CoA desaturase gene-I and found that these mice resist obesity, diabetes, fatty liver disease and other aspects of the metabolic syndrome. James recently spent a sabbatic working on research and public health programs in Uganda. His continuing efforts to help UW-Madison students and staff work directly with Ugandan students, faculty and agency partners to solve public health problems in Uganda were cited when James earned CALS' Arthur Maurer Extra Mile Award in 2008.



Dale Schoeller's research is directed to studies of human energy metabolism. The current national problem with excessive weight gain among children and adults in the US has dramatically heightened national concern about obesity and obesity related health risks. To this end, they are engaged in a diverse series of clinical studies that focus on the prevention and treatment of human obesity. His undergraduate teaching captures students at both ends of their tenure here at UW, he teaches the energy and weight control, vitamins and minerals portion of the sophomore Human Nutritional Needs course (NS332) and the capstone course on Obesity (NS499). He also teaches a 1 or course on Obesity and Diabetes for graduate students and organize the Graduate Seminar Series for the Human Nutrition and Community Emphasis Group (NS881). His major hobby is photography, favorite themes are flowers and urban window scenes.



Susan Smith's lab is still busy studying Fetal Alcohol Syndrome and how alcohol damages the developing embryo. Their work on this question was recently recognized by a prestigious MERIT award from the National Institutes of Health. They also continue our research into vitamin A and heart function, and have an interesting story on new roles for vitamin A in the adult heart. Susan still teaches NS/Biochem 510, and the fun is shared with David Eide, who covers vitamins and minerals. 510 is also now offered every semester, and sometimes at 8:50 am instead of 7:45 am, so current students now have flexibility with this memorable class. In her free time, she and her husband still operate their animal rescue organization, the Wisconsin House Rabbit Society, and over 400 foster rabbits have passed through their home.



Roger Sunde's lab is small but doing well. Their research conducted at Wisconsin is finally coming out. Here in Madison they analyzed samples from a Reading UK study for selenium status using molecular biology biomarkers (read that mRNA), which extends their rat work to humans, and that was published this past June in British Journal of Nutrition. Their microarray paper on selenium regulation of the complete selenoproteome in mice, and our qRT-PCR paper on selenium requirements in rats based on molecular biomarkers have been accepted, and we have a couple of others out for review. Lastly, Roger's transition to being solely a professor is keeping him busy with teaching graduate molecular mineral nutrition (NS 623) and the oral presentation part of the capstone nutritional sciences class (NS 520) in the Fall, and the metabolism part of nutritional biochemistry (NS 510) in the Spring. He's really enjoying much more day-to-day involvement in the lab's research.



Sherry Tanumihardjo has been doing research on Vitamin A and improving Vitamin A status around the world. She aims to make food more nutritious or at least help people to make healthier choices. She has been invited to speak at multiple global events, such as the World Health Organization and the International Atomic Energy Agency, as the nutritionist in a group of scientists trying to improve health with supplementation and food interventions. The primary message she is trying to share is eat fruits and vegetables.



Julie Thurlow continues to teach portions of Life Cycle Nutrition, Clinical Nutrition, and World Hunger and Malnutrition. A pod-casting grant in 2006 allowed her to learn various methods of recording lectures and assignment directions and putting them up on the course websites. Lectures in the upper level courses of the department are now regularly recorded and posted along with other course materials. The response to this has been encouraging. Spring semester 2009 brings World Hunger as an e-teach course, with lectures recorded and then students in for "live" discussion of the material. Her true passion, however, remains advising, and she reports that she still feels privileged to play a part in the education of future leaders in the field.



Eric Yen's reasearch involves using genetically modified mice, their current research focuses on the functions of MGAT2, a triacylglycerol synthesis enzyme highly expressed in the small intestine. When fed a high-fat diet, mice lacking MGAT2 absorbed normal quantities of fat but did so at a reduced rate. Intriguingly, this resulted in reduced metabolic efficiency and increased energy expenditure. Consequently, MGAT2-deficient mice were protected against obesity, glucose intolerance, fatty liver, and hypercholesterolemia that normally are linked to high-fat feeding. they are now examining potential molecular mechanisms underlying these effects. The ultimate goals of these studies are to better understand the fundamental process of fat assimilation and to explore new approaches to prevent or treat obesity and other metabolic diseases associated with excessive fat intake and energy store. Eric will be teaching NS 332 starting spring 2010

Emeritus Faculty



Charles Elson has the luxury of continuing his occupancy of an office in the department. From this vantage he enjoys the challenge of understanding the post-Gilford (or post-Kjeldahl) approaches (sequentially genomics, transcriptomics, proteomics, metabolomics) to the delineating of nutrient functions and requirements, and metabolic permutations. His professional activities are essentially limited to performing editorial reviews and on occasion updating reviews focused on the anti-tumor actions of isoprenoids. An activity of growing importance is his appointment to department's "Development Committee", the committee that works with the UW Foundation in seeking donors (i.e. graduates!) willing to support both the department's on-going needs and future development. It gives him great pleasure to be greeted by advisees and students. He's not letting work interfere with his hobbies. He enjoyed a bike & barge trip on the Moselle in September and is looking forward to western ski trips in December, January & February, the first trip with children and grandchildren (4). His motorcycling and flying activities are on hold till April.

John Suttie is the Katherine Berns Van Donk Steenbock Professor Emeritus in the Department of Biochemistry and former Chair of the Department of Nutritional Sciences at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He has broad expertise in biochemistry and human nutrition. Dr. Suttie served as President of the ASN and as their Editor-in-Chief of The Journal of Nutrition. He served as Chairman of the Board of Experimental Biology, President of the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB), and as a member of the National Academy's Board on Agriculture and Natural Resources and the Food and Nutrition Board of the Institute of Medicine. He also served on the FDA Blood Products Advisory Committee and the American Heart Association Nutrition Committee, the Public Policy Committees of the ASN and the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, the USDA/NAREEE Advisory Board, the ILSI Food, Nutrition and Safety Committee, and on Dietary Guidelines and Dietary Reference Intakes Committees. In the last couple of years he has spent a considerable amount of time writing a book on Vitamin K and working on a couple of IOM workshops dealing with possible alterations in future DRI reports.

Jane Voichick works part time as an ombuds for the University of Wisconsin-Madison. This is an informal, impartial, confidential and independent resource for university employees which helps individuals resolve problems and conflicts that arise in the workplace. For more information check out the ombuds website: www.ombuds.wisc.edu. She also serves on the Dane County Food Council and chairs the Wisconsin Food Security Consortium as a way to extend her experience and research-based information about food security issues in Wisconsin. She is a member of the Foundation Board for Roundy's Inc. which provides an opportunity to evaluate proposals to reduce hunger in our state. These activities leave time for her husband and herself to enjoy two children, their spouses and three grandchildren in Madison; volunteer to work with first graders in a public school in Madison; and to travel to visit their other son in Arizona and to visit warm places in the winter.

Emeritus Professor **Howard Ganther** was awarded the 2007 Klaus Schwarz Award for his pioneering studies in selenium biochemistry and in selenium-mercury interactions. The Klaus Schwarz Medal has been awarded since 1979 to leading trace element researchers from across the world and is named for the discoverer the essentiality of selenium.



Richard L. Atkinson left UW in 2002 and is now involved in a start-up company, Obetech, located in the Virginia Biotechnology Research Park in Richmond, VA. Obetech provides a diagnostic assay for adenovirus-36 (Ad-36), the human virus that research at UW demonstrated to cause obesity in animals and is associated with obesity in humans. He is doing research on mechanisms of action of Ad-36, potential antiviral agents to treat it, and a vaccine to prevent it. He continues as Editor of the International Journal of Obesity and has an appointment as Clinical Professor of Pathology at the Virginia Commonwealth University.

N. J. Benevenga retired from the university in June 2002. Shortly after that he was asked if he would consider being the chair of the CALS Animal Care and Use Committee. He accepted this offer with the intent on changing the Animal Care and Use environment to one of "working together" rather than the adversarial relationships that had been attained. He is pleased to say this was accomplished and that they also became AAALAC accredited in 2006. In 2007 He was asked to chair the All Campus Animal Care and Use Committee also. "This too I accepted, so I am up to my ears in concerns about animal care and use," says Ben. His non-university activities other than family focus on auto racing as part of the pit crew for a VW Formula V open wheel racer. He helps with 4-6 races each year. He has become acquainted with a group of very nice people, and they have been to tracks in Ohio and Iowa in addition to Road America and Blackhawk Farms here in Wisconsin. They have had their share of wins and losses. Another outside activity is sailing with his friend Malcolm Fuller. This has taken him from New York to Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, and a tiny French island, Saint Pierre. The trips usually are two weeks in length and cover ~ 500 miles.

Nancy Johnson retired from the UW in 1986. Then she went to Hawaii and served as chair of food science & human nutrition, UH-Manoa for 9 years. She retired from there in 1995. Nancy has always enjoyed walking and now she can walk 2 miles each day in 80 to 85 temp weather, rain or shine. Another interest is current economic conditions and the stock market. Nancy invests and trades stocks using both fundamental and technical analysis with price, volume and time data. Not surprisingly, she uses time variant regression lines and moving averages of price to examine stock and indexes. The present market is a great living lab for these studies. We do live in interesting times!

Judith Marlett, Emeritus Professor of Nutritional Sciences, retired early, in the fall of 2000. She continued her research for the next couple of years, sat on a few national committees, served on the editorial board of the Journal of Nutrition, attended a few national meetings and gave a few talks. Then she spent a year deciding where to live. She moved to the Phoenix, Arizona area in January of 2004. Since then, she sat on a couple of national committees, continued her editorial board duties at the Journal of Nutrition until this spring, and still does a bit of consulting, continues her position as Associate Editor for The Journal of the Science of Food and Agriculture, has given a couple of talks, does quite a bit of manuscript reviewing for several journals, and has attended a few meetings. But, she also travels for fun (Europe - again, Africa, China, Costa Rica, Mexico - twice, Japan - again, and Taiwan), volunteers 2 days a week at the original Glendale (of superbowl fame) library where she uses her science background to help with collection development, along with any other projects that need doing, volunteers once a week in her community to maintain landscaping and roadways, and occasionally provides dietary counseling in her community. "Not working is a blast!" says Judith.



Dorothy Pringle has been living in Oakwood Village Retirement community in Madison since 2003. The decision to move from her home was partly due to losing much of her vision to macular degeneration in 2000. Her vision limitations make keeping up with current trends in nutrition difficult but Dorothy keeps busy as the chairman of the low vision group at Oakwood Village for the past 3 years, attending lectures at the retirement center, and attending Thai-Chi class twice a week. She is still able to read her mail thanks to the help of her video reader magnification device. Every time it snows she knows she made the right decision when she moved and doesn't have to shovel.

Bob Swick has been living at Oakwood Village for almost two years. He remains in reasonably good health and tells us Oakwood is a great place to retire. The amenities are outstanding, the staff and residents are congenial, and there are musical performances almost every week.

Tasty Tuesday

Partners in Giving is a once-a-year, cooperative “on the job” campaign that enables State of Wisconsin, University of Wisconsin, and University Hospital & Clinics employees in Dane County to give conveniently to their favorite charitable organizations. It combines the efforts of 12 umbrella organizations, representing hundreds of charities, into one seven-week campaign.

Tasty Tuesday is the Nutritional Sciences Department’s creative spin on the Partners in Giving campaign. Department members cook a meal and sell it for a reasonable cost (generally between \$3 and \$5). Proceeds from the sale are donated to the chefs’ charities of choice. This innovative method to increase giving caused dramatic increases in both participation and donations for the department in 2007; making Nutritional Sciences the department with the most growth in giving and participation in CALS.

This year’s campaign was coordinated by Jacque Evenson and Anna Raines. Within Nutritional Sciences 30 participants donated a total of \$3,796.71. From Tasty Tuesday luncheons alone over \$1600 was raised.

Visitors are welcome, in fact according to Jacque, Tasty Tuesday is the perfect excuse to stop in a see everyone. Next year on the first Tuesday in October Tasty Tuesday will resume.



Anna Raines and Jacque Evenson holding the autographed football awarded to the department last year.

Saying Farewell to Cheri Bill-Mohoney

When Cheri began working for the university she planned to stay for one year. Now 35 years later she’s finally ready to leave. In 35 years Cheri has seen the department grow and change and thinking back on it now some of the old ways of doing things seem a bit primitive compared to today. From the beginning her job involved graduate admissions work. “The time has gone exceedingly fast,” said Cheri.

When she began working for the University she typed out class handouts on a typewriter as one of her duties. While to most of us that sounds like a daunting task in the days of automatic spell checking and corrections, according to Cheri computers have not made the workload lighter but have made the expectations heavier. Not that computers haven’t had their advantages, she remembers having to call students to let them know they were admitted into classes. Computers have made registering students for classes so much easier, the stress relief of online registrations and contacting students through email has made a huge difference.

So why did she stay all these years? For Cheri it is all about the students. Each of them left an impression as they passed through this program. “There’s just been a lot of really nice people” said Cheri “I love working with the students.” Reminiscing about her days in the department she has nothing but nice things to say about the successful, hardworking, and intelligent people she has met doing this job. When it comes to the students who stand out in her memory Cheri said, “I haven’t even really had a lot of favorites, I just liked them all.”

She remembers days past when faculty and students alike would go to the Badger Tavern together on Tuesday nights and socialize outside the university on a regular basis. Hearing her talk about some of the memories from her time here it sounds like a sort of extended family. She has seen students from around the world come and go, and has heard their take on the local experience. “There’s been a lot of nice times” she said. Earlier this year she cut her hours to part time in part to transition into retirement. People still thought she was working full time, and as Cheri put it “if they don’t know I’m part time I must be here too much.”

When she leaves the department she has plans to enjoy herself as much as possible. She has a list of things she would like to do including spending more time in her garden, taking water aerobics, maybe taking a few classes, and eventually travelling to England since her last visit left her wanting to return. Even if she can’t find the time to do all the things she plans she will most likely get some time to relax and enjoy herself.

According to Cheri the most memorable students are the ones who kept in touch even after they graduated and moved on with their lives. If anyone would like to contact Cheri to wish her well or share some fond memories you can e-mail her at cmohoney@nutrisci.wisc.edu.



A Sampling of Recent Awards

Huichuan Lai was promoted to associate Professor with tenure in the Department of Nutritional Sciences.

Denise Ney’s PKU study was featured in a report on Fox 47 TV on April 30.

Susan Nitzke has been appointed by the legislature to be a member of the Special Committee on Performance-Based Disease management Programs for Large Populations.

James Ntambi was awarded the Arthur J. Maurer Extra Mile Award

Dale Schoeller was a keynote speaker at the Joint European Stable Isotope Users Meeting, on Sept. 1, 2008. He presented the lecture “Water: a small molecule with a big story” in Geins, France.”

Susan Smith received a prestigious MERIT (Method to Extend Research in Time) Award from the National Institutes of Health for her research into Fetal Alcohol Syndrome. Her research investigates the G protein-coupled signals utilized by ethanol to initiate neural crest cells apoptosis.

Janet Greger, an emeritus faculty member of our Department, received the American Society for Nutrition’s 2008 Excellence in Nutrition Education Award for outstanding contributions to teaching nutrition at the Experimental Biology conference this past April.

Jeremy Goforth was a Finalist in the ASN Proctor & Gamble Graduate Student Research Award Competition in San Diego, CA, April, 2008 Vilas Travel Grant.

Jordan Mills Clinical Emerging Leaders in American Society for Nutrition finalist, EB, San Diego, CA, April, 2008 “Retinol to Retinl-Binding protein (RBP) is Low in Obese Adults due to Elevated apo-RBP” is the featured article in the October issue of Experimental Biology & Medicine.

Amanda Park (Alumna) was given Honorary recognition in the American Dietetic Association Nutrition Education for the Public Practice Group.

Anna Raines received a Young Investigator Award and was selected for an oral presentation at the Trace Element Micronutrients FASEB Summer Research Conference in June, 2008.

Harini Sampath received an EB 2008 Travel Fellowship from the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (ASBMB). Vilas Travel Award

Alumni Weekend Open House- May 9, 2009

Cheri Bill-Mohoney will be honored and the department will feature current programs at a special open house for alumni and friends on Saturday, May 9, 2009. Details will be posted on the Department website, www.nutrisci.wisc.edu



Food Science) and to all the faculty, staff, administrators, advisors, current students, and graduates who contributed to this important project.

The newsletter brings you the bitter/sweet news that Cheri Bill-Mohoney is retiring after 35 years with our department. Cheri has touched all our lives and she will be greatly missed. Please check other articles in this newsletter for information about how you can wish Cheri well in person (especially our reception that will take place during the campus Alumni weekend in May of 2008) or via cards/letters and emails.

We have 287 undergraduate majors in 3 degree programs; 233 in Dietetics, 48 in Natural Sciences and 6 in International Agriculture and Natural Resources. Our enrollment has been increasing over time, roughly 10% in the last year. Our Interdepartmental Graduate Program in Nutritional Sciences (IGPNS) has 45 faculty members, 4 Masters students, and 26 PhD students in 3 emphasis groups -- Biochemical and Molecular Nutrition, Human Nutrition, and Animal Nutrition. Our NIH-funded Molecular and Applied Nutrition Training Program has 4 pre-docs, 4 post-docs, and 18 faculty researchers from 7 departments. For more information, please see our website at <http://www.nutrisci.wisc.edu>.

It’s our 40th (and 30th and 20th) anniversary! In 1968, Alf Harper worked with Glenn Pound and Bob Bray from the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences (CALS) to establish the Department of Nutritional Sciences. Our first faculty members (Dorothy Pringle, Charles Elson, Annette Gormican and Hellen Linkswiler) came from the School of Home Economics, and others had joint appointments with Biochemistry (Alf Harper and Bill Hoekstra), Medicine (Earl Shrago), and Animal Sciences (N.J. Benevenga). It has been almost 30 years since the Children’s Hospital building remodeling project was begun under Howard Ganther’s leadership (1979) so that our Department could have its own building. Twenty years ago (1988), the Interdepartmental Graduate Program in Nutritional Sciences (IGPNS) was formed under the leadership of John Suttie. Our Department couldn’t function without our helpful office staff: Bill Omdahl, our Administrator; Liz Pickens, our I.T. guru; Lisa Voss, our financial specialist; Ethel Drengberg our University services associate, and Danielle Devereaux-Weber who will soon be handling Cheri’s former duties.

We hope you will pass this newsletter along to other alumni and friends who may not be on our mailing list. We also appreciate hearing from you as changes occur in your career status or your contact information. Please send your updates to Ethel Drengberg, our University Services Associate, at dreng@nutrisci.wisc.edu or 608-262-2727.

Susan Nitzke, Chair

Nutritional Sciences News

40th Anniversary Edition

January 2009

Greetings to all our Nutritional Sciences graduates, faculty/staff alumni and friends! We are pleased to give you an update regarding some of the exciting events that are going on in our Department.

In November of 2008, our Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) completed an accreditation process that included an extensive self-study and a 2-day site visit from representatives of the American Dietetic Association’s Commission on Accreditation for Dietetics Education (CADE). We are pleased to report that we passed with flying colors. We are grateful to Lynette Karls who took the lead in assembling our self-study document, HuiChuan Lai, the current director of our Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD), Denise Ney, the immediate past director of the DPD, our DPD instructors (Julie Thurlow and Michelle Johnson from our Department and Monica Theis from

A Message From the UW Foundation



The end of the year is the perfect time to reflect on the past and look forward to new challenges that lie ahead. The main goal of the University of Wisconsin Foundation is to find those opportunities on campus that meet your passions. This is accomplished not only by monetary gifts, but by the time and expertise you so generously share. In the past during difficult periods, Badgers have consistently come through for their university.

That said, knowing us as you do, you will not be surprised to hear that we continue to be excited about the future. The Wisconsin Idea does not pause during difficult times. We plan to continue our conversations with you, to find opportunities for your involvement and to help you discover new passions at the University. We know that many will continue to provide support for students. These times magnify the need for scholarship support. However, we understand that this may be a year that will be difficult for many to make a gift. With that in mind, we’d like to engage you in a campaign of ideas and in building relationships that will be realized when good times return. Please continue to share your ideas, your passions and your time with us as we reach out to you in the near future.

For more information about giving opportunities and how you can help support the department, contact Jodi Wickham, director of development for the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, at 608-263-2027 or jodi.wickham@uwfoundation.wisc.edu.

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