

# Monthly Activity Round–Up April–June

International Collaborations



# DOHaD International Conference - Argentina September 2025

The Society's CEO and Science Director met online with the DOHaD organising committee from Argentina on 7 May, to assist with planning their workshops and early career/student programme for their September 2025 global conference.

# **European Obesity Conference**

The Society exhibited its publications and Academy at the European Obesity Conference, held in Venice 12–14 May. Over 1,000 delegates visited the stand over the 3 days.

# **Middle East Nutrition Leadership Programme**

The third MENLP took place in Istanbul 22–25 May. The Society provided bursaries, which helped fund three members to attend. The CEO attended and delivered a number of lectures, as a member of the faculty.

# Federation of European Nutrition Societies (FENS) and International Union of Nutritional Sciences (IUNS) Secretariat

As part of the role of the Society's secretariat services, support was provided to the FENS General Assembly on 3 June, and the IUNS Council Meeting on 17 June. The Society also provided a delegate representative to both meetings.

## Joint Conference with the French Nutrition Society

A launch meeting was held between the Society, the French Nutrition Society, and the PCO on 17 June to finalise the plans for a joint conference 30–31 January 2025 at the Sorbonne in Paris – the 'International Conference on Obesity'.

# **IUNS Annual General Assembly**

The CEO represented the Society at the IUNS Annual General Assembly (held virtually) on 20 June. The General Assembly approved draft plans to centralise IUNS, by moving its registration from Austria to the UK, and to move its bank accounts from Germany to the UK.

# **American Society for Nutrition (ASN)**

The Society hosted an exhibition (focused on promoting our publications and Academy) at the annual ASN conference 29 June - 2 July, held in Chicago.

# External Partnerships

### **UN World Food Programme**

Members represented the Society at the UN World Food Programme launch on 30 April, held in the Palace of Westminster.

# Academy of Nutrition Sciences (ANS)

Society members who are Trustees of the Academy of Nutrition Sciences, Professor Julie Lovegrove and Dr Frank Thies, attended the ANS AGM on 16 May.

### **World Public Health Conference**

The World Public Health conference was held in London 10–13 June, at the University of Westminster. The Society hosted an exhibition, focused on the Academy, membership, and our journal *Public Health Nutrition*. The Editor-in-Chief, Professor Charlotte Evans was in attendance.

### **Medical Specialties Societies CEO Group**

The CEO attended the biannual meeting on 13 June of the 20 CEOs from the Medical Specialties Societies. The group discussed challenges in publishing, member retention, private sector relations, recruitment and volunteer management.

# **Cambridge University Press (CUP)**

The annual business meeting between the Society and its publishers, Cambridge University Press, took place on 9 May. The meeting was chaired by Professor Jayne Woodside. The meeting reviewed the fiscal performance of the Society's journals, submissions, peer-review processes, and on-going strategies for marketing and growth.

# **Parliamentary Activities**

## **STEM for Britain**

Members of the Society attended the poster competition 'STEM for Britain' meeting, hosted by the Parliamentary and Scientific Committee on 5 April. The meeting reviewed the outcomes of the recent 2024 competition, and outlined the plans for the 2025 competition.

# **Parliamentary and Scientific Committee**

The CEO represented the Society at the P&SC AGM held on 15 April in the House of Commons. The P&SC is the oldest All Party Parliamentary Group in Parliament.

# All Party Parliamentary Group for Nutrition: Science and Health

The APPG for *Nutrition: Science and Health* is hosted by the Society in Parliament. It held its third meeting on 23 April in the House of Commons. Chaired by Lord Brooke, it accepted evidence from 3 speakers on the topic of 'Prevention and resilience through empowerment; solutions through empowering front-line healthcare professionals and informing policy interventions'.

Governance

# **Advisory Council**

The Advisory Council met on 17 April. In addition to reporting on progress and developments in their respective portfolios, the Council Members debated how future Council meetings could be improved, leading to enhanced in-depth discussion of key issues. It was agreed that the Academia portfolio would lead on this, and present a range of related issues at the October Council meeting.

# **Trustee Board**

The Trustee Board met on 18 April. They approved:

- Permanently embedding the Senior Award lecture into the Winter Conference programme.
- To create a stand-alone role for a member to volunteer as the Editor-in-Chief of the Gazette.
- To comply with Charity Commission guidance to change the name of the Society's trading company from Nutrition Society Enterprises to Cambridge Court Enterprises.
- To offer CPD endorsement to external organisations' content.
- To appoint a chair for the new Early Career Member Section.

They also reviewed progress being made against the Strategic Priority area 2 'Support the

careers and interests of the membership'. Finally, the Board acknowledged the recent sad bereavement of a past president of the Society – Professor Mike Gibney.

# **Publications Committee**

The Publications Committee, chaired by Professor Jayne Woodside, met on 8 May. The Committee received reports from all the Editors-in-Chief of the Society's journals, and the Editor-in-Chief of the Textbook series. *British Journal of Nutrition, Public Health Nutrition, Nutrition Research Reviews, Journal of Nutrition Science* all reported an increase in submission, with *Gut Microbiome* noting submissions are still low.

The committee noted the launch of the new *Animal Nutrition* textbook at the Congress in July, the ongoing work with the third edition of *Clinical Nutrition*, and the planning for the second edition of *Sports and Exercise Nutrition*. The committee discussed a range of strategic issues relating to the long-term success of the journal portfolio.

# **Science Committee**

The Science Committee, chaired by Professor John Brameld, met on 16 May. The committee reviewed the plans for all conferences taking place in the UK, Ireland and internationally up until the end of 2026. The committee received reports from the Theme Leads, the Editor-in-Chief of *Proceedings of the Nutrition Society*, and the Parliamentary activities.

# **Strategic Communications Committee**

The Strategic Communications Committee, chaired by Dr Carrie Ruxton, met for the final time on 20 May. The committee reviewed the ongoing content plan for the Gazette, and the analytical reports from the Society's social media channels. The committee noted the continued increase in social media followers, now exceeding 119,000. With the Trustee decision to disband the role of Strategic Communications Trustee in July this year, Dr Ruxton announced the committee would no longer be required. The committee thanked Dr Ruxton for her many years of helping establish a strategic approach to communications for the Society.

# **Medical Working Group**

The Medical Working Group met on 24 May, and discussed the plans for a Member-Led Meeting in September 2024 to focus on developing medical education in evidence-based nutrition. The meeting also considered the use of the Academy to develop high-yield topics which will be of interest to the medical sector.

# **Finance Meeting**

The Society's Treasurer, Professor Tom Hill, and CEO, held at meeting at the Society's bankers (Coutts) on 5 June. Coutts is the Society's longest partner, having been with the Society since its inception in 1941. Topics discussed included long-term strategy for the Society, finance options for investments, cash-flow management, and fundraising ideas.

# **Appointments Committee**

The Appointments Committee, chaired by Past-President Professor Julie Lovegrove, met to review the 18 (record number received) applications received for the 4 vacancies in this year's Trustee and Council elections. The committee's role is to check eligibility and suitability. In addition, the committee seeks to find alternative opportunities for those candidates not selected.

