Emerging Leaders in Nutrition Science Competition

Recognizing the highest quality research presented by students and young investigators at ASN’s Scientific Sessions and Annual Meeting at Experimental Biology 2016

Organized by ASN’s Research Interest Sections and Councils

Thank you to those that were able to make the event on Saturday, April 2, 2016 from 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM held in San Diego Convention Center – Sails Pavillon

The following individuals have been announced as the winners of the competition.

Please join us in congratulating them!

Number and type of award (e.g., first/second/third place, grand prize winners) varied by each participating ASN Research Interest Section and Council.
Nutritional Epidemiology RIS

Graduate Student First Place:
4. “Development and Validation of a Nutrition Transition Diet Score for Adolescents in India.” Nida Shaikh, Emory University

Graduate Student Second Place:
8. “Impact of Body Mass Index and Metabolic Health Status on All-Cause Mortality Risk among Older Adults.” Feon Cheng, The Pennsylvania State University

Graduate Student First Place:
11. “Higher Diet Quality and Decreased Inflammation in Young Women.” Qiong Chen, University of Massachusetts Amherst

Postdoctoral Fellow First Place:
18. “Prospective Relations between Red Blood Cell n-6 and n-3 Fatty Acid Composition and Cognitive Function among Older Puerto Rican Adults.” Sherman Bigornia, University of Massachusetts Lowell

Postdoctoral Fellow Second Place:
22. “Usual Coffee Intake among Adults in the United States.” Erikka Loftfield, National Cancer Institute

Postdoctoral Fellow Third Place:

Global Nutrition Council

25. “An Enteropathy Score Predicts Subsequent Length Better than Lactulose Mannitol (L:M) Ratio alone in Children Enrolled in a Community-based Randomized Trial of Complementary Food Supplements in Rural Bangladesh.” Rebecca Campbell, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health


32. “Non-Responsive Feeding Behaviors are Negatively Associated with Growth and Dietary Diversity at 24 months in Rural Bangladesh.” Zaynah Chowdhury, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

Maternal, Perinatal and Pediatric RIS

37. “Women with a Common Genetic Variant in ZnT2 (T288S) Have Altered Breast Milk Composition: Implications for Suboptimal Lactation.” Sooyeon Lee, Penn State Hershey College of Medicine


42. “Role of Human Milk Oligosaccharides in Feto-placental Endothelial Function in Gestational Diabetes Mellitus.” Evelyn Jantscher-Krenn, Medical University of Graz

43. “Mammary Gland Structure and Functional Changes in Mouse Model of Chronic Gestational Alcohol Exposure.” Robyn Amos-Kroohs, University of Wisconsin-Madison (presenter will be available from 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm)
46. “Calcium Absorption Among Racially Diverse Pregnant Women.” Mary Lesser, Children's Hospital Oakland Research Institute

47. “Current Methods of Thickening Feeds for Preterm Infants with Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease is Highly Variable.” Jenny Koo, UC San Diego/Rady Children's Hospital of San Diego

Community and Public Health Nutrition RIS

Second Place:
75. “Food Insecurity is Associated with Depression and Stress Among a Cohort of Pregnant Kenyan Women of Mixed HIV Status.” Irene Tsai, Cornell University

First Place:

Third Place:
77. “High Overweight/Obesity Risk among Children Enrolled in Michigan Migrant and Seasonal Head Start Programs, 2012.” Crystal Nance-Panek, Michigan State University

Nutrition Education and Behavioral Science RIS

First Place:
85. “Using Skin Carotenoids to Assess Potential Dietary Changes After One Academic Year in the Shaping Healthy Choices Program.” Lori Nguyen, University of California, Davis

Second Place:
90. “Adolescents with At-Risk Eating and Lifestyle Behaviors are Impacted by After-school Schedules across the Clinical Weight Spectrum.” Leanna Perez, The Ohio State University

First Place:

Medical Nutrition Council

Honorable Mention:
100. “Prospective Association of Fasting Blood Glucose Levels with Risk of Incident Stroke among Hypertensive Patients in China: Impact of Folic-acid Intervention.” Richard Xu, River Hill High School

101. “Impact of Almond Consumption on the Composition of the Gastrointestinal Microbiota of Healthy Adult Men and Women.” Andrew Taylor, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Graduate Student Winner:
106. “Three Doses of Vitamin D on Insulin Resistance and Osteocalcin Measures in Older Women.” L. Claudia Pop, Rutgers University

Postdoctoral Fellow Winner:
109. “Influence of Daily and Per Meal Protein Intakes on Function and Body Composition in Frail, Obese Older Adults Undergoing Weight Reduction.” Kathryn Porter Starr, Duke University Medical Center
Diet and Cancer RIS

Third Place:
113. “Effect of 1,25(OH)2D in Regulating Glutamic-Oxaloacetic Transaminase 1 (GOT1) and Redox Balance During Breast Cancer Progression.” Xuanzhu Zhou, Purdue University

First Place:
116. “Dietary Tomato Reduces Castration-Resistant Prostate Cancer Burden in the TRAMP Model.” Joshua Smith, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Second Place:
121. “Excess Dietary Iron Modulates Intestinal Tumorigenesis.” Logan Glosser, Case Western Reserve University

Aging and Chronic Disease RIS

Graduate Student Third Place:
128. “Consuming < or > 0.5 Servings of Red Meat per Day Does Not Have a Negative Impact on Cardiovascular Disease Risk Factors; A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis of Randomized Controlled Trials.” Lauren O’Connor, Purdue University

Graduate Student Second Place:
134. “Muscadine Grape (Vitis rotundifolia) and Wine Phytochemicals Mitigates Dextran Sulfate Sodium-induced Colitis in Mice.” Ruiqi Li, Univ of Florida

Graduate Student First Place:
138. “Gray Matter Thickness of Inferior Frontal Cortex Mediates the Relationship between Phosphatidylcholine and Executive Functions in Healthy, Older Adults.” Marta Zamroziewicz, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

Postdoctoral Fellow Second Place:
140. “Metabolism of Uniformly Labelled 13C-Eicosapentaenoic acid and 13C-Arachidonic Acid During Healthy Aging.” Pauline Léveillé, University of Sherbrooke

Postdoctoral Fellow First Place:
141. “Choline and its Metabolites are Differentially Associated with Cardiometabolic Risk and Cardio- and Cerebro-vascular Disease.” Annie Roe, University of Idaho

Energy and Macronutrient Metabolism RIS

First Place:
149. “Leucine in the Presence of Inflammation Alters BCAA Metabolism in Human Myotubes.” Emily Riddle, Cornell University

Second Place:
151. “Adipocyte-Specific Ablation of Long-Chain Acyl-CoA Synthetase-4 (ACSL4) in Mice Protects Against Diet-Induced Obesity-Associated Decreases in White Adipocyte Oxygen Consumption and Whole Body Energy Expenditure.” Elizabeth Killion, USDA Human Nutrition Research Center on Aging, Tufts University

Third Place:
152. “Dietary α-Linolenic Acid (ALA) Rich Flax Oil Elevates Renal and Hepatic Docosahexaenoic Acid (DHA) Derived Bioactive Lipids.” Jessay Devassy, University of Manitoba
Second Place:
153. “Lipid Emulsions, Rich in n-3 or n-9 Fatty Acids, Reverse the Progression of Parenteral Nutrition-Induced Hepatic Steatosis in Mice.” KUAN-HSUN HUANG, The Pennsylvania State University

Third Place:
178. “Effects of Exercise, Caloric Restriction and Subsequent Weight Regain Following the Loss of Ovarian Function on Mitochondrial Respiratio.” Robera Oljira, University of Colorado

Obesity RIS

Second Place:
187. “Effects of an Almond-Enriched Energy Restricted Diet on Body Composition, Visceral Adipose Tissue and Blood Pressure in Obese Adults.” Jaapna Dhillon, Purdue University

Third Place:
188. “Comparison of MRI and DXA for Measurement of Visceral Adipose Tissue in Adolescent Females.” Staci Belcher, University of Georgia

First Place:
192. “Therapeutic Potential of AICAR in Attenuating Obesity-Induced Metabolic, Liver and Kidney Disease.” Emma Borgeson, University of Gothenburg

Nutritional Immunology and Inflammation RIS

Second Place:
201. “Monounsaturated Fatty Acids Impede Inflammation Partially Through Activation of AMPK.” Claire Lyons, Conway Institute of Biomolecular and Biomedical Research

First Place:

Third Place:
205. “Effects of a Randomized, Controlled Trial of Daily Vitamin D3 Supplementation During Pregnancy on Regulatory Immunity and Inflammation.” Melissa Zerofsky, USDA-Western Human Nutrition Research Center

Nutrient-Gene Interactions RIS

First Place:
207. “Depletion of Dietary microRNAs from Cow’s Milk Causes an Increase of Purine Metabolites in Human Body Fluids and Mouse Livers.” Ana Aguilar Lozano, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Second Place:
208. “Gene, Sex and Diet Interact to Control the Tissue Metabolome.” Ann Wells, University of Tennessee
**Experimental Animal Nutrition RIS**

**First Place:**
213. “Consequences of Maternal Iron-Deficiency: Fetal Anemia, and Hypoxia in Select Tissues of the Conceptus.” Andrew Woodman, University of Alberta

**Second Place:**
216. “Gene Expression of Vitamin D Regulatory Enzymes in Renal Tissue of Growing Pigs is Modulated by Maternal Dietary Vitamin D Concentrations.” Laura Amundson, UW-Madison

**Third Place:**
221. “Activation of Ubiquitin-proteasome system components in Heat-stressed Pig Skeletal Muscle.” Lidan Zhao, Virginia Tech

**Nutrition Translation RIS**
225. “Mapping Inflammation and Cancer-modifying Regions in Broccoli Genome.” Weston Bussler, NC State University
227. “Adherence to the 2015 Dietary Guidelines for Americans (DGA) and Risk of Healthy and Unhealthy Obesity among Canadian Adults.” Mahsa Jessri, University of Toronto

**Vitamins and Minerals RIS**
229. “1,25-Dihydroxyvitamin D Regulates Energy Substrate Metabolism to Reduce Triacylglycerol Accumulation in 3T3-L1 Adipocytes.” Brienna Larrick, Purdue University
230. “Effect of Vitamin D Fortified Cheese on Oral Glucose Tolerance in Individuals Exhibiting Marginal Vitamin D Status and an Increased Risk for Developing Type 2 Diabetes: A Double-Blind, Randomized Placebo-Controlled Clinical Trial.” Tracy Moreira-Lucas, University of Toronto
234. “The AHR Pathway And Its Potential Role In The Regulation Of The 15 kDa Selenoprotein.” Sarah Galinn, Towson University
238. “Maternal Choline Supplementation Modulates Maternal and Fetal Choline Metabolism and Downregulates Inflammatory Gene Expression in a Mouse Model of Placental Insufficiency.” Julia King, Cornell University
240. “High Iron Diet During Prenatal Alcohol Exposure (PAE) May Normalize Iron Homeostasis in PAE Fetuses.” Adrienne Cheng, University of Wisconsin
241. “Lack of Intestinal Divalent Metal-ion Transporter 1 (DMT1) Perturbs Copper Homeostasis in Mice.” Xiaoyu Wang, University of Florida
**Graduate Student Third Place:**
254. “Unfermented and Fermented Cocoa Extracts as Inhibitors of Pancreatic &[alpha]-Amylase, α-glucosidase, and Pancreatic Lipase.” Caroline Ryan, Virginia Tech

**Graduate Student Third Place:**
255. “The Heat Shock Protein 70 is a Novel Target for Nobiletin in Human Colon Cancer Cells.” Zili Gao, University of Massachusetts Amherst

**Graduate Student First Place:**
258. “Modulation of Cerebral Activity Induced by α-casozepine, a Benzodiazepine-like Peptide Derived from Bovine Casein.” Simon Benoit, UMR Nutrition Physiology and Ingestive Behavior (PNCA), AgroParisTech, INRA, University Paris-Saclay

**Graduate Student Second Place:**
268. “Green Tea Extract Lowers NFkB-mediated Inflammation During Nonalcoholic Steatohepatitis in Mice Fed a High-fat Diet Consistent with Reduced Toll-like Receptor-4 Signaling.” Jinhui Li, The Ohio State University

**Graduate Student Third Place:**
274. “Neurorescue Effect of EGCG in an Animal Model of Parkinson’s Disease.” Qi Xu, Iowa State University

**Postdoctoral Fellow Second Place:**
287. “Probiotic Lacidophil→ STRONG Mitigates the Antibiotic-Induced Alteration of the Fecal microRNA Signature in Healthy Humans.” Amel Taibi, University of Toronto

**Postdoctoral Fellow First Place:**

**Undergraduate Student Second Place:**

**Undergraduate Student First Place:**
290. “Ellagic Acid and Quercetin are High-Affinity Ligands of Human Peroxisome Proliferator-Activated Receptor Alpha in an In-Vitro Competitive Binding Assay.” Geoff Sasaki, Oregon State University
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