## PROCEEDINGS OF THE NUTRITION SOCIETY

The Summer Meeting of the Nutrition Society was held at the University of Southampton on 2–5 August 1994

## **ICONS Workshop Report**

## **Nutrition information and support for overseas members**

## BY JACKIE LANDMAN

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## AND ANN BURGESS

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The workshop was chaired by Jackie Landman and attended by about forty people. Its purpose was to report on the current activities of the Developing Countries Affairs section of the International Committee (ICONS) including the status of the Information Sheets and the support given to overseas members.

Alan Jackson reported that the question of possible duplication between ICONS and the new International and Public Health Nutrition Group is being kept under review. For the moment both will continue as they are support and academic groups respectively.

Alan also explained that the Nutrition Society is related to the International Union of Nutritional Sciences (IUNS) through the International Committee of the Royal Society. Alan, as Chair of ICONS, sits on this Committee. The Royal Society pays a contribution to IUNS on behalf of the UK's nutritional sciences and is considering reducing this. A reduced contribution would mean that the UK would be in a lower category of IUNS. Council has agreed to supplement the contribution if necessary in order to maintain our status, although Alan wondered whether this would be good value for money. There was considerable disquiet among European delegates to the IUNS 1993 Adelaide Conference about the longevity of membership of the Council and Committees of IUNS. The procedure for changing members is slow, but the UK is now a member of the nominating committee. An offer by ICONS to IUNS to assist in increasing the impact of IUNS has not so far been taken up. Philip James suggested that the Nutrition Society, through the Federation of Nutrition Societies (FENS) network, make an analytical assessment of IUNS and concrete proposals for change. John Waterlow remarked that similar dissatisfaction had been voiced at the 1989 IUNS Conference in Korea but nothing had happened.

Barrie Margetts reported that Council has agreed the conditions under which overseas Nutrition Societies can affiliate with the Nutrition Society and that application forms are available from the Executive Secretary. The Nutrition Association of Kenya has become the first affiliated society and other societies have expressed interest. ICONS currently has funds to assist societies with the affiliation fee. It was suggested that the opportunity for affiliation be publicized in publications which are read overseas.

Ann Burgess reported on the progress of the Information Sheets since the last workshop. Sheet 1 (Low cost newsletters) has been published in *Food and Nutrition Bulletin* (1994) 15, 92-94 and is now being brought up to date. The Sheets (nos. 2 and 3)

on postgraduate training and short courses were finalized, distributed and proved particularly popular; they too are being revised. Sheet 3 will be published in SCN News (1994), issue no. 11. Sheet 4 on undergraduate courses in the United Kingdom was produced by Eleni Maunder and distributed; Sheet 5 listing journals for scientific articles is being finalized by Jackie Landman; Sheet 6 on nutrition training materials is being prepared. The cost of producing each Sheet and printing 2000 copies is approximately £125. The possibilities of distribution through British Council libraries and of publication in the Proceedings of the Nutrition Society is to be explored. Julian Lambert suggested a new Sheet on sources of funding for nutrition projects, training, research, etc. which Sue New will help to prepare.

Suggestions for improving support to overseas members at meetings were made by Joyce Kikafunda and others. These included having a 'coffee' break at which overseas and new members could meet each other and 'key' members of the Nutrition Society and adding people's institutions/countries to the list of attenders.

John Waterlow asked if anyone could suggest how he could usefully dispose of old publications. No one could; existing schemes do not seem to work well.

Addendum: At the AGM, it was reported that 'a disproportionate number of the papers rejected by the Editorial Board were from authors in developing countries'. Jackie Landman suggested that special editorial help be available to those overseas members who had little support or experience in preparing papers for publication. Professor Southgate offered to write an editorial on this problem.

## **Nutrition Information Sheet**

# Free/low-cost newsletters and journals COMPILED BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

The publications on this list cover applied human nutrition and are in English. Most are free to individuals and institutions in low-income countries; check before you order. Some are also free to workers in other countries.

This Sheet has been circulated to members of the Nutrition Society as *Nutrition Information Sheet 1 (1995 update)*. Please send corrections and additions for updating this Sheet to the Executive Secretary of the Nutrition Society.

#### PUBLICATIONS COVERING MAINLY NUTRITION

BFHI News from UNICEF, 3 UN Plaza, H-9F, New York, NY 10017, USA (baby friendly hospitals, breastfeeding)

BMAC Update from Baby Milk Action, 23 St Andrew's St, Cambridge CB2 3AX (breastfeeding, milk companies)

Breastfeeding Briefs from International Baby Food Action Network/Geneva Infant Feeding Association, CP 157, 1211 Geneva 19, Switzerland (breastfeeding)

C-H-O International Dialogue on Carbohydrates from Advisa Medica, 526-528 Watford Way, London NW7 3YP; funded by the Sugar Bureau (carbohydrates, diet)

Dietary Fiber: Bibliography and Reviews from Manager - Nutrition Affairs, Kellogg Ltd, Kellogg Building, Talbot Rd, Manchester M16 0PU (carbohydrates, fibre)

- Facts about Infant Feeding from CDR Division, WHO, 1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland (occasional papers)
- Food, Nutrition and Agriculture from Food Policy and Nutrition Division, Food and Agricultural Organization, 00100 Rome, Italy (food, nutrition, food policy, food regulations)
- IBFAN News from International Baby Food Action Network, ACTION, 129 Church St, New Haven, CT 06510, USA (breastfeeding, infant foods)
- IBFAN Africa News from IBFAN Africa, Box 781, Mbabane, Swaziland (maternal and infant well-being)
- IDD Newsletter from Dr J. T. Dunn, International Council for Control of Iodine Deficiency Disorders, Box 511, University of Virginia Medical Center, Charlottesville, VA 22908, USA (iodine deficiency research, policies, reports)
- IFPRI Report from International Food Policy Research Institute, 1776 Massachusetts Ave NW, Washington DC 20036, USA (food security, policy, research)
- Mothers and Children from Clearing House on Infant Feeding and Maternal Nutrition, American Public Health Association, 1015 15th St NW, Washington DC 20005, USA (nutrition/health of children and women)
- Nestlé Foundation Annual Report from Nestlé Foundation, 4 Place de la Gare, CH-1003 Lausanne, Switzerland (research)
- NFI Bulletin from Nutrition Foundation of India, 13–37 Gulmohar Park, New Delhi 110049, India (nutrition research, programmes, India)
- Nutrition News in Eastern and Southern Africa Region from Regional Nutrition Adviser, UNICEF, Box 44145, Nairobi, Kenya (nutrition activities, Africa)
- Pacific Islands Nutrition from Community Health Services, South Pacific Commission, BP D5, Noumea Cedex, New Caledonia (news, reports, South Pacific)
- SCN News from ACC/Sub-Committee on Nutrition, c/o WHO, 1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland (nutrition, United Nations agencies)
- Vitamin A News Notes from Helen Keller International, 15 West 16th St, New York, NY 10011, USA (vitamin A deficiency, projects)
- Vitamin A Sieve from Rodale Press Information Services, 33 E Minor St, Emmaus, PA 18098, USA (vitamin A, vitamin A deficiency)
- World Food Programme Journal from WFP, Via Cristoforo Colombo, 00145 Rome, Italy (feeding programmes, food aid)
- Xerophthalmia Bulletin from Dr D. S. McLaren, International Centre for Eye Health, 27 Cayton St, London EC1V 9EJ (vitamin A, vitamin A deficiency).

#### PUBLICATIONS COVERING NUTRITION AND OTHER TOPICS

- African Farmer from Hunger Project, 1 Madison Ave, New York, NY 10010, USA (food, farming)
- ARI News from AHRTAG, 1 Farrington Point, 29-35 Farrington Rd, London EC1M 3JB (respiratory infections)
- Community Eye Health from International Centre for Eye Health, 27–29 Cayton St, London EC1V 9EJ (eye health)
- Contact from Churches Action for Health, 150 route de Ferney, 1211 Geneva 2, Switzerland (community health)

- Dialogue on Diarrhoea from AHRTAG, 1 Farrington Point, 29–35 Farrington Rd, London EC1M 3JB (diarrhoeal diseases)
- Footsteps from TearFund, 100 Church Rd, Teddington TW11 8QE (churches, health, agriculture, development)
- Health Action from AHRTAG, 1 Farrington Point, 29–35 Farrington Rd, London EC1M 3JB (primary health care)
- Learning for Health from Education Resource Group, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, Pembroke Place, Liverpool L3 5QA (health promotion)
- Mothercare Matters from Mothercare Matters, John Snow Inc., 1616 N. Fort Myer Drive, 11th floor, Arlington, VA 22209, USA (maternal and neonatal health/nutrition)
- NU News on Health Care in Developing Countries from International Child Health Unit, University Hospital, S-751 85 Uppsala, Sweden (health care, nutrition)
- Safe Motherhood from Division of Family Health, World Health Organization, 1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland (maternal health)

The International Committee thanks everyone who supplied information especially the Appropriate Health Resources and Technologies Action Group, London.