

The Chair's Message

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It was great to see and connect with many RDPG members at 2014 FNCE in Atlanta. For a brief recap:

- **Pre-conference Workshop -- "National Dietary Data: Building Blocks to Expand Your Research Portfolio"**

On opening day, 45 attendees learned about using national dietary data to expand their research portfolios at an RDPG-sponsored pre-conference workshop. I am proud to report that all eight speakers were RDPG members. Many members not able to attend FNCE requested sharing this workshop via webinar. We are working on scheduling two-three webinars in early 2015 so look for email notices in the next few months.

- **Research DPG Membership Breakfast Meeting**

More than 100 members enjoyed breakfast and learned about activities from Executive Committee members who gave brief reports on their work. We were honored to have Academy

President and RDPG member Sonja Connor attend and share a message of support for our DPG. Special recognition was given to Immediate Past RDPG Chair Nancy Emenaker, RDPG 50-year Academy members Sachiko St. Jeor and Barbara Rice, as well as our 2014 award winners who are also highlighted in this newsletter. A special thank you to DuPont Nutrition and Health for their support for the three student poster awards and the research pilot grant award.

- **Research DPG Showcase**

Chair-elect Karin Pennington and other Executive Committee members' work for the RDPG booth at the showcase resulted in adding nine new members to the RDPG. We welcome you to our group and encourage you to become involved.

Welcome to New Executive Committee Member Nicole Litwin, who is taking over responsibility for managing LinkedIn. Nicole is off to a

great start working with Liz Parker, Web Site Committee Chair. Be sure to read their report in this newsletter on the various ways you as members can stay connected and communicate with the RDPG.

On behalf of the RDPG, I want to acknowledge and give heartfelt thanks to Amy Biedenharn, Academy Liaison to RDPG, for her work and support on our behalf. Amy is taking on new responsibilities within the Academy and will no longer be our liaison. She will always be welcomed as an honorary member of the RDPG!

Our Executive Committee is committed to continuing activities and collaborations that enhance the relevance and visibility of the RDPG and, more importantly, benefit the members. I welcome suggestions of potential ways we can serve you better.