



### News from Intercollegiate Faculty of Nutrition



Chapkin

I hope you have all heard the exciting news by now! A new Department of Nutrition and Food Science was approved at the State level. How will it impact us? Basically, our graduate program will continue to function as it always has but we will receive administrative support from

the new department. Although the Chair of the IFN will retain administrative control of the graduate program, I envision that a very strong synergistic bond will be formed with the new department head. A search for the new head is underway. In addition, approximately 10 new tenure-track faculty will be recruited in the next few years to join the department. This is especially good news for the IFN because many of the new faculty will join our program. This type of growth is unprecedented and speaks volumes about the commitment that TAMU is making to our discipline.

#### Our Faculty

The IFN is proud to announce that **Mary K. “Mickey” Bielamowicz**, professor and nutrition specialist with Texas Cooperative Extension, is a 2004 recipient of the Association of Former Students’ Distinguished Achievement Award. This award honors her commitment, performance and positive impact on Aggie students, and Texas citizens. To date, more than 700 dedicated members of the Aggie Family have been honored for their exemplary performances on the job. This year recipients were recognized with a commemorative gold watch, a framed certificate and a \$4,000 cash award.

**Susan A. Bloomfield**, associate professor of Health and Kinesiology at Texas A&M, has been appointed associate team leader for the Bone Loss Team of the National Space Biomedical Research Institute (NSBRI). This is her second term. As associate team leader, Bloomfield will help manage scientists working on NSBRI bone loss projects. The team’s research focuses on understanding the effects of long-duration space travel on bones and on developing solutions to bone loss. Research findings will impact treatment of bone loss and kidney stones on Earth. The NSBRI, funded by NASA, is a consortium of institutions studying the health risks related to long-duration space flight. The Institute’s research and education projects take place at more than 70 institutions across the United States.

**Joanne R. Lupton** was notified in March that she has been reappointed as Team Leader for the Nutrition, Physical Fitness and Rehabilitation Team for the National Space Biomedical Research Institute.

In May, she attended the Korean Nutrition Society Annual Meeting held in Muju, Korea. She made two presentations. “Dietary Fiber and Cancer at the KNS Plenary Session and “Establishing DRIs for Carbohydrates in U.S. and Canada” during their workshop. She also made two presentations at the Seoul National University “Dietary Fiber Update: What fiber does and doesn’t do for you” for a freshman class and “Fat/fiber interactions and their effect on colon carcinogenesis” for the faculty members and graduate students.

In June, Lupton also attended the International Life Sciences Institute North America Workshop Program, “Dietary Reference Intakes: Implications for Fiber Labeling and Consumption and presented “Overall description of DRI Recommendations” and participated in a panel discussion on “Classification of Dietary and Functional Fiber under DRI System: Will it improve public Health?”.

In July, she participated in the “International Multidisciplinary Artificial Gravity (IMAG) Project” sponsored by NASA and held in Bonn, Germany.

In September, Lupton gave presentations at the “Symposium on Dietary Fiber - With Emphasis on Energy Value” held in Osaka, Japan and at a one day Dietary Fiber Symposium held in Tokyo, Japan.

**Robert S. Chapkin** was appointed the Director, Genomics and Bioinformatics Facility Core, Center for Environmental and Rural Health, Texas A&M University. He also traveled to review grants as a Permanent Member of the Chemo-Dietary Prevention (CDP) Study Section, National Cancer Institute, NIH, October 13-15. He presented the following invited talks:

“Dietary lipids and colon cancer: a fishy perspective”, Comprehensive Cancer Center, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH June 11, 2004.

“Dietary lipids and colon cancer”, Department of Physiology, University of Liverpool, Liverpool, England, July 14, 2004.

“Dietary modulation of intestinal membrane structure and function”, Institute for Molecular Biosciences, University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia, August 11, 2004.



**Nancy D. Turner** reported the following individuals received awards at the Experimental Biology conference in Washington, DC last spring:

Winner of Best Poster Award (Second Place, 2004). **J Vanamala, T Leonardi, M E Murphy, S Taddeo, B S Patil, L M Pike, R S Chapkin, J R Lupton, N D Turner.** Natural and irradiated grapefruit pulp and their functional compounds suppress aberrant crypt foci and colonocyte proliferation. 'Diet and Cancer' Research Interest Section, ASNS, Experimental Biology, Washington DC, April 17-21, 2004.

Winner of Best Oral Presentation Award (Second Place, 2004). **J Vanamala, T Leonardi, M E Murphy, S S Taddeo, L M Pike, R S Chapkin, J R Lupton, B S Patil and N D Turner.** Suppression of Colon Cancer Development in Sprague Dawley Rats by Natural and Irradiated Grapefruits and their Functional Compounds. Life Sciences Section, Student Research Week, Texas A&M University, College Station, April 14, 2004.

Winner of Best Poster Award (Honorable Mention, 2004). **J Vanamala, T Leonardi, M E Murphy, S S Taddeo, L M Pike, R S Chapkin, J R Lupton, B S Patil and N D Turner.** Suppression of Colon Cancer Development in Sprague Dawley Rats by Natural and Irradiated Grapefruits and their Functional Compounds. The Agriculture Program Conference, Agriculture Program Conference, The Agriculture Program, The TAMU System, College Station, January 7, 2004.

**Jairam Vanamala** has joined the lab of **Joanne Lupton and Nancy Turner** as a Postdoctoral Research Associate, effective June 1. He is working on "Nutritional Countermeasures to Radiation Enhanced Colon Cancer."

### Our Students

**Kirsten Switzer**, an August Ph.D. graduate, is a postdoctoral fellow in the Department of Immunology, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston. Her mentor is Dr. Biao Zheng.

**Tety Leonardi's** poster, entitled "Apigenin and naringenin suppress high multiplicity aberrant crypt foci formation and cell proliferation in the rat colon," won a tied first place award (tied with fellow student YeeVoon Ng) in the student poster competition hosted by ASNS Diet and Cancer Research Interest Section (RIS).

**Anne Newton** won 3rd place in the Diet and Cancer

Research Interest Section (division of ASNS) poster competition and was a winner in the Energy and Macronutrient Metabolism Research Interest Section abstract competition.

We welcome the following students to our program:

**Jennifer S. Creel**, B.S., Biomedical Sciences  
Texas A&M University  
Dr. Nancy D. Turner (on rotation)

**Susan P. Hemphill**, B.S., Food Science/ Human Nutrition  
Colorado State University  
Dr. Rhonda K. Miller

**Elizabeth A. Kahlich**, B.S., Nutritional Sciences  
Texas A&M University  
Dr. Joanne R. Lupton

**Grady E. Kaiser**, B.S., Agricultural Sciences  
South Arkansas University  
M.S., Agricultural Sciences  
Tarleton State University  
Dr. Stephen Smith

**Wooki Kim**, B.S., Biotechnology  
Yonsei University, Korea  
Dr. Robert S. Chapkin

**Yuka Mitsuhashi**, B.S., Chemistry  
Tokyo University of Agriculture & Technology, Japan  
Dr. John E. Bauer

**Daisuke Nagaoka**, B.S., Veterinary Sciences  
Nippon Veterinary & Animal Science University, Japan  
Ph.D., Veterinary Medicine  
Nihon University, Japan  
Dr. John E. Bauer

**Kimberly J. Paulhill**, B.S., Nutrition  
Texas A&M University  
Dr. Nancy D. Turner

**Dr. Robert Chapkin,**  
**Intercollegiate Faculty of Nutrition, Chair**