



Dear Members and Supporters,

It is hard to believe that over 2 years have passed since our founding members first gathered together in Castel Gandolfo, Italy. During this historic meeting, the dialogue between these leading researchers and nutrition professionals highlighted the need for an organization committed to both advancing the science and practice of nutrition implementation world-wide and to facilitating collaboration between key stakeholders in this space. This led to the establishment of the Society for Implementation Science in Nutrition (SISN). Our Founding members will recall that we held elections in October of 2015.

As Board Members, it has been our honour and pleasure to be an integral part of this new Society, and we believe it is timely to pause and reflect on what has been achieved in this short time. In this letter, we wish to share with you our key milestones and inform you of recent Board developments.

Following the election of the Board, we began our work in 2016. In the first half of the year we developed our 2016-20 Strategic Plan, with input from a diverse set of stakeholders. This plan summarizes SISN's goals, strategies and priorities for moving the IS agenda forward. Simultaneously, 'behind the scenes' we developed governance structures and established procedures necessary to ensure the operational success of the Society. This involved developing bylaws, hosting regular Board Meetings, developing and advancing bi-annual work plans, setting up working groups, developing membership policies structures and financial planning.

During the second half of 2016 and in to 2017 we shifted our focus to promoting SISN and disseminating our key messages about IS. These communication activities included the production of our quarterly newsletter, monthly blog posts, recorded and live webinars and an active presence at scientific meetings such as the Micronutrient Forum in Cancun, Mexico and Experimental Biology in Chicago, USA. Of particular significance was the recent launch of our new website, www.implementnutrition.org which is intended to be a central hub for not only SISN related communications but also for sharing implementation resources and recruiting new members.

What began as the collective will of 39 individuals is, as of April 2017, a US registered not-for-profit corporation with over 100 members and over 400 subscribers consisting of researchers, policy-makers, implementers, students and others.

While we are proud of these achievements we also see a good deal of work ahead to complete the two-year work plan we developed in 2016. For this reason, and because our by-laws call for elections in November of 2017, at our annual in-person Board meeting in April of this year we became concerned that those elections would distract from SISN's strategic priorities, stall momentum and impede our progress. We discussed several options for maintaining momentum and voted unanimously to postpone elections for one year. We feel this will place the Society on firmer ground at the time of the elections in November 2018 and enable the new Board to develop and advance their own two-year work plan, with much less hold-over activity from the inaugural Board. For those who may have been planning to run for election in 2017, we invite you to consider getting involved with the Society through the various working groups and committees during the coming year. Please contact us at implementnutrition@gmail.com to find out more about these opportunities. We thank you for your continued support and look forward to a robust nominations period next summer!

Sincerely,

The SISN Board