



SASPEN News

SASPEN participated in the world's second Dietitian's week held from 8 - 12 June 2015 in collaboration with the British Dietetic Association (BDA). SASPEN participated with the theme, "Feeding those who cannot feed themselves." During dietitian's week SASPEN posted daily resources and case studies aimed at the therapeutic dietitian involved in critical care and artificial nutrition support. SASPEN would like to thank everyone for their participation on our various media platforms and the enthusiasm for the profession! We look forward to participating in this great initiative in years to come.

SASPEN joined the Critical Care Society of Southern Africa (CCSSA) again this year for the annual congress held in Sun City from 9 – 12 July 2015. This year's congress was themed "Adventures in Critical Care". SASPEN's contributions kicked off with a very successful pre-congress workshop that was well attended by dietitians, clinicians and nurses. There was good participation and interaction from the attendees, which made for an interesting day of learning and sharing experience(s). Interdisciplinary involvement in the nutritional management of patients was deemed of paramount importance, and SASPEN will continue to strive to bring together role-players and create platforms for such discussion, and learning.

SASPEN had the privilege of hosting international speakers, Prof Olle Ljungqvist and Prof Mette Berger, at the conference. Apart from excellent lectures delivered by our guests a highlight of the conference was the "Meet the experts" session during which delegates had the opportunity to have informal discussions with both guests. SASPEN would like to thank our local faculty for their participation in the congress and excellent lectures delivered. Congress lectures will be available to members on the SASPEN webpage soon.

The SASPEN meeting took place at the congress. During the meeting the new SASPEN council for the 2015 – 2017 term was announced.

SASPEN would like to welcome their new president, Christina Niewoudt, and her team and wish them well for the task ahead. With the excitement of welcoming new minds onto the council we also had to say farewell to some long serving members of the team. SASPEN would like to thank Prof Demetre Labadarios, Prof Renee Blaauw, Me Janicke Visser, Me Dorothea MacDonald and Me Piletso Phiri for their unmeasurable contributions to SASPEN over the years.

SASPEN and The Enteral Nutrition Association of South Africa (ENASA) made available two research grants of R25 000 each as part of their support of nutrition research in South Africa. The research domain(s) to be supported will be in the field of disease-related malnutrition and/or enteral nutrition support. Applicants need to be paid up SASPEN members and need to apply before the 30th of September 2015. Please refer to our webpage for further details.

Another exciting development is that SASPEN members can now join The British Association for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition (BAPEN) at a reduced fee. Similar options are available for the American Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition (ASPEN). Interested SASPEN members can refer to the webpage for more information.

The ESPEN congress is coming to South Africa again! Webcasts will be held in Cape Town, 28 – 29 September 2015, and in Johannesburg, 1 – 2 October 2015. The theme of this year's webcast is "Healthy life through Nutrition". Interested members can register at www.aesculapacademy.co.za.

SASPEN is interested in its members' ideas and opinions. We aim to involve you in discussions on our social media platforms and would like to invite you to participate. Please like us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter and join us on LinkedIn. You can visit our webpage on www.saspen.com or download our SASPEN application on your devices.