IHN Alumna Advances Global Nutrition and Health

Barbara Underwood, PhD (’62) has been a professor of nutrition and was assistant director for International Programs of the National Institutes of Health National Eye Institute. She has taught as an adjunct professor of nutrition at the Institute of Human Nutrition and is a major contributor to nutrition research in the US and abroad.

Since receiving her PhD from the Institute of Human Nutrition in 1962, Barbara Underwood has dedicated her professional life to advancing the frontiers of nutrition through teaching and research. Her early post-graduate career was dedicated to improving vitamin A nutrition in developing countries and in the general population by identifying diets and fortification strategies that provided adequate levels of vitamin A and other nutrients that interact in vitamin A metabolism. Her work, which was first published on hypovitaminosis A and its control helped crystallize a global political commitment to eradicate hypovitaminosis A as a public health nutrition problem.

She has served as an adjunct professor of Nutrition at the Institute of Human Nutrition since 1999 and continues to contribute to the field of global nutrition and health. She has also held professorial positions at the University of Maryland, Pennsylvania State University, and Massachusetts Institute of Technology. She has served as the assistant director for International Programs of the National Institutes of Health National Eye Institute, the focal point for micronutrient malnutrition at the World Health Organization, as a scholar in residence at the Institute of Medicine, and as the president of the International Union of Nutritional Science. Dr. Underwood has published extensively in the area of vitamin A deficiency, micronutrient malnutrition, and...

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IHN In the Community: Students Support Local Nutrition Programs

The IHN has many ties to New York area communities and this year the IHN Master’s Program began an initiative to establish connections through service to the surrounding Washington Heights community. For Thanksgiving, the student-led service committee organized a food drive for a local food pantry, the Helping Hands Food Pantry run by Fresh Youth Initiatives (FYI). The food drive allowed MS students Nicole Umanoff, Katherine Xu, and David Dornblaser to cultivate a relationship with the FYI center and staff and served as the springboard for a fundraiser night. The fundraiser had two primary goals: first, to raise awareness of food insecurity in the surrounding community while highlighting the efforts of FYI and its integral role in warding off hunger. The second goal was to collect funds for a large donation to the youth center. The fundraiser had two primary goals: first, to raise awareness of food insecurity in the surrounding community while highlighting the efforts of FYI and its integral role in warding off hunger. The second goal was to collect funds for a large donation to the youth center. On the night of March 30th, more than one hundred guests entered the warm ambience of the event, chatting with FYI staff and learning more about their mission. The IHN service committee ended the night with a presentation featuring guest speaker Steve Ramos, executive director of Fresh Youth Initiatives (FYI). The food drive allowed MS students Nicole Umanoff, Katherine Xu, and David Dornblaser to cultivate a relationship with the FYI center and staff and served as the springboard for a fundraiser night. The fundraiser had two primary goals: first, to raise awareness of food insecurity in the surrounding community while highlighting the efforts of FYI and its integral role in warding off hunger. The second goal was to collect funds for a large donation to the youth center.

MS students Nicole Umanoff (left), Sareh Parsi (2nd from right), Katherine Xu (far right), and David Dornblaser (center right) with Steve Ramos, Executive Director of Fresh Youth Initiative (center left).

Nicole Umanoff noted “From the food drive planning all the way to the night of the fundraiser, the entire experience has been extremely rewarding.

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New Offerings Support Students’ Academic and Professional Development

The Institute is committed to facilitating our students’ academic and professional success. Each year the MS program initiates new program components to help the students’ development. In recent years, several of these activities have been designed to improve their critical thinking and research skills and to strengthen their science writing and speaking skills. This year, to help the students with job placement, Dr. Shelley Weinstock has been appointed to help the students create a good resume, clarify career objectives, improve interviewing skills, and efficiently identify job openings.

In addition to identifying potential job openings, Dr. Weinstock will guide a resume-writing workshop and provide individual career guidance. "I can help them think about what kind of job they might be interested in, what skills they have, what environment they are seeking, and what kind of work excites them," Dr. Weinstock notes. She also maintains a website listing of current job opportunities to give students an idea of the many kinds of jobs available to those with graduate degrees in nutrition. Postings range from public health and government positions to career opportunities in the food and pharmaceutical industries.

MS Writing Team – With the overall goal of improving the students’ writing skills during the program year, the Science Editing and Writing Team, headed by IHN graduate Barbara Moore, PhD (’83), reviews and edits several papers prepared by the MS students for their courses. For the 2011-12 class, the group consisted of Sally Lederman, PhD (’80), Tanya Blasbalg, MS (’08), Irene Kelly, Sonia Gulati, PhD (’11), Densie Webb, RD, PhD, and Kim Hekimian, PhD.

Again this year, the IHN started the semester with a Biochemistry Boot Camp, held during the week of orientation. This short course helps refresh students’ knowledge, identify areas of weakness, and thus prepare them for the rigorous two-semester Biochemical Bases of Nutrition course that they must complete as part of the MS Program.

IHN Launches Certificate of Professional Achievement in Medical Nutrition

Nutrition contributes to at least six of the ten leading causes of death in the US and worldwide. Over the years, the Institute of Human Nutrition has offered continuing education courses and seminars for health practitioners, researchers, and medical educators. Still, there is a noticeable lack of medical education training in nutrition and patient management. Given its long-standing commitment to professional education in nutrition to improve health, the IHN has now developed a program for health professionals to fill that need. The Certificate of Professional Achievement in Medical Nutrition is designed for health professionals who want to integrate nutrition into their practice. The one-year, blended online/on-site program under the direction of Sharon Akabas, PhD, MS Program Director, and IHN alumna Mary DiGiorgi, PhD will meet one weekend a month and offer additional online components. It includes an applied, comprehensive focus on nutrition biochemistry, growth, development and aging, medical nutrition therapy, clinical nutrition, and counseling techniques. Concepts learned during weekend sessions can be quickly adopted in clinical practice. The courses combine didactic lectures, research discussions, and counseling exercises to enable effective and immediate application of evidence-based nutrition guidelines, as well as an opportunity to collaborate with peers in the learning process. This activity has been approved for AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™.

After completing the program, those who are accepted to the master’s of science program may transfer credits toward the MS degree. For application information, contact Mary DiGiorgi, PhD (md180@columbia.edu) at the Institute of Human Nutrition, or call 212-305-4808.

MS Director Chosen for Leadership Institute

Sharon Akabas, PhD was selected to participate in the 2012 Dannon Institute Academic Mid-Career Nutrition Leadership Institute. The three day program is designed to define and support the 21st century leadership needs within the academic discipline of nutrition for faculty who have completed their terminal degree training ten to twenty years ago.
MS Travel Grants 2011-2012

The IHN has made a commitment to encourage students' participation in scientific conferences and to help them gain the public speaking and presentation skills that are integral to career advancement. Through the travel grant program, the Institute offers travel grants for MS students to conduct thesis research or present papers at national conferences and scientific meetings on nutrition.

Ladan Afifi, MS ('11) (above) presented her MS thesis research in Orlando, Florida in September 2011 at the 29th Annual Scientific Meeting of The Obesity Society. Her thesis research, which was a collaborative project with colleagues from the New York Obesity Research Center at St. Luke's Roosevelt Hospital Center, was titled, “Changes in Neural Responses to Food Cues Following Gastric Bypass Surgery in Fasted vs. Fed Conditions.” The study concerned changes in the brain’s response to food cues in the fasted and fed state before and after gastric bypass surgery. Other students who received IHN travel grants in 2011-2012 to participate in scientific conferences include those listed below.

Katherine Becker, MS ('11) presented her MS thesis research at the American Public Health Association’s annual meeting in Washington, DC in October 2011.

Brian Mayrsohn, MS ('11) presented his MS thesis research at the 29th Annual Scientific Meeting of The Obesity Society in Orlando, Florida in January 2012.

Yu-Ming Ni, MS ('11) presented her MS thesis research at the 2012 Epidemiology and Prevention/Nutrition, Physical Activity and Metabolism Scientific Session in San Diego, California in January 2012.

Katherine Pronschinske, MS ('11) presented her MS thesis research at the 2011 American Heart Association Scientific Sessions Conference in Orlando, Florida in October 2011.

Sylvia Qiu, MS ('11) also received a travel grant to present her MS thesis research at the 2011 American Heart Association Scientific Sessions Conference in Orlando, Florida.

Christina Wu, MS ('11) presented her MS thesis research in Orlando, Florida on October 18, 2011 at the American Heart Association Scientific Sessions Conference. She notes, “I presented my thesis work on “Increased Bone Turnover and Resorption in Patients with Advanced Heart Failure is Corrected by Hemodynamic Improvement through Ventricular Assist Device Implantation.” The poster presentation gave me the chance to share my research and have my colleagues give me advice about future research ideas, which made me feel like I was contributing and making a difference in the heart failure field. With the collaboration of my colleagues, I wrote another abstract “Markers of Increased Bone Turnover in Patients with Advanced Heart Failure Correct after Heart Transplantation” that has been submitted to the 2012 AHA Conference.”

Joyce Yoon, MS ('11) (above) presented her MS thesis research at the 29th Annual Scientific Meeting of The Obesity Society in Orlando in July 2011.

Stacy Tsai, MS and her mentor Marie-Pierre St.-Onge, PhD with her poster presentation at the American Heart Association.

Stacy Tsai, MS ('11) presented her MS thesis research at the American Heart Association, Council on Nutrition, Physical Activity and Metabolism in San Diego, California in February 2012.

Deborah Varela, MD participated in the annual meeting of the National Lipid Association in Phoenix, Arizona in May 2012. The abstract from that presentation Cardiovascular Risk Factors in Patients Infected with HIV: Are LDL-Cholesterol and LDL-Particle Number Discordant? was published in the Journal of Clinical Lipidology. 2012.6(3):273-275.

FamilyCook, an organization that provides evidence-based programs, curricula, and training to embed nutrition education through hands-on cooking in schools and community organizations around the country, highlighted a project by IHN Alum Ali Bukhari, MS ('08). The project, conducted with FamilyCook founder Lynn Fredericks and Judith Wylie Rosett on Strategies to Promote High School Students’ Healthful Food Choices was published in the Journal of Nutrition Education and Behavior.

Again this year the Institute will provide $500 travel grants to current MS students to present their research at national scientific conferences. For applications, contact Dr. Sharon Akabas at sa109@columbia.edu. To make a contribution in support of the IHN Travel Grant program, contact Pamela Cooper, MA at pc203@columbia.edu.
Doctoral Program in Nutritional and Metabolic Biology

PhD Update

PhD Dissertations 2011-2012

Left to right, PhD graduates Liz Chuchun Chang, Colleen Reczek See, Kelly Ruggles, Roxanne Dutia, Diana D’Ambrosio, and Mariane Abdillahi.

Mariane Abdillahi, Mechanisms by Which Aldose Reductase Mediates Cardiac Ischemia-Reperfusion Injury (Ravichandran Ramasamy, PhD, mentor). Mariane has received a post-doctoral research fellowship at New York University.

Liz Chuchun Chang, Lipoprotein Lipase in the Arterial Wall: Regulation by Dietary Fatty Acids (Richard Deckelbaum, MD, mentor). Liz has been appointed as a postdoctoral research fellow in the Institute of Human Nutrition.

Diane D’Ambrosio, Physiology and Pathophysiology of Retinoid and Lipid Storage in Hepatic Stellate Cell Lipid Droplets (William Blaner, PhD, mentor). Diane has been hired as a scientific affairs specialist at Bayer Diabetes Care.

Roxanne Dutia, Hypothalamic Melanocortin Regulation of Energy Balance and Metabolism (Sharon Wardlaw, MD, mentor). Roxanne has received a postdoctoral research fellowship at New York Obesity Research Center at St. Luke’s-Roosevelt Hospital.

Devangini Gandhi, Distinct Roles of Retinoid Signaling in Lower Urinary Tract (Cathy Mendolsohn, PhD, mentor). Dev is now a postdoctoral research scientist in the Department of Urology at Columbia University Medical Center.

Colleen Reczek See, The Role of CtlP in BRCA1 – Mediated Tumor Suppression (Richard Baer, PhD, mentor). Colleen was appointed as a post-doctoral fellow in the Institute for Cancer Genetics at Columbia University Medical Center.

Kelly Ruggles, Cellular Fatty Acids Toxicity: Extrapolating Yeast Screens into Mammalian Models (Stephen Sturley, PhD, mentor). Kelly is a post-doctoral fellow at New York University.

Annual Retreat and Wu Lectures

Robert H. Eckel, MD, professor of medicine in the Division of Endocrinology, Metabolism and Diabetes and Division of Cardiology at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, presented the 14th annual Wu Lecture at the Institute of Human Nutrition’s annual retreat on October 27th, 2011. Dr. Eckel’s presentation “Lipid Partitioning, Insulin Action, Energy Balance and Body Weight Regulation” was the keynote address during a full day of scientific presentations by MS students, PhD students, and post-doctoral fellows. Dr. Eckel’s research focuses on the relationship between nutrition, insulin action, energy balance, and body weight regulation with experiments carried out in both humans and mice.

University of Hawaii Chancellor and former IHN faculty member M.R.C. Greenwood, PhD will be the Wu lecturer at the annual retreat on November 1, 2012. Students, faculty, alumni, and friends of the IHN will be invited to attend or view a live webcast of the Wu lecture.

In Memoriam

Following the September 2011 passing of Bernard Erlanger, PhD, professor emeritus of Microbiology and Immunology at Columbia University Medical Center, the Institute of Human Nutrition has established the Bernard F. Erlanger Award for Excellence in Dissertation Research. The annual prize will be awarded to the graduating PhD student with the best thesis and research accomplishments. The criteria and method for selection will be determined in the near future and the first awards will be presented the annual IHN retreat on November 1, 2012.

PhD candidate Katherine J. Wert, MS (’09) was awarded a $1000 scholarship by the March of Dimes to participate in the 53rd Annual Short Course on Medical and Experimental Mammalian Genetics. Ms. Wert has also been selected as a finalist for the Charles J. Epstein Trainee Awards for Excellence in Human Genetics Research to be awarded at the 62nd annual meeting of the American Society of Human Genetics in San Francisco from November 6-10, 2012.

Stephanie Padilla, PhD (’11) has received a three year grant from the Davis Foundation for her post-doctoral research project “Defining the Circuits and Cells Downstream of AgRP Neurons that Determine Food Intake Behavior.” Dr. Padilla is a post-doctoral fellow at Washington University in the Department of Biochemistry.
IHN Post-Doctoral and International Fellows

Andrea Marques, PhD (at right) has been appointed as a post-doctoral fellow under the Institute of Human Nutrition’s postdoctoral training grant with the Mailman School of Public Health. The grant Interdisciplinary Training in Nutritional and Population Health Sciences in which Dr. Marques is participating is funded by the National Institutes of Health.

Beth Widen, PhD has been appointed as a second post-doctoral fellow on the Interdisciplinary Training Grant in Nutritional and Population Health Sciences.

Dr. Chaonan Fan, a faculty member from the Beijing Children’s Hospital and Capital Institute of Medical Sciences, has received funding from the Nutricia Foundation for a one-year research fellowship in Dr. Richard Deckelbaum’s laboratory to work on Omega-3 fatty acids during pregnancy and neonatal brain outcomes.

Salwa Massad, PhD participated in the IHN’s short-term Palestinian Fellowship Program in Nutrition to develop skills in qualitative data analysis and development of clinical research protocols that will support her research on nutrition and health within the Palestinian community. During her summer 2012 fellowship at Columbia University Medical Center, Dr. Massad presented her work “HIV-Related Risk Behaviors Among Palestinian Youth in the West Bank” at the July 2012 MENA AIDS Workshop in Washington, DC.

Marija Dokmanovic Chouinard Awards

Following the untimely passing of alumna Marija Dokmanovic Chouinard, PhD (’05), a promising scientist who worked in the lab of Dr. Rudolf Leibel, the Institute established an award in her honor to recognize excellence in nutrition research.

The 2011 Marija Dokmanovic Chouinard Award was presented to Liheng Wang, MS, a pre-doctoral student, and Hongxia Ren, PhD, a post-doctoral fellow in Dr. Domenic Accili’s lab. Hongxia (left) and Liheng, (right) from Dr. Rudolf Leibel’s laboratory, received their awards from IHN Director Richard Deckelbaum, MD (far right) at the 2011 annual retreat and Wu Lecture.

Dr. Ren’s presentation was titled “The Orexigenic Function of Foxo1 in AgRP Neurons.” Ms. Weng’s presentation was on “Stem cell-based Approaches to the Neurobiology of Ciliopathies associated with Human Obesity.”

The Institute of Human Nutrition’s Partners In Prevention program offers individuals the opportunity to partner with the Institute to improve nutrition and health. Through major gifts, bequests, charitable gift annuities, or gifts of appreciated securities, Partners help advance the IHN’s mission and receive tax and philanthropic benefits of an annual or planned gift. If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a Partner in Prevention, contact Pamela Cooper, the Institute’s Associate Director for Planning and Development, at 212-305-4808 or pc203@columbia.edu.

Yaeko Hiyama, PhD (’10), seen standing in the back row at the celebration following her dissertation defense, is a post-doctoral research fellow at the University of Toronto. With her are friends and IHN faculty members Henry Ginsberg, MD (far left), Richard Deckelbaum, MD (second from left), William Blaner, PhD (standing next to Yaeko), Li-Shin Huang, PhD (fourth from right), PhD Program Director Debra Wolgemuth, PhD (second from right) Ira Goldberg, MD (far right).
**IHN in the News**

Type I diabetes is one of the world’s most common and fastest-growing non-communicable diseases. Worldwide, there are an estimated 490,000 children living with type 1 diabetes and, in the US alone, three million people under age 15 are living with the disease. For years, scientists have looked for ways to replace pancreatic cells destroyed by the auto-immune disease with new cells so that individuals with type 1 diabetes can release proper amounts of insulin into the bloodstream to maintain adequate blood glucose levels.

The research of IHN alumna Chutima Talchai, PhD (‘10) is addressing the need for replacement cells to stem the rise of this debilitating disease. The March 2012 issue of *Nature Genetics* (*Nature Genetics* 44, 406-412 doi:10.1038/ng.2215) reported on the work of Dr. Talchai and her mentor, Domenico Accili, MD, professor of medicine at Columbia University Medical Center. Their research found that certain progenitor cells in the intestine of mice have the surprising ability to make insulin-producing cells. Dr. Talchai, who works in Dr. Accili’s lab, is also a New York Stem Cell Foundation-Druckenmiller fellow.

A paper, *Fatty Acids Regulate Endothelial Lipase and Inflammatory Markers in Macrophages and in Mouse Aorta: a Role for PPARγ*, authored by IHN Director Richard Deckelbaum, MD, has been accepted for publication by the journal *Atherosclerosis, Thrombosis, and Vascular Biology*. The paper addresses increased cardiovascular disease risk factors for individuals who take rosiglitazone, a widely prescribed medication for type 2 diabetes. Findings from the research of the Deckelbaum lab explain, in part, the reasons for increased risks associated with the now withdrawn drug.

**Kudos**

A look at recent grants, publications, honors and awards

Adjunct professor Ian Darnton-Hill, MD, MPH was named an Officer of the Order of Australia (OA) for distinguished service to the international community, particularly in the areas of public health and nutrition, to disease prevention and health promotion, and as a physician, academic, and educator. He was designated an Officer of Australia at the May 9, 2012 investiture ceremony at Government House in Canberra, Australia.

IHN faculty member Armin Alaedini, PhD has received a grant for early investigators through the CUMC’s Core Usage Funding Program for his research on digestive and liver diseases.

IHN faculty member Alan Tall, MD has received a four-year grant from the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute for Hyperinsulinemia, mTOR Activity and Plasma Lipoproteins.

Doctoral candidate Diane Dapito has received a F-31 predoctoral fellowship from the National Institutes of Health.

IHN Director Richard Deckelbaum, MD, received the McGill University Faculty of Medicine Alumni Global Service Award at the Dean’s Homecoming Reception and 3rd Annual Medicine Alumni Global Awards Ceremony in Montreal, Canada on October 14th, 2011. The following month, Dr. Deckelbaum was awarded the Global Health Education Consortium’s (GHEC) Lifetime Achievement Award, which was presented during the opening ceremony of the 2011 Global Health Conference, held in conjunction with the annual conference of the Consortium of Universities for Global Health (CUGH), in Montreal, Canada.

In May 2012, Dr. Richard Deckelbaum received a three-year research grant from the Phospholipid Forschungszentrum/Research Center in Heidelberg, Germany. Dr. Deckelbaum’s research project is the Characterization and Optimization of Omega-3 Intravenous Phospholipid Stabilized Diglyceride Emulsions for the Treatment of Organ Ischemia.

IHN alumna and MS Program Director, Sharon Akabas, PhD (‘88) and IHN alumni Sally Lederman PhD (‘80) and Barbara Moore, PhD (‘83) have edited the *Textbook of Obesity: Biological, Psychological and Cultural Influences*, published by Wiley-Blackwell. Dr. Lederman also contributed a chapter, “The relation of pregnancy and lactation to obesity development in the mother and child” to the new text.

IHN faculty member Marie-Pierre St.-Onge, PhD was recognized as a fellow of the American Heart Association (FAHA) at the American Heart Association: Nutrition, Physical Activity and Metabolism (NPAM) meeting in March 2012.
Alumni Update

On May 17th, 2012, just four years after completing her MS degree and as she was about to begin a career as a physician, Nailah Adams, MS ('08), MD stood before the eighty MS students in the 2012 graduating class to provide some words of inspiration from a “optimistic, altruistic realist” at the MS program’s year-end celebration.

Born in Trinidad and Tobago, Nailah grew up with a love of sports and an awareness that “healthy kids are happy kids.” Combining undergraduate degrees in Biology and Sports Medicine with her MS degree in Nutrition, the last four years at Duke University School of Medicine have given her insights into the many factors contributing to the health of an individual. With a belief in a life of service, Nailah has been involved in several organizations, including the Cultural Academy for Excellence, the Student National Medical Association (SNMA), the Duke Med Primary Care Leadership Track Advisory Group, and the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP). She currently serves as the National Family Medicine Interest Group Network coordinator with the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP).

She also sits on the AAFP Commission on Education, as well as its subcommittees on Resident and Student Issues, and National Conference Planning. For her volunteerism, she received the Advisory Deans’ Award for Service from Duke University School of Medicine. Nailah began her residency in Family Medicine at Jackson Memorial Hospital in Miami, FL in June 2012, and hopes to continue with fellowships in Sports Medicine and Childhood Obesity. Each of these endeavors, Dr. Adams feels, will benefit from her spirit of optimism, a personal commitment to volunteerism, and a strong basic science foundation in nutrition. Nailah Adams, MS, MD (standing to the right of IHN Director Richard Deckelbaum and left of MS Program Directors Sharon Akabas, PhD and Sally Lederman, PhD) told the eight graduating MS students, “In everything you do, you can find some way to become an advocate.”

Health care is changing from the grassroots, from community health leaders to discussions in congress. Becoming an advocate for life - and life as in the lives around you, as well for the rest of your years of service – is an important decision you can make to affect the change you want to see.

W. Brooke Veith, MS ('09) is now a medical student at the University of Kentucky. Last summer, she participated in research on the effects of artificial sweeteners on the symptoms of acne vulgaris with Dr. Nanette Silverberg at St. Luke’s-Roosevelt Hospital Center in New York, NY. Brooke’s previous research focused on melanoma and nucleotide excision repair mechanisms following UV-exposure. She recently co-authored a chapter in a textbook on skin pigmentation and melanoma and has published reviews on phototherapy in childhood skin diseases and the association of diet and acne.

Mary Gamble, PhD ('99) has been promoted to associate professor of Environmental Health Sciences at Columbia University’s Mailman School of Public Health and is a member of the Institute’s doctoral training and teaching faculty.

Louis Formica, MS ('10) is presently enrolled at the Virginia Commonwealth University School of Dentistry where he has received the A.D. Williams Research Fellowship to continue work on the research he began during his thesis. Louis expects to publish his findings that relate to the current state of nutritional counseling for systemic wellness in the pediatric dental setting.

IHN Alumnus Steven Rumsey, PhD ('91) discussed his experience with Bunge Brazil in the presentation “Private Sector Initiatives and Fostering Collaboration to Confront Challenges and Enhance Effectiveness of Food and Sustainability Intervention Programs” at the joint Global Health Education Consortium (GHEC) Consortium of Universities in Global Health (CUGH) conference in Montreal, Canada in November 2011.
Dr. Underwood, continued from cover story

maternal and child nutrition. In 1999, she presented her research on "Micronutrient Deficiencies as a Public Health Problem in Developing Countries and Effectiveness of Supplementation, Fortification, and Nutrition Education Programs: Is There a Role for Agriculture?" at an international workshop organized by the International Food Policy Research Institute.

A member of the American Society for Nutrition, Dr. Underwood has served as president of the International Union of Nutrition Science (IUNS) and received the IUNS Award for International Nutrition and the International Nutrition Award sponsored by the International Nutrition Foundation. Among her other honors are the American Institute of Nutrition Conrad A. Elvehjem Award for service to the public, the Borden Award for Nutrition Research and Fellowships at the American Society for Nutritional Sciences and the International Union of Nutritional Sciences.

The IHN is pleased that Dr. Underwood will attend the IHN annual retreat and Wu Lecture this fall.

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Fresh Youth Initiatives, continued from front page

The money we raised will go towards the youth volunteers of FYI and will allow them to continue to achieve their goals throughout the community. Many thanks to my teammates Katherine and David, the IHN, CUMC for the constant support, and to FYI for empowering their youths to help those in need every day."

Co-organizer Katherine Xu said "The support we received was overwhelming and sincerely appreciated. We could not have done it without an amazing team of students, faculty, and administration. Thank you to everyone who took part in this process. We have established a great relationship with FYI and we hope to continue working with them on future initiatives and projects in the community."

David Dornblaser concluded "We cannot thank you enough for the support we have had and continue to have for our ef-

forts to establish a long-term partnership among Fresh Youth Initiatives and the Institute of Human Nutrition." Having completed their MS degrees, David is applying to medical school, Nicole will attend Albany Medical College, and Katherine has just begun PhD studies at the IHN's program in Nutritional and Metabolic Biology.