

**Food and Nutrition Special Interest Group
Annual Report (September 2010 to September 2011)**

SIG Convenors- Andrea Begley and Dr Christina Pollard

FANSIG continues to growth in numbers and advocacy strength. The membership had grown to 330 members just before renewals were due for 2011-2012.

Policy Review: FANSIG has updated two policies

- *Health Claims on Food Labels*- thanks to Bronwyn Ashton and Julie Woods for their input into this policy revision.
- *Food and Nutrition Monitoring and Surveillance*- thanks to Judy Seal for her input into this policy revision.

FANSIG also contributed to the PHAA Sponsorship Protocol review. The PHAA Board approved the revised protocol in March 2011.

Submissions & Advocacy: The following are the submission prepared by FANSIG for PHAA;

Response to *Labelling Logic: Review of Food Labelling Law and Policy* (2011)- submission supporting key recommendations for immediate action.

National Food Plan- FANSIG convened a one day *National Food Plan Issues Consultation and Advocacy Plan Workshop* on Friday 22nd July 2011 in Sydney with key public health nutrition experts from a range of jurisdictions to explore key themes for submissions for the proposed National Food Plan.

National Food Plan- Issues Consultation Paper released by Department of Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF)- submission on behalf of PHAA.

Conferences

PHAA National Conference 2010- FANSIG in conjunction with Food Standards Australia and New Zealand (FSANZ) conducted a workshop at the National PHAA Conference *The Role of Food Regulation for Public Health Nutrition* in Sept 2010. Although numbers were affected on the day due to Virgin Airlines issues the presentations provided an update on the processes of food regulation. Thanks to Dorothy Mackerras from FSANZ and to Dr Fay Jenkins, Director Food Policy and Programs Branch, Public Health, SA Health and to Professor Mike Daube, President, PHAA for their contributions.

Food Futures 2011- The second Public Health Nutrition conference “Food Futures: An Australian Approach” has been organized for Tasmania in Nov 2011. There were over 120 abstract submissions and the scientific committee has planned a program that will stimulate much discussion about the ways forward in our food and nutrition system. Invited speakers include Professor David Adams, Professor of Management in Innovation at the University of Tasmania and Professor in the Australian Innovation Research Centre, Matt Linnegar, National Farmers Federation CEO and Professor Aleck Ostry, currently Professor in the Faculty of Social Sciences at the University of Victoria. He holds a Canada Research Chair in the Social Determinants of Community Health.

International Congress of Dietetics (ICD) 2012- FANSIG was invited by the Dietitians Association of Australia to submit a proposal for a workshop for the ICD to be held in Sydney Sept 2012. Key food and nutrition policy practitioners have submitted a Food Policy Workshop proposal and are waiting to be advised of the outcome.

