

PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA
Food and Nutrition Special Interest Group (FANSIG)
Member Update May to July 2009

1. New Members- A very big welcome to all our new members who have joined during 2009. We look forward to your involvement with FANSIG.

Those who have joined us since May are Belinda Coldebella, Rachel Zammit, Dr Carolyn Sein, Natalie Dorsa, Grana Pu Selvi Gnanaraj, Jamuna Rotstein, Sunit Mathur, Kate Ryan, Laura Blackson, Stephen Whiting. Since June Louise Townend, Karen Chisnall, Geraldine Vaughan, Ginny Sargent, Kimberley Calderwood, Kathy McConell, Robyn Pearson, Denise Corlett Since July Rasha Tayeh, Vincy Li, Anne Marie Thow, Katie Langley, Genevieve Hargrave, Tracy Harb, Sarah Clemons, Mahsa Lotfizadeh, Emily Durbridge, Tania Hanzar, Tegan Cruwys, Jenny Reimers, Kathryn Harding, Mary Del Casale, Sophie Ford, Rosemary Nicole Sarich, Linda Anderson, Alicia Nimmo, Tanya Wells-Brown.

2. Events- FANSIG was represented at the joint PHAA/DAA event *Towards a New National Food and Nutrition Policy for Australia* dialogue forum at Old Parliament House in June. This has resulted in further activities around issues identified in food and nutrition policy and the dietary guidelines review and a final report from the dialogue will be launched in late August/early September. PHAA is currently planning a **Food Futures Conference** on 20-21 April 2010. Marketing activities for the conference have commenced and the Call for Abstracts brochure is available on the PHAA website at: <http://www.phaa.net.au/conferences.php> . Online submission of abstracts is open and can be accessed at: <http://www.phaa.net.au/FoodFuturesConference.php> . FANSIG members are encouraged to submit an abstract by 5th October 2009. Thanks to Assoc Prof Heather Yeatman for taking on the organising of this important PHN conference.

3. Advocacy –FANSIG have made submissions since May to *FSANZ- Proposal P293 Nutrition, Health and Related Claims Consultation Paper for First Review-* comments were due Friday 15th May. See PHAA's submission webpage for the final public health submission <http://www.foodstandards.gov.au/standardsdevelopment/proposals/proposalp293nutritionhealthandrelatedclaims/index.cfm>

4. Upcoming Advocacy- FANSIG will be preparing submissions in the following key areas. These are critical issues for public health nutrition in Australia. If you have any contributions you'd like to make to one or either of these submissions please contact Andrea Begley National Co-convenor

4.1 Infant Formula- FANSIG will be represented by Julie Woods at the Melbourne meeting of the FRSC Working Group on the Regulation of Infant Formula Products stakeholder consultation meetings on the Policy Options Consultation Paper in August 2009. FANSIG will be preparing a response to the Consultation paper due by Tuesday 1st September [http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/FF1FA0AAD23A3173CA2574E3001238A0/\\$File/Food-Regulation-Policy-Options-Consultation-paper.pdf](http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/FF1FA0AAD23A3173CA2574E3001238A0/$File/Food-Regulation-Policy-Options-Consultation-paper.pdf)

4.2 Senate Inquiry (continuing) into Australian food production is talking submissions by until Nov 2009. Senate is interested in Food production in Australia and the question of how to produce food that is: a) affordable to consumers; b) viable for production by farmers; and c) of sustainable impact on the environment. http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/agric_ctte/food_production/index.htm

5. National PHAA Conference “Making a difference” – 27th -30th Sept in Canberra.

WORKSHOP: FANSIG in conjunction with Health Promotion SIG is conducting a workshop **Food –related Interventions for Obesity** on **Sunday 27th Sept from 1:30pm to 4:30pm**. This workshop is free to FANSIG members however numbers will be limited to 60. You don't have to be attending the conference to attend the workshop. This is an opportunity to explore the 2007

National Children's Nutrition Survey data and to reflect on what this means for future programs and advocacy. FANSIG is aiming to get some key advocacy points from this workshop.

Please download the flyer for an outline of the conference workshop.

<http://www.phaa.net.au/documents/FANSIGHPCConferenceWorkshop2009.pdf>

The program for the PHAA's upcoming Annual Conference is now available at:<http://www.phaa.net.au/documents/RegistrationBrochure08.pdf> You can **register** for the conference on-line, or print off a registration form if you prefer, at:
<http://www.phaa.net.au/2009AnnualConference.php>

6. FANSIG AGM 08-09- Our AGM will happen during the National Conference at this stage on Tuesday 29th September. More details will be sent closer to the date.

7. FANSIG Policy Updates- Our umbrella policy 'Food and Health' and the position statement on TV advertising of food to children in conjunction with Child Health SIG have been updated. These are currently titled a) Food, Nutrition and Health Policy and b) Marketing of Food to Children. You can view these policies on the PHAA website in the member's only policy forum. You have until Saturday 15th August to comment on these two policies.

1. Log into the Members Area of the PHAA website using your username and password (please call the Membership Coordinator in National Office if you have forgotten these).
2. Click on the FORUMS button. You will be presented with a list of Forums.
3. Click on "Draft Policy Forum 2009". You will see a list of TOPICS.
4. By clicking on the Topic (the name of the draft policy that you wish to view and/or make comment on) and then the attachment, the word document will open so it can be viewed or printed off. You cannot make comment on the actual document.
5. Close the word document then click on the POST REPLY button on the bottom right hand corner, you will be presented with a reply message box to write your comments in, then Click on POST REPLY.
6. Your name will then appear as 'Author' on the left hand side of the screen and your comments can be viewed by other PHAA members.

8. Membership Renewal: FANSIG is only successful because of its members. Your support is vital to us achieving substantial activity in Public Health Nutrition. Please make sure you've renewed your membership and ticked the FANSIG box. Feel free to send this update to others who may be interested in public health nutrition to consider joining PHAA/FANSIG. All member updates are now on our webpage so that current and past members can judge our activity.

Next FANSIG Executive Committee Meeting Thursday 15 th October 4pm EST. If you have any issues and/or points you'd like to raise please contact your National Co-convenors any time.

FANSIG National Co-convenors 2008-09

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FANSIG Executive Committee:

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