



EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

PRESIDENT

Robert F. Kushner, MD

Feinberg School of Medicine, Northwestern University, Chicago, IL

Dr. Robert Kushner is Professor of Medicine at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine and Medical Director of the Northwestern Comprehensive Center on Obesity and the Center for Lifestyle Medicine in Chicago. He received his medical degree from the University of Illinois. After finishing a residency in Internal Medicine at Northwestern University, he went on to complete a post-graduate fellowship in Clinical Nutrition and earned a Masters degree in Clinical Nutrition and Nutritional Biology from the University of Chicago. Dr. Kushner is past president of the American Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition (ASPEN) and the American Board of Physician Nutrition Specialists (ABPNS), and President of The Obesity Society. He is on the editorial board for *Obesity*, *Obesity Management*, the *Journal of the American Dietetic Association*, and *Today's Diet & Nutrition*.

In 2002, Dr. Kushner was the recipient of the distinguished Dannon Institute Award for Excellence in Medical/Dental Nutrition Education presented by the American Society for Clinical Nutrition. Dr. Kushner has authored over 140 original articles, reviews and book chapters covering medical nutrition, medical nutrition education, and obesity. He is author of *Dr. Kushner's Personality Type Diet* (St. Martin's Griffin Press, 2003), *Fitness Unleashed* (Three Rivers Press, 2006) a combined weight loss and exercise plan for owners and their companion dogs, and editor of the American Medical Association's (AMA) *Assessment and Management of Adult Obesity: A Primer for Physicians* (2003), and *Treatment of the Obese Patient* (Humana Press, 2007) His most recent book, *Counseling Overweight Adults: The Lifestyle Patterns Approach and Tool Kit* was recently published by the American Dietetic Association in August, 2008.

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Donna H. Ryan, MD

Pennington Biomedical Research Center, Baton Rouge, LA

Donna Ryan is Professor and Associate Executive Director for Clinical Research at the Pennington Biomedical Research Center. Dr. Ryan's interest in obesity research was mentored by George Bray, beginning with a 1992 dose-ranging study of sibutramine. She has been an Investigator on DPP (Diabetes Prevention Program), Co PI of POUNDS Lost (macronutrient approaches to weight loss) and Co-PI of Look AHEAD (a study of lifestyle intervention designed to produce ~10% weight loss in diabetic persons). Dr. Ryan is PI of LOSS (Louisiana Obese Subjects Study), a pragmatic clinical trial of intensive medical therapy for severe obesity conducted in six Louisiana primary care clinics as part of their routine practice. Ryan also developed an interest in obesity education and, in particular, in training primary care physicians to incorporate obesity management into their medical practices. Since 1998, she has served as Co-PI for the CORE program (Centers of Obesity Research and Education), which brings continuing education in obesity management to health care professionals. She is an editorial board member for *Obesity Management* and *Obesity Reviews*. Dr. Ryan's scholarly activities include authorship of 104 original publications and 27 chapters and reviews, primarily in the field of obesity.

Dr. Ryan has served The Obesity Society, formerly NAASO (North American Association for the Study of Obesity), on the Education Committee from 2000-2003 and the annual meeting Program Committee from 2003-2006, assuming chair duties in 2006. She chaired the Hospitality Committee for the 2007 meeting.



Dr. Ryan has served to interface academic and industrial components in addressing the obesity epidemic, serving as an advisor to drug, device, and food companies. She is a member of the Louisiana Task Force on Obesity and testifies regularly on obesity-related issues before the state legislature. Dr. Ryan is also an active mentor; she chairs the Clinical Mentoring Committee at PBRC and is a role model, in particular, for junior women scientists.

VICE- PRESIDENT

Jennifer Lovejoy, PhD

Free & Clear, Inc., Seattle, WA

Dr. Lovejoy earned a PhD in BioPsychology from Emory University and subsequently did postdoctoral training in Endocrinology and Metabolism at Emory University School of Medicine, where she specialized in obesity research. In 1991, Dr. Lovejoy joined the faculty of the Pennington Biomedical Research Center at Louisiana State University. While at Pennington, she was awarded the Manship Endowed Professorship in Diabetes Research, and she founded and directed the Women's Nutrition Research Program. She has received grants from the National Institutes of Health, the American Diabetes Association, the US Department of Agriculture, and NASA to fund her clinical research program in obesity, diabetes and women's health. In 2003, Dr. Lovejoy became Dean of the School of Nutrition and Exercise Science at Bastyr University in Seattle, a university offering undergraduate and graduate degrees in natural medicine.

In 2008, she joined Free & Clear, Inc., a privately held company providing behavioral coaching for smoking cessation and weight loss, as Executive Director of Weight and Nutrition Programs. Dr. Lovejoy has published over 50 scientific articles in peer-reviewed journals, over 15 chapters and review articles, and is a frequent speaker on obesity and nutrition at national and international conferences. She has been a member of the Obesity Society since 1989, serving on the membership and finance committees, and as Secretary/Treasurer from 1998-2002. In 2002, she was elected as the Regional Vice President for North America to the International Association for the Study of Obesity (IASO), a position she held until 2009.

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Gary D. Foster, PhD

Temple University, Philadelphia, PA

Gary Foster, PhD, is the Director of the Center for Obesity Research and Education and Professor of Medicine and Public Health at Temple University. Dr. Foster, who has a background in clinical psychology, has authored or coauthored more than 100 scientific publications, and is the co-editor of two books: *Obesity, Growth and Development*, 2001; and *Managing Obesity: A Clinical Guide*, 2004; and the author of the obesity section of *Encarta*.

Dr. Foster's research interests include the behavioral and metabolic aspects of obesity. He studies a variety of treatment approaches including behavior therapy, pharmacotherapy, and surgery. His currently funded NIH research studies include the effects of weight loss on sleep apnea, the safety and efficacy of low- and high-carbohydrate diets, and the prevention of obesity and diabetes in school settings.

Dr. Foster has been active in various Obesity Society committees. He served on the Nominations Committee (2001-2003) the Public Affairs Committee (2002 to current; Chair 2003-current) and Annual Meeting Program Committee (1999 to present).



SECRETARY/TREASURER

Dale A. Schoeller, PhD

Department of Nutritional Sciences, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI

Dr. Schoeller, Professor of Nutritional Sciences at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, is an internationally recognized expert in energy metabolism and body composition. He is best known as the first to use the doubly labeled water method for the measurement of energy expenditure in humans. He has performed extensive research in human obesity. This includes studies of the role of physical activity and energy intake in the etiology of obesity, comparison of obesity treatments to improve efficacy, and development of improved methods for measuring body composition. He has also been instrumental in identify systematic reporting errors in questionnaire based assessments of energy intake and physical activity and is currently investigating novel stable isotope biomarkers of dietary intake.

Dr. Schoeller has received the Mead Johnson Award from the American Institute of Nutrition (1987) for his development of the doubly labeled water method for human use; the Herman Award (2000) from the American Society of Clinical Nutrition for his research in human obesity, and the Atwater Award from the USDA/ARS for his contributions to understanding human energy requirements. He is a former treasurer and former president of the American Society of Clinical Nutrition, and has served on the editorial boards of the American Journal of nutrition and the Journal of Physiology: Endocrinology and Metabolism, and was an Associate Editor for the International Journal of Obesity.

COUNCILORS

Anthony Comuzzie, PhD

Southwest Foundation for Biomedical Research (SFBR), San Antonio, TX

Anthony Comuzzie is a scientist in the Department of Genetics at the Southwest Foundation for Biomedical Research (SFBR) and a Core Scientist and Group Leader for Chronic Disease in the Southwest National Primate Research Center. Dr. Comuzzie's research focuses on the genetics of obesity, diabetes, and coronary heart disease utilizing both human and non-human primate populations. In addition, he serves as the Chair of the SFBR Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee. He received his BS in Biology and his MA in Biological Anthropology from Texas A&M University, and his PhD in Anthropological Genetics from the University of Kansas. Dr. Comuzzie has been actively involved in obesity research since 1992 and has been an active member of the Obesity Society since 1995. He has published over 150 scientific articles and book chapters on the genetics of obesity, diabetes, and coronary artery disease.

Within the Obesity Society, Dr. Comuzzie has served on the organizing committee for the annual scientific meetings (2003-2006) and as a member of the editorial board of Obesity Research (2003-2007), and as a member of the Scientific Review Committee (2007–present). Additionally, Dr. Comuzzie has served on the organizing committee for the annual scientific meetings of the American Diabetes Association (2006–2007) and as a member of the Obesity Advisory Committee for the Council on Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Metabolism of the American Heart Association (2001-2003), and currently serves on the editorial board of Nutrigenetics and Nutrigenomics.

Nikhil V. Dhurandhar, PhD

Pennington Biomedical Research Center, Baton Rouge, LA

Dr. Nikhil V. Dhurandhar, is currently an associate professor at the Pennington Biomedical Research Center in Baton Rouge, LA, where he heads the Infections and Obesity Laboratory. As a physician in India, he practiced as an obesity consultant for 8 years and treated about 8,000 cases of obesity. He received a MS in Nutrition and Food Science from North Dakota State University and a PhD in biochemistry from the University of Bombay. Through his work, he realized the refractory nature of obesity and recognized the need for more effective prevention and treatment strategies. Dr. Dhurandhar and his team were the first to identify obesity promoting effects of an avian adenovirus (SMAM-1) and a human adenovirus (Ad36). SMAM-1 and Ad36 cause obesity in animal models and show association with human obesity. Eventually, more research teams have identified other



adenoviruses that induce obesity. Dr. Dhurandhar coined the term “Infectobesity – obesity of infectious origin”. Recognizing the potential significance of this discovery, he has focused on elucidating the adipogenic role of Ad36. In addition, he is also interested in clinical trials for weight management.

Dr. Dhurandhar has published over 70 scientific articles, and book chapters and served as a mentor or advisor for several students and post doctoral fellows. He received the Excellence in Teaching Award from Wayne State University in 2004. Three of the graduate students conducting research in Ad36-induced obesity were Young Investigator Award finalists in international competitions. One student won the award at the International Congress on Obesity in Sydney, Australia, in 2006.

Dr. Dhurandhar is a fellow of the American Society for Nutrition, The Obesity Society, and the American College of Nutrition. He has been elected or selected to serve on several committees in professional organizations, including the council of The Obesity Society. He is an associate editor of the International Journal of Obesity and on the editorial board of the journal *Obesity*.

Myles S. Faith, PhD

University of Pennsylvania, School of Medicine, Philadelphia, PA

Dr. Faith is Assistant Professor of Psychology in Psychiatry at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. He received his BA in Psychology from Rutgers University and his MA and PhD in Clinical Psychology from Hofstra University. He completed a Post-doctoral fellowship at the NY Obesity Research Center, Columbia University College of Physicians & Surgeons, before joining the faculty. He moved to the University of Pennsylvania in 2002.

Dr. Faith’s professional interests primarily concern the role of the family in childhood obesity onset and treatment. He has received NIH funding to study genetic and home environmental influences on child eating traits and body fat. He is the PI or co-Investigator on intervention studies targeting childhood obesity treatment or prevention in clinical, school, and primary care settings. He is the author of over 70 articles and book chapters on these issues. He is a standing member of the NIH Psychosocial Risk and Disease Prevention Study Section. Clinically, Dr. Faith enjoys his work training parents and professionals in behavioral modification strategies to help care for overweight children. Dr. Faith is a past Chair of The Obesity Society “Pediatric Obesity Interest Group” and currently serves on the society’s ethics committee. He is an Associate Editor of *Obesity*.

Andrew S. Greenberg, MD

Tufts University, School of Medicine, Boston, MA

Andy Greenberg is Director of the Obesity and Metabolism Laboratory at the JM-USDA HNRCA at Tufts University, recipient of the Robert C. and Veronica Atkins Professorship in Nutrition and Medicine at the Tufts University School of Medicine, and Associate Professor at the Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy at Tufts. Dr. Greenberg received a BA from Amherst College, MD from New York University and performed his Endocrinology and Metabolism training and postdoctoral research at the National Institutes of Health. Dr. Greenberg has been involved in investigating and clinical care related to obesity and its complications since his fellowship at NIH. Since coming to Tufts in 1993, he has been appointed Director of the Obesity and Metabolism Laboratory at the Nutrition Center where his research has focused on adipocyte metabolism, the basis of obesity, and its complications. He has been PI on funded grants from NIH, the American Diabetes Association, and industry. Dr. Greenberg has published over 70 papers, review articles, book chapters, and a book. He has been involved in clinical and teaching duties in the Endocrinology and Metabolism and Clinical Nutrition Divisions at Tufts School of Medicine and Tufts-New England Medical Center. He also participates in teaching at the Medical School, the Nutrition Center, and has doctoral graduate students from the Friedman School of Nutrition at Tufts.

Professionally, Dr. Greenberg is also a member of the executive committee of the NIH funded Boston Obesity-Nutrition Research Center. He was co-director of the 2006 Annual Meeting of The Obesity Society and he is director of the 2007 Annual Meeting.



Patrick Mahlen O'Neil, PhD

Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston SC

Patrick M. O'Neil is Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the Medical University of South Carolina, where he is Director of the Weight Management Center. He received his BS in Economics from Louisiana State University and his MS and PhD in Clinical Psychology from the University of Georgia. O'Neil has been professionally involved in obesity since 1977 in numerous clinical, teaching, research and public education roles. He directs a long-standing multi-disciplinary weight management center offering services for people of all degrees overweight, and oversees the psychological assessment of bariatric surgery applicants. His teaching activities include supervision of psychology interns, lectures to medical students and other trainee groups, and invited continuing education lectures to physician and other practitioner audiences.

He is and has been an investigator for a number of externally funded clinical trials of weight-loss agents. He is the author of numerous professional publications, chapters, and presentations, primarily concerning psychological, behavioral and other clinical aspects of obesity and its management. He is a member of the Committee on Military Nutrition Research of the Institute of Medicine and serves on the Scientific Council of the South Carolina Nutrition Research Consortium. He is also Past President of the South Carolina Academy of Professional Psychologists, and former member and Chair of the South Carolina Board of Examiners in Psychology. From 1987 to 1996, he authored *Weighing the Choices*, a weekly column on weight control in the Charleston, SC, *Sunday Post and Courier*. Since 2001, he has served on the Town Council of Sullivan's Island, SC.

Dr. O'Neil has been a member of The Obesity Society since 1986. He previously served as editor of the society's website and as Program Chair for the 1999 NAASO Annual Scientific Meeting held in Charleston. He has served on the Publications and Finance Committees. He was a member of the NIH/NAASO Ad Hoc Committee for Development of *The Practical Guide for the Identification, Evaluation, and Treatment of Overweight and Obesity in Adults*.

REGIONAL IASO VICE PRESIDENT

Richard L. Atkinson, MD

Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA

Dr. Atkinson has spent more than 30 years in the field of obesity. Following a combined Pediatric/Adult Fellowship in Endocrine/Metabolism with George Bray at Harbor General Hospital, he served on the faculty of several medical schools performing obesity research and directing an obesity treatment program at each school. Dr. Atkinson has therefore intimately experienced both the research and patient care sides of obesity. His first area of interest was in the mechanisms of weight loss with obesity surgery, exploring whether surgery works better and longer than medical treatment and describing some of the first evidence of changes in the hormonal milieu as a consequence of surgery. He collaborated on some of the first scientific studies on very-low-calorie diets, early studies on the combination of phentermine and fenfluramine, and, also, other studies on the pharmacology of obesity drugs. In recent years, the discovery that the human adenovirus-36 causes obesity in animals and is associated with obesity in humans has become the primary focus of his research today.

Dr. Atkinson has had a long interest in international affairs and obesity policy and has worked with many investigators from all over the world on a variety of projects and committees. He has attended every International Congress on Obesity since 1980. He has been active in the International Association for the Study of Obesity (IASO) and served as a member of the Awards Committee. His proposal to the IASO Council of the idea of the New Investigator Competition led to Dr. Atkinson being asked to organize the program and its funding for the last two International Congresses on Obesity (Brazil and Sydney). Dr. Atkinson has frequently attended meetings of the European Congress on Obesity, and, since 2000, as the Editor of the *International Journal of Obesity*, he attends annually.



IASO MEXICO

Hugo A. Laviada-Molina, MD, MMS

Universidad A. de Yucatan, Merida, Yucatan, Mexico

Dr. Hugo Laviada-Molina, Obesity Society council representative for Mexico council and a close collaborator at SFBR, was appointed by his party, Partido Accion Nacional in Mexico, as a Senator of the Republic of Mexico.

IASO CANADA

Denis Richard, PhD

Laval University, Quebec, Canada

Dr. Denis Richard is Professor, Department of Anatomy and Physiology, Faculty of Medicine, Laval University, Québec City; Director, Hôpital Laval Research Center; Director, Centre for Research on Energy Metabolism of Laval University (CREME); and Chair Person, D.B. Brown Research Chair on Obesity

Dr. Richard received his PhD in Physiology at Laval University (Québec City) 1978-1982 and went on to do his postdoctoral training in Nutrition and Physiology at Dunn Nutrition Unit, Cambridge University (Cambridge, UK), 1982-1984.

Dr. Richard has been Director of Laval Hospital Research Center since 1999. Recently, in connection with the appointment of Dr. Richard as the new director of the research center, the Board of Directors of *Hôpital Laval*, the Faculty of Medicine and the FRSQ have officially endorsed the creation of an Obesity and Metabolism component, which constitutes the third research component of the Laval Hospital Research Center.

Since 2000, Dr. Richard has held the Donald B. Brown Research Chair on Obesity, the only Chair devoted to obesity research in Canada. Dr. Richard's research interest focuses on the control of food intake and the regulation of energy balance. His research includes study of the neurosystems involved in the control of food intake, thermogenesis and energy balance; study on the relationship between stress and obesity; study of factors inducing uncoupling protein 1 in brown adipose tissue; and study of the role of uncoupling protein 2 in energy metabolism, stress and neuroprotection

Dr. Richard's professional affiliations include the American Physiological Society, Association de Physiologistes, Endocrine Society, International Society for Autonomic Neuroscience, The Obesity Society, (formerly North American Association for the Study of Obesity, NAASO), Society for Neuroscience, and the Society for the Study of Ingestive Behavior (SSIB).

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

Francesca M. Dea, CAE

The Obesity Society, Silver Spring, MD

Ms. Dea has worked since 2007 as principal and independent consultant at Gordian Solutions, LLC, supporting nonprofits and small businesses. Prior to this, she served as Vice President and Chief Operating Officer for the National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors (NAIFA), an established membership association with 70,000 members and at the Life and Health Insurance Foundation for Education (LIFE) supported by more than 120 of the leading insurance companies. In these roles, Ms. Dea was responsible for coordinating a highly complex organization with 750 local associations, two non-profit subsidiaries and one for-profit subsidiary while working with an extensive volunteer leadership, an annual budget of \$14 million and 75 staff. Before this, she also worked in media relations/communications and marketing positions at the Cellular Telecommunications Internet Association (CTIA), BellSouth MobileComm, and the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB).

Ms. Dea holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Dickinson College, an MBA in Management and Marketing from Johns Hopkins University and is also a Certified Association Executive (CAE) conferred by the American Society of Association Executives.

