President’s Message

From Aurora Buffington, MS, RDN, LD

It is with great anticipation that I enter my role as president of the Nevada Dietetic Association (NDA), and I look forward to this opportunity to serve my fellow members in a way that encourages participation and motivates all of our state’s nutrition professionals to action. As of December 2013, we ranked 13th among the 50 states for number of registered dietitians (RDs) and registered dietitian nutritionists (RDNs), with 472 according to the Commission on Dietetic Registration.

This is perhaps one reason that it has proven challenging to find members to serve actively on the NDA Board. Despite this, I believe that many of you would like to become more involved, so I would like to remind all of you that involvement can range from something as simple as clicking on a Web link to sign a letter to your legislator to volunteering to chair the Annual Meeting Committee. As nutrition students, dietetic interns, dietetic technicians, registered, RDs, and RDNs, we are involved via our day-to-day interactions with colleagues in other professions, the public, and our friends and family, giving us yet another opportunity to shine and elevate our profession. It is my hope that we can lift each other up and really promote our colleagues and ourselves as the nutrition experts.

Last May, we combined our 2014 Annual Meeting with the first-ever Today’s Dietitian Spring Symposium at the Tropicana Resort and Casino in Las Vegas. NDA members were able to register for both events at a discounted rate, which included the opportunity to earn up to 15 CEUs in sessions given by nationally recognized speakers. If you have not done so yet, I invite you to look at the pictures from the meeting on our Web site. It was the first time we joined forces with another group that I can recollect, and it was a great experience for our 10 student scholarship winners to work with the Today’s Dietitian team, which earned them free registrations.

Our scholarship winners from the north also had their hotel and airfare covered thanks to the Kayla Nebeker-Karhohs Student Scholarship, which is funded by proceeds from the sale of silent auction items. As last year’s president-elect, my objective for the 2014 meeting was to provide our members with high-quality educational sessions and, based upon feedback from attendees and surveys, I am satisfied that this objective was achieved.

As we start the 2014-2015 year, my goals are to:

- Build an excellent and engaged board

cont’d on next page
President’s Message (cont’d)

- Reinvigorate the Public Policy Panel (PPP)
- Raise the visibility of our NDA members, promoting them as the nutrition experts

We still have openings on the board and on committees/task forces, so as you read this newsletter and feel moved to serve in any capacity, let our Nominating Committee or me know of your interests.

Our PPP consists of the public policy coordinator, consumer protection coordinator, state regulatory specialist, state policy representative, and reimbursement representative. I am pleased that a task force to address therapeutic order writing in Nevada is led by one of our PPP members. It is my hope that the PPP will develop a comprehensive list of NDA public policy priorities. If you know of issues in Nevada that we should address or become more involved with, contact the PPP.

Finally, I am thrilled that we now have a highly motivated and experienced RDN serving as the media representative/public relations chair/newsletter editor, and I am confident that she will help us gain more visibility in our state.

Thank you for all that you do to help NDA fulfill its mission of optimizing the health of all Nevadans through food and nutrition. As I think about the ability of people to serve, I like to use the analogy of light bulbs offering a different degree of brightness or color—some burn with a blinding force and others give barely a glimmer, but all serve an important function, depending on the circumstances and the type of light needed. I appreciate your contributions, no matter how small you might think they are, and I look forward to getting to know many more of you throughout the year.

As always, I welcome your questions, concerns, and comments!

Aurora Buffington, MS, RDN, LD
NDA President
vegasrdn@gmail.com
NDA Annual Meeting and Today’s Dietitian Spring Symposium: A Time to Remember

The 2014 NDA Annual Meeting was held on May 18-20 at the Tropicana Resort and Casino in Las Vegas. The meeting was combined with the first-ever Today’s Dietitian Spring Symposium, and gave attendees the opportunity to earn up to 14 CEUs by attending educational sessions presented by nationally recognized experts in topics ranging from social media to diabetes management and plant-based diets. In addition, students from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) Kinesiology and Nutrition Sciences Department displayed scientific posters providing an additional CEU, as well as plenty of engaging dialogue.

The NDA meeting’s keynote speaker provided a motivational session on taking care of one’s self in order to better serve others. The highlight of the meeting was the awards presentation that recognized our very own NDA members for their outstanding contributions to the profession. After the meeting, the UNLV students, led by Dr Laura Kruskall, put together a silent auction at the Today’s Dietitian Spring Symposium Welcome Reception to raise funds for the Kayla Nebeker-Karhohs Memorial Student Scholarship. The reception gave NDA members, symposium attendees, and speakers from around the nation a time to relax and get to know each other, while enjoying tasty hors d’oeuvres and cocktails poolside.

In addition to the excellent sessions and networking breaks, the Today’s Dietitian Spring Symposium provided a morning yoga session outdoors in a beautiful and peaceful setting, surrounded by flowers and the gentle sound of water from a nearby fountain. All 10 student scholarship awardees were invited to attend the President’s Dinner, which was held at Metro Pizza, just a couple miles from the meeting location. This event cont’d on next page.

Motivational speaker Gaylynn Byrd, owner and personal trainer at Momentum 3 Fitness, challenges attendees to take care of themselves in order to better take care of others.

Aurora Buffington enthusiastically welcomes NDA members to the 2014 Annual Meeting.

Practically every seat was filled by the end of the meeting. The NDA portion of the meeting was free to members.
NDA Recognizes Outstanding Members

Congratulations to our award winners!

Marjorie Hulsizer Copher Award
Sachiko T. St. Jeor, PhD, RDN, FAND

This is the highest honor the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics bestows on one of its members. The Copher Award honors an Academy member who has contributed to the Academy through extensive, active participation and service at all levels of the Academy. The winner of the Copher Award is someone whose unique contributions to the profession have created new opportunities for registered dietitians (RDs), registered dietitian nutritionists (RDNs), and dietetic technicians, registered (DTRs), inspired others to take on leadership roles, and promoted the Academy’s mission, vision, and values.

Outstanding Dietitian of the Year
Molly Michelman, MS, RD, CLC

This award is given to a member who has demonstrated excellence and leadership and who has played a principal role in activities or efforts related to the profession of dietetics. The recipient of this award must have demonstrated scholarship in advancing the science of dietetics through creative activities, such as contributions to the literature, presentations at national meetings, and invited lectures. This person will have worked to promote the nutritional well-being of Nevadans through education, clinical practice, and public policy.

Recognized Young Dietitian of the Year
Crystal Petrello, MS, RD

This award is given to a member who is an active participant in the national, state, or district association and who has demonstrated concern for the promotion of optimal health and nutritional status of the population. The recipient must demonstrate leadership in areas such as legislation, research, education, clinical dietetics, food service management, public relations, and career guidance.

Emerging Dietetic Leader of the Year
Sheela Kunishige, RD

This award is given to a RD, RDN, or DTR who has practiced no less than 5 years and no more than 10 years, was an active participant in the national, state, or district association for at least 5 years, and who has shown concern for the promotion of optimal health and nutritional status of the population. The recipient must demonstrate leadership in areas such as legislation, research, education, management, etc, in the association, community, or employment.

Annual Meeting (cont’d)

afforded all supporters of the fund-raiser dinner an entertaining evening with plenty of good food, drink, and conversation.

Next year’s meeting is in the northern part of the state on April 17–18, so mark your calendars to save the date. If you are interested in helping organize next year’s Annual Meeting, consider joining the Annual Meeting Committee or better yet, think about becoming the Annual Meeting chair.

If you are able to donate any items or services for the silent auction, or if you are a vendor interested in advertising, sponsorship, or a booth at the meeting, contact us at NevadaRD@gmail.com. This is a great time to meet or reconnect with other nutrition professionals from around the state. NDA plans to really put on a great event in 2015. Hope to see you there!

Success is not the result of spontaneous combustion. You must set yourself on fire.
—Arnold H. Glasgow
NDA Online for You

From Lauri Egan, RDN, CPT,
NDA Administrative Aide and Web Site Administrator

Have you visited the new NDA Web site at www.EatRightNevada.org? Have you liked us on Facebook? Are you following us on Twitter? If not, you may miss something important. NDA has created several resources to help members stay up to date and connected.

The first of these great resources is the NDA Web site. It was completely revamped at the beginning of the year, so take a moment to browse through the benefits you can find there. On the Home Page, you will see the latest news in our field, as well as a snapshot of our social media sites. You will find the full Leadership Directory, so that you can contact any of us with questions, suggestions, or comments. It is always good to hear from you.

The Calendar lists events for NDA, the Northern Nevada District Dietetic Association (NNDDA) and the Southern Nevada Dietetic Association (SNDA). This year’s meeting pictures are now posted on the Annual Meeting page. Make sure to browse through the fun memories!

The Member Area on our Web site is a great resource for seeing the latest job opportunities and for accessing NNDDA and SNDA information. Also visit Facebook and Twitter, where the latest happenings and events are posted to keep you up to date and informed.

As with all organizations, this is a learning process, and NDA is constantly trying to improve the Web site, looking for new ways to create value and benefits for our members.

This year, we have discussed options such as:

• Creating a type of listserv or online community for NDA members to share ideas, collaborate, and network
• Having online learning opportunities and resources to access from the Web site
• Finding new and efficient ways to keep our members involved and informed

NDA has come a long way, but there is always more to do. Let the NDA Board know what you would like to see on our Web site or what resources you feel would bring more value to your NDA membership.

Past President Looks Forward to Coming Year

From Heather Williams, PhD, RDN, LD

Hello and welcome to a new year at NDA. As the past president for our association, I want to thank all new members—welcome!

And, thank you to all of our continuing members for supporting NDA. The next year is an exciting one!

One major focus from my term was to increase student involvement in the association. In fact, we now have a student board member.

Our upcoming Annual Spring Meeting for 2015 will take place in Reno. I look forward to supporting the planning of this event.

Enjoy 2014-2015 and please get involved with NDA!

Heather Williams, PhD, RDN, LD
NDA Past President
hgwilliams@tmcc.edu
Students Involved in Campus and Community Activities

From Taylor Hamlin, President, Student Nutrition Association, University of Nevada, Reno

The Student Nutrition Association (SNA) of the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR) is a student club to help nutrition and dietetic students learn more about nutrition and get more involved in the campus and Reno communities.

To start off the semester, SNA participated in the Women, Infants, and Children 40th Anniversary on August 23 and the UNR Student Health Fair on September 9.
Upcoming events include holding an oatmeal breakfast bar a few times throughout the semester and volunteering at the Northern Nevada Food Bank.
Other projects and opportunities include getting involved with the UNR Cooperative Extension, participating in Food Day on October 24, putting on cooking classes in the community, helping out at the Great Basin Food Co-Op, conducting a club fund-raiser, and organizing a social for club members. SNA also hopes to work with the NDA and the other student clubs at Truckee Meadows Community College and the University of Nevada, Las Vegas to plan a 5K or walking event.
SNA always is looking for opportunities in the local community. If you are interested in working with SNA, contact Taylor at hamlintay@aol.com. You also can find the club on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/unr.sna.

Variety of Volunteer Opportunities Offered

From Kim Rumble, President, Student Nutrition and Dietetic Association, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

The goal of the Student Nutrition and Dietetic Association (SNDA) is to improve awareness of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) Nutrition Sciences Program, foster student involvement with the Las Vegas community, and expand student connections with NDA and its districts.
The UNLV SNDA offers a variety of opportunities as part of its membership, including working with the UNLV Nutrition Center (Rod Lee Bigelow Health Sciences—BHS 212). In addition, SNDA continues to stay involved with ongoing volunteer and community programs, such as the Las Vegas nonprofit organization Create a Change Now and the Green Our Planet “school gardens” initiative. A new UNLV SNDA Volunteer Workshop also is planned to help students learn how to step up, take a chance, and say “yes” to volunteering, with the expressed ambition of encouraging confidence and helping to cultivate a few smiles along the way.
The UNLV SNDA Team also is very excited to introduce its own UNLV SNDA Web site. With a link found on the UNLV Nutrition Sciences home page, this one-stop resource will provide all the necessary information for students to keep in touch and stay involved.
To learn more about volunteer opportunities and activities, visit the Web site at http://www.unlv.edu/kns/sda.
Scholarship Recipients Announced

The Kayla Nebeker-Karhohs Memorial Scholarship is awarded to current students, interns, or recent graduates who exemplify the spirit and memory of Kayla Nebeker-Karhohs, a nutrition student leader who passed away much too early.

These member-students are selected based on their academic achievements, personal statements regarding their accomplishments and career goals, and their letters of recommendation from faculty, preceptors, and employers. The award covers their registration for the NDA Annual Meeting and some travel and lodging costs for students coming from out of town.

This year’s Kayla Nebeker-Karhohs Memorial Scholarship winners are:

- Daphne Balizan, University of Nevada, Las Vegas
- Lisa Contreras, University of Nevada, Las Vegas
- Levi Evans, University of Nevada, Reno
- Daniel Lingle, Truckee Meadows Community College, Reno
- Tiffany Malley, Truckee Meadows Community College, Reno
- Irene Mejia, Truckee Meadows Community College, Reno
- Patricia Moen, Truckee Meadows Community College, Reno
- Chelsea Poser, University of Nevada, Las Vegas
- Kim Rumble, University of Nevada, Las Vegas
- Jake Yarberry, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

The scholarships are funded by the annual NDA silent auction. Congratulations to our scholarship winners.

Update From an NDA Student Representative

From Daniel Lingle, Student Dietetic Association, Truckee Meadows Community College, Reno

Daniel Lingle was appointed as a student board member of the NDA to help bridge the gap between Nevadan students in dietetic programs and the NDA. He hopes to inspire his peers to become involved not only with their communities, but with all Nevadan communities.

He currently is a student at Truckee Meadows Community College (TMCC), where he will graduate with an associate degree in science this spring. Daniel plans to transfer to the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR) to complete his bachelor’s degree in dietetics and then further his education with a master’s degree in public health.

Daniel served as vice president of the Student Dietetic Association (SDA) of TMCC from August 2013 until May 2014 and plans to run for president this fall. SDA is a student club that emphasizes giving back to peers and the community.

He currently is working to establish a walk/run event hosted at UNR and University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Daniel sees this public event as an excellent opportunity to raise funds for the NDA scholarship awards.

One important key to success is self confidence.
An important key to self confidence is preparation.

— Arthur Ashe
Congratulations to Our Outstanding Educators and Students

Educators Honored
These educators play a vital role in leading the future of dietetics.
The Outstanding Educators of the Year are:
- Heidi Himler, MPH, RD—Dietetic Technician Program
- Molly Michelman, MS, RD, CLC—Dietetic Internships
- Barbara Paulsen, MS, RD—Didactic Program in Dietetics

This award is given to member educators and preceptors in ACEND-accredited dietetic education programs. They are nominated by their students and peers. They must demonstrate innovative teaching skills and techniques, and serve as excellent mentors, leaders, and role models.

Students Honored
Congratulations to the following Outstanding Students of the Year:
- Danielle Cole—Dietetic Internship, University of Nevada, Las Vegas
- Gabriela Garcia-Dominguez—Didactic Program in Dietetics, University of Nevada, Reno
- Irene Mejia—Dietetic Technician Program, Truckee Meadows Community College, Reno
- Rickelle Tallent—Didactic Program in Dietetics, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

The Outstanding Student Award recognizes the recipients’ academic achievements, honors, student dietetic association activities, and community service activities. Students must demonstrate leadership and professional potential as documented by letters from program faculty and preceptors.

House of Delegates Is the Voice of Its Members

From Crystal Petrello, MS, RDN, LD
Crystal Petrello, the Nevada delegate to the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics’ House of Delegates (HOD) since 2012, wants to thank members who share their input about important issues affecting the dietetics and nutrition profession, most recently how the Academy’s members utilize, expand, and sustain business and management skills to take advantage of current and emerging professional opportunities. HOD planned to discuss the business and management skills of our profession in October at the Food & Nutrition Conference & Expo (FNCE).

HOD is the deliberative body acting as the voice of members. It governs the profession and develops policies on major professional issues, and works to ensure that Academy members are the leading source of food and nutrition services.

HOD has discussed several pertinent areas related to our profession in the past 2 years. It holds two meetings a year—one is a virtual meeting in the spring and the other is prior to FNCE in the fall. The meetings address current events and the progression of our profession. In 2012, the topics of discussion included Continuum of Professional Progression and Growth and Public Health Nutrition: It’s Every Member’s Business and Hunger in America, which looked at how food insecurity affects how we practice. In 2013, Nutrition Services Delivery and Payment was discussed in light of the changes in health care delivery and reimbursement.

This spring, HOD held a 2-day virtual meeting, Engaging Members in Research, to identify current attitudes toward research, behaviors and behavior changes needed to cultivate and strengthen participation in research, a vision for future research and outcomes, and actions that delegates and members can take to encourage integration of research activities into the professional culture of nutrition and dietetics.

Crystal asks for your input and feedback. You can reach her at CrystalPetrello@gmail.com. For all materials related to the HOD meetings, including slides from various Academy-related updates and outcome materials, visit www.eatright.org/hod.

Coordinator to Add New Resources

From Tammy M. Wild, MPH, RDN, LD, NSCA-CPT
Tammy Wild’s new role on the NDA Board is consumer protection coordinator, a nonvoting position. She plans to focus on making NDA a resource in the process of obtaining therapeutic diet order-writing privileges in Nevada hospitals. This will include organizing a task force, so if you are interested in participating, write her at twild@ccmnetwork.com.

In addition, Tammy plans to keep members informed about current licensure and consumer protection information. Tammy became a member of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics and NDA in 2004, and previously has served as Southern Nevada Dietetic Association president and licensure committee member.

If you have any questions, would like to become involved, or have any ideas to share, contact Tammy at twild@ccmnetwork.com.
Therapeutic Diet Order Task Force Created in Response to CMS Ruling

From Tammy M. Wild, MPH, RDN, LD, NSCA-CPT

The Therapeutic Diet Order Task Force was created in response to the recent final ruling of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) that enabled registered dietitians (RDs) and registered dietitian nutritionists (RDNs) in the hospital setting to become privileged to independently order therapeutic diets.

The rule became effective officially on July 11, 2014, so some NDA members are working to become a helpful resource to our members who are working toward implementing privileges in their hospital. Some of the task force members include Aurora Buffington, Deborah Klein, Julie Suckow, Leah Hanson, Nancy Collins, and Tammy Wild.

The first task force meeting was August 14, 2014, at Mountain View Hospital in Las Vegas. Topics addressed included possible legal issues, hospital bylaws, Medical Executive Committee involvement, scope of privileges and competency, and the involvement of members from both north and south Nevada. Although the federal ruling relates to acute care at this time, it is important for RDs and RDNs from other settings (skilled nursing facilities, rehabilitation, dialysis clinics, etc) to get involved, because in the near future, privileges may include these areas as well.

Please watch your e-mails for a survey that will assess what members in Nevada are thinking on this issue and how they would like to pursue it. If members express interest, the task force may invite a speaker to present her experience in obtaining writing privileges in a hospital in California. If you have any questions, you may contact any of the task force members or Tammy at twild@ccmnetwork.com.

This is an exciting and critical part of our profession. A common statement that you hear when attending different continuing education opportunities or the recent Today’s Dietitian Spring Symposium is that RDs and RDNs would like to receive recognition for the value they bring to patient care and recovery, and have others refer to them as the nutrition experts. Having privileges in the acute-care setting is a great way to bring recognition to our profession, and elevate our value in public health and the clinical setting.

50- and 60-Year Members

Take time to congratulate our long-standing members.

**NDA 50-year members:**
- Lea Ebro, PhD
- Sachiko St. Jeor, PhD, RDN, FAND
- Edward Tate, PhD, RD

**NDA 60-year member:**
- Virginia S. Claudio, PhD, MNS, RD

Meet Your NDA Treasurer

From Heather Lupkey, RD

Heather Lupkey is the current treasurer of NDA and a member of the Dietetic Technician Advisory Board at Truckee Meadows Community College. She has held previous board positions for the Northern Nevada District Dietetic Association and recently was the public policy coordinator for the state before transitioning to the treasurer position last July.

Her goal is to focus on the needs of NDA members and encourage nonmembers to become more involved, in addition to serving as an advocate for the profession itself within the local community.

Heather is a graduate of the University of Nevada, Reno. She currently is an administrative dietitian at the VA Sierra Nevada Health Care System in Reno. She is completing her graduate studies at Oklahoma State University.

It takes courage to be creative. Just as soon as you have a new idea, you are a minority of one.

—E. Paul Torrance
Mark Your Calendar

Future Dates and Locations of the Food & Nutrition Conference & Expo

2014: October 18-21, Atlanta, GA
Georgia World Congress Center
Atlanta Omni Hotel

2015: October 3-6, Nashville, TN
Nashville Music City Center
Nashville Omni Hotel

2016: October 15-18, Boston, MA

2017: October 21-24, Chicago, IL

NDA Board Members 2014-2015

Voting Members
President: Aurora Buffington, MS, RDN, LD
Secretary: Libby Lovig, RDN, LD
Treasurer: Heather Lupkey, RD
Nominating Committee Chair: Gregory Parsley, DTR
House of Delegates Representative: Crystal Petrello, MS, RDN, LD
Public Policy Coordinator: Heidi Himler, MPH, RD

Nonvoting Members
Past President: Heather Williams, PhD, RDN, LD
Nominating Committee (2nd Year): Erika Rothacker, RD
Nominating Committee (3rd year): Nicole Robinson, DTR
Public Relations and State Media Representative: Nancy Collins, PhD, RDN, LD, FAPWCA, FAND
State Awards Chairs: Barbara Scott, MPH, RD, and Miriam Een, RD
Continuing Education Chair: Barbara Paulsen, MS, RD
National Nutrition Month Chair: Rebecca Bickford
Reimbursement Representative: Michelle Albrecht, RD, LPTA
Consumer Protection Coordinator: Tammy Wild, MPH, RDN, LD, NSCA-CPT
State Regulatory Specialist: Jackie Thym, RDN
State Policy Representative: Kara Freeman, DrPH, RD
Student Dietetic Association: Daniel Lingle
Administrative Aide and Web Site Administrator: Lauri Egan, RDN, CPT

Spotlight Your Accomplishments

In future issues, we would like to spotlight the accomplishments of our members, so send us news about what you are doing.

Let us know if you have:
• Published a new book
• Written a journal article
• Appeared on television or radio
• Received a promotion
• Accepted a new position or job
• Had your comments featured in publications, briefings, or programs

Send a note to newsletter editor Dr Nancy Collins at NCtheRD@aol.com.
You’ll Smile When You See How Much Time We’ll Save You

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- HOT TOPICS to talk, write, Tweet, and blog about
- And MUCH, MUCH, MORE
The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics has created a unique Web application platform with tools to help registered dietitians (RDs) and registered dietitian nutritionists (RDNs) provide the highest-quality care for patients and clients, track outcomes of their interventions, conduct research in important areas of nutrition science, and contribute to a national quality registry.

The new online program—available free to Academy members—is called ANDHII: the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Health Informatics Infrastructure (http://www.andhii.org). “ANDHII provides dietetics practitioners with tools to track and report outcomes for individual patients and for their practice as a whole,” explained Academy President Sonja L. Connor, RDN.

“Using the Nutrition Care Process Terminology Matrix to anticipate terms, ANDHII makes the Academy’s Nutrition Care Process more accessible, leading to more effective and efficient care, as well as collection of comprehensive data and the outcomes of our treatment,” Connor said. The Nutrition Care Process is a systematic approach to providing high-quality nutrition care, consisting of four steps: Nutrition Assessment, Diagnosis, Intervention, and Monitoring/Evaluation.

“Use of a care process provides a framework for the RD or RDN to individualize care, taking into account the patient’s needs and values, and using the best evidence to make decisions,” Connor stated.

ANDHII guides dietetics practitioners through each step of the Nutrition Care Process, collecting impact data for use in public policy and quality improvement research.

“ANDHII’s chart and report builders allow dietetics practitioners to instantly create graphs and spreadsheets that display changes in patient and client outcomes over time, along with dietary intake information and nutrition interventions,” Connor explained. “Moreover, ANDHII will provide customizable visit reports that translate data into easy-to-read progress notes that save valuable time.”

“ANDHII will play a key role in nationwide research initiatives in areas such as malnutrition diagnosis, evidence-based practice guideline implementation, and comparative effectiveness research,” Connor said.