

## **Teresa (Terry) Del Fabbro**

### **Nomination – Public Relations portfolio**

In my career as a dietician so far, I have been very fortunate to have had many fantastic and growing experiences. After graduating from the University of Cape Town in 2002, I completed a year of community service at the Bethesda Hospital in rural northern KwaZulu Natal. Upon returning to Johannesburg in 2004, I was introduced to Gabi Steenkamp and assisted in her private practice. In June 2004 I started my own private practice in Edenvale where I worked alongside other medical professionals. In 2005 I began assisting Juliet Fearnhead with her role as the resident dietitian at Pick n Pay by managing Health Hotline nutrition-related customer queries. This led to me working for Pick n Pay in a full time capacity from 2007 as the Pick n Pay resident dietitian. It was during 2007 that I joined the ADSA Gauteng South branch committee.

At Pick n Pay, my main responsibilities include: managing the Health Hotline; co-ordinating projects such as Hyper diabetes shopping tours, representing Pick n Pay as a trustee for the '5-a-Day for Better Health TRUST', nutritional elements of the Pick n Pay School Club as well as working closely with Pick n Pay food technology and development.

I am in the fortunate position of being exposed to many opportunities to network with people and organizations regarding within the field of dietetics and nutrition. These networking opportunities would be able to assist me in the PR role. My strengths lie in meticulous planning and attention to detail, managing projects and activities at a corporate level as well as planning and managing budgetary aspects. Due to the nature of my role, I am familiar with working with specific objectives targeted at the right audiences.

I am aware of my responsibility to establish and promote favourable relationships on behalf of ADSA with the food industry, the public and medical fraternity. If I am nominated to hold the PR portfolio for ADSA executive committee, I feel that the lessons that I have learnt so far in being a part of ADSA, together with the challenges I face daily places me in a position to make a valuable contribution to ADSA.

## **Carol Brown**

### **Nomination – Public Relations portfolio**

ADSA continues to make great strides towards the promotion of dietitians as nutrition experts in South Africa. A new project was recently introduced "the watch dog" to introduce a process to be able to react to negative nutrition reporting. Active work in the public relations portfolio offers the opportunity to complement both of these recent projects. This can be done by reintroducing regular, proactive contact between ADSA members and the media. Ways in which this can be done includes issuing press releases on nutrition related health days, responding to nutrition scares in the media and reporting on recent nutrition research (and its relevance).

I have worked for many years in the corporate sector where I developed and used marketing and public relations skills as described above. I have previously served on the ADSA committee at branch level, and on executive. I have kept a low profile for a few years, and am now re-energised to help ADSA achieve its vision.

### **Robyn Rees**

#### **Nomination – Private Practicing Dietitians portfolio**

My name is Robyn Rees. I am in private practice in Johannesburg. I have been chairlady on the Gauteng South Branch committee since 2007 until present day. Since that time I have attended all exec annual meetings and submitted annual reports to the exec. I took over as ADSA PPD Exec rep from June 2008 until present day from the previous rep who needed to step down before her term was up. I have been looking after PPD issues and attending meetings related to PPD since then along with the help of Sue Scharff who also resides in Johannesburg.

### **Dianne Ivison-Conradie**

#### **Nomination – Private Practicing Dietitians portfolio**

- I completed my B.Sc dietetics degree at the University of Stellenbosch in 1999 and am currently completing my Masters degree ( via the scenic route) in Irritable Bowel Syndrome
- I have been working in private practice since I left university (initially for a dietitian and now for myself) and have a passion for helping others help themselves. Some days I feel more like an 'agony aunt' than a dietitian, but listening to people is one of my strong points
- I have been working at Panorama Medi-Clinic since 2002 and enjoy working with children and gastro-intestinal problems.
- I am a mother of 2 children, Megan aged 6 and Antoni aged 9.
- I have loved being on the ADSA W-Cape branch committee as it has given me a sense of just how much work goes into running an organisation such as ADSA. I am sure I could be of benefit to the PPD portfolio as I have 10 years experience in the private practice field and I have also helped a few newer PPD's set up their practice

### **Nompumelelo Nxumalo**

#### **Nomination – Public Health portfolio**

I have been working with hospital and district dietitians in my current position as the chief dietitian for almost 4 years. I therefore have first- hand experience of

the work that is done by the permanent and community service dietitians. In my capacity at head office I am also aware of challenges that management faces in engaging and sorting issues for dietitians. I have experience working on programs with the industry as well.

My portfolio at the provincial office has allowed me deep insight into the public health issues facing the country as I am in frequent communication with the National office.

In addition to the above I would say my communication, negotiation and facilitation skills makes me the ideal candidate for a position that requires a well informed and dedicated individual that is willing to make a difference at a National level.

**MARIA VAN DER MERWE**  
**Nomination – Public Health portfolio**

I obtained a B.Dietetics degree from the University of Pretoria in 1996 and started my career as a public health dietitian at Bethal Hospital in Mpumalanga in 1997. During the next three years, I was seconded to Rob Ferreira Hospital in Nelspruit and then to the provincial office of the Integrated Nutrition Programme (INP), where I worked as a community liaison officer, up to April 2001.

After a few years in the private sector, I rejoined the public service in May 2007, as a senior dietitian at Themba Hospital. In February 2008, I was again seconded to the provincial Integrated Nutrition Programme, as delegated provincial programme manager. From January 2009, I have been appointed as the Acting Provincial INP Manager; pending the permanent appointment of an official in this position.

In 1998, I was a founder member of the Mpumalanga ADSA branch. From 1998 to 1999 I held the public relations portfolio for this branch; whereafter I was elected as the chairperson from 2000 to 2001.

On request and with the support of local dietitians, we formed a Lowveld branch of the Association at the end of 2007, of which I have been elected as the chairperson for the first term of two years (2007 – 2009).