The new millennium represents a significant milestone in the history of the Gerontological Nutritionists Dietetic Practice Group as we celebrate our 20th anniversary. Throughout the years, GN has grown to be one of the largest practice groups in the American Dietetic Association and has provided members with professional and timely information.

The accomplishments outlined in this annual report illustrate the active role GN members have taken to help meet the challenges of the rapidly growing field of gerontological nutrition. By sharing ideas and research, GN helps dietetics practitioners maintain the competitive edge in this era of rapid growth of the elderly population.

A strategic planning session was held in June 1999 to set the direction for GN. The three major key linkages that were identified with GN members, other Dietetic Practice Groups, and Policymakers. The strategic plan will be revised in 2000-2001 to match the new plan by ADA.

GN had a successful meeting in Atlanta at the 1999 Annual Meeting and Exhibition. The well attended major session, “Towards a Society for All Ages: Nutrition in the International Year of the Older Adult”, featured speakers Nancy Weilman PhD, RD; Robert Russell MD; and D avid Thomas MD. The session was sponsored by the National Dairy Council. GN also participated in the DPG showcase and held a well-attended members Business Meeting.

GN and the Administration on Aging co-sponsored a post-ADA workshop titled “Nutrition and Aging: Building Successful Partnerships”. Held on the Friday following Annual Meeting, there were approximately 100 in attendance. Very positive evaluations were received and plans are underway for a similar workshop in 2000.

After much effort and work, a new publication was made available at the Bookmart at the Annual Meeting and Exhibition. Written by GN members Kathryne Holden M S, RD; and Valentina Remig PhD, RD, LD, FADA, Parkinson’s Disease Assessing and Managing Unique Nutrition Needs is approved for 3 CPE Hours for RDs and DTrs. The self-study guide provides dietetics practitioners with the knowledge and skills required to assess and manage the unique nutritional needs of affected individuals.

The GN Lending Library mailed out lending items to 35 members since August 1999. All names were added to the “Get Connected” mailing list. Two additional videos from the Peanut Institute have been added to the lending library.

The GN Newsletter continues to be a significant member benefit. To meet some of the strategies in the strategic plan, four new members were added this year with acknowledgement. They were Michael Bielawicz, Edith Graybill, Susan Orfield-Shrier, and Linda Bobroff. A Nutrition Education Aid contest was conducted in the fall of 1999. Winners were Kate Salstrom and D anielle Lippard, students at the University of Washington for their Calcium Facts entry. The GN newsletter editors implemented a copyright agreement and have guidelines for feature articles.

Through the Awards Committee, GN offers several awards as a member benefit. Two Speaker Stipend Awards of up to $500 each are available. GN granted one award to Beya L ind, representing the N-C-FH Area Agency on Aging to present at the NANASP conference in June. Two Junior Continuing Education Awards are also available. One was awarded this year to Cheryl M ekus to attend the Nutrition and Aging conference in September 1999. There were no requests received for the Distinguished Service Award which has a cash award of $500.

The Legislative Committee continued with its Chemical Dependency網路. At these meetings, over 250 dietetics professionals learned about the incidences of chemical dependency in older adults and the role of nutrition in treatment.

Workshop Presentations Continue
GN continued with its Chemical Dependency workshop presentations around the country. It was presented in June 1999 at the Arizona Dietetic Association Annual Meeting and in May 2000 at the California Dietetic Association Annual Meeting. At these meetings, over 250 dietetics professionals learned about the incidences of chemical dependency in older adults and the role of nutrition in treatment.
Financial Report
In fiscal year 1999-2000, total expenditures were $66,639 or 90% of the amount budgeted. A complete Treasurer’s Report will be presented at the Food and Nutrition Conference and Exhibition in October in Denver.

These activities are expensed to the following categories:

- **Member Services**
  - Newsletter: 4 issues a year
  - Practice coordinators: membership resource file & network
  - GN website and electronic mailing list
  - Legislative affairs
  - GN Awards: Joncier Green & Speaker Stipend Awards
  - AV lending library
  - Alliance coordination
  - Continuing Education: develop & sponsor workshops

- **Administrative Expenses**
  - Conduct business for members
  - Teleconference calls
  - Development of strategic plan

- **Meetings**
  - Annual Meeting & Exhibition:
    - Display at showcase
    - Business meeting
    - Major session
    - Reception
  - Spring Meeting:
    - Board member orientation
    - Strategic plan development
    - Work assignments for coming year

As a group we are involved in a variety of projects such as advocating for legislative issues related to aging and nutrition, developing nutrition standards for community practice, and strengthening our own member network.

Get Connected
The success of GN’s Strategic Plan requires the active involvement and expertise of our membership. In 1997, GN began expanding our member networking by focusing on areas of practice, rather than limiting member networking to geographic areas. The four GN areas of practice are Facility-Based Long-Term Care, Home and Community-Based Care, Education/Research and Food Systems Management.

Through the “Get Connected” program, members are linked to the GN Practice Coordinator for their area of practice. As a GN practice contact, members may be asked to develop a newsletter article, comment on state and national legislation, develop educational tools and programs or serve on a GN committee. This involvement will help achieve the goals of the GN dietetic practice group as well as provide many opportunities for professional growth. More information on Get Connected is available on the GN website.

Alliance Partners

- **AARP**
  - Administration on Aging
  - Meals on Wheels Association of America
  - National Association of Nutrition & Aging Services Programs
  - National Council on Aging
  - National Resource & Policy Center on Aging

- **Fundraising**
  - In 1999-2000, GN received funding and support from the National Dairy Council, Computrition, Inc., Menu Systems, Inc., Novartis, The Peanut Institute, Unifiber, and Biotechnology General Pharmaceutical.

ADA Mission
The American Dietetic Association promotes optimal nutrition and well-being for all people by advocating for its members.

ADA Vision
American Dietetic Association members are the leading source of food and nutrition services.