



## SASPEN News

SASPEN participated in the Malnutrition Awareness Week of ASPEN (American Society for Enteral and Parenteral Nutrition) from 18–22 September 2017. The purpose of this week was to raise awareness amongst healthcare professionals to consider assessing and intervening earlier in the nutrition management of hospitalised patients. The focus was also on educating the public to realize that they need to ask about their nutrition status and advocate for optimal nutrition care. Excellent resources are still available on the following website [www.nutritioncare.org](http://www.nutritioncare.org).

SASPEN is excited to announce that four South African colleagues are now certified as Teachers for the Life Long Learning (LLL) programme. Ms. Christina Nieuwoudt, Mrs Veronique Donoghue, Dr Ravi Oodit and Ms. Anna-Lena du Toit successfully completed the course at this year's ESPEN congress and are now able to facilitate the LLL courses in South Africa.

SASPEN joined the Critical Care Society of Southern Africa (CCSSA) again this year for the biennial congress in Sun City. The congress took place from 19–22 October 2017. The overall congress theme was "Precision medicine". SASPEN joined with a program focused on management of specific patient groups in the intensive care unit (ICU), with the theme "Hitting the bullseye with nutrition in ICU". SASPEN had the privilege of hosting international speakers, Prof Remy Meier and Prof Mette Berger. We would like to thank them for the excellent knowledge they shared with delegates at the congress.

SASPEN together with the trade and the international faculty were also able to facilitate the LLL program at this congress as a pre-

congress workshop. SASPEN is hoping to make this a permanent feature in the coming years. The presentations delivered as part of the SASPEN program will be made available online with the support of Medtalkz. Further information on how to access these presentations will be made available on the SASPEN social media platforms.

The SASPEN biennial meeting was held at the congress and the new SASPEN council for 2017–2019 were announced. SASPEN would like to welcome the new council members Nadia Jansen van Rensburg, Logesh Govender, Lindie Mosehuus, Dorothea McDonald, Engela Francis, Tracey Ugerchund (Treasurer), Anna-Lena du Toit (Scientific secretary), Vanessa Kotze (President Elect) and Lizl Veldsman (President). SASPEN is looking forward to what the future holds under the leadership of the new council. We would like to give a big word of thanks to our outgoing president, Christina Nieuwoudt, for her hard work and dedication to the society. SASPEN looks forward to your ongoing support and advice as the Immediate Past President. To the other members of the outgoing council, Lize Rossouw, Giana de Sousa, Claudia Schubl, Nolene Naicker, Daddy Matthews and Elize Craucamp, SASPEN would like to thank them for their contributions and dedication over the last two years.

We would like to hear about your initiatives and plans. Please like us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter and join us on LinkedIn to stay informed about events and opportunities. You can visit our webpage on [www.saspen.com](http://www.saspen.com) or download our SASPEN application on your smart devices.