



## SASPEN News

Building on the success of the road show, “Back to Basics”, conducted in 2014, SASPEN took the training to the Free State in May 2015. This was the final “Back to Basics” road show to be hosted by SASPEN. We have managed to reach five of the nine provinces with this road show and the SASPEN committee would like to thank you for giving us the opportunity to visit you and participate in uplifting the dietetic profession in your province!

Dietitians Week is back in June 2015! SASPEN is very excited to once again join the British Dietetic Association this year in celebrating the world’s second Dietitians Week, to be hosted from 8-12 June. The SASPEN theme for this year is: “Feeding those who cannot feed themselves”. SASPEN will cover different topics relating to the theme on a daily basis during the week by sharing useful information and literature links on our social media platforms. We would like to invite everyone to participate in this event, and to celebrate the profession as a registered dietitian with the message of “Trust a dietitian”. The “Trust a dietitian” logo can be used to show your support for the project, and can be downloaded from [www.trustadietitian.co.uk](http://www.trustadietitian.co.uk). Please share your events and pictures with us on our social media platforms.

SASPEN is looking forward to joining the Critical Care Society of Southern Africa once again this year for the annual congress to be hosted in Sun City from 9-12 July 2015. This year the congress is themed “Adventures in critical care”.

The SASPEN programme commences with a full day pre-congress nutrition workshop aimed at nurses. Topics covered in this workshop include the consequences of malnutrition and screening guidelines, when feeding is required, feeding routes and administration methods, as well as appropriate formula and the importance of monitoring and dealing with feeding-related complications.

SASPEN has invited Prof Olle Ljungqvist from Sweden and Prof Mette M Berger from Switzerland to participate in the congress.

Prof Ljungqvist has been appointed to several leading positions in both national and international societies in his career, including the European Society for Clinical Nutrition and Metabolism (ESPEN), where he served as Chairman from 2006-2010. More recently, he served as President of the International Association for Surgical Metabolism and Nutrition. He is also co-founder and chairman of the Enhanced Recovery After Surgery Society.

Prof Berger has held positions as President and Treasurer of the Swiss Society for Clinical Nutrition and has been on the expert panel of the ESPEN intensive care unit guideline group. She has been involved in research and has published several papers on micronutrients and nutritional therapy in the critically ill, and in burn and trauma patients. We look forward to the topics that will be covered during the various sessions by these two international speakers with extensive experience in research and nutrition.

Other topics covered in the SASPEN sessions will include surgery, paediatrics, critical care and glutamine and probiotics, as part of a session that covers controversies in nutrition. Delegates can meet and interact with the international experts during two parallel sessions.

The SASPEN biannual general meeting will also be held during the congress. The new SASPEN committee will be announced at this meeting. We look forward to seeing you at the congress!

SASPEN is keeping in touch with members and non-members via its various social media platforms. Please follow us on twitter, like us on facebook and join us on LinkedIn. SASPEN is interested in your comments and feedback. For more information, visit the website at [www.saspn.com](http://www.saspn.com).