



American Society for Nutrition
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Implementation Advisory Group Call Minutes
Tuesday, March 31, 2020
1:00 p.m. Eastern

Participants: Sarah Ohlhorst, American Society for Nutrition (ASN); Rob Bertolo; Jamie Baum

Guiding Principles for ASN Relationships with Entities at Interest

Implementation Advisory Group members reviewed and discussed the draft of the Guiding Principles for ASN Relationships with Entities at Interest. No additional edits were discussed, and the document is considered ready to share at this time. The document will now go to the ASN Board of Directors for review.

The Advisory Group discussed how to present information to the ASN membership for input. It was noted that presenting one implementation deliverable at a time (from all the recommendations to be implemented), rather than all at once, could allow for more useful input on each piece. The Advisory Committee also discussed whether the Guiding Principles document as is should be shared with the ASN membership, or whether a streamlined, simplified document might be better to accommodate full ASN membership review and input (with the option of the full document available online for anyone interested to review).

ACTION: The Board of Directors will be asked to provide input on preferred version of the Guiding Principles document (a streamlined version or the full version which will be sent to the Board for review and input) to share with the ASN membership for their review.

ASN Member Code of Conduct Outline

The Committee on Advocacy and Science Policy subcommittee shared an outline for an ASN member code of conduct with the Advisory Group that was largely based on NASEM's Fostering Research Integrity report. The outline also reminded Advisory Group members of the Scientific Integrity Principles and Best Practices: Recommendations from a Scientific Integrity Consortium. It was suggested that the ASN code of conduct reference these reports and note that ASN endorses them as it may create confusion if they are too duplicative. Advisory Group members felt that many of the "buckets" within the outline related to research and that these could be condensed into one "research best practices" bucket along with buckets for communications, professionalism, and stewardship.

The Advisory Group liked the "mini" codes of conduct that the Institute of Food Technologists (IFT) has created for Awards and Honors and other focused areas, and suggested ASN may wish to do the same once a core Code of Conduct is in place. It was noted that ASN enforcement of a

code of conduct would likely be similar to IFT's enforcement policy - determined on a case-by-case basis by ASN leadership after review of each unique case and its various mitigating factors.

Future Implementation Work

The Advisory Group discussed remaining work to develop a comprehensive conflict of interest disclosure statement, as well as guidelines for ASN members to manage and conduct nutrition research funded by entities at interest. It was noted that an existing document from ILSI NA covers guidelines for food and nutrition research funded by sources other than the federal government and that perhaps the guidelines from this document are still valid or only need to be updated slightly.

ACTION: Sarah will share the ILSI NA document related to conducting nutrition research funded by entities at interest prior to the next call for Advisory Group discussion. Sarah will also send existing ASN conflict of interest forms to the Advisory Group.

Next Steps

The next Implementation Advisory Group call will be scheduled for May. ASN's draft code of conduct will be shared for discussion on the next call at that time following additional work by the Committee on Advocacy and Science Policy subcommittee. Input from the ASN Board of Directors on the Guiding Principles document will also be shared prior to the next call.