

Western MCH Nutrition Leadership Network
March 3rd and 4th, 2016

***Policy, Systems and Environmental Change:
Relevance for the MCH Community***

Speaker List

Anna Maria Siega-Riz, PhD, RD

Member, Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee

University of Virginia

Department of Public Health Sciences and Obstetrics and Gynecology

Dr. Siega-Riz is currently Professor of Public Health Sciences and Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of Virginia. As a nutritional epidemiologist, she has been involved in several large cohort studies involving pregnant women, children and Hispanics as well as one multi-centered intervention study related to type 2 diabetes among middle-school children. She has published extensively in the area of maternal nutritional status and its effect on birth outcomes (including gestational diabetes, pregnancy induced hypertension and pre-eclampsia) and determinants of gestational weight gain as well as on dietary intakes of various populations. Dr. Siega-Riz has done extensive methodological research in dietary exposure and patterns, with the latter becoming the preferred exposure measures for examining diet-disease relationship. She recently served on the 2015 Dietary Guidelines Federal Advisory Committee and is a member of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute Advisory Council. She has served on five Institute of Medicine Committees. In her career, Dr. Siega-Riz has received numerous distinguished awards such as the March of Dimes Agnes Higgins Award for Maternal and Fetal Nutrition (2007), the University of North Carolina Center for Women's Health Research Award for Excellence (2004) and held key positions at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Gillings School of Public Health among which include Associate Dean for Academic Affairs (2010-2015), program leader of the Reproductive, Perinatal and Pediatric Program in the Department of Epidemiology (2006-15), Associate Chair of Epidemiology (2008-2010), Director of Nutrition Epidemiology Core, Nutrition Obesity Research Center (2003-2010), and PI of Public Health Training Grant from HRSA (2013-15). She has successfully supervised many students at all levels. Dr. Siega-Riz holds a BSPH from UNC School of Public Health, a Master's degree in Food, Nutrition & Food Service Management from UNC Greenboro, and a PhD in Nutrition (and minor in Epidemiology) from UNC School of Public Health. She held the credentials of a registered dietitian from 1983-2014.

Michael W. Hamm, PhD

Consultant, Dietary Guidelines Subcommittee

Michigan State University

Community Sustainability Mott Professor of Sustainable Agriculture

Senior Fellow, Center for Regional Food Systems

Departments of Community Sustainability, Plant, Soil and Microbial Sciences, and Food Science and Human Nutrition

Senior Fellow, Center for Regional Food Systems (CRFS) Michael Hamm is the C. S. Mott Professor of Sustainable Agriculture at Michigan State University. Mike has a B.A. in Biology from Northwestern University and a Ph.D. in Human Nutrition from the University of Minnesota. Mike currently is affiliated with the Departments of Community Sustainability; Plant, Soil and Microbial Sciences; and Food Science and Human Nutrition. His appointment encompasses teaching, research and outreach. Prior to moving to MSU he was Dean of Academic and Student Programs for Cook College, Rutgers University. He was co-founder and director of the New Jersey Urban Ecology Program and founding director of the Cook Student Organic Farm. At MSU he was founding Director of the Center for Regional Food Systems and is now its Senior Fellow. Community food security, regional and sustainable food systems are active research areas. Mike was a consultant on sustainability to the U.S. Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee.

Karen Farley, RD, IBCLC

Executive Director

California WIC Association

Karen Farley is Executive Director at the California WIC Association (CWA) where she has worked since 2002 on advocacy, communications and technical assistance to direct service providers. She is a recognized state expert on lactation services and breastfeeding policy issues in WIC, hospitals and health systems, with a strong clinical care background in a variety of settings including hospitals, community clinics, WIC, health plans and private practice. Karen is a Registered Dietitian and International Board Certified Lactation Consultant.

Laurie True, MPH

Director, Advocacy Initiative

Strategic Advisor, California WIC Association

Laurie True is director for the Health Policy Advocacy Initiative at the Center for Public Health Practice, connecting students to activist organizations seeking change at the local, state, and federal levels. She is a UC Berkeley School of Public Health alumna with many years experience in action research, community organizing, and legislative advocacy, specializing in low-income nutrition and health policy issues. Laurie has been a catalyst or founding member of many of California's foremost advocacy organizations and coalitions, including California Food Policy Advocates, California WIC Association, and the Strategic Alliance for Healthy Food and Activity Environments. Early in her career she learned the trade of advocacy from staff and leaders at California Rural Legal Assistance Foundation.

Jean Weinberg

Consultant, Association of State Public Health Nutritionists (ASPHN)

With almost 40 years of experience in the public interest sector, Jean Weinberg provides a distinctive combination of skills: those of a capable planner with a strong political background. She enjoys the challenges of consulting—a shared and ongoing learning process between client and consultant—and excels at building trusting and effective working relationships. Jean works with top decision makers to clarify an organization's mission and goals and help them formulate and implement a strategic plan to achieve those goals. Her political experience gives her an understanding of the priorities and concerns of people at all levels of an organization: state or national; program or administrative; line or management. She encourages organizations to clearly define their missions — to explicitly identify what kind of group they want to be and what combination of actions will make that vision a reality. This approach toward planning ensures the most effective prioritization of programs and the wisest use of limited resources. While many organizations use the language of strategic planning, to be successful they must translate that language into concrete action. Jean Weinberg can help leaders and staffs learn the skills they need to implement their plans and guide them as they apply those skills.

Phyllis Crowley, MS, RD, IBCLC

State Nutrition & Breastfeeding Coordinator

Utah WIC Program

Phyllis Crowley has been a Registered Dietitian and member of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics since 1986. She has been a member of the Public Health/Community Nutrition Practice Group from 1995 to 2003 and 2009 to the present. She has worked in public health community settings since 1993 and has served in numerous positions with the Tennessee Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics and the Utah Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. She is a current member and Past President of the Association of State Public Health Nutritionists. And, she has over 20 years of experience in the National WIC Program in Tennessee and Utah. In her current position as the State Nutrition & Breastfeeding Coordinator for the Utah WIC Program, since 2002, she is responsible for the following:

- Management of the overall nutrition/breastfeeding components of the Utah State WIC Program, including supervision of 4 RD nutrition staff.
- Service as the state nutrition liaison between the regional USDA WIC office and the local agency WIC nutritionists.
- Development and recommendation of nutrition education goals, standards and policies for the WIC Program.
- Guidance related to the collection and/or development of nutrition education materials.
- Assignment and/or conduct of management evaluation/technical assistance visits every other year to selected local agencies to ensure compliance with federal regulations and state policies & procedures.
- Provision of technical assistance to administrators, policy makers, nutrition personnel and professionals in related agencies and educators in academic institutions.