

Excellence in Practice: Susan Linke, MBA MS RD LD CLT CGP

DIFM is pleased to award the 2015 Excellence in Practice Award to Susan Linke, from Dallas, Texas. She has been a DIFM member since 2006, in her words, “just as soon as I could!”

Susan earned a BS degree and MBA in Marketing from Texas Tech University in 1985 and 1988; completed her Dietetic Internship and MS in Nutrition at Texas Woman’s University in 2005.

Susan is in private practice, specializing in a functional and integrative approach to medical nutrition therapy, especially in the area of chronic inflammatory conditions, since 2006. She became a Certified LEAP Therapist in 2006, and is a member of the Medical Advisory Board for Oxford Biomedical Technologies, Inc., 2013 to present. She has been a mentor to more than 500 RDs over the last 9 years for this company, teaching those who want to incorporate food sensitivity testing and integrative/functional principles into their own practice or workplace. She became a Certified Gluten Practitioner in 2010 (theDr.com), and has recently been appointed to be an Advisory Board member for the newly created Integrative and Functional Nutrition Academy.

Susan has been active in the Dallas Dietetic Association since 2009, and was Editor for the Herbal & Dietary Supplements section of the Texas Academy of Nutrition & Dietetics MNT Manual, 2013. She now also hosts a Dallas area mentoring group for students interested in integrative and functional nutrition. Susan has contributed to magazine articles and nutrition books, has an impressive list of professional presentations, and has participated in many media impressions, especially radio.

Susan’s personal philosophy is “Pay it Forward.” “As an older dietitian I recognize that I came into the game a little late. Therefore, my primary goal has not been to build my own practice, but rather to “pay it forward” collectively by helping as many other dietitians (and physicians) join the growing movement of functional and integrative medicine and help to train and mentor as many other dietitians as I possibly could along the way. For that reason, I have been actively involved in a variety of activities over the years with the express purpose of teaching, mentoring, motivating, and encouraging others in this growing field of knowledge.”

From her many letters of support that were submitted, you can see that Susan exemplifies the consummate professional whose goal is not only to help her clients, but also to share knowledge and promote IFMNT RDs in every way possible!

From Dr. Thomas Wnorkowski:

Susan has expanded the reach of our profession with the skillful use of LEAP protocols to address concerns that are beyond the scope of allopathic practice. Her dedication to the singular truth that brings resolution to her patients through research, hard science and a gentle touch is highly regarded. She is tireless in analyzing problems and synthesizing solutions.

From Susan Yonke:

Susan has never met me, yet is so generous with her time, that I consider her a mentor. She is the reason that I am interested in being an Integrative RDN, and practicing IFMNT. Despite her very busy practice, she is constantly contributing to the DIFM eml, providing input, answers and expertise for all who ask questions. She continually brings forth the latest in research to share with others.

From Gita Patel:

Susan continues to pursue advanced training in integrative and functional nutrition including education in nutritional genomics, whole foods and dietary supplements and natural healing modalities. Susan has received extensive training in immunology, adverse food reactions and practical applications of dietary treatments for chronic inflammatory conditions.

From Sonya Angelone:

Susan has authored and replied to thousands of email messages on the DIFM, SCAN, Women's Health, NE, DBC, GastroRDs, Medical Nutrition and LEAP listservs with suggestions for providing IFMNT. This shows a tremendous commitment and support for her IFMNT colleagues which is greatly appreciated. I have also seen her replies elicit much interest from non-integrative RDNs who want to learn more about DIFM.