

Janis Randall Simpson has been engaged with CNS and its pre-merger society CSNS. She was Treasurer of CSNS from 2001-2010 and of CNS from 2010-2013. During the merger, Janis was involved with governance issues, including drafting by-laws and policies. In 2011, Janis was Co-Chair of the Organizing Committee for the CNS Conference held in Guelph and assisted with coordination in 2012 (Vancouver), 2013 (Quebec City).

Janis is one of developers of NutriSTEP®, a widely used nutrition risk screening questionnaires for toddlers and preschoolers in Canada. The NutriSTEP® website was featured by the CIHR in their case studies of excellent Knowledge Translation. It has been used by close to 30,000 parents since 2013 and has also been used in the US and Turkey. During her faculty appointment at Guelph, Janis has been involved in nutritional assessment research in young children and women in Anabaptist communities. In the 2000s, Janis was involved in research on weight gain in first year university students that achieved a lot of media attention. In conjunction with Health Canada, Janis was involved in research on zinc status in young boys using a novel biomarker with a view to assess the upper limit for zinc in Canada. She has received grants from CIHR, Canadian Foundation for Dietetic Research (CFDR), Danone Institute of Canada. Janis has 50 peer-reviewed publications and over 100 abstracts presented at conferences.

Janis served as a Council member for the College of Dietitians of Ontario (CDO). She has been a grant reviewer for CIHR, CFDR, Danone Institute of Canada, Dairy Farmers of Canada, and is currently a member of the College of Reviewers for CIHR. Janis served as Chair of the Scientific Review Committee (SRC) for CFDR for several years. Since January 2017, Janis has been the volunteer, part-time Executive Director for CFDR.

In 2012, Janis received a Leadership Award for her involvement with CNS. She was also recognized as a leader at the University of Guelph and served in administrative positions such as graduate coordinator, curriculum Chair for Applied Human Nutrition, acting Chair of the Department of Family Relations and Applied Nutrition. Following her retirement in 2014, Janis was named as Professor Emerita in the Department of Family Relations and Applied Nutrition at the University of Guelph. She was on the Scientific Advisory Board of the Danone Institute of Canada for seven years, and served on the Expert Panel for review of the Special Diet Allowances in Ontario that resulted in policy changes to the program for those in the province on financial assistance. Janis was recognized by Dietitians of Canada for her contribution to dietetics in Canada and was named a Fellow of Dietitians in 2014.