The 2016 Nutrition Congress (jointly hosted by NSSA and ADSA) will be held at the Lord Charles Hotel in Somerset West, Western Cape, from 3-5 September. The International Society for the Study of Fatty Acids and Lipids (ISSFAL) Congress will be held in Stellenbosch from 7-10 September 2016. The scientific Updates of both congresses will be held on 6 September 2016 at the Lord Charles Hotel.

The SASPEN President, Arina Prins, attended the European Society for Clinical Nutrition and Metabolism (ESPEN) Council meeting in Nice in January 2015. The meeting provided insight into and clarity with regard to the benefits for ESPEN block members. The outcome of the negotiations is that ESPEN’s Life Long Learning courses may become a future SASPEN activity. In order to reap the benefits of the collaboration with ESPEN, dietitians need to be SASPEN members and ESPEN block members. Further details can be obtained from the SASPEN website at www.saspen.com.

Renee Blaauw and Merel Moens are the first recipients of the South African Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition research grants, which were made possible by Empresa Nacional de Autocamiones SA (ENASA). Congratulations, and good luck with your research.

SASPEN will join the Critical Care Society of Southern Africa for a congress from 9 - 12 July 2015 at Sun City. The theme of the congress is “Adventures in nutrition”, and the two invited international speakers, Mette Berger from Switzerland and Olle Ljunqvist from Sweden, will address topics such as micronutrients and enhanced recovery after surgery.

SASPEN welcomes Anna-Lena du Toit as a new council member after the resignation of one of the council members owing to work commitments. Anna-Lena is the chief dietitian at Groote Schuur Hospital, and recently published a case report in the SAJCN on the Nutritional management of complicated surgical patients by means of fistuloclysis.