Our Organization’s History

NANP was originally founded in 1985 as the Society of Certified Nutritionists (SCN), which was born out of the National Institute for Nutrition Education (NINE), a program of American Health Sciences University (AHSU) founded by James Johnston, Ph.D. The leadership of the SCN was Bevly Fisk, CN (President) and Jenifer Cloherty (Membership Director), along with the SCN Board of Directors, who were graduates of NINE/AHSU and Australasian School of Health Sciences.

The Association for Certified Nutrition Consultants (ACNC) was born out of the Institute for Educational Therapy, now Bauman College, founded by Ed Bauman, Ph.D. The leadership of ACNC were Ed Bauman, Ph.D. (President) and Michele Champeau, CNC, Vice President (now Michele Chartier).

ACNC’s leadership saw the need to align nationally with other like-minded organizations and create consistency and improved credibility among the many different titles for holistically trained nutrition professionals. At the time, the American Dietetic Association was working state-by-state to limit who could practice nutrition and there were a handful of 8-40 hour “certificate” programs that granted the Certified Nutrition Consultant (CNC) designation. SCN leadership saw the same need and voted to approve IET/Bauman College graduates as full members of the SCN, and granted two positions on the Board of Directors to represent CNCs.

In the fall of 2001 the California Chapter of the Society of Certified Nutritionists was founded with Anasuya Batliner (now Anasuya Basil) as President, Kim Roberson as the Vice President, Fern Leaf as the Treasurer, and Nori Hudson and Laura Knoff sharing the duties of Secretary. Dr. Bauman was an advisor to the chapter.

A one-day conference was held in Berkeley at the Unitarian Church in the fall of 2002. The theme was Business Practices for Holistic Nutritionists, and over 100 nutrition students and professionals attended. Frank Cuny spoke on legislative issues; Liz Lipski presented on how to start a successful nutrition business, and a panel of speakers that included Robert Shames rounded out the day.

Seeking a name that better reflected the various titles of SCN members, the organization became the National Association of Nutrition Professionals (NANP) in January 2005. The NANP reached out to other nutrition programs across the country, established educational standards for membership, and sought to further ground our profession with a national board exam.

Bevly Fisk, CN
President,
Society of Certified Nutritionists

July 2000
NANP’s founders

Edward Bauman, PHD
President

Michele Chartier, BS, NC
Executive Director

Llynn Newman, MS, CN
Vice President

Lisa Roy, CN
Treasurer

Beth Gillespie, NC
Secretary

Denia Mette’, M.Ed, CN
Director

Nancy Peregrine, NC, AHG
Director

Kimberly Roberson, NE
Director

Nori Hudson, NC
Director

Rachelle Roach, MA, CNT
Director

NANP Board of Directors meeting, hosted by Bauman College
From left: Beth Gillespie, NC, Kim Roberson, NE, Lisa Roy, CN, Michele Chartier, NC, Gene Bruno, MS, CN, Geoffrey Marx, NC, Edward Bauman, Ph.D., Jenifer Cloherty, NANP Membership Director
The beta version of the Board Exam in Holistic Nutrition was offered in March 2007. Since that time, nearly 300 nutrition professionals and allied health professionals have taken the exam, and there are over 100 NANP members who are fully Board Certified in Holistic Nutrition®. More than 70 more are Board Certified (Candidates), awaiting full approval while completing contact hour requirements.

Today, the NANP boasts well over 600 members, across the U.S., Canada, and beyond. NANP Annual Conferences draw in over 300 attendees, and have become a much anticipated yearly event.

Natural Products Expo, Las Vegas
From left: Jenifer Cloherty, James Johnston, Ph.D., Michele Chartier, NC, Ann from AHSU
Over the years, conferences have been hosted at the following locations:

- **2004**: Point Bonita YMCA Conference Center, Sausalito, California
- **2005**: Dominican University, San Rafael, California
- **2006**: Sonoma State University, Rohnert Park, California
- **2007**: Sonoma State University, Rohnert Park, California
- **2008**: Wells Fargo Center for the Arts, Santa Rosa, California
- **2010**: Hyatt Regency, Burlingame, California
- **2011**: Hyatt Regency, Burlingame, California
- **2012**: The Westin, San Francisco, California
- **2013**: Hilton San Diego Del Mar, San Diego, California
- **2014**: Hilton Tucson El Conquistador, Tucson, Arizona
- **2015**: Crowne Plaza, St. Paul, Minnesota
- **2016**: Queen Mary, Long Beach, California
Our association is grateful to the visionaries who established an organization that could flourish, even in the face of legislative adversity. We thank them for laying the groundwork from which we continue to build our industry.

“I was one of the Bauman College (then IET) students or maybe I was an instructor by then who was sitting there in the circle on the floor at the Gilman Street, Berkeley classroom in the very first meeting that Ed Bauman called us to, regarding putting this association together. He was sharing with us the fact that it should be us and not him, what and how it should be and why. It seemed a bit like a little club for we little nutritionists who were not mainstream, and therefore, would potentially have a bit of a struggle getting our little careers off the big old mainstream ground, and we had to have a group... it would give us more credibility and strength he explained.

I can’t say that I ever added much or worked very hard on the little club, I was having a rough time just standing up right at that point in my life, but I did add some ideas and presence and rah-rah-rahs. I have been working for Allergy Research Group for the past eighteen years and for years have received your emails which I am always impressed by and am glad to receive. I have been at some of your conferences (often mistaken for my twin sister Dixie) as an exhibitor and representative for Allergy Research Group, and I must say, the little club has become quite impressive! It looks and acts and smells and tastes just like other professional associations that even mainstream doctors who have gone alternative belong to!

And...never in my wildest dreams did I ever think that the little club would ever have so many dedicated, intelligent, hard-working individuals to make the impressive association manifest as reality and it just keeps going... getting bigger and better and more like a real association than just a little club.

I think that first meeting was about 20 years ago. That is a lot of lineage of dedication! Of handing down, of passing on, of encouragement, or working together etc. Amazing...absolutely amazing! I am so very proud of all of you throughout the lineage for bringing the little club forward to this full bloom of a professional association!”

Diane Raile
A special thanks to Dr. Ed Bauman,

A pioneer in the field of holistic nutrition for over 35 years. His vision and leadership have inspired thousands of people to transform their lives in the form of wellness, community, and peace. He received his M.Ed. from the University of Massachusetts and a Ph.D. in Health Promotion from the University of New Mexico. Dr. Bauman created the Eating for Health model to teach individuals to make nutritionally comprehensive food choices and founded Bauman College in 1989 with a mission to change the world through better nutrition and healthful living. Dr. Bauman has been a driving force behind the National Association of Nutrition Professionals since its inception. We thank him for his endless support, and for always bringing a wealth of knowledge, wisdom, and love of good health and good taste to his work.