



american overseas dietetic association

Aloha,

My name is Eleni Andreou and as the president of the American Overseas Dietetic Association (AODA), it is with great joy that I welcome you at our association's International reception which is generously sponsored and supported by **The Coca Cola Company** and **the American Dietetic Association**. It is our great honor that ADA leadership team is attending this event via their president, CEO and other board /LT members . It is also our honor that the presidents or representatives of other local and international associations are here with us today.

AODA is the affiliate group of ADA which promotes such a huge cultural diversity . That's why tonight we are celebrating ***“global food and nutrition culture”!***

The family of AODA is growing year by year. Currently, we have more than 700 members in 70 countries and we have about 40 country representatives- CRs in an equal number of countries all over the world. Pictures of all these beautiful places you can see at the presentation running while I am talking. For the international members of ADA whose the country you live or you are from is not there please join us and become the CR in your country. Also, if your country is there and you are not our member, we welcome you to join us as well!

Last night at the opening reception, where we had a fantastic time –and everybody who were there can confirm it- but also today at the educational sessions, I got the chance to meet new and very interesting people from different parts of the USA and other parts

of the world. Each one of you embraced us and presented the dynamic character of an ADA member. This is the reward of being part of such a worthy professional group such as ADA and being under the guidance and inspiration of the ADA leadership team- I know that some of you are here so I would like to express our gratitude.

I do not want to take much more of your time to go over all of our goals because we are here to celebrate, to have fun and give you the chance to meet us and for us to meet you. Let me just mention that personally I consider as our biggest goals for this year to:

- Reach Dietitians and establish strong Bonds with dietitians (members and members to be !) in every place in the world where AODA/ADA members are.
- Create recruitment/ training strategies and programs for BOD/LT and members to assure their successful volunteer work

Taking this opportunity, I would like to thank Coca Cola for being the main sponsor of this event. Without them we could not have done it. I would like to welcome the representatives of Coca Cola and especially Dr Maxime Buyckx , the director of Nutrition and Health Sciences at the Beverage Institute for Health and Wellness at the Coca-Cola Company, based in Atlanta who in a few moments will give us his introductory message.

Also, let me thank ADA and especially Ron Moen for helping us have this event for one more year. Your support is so valuable to us and it is greatly appreciated. Furthermore , I would like to thank Karen Lechowich and Stacey Wintraub from ADA and AODA organizing committee again for helping follow through this event .

Finally but not least , I have to say that this year AODA came to FNCE in a renovative way. If you visited booth no.28 today you saw AODA's newly published cookbook with the title “ A taste

from around the world”. A book that AODA’s has published in order to donate all the earnings from selling it for the building of a school in Pakistan. The recipes were written by our members and our CRs, the editor was the CR from Cyprus Vanessa Xenopoulou and the contributors for the printing of the book was The Almond Board of California . Karen Lapsley and the rest of the team, thank you so much for your cooperation and your support. Our president- elect , Stacia Nordin may be would like to say a few words about this project and it’s great meaning.

Before we go on with Dr Buyckx’s, Ron Moen’s and Judith’s Gilbride introduction let me introduce to you the boad/LT of AODA who are attending FNCE with me.

Stacia Nordin our president elect
Staci Crawford our past president
Naomi Trostler our House of Delegates
Elena Paravantes our Media Rep
Editha Heberlein our member data coordinator
Of course here with us we have some of our CRs.

Thank you all for being here and enjoy your self.

Let me now call -Dr Maxime Buyckx , the director of Nutrition and Health Sciences at the Beverage Institute for Health and Wellness at the Coca-Cola Company, based in Atlanta

- Mr Ronald Moen, ADA CEO
- Dr Judith Gilbride, ADA president
- Karen Lapsley

Eleni P Andreou , RD,LD ,President 2006-2007