



February 25, 2015

Dear Friends and Colleagues:

The Nutrition Policy Institute would like to welcome Cooperative Extension Nutrition Specialist Pat Crawford from the Atkins Center for Weight and Health at the University of California at Berkeley. Over the past 15 years, Pat has directed this stellar and growing research center. Along with Pat, her research team and projects will be joining the Nutrition Policy Institute, which is housed within the University of California Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources, the Cooperative Extension arm of the UC system.

The Nutrition Policy Institute (NPI), founded in 2014, conducts research to inform, build, and strengthen nutrition-related policy and programs. We work with researchers throughout the UC system to coordinate food, physical activity, and obesity prevention efforts that support systemic, environmental, and policy changes.

Pat's experience will bring to NPI new reach and partnerships, and NPI is a great fit for her and her research staff. Together we will be poised to expand our work, with a continued focus on research to support healthy communities. We are thrilled at the potential opportunities this unification will bring and look forward to continuing collaboration with all our partners, past and present.

Again, please welcome Pat to NPI. And bookmark our new website—<http://npi.ucanr.edu>—which, while still a work in progress, is where you will be able to find more information about our activities and plans. Together with our entire staff, we look forward to our new future at NPI and many more years of meaningful research.

Sincerely,

*Lorrene D. Ritchie*

Lorrene D. Ritchie, PhD, RD  
Director and CE Specialist