

To: The Graduate College

Re: Discontinuation of the Graduate Certificate Dietetic Internship

From: Mridul Datta, PhD, RD, LD, FAND  
Director, Dietetic Internship/Clinical Assistant Professor

This memo should serve as official notification of our intent to discontinue the Graduate Certificate Dietetic Internship, effective July 30, 2021. Pending final approval from the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND), in accordance with the Future Education Model guidelines, the Dietetic Internship will be reorganizing and merging with the Master of Professional Practice in Dietetics (MPP) degree. The reorganized MPP will remain an online, non-thesis degree, offering 30 graduate credits in dietetics to train future Registered Dietitian Nutritionists. Although the MPP is not an accredited dietetics degree at present, post reorganization, the MPP will be accredited by ACEND. ACEND guidelines require that one program director have the primary responsibility for an accredited program. In order to maximize existing resources, the independent Dietetic Internship will be discontinued and Dr. Datta, director of the Dietetic Internship, will serve as the program director of the reorganized MPP.

Phase I of the reorganization plan was submitted to ACEND on January 10, 2019 and approval to proceed with the reorganization was received on March 21, 2019. Phase II final reorganization plans are due to ACEND on Sept 6, 2020, with a reorganized MPP launch date of fall 2021. Phase I reorganization application to ACEND was signed by Dr. Ruth MacDonald, the Chair of the Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition; Dr. Laura Dunn Jolly, Dean of the College of Human Sciences; Dr. Joe Colletti, Interim Dean, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and President Wendy Wintersteen. Phase I application and ACENDs decision letter are attached.

Please advise if any additional information or documentation is required for the discontinuation of the graduate Dietetic Internship certificate program.

CC: 1. ACEND Phase I application for Future Education Model programs  
2. ACEND decision letter Phase I application