

Family And Consumer Sciences BS (Food Science and Nutrition) -
Assessment Plan Summary

Family And Consumer Sciences BS (Food Science and Nutrition)

Becoming a Registered Dietitian

Goal Description:

Prepare graduates to perform competently in a dietetic internship or supervised practice program for preparation as an entry-level dietitian.

RELATED ITEMS/ELEMENTS

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

Demonstrating Knowledge and Skills Required of Registered Dietitians

Learning Objective Description:

Students will demonstrate the knowledge and skills necessary for entry-level dietitians.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

Registration Examination In Dietetics

Indicator Description:

Pearson VUE sends an annual report on the passage of the National Exam for Dietitians by DPD graduates.

Criterion Description:

80% of graduates will pass the National Registration Exam for Dietitians on the first attempt.

Findings Description:

No DPD graduates took the RD exam in 2015. Data from January to July 2016 is not yet available from Pearson VUE.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

Encouraging DPD Graduates to Apply for Dietetic Internships

Action Description:

The DPD Director will encourage DPD graduates to apply for a dietetic internship and to take the RD exam within 6 months of completing the dietetic internship. As more graduates apply and are accepted into dietetic internships, then ideally DPD graduates would be taking the RD exam every year.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

Acceptance to Dietetic Internships

Performance Objective Description:

Within 12 months of graduation, graduates from the DPD program that applied to a dietetic internship will be accepted.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

Over a two-year period, 30% of students who graduate from the DPD program and apply for a dietetic internship will be admitted within 12 months of graduation.

KPI Description:

Over a two-year period, 30% of students who graduate from the DPD program and apply for a dietetic internship will be admitted within 12 months of graduation.

Results Description:

Of the 5 graduates from the DPD program that participated in spring match in April 2016, 3 (60%) were accepted into a dietetic internship program.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

Improving Desirability of DPD Graduates

Action Description:

The DPD Director will continue to work one on one with DPD graduates on their DICAS applications prior to matching. Group meetings will be held to discuss the application and matching process. One-on-one meetings will be scheduled to help personalize and strengthen each DPD graduates application. DPD graduates will be encouraged to attend DI Orientation meetings. The DPD Director will work with nutrition faculty to strengthen the content of the DPD curriculum to improve the desirability of SHSU DPD graduates.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

Applying to Dietetic Internships

Performance Objective Description:

Within 12 months of graduation, graduates interested in becoming a Registered Dietitian (RD) will apply for a dietetic internship.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

50% of graduates from the DPD program will apply for the dietetic internship within 12 months of graduation.

KPI Description:

50% of graduates from the DPD program will apply for the dietetic internship within 12 months of graduation.

Results Description:

There were 14 DPD graduates from December 2015 to August 2016. Five graduates (35.7%) applied for dietetic internships during spring matching in April 2016.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

Improving DPD Graduates Interest in Pursuing RD Credential

Action Description:

The DPD Director will continue to encourage DPD graduates to apply to dietetic internships. The DPD Director will also educate DPD graduates on the shortage of RD’s in Texas and the role RD’s play in healthcare.

Employment within the Field

Goal Description:

Employment in nutrition and food related careers following graduation.

RELATED ITEMS/ELEMENTS -----

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

Performance after Graduation

Performance Objective Description:

Employers and DI Directors will indicate on surveys “satisfactory” or better performance in the workplace or Dietetic Internship.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

50% of employers and DI Directors will indicate on surveys “satisfactory” or better performance in the workplace or Dietetic Internship.

KPI Description:

50% of employers and DI Directors will indicate on surveys “satisfactory” or better performance in the workplace or Dietetic Internship.

Results Description:

Surveys are planned for distribution late 2016/early 2017. There is no data to report at this time.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

Going Online with Surveys

Action Description:

Surveys to employers and DI Directors are being moved to an online format to help improve response rates. Once completed, the surveys will be distributed and results collected.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

Student Employment

Performance Objective Description:

Students will seek and successfully find employment within the nutrition profession.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

In the exit survey administered immediately prior to graduation, 50% of graduates will indicate they have been offered a job in the nutrition field or have been accepted into a dietetic internship.

KPI Description:

In the exit survey administered immediately prior to graduation, 50% of graduates will indicate they have been offered a job in the nutrition field or have been accepted into a dietetic internship.

Results Description:

Eleven students completed the exit survey in December 2015 or May 2016. A total of six students (54.5%) reported acceptance into a dietetic internship (four) or were currently employed in the field of nutrition (two).

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

Student Exit Survey

Action Description:

We are currently meeting this performance objective. The DPD Director will continue to collect data via the exit survey. The DPD Director will also continue to work with graduates to find jobs in the field of nutrition if they choose not to apply for a dietetic internship or are not accepted to a dietetic internship.

Program Completion

Goal Description:

Students will complete the DPD in a timely manner and meet the requirements to receive a Verification Statement.

RELATED ITEMS/ELEMENTS -----

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

Verification Statement with Minimum 3.0 GPA

Learning Objective Description:

DPD program graduates who choose not to enter a dietetic internship will obtain a Verification Statement at the completion of the DPD coursework and have a GPA of at least 3.0.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

Receipt of Verification Statement

Indicator Description:

Graduate GPA is obtained from Cognos. The DPD Director keeps a record of graduates receiving the Verification Statement.

Criterion Description:

70% of DPD graduates who choose not to enter a dietetic internship will obtain a Verification Statement at the completion of the DPD coursework and have a GPA of at least 3.0.

Findings Description:

100% of DPD graduates received a Verification Statement. However, only 77.8% had a GPA of at least 3.0. Prior to the 2014 catalog, a minimum 2.75 GPA was required to receive the Verification Statement. We are meeting this criterion.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

Improving Graduate GPA

Action Description:

The DPD Director will continue to monitor student progress in the program. If students GPA is not meeting the minimum 3.0 GPA, the DPD Director will meet with the student to make an action plan for improvement.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

Program Completion on Time

Performance Objective Description:

Transfer students will complete the DPD within 2½ years of starting. Students entering as college freshmen will complete the DPD within 4 years.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

40% of transfer students who complete the DPD program at Sam Houston State University will complete the program within 2½ years of their program admission; students entering as college freshmen will complete the program within four years.

KPI Description:

40% of transfer students who complete the DPD program at Sam Houston State University will complete the program within 2½ years of their program admission; students entering as college freshmen will complete the program within four years.

Results Description:

There were 5 transfer students and 8 traditional students that graduated in December 2015 and May 2016. Two (40%) transfer students completed the DPD within 2 1/2 years. One (12.5%) traditional student completed the DPD within 4 years.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

Completing DPD on Time

Action Description:

The DPD has a very specific two-year course sequence. Transfer students that do not enter with the required prerequisites can spend an extra year taking these courses before they start the DPD core courses. Many of the traditional students switch to FSN after two years at SHSU. These students may also be lacking the prerequisites and spend a year or two catching up. The DPD Director will advise students in the FSN program and encourage them to complete the prerequisite courses in a timely manner so not to delay core nutrition courses.

Update to Previous Cycle's Plan for Continuous Improvement

Previous Cycle's Plan For Continuous Improvement (Do Not Modify):

We will continue to work to improve the five-year, first-time pass rate on the Registration Examination in Dietetics (RD Exam) for DPD graduates who have entered Dietetic Internship programs. The DPD Director will continue to work one-on-one with qualified students so that they present strong application packets and will encourage those completing Dietetic Internship programs to take the RD Exam in a timely manner.

We will continue to search to fill the open tenure-track faculty position in the area of Nutrition and Dietetics. (This position came about as the result of feedback from the ACEND site visit team during the December 2012 site visit.)

We will develop a Nutrition Assessment laboratory to be used in conjunction with FACS 4373 Nutrition Assessment, one of the more recently approved courses for the Food Science and Nutrition (DPD) program. A space within the building has been identified and is being prepared. It has been approved for the department to purchase a SIM Man specifically for this laboratory space. It is also hoped and expected that the purchase of this significant piece of equipment will make the department more attractive for possible candidates for the open position cited above.

Finally, we will help students apply for study abroad opportunities that will help them as they graduate and apply for dietetic internship programs.

Update of Progress to the Previous Cycle's PCI:

We will continue to encourage qualified graduates to pursue the RD credential and apply for dietetic internships immediately or within 12 months of graduation. The DPD Director will work with DPD faculty to improve the content of courses to improve desirability of our graduates. Two new tenure track faculty members have been hired in the area of Nutrition and Dietetics. This will improve the diversity among DPD faculty and provide additional opportunities for DPD students.

Plan for Continuous Improvement for 2016-17

Closing Summary:

The DPD Director plans on reviewing course content in nutrition related courses to strengthen the knowledge and skills of DPD graduates. The DPD Director will work with the new faculty members in the area of Nutrition and Dietetics to make sure course content is meeting ACEND guidelines. This will make DPD graduates more desirable when applying to dietetic internships.

Sim Man has been purchased for the Nutrition Assessment lab and will be ready starting August 2016. Simulations will be added to DPD curriculum to enhance skills in nutrition assessment and clinical dietetics. The DPD Director will be looking to see what additional equipment can be added to the Nutrition Assessment lab in the coming year.