

2007

Dietetics Data Based Decisions

Ongoing and continuous assessment of the Dietetics Programs and curricula results in changes to better achieve student learning outcomes. Dietetics faculty meet each spring to review all assessment data collected during the previous year and to look for trends from prior years assessments. Changes are made for the next academic year based upon thorough evaluation of the previous year. Based upon the meeting held in May 2007, the following changes are in progress:

Problem 1: Survey feedback from 1 and 5 year graduates indicated the majority wanted more skills in negotiation.

Solution: Integrate negotiation skills into the curriculum as appropriate i.e., negotiating food contracts, consulting contracts, salaries, space, funding, and programmatic changes.

Problem 2: Survey feedback from preceptors, 1 and 5 year graduates and senior exit surveys provided evidence that there is an ongoing need for increased curriculum content

Solution: In supplementation, complementary medicine, and bioactive substances. Continue to expand content on vitamin/mineral supplementation, complementary medicine, herbs and bioactive substances and weave it throughout the curriculum.

Problem 3: Survey feedback from DPD graduates and Dietetic Internship Directors indicated USU interns were lacking in practicing clinical skills.

Solution: Develop a course specific for DPD seniors to review clinical nutrition, practice nutrition counseling and complete mini case studies.

Problem 4: Faculty identified that some applicants to junior level DPD and CPD had limited Prior volunteer and practice experience related to dietetics.

Solution: All faculty will encourage freshman and sophomores to obtain work and volunteer Experiences to strengthen their application into junior year dietetics programs. The professional advisor will distribute standardized documentation forms for Students to record experiences and hours spent.

Problem 5: Faculty expressed concern over quality of literature review skills of students.

Solution: Continue to facilitate improvement in student literature research skills. Students will provide a minimum of three supporting related nutrition publications for each nutrition care plan junior and senior year and extensive literature reviews for assigned papers, case studies and senior thesis. NFS 4020 will include a unit on peer-reviewed research data bases and basic methods of assessing quality of paper.