West Virginia University

The Student Assembly - Student Government Association Assembly Proclamation: AP-2024-01-01

**AN ASSEMBLY PROCLAMATION TO SUPPORT THE FORMATION OF A COMMUNITY DIETITIAN MENTORSHIP PROGRAM**

| **Short Title:** | **Community Dietitian Mentorship Program** |
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| **Author(s):** | **Olivia Schmieder, College Senator (Davis)** |
| **Sponsor(s):** | **Logan Lipkovitch, College Senator (CAHS)**  **Daniel Madden, College Senator (Chambers)**  **Andrew Indomenico, College Senator (Eberly)**  **Carter Leadmon, Senator**  **Peyton Bielinski, College Senator (CAHS)**  **Hannah Weeks, Senator**  **Matthew Olivero, Senator** |
| **Contributor(s):** | **Jillian Blair, Policy Coordinator** |
| **Committee Endorsement:** | **Academic Affairs** |
| **First Reading Date:** | **3/27/24** |
| **Second Reading Date:** | **04/03/2024** |
| **Date of Approval:** | **04/03/2024** |
| **Presidential Signature:** |  |

**Whereas,** the West Virginia University (WVU) Mission Statement reads, “the faculty, staff and students at West Virginia University commit to creating a diverse and inclusive culture that advances education, healthcare and prosperity…”; and,

**Whereas,** the WVU Davis College Core Principles state, “faculty, staff, and students of the Davis College are actively engaged with the citizens and communities of West Virginia to enhance the overall quality and health…” and “We continuously strive to improve in the areas of learning, discovery, and engagement…”; and,

**Whereas,** the West Virginia University Student Government Association (SGA) vision statement reads, “To be a Student Government Association that serves the students, West Virginia University, and the State of West Virginia by;... creating a campus that can accommodate everyone, …participating in meaningful community service, fostering healthy lifestyles…”; and,

**Whereas,** The role of a registered dietitian is diverse, therefore opportunities at WVU should reflect such, and;

**Whereas,** A community dietitian “develops programs and counsel the public on topics related to food, health, and nutrition”[[1]](#footnote-0); nutrition affects students mentally, physically, and academically, and the mentorship program’s outreach will spread awareness of its impact, and;

**Whereas,** Leighann Scott MS, RDN, LDN, CGP (WVU Campus Dietitian) … has undertaken the lead in facilitating the program as well as serving as WVU’s sole campus dietitian, highlighting the need and value of student engagement in the dietary field, and;

**Whereas,** Students in the program have requested more opportunities outside the classroom in this field, and;

**Whereas,** Human nutrition students will directly interact with the student body on nutritional education, giving access to experiential learning opportunities and aiding Ms. Scott in her role, and;

**Whereas,** This program plans to address such issues by engaging in tabling hours, events, and an active social media page, in addition to maintaining an up to date and informed website as a resource for students;

***Therefore, be it proclaimed by the Student Assembly of West Virginia University:***

**Section 1:** WVU Student Government Association proclaims its gratitude to the community dietitian program for fostering an interactive learning environment for students and creating more space to address the greater WVU community’s nutritional needs;

**Section 2:** Gives recognition to Leighann Scott for adding nutrition student education outside of the classroom that will serve students with field experience on top of her significant role as WVU’s campus dietitian;

**Section 3:** Upon passage and approval, this legislation shall be forwarded to the following mandates below.

**Mandates:**

Chris Ashwell, Division Director of Animal and Nutritional Sciences

Clayton Cappellanti, Director of Dining Services

Leighann Scott, Campus Registered Dietitian

Kelli George, Teaching Assistant Professor and Director of the Didactic Program in Dietetics

Nettie Freshour, Professor of Human Nutrition and Foods and Director of the Dietetic Internship Program

G. Corey Farris, Dean of Students

Madison Santmyer, Student Body President

Dr. Thanh Le, Director, Student Engagement and Leadership (Advisor)

Karsey Prichard, Executive Secretary

Daily Athenaeum

1. [What Dietitians and Nutritionists Do](https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/dietitians-and-nutritionists.htm#tab-2) [↑](#footnote-ref-0)