November 4, 2013

Anne B. Marietta, PhD, RD, LD
Director, Dietetic Internship
Southeast Missouri State University
Department of Human Environmental Studies
One University Plaza
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701-4799

Dear Dr. Marietta:

This letter is to advise you of the action of the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) board regarding the Dietetic Internship at Southeast Missouri State University. During its October 16-18, 2013 meeting, the ACEND board voted to continue full Accreditation of your program. Accreditation is granted for a non-degree Dietetic Internship enrolling six full-time interns and one part-time intern annually with a Nutrition Education concentration.

The decision was based upon a peer review of your self-study report addressing the 2012 Accreditation Standards, site visit report and your program’s response. The board requests an interim report to monitor continued compliance with the following Standards:

- **Standard 6: Program Objectives, Guideline 6.1 National Pass Rate**
- **Standard 8: On-going Program Improvement, Guideline 8.1**

The program’s first-time pass rate on the Registration Examination for Dietitian Nutritionists for the five year period 2008-2012 was 72%. The program’s plans to improve the first-time pass rate were described and steps for improvement were identified. The program must provide an interim report addressing whether the program’s plans to improve the pass rate on the registration exam were successful. The report should describe the extent to which students are achieving learning objectives along with the potential impact on student pass rates.

Specifically, the program must discuss:

- implementation of plans to improve the pass rate that were described in the self-study report
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- the trend in the pass rate since the plans have been implemented  
- progress on assessment of the student learning objectives  
- actual changes made and implemented to the curriculum, policies and procedures  
- additional strategies you plan to implement if your program has not yet achieved ACEND’s pass rate benchmark.

One paper copy of the report must be submitted postmarked no later than October 1, 2015. In addition, please provide the report in electronic format either via email to acend@eatright.org or included with the paper copy on a CD ROM or flash drive.

The next review of the program will be in 2018, the five-year midpoint of the ten-year accreditation period, when the Program Assessment Report (PAR) is due. The PAR documents comprehensive evaluation of an accredited program that has occurred over the previous five years. Affirmation of your program’s accreditation status is dependent on the ACEND board’s evaluation of the PAR, which determines continuation of the accreditation status of the program for the remaining five years. ACEND staff will notify you and provide further information approximately one year prior to the PAR submission date. The next comprehensive self-study report and site visit for continued accreditation will be scheduled for 2023.

If major changes occur in your program, you must submit them in writing to ACEND for review prior to implementation. The ACEND board maintains the right to require an interim report, self-study report, and/or site visit as a result of any changes. Guidelines for reporting major changes are on the ACEND Program Director Portal which can be accessed at www.eatright.org/ACEND.

ACEND values your commitment to the quality and continued improvement of dietetics education as demonstrated during the accreditation process. Thank you for your support of dietetics education and students. If you have any questions, please call ACEND staff at 800-877-1600 x5400.

Sincerely,

Anne Kendall

Anne Kendall, PhD, RD, LDN, Chair, Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics

AK/jj

cc: Kenneth W. Dobbins, PhD  
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