

DRAFT: M e m o r a n d u m

To: University Senate  
From: Eric C. Bielefeld, Chair, Council on Academic Affairs  
Subject: Proposal to Establish a Master of Dietetics and Nutrition Degree Program  
Date: August 27, 2018

A PROPOSAL FROM THE COUNCIL ON ACADEMIC AFFAIRS TO ESTABLISH A MASTER OF DIETETICS AND NUTRITION DEGREE PROGRAM, COLLEGE OF MEDICINE AND COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN ECOLOGY

- Whereas in response to an accreditation-based national change in the level of preparation for the Registered Dietitian Nutritionist, to the graduate level, a workgroup from the **School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences** and the **Department of Human Sciences** has developed a new, shared graduate-level program; and
- Whereas the new Master of Dietetics and Nutrition will provide a unified dietetics program between the two units, eliminating internal competition for resources and public confusion, regarding dietetics education at the University; and
- Whereas the program will be housed in the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences with a Co-Director from each of the two units; the curriculum is 61 semester credits over 5 semesters including a Summer session of supervised practice; there will be a capstone project rather than a thesis; 30 students will be admitted for the first year; and a transition plan for current students exists; and
- Whereas approval of the proposal will lead to the discontinuation of the current Coordinated Graduate Program in Medical Dietetics, the Undergraduate Coordinated Program in Medical Dietetics, and the Dietetic Internships in Medical Dietetics and Human Nutrition; and
- Whereas the proposal has the support of the faculty and the leadership of the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences and the Department of Human Sciences and their respective colleges; and
- Whereas the proposal was thoroughly reviewed by a joint committee of the Council on Academic Affairs and the Graduate School, and then approved by the full Council on Academic Affairs at its meeting on July 12, 2018;

Therefore be it resolved that the University Senate approve the proposal to establish a Master of Dietetics and Nutrition degree program and respectfully request approval by the Board of Trustees.