The Dietetics Technology Program

The Dietetics Technology Program Discipline Chair and faculty member, Courtney Atlas, RD, MPH is preparing for the program’s site visit by the American Dietetic Association (ADA) scheduled for Saturday, April 12th – Tuesday, April 15th.

The Dietetics Technology Program was originally initiated at Wayne County Community College District in September of 1973 and approved by the American Dietetic Association (ADA) in May of 1975. It was designed to prepare students for middle management positions in institutional, industrial, residential and medical food service facilities. Since its inception, over 275 students have received their Associate Degree in Dietetics Technology and obtained employment.

Wayne County Community College District is also an approved sponsoring institution for the Manage First Certification offered by the Educational Foundation of the National Restaurant Association (NRAEF). Since many of the dietetics technology courses meet the requirements for the Manage First certificate, successful students receive the benefits of endorsement from the American Dietetics Association as well as the National Restaurant Association.

Process Outcomes and Standards

The Commission on Accreditation for Dietetics Education (CADE) is the ADA accrediting agency for education programs preparing students for careers as registered dietitians or dietetic technicians. CADE exists to serve the public by establishing and enforcing eligibility requirements and accreditation standards that ensure the quality and continued improvement of nutrition and dietetics education programs.

Accreditation is used as an evaluation tool. Independent bodies such as CADE assess the strengths and weaknesses of a degree program to ensure that standards of quality are being met. It is a system of checks and balances. Accrediting agencies are a neutral, third-party with specific criteria that must be met by the program, such as the number of professors, quality of instruction, and depth and breadth of the courses offered. The process of accreditation is a rubber stamp of sorts; a marker that says the program meets both educational and industry standards, which ensures that our graduates are prepared for entry level positions.
WCCCD is providing a service learning opportunity for its nursing students through its Study Abroad Program. The mission of the Study Abroad Program is to promote the expansion of international educational opportunities for all underrepresented groups and disciplines, and at non-traditional destinations and to provide the opportunity for students to develop the knowledge, skills, experiences and attitudes to prepare them for the global society of the 21st century.

Nurses face the challenge of providing care to an increasingly diverse population. The phrase “cultural competence” is used to describe the behaviors that a health care professional uses to individualize clinical care for individuals whose circumstances are different than those of the professional (e.g. culture, gender, economic status, language, geographic home, and ethnicity). The culturally competent health care practitioner accepts and works with cultural differences in an open, sincere manner without condescension or patronization. Culturally competent care is sensitive to issues related to culture, race, gender, sexual orientation, social class and economic situation. Research suggests that immersion programs in which students experience the daily lives of other people may increase the cultural competency of student nurses.

**PROGRAM OBJECTIVES:**

- Gain an understanding of health and patient care in Great Britain
- Comparative understanding of American and British health care
- Compare and contrast health care availability and delivery systems between countries
- Opportunity to further develop academically in the disciplines of health care
- Build analytical skills and broad intercultural competence

Mark Shikhman, MD., Ph.D. has been granted the membership at American College of Surgeon. Such membership will allow WCCCD Surgical Technology and Surgical First Assistants students access to live surgical operations performed all over the world by famous surgeons and medical school professors via the Internet.
NUTRITION & OBESITY

Obesity means having so much body fat that your health is in danger. Having too much body fat can lead to type 2 diabetes, heart disease, high blood pressure, arthritis, sleep apnea, and stroke.

Because of these risks, it is important to lose weight even if you do not feel bad now. It is hard to change eating habits and exercise habits. But you can do it if you make a plan.

WHAT CAUSES OBESITY?

When you take in more calories than you burn off, you gain weight. How you eat, how active you are, and other things affect how your body uses calories and whether you gain weight.

If your family members are obese, you may have inherited a tendency to gain weight. Your family also helps form your eating and lifestyle habits, which can lead to obesity.

Busy lives make it harder to plan and cook healthy meals. For many people, it’s easier to reach for prepared foods, go out to eat, or go to the drive-through. But these foods are often high in fat and calories. Work schedules, long commutes, and other commitments also cut into the time we have for physical activity.

There is no quick fix to being overweight. To lose weight, you must burn more calories than you take in.

PREVENTION

Reversing obesity and its health risks requires changing the habits of a lifetime. Eating less over the long term means learning to think about your eating habits and patterns.

Increasing your activity level is largely a matter of changing your attitude. Look for ways to increase your activity level doing things you enjoy.

NUTRITION TIPS

• Make smart choices from every food group
• Find your balance between food & physical activity
• Get the most nutrition out of your calories
• Stay within your daily calorie needs

SOURCES:
http://www.revolutionhealth.com/conditions/obesity/overview
http://www.mypyramid.gov/

Health & Wellness News

District Events

Oak Grove AME Church will host its 3rd Annual Health Care Professions Career Fair on Thursday, March 20, 2008 from 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. at the Northwest Activity Center, 18100 Meyers, Detroit, MI 48235. Representatives from WCCCD’s Allied Health Programs are invited to provide educational and career pathway information to future professionals.

Faculty on the Move

Dr. Karen Hrapkiewicz, Program Director of the Veterinary Technology Program has received special recognition by the Michigan Veterinary Medical Association (MVMA) and was placed on the MVMA Honor Roll for 2007. This recognition was for leadership service on the MVMA’s Veterinary Technician Committee.

Ann Wortinger, Program/Project Coordinator in the Veterinary Technology Program has received special recognition by the Michigan Veterinary Medical Association (MVMA) and was placed on the MVMA Honor Roll for 2007. The recognition was for coordination of interactions between the Michigan Association of Veterinary Technicians (MAVT) and the MVMA. She was the President of the MAVT in 2007.
Dental Hygiene & Dental Assisting Programs

The American Dental Association is a step closer to demonstrating the efficacy of the Community Dental Health Coordinator (CDHC) workforce model.

Three sites have been selected to pilot the programs in rural, urban and Native American settings, beginning this fall.

WCCCD, Dental Hygiene Program has been selected to participate serving the urban area. The coalition will collaborate with WCCCD and include representation from the Michigan Dental Association, the state dental board, the state Dental Hygienists’ Association and the state Dental Assistants’ Association, federally qualified health centers and the two dental schools in the state.

Participating in the pilot program presents a great opportunity for the District to bridge the gap between dentistry and the people who have oral health disparities.

SOURCE:

ACCREDITATION CORNER

Dietetic Program
The Commission on Accreditation for Dietetics Education is ADA’s accrediting agency for education programs preparing students for careers as registered dietitians or dietetic technicians, registered. WCCCD site visit is scheduled for April 12-15, 2008.

Dental Hygiene and Dental Assisting
The Commission on Dental Accreditation is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education to accredit Dental Assisting, Dental Hygiene and Dental Laboratory Technology education programs. WCCCD Dental programs will undergo a site visit on November 12-14, 2008.