As the 2020-2021 academic year approaches, we are excited to begin opening up SDA officer position applications. Check out the available positions below and look out for an email to apply. Furthermore, we have included faculty introductions to help our members get to know them.

**This Year's Officer Position Descriptions**

We encourage every new and returning member to apply for an officer position this year. It’s never too late to hold a leadership role within SDA, and no experience is required for a coordinator or liaison position!

**Vice President:** (President Elect for the 2021-2022 Year): This position is elected with the understanding they will be taking over the next academic year as the SDA president. The vice president attends meetings with the SDA president and Business Manager, assists in composing the monthly SDA newsletter, and helps create meeting schedules.

**Secretary:** The secretary is responsible for pittsda@gmail.com e-mail correspondence, tracking meeting attendance and member points, compose weekly e-mails containing meeting minutes, and sending out meeting and fundraiser reminders.

**Media Relations Coordinator:** The Media Relations coordinator runs the organization’s social media and assists with the monthly newsletter to promote SDA and Sports Medicine and Nutrition programs.

**Event Coordinator:** This position is responsible for fundraising events held by SDA. This chair should work with a committee to organize clothing orders (Kale to Pitt shirts and the nutrition department clothing order). The event coordinator is also responsible for organizing events for the club and the program. Past events include the Garden Party in the fall, SHRS
Collaborative Care Conference, and the White Coat Ceremony held for the second year Dietitian Nutritionist Program students in the spring. Planning these events includes recruiting volunteers to help setup, breakdown, decorate, book venues, and organize ticket sales.

**Volunteer Coordinator:** This position is responsible for compiling incoming volunteer opportunities and searching for additional opportunities within the Pittsburgh area. They will be in frequent contact with the Community Engagement Center and other volunteer coordinators to help set up opportunities for SDA members. *This position may need to work with the president to create and discuss virtual opportunities for the 2020-2021 year.*

**Sustainability Coordinator:** This position helps the nutrition department and food service lab maintain the edible garden, which may include composting, watering plants, and garden maintenance. It's encouraged that the Sustainability Coordinator recruits volunteers within the club to assist with the garden and work with the event coordinator to make events Green-certified through the Office of Sustainability.

**Advocacy Coordinator:** As this is a new position, it is up to this officer and executive board to make it their own. The Advocacy Coordinator should be responsible for creating spaces to discuss and take action against social justice issues, especially those that have an impact on the nutrition and dietetics field.

**Nutrition Science Liaison:** This liaison must be a Nutrition Science student and will reach out to members in their program to relay group consensus, attend meetings, discuss current club events, and maintain open communication with SDA.

**Undergraduate Liaison:** This liaison must be a freshman or sophomore responsible for attending meetings, discussing current club events, and relaying questions or concerns classmates might have to any SDA officer.

---

**Social Justice Education Recommendations: July’s Book of the Month**

As current and future registered dietitians, the nutrition faculty and Student Dietetic Association understand that we all must continue to educate ourselves on all social justice issues, including racial injustice. To further our progress, we will begin choosing books of the month that we hope all of you will read and that we can discuss together. This month, our featured book is *Me and White Supremacy*.

**Taking Further Action**

**Medical Nutrition Therapy Act 2020**

This bill would provide coverage under Medicare Part B for MNT for:
- Prediabetes;
- Obesity;
- Hypertension;
- Dyslipidemia;
- Malnutrition;
- Eating disorders;
- Cancer;
- Celiac Disease;
- HIV/AIDS; and
- Any disease related to unintentional weight loss.

Don’t forget to keep supporting the Medical Nutrition Therapy Act 2020 and other bills (can be found within the Action Center on eatrightpro.org)!

Amanda Ceglarz and Isabella Sedor
Meet Your Program Directors

Dr. Deborah Hutcheson
Program Director, Dietitian Nutritionist Program

Area of Expertise:
• Nutrition Physical Examination
• Nutritional Genomics
• Food as Medicine

Favorite Summer Food:
"Anything fresh from the garden"

DPG Memberships:
• Research (RDPG)
• Food and Culinary Professionals (FCP)
• Healthy Aging (HA)
• Diabetes (DDPG)
• Hunger and Environmental Nutrition (HEN)
• Dietitians in Nutrition Support (DNS)
• Dietitians in Integrative & Functional Medicine (DIFM)

Dr. Lori Cherok
Interim Director, Nutrition Science Program

Area of Expertise:
"My area of expertise is in providing medical nutrition therapy to help prevent and manage disease. I love learning about diseases and how we can help people by using nutrition therapy. I worked for a number of years as a Clinical Dietitian at the Veterans Hospital in Oakland and then UPMC Presbyterian. My primary areas of interest are gastrointestinal diseases, liver disease, bariatric surgery, nutrition support, and critical illness."

Favorite Summer Food:
"Gazpacho and corn on the cob"

DPG Memberships:
• Dietitians in Nutrition Support, Professional Practice Group
• Nutrition and Dietetic Educators and Preceptors Groups