

news *THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER AT DALLAS*

southwestern medical school ■ graduate school of biomedical sciences ■ school of allied health sciences

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JUNE 25, 1974

NEW FOUR YEAR NUTRITION PROGRAM TO START AT ALLIED HEALTH SCHOOL

A new approach for the education of the professional dietitian has been announced by Dr. John Schermerhorn, dean of the School of Allied Health Sciences.

The School is a part of The University of Texas Health Science Center at Dallas, which also includes Southwestern Medical School and the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences.

Applications will be reviewed starting July 15 for the new coordinated Undergraduate Program in Dietetics to begin training dietitians in June, 1975. The program leads to a bachelor of science degree with a major in dietetics. Students will enter the program after finishing two years, or 60 hours, at a college, university or community college.

The University of Texas Health Science Center at Dallas is the only health science center in the United States offering a dietetics and nutrition program leading to a degree in an exclusively upper division school, according to Marilyn B. Haschke, director of the program and chairman of Nutrition and Dietetics.

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"At the center students will be in the enviable position of having not only an excellent faculty drawn from the three schools, but will have ideal opportunities for intense clinical experiences," Ms. Haschke said.

The Coordinated Program has carefully selected clinical affiliations with the Dallas County Hospital District, Children's Medical Center, the Dallas City Health Department and St. Paul Hospital. These affiliations will enable the students to deal with nutritional care services to individuals and groups in a broad scope of cultural and socio-economic circumstances. Clinical work will be done in a diversity of hospitals, outpatient situations and a host of community agencies.

The new Coordinated Program will also be unusual in that it will allow students to complete all requirements for taking the examination to become Registered Dietitians and to be eligible for membership in The American Dietetic Association in four years. Five years is usually required to complete a degree and internship.

"We believe that our new Coordinated Program will offer outstanding education of dietitians in the heart of the health care environment and among many medical and health professionals," said Ms. Haschke.

An extremely important aspect of the junior and senior level courses is the coordination between the classroom learning and the learning acquired in the clinical settings. "Students therefore will be able to establish the relationship of theory to practice and acquire the essential skills of practice at the same time," the nutritionist pointed out.

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The curriculum is the product of months of work by a task force of 35 outstanding nutritionists and other health professionals in the North Texas area. Only one other school in the country has used this unique developmental approach.

Among the prerequisites for the Coordinated Program are general chemistry, organic chemistry, biochemistry (which also may be taken after entrance), human physiology and microbiology, all for science majors, as well as introduction to nutrition and principles of food preparation.

For further information write to Ms. Haschke at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Dallas, 5323 Harry Hines, Dallas, TX 75235.

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