

# HIGHER EDUCATION DIVISION

Society of Nutrition Education and Behavior



## 2020-2021 in Higher Ed



**Megan Patton-Lopez, Ph.D., RDN, Chair 2020  
Western Oregon University**

Serving as the chair of the Higher Education (HE) Division has been an honor. The Covid-19 Pandemic brought many challenges and opportunities for creative thinking and resilience in Higher Education. Especially for those who converted classes into an online format, delivered programming in a virtual environment, and mentored students from afar- all while balancing work/ life commitments.

During the past year, our Division focused on several important topics in the Higher Ed setting, such as mentoring, food insecurity among college students, and nutrition education competencies. You can learn more about the amazing work our Division has accomplished this year on pages 3 and 4 of this newsletter.

I appreciate the time, talent, and dedication of colleagues that participated in HE webinars, division meetings, and subcommittees. Thank you to the Leadership team and sub-committee chairs- your energy and enthusiasm were a bright light throughout the year. Our division exists to support nutrition colleagues in the higher education setting- thank you for an amazing year.

*Megan Patton-Lopez*

### This Issue:

Meet our New Leadership: pg. 2

Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion: pg.2

Our Work in AY20-21: pg. 3 & 4



**Join Us at the 2021  
SNEB Annual Meeting!**

**Higher Ed Business  
Meeting:**

Thursday, August 5th  
3pm EST/ 2 pm CST/ 12 pm PST

REGISTER VIA [THIS LINK](#)

# Looking Ahead to 2021-2022

## Meet the New Division Officers



Zubaida Qamar, Chair



Jen Zuercher, Chair-Elect



Rebecca Hagedorn-Hatfield, Secretary

### A Message from Incoming Chair

**Zubaida Qamar, Ph.D. RD**  
San Francisco State University

Welcome to the Higher Education Division of SNEB! I would like to thank Dr. Megan Patton-Lopez and the dedicated team of colleagues for the success achieved this past year despite the unprecedented times.

Our goals for 2021-2022 include the development of a thriving online presence, facilitate networking and collaboration within and beyond our Division, and enhanced member engagement. In addition, we will work towards fostering awareness and understanding around Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) along with our continued efforts through the specialized sub-committees. Finally, we will move in the direction of enhancing diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) in post-secondary institutions and strengthen our relationship with the Student Division through the mentorship program.

I invite you to bring your creative ideas and explore the many opportunities to get involved! I hope you find your engagement within our Division meaningful and professionally fulfilling. Please do not hesitate to reach out.

### Membership Updates

**Chair-Elect: Jen Zuercher, Ph.D., RD, LD**  
Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

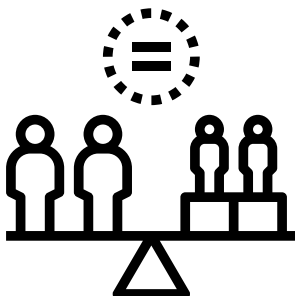
As of the end of July, the Higher Ed Division has 161 members, including retirees, professionals, and students. Members hail from across the US – from Maine to Nevada to Hawaii – and worldwide – from Saudi Arabia to Jamaica.

We welcome all interested in networking, researching, and sharing experiences related to teaching nutrition and working with students in college and university settings.

We look forward to seeing you at our Annual Business Meeting and our sponsored presentations during the conference. Please feel free to share this invitation with your friends and colleagues.



## New sub-committee for 2021-2022! Diversity, Equity & Inclusion



- Are you interested in working with others to advance justice, equity, inclusion, and diversity within teaching and learning?
- Are you committed to creating classroom and mentorship experiences that recognize the strengths of many types of lived experiences?
- Are you curious about best practices that create just and inclusive environment within higher education?

If so, you may be interested in joining our new sub-committee. Please get in touch with Megan Patton-Lopez ([pattonlm@wou.edu](mailto:pattonlm@wou.edu)) for more information.

## Higher Education Sub-Committee Reports

Below is a description of our work during AY 2020-2021. The success of our division depends on the engagement of our members. All committees are actively recruiting new members- Collaborate with fellow HE Division members to advance issues related to food security, healthy food access, and nutrition education in post-secondary environments.

### Food Insecurity among College Students

**Co-chairs:** Rebecca Hagedorn-Hatfield, Ph.D., RDN, Meredith College & Stacey Snelling, Ph.D., RDN, American University

For the 2020-2021 year, the College Food Insecurity Subcommittee's three goals were to 1) Conduct a webinar on campus food insecurity programs, 2) Evaluate campus resources and university "best-practices" for successful implementation of food security programs, and 3) Develop and disseminate overall best practices for campus programs on food security. There were 15 active members on the subcommittee who contributed to all of the goals.

Highlights from 2020-2021 include:

- A webinar series entitled: College Food Insecurity Programs and Sustainability: A Two-Part Webinar.
- A joint webinar by the Higher Ed Division and the ACPP on expanding SNAP to Higher Education students.
- Implementing a 22-item survey to evaluate food insecurity initiatives on college campuses across the US and understand the degree to which these programs are sustained.

Interest in college food insecurity is vast, and many individuals are taking action at the campus, state, and federal levels to provide support for students in need.

This subcommittee allows for the conversation on this topic to be elevated. Our subcommittee meets monthly during the Fall and Spring semesters and welcomes new members. Those who are interested can contact Co-chairs Rebecca Hagedorn ([rlhagedorn@meredith.edu](mailto:rlhagedorn@meredith.edu)) and Stacey Snelling ([stacey@american.edu](mailto:stacey@american.edu)).

### Enhancing Nutrition Education Competencies

**Chair:** Virginia Gray, Ph.D., RDN, CSU- Long Beach

The goal of our sub-group for 2020-21 was to support the larger SNEB Competency Workgroup in its development of a process to evaluate and revise the SNEB Nutrition Educator (NE) Competencies. Six SNEB members participated in this workgroup.

Highlights from 2020-2021 include:

- Development of a report for the SNEB Competency Workgroup that describes the process of "sister" professional organizations' competencies/credentials and recommendations to assess perspectives of educators, practitioners, and researchers regarding the need to update SNEB competencies/credentials.

The sub-group accomplished goals set for the 2020-2021 year and is looking for new initiatives and leadership. If you are interested in joining and leading this group or being involved with the SNEB Competency Workgroup, please contact Virginia Gray: [Virginia.Gray@csulb.edu](mailto:Virginia.Gray@csulb.edu).



**Additional AY 2020-2021 updates are on the next page**

## 2020-2021 Wrap-Up!

Maximize your membership within the SNEB Higher Education Division. Reach out to subcommittee leadership to learn how you can participate.

### Scholarship of Teaching and Learning

**Chair: Kristen DiFilippo, Ph.D., RDN**

**Univ. of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign**

The purpose of the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) subcommittee is to promote effective nutrition and student learning in higher education settings.

This year there were 15 active members on the subcommittee. A highlight of our work this year is a panel presentation at SNEB Annual Meeting.

Sunday, 08/08, @ 12:45- 2:15 pm

*"Examining Race, Privilege, and Bias in Formal Education and its Impact on Real-World Community Health and Nutrition Education."*

Speakers include: Amelia Huelskamp, PhD., Jody Vogelzang, Ph.D., RDN, FADA, CHES, Kristen DiFilippo, PhD, RDN, Maggie Ramos, P.S. Raquel Perez, Shana Alford.

This subcommittee meets throughout the academic year and welcomes new members. We are actively recruiting for a new chair/ co-chair! Those interested can contact interim-chair Kristen DiFilippo (kdfilip@illinois.edu) and/or Zubaida Qamar (qz@sfsu.edu).



### Interprofessional Education (IPE)

**Chair: Jen Zuercher, Ph.D., RD, LD**

**Southern Illinois University Edwardsville**

The purpose of the Interprofessional Education (IPE) subcommittee is to promote and facilitate IPE practice among faculty and students in the disciplines of nutrition and dietetics through collaborative research, scholarship, and creative activities.

Like many of you have likely experienced, the past year has been challenging for IPE subcommittee members.

To allow the subcommittee to regroup and reorganize, the plan for the coming year is to meet on an ad hoc basis.

If anyone has a related project that they'd like the subcommittee to take on or are interested in leading the sub-committee, please contact Jen Zuercher, interim-IPE subcommittee chair jzuerch@siue.edu.

### Student + Higher Education Divisions Collaborative Mentorship Program

**Student Liaison: April Williams, MS, CNS**

**Virginia Commonwealth University**

The goal of this project is to assess SNEB members' interest in a formal mentorship program. Building off of past mentorship programs offered during SNEB annual meetings, our project aims to strengthen mentoring relationships among members. Currently, there are four students and two professional/ faculty members on the committee.

Highlights of our work this year include:

- Poster Presentation (08/10/21) at SNEB Annual Meeting. *"Karmically awesome pairings": A qualitative analysis of SNEB Mentorship Program participant feedback surveys.* Williams AR, Gupta K, Bastian GE, Desai-Shah H, Qamar Z, Patton-Lopez M.
- Manuscript submitted and under review at JNEB: *"Redesigning SNEB'S Mentorship Program Guided by Program Evaluation and Needs Assessment."*

Please get in touch with April Williams (arwilliams2@vcu.edu) for more information and to join our project.