



UPR LA IUPI



# Town Hall Meeting for Students

Aspects of Accreditation of the DPD  
and Measures to Take  
October 2, 2015



UPR LA IUPI



# Conversatorio Estudiantil

Aspectos de Acreditación del DPD

y Medidas a Tomar

02 de octubre de 2015

# Nutrition is important ...

- For physical health
- For mental health
- For integral health and longevity
- For an active and productive lifestyle
- For individuals, families, communities, and nations



# Accreditation Means ...

- Accountability
- Compliance with professional standards of excellence in
  - Knowledge
  - Skills and Attitudes
- Providing measurable evidence
- Providing sufficient resources



# Accreditation By ...

- Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND)
- Accreditation agency of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (formerly American Dietetic Association)



# Accreditation For ...

- YOU !
- Educating and training individuals to be successful and effective nutrition and dietetic professionals
- Serving and caring for individuals, patients, clients
- Helping prevent and treat acute and chronic disease



# Accreditation of ...

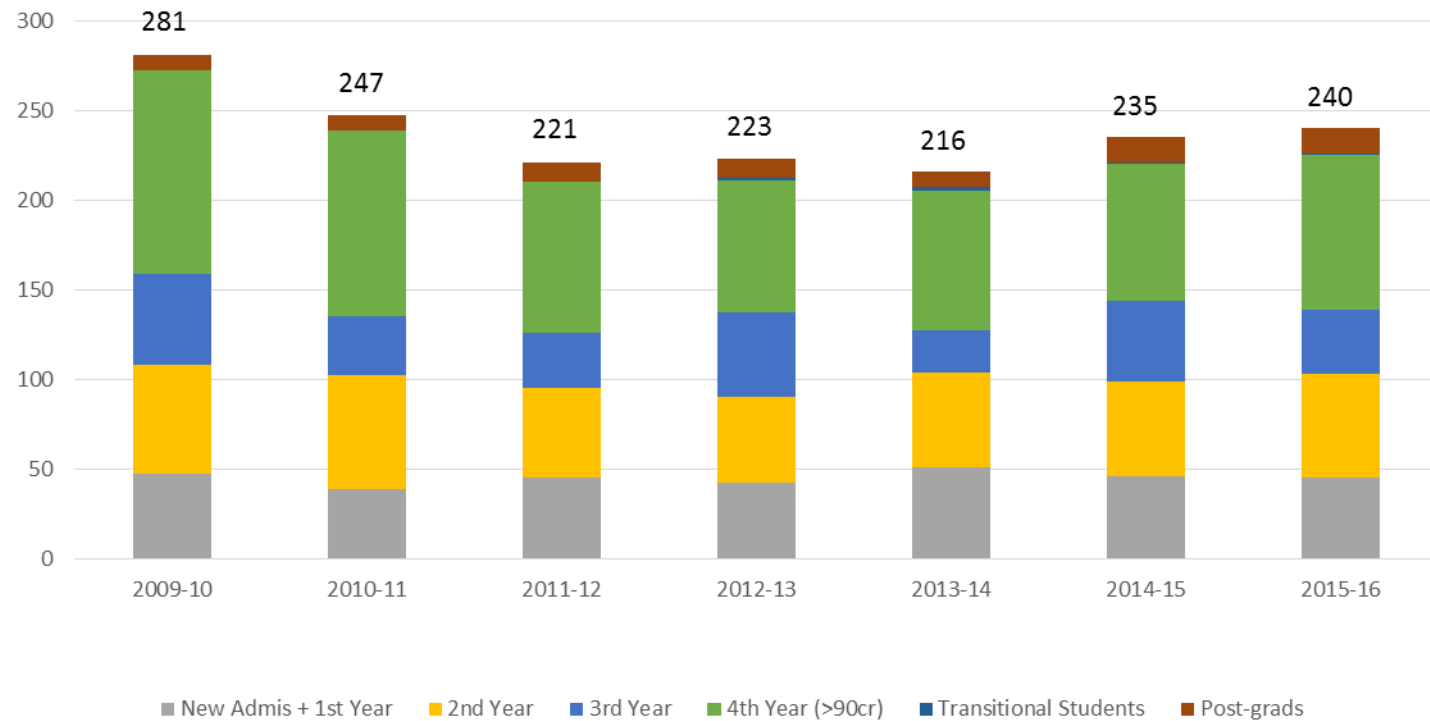
- Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) of the Nutrition and Dietetics Program, College of Natural Sciences, UPR-RP
  - 40 third-year students
  - 40 fourth-year students
  - 5 post-graduate students



# Data Indicate ...



First Semester Total Student Enrollment in the Nutrition and Dietetics Program





# ACEND Indicates ...

- DPD has exceeded their accredited enrollment maximum
- DPD must explain discrepancy between actual number of students and number of students for which the DPD is accredited



# ACEND Indicates ...

- DPD must provide evidence of sufficiency of resources to serve the student population
- DPD will be monitored with additional report due in 2017 to decide accreditation status



# Our Response to ACEND ...

- ✓ Effective for the current academic year and until further notice, no non-traditional or secondary admissions will be accepted to the DPD as post-graduates or via reclassifications/change of major, transfers from other UPR campuses or private institutions, or as 2<sup>nd</sup> majors.
- ✓ Effective for the 2016-2017, freshman student admissions will be more closely monitored, and personal interviews will be added to the admission criteria to confirm students' professional projections, and thereby increase DPD retention.



# Our Response to ACEND ...

- ✓ Effective for the 2016-2017, the IGS will be increased from 320 to 330, thus adopting the IGS of Chemistry and other Natural Sciences programs, to strengthen academic performance selection criteria, and to close the revolving door or gateway of admission of reconsideration of applicants.
- ✓ Freshman students admitted to the DPD will be stimulated to pre-approve the Pre-Calculus course requirement before initiating their first semester through advanced placement or summer immersion courses.



# Our Response to ACEND ...

- ✓ Effective for the second semester of 2015-2016, access to the online Campus Student Information System and requests to enroll in DPD professional courses will be restricted in order to increase control over student enrollment and facilitate student placement in courses to increase DPD graduation rates.

This measure will ensure that Program courses and sections are maximized for DPD students, and eliminates the 11-credit NUTR course maximum previously allowed for DPD non-majors.

# Our Response to ACEND ...

- ✓ Periodic meetings will be scheduled with key personnel and department directors as a part of the program of study planning and petition process, in order to improve coordination of course schedules, and to assure availability of course sections for DPD students.
- ✓ Total number of contact hours available to students for academic advising will be significantly increased through collaboration of professors of the Nutrition and Dietetics.



# Our Response to ACEND ...

- ✓ Availability of tutoring services will be increased and students will be directed to these services early in the semester, and early in the degree program, in order to increase dominion of knowledge and decrease course repetitions, thereby reducing time to graduation.
- ✓ Academic planning and budget allocations will be directed towards supporting additional course sections and opportunities that facilitate student degree completion and graduation acceleration.



# Our Response to ACEND ...

- ✓ The DPD faculty will be dedicated to supplying course needs for the Program, and will not be authorized to provide courses to other colleges and programs as part of their primary academic load. This will concentrate budget resources towards DPD degree completion.





# Responses from ACEND ...

- ✓ The enrollment monitoring report dated August 7, 2017 was reviewed by the ACEND Executive Committee...The program must continue to implement the program plans to come into compliance with the maximum enrollment of 40 3<sup>rd</sup> year, 40 4<sup>th</sup> year and 5 post-grads.
- ✓ A decision on an additional request to increase the UPR-DPD enrollment was deferred to the site visit, February 3-5, 2019. The UPR-DPD self-study report is due November 12, 2018, in preparation for the site visit.
- ✓ A detailed progress report evidencing coming into compliance must be submitted no later than April 5, 2019; the program has until July 28, 2019 to come into compliance.

