

Family and Consumer Sciences CREDENTIALING CENTER

Assessing and Recognizing Excellence Since 1971



April 15, 2013

Dr. William A Meehan, President
Jacksonville State University
700 Pelham Road North
Jacksonville, AL 36265-1602

Dr. John B. Hammett, II, Dean
College of Education & Professional Studies
Ramona Wood Hall
Jacksonville State University
700 Pelham Road North
Jacksonville, AL 36265-1602



Dr. Debra Goodwin, Chair
Department of Family and Consumer Sciences
215 East Mason Hall
Jacksonville State University
700 Pelham Road North
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Dear Dr. Meehan, Dr. Hammett, and Dr. Goodwin:

In its April 5, 2013 meeting, the Council for Accreditation of the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences voted to grant accreditation to the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences at Jacksonville State University. This action followed careful review and consideration of the Self-Study Report, the report of the site visit team, and the institution's response to the site visit report.



The Council for Accreditation commends the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences and faculty members for high quality Family and Consumer Sciences programs. The following strengths are particularly noteworthy:



1. University and college administrators are committed to a quality Family and Consumer Sciences program and are responsive to the needs of the Unit (full-time faculty position added Fall 2012).
2. The Unit Chair is a highly skilled and an effective leader who is industrious, progressive, and professional.
3. Faculty members have excellent professional backgrounds and are student-oriented and caring.
4. Students and alumni understand and are able to verbalize the integrative, synergistic nature of the Family and Consumer Sciences discipline.
5. The Unit is innovative in meeting the needs of the workforce. This has resulted in highly qualified employees in the community and increased credit hour production, increased majors, and expanded collaborative opportunities for the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences.

The Council for Accreditation makes the following recommendations to strengthen compliance with accreditation standards and to assist in further enhancement of the programs in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences:

1. Renovate facilities including an upgrade of instructional and laboratory equipment. Pay particular attention to ADA compliance. Critical areas include the Harper Child Study Center and the basement in East Mason Hall. Attention to technology and state-of-the-art laboratories is warranted. [Criteria 1.5(4); 1.5(7)]
2. License the Harper Child Study Center through the Alabama Department of Human Services. Ensure that the student child development laboratory experiences are in licensed centers. [Criteria 1.5(4); 1.5(7)]
3. Add tenure track faculty members appropriate for the number of programs offered and students enrolled. [Criteria 4.1(1); 4.2(2); 4.2(3); 4.2(4); 4.3(4)]
4. Increase faculty member scholarly activities related to their area(s) of specialization. [Criteria 3.1(1); 3.1(2); 3.1(3)]

Actions taken in response to these recommendations are to be described in the Unit's first interim report which shall be submitted in year three (2016) of accreditation. You will receive notification of the specific date the report will be due to arrive in the Office of Accreditation for consideration in the Council's subsequent meeting.

Accreditation is granted by the Council for Accreditation for a period of ten years. Any extension and/or provisional accreditation periods are counted as part of the ten-year period. Therefore, this accreditation expires Spring 2023. The next Self-Study Report will be due February 1, 2022.

When accreditation is granted, the Unit is eligible to use the AAFCS Seal of Accreditation. This seal indicates that the Unit has been found to meet or exceed stated criteria and can be used in all communications, both print and electronic. You will be sent an electronic file containing the seal graphic with protocol for use information.

Members of the Council for Accreditation join us in congratulating you and the faculty on the quality of programs offered by the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences. This comes with our good wishes for continued success of the programs.

With best wishes,

Valerie L. Giddings *Gay Nell McGinnis*

Valerie L. Giddings, Ph.D.
Chair, Council for Accreditation

Gay Nell McGinnis, CFCS, Director
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