

Family and Consumer Sciences CREDENTIALING CENTER

ASSESSING AND RECOGNIZING EXCELLENCE SINCE 1971



April 30, 2018

Dr. M. Duane Nellis, President
Office of the President
108 Cutler Hall
Ohio University
Athens, OH 45701-2979

Dr. Renee A. Middleton, Dean
The Gladys W. and David H. Patton
College of Education
Lindley Hall N186A
Ohio University
Athens, OH 45701-2979



Dr. Beth J. VanDerveer, Acting Chair
Department of Human & Consumer Sciences
121 E. McCracken Hall
Ohio University
Athens, OH 45701-2979



Dear Dr. Nellis, Dr. Middleton, and Dr. VanDerveer:

In its April 25, 2018 meeting, the Council for Accreditation of the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences voted to grant accreditation to the Department of Human and Consumer Sciences at Ohio 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 Human and Consumer Sciences and faculty members for providing high quality Family and Consumer Sciences programs. The following strengths are particularly noteworthy:



1. Central administrators and the Dean expressed understanding of and strong support for the mission of the Unit.
2. The Dean of the College values the Unit and provides substantial resources that includes professional staff to support student advising, career guidance, program assessment, research programs, and faculty professional development.
3. The Department of Human and Consumer Sciences is well respected by students, alumni, and internship supervisors.
4. The Department of Human and Consumer Sciences is highly respected within the university and throughout the community.
5. The Unit Acting Chair is recognized by University administrators and Unit faculty members as a skillful and effective leader committed to the enhancement of the Unit.

6. The Unit is equipped with spacious laboratories featuring state-of-the-art equipment as well as attractive, recently renovated classroom and conference spaces which support the mission and goals of the Unit.
7. Faculty members are held in high esteem by students and alumni for their practical experiences, their commitment to providing quality educational experiences, and individualized mentoring.
8. The Unit provides high quality online courses that students report as being comprehensive and rigorous. The College and Unit provide exceptional oversight and technical support to online students.
9. Faculty members encourage student involvement in professional organizations. The Restaurant, Hotel, and Tourism faculty members and students are to be commended for their recent national award.
10. Active student organizations provide multiple opportunities for students to develop and practice leadership skills.

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 Human and Consumer Sciences:

1. Enhance the Department of Human and Consumer Sciences Strategic Plan with clearly defined Unit long and short-term goals which inform goals of each program within the Department and are aligned with the College and University Strategic Plans. Establish related strategies, resources, timelines, and priorities to promote the continuing development of the Unit. [Criteria 1.1(5); 1.2(1); 1.2(2); 1.2(3); 1.2(4); 1.2(5); 1.2(6)]
2. Strengthen students' ability to articulate the terminology of the Family and Consumer Sciences Body of Knowledge and the integrative, synergistic nature of the profession in the common core courses and discipline specific courses. [Criteria 2.1(1); 2.1(2); 2.1(3)]
3. Insure that Unit assessment instruments accurately measure student understanding of the Family and Consumer Sciences Body of Knowledge and the integrative, synergistic nature of the profession. [Criterion 2.2(2)]
4. Update at least annually the public reporting of reliable Department of Human and Consumer Sciences aggregated student achievement/performance data and other outcome measures no more than two clicks from the home page. [Criteria 2.2(1); 2.2(3)]
5. Explore developing a culminating experience for the Customer Service students. [Criteria 2.3(1); 2.3(2); 2.3(3); 2.3(4)]
6. Encourage involvement of faculty members and students in professional organizations through committee membership and leadership positions. [Criterion 3.2(4)]

- 7 As additional faculty and administrative positions within the Unit become available, recruit and retain highly qualified professionals with credentials in the field and enhance the diversity of the faculty. [Criteria 4.3(1); 4.3(5)]
- 8 Develop, implement, and assess a Unit plan to recruit and retain students from diverse racial, ethnic, and economic backgrounds to reflect the diverse and global workforce and marketplace. [Criteria 4.3(1c); 4.3(2); 4.3(5); 4.3(7)]

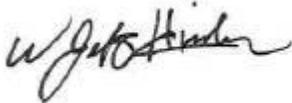
Actions taken in response to these recommendations are to be described in the Unit's first interim report which shall be submitted in year three (2021) of accreditation. You will receive notification of the specific date the report will be due for consideration in the Council for Accreditation's subsequent 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 Fall 2028. The next Self-Study Report will be due September 1, 2027.

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.

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

With Best Wishes,



W. Jeff Hinton, Ph.D.
Chair – Council for Accreditation



Lori Myers, Ph.D., CFCS
Senior Director: Credentialing,
Education & Research