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**SUBJECT: Council on Future Practice****POLICY: Purpose, Structure, Composition and Functions**

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Effective Date: 10/1/08

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Review Date: 2/2017

**PURPOSE**

This Council works in collaboration with the Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR), Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) and Nutrition and Dietetics Educators and Preceptors (NDEP) to project the future practice needs for the profession of nutrition and dietetics. Each of these organizational units (future practice, education, credentialing and accreditation) represent the four critical segments necessary for producing new practitioners, as well as assisting experienced practitioners to move up the career ladder.

**STRUCTURE**

The Council is an Academy committee. Semi-annual reports to the Board of Directors (BOD) and the House of Delegates will focus on the Council's program of work and projected status.

**COMPOSITION**

The organizational unit is comprised of ten (10) Academy members who represent the practice, credentialing and education communities. One member from CDR and one member from the NDEP will be included and will be appointed for a one (1) year term. ACEND will appoint an individual yearly, who will serve as an ex-officio, non-voting member of the Council. This position will be consultative in nature. This ex-officio member will participate in Council conference calls or meetings as requested. One member from the Board of Directors will be appointed by the Speaker to serve as the communication link to the HOD and BOD and will be appointed for a two (2) year term. A fifth member will be appointed by the HOD Leadership Team (HLT) to represent young members in practice for 5-10 years (i.e. affiliate Recognized Young Dietitian of the Year or At-large Delegate: Under 30 Years of Age). The young member will be appointed for a two (2) year term. The remaining five (5) voting members will be appointed to the Council by the HLT for three (3)-years. **See table one on next page for a visual of the composition of the Council.**

Each year, the Council will identify the gaps to be filled during the appointment process for ensuring the needed expertise and adequate representation of differing perspectives. This information plus the names of potential candidates will be forwarded to HLT. The following characteristics will guide HLT's selection process for the Council:

- Demonstrated leadership experience
- In-depth knowledge of the profession including broad experiences in nutrition and dietetics practice, research and education
- Knowledge of specialist and advanced-practice within and outside of the profession
- Knowledge related to credentialing and accreditation
- Knowledge of the current job market
- Awareness of Academy members' perspectives
- Strong communication and collaboration skills
- Futuristic thinking skills
- Focus area of practice (clinical, community, consultation & business, management, education and research)
- Research background
- Education background
- Employer of RDNs and/or NDTRs

- Ethnic and gender diversity
- Current or past member of the House of Delegates
- Memberships in Dietetic Practice Groups

**PROCEDURE**

The Council may hold two (2) face-to-face meetings per year and will conduct the remainder of the business via teleconference. Any specific educational programs, seminar, symposium or similar programs must be approved by the Speaker and/or HOD Leadership Team, and may be implemented by other organizational units as appropriate.

**FUNCTIONS**

The functions of the Council are:

1. Ensure the viability and relevance of the profession of nutrition and dietetics via engaging in a visioning process to initiate recommendations for general practice roles, specialist practice roles and advanced practice roles.
2. Identify future specialist and advanced practice roles to meet emerging practitioner and marketplace needs.
3. Seek input and feedback from relevant Academy organizational units on issues related to future practice roles.
4. Coordinate with ACEND, CDR, NDEP and other Academy organizational units to communicate and collaborate to determine current and future practice, credentialing, and education recommendations.
5. Monitor the intended and unintended consequences of implementing current and future practice, credentialing and education recommendations.

**STAFFING**

The CEO will designate staff support for this committee annually. The HOD Governance Team supports the efforts of the Council.

**Table: Composition of the Council on Future Practice**

<b>Members Appointed</b>	<b>Representatives</b>	<b>Term of Office</b>
One credentialed practitioner-past chair of CDR; voting member; appointment is made by CDR	CDR	1 year
One credentialed practitioner-past chair of NDEP; voting member; appointment is made by NDEP	NDEP	1 year
One credentialed practitioner-vice chair of ACEND; ex-officio member; appointment is made by ACEND	ACEND	1 year
One credentialed practitioner-member of current HLT or Board; appointment is made by Speaker	Board of Directors	2 years
One credentialed young practitioner; appointment is made by HLT	5-10 years in practice	2 years (up to 3 years)
Five credentialed practitioners; appointment is made by HLT	Areas of practice noted as gaps in the Council's composition	3 years (staggered)