

# Affiliate Spotlight

## **New York State Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Developing Student Engagement and Growing Membership**

Julie Balsamo, the NYS Student Liaison, worked with fellow student representative Marnie Fridman to develop a presentation to help educate students about the Academy, NYSAND and NYSAND districts. NY plans to use the presentation across the state. Below is a Q&A with Julie.

**Q: In what settings are you using the presentation?**

A: The PowerPoint was created with the intention for it to be shown in classrooms to dietetic/nutrition students. We are also considering using it at club expos, meetings, events in general, internship fairs etc. We are encouraging program directors to share the information with their students and ultimately grow awareness of our organizations and increase membership and engagement.

**Q: Is the presentation a virtual resource or meant to be shared in-person?**

A: I would be sharing the presentation virtually in hopes that professors or other students would be willing to present the PowerPoint to others. Within my district, I am hoping to work fellow volunteers to encourage them to share the presentation with an in-person audience.

**Q: What challenges, if any, did you encounter in developing the presentation?**

A: Most of information was retrieved from the Academy's website. I tried to highlight all the benefits that students may not be aware that they receive with their membership. Our current challenge is creating an updated list with all program directors to help us disseminate the information.

**Q: How was the full Board involved in this process?**

A: The Board helped a great deal with providing links and information that I could include in the presentation. Additionally, everyone provided feedback and helped to critique and improve the overall presentation.

[Access a copy of the presentation](#) to get ideas for use within your affiliate. For additional information contact [Julie Balsamo](#) or [Marnie Friedman](#).