Spring and May 2019 House of Delegates Meeting Recap:
Food Systems and Sustainability: Shaping Dietary Guidance and HOD Evolution Designers Report

The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics House of Delegates (HOD) held its spring 2019 Virtual Meeting on Saturday, March 29 and Sunday, March 30, 2019 where delegates discussed the topic Food Systems and Sustainability: Shaping Dietary Guidance. HOD held a second virtual meeting on May 6, 2019 to discuss the HOD Evolution Designers Report.

Food Systems and Sustainability: Shaping Dietary Guidance

As a result of the pre-meeting work and HOD dialogue in March, the HOD Motion: Food Systems and Sustainability: Shaping Dietary Guidance was developed and approved. Below are highlights from the motion:

Ongoing collaboration and alignment of efforts is needed across Academy organizational units and with external stakeholders to prepare and position the Academy and its members to shape and deliver dietary guidance around food systems and sustainability.

Delegate communicate calls to action, updates, and current and future resources on shaping dietary guidance in food systems and sustainability to their constituents.

The Academy’s Strategic Communications Team will work with HOD subject matter experts and those from the 2018 Agriculture, Sustainability and Health Round Table and Forum to enhance, maintain, and promote an online resource hub for food systems and sustainability for both health professionals and consumers (considering the needs of all socioeconomic demographics).

HOD Evolution Designers Report

At the fall 2018 HOD meeting, delegates engaged in dialogue to address the Mega Issue question: Going into the Second Century, how do we design an engaged HOD to best support and advance the Academy’s Strategic Plan?

The House of Delegates (HOD) Evolution Designer Team was formed and utilized outputs from the fall HOD meeting and work of the HOD Culture Team to inform a set of recommendations that were presented at the spring 2019 HOD meeting and dialogued on May 6, 2019.
Their report included four major areas: Strategic and Professional Issues; Communication; Leadership; and Culture, Structure and Process.

As a result of the pre-meeting work and HOD dialogue in May, the following three motions were developed and approved on May 24, 2019. Below are highlights from the motions:

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<tr>
<th>HOD Motion: HOD Business Process</th>
<th>HOD Motion: HOD Term Limits</th>
<th>HOD Motion: Diversity of HOD Membership</th>
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<td>Implement new processes for conducting business, in alignment with those outlined in the HOD Evolution Designers Report, as feasible based on available and evolving resources and tools.</td>
<td>Establish maximum term limits that include a required break before serving again as a Delegate with the implementation of a “hardship exemption” policy and procedure to address exceptions to the term limit rules.</td>
<td>Continue to build a diverse slate of qualified candidates for Delegate positions on their respective ballots. In 2022, the HOD will evaluate the impact of the Academy’s Diversity Strategic Plan, new business processes implemented in the HOD, and enforcement of Delegate term limits on both the diversity of the HOD membership and the inclusion of diverse perspectives to determine the need to reexamine whether or not changes in the composition of the HOD are needed for it to best perform its role.</td>
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- **Next Steps**: The final recommendations from the HOD will now go to the BOD for approval.

For all issues discussed by the House, now and in the future, it is important to be fast, fluid and flexible.

**Additional Information**

- Meeting materials, including background and follow-up information are posted on the Spring 2019 Meeting and May 2019 Meeting webpages.
- Review the Academy President, Treasurer and Foundation Updates and the Academy Committees and Taskforce Reports.
- Contact your delegate.