



# ONWARD & UPWARD


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A QUARTERLY ALUMNI UPDATE – MAY 2022

THE DIETETIC INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE





## Dietetic Internship Faculty



Dianne Killebrew, MEd,  
RDN, LDN  
Program Director



Kerri Baxter, MS, RDN,  
LDN, CNSC - Educational  
Coordinator Clinical



Sarah Ferguson, MPH,  
RDN, LDN -  
Educational Coordinator  
Health Promotion

## Greetings,

We are emerging from the COVID cocoon! We have staff, interns, finances, preceptors, space and rotation sites. It's time to move onward and upward. Sixteen RDs to Be will graduate on 6/17/2022. Eighteen new RDs to Be arrive on 8/15/2022. This summer we begin marketing a Vanderbilt MEd/DI for the class of 2023/2024. Exciting times for sure! One more statistic worthy of sharing: our pass rate on the credentialing exam is 97.8% for the past 3 years!

It does take a village to keep this VUMC Dietetic Internship moving forward; rockstar faculty, visionary advisory board, expert preceptors and last but certainly not least a growing alumni network!

I'm excited to share my 1982 VUMC Dietetic Internship class is having a reunion via zoom this month! As graduates of the VUMC Dietetic Internship we all share the bond of spending 10 months together at a fast paced, teaching medical center. Never a dull moment for sure! The relationships formed as classmates do last a lifetime and can be easily jumpstarted at any point along our life's journey. When you graduate from this internship, you will always be a member of the Vanderbilt family.

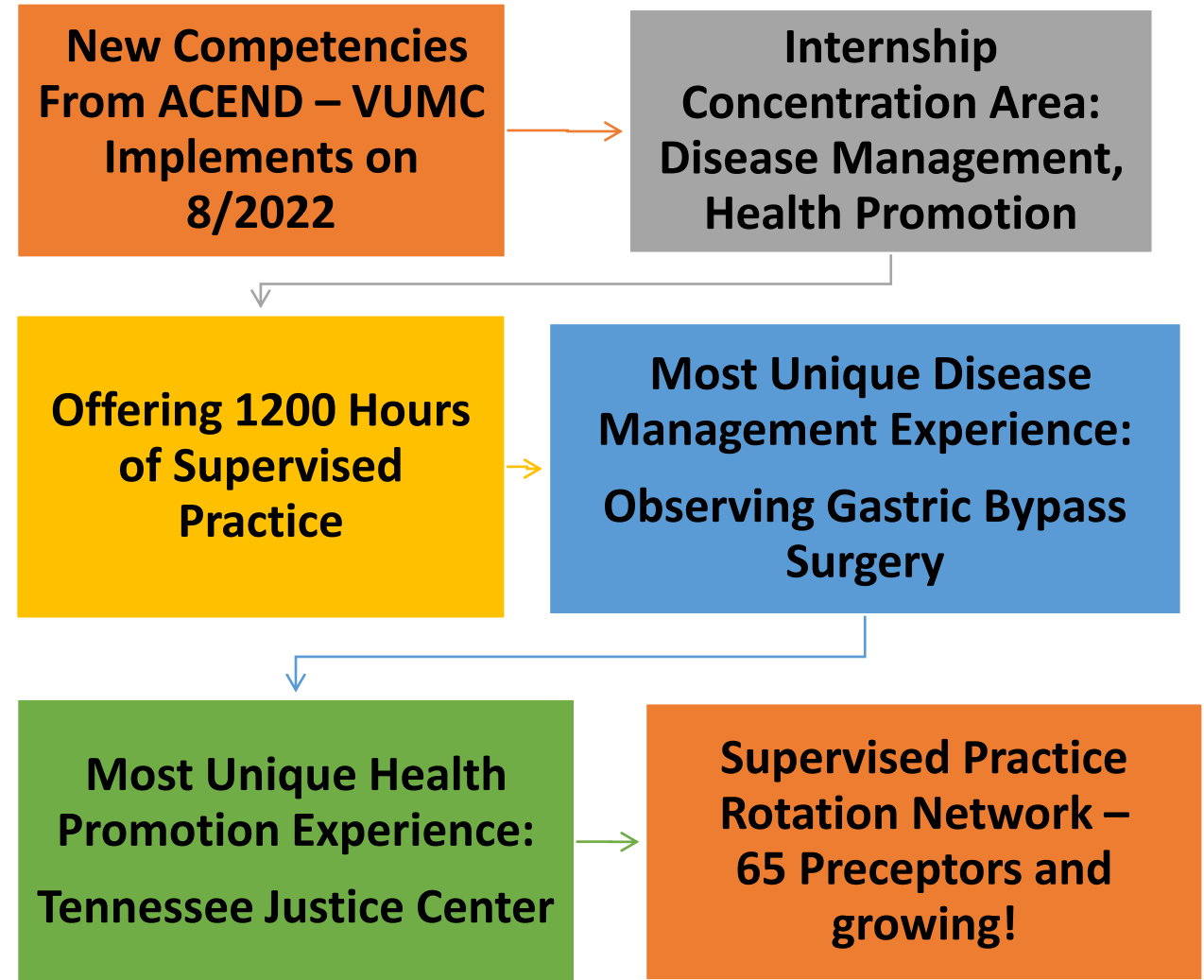
Check out the Alumni-Stay Connected area of our website. You'll find a Clickable Alumni Networking Directory. Enjoy the newsletter updates and do stay connected!

*Dianne*

**Dianne Killebrew, MEd, RDN, LDN**  
**Director, The Dietetic Internship Program at Vanderbilt Medical Center**  
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# A Snapshot of VUMC Dietetic Internship Happenings!



# Dietetic Internship

## Aligns Training Program Goals for RDs to Be With Vanderbilt's Strategic Directions



- Engage In Competency Based Learning
- Find Ways to Be an “Everyday Leader”
- Learn About Unconscious Bias & System Change
- Develop Skills In Clinical Judgment
- Provide Patient-Driven Care w/a Nutrition Counseling Package
- Be An Advocate for Food/Nutrition in Diverse Settings



## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: 2022 Faculty Awards For Excellence in Precepting

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**Madeleine Hallum, MSHS, RDN, CSG, LDN**  
**Practice: Inpatient Cardiology**

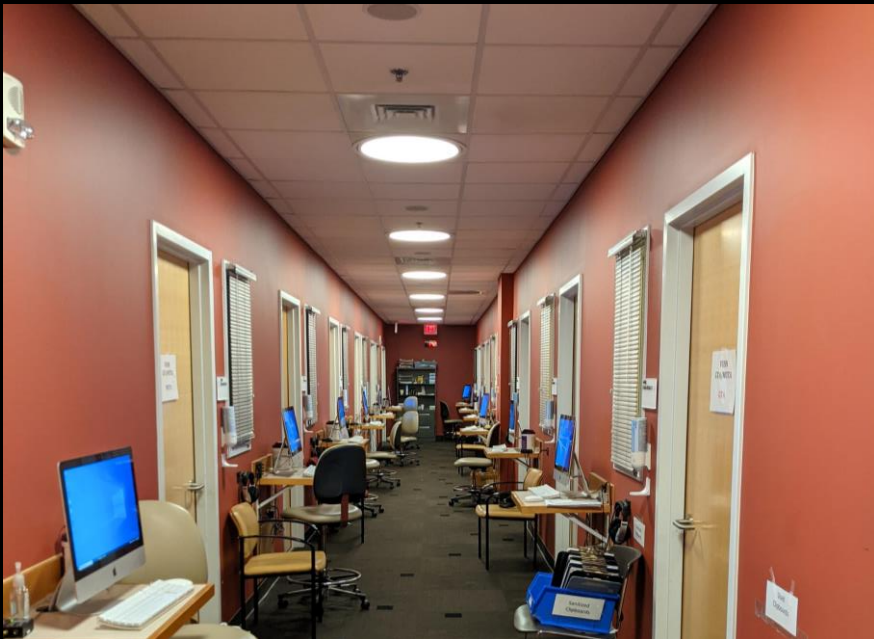
**AND**

**Cindy Osborn, MS, RDN, LDN**  
**Practice: Outpatient Cardiology**



# CELA

CENTER FOR EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING AND ASSESSMENT  
SIMULATION TECHNOLOGIES PROGRAM



## New Collaborations:

Training Opportunities for Interns in the Simulation Lab

Coaching/Counseling

Telehealth

Adult & Pediatric: Nutrition Focused Physical Exams

Health Screening Tools & Techniques

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# CONSIDER BEING A MENTOR FOR A FUTURE DIETITIAN

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- On 8/15/2022, eighteen future practitioners will arrive at Vanderbilt to begin their 10-month internship experience. This is our largest class to date! College for this cohort has looked very different as a result of COVID. These individuals have completed many of their college courses online. Stepping into the fast paced, teaching medical center can be overwhelming for anyone. Learning to adapt and flex on the fly will be a skill they find quickly!
- Consider being a mentor for an intern. Establish a communication connection, offer encouraging words and career advice.
- Check out the pictures on the next slide of our 2022-2023 class.
- **Interested in being a mentor! Email [k.dianne.killebrew@vumc.org](mailto:k.dianne.killebrew@vumc.org)**



## THE 2022-2023 CLASS OF FUTURE DIETITIANS – THE VANDERBILT DIETETIC INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

**KATHERINE BAUGHMAN**  
PORTLAND, OR  
PURDUE UNIVERSITY



**ELLIE BERLIN**  
ARLINGTON, VA  
VIRGINIA TECH



**CLARA CITRON**  
NEW YORK, NY  
NY UNIVERSITY



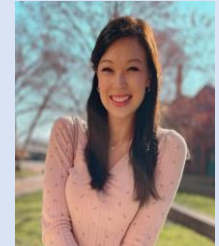
**TAYLOR COOK**  
KEWASKAUM, WI  
UNIV OF WISCONSIN



**BRONWYN CORTEZ**  
WINSTON-SALEM, NC  
NC STATE (BS)  
MEREDITH COLLEGE (MS)



**JULIA DEXTER**  
CARMEL, IND  
INDIANA UNIV



**FLANNERY DAUGHTRY**  
ALBANY, GA  
UNIV OF GEORGIA (BS- MS)



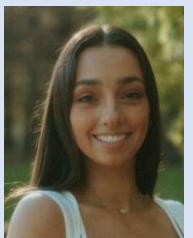
**FAITH ENSOR**  
FOREST HILL, MD  
UNIV OF MARYLAND



**LINDA JULIAN**  
WINDHAM, NH  
UNIV OF NEW HAMPSHIRE



**JULIA LATOFF**  
PHOENIXVILLE, PA  
UNIV OF MARYLAND



**DESTINY LEE**  
PORTLAND, TN  
TN TECH UNIV



**MAKAYLA MOSIER**  
BOWLING GREEN, KY  
WESTERN KY UNIV



**BAILEY PIHERA**  
GENEVA, IL  
LIPSCOMB UNIV



**MICHELLE SEVERS**  
AIRMONT, NY  
SIMMONS COLLEGE  
TUFTS (MS)



**MATTIE SIEFER**  
HAMILTON, OHIO  
MIAMI UNIV



**ABBIE STASIOR**  
ALBANY, NY  
LEHMAN COLLEGE  
COLUMBIA UNIV (MS)



**JUSTINE THOMA**  
MCLEAN, VA  
CLEMSON UNIV



**STACY ZHENG**  
NASHVILLE, TN  
MTSU





# Alumni Scholarship Fund for Historically Excluded Groups



- Students are given the opportunity to self-identify in one or more of historically excluded or underrepresented groups based on ethnicity, gender or military status.
- Students must be in good academic standing
- Committee includes both the Center for Programs in Allied Health & Internship Faculty who applications and determine awards.
- Three, \$1500 scholarships were awarded in January of 2022.
- Alumni Scholarship Fund donations are tax deductible.
- **Make your check payable to:**  
**VUMC Dietetic Internship Scholarship Fund**
- **Mail to: VUMC Dietetic Internship**  
**Attn: Kristen Smith**  
**2215 Garland Avenue**  
**Light Hall, Room 312**  
**Nashville, TN 37232-0495**

**From Emily Sauer:** "Receiving this scholarship, for minorities in the field of dietetics, was so meaningful to me. This year has been eye opening about the lack of diversity in the field of nutrition and dietetics. This scholarship showed me that VUMC is taking steps to make becoming an RD more accessible to minorities. Thank you all again for your contributions."

**From Michael Nguyen:** "It was already a challenge becoming the only college graduate in my immediate family. Moving on to continue in a prestigious internship, while simultaneously operating a small business, it had become an even harder challenge in every aspect. I am honored being awarded this scholarship, and in representing the historically excluded and underrepresented individuals in dietetics. This only fuels me to become more of a voice for us."

**From Hannah Hockley:** "This scholarship means more than dollars. It demonstrates that the experiences each of us have are valued enough that someone is willing to help lower the financial threshold for entry into the dietetics profession for us. It directly shows that the statement, "we value you, your experiences, and your background" are more than just words on a screen, but a true value that is important to the VUMC dietetic internship. It sets the standard for other internships to do more than state they value diversity."

## Financial Gifts from the Alumni Support Interns

- \*Provide VUMC Lab Coats
- \*Health Coaching Workshop
- \*FNCE Registration
- \*Culinary & Writing Workshop

**Make Your Check Payable To:**  
**Dietetic Internship Alumni Fund**

Mail Check To:  
VUMC Dietetic Internship  
Attn: Kristen Smith  
2215 Garland Avenue  
Light Hall, Room 312  
Nashville, TN 37232-0495

## Interns Respond to Support From VUMC Dietetic Internship Alumni

**Isabella Morin** – “The lab coat ceremony (honoring the legacy of Martha Ballew) and participating in the event made me feel seen and like a known provider in the healthcare field. I appreciate this experience and the confidence it set in me to show my worth in a patient's care team.”

**Olivia Jacobs:** “Having the opportunity to attend our wellness coaching workshop gave me the skills and confidence to work with clients who have nutrition concerns in a patient-centered way; combining coaching and counseling skills.”

**Sophia Tempanaro:** “I have never attended FNCE, so this was my first experience being in a place, even though virtual, with so many people who share the same passions as me. It was a wonderful experience in which I was able to learn and network!”

**Katie Malone:** This trip to a 300- acre organic farm was amazing. Seeing a CSA in action, working in a teaching kitchen that utilized culturally competent recipes, and practicing food writing. The entire day's theme was growth and absorbing something new that you didn't arrive with.



# STAY CONNECTED WE ARE GOING ONWARD & UPWARD

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## **VUMC Dietetic Internship Website:**

<https://www.vumc.org/dietetic-internship/dietetic-internship-vumc>

## **VUMC Alumni Networking Directory:**

<https://www.vumc.org/dietetic-internship/dialumni-stayconnected>

**Launching 6/1/2022 VUMC Dietetic Internship “Linked In” Group** – A welcoming and inclusive spot to share your career updates, stay in touch and see what’s happening with RDs to Be in training!