



The Blue Ridge Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics

August 2017

From the Desk of the BRAND President

Dear BRAND Members,

I cannot believe it is the end of the summer already. I hope you all had a wonderful season and are taking advantage of the remaining warm weeks.

Please join me in welcoming the 2017-2018 BRAND leadership team of 20 dedicated individuals. It is my honor to work with such an amazing team of enthusiastic leaders. We also want to thank everyone who has volunteered with BRAND in the past - thank you for your dedication and for helping to advance our profession.

We are excited to launch quarterly social events for BRAND members, organized by Eva Delaney and her committee, to strengthen the sense of community among our fellow dietitians, dietetic technicians, and students in the BRAND district. We hope you consider attending our social gatherings to meet new people and catch up with friends. Our next BRAND conference, organized by Lemma Brown, BRAND's President-Elect, will take place on November 3rd at the beautiful Moss Vineyards and we cannot wait to see you there.

As an organization, we would like to place more emphasis on diversity and inclusion. Therefore, we will be featuring a series of articles on different aspects of diversity. Please reach out to our Newsletter Editor, Monica Hershey, if you are interested in contributing.

I would like to encourage all of our members to reach out to me throughout the year with your ideas, thoughts, and your vision of BRAND's future. I would love to hear from you.

Here is to a productive, positive, and hopeful year!

Sincerely,

Lisa I. Shkoda, RDN, CSP, CNSC, FAND
BRAND President



Announcements

Meet your new BRAND Board Members for 2017-2019!

President: Lisa Shkoda (lisa.shkoda@gmail.com)

President-Elect: Lemma Brown (lembrown85@gmail.com)

Secretary: Diana Gulotta, RDN, CNSC (djg4y@virginia.edu)

Treasurer: Linda LaFontaine, RDN (lindamlafontaine@gmail.com)

Bylaws Chair: Rita Smith, MS, RD, CDE (ritapullensmith@gmail.com)

Legislative Chair: Angie Hasemann, MS, RDN, CSP (ajh5j@virginia.edu)

Newsletter Editor: Monica Hershey, RDN (mlh2qs@virginia.edu)

Communications Committee: Tonya Price, MS, RDN (price.t@lynchburg.edu); Austin Shelly, RD, CNSC (acs8r@virginia.edu); Elizabeth Newton, RD, CSOWM (eknewton10@gmail.com)

Professional Recognition Committee: Eva Delaney, RDN, CNSC (evad217@gmail.com); Amanda Terillo, MS, RD (amanda@nutritiousliferds.com); Amanda Crane, RDN (amandacrane4@gmail.com)

Scholarship/Award Chair: Dana Henry (dnhenry23@gmail.com)

Dietetic Intern Liason (UVA): Molly Bremer (mollyb66@vt.edu)

Student Liaison (JMU): Megan Wine (wineme@dukes.jmu.edu)

Nominating Committee: Laura Carson Spicer, MSed, RD (lcarsonrd@gmail.com); Debbie Dunn-Frederick, MS, RD (ddunn@bridgewater.edu); Devon L. Golem, PhD, RDN (novedgo@gmail.com); Lucy Gettle, RD, CNSC (ls7he@virginia.edu)

Save the Date: BRAND Fall Meeting

Join us for a full-day professional conference and take advantage of wonderful networking opportunities at the beautiful [Moss Vineyards](#) in Nortonville, Virginia. Enjoy engaging presentations led by speakers with profound knowledge and expertise in their field on trending nutrition topics. Unwind and engage after the conference with optional wine tasting and beautiful sunset views overlooking the Blue Ridge Mountains.



Registration information to follow. Contact Lemma Brown, BRAND President-Elect (lembrown85@gmail.com) with questions.

When: Friday, November 3rd, 2017

Where: Moss Vineyards (pictured above) - 1849 Simmons Gap Rd, Nortonsville, VA 22935

New Communications Committee

A new Communications Committee has been formed to consolidate all social media, website coordination, and public communications on behalf of BRAND. We would like to encourage all members to LIKE our social media pages which can be found at the following connections:



@BRANDofVirginia
(Facebook)



@BRANDofVirginia
(Twitter)



@BRANDofVirginia
(Instagram)

Website: www.blueridgedietitians.com

Any time you are in your community and snap a picture, post, or tweet about nutrition-related events or nutrition news, please tag BRAND's social media connections to help keep the message going! If you have any ideas, job postings, website updates, etc. please contact us.

Tonya Price, Chair (price.t@lynchburg.edu)

Austin Shelly (ACS8R@virginia.edu)

Elizabeth Newton (eknewton10@gmail.com)

From Your BRAND Professional Recognition Committee

Join your fellow BRAND members for a social/networking event at Oakhart Social in Charlottesville on October 5th from 6-8pm. No CEUs will be provided, but this casual event will be a wonderful opportunity to get to meet or know better fellow RDs in the area. RSVP is not necessary, but would be appreciated. Please email Eva Delaney at evad217@gmail.com if you have any questions or would like more information. We hope to see you there!



Public Policy Update

By Angie Hasemann

Public policy doesn't take a summer break! The Academy gathered members in DC on August 7th for a quarterly advocacy day. RDNs and students teamed up with the United States Breastfeeding Committee¹ for its Advocacy Day of Action to visit representatives in Congress. If you'd like to get involved with the next quarterly advocacy day, be sure to read your BRAND and VAND e-mails. We'll send out information once we know about it!



August is a great time to visit your representatives² in the Virginia General Assembly³. They'll be in their home office during the month, and they encourage constituents to stop by and share their concerns. This is one of the best ways to start building a relationship with those who represent you in Richmond. If you're interested in making an appointment to visit your State Senator or Delegate, please reach out to your BRAND District Legislative Representative (DLR), Angie Hasemann⁴. She'd be happy to help you schedule, prepare for, and even attend the visit with you!

¹ <http://www.usbreastfeeding.org/>

² <http://whosmy.viriniageneralassembly.gov/>

³ <http://viriniageneralassembly.gov/>

⁴ ajh5j@virginia.edu

Upcoming Dates to Remember

VASPEN Conference: October 6-7

FNCE: October 21-24

Please email any updates, news items or announcements you would like to be included in the Winter newsletter to Monica Hershey (mlh2qs@virginia.edu)