

Interviewee: Jenny Wages RD/LD

Job title: Clinical Dietitian at Northeast Methodist Hospital

Date: May 6, 2009

1. What is your educational background?

B.S. in Nutrition from Texas State

R.D. Internship at UIW

2. What made you become interested in Nutrition?

I loved food, cooking and originally wanted to own a restaurant. My father encouraged me to get my B.S. in Nutrition. During my education at Texas State (formerly Southwest), I had the opportunity to work with a dietician in the food service area and decided to go that route.

3. What was your first Nutrition-related job experience like?

Right out of college I got hired on as a Food Service supervisor at a Nursing home. I really disliked this job because I felt that management was not my forte.

4. What is your favorite aspect of Nutrition?

I enjoy guiding people in the right direction nutritionally, and helping people who are interested in making a change.

5. Why do you feel that more people need to be educated about Nutrition?

Our "bigger, better, cheaper" society is destroying our bodies. We need to teach America moderation to "save the human race".

6. What are your current job duties / responsibilities?

Patient assessment and education, menu planning, quality control, meal modification, and nutrition support.

7. What do you like most / least about your job?

I like the flexibility of my job; my boss lets me do what I need to in order to help others. I do not like dealing with unhappy patients and staff who are unaware of dietary guidelines and do not understand why I am feeding them certain foods.