

## Gateway for student dietitians into the information superhighway

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### Background

Tertiary dietetic training encompasses a number of disciplines and requires attainment of a broad range of skills in a short period of time. The knowledge attained by student dietitians is partly dependent upon their ability to find and access accurate, credible, timely and thought provoking information. To address this issue in an innovative way, a website has been developed for students in the Bachelor of Nutrition and Dietetics and Master of Nutrition and Dietetics awards at the Flinders University of South Australia for the year 2001.

### Project Description

The goal of the project is to provide a gateway into hundreds of credible websites for student and qualified dietitians. The website – [www.nutd.homestead.com/home.html](http://www.nutd.homestead.com/home.html) – offers users the following categories:

- Australian Nutrition Websites
- Overseas Nutrition Websites
- Public Health Nutrition
- Food Science
- Health Promotion and Community Nutrition
- Sociology of Nutrition
- Clinical Nutrition
- Paediatric Nutrition
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health
- Sports Nutrition and Physical Activity
- Commercial Food Manufacturers
- Online Scientific Journals
- Miscellaneous Nutrition Websites

Expansion and development of the website is ongoing and will be determined by the needs of the students, staff and dietitians, all of whom are able to provide feedback via email facilities available at the website. Formal evaluation will be conducted at the end of the academic year.

### Conclusion

Student dietitians should endeavour to embrace the Internet and become proficient in its use so as to access reliable and up to date information. This website is anticipated to act as a common gateway for all student and qualified dietitians into the vast array of online nutrition information. The evolution and potential success of this project could mean that other nutrition and dietetic training institutes could employ the use of such a website.