Dear Student Experience Enhancement Fund (SEEF),

On behalf of the Dietetics & Human Nutrition Undergraduate Society (DHNUUS) and the 2019 MENU participants, we greatly appreciate the generosity of SEEF funding for our project which allowed 18 students studying Nutrition, Dietetics and Concurrent (Food Science & Nutrition students) to attend the two-day Meeting des Étudiants en Nutrition à l'Université (MENU) which took place from March 16-18th, 2019 in Moncton, New Brunswick.

MENU is an annual, two-day networking and social event designed for students studying nutrition and dietetics amongst eastern Canadian universities. MENU also promotes francophone culture within McGill, as all conferences and events are entirely in French. McGill University has been participating since 2017 but this year posed a significant financial challenge in transportation costs. Having been awarded the SEEF funding in the amount of $5,000 we were able to cover nearly of all transportation costs, making MENU 2019 a much more inclusive and affordable event to attend for students. 100% of SEEF funding was put towards the cost of booking a charter-bus, which totalled $5536.05. In addition to SEEF, DHNUUS was successful in raising over $1,800 by leading independent fundraising events, such as running the Coat Check at the MCSS Halloween Party and organizing the McGill Mac Craft Fair. In the end, out-of-pocket costs for all MENU participants totalled $250, which is the cost of the MENU ticket.

Throughout MENU 2019, students enjoyed networking with fellow dietitians throughout different workshops, kiosks and conferences. Notable experiences include attending a conference hosted by Dr. Sonia Blaney, P.Dt., who has dedicated her career in travelling the globe in pursuit of finding solutions to malnutrition issues, and Bernard Lavallee, P.Dt., who spoke about the intersection and influence of the food industry within the field of nutrition. The last conference of the weekend was hosted by Catherine Lefevre, P.Dt., and author of “SUCRE - Vérités et Conséquences”. Additionally, students were privileged with the opportunity to meet the CEO of Dietitians of Canada, Nathalie Savoie.

Besides expanding their knowledge and perspective within the fields of dietetics and nutrition, students were also entertained throughout the weekend with social events encouraging universities to mingle with others within similar programs. Throughout the weekend, each team from their respective universities were presented with several challenges which could be accomplished through winning games, arriving on time, or being the most supporting or encouraging team at a certain event. On Saturday night, a semi-formal Gala was held where the winning teams were announced, and also served as a night to relax and socialize with friends and students from other universities.

MENU 2019 was a record-breaking successful year for McGill’s MENU team. We are pleased to announce that this year’s McGill MENU team has broken our own personal record, where we placed 2nd overall this year! McGill also succeeded in winning the “Video Challenge” and at 18 students, was one of the largest teams present at MENU 2019.

As McGill has shown strong interest and dedication to participating in MENU since 2017, we are thrilled to announce that MENU 2020 will be hosted for the very first time at McGill University!

This honorable, exciting and challenging endeavor will allow to showcase the School of Human Nutrition at McGill University, ultimately bringing more recognition to the School and the University in terms of nutrition and dietetics amongst Eastern Canada. MENU is one
of the most well-known and distinguished nutrition-related student-run event in Eastern Canada, meaning that hosting the event at McGill University will attract many professionals and companies within the field of dietetics, nutrition and food science to be present at MENU 2020. Hosting MENU at McGill also positively reflects upon the strong student leadership on our campus, as only the most dedicated, creative and skilled student-leaders are given the responsibility of hosting MENU.

Ultimately, attending MENU 2019 and achieving the level of success we did this year, including securing McGill University as the 2020 host of MENU, would not have been possible without the generosity and support from SEEF funding. We wholeheartedly thank all who have made the SEEF possible for allowing us to participate in this unique, university-enriching experience.

Sincerely,

The Dietetics & Human Nutrition Undergraduate Society (DHNUS)
Bianca Løge, Kristen Sunstrum & Lauriane Germain

&

The McGill MENU 2019 Team
Lauriane, Jade, Joanie, Valerie, Audrey, Katherina, Adina, Victoria, Alexandra, Jade, Reanne, Katherine, Audrey, Anne-Marie, Olivia, Andreanne, Ariel & Meri.