

Public Health/Community Nutrition Practice Group

# Member Spotlight

## Amanda Oakley, BS

Amanda Oakley is a graduate of Kansas State University where she earned a B.S. in Dietetics. She will begin graduate school in Fall 2014 at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in the Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition where she will study obesity prevention through nutrition education in middle school students. Amanda plans to complete a dietetic internship following graduate school.



Amanda attributes her interest in community nutrition to her involvement in 4-H, specifically through involvement in foods and nutrition projects. Through these projects, she enjoyed making modifications to recipes and learning how food products were made. Amanda decided to pursue the field of nutrition and dietetics because she values the impact of diet and lifestyle modifications in chronic disease prevention. During her undergraduate studies, she had an opportunity to gain first-hand experience in working with a community nutrition program as a summer intern with the Kansas State Research & Extension. There, she updated a pregnancy nutrition curriculum for the [Expanded Family Nutrition Education Program \(EFNEP\)](#) and authored more than [20 blog posts](#) for community nutrition educators in the state of Kansas.

As a student member of the Public Health/Community Nutrition Practice Group (PHCNPG), Amanda joined the group to connect with dietitians in the field of public health and community nutrition. She is interested in learning more about the various areas of practice that nutrition and dietetic professionals pursue. Amanda is also active in her local Academy affiliate and was honored to receive the 2014 Kansas Dietetic Association McCollum Scholarship.

In her free time, Amanda enjoys baking and spending time outdoors. Her favorite food to bake is bread, and she loves to enjoy fresh bread straight out of the oven! Much like her interest in nutrition, Amanda's passion for making breads developed while she was in 4-H. She enjoys trying new recipes and sharing successes (as well as near-failures) with friends.

PHCNPG wishes Amanda well as she pursues the next steps in her path to becoming a nutrition and dietetics professional!