

New England Culinary Institute Announces New Dean of the Hospitality and Restaurant Management Program
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New England Culinary Institute (NECI) announces the appointment of Michelle Ford as the new Dean of the Hospitality and Restaurant Management Programs (HRM) at the college. She was previously named Interim Dean of HRM on Aug. 16, 2007.

Ford brings a wealth of food and beverage management experience to her new position, including over 20 years of experience in cooking, food production management, and dining room management in a variety of settings (private school, resort, single unit and multi-unit restaurants). Ford holds an Associate of Science degree in Food Service Management from the University of New Hampshire, and a Bachelor of Science degree in Food and Beverage Management from NECI.

'My passion for food service grew from a technical program in high school,' said Ford, who has worked at NECI for the past 11 years in a variety of positions including instructor, general manager, and cross campus food and beverage director. 'My key goal is to work on integrating the academic programs into the college teaching restaurants to strengthen our hands-on approach of 'learn it by living it', which is the hallmark of a NECI education,' said Ford.

The Dean of HRM is responsible for ensuring student satisfaction and coordinating, reviewing and modifying the curriculum for the Bachelor of Arts in Hospitality and Restaurant Management, and the Associate of Science in Hospitality and Restaurant Management degree programs. The Dean is also responsible for ensuring that academic program standards are met and that student outcomes represent both food service industry needs and accreditation requirements.

'Michelle's fascinating work history and successful progression at NECI have brought her to this next step in a terrific career,' said NECI Senior Vice President for Education Richard Flies. 'We are indeed very lucky to be able to reach into our own leadership pool to find professionals like Michelle who are ready and willing to take on new and different challenges.'

NECI is one of the top three culinary schools in the U. S., serving more than 500 students in a variety of culinary and management programs.

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