Reviewer's report

**Title:** Reconsidering Nutrition Science: Vision through a Cultural Lens

**Version:** 2  **Date:** 3 March 2014

**Reviewer:** Heather Rasmussen

**Reviewer's report:**

Discretionary Revisions

This manuscript address the author’s current concern about the way in which nutrition science is currently practiced; this practice is based on nutrition scientists functioning as detached spectators, blinded to the subjectivity of their person. This is in contrast to the way in which nutrition science was originally framed, with the philosophy of nutrition as a central focus. Indeed, carefully controlled empirical observation is the method by which nutrition scientists are trained (myself included), and the concept of nutrition philosophy and epistemology is not addressed in current curriculum and largely absent in the professional field. The suggestions by Dr. Hassel regarding including philosophy and history of science in curriculum of those that aremajoring in nutrition science, as well as creating professional discourse around cross-cultural engagement would bring awareness and advance the field.

I also suggest that this concept goes beyond nutrition science and is applicable to those that are currently interpreting and disseminating nutrition knowledge to individuals. These individuals, including registered dietitians, would not only benefit from the availability of nutrition research and publications that utilize a cultural lens, but they themselves should also address their own subjectivity and practice through this cultural lens. This is especially important as often dietitians and other nutrition-focused health care professionals interact with those of culturally divergent backgrounds.

Aside from potentially adding an application piece as stated above to capture those that disseminate nutrition knowledge to the public, this current manuscript challenges the discipline of nutrition science and will be of value to those in the field.

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Statistical review:** No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests.