

Cathi McMahan, Ph.D., CTRS

Department of Parks, Recreation, and Hospitality Administration
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FORMAL EDUCATION:

2007 Ph.D. - Rehabilitation Education
University of Arkansas - Fayetteville

Dissertation Title: The Psychosocial Effects of a Leisure Education Program on Caregivers of Older Adults with Dementia

2006 Certificate in Gerontology,
University of Arkansas - Fayetteville

1986 M.S. - Recreation
Northwestern State University (LA)

1985 B.S. - Recreation Administration
Arkansas Tech University

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

2011 – Present Department Head, Parks, Recreation, and Hospitality Administration
Department, Arkansas Tech University, Russellville, AR

2018 – Present Professor, Recreation and Park Administration program, Arkansas Tech
University, Russellville, AR

2009 – 2011 Interim Department Head, Parks, Recreation, and Hospitality
Administration Department. Arkansas Tech University, Russellville, AR

2008 – 2018 Associate Professor (tenured), Recreation and Park Administration.
Arkansas Tech University, Russellville, AR

2001- 2008 Assistant Professor, Recreation and Park Administration, Arkansas Tech
University.

1999 - 2001 Visiting Assistant Professor, Recreation and Park Administration,
Arkansas Tech University.

1997 - 1999 Instructor, Recreation and Park Administration, Arkansas Tech University.

- 1995 - 1997 Adjunct Instructor, Physical Education & Recreation Department, Garland County Community College, Hot Springs, AR.
- 1995 Adjunct Instructor, Health, Physical Education, and Recreation Department, Henderson State University, Arkadelphia, AR.
- 1994 - 1997 Clinical Supervisor of Therapeutic Recreation, Levi Hospital, Hot Springs, AR. Directed and supervised a 5 person TR Department for a physical rehabilitation and a psychiatric unit.
- 1993 - 1994 Visiting Instructor, Recreation and Park Administration Department, Arkansas Tech University, Russellville, AR.
- 1990 - 1993 Director of Therapeutic Recreation, Levi Hospital, Hot Springs, AR. Responsible for the day-to-day operations of a Therapeutic Recreation Department for a physical rehabilitation and psychiatric unit.
- 1988 - 1990 Activity Therapist, Rivendell Psychiatric Center, Benton, AR. Responsible for planning, implementing, and evaluating recreational and social programs for children and adolescents.
- 1988 -1989 Life Skills Instructor, Timber Ridge Ranch, Benton, AR. Responsible for overseeing day-to-day activities of individuals with head injuries.
- 1987 -1988 Health Program Director, Quapaw Community Center, Hot Springs, AR. Planned, implemented, and evaluated exercise, aquatic, and sport programs for children, adults, and seniors.
- 1983 -1986 Administrative Assistant, City of Little Rock Parks and Recreation Department Summer Playground Program, Little Rock, AR. Assisted the Director with the day-to-day operations of the summer playground program and special events planner (Summer only).
- 1980 -1983 Lifeguard and Swim Instructor, Belvedere Country Club, Hot Springs, AR. Responsibilities included lifeguarding, general pool maintenance, and teaching swim lessons to all ages (Summers).

SUMMARY OF TEACHING, SCHOLARSHIP, AND RESEARCH

TEACHING

Selected for *Who's Who Among America's Teachers*, 2005 & 2006

Academic Courses Taught at University Level:

TECH 1001 Orientation to Arkansas Tech University

RP 1001 Orientation to Parks, Recreation, and Hospitality Administration

RP 1002 Backpacking

RP 1013 Principles of Recreation and Park Administration

RP 1021 Boating Education

RP 2003 Recreation Programming**

RP 2033 Recreation Leadership*

RP 3013 Recreation for Special Populations/Inclusive Recreation

RP 3023 Camp Administration

RP 3033 Commercial Recreation

RP 3043 Work Experience

RP 3503 Recreational Sport Management

RP 3063 Outdoor Education

RP 4001 Internship Preparation

HA 4001 Internship Preparation

RP 4023 Research Methods

RP 4073 Principles and Techniques of Therapeutic Recreation

RP 4173 Therapeutic Recreation Assessment and Documentation*

RP 4273 Administration and Organization of Therapeutic Recreation Programs**

RP 4373 Interventions in Therapeutic Recreation*

RP 4473 Issues and Trends in Therapeutic Recreation*

RP 4573 Interventions in Therapeutic Recreation II*

RP 4112 Internship II

RP 4114 Internship I

RP 4116 Internship

HA 4116 Internship

***Developed these courses**

****Responsible for major revisions to these courses**

SCHOLARSHIP

Certifications

National Recreation and Parks Association - Certified Parks and Recreation Professional (CPRP), initial certification – 1990

National Council for Therapeutic Recreation Certification - Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist (CTRS), initial certification 1991, expires June 2020

University of Arkansas – Certificate in Gerontology – initial certification – August 2006, expires – no expiration date

Successful Grant Proposals

Project Director, Forest Firefighting Grant and Participating Agreement. (2009 – 2012)
\$15,900 matching grant between Arkansas Tech University and U.S. Forest Service, Ozark-St. Francis National Forest to educate and train forest firefighters.

Project Director, Forest Firefighting Grant and Participating Agreement. (2015 – present)
\$18,000 matching grant between Arkansas Tech University and U.S. Forest Service, Ozark-St. Francis National Forest to educate and train forest firefighters. Also to serve as liaison to and oversee the Arkansas Wildland Fire Academy.

Peer Reviewed Journal Articles

McMahan, C.M., & Wardlaw, B.D. (2010). The psychosocial effects of a leisure education program on caregivers of older adults with dementia. *Annual in Therapeutic Recreation*, 19, 84-90.

Technical Reports and Other Publications

McMahan, C. (2013). Self-study accreditation report for the Accreditation Commission for Programs in Hospitality Administration (ACPHA).

Anderson, L., Ashton, C., Carter, M., Coco-Ripp, J., Daly, F., Heyne, L., Long, T., Lundberg, N., McMahan, C., Wolfe, B., & Zabriskie, R. (2012). Guidelines for Learning Outcomes for Therapeutic Recreation.

McMahan, C. (2011). Self-study accreditation report for the Council of Accreditation of Parks, Recreation, Tourism and Related Professions (COAPRT).

Professional Presentations

National Conferences

McMahan, Cathi M., numerous Council on Accreditation of Parks, Recreation, Tourism and Related Professions' members (October 2012). *University Accreditation 2013: A Mark of Excellence*. Roundtable Discussion presented at the National Recreation and Park Association Congress and Expo, Anaheim, CA

McMahan, Cathi M., Amy Goeglein, and Connie Ranks (August 14, 2009). *Culture of Engagement: ARROW (Active Recreational Resources for Optimal Wellness) Initiative & the Core + Balance Model of Activities*. Educational session presented at The Pioneer Network 9th National Conference, Little Rock, AR

McMahan, Cathi M. (July 31, 2009). *Interventions for Caregivers of the elderly*. Education session presented at the Living Well with Memory Loss: Finding the Balance workshop, UNCG-Greensboro, NC

McMahan, Cathi M. (November 2007). Selected speaker: *The Psychosocial Effects of a Leisure Education Program on Caregivers of Aging Adults with Dementia*. Gerontological Society of America Scientific Meeting, San Francisco, CA

McMahan, Cathi M., Louis Long, and Becki McGrath (September 2001). *Building Stronger Chapter Affiliates*. Group session presented at the ATRA Annual in New Orleans, LA

Regional Conferences

McMahan, Cathi M. & Dr. Penny Willmering (November 2017). *You Said Whaaat? Humor and Play as Techniques for Conflict Management*. Educational Session presented at the

Therapeutic Recreation Symposium for the Southwest, Dallas, TX

McMahan, Cathi M. (November 2016). *Therapeutic Recreation Internships 101: The Basics*. Educational Session presented at the Therapeutic Recreation Symposium for the Southwest, Dallas, TX

McMahan, Cathi M. & Dr. Penny Willmering (November 2016). *Appropriate Use of Humor in Therapeutic Recreation Settings: History, Interventions, and Benefits*. Educational Session presented at the Therapeutic Recreation Symposium for the Southwest, Dallas, TX

McMahan, Cathi M. (April 2015). *Internships: The Stepping Stone to the Future*. Educational Session presented at the Therapeutic Recreation Symposium for the Southwest and Arkansas Therapeutic Recreation Society Conference, Little Rock, AR

McMahan, Cathi M. (March 2011). *The State of Recreation Therapy*. Educational session presented at the Therapeutic Recreation Symposium for the Southwest, North Little Rock, AR

McMahan, Cathi M. (April 2010). *I Refuse to Grow Old: TR Interventions for the Elderly*. Educational session presented at the Therapeutic Recreation Symposium for the Southwest, Austin, TX

McMahan, Cathi M. & Savanna Smith (ATU Student) (April 2, 2009). *Wii Workout: Baby Boomers on the Move*. Educational session presented at the Therapeutic Recreation Symposium for the Southwest, Tulsa, OK

McMahan, Cathi M. & ATU Therapeutic Recreation students (April 2008). *Wii Workout: The Next Generation of Therapy*. Educational session presented at the Therapeutic Recreation Symposium for the Southwest, Little Rock, AR

McMahan, Cathi M. (April 2008). *Leisure Education and Awareness Program for Caregivers*. Educational session presented at the Therapeutic Recreation Symposium for the Southwest, Little Rock, AR

McMahan, Cathi M. (February 2004). *Recreation and the Elderly: A Perfect Match*. Educational session presented at the Therapeutic Recreation Symposium for the Southwest, Stillwater, OK

McMahan, Cathi M. (March 2002). *Interns: Preparing for Our Future* and *The Lost Art of Game Playing*. Educational sessions presented at the Therapeutic Recreation Symposium for the Southwest, Lafayette, LA

McMahan, Cathi M. (March 2001). *Interns or no interns*. Educational session presented at the Therapeutic Recreation Symposium for the Southwest, Little Rock, AR.

State Conferences

McMahan, Cathi M. (October 2019). *Internships: Building Blocks for the Future*. Educational

Session presented at the Arkansas Recreation and Parks Association Conference, Springdale, AR

McMahan, Cathi M. (November 2018). *Internships: Growing the Future Workforce*. Educational Session presented at the Arkansas Recreation and Parks Association Conference, Benton, AR

McMahan, Cathi M. (November 2017). *Internships: Building Blocks for the Future*. Educational Session presented at the Arkansas Recreation and Parks Association Conference, Rogers, AR

McMahan, Cathi M. (November 2014). *The Ins and Outs of Professional Development*. Educational Session presented at the Arkansas Therapeutic Recreation Society Fall Workshop, North Little Rock, AR

McMahan, Cathi M. (March 2014). *Evidenced Based Practice in Therapeutic Recreation*. Educational Session presented at the ARPA/ATRS Annual Conference, Fort Smith, AR

McMahan, Cathi M. (November 2013). *Internships 101: The Basics*. Educational Session presented at the Arkansas Therapeutic Recreation Society Fall Workshop, Benton, AR

McMahan, Cathi & Havens, Amber (March 2013). *Recreation for All: Are We Meeting the Need?* Educational session presented at the Arkansas Therapeutic Recreation Society/Arkansas Recreation and Parks Association Spring Conference, Fort Smith, AR

McMahan, Cathi M. (November 2011). *Internship: The Stepping Stone to the Future*. Educational session presented at the Arkansas Therapeutic Recreation Society Fall Workshop, Russellville, AR

McMahan, Cathi M. (February 2011). *Recreation for All: Are We Meeting the Need?*. Educational session presented at the Arkansas Recreation and Parks Association Annual Conference, Little Rock, AR

McMahan, Cathi M. (October 2010). *Specialty Certification: Moving the TR Profession Ahead*. Educational session presented at the Arkansas Therapeutic Recreation Society Fall Workshop, Little Rock, AR

McMahan, Cathi M. & Seven ATU TR Students (March 2010). *Wii Fit: Taking Video Games to the Next Level*. Educational session presented at the Arkansas Therapeutic Recreation Society Spring Conference, Arkansas Tech University – Russellville, AR

McMahan, Cathi M. (October 16, 2009). *The Latest and Greatest in Therapeutic Recreation*. Educational session presented at the Arkansas Therapeutic Recreation Society Fall Workshop, HSU – Arkadelphia, AR

McMahan, Cathi M., Rick McWhorter, & Darren Austin (February 2008). *Certification 101: CPRP and CTRS*. Educational session presented at the Arkansas Recreation and Parks Association Annual Conference, Eureka Springs, AR

McMahan, Cathi M. & Theresa Herrick (June 2008). *Wii Education: It's Not All Fun and Games*. Educational session presented at the Arkansas Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development Conference, Hot Springs, AR

McMahan, Cathi M. & Theresa Herrick (October 2007). *Wii are the Champions*. Educational session presented at the Arkansas Therapeutic Recreation Society Fall Workshop, ATU - Russellville, AR

McMahan, Cathi M. (October 2003). *Certification: Ins and Outs of the CTRS Credential*. Educational session presented at the Arkansas Therapeutic Recreation Society Fall Workshop, HSU Campus, Arkadelphia, AR

McMahan, Cathi M. (March, 2002). *Interns: Preparing for Our Future*. Educational session presented at ARPA/ATRS Spring Conference, North Little Rock, AR

McMahan, Cathi M. (October and April 1998 - 2001). *Cram for the Exam*. Workshop conducted for individuals preparing for the CTRS exam, Arkansas Tech University, Russellville, AR.

Invited Presentations

McMahan, C., Jackson, S., O'Connor, J., Kelly, P., Myers, K., & Pederson, R. (September 2019). *The Audacity of Play (Physical Education and Leisure Activities for Youth). Session 1*. An invited presentation for the Arkansas Department of Education Special Education LEA Academy, Hot Springs, AR

McMahan, C., Jackson, S., O'Connor, J., Kelly, P., Myers, K., & Pederson, R. (September 2019). *The Audacity of Play (Physical Education and Leisure Activities for Youth). Session 2*. An invited presentation for the Arkansas Department of Education Special Education LEA Academy, Hot Springs, AR

McMahan, Cathi M. (June 2012). *The Benefits of Parks and Recreation*. Arkansas Municipal League, Hot Springs, AR.

McMahan, Cathi M. (Fall 2005). *The Role of Therapeutic Recreation for the Elderly*. Guest Lecturer: Communication and the Elderly class, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR

McMahan, Cathi M. (Summer 2004). Invited speaker: *Reaching Beyond the Barriers*. Arkansas Spinal Cord Commission Workshop, Camp Ferndale; Little Rock, AR

McMahan, Cathi M. (February 2003). *The Importance of Internships*. Educational session presented at ATU Career Opportunities Day (Parks, Recreation, and Hospitality Administration Department), Arkansas Tech University, Russellville, AR

McMahan, Cathi M. (October 2001). *Interns: Preparing for our future*. Keynote speaker for Lone Star (Texas) Therapeutic Recreation Association Fall Workshop, Houston, TX

Training/Consulting

Summer 2008 and 2009, Morrilton City Pool, Morrilton, AR. Served as Pool Manager and Consultant for the Morrilton Parks and Recreation Commission. Created Policies and Procedures for pool operation and training for all pool employees.

June 2007, Schmeiding Center for Senior Education Caregiver Stress Workshop, Springdale, AR. Invited Speaker: *Refresh Your Body & Mind: Recreational Activities to Restore Your Spirit.*

Summer 2007, Morrilton City Pool, Morrilton, AR. Served as Pool Manager for the summer (serving as a consultant to the Parks and Recreation Commission).

Fall 2006, The Caring Place, Hot Springs, AR. Invited Speaker (dissertation intervention): *Leisure Education Awareness Program* for caregivers of the elderly. Conducted training sessions for caregivers of the elderly.

Summer and Fall 2004, Arkansas Health Center (AHC), Benton, AR. Asked to serve as a Therapeutic Recreation Consultant for the Activities Department. Also served as a liaison to the AHC administration and state long-term care office.

Workshops

Organized, taught, sponsored and/or co-sponsored

- 2019 Education Chair: Arkansas Therapeutic Recreation Society Fall Workshop
Russellville, AR
- "An Evening with Tim Ernst" – Nature Photographer
Co-sponsored with Take-A-Hike
Russellville, AR
- Program Chair/Education Chair: Therapeutic Recreation Symposium for the
Southwest
Dallas, TX
- 2018 Education Chair: Arkansas Therapeutic Recreation Society Fall and Spring
Workshop
Russellville, AR
- "An Evening with Tim Ernst" – Nature Photographer
Co-sponsored with Take-A-Hike
Russellville, AR
- Program Chair/Education Chair: Therapeutic Recreation Symposium for the
Southwest
Dallas, TX
- 2017 Chair, Arkansas Therapeutic Recreation Society Spring Workshop

Russellville, AR

"An Evening with Tim Ernst" – Nature Photographer
Co-sponsored with Take-A-Hike
Russellville, AR

Chair of Program Committee: Therapeutic Recreation Symposium for
the Southwest
Dallas, TX

2016 "An Evening with Tim Ernst" – Nature Photographer
Co-sponsored with Take-A-Hike
Russellville, AR

Education Committee: Therapeutic Recreation Symposium for
the Southwest; Dallas, TX

2015 Arkansas Therapeutic Recreation Society Fall Workshop
Russellville, AR

"An Evening with Tim Ernst" – Nature Photographer
Co-sponsored with Take-A-Hike
Russellville, AR

2014 Arkansas Therapeutic Recreation Society Fall Workshop
North Little Rock, AR

Arkansas Recreation and Park Association/Arkansas Therapeutic Recreation
Society Annual Conference (Spring)
Fort Smith, AR

"An Evening with Tim Ernst" – Nature Photographer
Co-sponsored with Take-A-Hike
Russellville, AR

2013 Arkansas Therapeutic Recreation Society Fall Workshop
Benton, AR

Arkansas Therapeutic Recreation Society/Arkansas Recreation and Park
Association Spring Conference
Fort Smith, AR

"An Evening with Tim Ernst" co-host with Take-A-Hike
Russellville, AR

2012 Arkansas Therapeutic Recreation Society Spring Conference
Rogers, AR

- Arkansas Therapeutic Recreation Society Fall Workshop
Little Rock, AR
- "An Evening with Tim Ernest" co-host with Take A Hike
Arkansas Tech University – Russellville, AR
- 2011 Arkansas Therapeutic Recreation Society Fall Workshop
Arkansas Tech University - Russellville, AR
- 2011 Therapeutic Recreation Symposium for the Southwest
Little Rock, AR
- 2010 Arkansas Therapeutic Recreation Society Spring Conference
Arkansas Tech University – Russellville, AR
- 2009 Arkansas Therapeutic Recreation Society Fall Workshop
Arkansas Tech University – Russellville, AR
- 2007 Arkansas Therapeutic Recreation Society Fall Workshop
Arkansas Tech University – Russellville, AR
- 2006 Innovative Programs for the Older Adult
Invited speaker: Dr. Linda Buettner, CTRS
Arkansas Tech University
Sponsored by ATU RPA Department. Rehabilitation Science Department and
Nursing Department
- 2006 Innovative Interventions for the Older Adult
Dr. Linda Buettner, CTRS
Fayetteville, AR
- 2005 ATRA Public Policy Training
"Washington Bound"
Benton, AR
- 2005 ATRS/ARPA Annual Conference
Pine Bluff, AR
Education Chair
- 2005 Conference/Symposium Chair
Therapeutic Recreation Symposium for the Southwest
Little Rock, AR.
- 2004 ATRS Fall Workshop
ATU – Russellville, AR
Education Chair

- 2003 ATRS Fall Workshop
Henderson State University, Arkadelphia, AR
Education Chair
- 2002 ATRS Fall Workshop
ATU – Russellville, AR
- 2001 Conference/Symposium Chair
Therapeutic Recreation Symposium for the Southwest
Little Rock, AR

Other Scholarly Activities

Primary author major revisions to the RP 4116 Internship Manual (1999, 2001, 2004, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2019)

Assisted with revisions for the Hospitality Administration Internship Manual and Culinary Management Externship Manual (2012)

Revised Therapeutic Recreation curriculum based on national standards and input from ATU TR Advisory Committee (developed one new courses and revised one existing course) 2019

Revised Therapeutic Recreation curriculum based on national standards and input from ATU TR Advisory Committee (developed three new courses and revised two existing courses)

Revised Recreation Administration Emphasis and Turf Management Emphasis to become one emphasis area – Recreation Sport Management in Fall 2016

Made major revisions to Recreation Administration Emphasis – revisions were adopted and implemented in fall of 2005

Primary Author, ***Strategic Plan for Recreation and Park Administration***, 2011 – 2021.

Primary Author, ***Strategic Plan for Hospitality Administration***, 2011-2021

Served as External Reviewer for Dr. Brent Wolfe for promotion to full professor in the School of Human Ecology at Georgia Southern University (April 2016)

Asked to serve on an undergraduate research project with a student in College of Business “The Business of Independence” (2012)

Served as a Manuscript Reviewer for the Therapeutic Recreation Journal (TRJ) – review manuscripts on topics of caregiving and Animal Assisted Therapy (latest review- March 2018)

SERVICE

Arkansas Tech University

- Spring 2019 Member, ATU Accessibility Committee
Fall 2019
- Served on ATU Rehabilitation Science Interdisciplinary Curriculum Committee
- Represented PRHA Department at ATU Open House and Time Out for Tech
- Planned and organized Arkansas River Valley Wildland Fire Academy (a joint venture with ATU and the U.S. Forest Service)
- Member, ATU Department Head Council
- Served on ATU Search Committee for Major Gift Officer
- Advisor, ATU Fishing Club
- Member, ATU CETL Book Club
- Organized a group of two Recreation and Park Administration (therapeutic recreation) students' fundraising efforts in order for them to attend the Therapeutic Recreation Symposium for the Southwest in Dallas, TX – also served as Faculty Advisor for the group
- Spring 2018 Served as an ATU Bridge to Excellence Mentor
Fall 2018
- Secretary, ATU General Education Committee
- Member, ATU Accessibility Committee
- Served on ATU Rehabilitation Science Interdisciplinary Curriculum Committee
- Represented PRHA Department at ATU Open House and Time Out for Tech
- Planned and organized Arkansas River Valley Wildland Fire Academy (a joint venture with ATU and the U.S. Forest Service)
- Served on search committee for Director of LakePoint Conference Center
- Advisor, ATU Fishing Club
- Organized a group of five Recreation and Park Administration (therapeutic recreation) students' fundraising efforts in order for them to attend the Therapeutic Recreation Symposium for the Southwest in Dallas, TX – also

served as Faculty Advisor for the group

Spring 2017 Served as an ATU Bridge to Excellence Mentor

Fall 2017

Member, Curriculum Committee

Member, General Education Committee

Member, Accessibility Committee

Served on ATU Rehabilitation Science Interdisciplinary Curriculum Committee

Represented PRHA Department at ATU Open House and Time Out for Tech

Planned and organized Arkansas River Valley Wildland Fire Academy (a joint venture with ATU and the U.S. Forest Service)

Organized a group of Seven Recreation and Park Administration (therapeutic recreation) students' fundraising efforts in order for them to attend the Therapeutic Recreation Symposium for the Southwest in Dallas, TX – also served as Faculty Advisor for the group

Fall 2016 Served as an ATU Bridge to Excellence (B2E) Mentor

Served on ATU Accessibility Committee

Served on ATU Curriculum Committee

Served on ATU Rehabilitation Science Interdisciplinary Curriculum Committee

Organized Kidsfest 2016 Russellville Parks and Recreation

Represented PRHA Department at ATU Open House

Served on Department Head Search Committee for Department of Physical Education

Served on ATU Bookstore Selection Committee

Spring 2016 Planned and organized the Arkansas River Valley Wildland Fire Academy (a joint venture with ATU and the U.S. Forest Service) – held in May 2016

Served as an ATU Bridge to Excellence (B2E) Mentor

Served on ATU Accessibility Committee

Served on ATU Curriculum Committee

Served on ATU Rehabilitation Science Interdisciplinary Curriculum Committee

Served on the ATU Building Better Futures Committee

Represented PRHA Dept. at ATU Time Out for Tech

Fall 2015

Served on Rehabilitation Science Department Search Committee Tenure track-faculty member

Appointed by Dr. Bowen to serve on the Building Better Futures Committee

Served as an ATU Bridge to Excellence (B2E) Mentor

Served on ATU Accessibility Committee

Served on ATU Curriculum Committee

Served on ATU Rehabilitation Science Interdisciplinary Curriculum Committee

Organized Kidsfest 2015 Russellville Parks and Recreation

Represented PRHA Dept. at ATU Open House

Spring 2015

Served on Dean of College of Engineering and Applied Sciences Search Committee

Served as an ATU Bridge to Excellence (B2E) Mentor

Served on ATU Accessibility Committee

Served on ATU Curriculum Committee

Served on ATU Rehabilitation Science Interdisciplinary Curriculum Committee

Represented PRHA Dept. at ATU Time Out for Tech

Fall 2014

Served as Chair of Search Committee for Hospitality Administration Program Tenure track-faculty member

Served as Chair of Search Committee for PRHA Department Event Coordinator

Served on Rehabilitation Science Department Search Committee Tenure track-faculty member (two searches)

Chair of Hospitality Administration Program accreditation (ACPHA) site visit

Served on ATU Disability Committee

- Organized Kidsfest 2014 (co-sponsored by Russellville Parks and Recreation Department)
- Spring 2014 Served on ATU Disability Committee
- Served on Disability Service Search Committee (Coordinator of Disability Services position)
- Spring 2013 Served as Chair of Search Committee for Recreation and Park Administration Tenure-track faculty member
- Chair of Hospitality Administration Program accreditation team (site visit scheduled for Spring 2014)
- Organized and assisted with fundraising efforts for a group of 7 Therapeutic Recreation students to attend the Therapeutic Recreation Symposium for the Southwest in Stillwater, OK (also served as faculty advisor for the trip)
- Attended and represented the Recreation and Park Administration Program at the 2013 Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Chairs Conference in Charleston, SC
- Fall 2013 Organized and assisted with fundraising efforts for a group of 5 Recreation and Park Administration students to attend the National Recreation and Park Association Congress and Expo in Houston, TX (also served as faculty advisor for the trip)
- August 2012 Attended and represented the ATU Hospitality Administration Program at the 2012 ICHRIE Summer Conference in Providence, RI
- May 2012 Served as Chair of Search Committee for Hospitality Administration Tenure-track faculty member
- March 2012 Chair of Recreation and Park Administration Program accreditation team (ATU served as one of the Pilot Schools for new COAPRT Accreditation Standards)
- November 2011 Organized and assisted with fundraising efforts for a group of 6 Recreation and Park Administration students to attend the National Recreation and Parks Association Congress and Expo in Atlanta, GA (also served as faculty advisor for the trip).
- October 2011 Served as official representative for ATU and ATU RPA Program at the Southeast State Park Directors Annual Meeting
- February 2011 Attended and represented ATU Recreation and Park Administration Program at the LRSTE Teaching Institute in Rutledge, GA
- August 2010 – 2013 Member of ATU Faculty Senate

November 2010 Served on search committee for ATU Director of Disability Services

October 2009 Organized and assisted with fundraising efforts for a group of 7 Recreation and Park students to attend the National Recreation and Parks Association/National Therapeutic Recreation Society Congress and Expo in Salt Lake City, UT (also served as faculty advisor for the trip)

Member of ATU Disability Services Advisory Board

October 2008 Organized and assisted with fundraising efforts for a group of 10 Recreation and Park students to attend the National Recreation and Parks Association/National Therapeutic Recreation Society Congress and Expo in Baltimore, Maryland (also served as faculty advisor)

March 2007 Organized and assisted with fundraising efforts for a group of 7 therapeutic recreation students to attend the ATRA Mid-Year Conference and March on Capitol Hill in Washington DC – also served as faculty advisor for the trip and scheduled appointments for students to meet with Arkansas legislators

October 2002 – 2009 “Kidsfest” Chair for ATU (event hosted by Russellville Parks and Recreation Department)

October 2007 – 2010 Chair, “Rollin Round the Rim” Committee

August 2007 – Present Faculty Advisor, Recreation and Park Club

August 2007 – 2009 Department Peer Review Committee Chair

2005 – Present Member of ATU Interdisciplinary Curriculum Committee

1998 – 2010 Faculty Camp Director for Camp Stormy (5th grade camp – cooperative agreement with ATU and Russellville School District)

2001 – Present Program Assessment Committee (Department)

Summer 2007 Hospitality Administration Faculty Search Committee

Spring 2004 PRHA Department Faculty Search Committee

October 2004 TECH Open House Departmental Representative

2003 – 2004 Bridge to Excellence Mentor

Spring 2003 Supervised RP 2033 Recreation Leadership class as they planned and implemented monthly events for the River Valley Chapter of Big Brothers Big Sisters

- Fall 2003 Organized a group of 15 Recreation and Park Administration students' fundraising efforts in order for them to attend the National Recreation and Parks Association's Expo in St. Louis, MO – also served as Faculty Advisor for the group (this was the first time a group of students from ATU attended)
- 2002 & 2003 ATU's Who's Who Among College and University Students Selection Committee member
- 2001 & 2005 Member Recreation and Park Administration accreditation team (helped prepare self study and active in site visit)
- 2001- 2005 ATU Recreation and Park Club Advisor
- 1997 – Present Academic Advisor for 40+ undergraduate Recreation and Park Administration students

Service to the Profession

Recreational Therapy Foundation (RTF)

- 2015 Board Member
2014 Grant Coordinator

Therapeutic Recreation Symposium for the Southwest (TRSSW)

- 2019 Board member
2019 Chair, Education/Program Committee
2018 Chair, Education/Program Committee
2017 Chair, Program Committee
2016 Co-Chair, Program Committee
2012-2015 Served on Education Committee
2011 Served on Conference Planning Committee
2012 Conference Chair (Little Rock, AR)
2003 - 2005 Chair, Board of Directors
2001 Conference (Symposium) Chair
1999 – Present Board Member

Arkansas Recreation and Parks Association (ARPA)

- 2019 – 2020 Member-at-Large (Board of Directors)
2017 – 2018 Member-at-Large (Board of Directors)
1997 – Present Member
2000 – 2004 Therapeutic Recreation Liaison
1999 – 2002 Member-at-Large (Board of Directors)

American Therapeutic Recreation Association (ATRA)

- 1996 – Present Member
2013 - Present Invited to serve on Higher Education Task Force
2013 – 2015 Co-Chair Higher Education Task Force
2007 – 2008 Co-Chair Publications Team
2006 – Present Member Public Policy Team

1998 – Present ATRA Educator Group
2000 – 2002 Chapter Affiliate Council Secretary/Treasurer

Arkansas Therapeutic Recreation Society (ATRS)

2019 Member
2015 – present Education Chair and Conference Coordinator
2014 Co-Chair Education Committee and Public Policy
2013 Co-Chair Education Committee
2012 Education and Public Policy Chair
2011-2012 President
2010-2011 President-Elect
2006- Present Chair – Public Policy
2004 – 2005 President of ATRS
2003 – 2004 President-Elect
1998 – 2006 Education Chair
1998 – 2001 Founder and organizer of “Cram for the Exam” CTRS
Study Sessions
1997 President
1996 President-Elect
1995 – 1997 Founding Member of ATRS

Pope County Big Brothers Big Sisters

1999 - 2004 Member, Advisory Board
2000 – 2002 President of Advisory Board

Saint Mary’s Regional Medical Center Community Advisory Board

2003 – 2004 Advisory Board Member

Morrilton Parks and Recreation Commission

2019 Chair
2012 Re-appointed as Chair
2011 – 2012 Chair
2011 – Present Appointed Member
2006 –2009 Co-chair
2003 – Present Appointed Member

BOST, Inc. – Fort Smith, AR

2017 – present Board Member

Honors and Awards

2017 Asked to serve on the BOST, Inc. (Fort Smith, AR) Board of Directors

2016 Recognition for 20 years of service as ATU Faculty Member

2009 National Recreation and Parks Association Outstanding Student Club Award (served as Faculty Advisor for RP Club)

- 2009 River Valley Tri Peaks Tourism Association Tourism Person of the Year for Conway County
- 2008 Nominated for Arkansas Democrat-Gazette 20 to Watch in 2009
- 2006 Who's Who Among America's Teachers
- 2005 Who's Who Among America's Teachers
- 2002 ACWHE (Arkansas Council for Women in Higher Education) Scholarship Recipient
- 2001 Facility of the Year (Arkansas Tech University) awarded by Arkansas Therapeutic Recreation Society
- 2000 Certificate of Recognition awarded by the American Therapeutic Recreation Association
- 1999 Professional of the Year awarded by Arkansas Therapeutic Recreation Society