A MESSAGE FROM
STEFANIE WEST, YOUR
TALS PRESIDENT-ELECT

I have a lot of opinions and I’m willing to share them. Because I do share my opinions, I’ve heard more than once from people in my community that I should run for public office. “That’s really sweet,” I respond when this happens, but I explain that I’d never win. How can I know this, you might ask? Let’s assume you’ve asked. Because my campaign slogan would be “Vote for me! I’ll raise taxes and give you stuff!” Okay, my answer might actually have been a little more colorful, but you get the point.

Before you get nervous about my raising dues to The Academy of Leisure Sciences (TALS), this is not my intent. However, I do plan to spend a lot of time thinking about how we can give you more for your money. How can we make sure that a TALS membership is not a luxury but a necessity? What do you, or will you, or can you get from TALS that literally makes your life better? There is already a list (Refer to TALS website section on membership), but rest assured that the TALS Board of Directors is currently investing its time in improving your membership experience in both breadth and depth.

For now, I see the single most important thing TALS does is to help you build relationships with your colleagues. I don’t know about you, but I still cherish the relationships I have with my friends from graduate school. We were a close group and we helped each other get through some tough times, as well as celebrated some truly special moments together. Why were they so important to me? I had other friends, after all. But these friends got me. They understood what I was going through. They were MY people! I believe that is who TALS is and what makes TALS special. We are the people who get you. The people who understand you. WE ARE YOUR PEOPLE! So, as I see it, The Academy of Leisure Sciences is about building relationships with people. I hope you will help me build up TALS as we build up each other. Feel free to send me your ideas at westst@appstate.edu.

STEFANIE WEST, President-Elect
The Academy of Leisure Sciences
CONGRATULATIONS NEW TALS FELLOWS

Three scholars will be inducted as TALS Fellows this fall at the annual meeting at the NRPA Conference. They will be honored at the TALS business meeting on Wednesday, September 27, from 9 to 10:30 a.m. in room 211/12.

Rodney Deiser, professor of Leisure, Youth, and Human Services in the School of Kinesiology, Allied Health, and Human Services at the University of Northern Iowa.

John de Graaf, author, filmmaker, producer, and former executive director of Take Back Your Time.

Shane Pegg, senior lecturer in the Tourism Discipline of the School of Business at The University of Queensland, Australia, University of Queensland.

UPCOMING NRPA CONFERENCE SCHEDULE
MEETINGS OF INTEREST

Meetings and events of interest to TALS members can be viewed below. The annual TALS meeting is Wednesday, September 27 from 9 to 10:30 a.m. in Room 211/12. The Butler Lecture will be held on Wednesday from 2:30 to 3:45 p.m. in Room 223. This year’s topic is Recreation and Inclusion: From Theory to Practice, and features Dr. John Dattilo, professor at Penn State University, and Mr. Mark Spolidoro, director of Camp Shriver (University of Massachusetts, Boston).

Mark your calendars for the TALS social at NRPA: Crescent City Brewhouse, 8–10 p.m. on Wednesday, September 27, 527 Decatur Street, New Orleans, LA 70130 http://www.crescentcitybrewhouse.com/

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Student Recreation Challenge</td>
<td>Monday 9/25</td>
<td>2:30 p.m. – 4:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>George Butler Lecture</td>
<td>Wednesday 9/27</td>
<td>2:30 p.m. – 3:45</td>
<td>Rm. 223</td>
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<td>TALS Business Meeting</td>
<td>Wednesday 9/27</td>
<td>9:00 a.m. – 10:30</td>
<td>Rm. 211/2</td>
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<td>NRPA Poster Research Session</td>
<td>Wednesday 9/27</td>
<td>Noon</td>
<td>Booth 3156</td>
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<td>University Department Chairs Meeting</td>
<td>Thursday 9/28</td>
<td>8:00 a.m – 9:15</td>
<td>Rm. 231/2</td>
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<td>Education Network Leadership Meeting</td>
<td>Thursday 9/28</td>
<td>11:00 a.m. – 12:30</td>
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<td>Education Network General Meeting</td>
<td>Thursday 9/28</td>
<td>1:00 p.m. – 2:15</td>
<td>Rm. 231/2</td>
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<td>NRPA Research Sessions</td>
<td>Thursday 9/28</td>
<td>9:45 a.m. – 11:00</td>
<td>Rm. 225</td>
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<td>Gender and Recreation</td>
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| NRPA Research Sessions Health & Quality of Life I | Thursday 9/28 | 9:45 a.m. – 11:00 | Rm. 223 |
| NRPA Research Sessions Health & Quality of Life II | Thursday 9/28 | 11:30 a.m. – 12:45 | Rm. 225 |
| NRPA Research Sessions Youth & Family I | Thursday 9/28 | 11:30 a.m. – 12:45 | Rm. 223 |
| NRPA Research Sessions Administration & Programming I | Thursday 9/28 | 1:30 p.m. – 2:45 | Rm. 225 |
| NRPA Research Sessions Health & Quality of Life III | Thursday 9/28 | 1:30 p.m. – 2:45 | Rm. 223 |
| NRPA Research Sessions Administration & Programming II | Thursday 9/28 | 3:15 p.m. – 4:30 | Rm. 225 |
| NRPA Research Sessions Youth & Family II | Thursday 9/28 | 3:15 p.m. – 4:30 | Rm. 223 |

This list of events is also available on the news page of the TALS website.

NEW PUBLISHER AND EDITOR NAMED FOR THE JOURNAL OF LEISURE RESEARCH (JLR)

Taylor & Francis has been contracted by NRPA to publish the Journal of Leisure Research. Laura Payne, professor at the University of Illinois will serve as the editor as the journal resumes publication. While the journal is owned by NRPA, its content and editorial board are independent of NRPA and will work directly with Taylor & Francis. Laura would like to thank Linda Caldwell, Karla Henderson and Ellen Weissinger for serving on the senior advisory group during the journal’s transition to a new publisher and editor.

INSIGHTS FROM DR. MARK HAVITZ
2017 RECIPIENT OF THE THEODORE AND FRANKLIN ROOSEVELT AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN PARKS AND RECREATION RESEARCH

Congratulations to Dr. Mark Havitz, professor at the University of Waterloo for being named the recipient of the 2017 Roosevelt Research Award. This is a distinguished honor and celebrates the many positive contributions Dr. Havitz has made to our field.

Dr. Havitz provides some interesting insights into his career and inspirations

How did you get into the field of recreation and leisure studies?

My immediate and extended family, especially parents and grandparents, were key to developing
an early appreciation for Great Lakes Region culture, communities, landscapes, and ecosystems. Parks, playgrounds and stadia were a huge part of that experience for me. My first dream job was park planner for the U.S. National Park Service, with an emphasis on bicycle trails connecting parks and travel destinations with urban areas. My second dream job was municipal park and recreation director. Hiring freezes and evolving interests instead led me to academics. Dad was by far most influential on the sport and recreation side of things. He’s also the source of my dissertation topic. My original idea germinated in 1973 when I was 16 and trying to understand his choice of campgrounds (always public sector when possible) on an extended family vacation that traversed, in circular fashion, Michigan to Oregon and back. Fourteen years later, I dedicated my dissertation to him (title: An experimental examination of sector bias in the context of selected organized recreation services).

Who has inspired you and why?

Starting with early mentors Ted Haskell, John Crompton, and Dennis Howard, my inspirations include contemporaries spanning generations of academics and professionals from days at Michigan State, Texas A&M, Iowa State, Oregon, and Waterloo. As well, NRPA, CCLR, and TALS colleagues from places not heretofore mentioned. You know who you are. If I had to pick a couple of people whom I never met, but wish I had connected with when I had opportunity, I’d say Lauren Brown and Genevieve Gillette. I’m writing about Brownie in a forthcoming book (stay tuned). For the scoop on Genevieve, check out http://www.gillettenature.org/about/genevieve-gillette.html. She’s worth the read.

What career contributions are you most proud of?

Pioneering work related to ego involvement, commitment, and loyalty. Innovative work related to leisure and unemployment and use of autoethnography to understand deep meanings and identities imbedded in recreation, sport, and travel experiences. Support work in better understanding public sector marketing and finance in Canada and the United States. On a personal level, never having purchased a campus parking pass during my academic career, relying instead on my bicycle, feet, and public transit to get to and from work. I hope to be remembered as someone who found it easy to see the best in other people.

GETTING PERSONAL: DR. LYNN JAMIESON’S INSPIRATIONS AND INSIGHTS ON TRENDS, ISSUES, AND RETIREMENT

How did you get into the field, and what inspired you to pursue a career in recreation and leisure?

Entering the profession was influenced by my active family during my formative years in New Jersey. My grandfathers represented the epitome of those engaged with youth; Walter Jamieson was a park commissioner. He started a pee wee league and other programs for underserved youth whom he enabled by offering them donated equipment from his garage. His brother, Charlie Jamieson (a Cleveland Indians Hall of Famer), brought pro baseball players to youth events to support local park and recreation. My other grandfather taught high school and actively engaged in several sport and outdoor recreation activities. Since I had polio when I was 4, and as a part of my physical therapy, I was strongly encouraged to
be active throughout my life. I pursued several sports and appreciate art, theatre, language, and history and took advantage of nearby New York City.

**Whose work has inspired you over the years and why?**

I majored in health and physical education (PE) at Muskingum University. At this liberal arts college, I pursued arts, French, and other areas. I earned my MS from Indiana University (IU; 1970) in PE and was assistant recreation superintendent for two years in Corpus Christi, Texas. I also worked in San Diego for one year, and Johnson County Park and Recreation District (KS) for seven years. I returned to IU and earned my ReD. Since then, I was a professor at California Polytechnic State University and then returned to IU, where I have served in various administrative roles. I have been influenced by great philosophers of note, artists and architects, and noted scholars in all fields. I have been greatly influenced by the many administrators of parks and recreation, such as Bob Modlin from Corpus Christi; Pauline des Granges from San Diego; and Bill Jasinek, Gary Haller, and Leon Younger from Johnson County. In our field, I was influenced by the work of John Crompton, Karla Henderson, Geoff Godbey, Tony Mobley, Mary Duncan, Jim Murphy, Bill Niepoth, and Jim Peterson, to name a few. My work on competencies in recreational sports formed the basis for a National Intramural-Recreational Sports Association (NIRSA) certification program that was initiated in the early ‘80s and recently updated. In addition, I completed research concerning tourism and revitalization, research competence through the production of a best-selling research instructional video produced at Indiana University, and co-authored a number of texts and chapters.

**What are some important trends and issues we should be addressing (from any perspective—research, education, outreach, administration/leadership in our field)?**

In looking at the future, I see the diffusion of our profession into many other areas—health, social work, public administration, business administration, international affairs, cultural anthropology, epidemiology, and many other areas. This diffusion is a challenge—How do we see the increased insertion of our body of knowledge into so many receptive and respected fields as a result of the positive influence we have had in the world? It will be a challenge to allow the growth of interdisciplinary work to permeate all relevant fields of interest and key a unique identity at the same time. As we are welcome more in the medical, law, business, and other areas, what will keep our contributions unique and distinctive?

A second area is the need to return to our roots of providing our services and educational outlets to a growing population who is underserved by the benefits accrued through leisure; how can we reach a wider range of users, and how can we be effective in securing positive and measurable health outcomes for these and other populations?

In short, we need to welcome ways that respect for leisure leads to serving the widest possible range of individuals in the broadest of contexts.

**Where do you find leisure and what are you looking forward to in your transition to retirement?**

As I look toward retiring in January, my greatest plan is to pursue the activities I have engaged in with more depth. I plan to engage in more activities with my family and friends, particularly my spouse and two adult children. I have always developed myself as an avid reader, an arts and crafts aficionado, and an active sports participant. My first step consists of a month-long reconnection with the ocean to serve as an initial reset from a lifetime of work. Then I plan to continue masters swimming, clay arts, and volunteering. I am in no hurry to overthink the future; there is something to be said about taking in the beauty of silence and enjoying the moment knowing that enjoyment is anything that makes you happy.