From the Editor

We would like to hear from you! Please feel free to send me ideas, text, and information about upcoming events. The ALS Newsletter will continue to grow as the organization grows.

Contact me at:

David Scott
Texas A&M University
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979-764-5892

ALS in Houston

The Academy of Leisure Sciences will hold its annual business meeting in Houston at the 2013 Annual Congress of the National Recreation and Park Association. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 9, from 10 to 11. All members are invited. The meeting room has yet to be announced.

Fellows and their guests are also invited to a luncheon on Wednesday, October 9, starting at 11:30.

For more details about the luncheon, contact David Scott (dscott@tamu.edu).

President’s Corner

It has been a pleasure to serve as your president of the Academy of Leisure Sciences this past year.

This year ALS has continued to expand its role in promoting the scholarship and science involved in the leisure field and has achieved a number of important milestones, including the following:

• Developed a partnership with Sagamore Publishing to handle ALS operations
• Revised and updated our constitution
• Initiated the process of moving the SPREnet into ALSnet
• Developed an MOU with the American Leisure Academy
• Reinvigorated the Teaching Institute to be held in 2014 in Pacific Grove, CA
• Developed an MOU of cooperation with the World Leisure Academy
• Developed the ALS Newsletter

Needless to say, none of this would have been possible without the ongoing support that you, the members of the Academy, have provided this past year. Moreover, a particular thanks to our ALS officers this year—Deb Jordan, David Scott, Bill Stewart, Ingrid Schneider, and Karla Henderson—and a welcome to our new officers Bill Stewart (treasurer) and Maridith Jansseen (secretary). On this last note, a special thanks to Ingrid Schneider for her well-crafted work and effort she gave to the ALS as our secretary this past year. (cont. on p. 3)
A Message from
ALS PRESIDENT-ELECT

Dear Colleagues:

I must admit it is a rather daunting prospect to be stepping into the position of president of the Academy in the midst of so many changes. At the same time, I am comforted knowing that I will be able to rely on the wisdom of outgoing, continuing, and incoming ALS board members. Our strength comes in the involvement of many—and I look forward to each of you becoming involved and participating in our many initiatives as we move forward. We have much to do, and together we can enrich the Academy in ways that will serve us all.

We are incredibly fortunate to have the infrastructure provided by Sagamore Publishing to support the many efforts of the Academy. As the ALS Association Manager, they are aiding us with membership drives, website development, a listserv, data management, marketing, educational efforts, and other activities to serve the membership. With their assistance, planning is well underway to host the first ALS meeting of Academic Chairs and Department Heads at NRPA and again in San Antonio in February 2014; we will also be hosting the ALS Teaching Institute at Asilomar (CA) in late February. Everyone is invited to attend all events.

As you are likely aware, the Academy has opened its doors of membership to include all of those interested in the scholarship and advancement of the broad field of leisure sciences. New members will come from the traditional fields of parks, recreation, and leisure studies; in addition, we invite those in tourism, sports management, outdoor recreation, military recreation, therapeutic recreation, and other related disciplines to join us. We are excited about how this blend of colleagues will enrich our efforts.

To grow the membership so that we can benefit from the science and scholarship of the field, we are undertaking a membership drive. You are invited to help us by becoming a member on the membership committee. We are looking to engage individuals committed to the mission of ALS to serve as “regional recruiters” to reach out to colleagues, share the benefits of membership, and invite them to join us.

We anticipate the future being one that we co-create, where all members have input and contribute to the growth of our disciplines. We anticipate offering online trainings, sharing current scholarship, and hosting and supporting events and activities that contribute to member professional development. The future may also bring the dissemination of scholarship, supported projects, and white papers. We anticipate our continued work of supporting young professionals and students and opening opportunities for all of us to share our skills and talents with one another. The Academy of Leisure Sciences will be as strong as the collective—you are warmly invited to join us.

Deb Jordan, President-Elect
Academy of Leisure Sciences
The ALS Future Scholars Program provides graduate students who are interested in pursuing a doctorate in an area related to recreation and leisure studies the opportunity to meet outstanding researchers and scholars in the field. The program has impacted the lives of many students who are now giving back to the profession. You can read about previous winners on the ALS website.

The Future Scholars Award relies on donations for funding. In light of this, we are initiating a Challenge Grant program. Along with the ALS, the American Leisure Academy (ALA) has graciously agreed to establish a challenge grant whereby members of both academies are invited to donate to the Future Scholars Fund. For every dollar raised in the next three years (or until the challenge is met), ALA will match the donation up to $8,000. We would love to meet that challenge well before the three-year deadline. If you give today (or this year), we could reach that $8,000 goal, resulting in a $16,000 addition to the Future Scholars Fund.

Please consider donating to support this outstanding program!

President’s Corner (cont. from p. 1)

Another key component in our success, both this year and in the past, has been the work performed by the committees that serve an integral function on behalf of the ALS. A sample of these committees includes the Nominations and Elections Committee, the Future Scholars Endowment Fund, the Membership Committee, the Teaching Institute Committee, and the Future Scholars Committee. Their work, often behind the scenes, allows the Academy to engage in a wide variety of goals and objectives, such as the Future Scholars Program; our new Future Scholars are Wayne Means and Lee Parfitt, and our new Fellows are Monika Stodolska, Troy Glover, and Walter Kuentzel.

And finally, a welcome to Deb Jordan as she assumes the role of president of the Academy of Leisure Sciences. Dr. Jordan’s experience and organizational skills will help ensure that the ALS will continue along a path to success in the many endeavors it is currently involved in now and in the future. ALS will be in good hands as Dr. Jordan takes over as president.

Alan Ewert, President
Academy of Leisure Sciences

A Proposed Change in the Constitution
by Alan Ewert, President

Dear Members:

The Academy of Leisure Sciences has made significant progress in the past two years expanding our role and outreach to other groups and organizations involved in the research and scholarship of leisure sciences. We have now reached the point when it is time to revise our constitution in order to provide for a more representative and effective organization. As per the original constitution rules, in order to approve the new constitution, two-thirds (2/3) of the Fellows attending our yearly business meeting must vote in the affirmative for the resolution to pass. Our plan is to conduct that vote during this year’s ALS luncheon in Houston by providing the attendees a paper ballot that will be counted during our meeting. If you have any questions concerning the proposed revisions or the process we will be using, please do not hesitate to contact me (aewert@indiana.edu).

THANK YOU AGAIN FOR YOUR CONTINUED INTEREST IN THE ACADEMY OF LEISURE SCIENCES!
Congratulations to Alan Graefe, who will be presented the 2013 Theodore and Franklin Roosevelt Award for Excellence in Recreation and Park Research by the National Recreation and Park Association at the NRPA Annual Convention in Houston, Texas. The award is given annually “to an individual whose contributions to recreation and research have significantly advanced the cause of the recreation movement.”

Alan Graefe is a professor in the Department of Recreation, Park, and Tourism Management at Pennsylvania State University, where he teaches courses and conducts research about outdoor recreation behavior and management. His principal research interests revolve around the application of social science to various aspects of recreation resources planning and management. He is also experienced with studies of environmental impacts of outdoor recreation and the integration of biological and visitor use data to address visitor capacity problems. He has conducted numerous visitor surveys in parks and other natural areas. Much of his research has focused on water-based recreation areas and activities and monitoring park and forest recreation use.

These days, Alan works closely with Penn State colleague Andy Mowen in the Recreation, Park, and Tourism Management Department’s Outdoor Recreation Research Lab. They recently conducted research supporting the 2008–2013 Pennsylvania Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan and are set to begin the next round of SCORP-related research. Other current lab projects include a five-year study monitoring recreation use of Pennsylvania’s state forests and state parks, a white-water boating capacity study on the Youghiogheny River in Ohiopyle State Park, and an evaluation of the impacts of power line crossings and energy/communications-related infrastructure on the quality of hikers’ experiences at the Appalachian National Scenic Trail.

Past Recipients of the Theodore and Franklin Roosevelt Award

2012, Bill Stewart, University of Illinois
2011, David Scott, Texas A&M University
2010, Robert Manning, University of Vermont
2009, No award given
2008, Myron F. Floyd, North Carolina State University
2007, Linda L. Caldwell, Penn State University
2006, Gary D. Ellis, University of Utah
2005, Joseph O’Leary, Texas A&M University
2004, Leo McAvoy, University of Minnesota
2003, Douglas A. Kleiber, University of Georgia
2002, David Lime, United States Forest Service
2001, Geoffrey Godbey, Penn State University
2000, Christos D. Siderelis, North Carolina State University
1999, Susan M. Shaw, University of Waterloo
1998, William E. Hammitt, Clemson University
1997, David N. Cole, United States Forest Service
1996, Stuart J. Schleien, University of Minnesota
1995, Edgar L. Jackson, University of Alberta
1994, John R. Kelly, University of Illinois
1993, Karla A. Henderson, University of North Carolina
1992, John L. Crompton, Texas A&M University
1991, Roger C. Mannell, University of Waterloo
1990, Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi, University of Chicago
1989, H. Ken Cordell, United States Forest Service
1988, Peter A. Witt, University of North Texas
1987, Seppo E. Iso-Ahola, University of Maryland
1986, Robert Ditton, Texas A&M University
1985, Bev Driver, United States Forest Service
1984, Carlton Van Doren, Texas A&M University
1983, Donald R. Field, Oregon State University
1982, Rabel J. Burdge, University of Illinois
1981, Wilbur F. LoPage, United States Forest Service
David Austin, professor emeritus at Indiana University, published two books in 2013. One is *Therapeutic Recreation Processes and Techniques* (7th ed.), and the other (cowritten with Youngkhill Lee) is *Inclusive and Special Recreation: Opportunities for Diverse Populations to Flourish* (6th ed.).

Heather Gibson was one of three faculty members at the University of Florida this past spring to be inducted into the Academy of Distinguished Teaching Scholars at Florida. Teaching Scholars are selected because they provide strong evidence of the integration of superior teaching and research and a record of distinguished scholarly accomplishment that has garnered recognition at the national and/or international level. Heather is the first scholar ever chosen from her college for this prestigious award.

M. Jean Keller has been elected a 2013 Fellow in the American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration. During her career at the University of North Texas, she has received continuing administrative appointments with increasing responsibility including serving as dean of the College of Education and interim provost and vice chancellor for the University of North Texas at Dallas. Recently, she was appointed as the university’s vice president for community engagement. Jean has served extensively in professional organizations and has been elected by her peers to leadership positions. She has provided continuing excellent service to the Council on Accreditation of Park, Recreation, Tourism, and Related Professions, helping to build strong academic programs across the country. In addition to heavy administrative assignments, she has maintained an active scholarship and service program to advance knowledge in therapeutic recreation theory and practice as well as recreation therapy in gerontology, helping to serve the needs of people with disabilities and marginalized populations.

J. Robert Rossman has been invited to lecture at the Beijing Sport University in Beijing, China. He will teach a three-week short course during October and November this fall.
Members of the American Leisure Academy (ALA) are invited to join The Academy of Leisure Sciences (ALS)

This summer, the ALA and the ALS signed a memorandum of understanding whereby members of ALA have been invited to join ALS as general members. Current ALA members will receive one year of ALS membership without additional charge. Once the transfer of current ALA members is complete, the ALA will cease to exist as a stand-alone association. The transfer to ALS will strengthen the ALS mission and provide ALA members a professional home moving forward.

As a part of the ALA joining the ALS, the ALS website will acknowledge the history of the ALA, maintain an electronic version of the Papers of the American Leisure Academy on the ALS website, and work with the ALA board to forward the names of current ALA members for consideration for ALS Fellow status according to the procedures of the ALS nominating committee and the bylaws of ALS.

In addition, as the ALA joins the ALS, a challenge grant has been initiated by the ALA board (in cooperation with the ALS board) to further endow the Future Scholars Fund. The ALS Future Scholars Program (http://www.academyofleisuresciences.com/future-scholars-program) provides graduate students who are interested in pursuing a doctorate in an area related to recreation and leisure studies the opportunity to meet outstanding researchers and scholars in the field. The program has impacted the lives of many students, who are now giving back to the profession. You can read about previous winners on the ALS website (http://www.academyofleisuresciences.com).

The Future Scholars Award relies on donations for funding. In light of this, we are initiating a Challenge Grant program. Along with the ALS, ALA has graciously agreed to establish a challenge grant whereby members of both academies are invited to donate to the Future Scholars Fund. For more information on the Challenge Grant program, see page 3 of this newsletter.

The official announcement of the ALA joining the ALS will take place at the NRPA conference in Houston in October.

Please consider making a donation to support this outstanding program!
The purpose of the ALS Teaching Institute is to gather together to discuss the scholarship on teaching and learning, the practices of instruction and administration, and the importance of leisure (including various contexts of recreation, park, tourism, outdoor adventure, health, therapy, and sport) as educators strive to remain current in the techniques, content, and skills necessary for an academic life. This year’s institute will be cosponsored by California State University, Chico, and California Polytechnic State University and will be held at the lovely Asilomar Conference Retreat Center. Asilomar is 107 acres of breathtakingly gorgeous, ecologically diverse beachfront land situated within the quaint scenic town of Pacific Grove, offering guests the simple comforts of cozy cottages and rustic lodges and an unforgettable escape from the demands of everyday life.

21st Century Literacies: Responding to Change in a Challenging Climate

With the 21st century well underway, most educators are familiar with a focus on specific literacies for college students. Collaboration, digital literacy, critical thinking, creativity, and personal responsibility are important avenues to attain content mastery, especially when applied in innovative ways to better prepare students for a rapidly changing world. However, many faculty and professionals face challenges to the actualization of these literacies. Budget cuts, for example, prevent many departments from purchasing the technological tools necessary to promote digital literacy. In addition, universities are pushing for larger classes when smaller class sizes might be better for fostering collaboration where individual feedback could be more effective for promoting critical thinking. Many universities, even those focused primarily on teaching, are pushing for increased grant funding and publications, when in reality most faculty members need more time in the classroom to achieve these literacies. The move to put additional courses online has also caused many of us to wonder how to put our instruction for practice into a digital framework that fosters collaboration and critical thinking and advocates for personal responsibility.

The challenge to presenters at this conference is to bring forward completed research and practice papers that examine the realities of implementing and sustaining 21st century literacies in today’s learning environments. What practices have you implemented in your classroom, curricula, teaching style, or assessment methods that address these literacies? What are your successes and failures?

“How can we advance our teaching to incorporate these 21st-century literacies in today’s climate of challenge and change?”
Lowell Caneday, CPRP, has long contributed to the recreation, parks, and leisure studies profession. He started as an intramural sports supervisor, was a ranger in the state park system of Minnesota, served as the coordinator of recreation in Texas, and moved into higher education. Lowell worked his way up through the ranks of the professoriate in the Leisure Studies program at Oklahoma State University, from which he is retiring as a regents distinguished professor. Lowell immersed himself in advancing the ideals of parks, recreation, and leisure studies through his research, service, and teaching. For example, over the years, Lowell has completed research projects with the Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department, Oklahoma Scenic Rivers Commission, National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, Corps of Engineers, and many national entities. His legacy, in part, is the many changes in management and approaches to working with people in parks across Oklahoma, South Dakota, and Minnesota. Yet another hallmark of Lowell's 48-year impact (starting as an undergraduate) on the field of leisure studies is his service. Within NRPA, Lowell served as the president of SPRE and president of the Council on Accreditation; his impact on the professionalization of the accreditation process stands today. For years, he served the Oklahoma Recreation and Park Society as a board member, officer, and trustee. In recognition of his outstanding career, Lowell has been named and/or received several honors and awards including the Society of Outdoor Recreation Professionals Distinguished Service Award, OSU Distinguished Teaching Award, and OSU Distinguished Researcher Award. Furthermore, Lowell is a Fellow in the Academy of Leisure Sciences, the American Academy for Parks and Recreation Administration, and the American Leisure Academy. In his long and distinguished career, Lowell is likely most proud of the impact he has had on preparing future professionals. His work with students—undergraduate, master’s, and doctoral students—has resulted in his philosophy, stewardship, and passion for the profession and its future being carried forward for many years to come. Lowell's unending kindness and encouragement of students and his compassionate manner in pushing them to become their best are hallmarks of what all professionals should strive to be. There is no doubt that Lowell's influence has positively impacted the field and will be experienced for years to come.

Roger Mannell retired this past August, culminating a four-decade academic career dating from doctoral work in psychology at the University of Windsor, through service as director of Acadia University’s Centre for Leisure Studies, to 35 years as professor, department chair, and dean at the University of Waterloo. It is not a stretch to say that much of what we know of the social psychology of leisure can be traced to Roger’s work. Within leisure studies, he has pioneered a variety of research methodologies, including laboratory studies, experiential sampling, and path and structural modeling. He has been interested in social and personality factors that influence the ways in which people choose to use their leisure and how leisure choices affect the quality of their lives. He is one of the world’s experts with respect to theories of play and has studied relationships between humor and well-being. Roger’s love of theory and intellectual discussion is infectious, a trait captured well in Dan Dustin’s edited book, On Being a
Scholar, in which Roger describes sharing high fives with research assistants when theoretical assertions panned out in statistical analyses. More recently, Roger has served as a founding director of the RBC Retirement Research Centre. Roger’s impact on our professional field and the emerging academic discipline of leisure studies has been nothing less than profound. He served as president of the Academy of Leisure Sciences and is co-namesake of the University of Waterloo’s Shaw-Mannell Award, which celebrates career excellence in leisure research. Roger looks forward to a retirement filled with healthy doses of casual and serious leisure as well as public service.

Peter A. Witt retired from Texas A&M after a 43-year academic career. Peter holds bachelor’s and master’s degrees from UCLA and a PhD from the University of Illinois. Prior to coming to Texas A&M, Peter served as assistant vice president and associate dean of the Toulouse School of Graduate Studies at the University of North Texas, where he was also a professor of recreation and leisure studies. He also served as associate vice president for research and assistant provost at the same institution. At Texas A&M, Peter served as department head from 1993 to 2001 and then as holder of the Bradberry Recreation and Youth Development Chair. From 1970 to 1979, he taught at the University of Ottawa in Ottawa, Canada. Peter was an elected member of ALS and AAPRA. He also served as president of the board for the local chapter of Habitat for Humanity and Voices for Children. In 2010, he and his wife, Dr. Joyce Nies, received the local Champions for Children Award from Voices for Children for their many personal and financial contributions to local nonprofit organizations. Joyce and Peter will continue to live in Bryan, Texas, and look forward to working with nonprofit organizations in the community and increased opportunities to travel.

CALL FOR PAPERS

21st Century Literacies: Responding to Change in a Challenging Climate

• Asilomar Conference Grounds, Pacific Grove, CA, www.visitasilomar.com •

February 26–28, 2014

To submit your proposal, please go to http://js.sagamorepub.com/ALSTI/about/submissions

You will need to submit your document in a Microsoft Word format and select either the Learning Activities or Research and Poster Presentation section option.

Submission Deadline: October 21, 2013 for full consideration.

If you have questions regarding the submission process, please contact Joey Gray, hjgray@mtsu.edu

For more information go to www.academyofleisuresciences.com
The Academy of Leisure Sciences (ALS) was founded in 1980 with its central purpose as the intellectual advancement of leisure sciences (10th Anniversary Publication). This purpose was carried out by recognizing outstanding scholars elected as Fellows within the Academy, establishing meetings and activities to exchange ideas and advance the intellectual understanding of leisure, and to promote research and the scholarly study of leisure among individuals [Fellows] who demonstrated interest, potential, and competence.

In 2011, the mission was expanded to include all interested individuals in addition to the Fellows. The reconstituted organization seeks to bring together people from diverse backgrounds who share a mutual interest in better understanding the roles of leisure in life, including various contexts of recreation, park, tourism, outdoor adventure, health, therapy, and sport.

This short history provides an interpretation of the evolution of this organization. Additional documentation as noted is available to show the activities and undertakings of the organization. Although many of the records of the first 20 years of the organization are incomplete, this summary addresses an interpretation of the events along with a chronological timeline of major events within ALS.

Based on my interpretation of the events within the Academy, I suggest that four eras have marked the organization and development of ALS. Each of these periods is described briefly:

- **Formation Era (1978-1989)**
- **Action Era (1990-1995)**
- **Status Quo Era (1996-2010)**
- **Reinvention Era (2011-present)**

**Formation Era**

The principal impetus for the Academy of Leisure Sciences (ALS) came from a group of former presidents of the Society of Park and Recreation Educators (SPRE). At a meeting in Miami in 1978, professors Edward Heath and Leslie Reid (Texas A&M), Alan Sapora (Illinois), and Douglas Sessoms (North Carolina) began formulating the Academy’s goals and structure. A list of 70 candidates for Fellows was identified and a panel of 36 scholars was invited to complete a series of ballots on the candidate list. As a result of that balloting, 30 candidates, elected by simple majority, were chosen as Founding ALS Fellows. The candidates were chosen because of their “exceptional scholarly and intellectual contributions” to the study of leisure. The first meeting of the Academy was October 18, 1980, in Tempe, Arizona.

The Academy operated under a constitution that provided for the election or appointment of officers and committees. The president, secretary-treasurer, historian, and nominations and elections committee were elected by the Fellows via mailed ballots. Members of other standing committees (ongoing) and president’s committees (single purpose and temporary) were appointed by the president.

ALS business was conducted at the annual business meeting held in conjunction with the NRPA Congress. In the interim between meetings, the president, in concert with other officers and committees, conducted business and acted for the Academy. Academy Fellows paid annual dues as well as a fee to offset annual program and business meeting expenses.

In 1982, the first solicitation and induction of new Fellows was undertaken. Names of candidates for Fellow membership were placed in nomination by a formal letter from a current Fellow, which was accompanied by a biographical summary including the nominee’s professional experience, significant publications, invited presentations, professional affiliations including offices/awards/honors, and professional activities. The ballot was sent to all active Fellows. Election required a two-thirds majority of votes cast. Criteria for nominating and electing new Fellows were: (a) direct engagement in the leisure sciences professions; (b) demonstrated competence for a period of not less than 10 years, as evidenced by quality as well as quantity of contributions to the scholarly literature of the field, recognized leadership and extensive, significant participation in professional associations and organizations, and acknowledged outstanding performance as a teacher, leader, administrator, practitioner, or researcher in the field of leisure; and (c) willingness to further the goals of the Academy and participate actively in its affairs.

Many of the founding Fellows were administrators as much as they were scholars. In addition, at that time, most Fellows were associated with parks and recreation, although other discipline areas were represented. Tourism did not have much salience in the organization then, or even into the next few years.

During the formation years, systems for operating the Academy were institutionalized. In addition to the annual business meeting, a luncheon or dinner became part of the NRPA activities as a means to foster Fellowship. According to the summary offered in the 10th Year Anniversary publication, most people believed that the ALS was meant to be honorary in nature and the organization was kept “comparatively speaking, simple and informal…[with] no organizational imperatives beyond carrying out its purpose.” Fellows believed that each of them spent every day promoting the purposes of the Academy without needing to be formally associated with collective ALS activities. Authors of the 10th Year Anniversary publication stated that during the first 10 years, the Academy did not publish any books, but Fellows published over 200 books. The Academy was believed to be a genesis for ideas.

The activities of the Academy were kept informal with speakers (i.e., Fellows and visitors) invited to annual meetings to share their ideas about research and the future. Each year, the Fellows discussed how to best meet their purposes. No records seem to be available of the annual programs that were held but the 10th Year Anniversary program indicated that international speakers had been invited to the meetings on four occasions. Some individuals had big plans for the organization such as establishing a journal, but no funding was ever forthcoming beyond the dues assessed during those early years.

**Action Era**

Although the 15th Year Anniversary publication did not provide much detail about the organization, two significant projects were undertaken in the early 1990s, which appeared to be the action era. Many people had agreed that ALS was an honorary organization, but some individuals saw the potential for much more than recognizing achievement. The American Academy of Park and Recreation Administrators...
(AAPRA) was founded at the same time as ALS in 1980 and was an action-oriented group. AAPRA was founded as a means to give individuals who had previously been leaders in NRPA a chance to continue to influence the profession. Some individuals in ALS desired a mandate similar to AAPRA, which was more than just an honorary organization. Several of the founding Fellows of ALS (e.g., Bannon, Reid, Sessoms) were also Fellows of AAPRA.

Therefore, the early 1990s saw the establishment of the Future Scholars Program as well as the publication of White Papers. The purpose of the Future Scholars Program was to provide graduate students who were interested in pursuing a doctorate in an area related to recreation and leisure studies the opportunity to meet some of the outstanding researchers and scholars in this field by attending the NRPA Congress and participating in ALS and SPRE events. Eligibility and selection criteria were established, and a committee selected the first five Future Scholars in 1991. Since that time, 84 individuals have been selected as Future Scholars. Although records are not accurate, it appears that almost one-third of those individuals are now active faculty members at universities around the world. As of June 2013, another one-fourth of the Future Scholars are students currently seeking degrees in higher education.

The Future Scholars Program was initially funded by donations from ALS Fellows and SPRE members with some supplementation from ALS dues. Over time, the enthusiasm for donating seemed to wane. Daniel Dustin stepped up to fund up to four Future Scholar students each year beginning in 1998, and the program was renamed the Lucille and Derby Dustin Future Scholars Program. The scholarship was set at $1,000, to be used to cover expenses in attending the NRPA Congress. By 2006, Fellows of the Academy recognized that a permanent source of funding was needed. The last year that Dustin funded scholars was 2009. A Future Scholars Endowment was set up in 2009 through the efforts of individuals such as Doug Kleiber. As of 2013, the Endowment is halfway to its goal of raising $80,000, which would fund three to four students each year as Future Scholars.

A second major action item that came to fruition in 1993 was the White Papers, which were developed as an attempt to communicate with the public about diverse issues surrounding leisure that might be of interest. They were also designed to provide information for media and public consumption. Each paper was drafted by an ALS Fellow with critique from the membership. The documents were made available for any journalistic purpose as long as ALS was given credit. Geoffrey Godbey spearheaded the efforts in developing the White Papers. These papers were available on the website until about 2005, when they were deemed outdated.

**Status Quo Era**

After the mid-1990s and for the next decade and a half, the Academy seemed to return to its honorary nature. Although several Academy presidents attempted to promote initiatives, little actually happened beyond maintaining the status quo. The Future Scholar program continued, and from time to time ALS was involved with efforts to promote the field through, for example, the 1997 Curriculum Conference held in Salt Lake City, which was spearheaded by Doug Sessoms. ALS Fellows continued to debate their purpose, with most people believing that they did not wish to participate beyond paying dues and attending the annual meetings. A number of individuals served as officers, but carried out the basic duties.

One innovation that did occur by this time was championed by Gary Ellis. The George Butler Lecture was established as a joint venture between ALS, SPRE, and the Leisure Research Symposium. The lecture was named after one of the Founding Members of the Academy, George Butler, one of the first to recognize the importance of parks and recreation to human development. His book, *Introduction to Community Recreation*, challenged governments to accept responsibility for public provision of park and recreation facilities and services. Further, Butler was Director of Research for the National Recreation Association (now NRPA) for 43 years (1919–1962), and one of the first and most persistent proponents of research in the field. To date, nine George Butler Lectures have been presented, with most of the lectures available on the ALS website.

**Reinvention Era**

ALS went through a profound change in 2011, when Fellows voted to open membership in ALS to all interested individuals. This reinvention came as a result of NRPA’s decision to eliminate all branches within the organization. The Society of Park and Recreation Educators (SPRE) was disbanded based on the NRPA philosophy that individuals should belong to one organization rather than organized related interest societies/associations. NRPA had become largely an organization focused on parks and recreation, so membership in SPRE had been declining due to the number of specialties found in higher education. Since a mechanism already existed to incorporate more members in addition to Fellows, the ALS Fellows voted to make these changes. A counterproposal was offered to have ALS serve as a facilitator for developing a new “SPRE-like” organization independent of any existing body, but this proposal was defeated in deference to an expansion of the current organization.

The new ALS allows for a general membership and a group of elected Fellows. The criteria for Fellows remains the same, but the organizational structure has expanded to include all other leadership opportunities available to any member. The decision was also made that in the near future, ALS would continue to meet in conjunction with the NRPA Congress. ALS would not be an organization to compete with NRPA but one that would provide a home for faculty in higher education interested in leisure, parks, recreation, tourism, sports, and related areas. NRPA retained the LRS as well as the research journals *Journal of Leisure Research, Schole*, and *Therapeutic Recreation Journal*. Therefore, the idea was that ALS would work in partnership with NRPA, but would sponsor previous SPRE activities not retained by NRPA such as the Teaching Institute, teaching awards, and the annual Department Heads/Chairs meeting.

In 2013 ALS established a contract with Sagamore Publishing to assist with the association management of the Academy. As of June 2013, about 150 people had joined ALS with efforts underway to recruit more members.

**cont. on p. 12**
Ongoing Concerns

As ALS evolves, concerns will continue to arise that to some extent have been ongoing and in other cases are new. One issue relates to “who we are.” The new description of an ALS member indicates that people from diverse backgrounds who share a mutual interest in better understanding the role of leisure in life are invited, including the various contexts of recreation, park, tourism, outdoor adventure, health, therapy, and sport. This description is quite broad, and the challenge is to engage individuals in specialty areas who may not realize they are addressing areas of leisure behavior. Related to these ideas are questions around what issues the ALS members coalesce. Leisure behavior is central, but many believe that this behavior is related to larger issues of health, tourism, sustainability, and diversity. Yet, to be too broad may be counterproductive in encouraging membership. Who we are is a big philosophical issue that has many practical implications for the future.

The issue about being an honorary organization versus a service organization has largely been resolved by the reinvention of ALS. However, the role that the Fellows play into the future in providing leadership for the organization remains important regarding the success. The roles of members as well as Fellows should be considered as the organization evolves.

A concern for any organization relates to the leadership that it can offer the broader movement. Whether ALS continues to provide a forum for what is in addition to providing leadership to move the field forward is ongoing. To reflect the field as it is defined, or to lead the field is the challenge.

Further, the future is likely to be successful if individuals and organizations create the right partnerships. ALS has great opportunities as well as challenges in working with NRPA in a mutually compatible future as well as working with the burgeoning number of international organizations (e.g., Leisure Studies Association, Australian New Zealand Association of Leisure Studies, World Leisure) as well as specialty associations (e.g., Travel Tourism Research Association, Wilderness Education Association, American Therapeutic Recreation Association, and the North American Sport Management Association). The future will depend on establishing working relationships and partnerships with a variety of other groups and individuals around the world.

Time Line (Chronological)

1978 ALS first conceived
1980 ALS founded
1980 American Academy of Park and Recreation Administrators (AAPRA) also founded
1980-81 David Gray, President
1981-82 Diana Dunn, President
1982-83 John Neulinger, President
1983-84 Leslie Reid, President
1984-85 Doug Sessoms, President
1985-86 Ed Heath, President
1986-87 Bert Brantley, President
1987-88 Geoff Godbey, President
1988-89 Tony Tinsley, President
1989-90 Tom Goodale, President
1990 Proposal approved for Future Scholars Program
1990-91 Bob Ditton, President
1991 First class of Future Scholars chosen and attend NRPA Conference
1991-92 Bev Driver, President
1992 ALS receives tax-exempt status
1992-93 Peter Witt, President
1993 White Papers Published
1993-94 Doug Kleiber, President
1994 White Papers posted on website, thanks to Ed Jackson
1994-95 Larry Allen, President
1995-96 Ed Jackson, President
1995 Webpage uploaded by President Jackson
1995 Listserv established by Doug Kleiber
1996-97 Karla Henderson, President
1997 National Curriculum Conference held at NRPA, co-sponsored by ALS
1997-98 Dan Dustin, President

1998 Future Scholars Program renamed "Lucille and Derby Dustin Future Scholars" due to the generosity of Dan Dustin, who funded the program through 2009
1998-99 Alan Ewert, President
1999-2000 John Crompton, President
2000-01 Dave Austin, President
2001-02 Sue Shaw, President
2002-03 Mark Havitz, President
2003-04 Gary Ellis, President
2004 Electronic voting begins
2004 Discussion about electing international Fellows
2004-05 Roger Mannell, President
2004 First Butler Lecture delivered at NRPA (sponsored by LRS, SPRE, and ALS)
2005-06 John Hultsman, President
2006-07 Bill Hammitt, President
2007-08 Deb Bialeschki, President
2008-09 Jim Murphy, President
2009 Future Scholars endowment established, Doug Kleiber, Chair
2009-10 Linda Caldwell, President
2010-11 Diane Samdahl, President
2011 ALS Fellows vote to become an OPEN membership organization
2011-12 David Scott, President
2012 Best Student Paper from LRS sponsored by ALS
2012-2013 Alan Ewert, President
2013 Contract signed with Sagamore Publishing to provide Association Management services

NOTE: The ALS website includes many of the documents noted in the above history.