

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Model for Preparing 21st Century Physical Education Teachers

Prof. Dr. Christopher Edginton
Director
School of Health, Physical Education & Leisure Services
University of Northern Iowa
USA
E-mail: christopher.edginton@uni.edu



Abstract: The organization of many physical education teacher preparation programs fail to communicate, connect and influence the lives of young people in a meaningful and relevant fashion (Edginton, 2006). Further, the teaching methods and/or pedagogy applied by physical educators fail to inspire or motivate young people to make the choices necessary to live a healthy active lifestyle (ibid). As a result, new ways of preparing health and physical education teachers must be shaped and designed. This presentation presents a framework for a unique graduate program focuses on preparing physical education teachers with an emphasis in technology. The uniqueness of the program comes from the blending of seven curricular components in a holistic fashion including 1) *linking practice with theory*, not the reverse; 2) creation of a *total immersion, contextually based* learning environment; 3) emphasis on the use of *technology*; 4) daily ongoing engagement with a *master physical education teacher*; 5) opportunities to use *reflection* as a strategy to improve professional practice; 6) extension of learning environments to *partner organizations* beyond the school, leading to greater community engagement; and 7) recruitment and selection of students to operate within *cohort groups*.

Prof. Dr. Christopher Edginton is Secretary General of the World Leisure Organization, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with The United Nations. He also serves as Professor and Director of the School of Health, Physical Education and Leisure Services at the University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, Iowa, USA. Identified as a leading proponent of the application of contemporary management concepts in the park and recreation field, Dr. Edginton has published over 240 articles and 30 books including *Leisure and Life Satisfaction: Foundational Perspectives*, *Leisure Programming: A Benefits and Service-Centered Approach*, and *Leisure and Transformation*. Dr. Edginton is the founder of the nationally award winning *Camp Adventure™ Child and Youth Services* program. Since its establishment in 1985 the *Camp Adventure™* program has provided contracted children and youth services worldwide. In 2009, the program served nearly 750,000 children based on daily participation rates with a staff of 950 in 20 countries. Dr. Edginton has received many prestigious awards including: Lansdowne Scholar, University of Victoria, Canada (1985); Distinguished Fellow Award, Society of Park and Educators (1989); Honor Award, American Association for Leisure and Recreation (1995); Distinguished Alumni Award, San Jose State University (1998); J.B. Nash Scholar Award, American Association for Leisure and Recreation (1998); National Literary Award, National Recreation and Park Association (2000); Innovative Teaching Award, Society of Park and Recreation Educators (2001); Honor Award, American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (2001); Biennial Distinguished Scholar Award, International Council for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, Sport and Dance (2002); R. Tait McKinzie Award, American Alliance of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance, (2003); Global Leadership Award, Kyungpook (Korea) National University, (2007); Charles K. Brightbill Alumnus Award, University of Illinois, (2004); and Christopher R. Edginton Esteemed Colleague Award, American Leisure Academy, (2008). He is also a member of the Academy of Leisure Sciences (1986); American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration (1993); American Leisure Academy (1997); and the North American Society for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, Sport and Dance (2000).