

# Monica Lepore



## **Education:**

Monica Lepore earned her Ed.D in Leadership in Physical Education for People with Disabilities from New York University in 1991, her M.S. in adapted physical education from the University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse in 1979 and her B.S. in physical education from the College of Mt. St. Vincent in 1978. Monica has also been designated as a Master Teacher of Adapted Aquatics by the AAPAR since 1993 and possesses the following certifications: Certified Adapted Physical Educator, Red Cross Water Safety Instructor, Lifeguard Training, CPR for the Professional Rescuer, First Aid, Special Olympics Coaching Swimming, NY Permanent Physical Education Teaching Credential, PA Health & PE teaching credential.

## **Undergraduate Teaching Experience:**

Monica joined West Chester University in 1983 and was hired to teach undergraduate students inclusion of students with disabilities into health and physical education and sports in the Professional Preparation of Health and Physical Education Teacher Certification Program in the Department of Kinesiology. Monica has taught over 12 different courses including Curriculum and Instruction: Adapted Physical Education, Introduction to Disability Studies, Introduction to Therapeutic Recreation, Professional Issues in Adapted Physical Activity, Water Safety Instructor, Disability Sports, Introduction to Autism Studies, Pathology for Adapted Physical Education, and Assessment & Programming in Adapted Physical Education. She has developed an adapted physical education minor as well as worked collaboratively with other departments in developing a Post-Bac autism certificate program.

## **Connections with students and the community:**

Monica has implemented many service learning activities in order to provide experience for her undergraduate students, these include: WCU Adapted Physical Activity Service Learning Programs, which pairs 60 undergraduate WCU students with 60 individuals with disabilities each week for 20 weeks per year (has been running since 1987), and CampAbilitiesPA@WCU Service Learning Program which pairs 25 WCU undergraduate HPE majors with 25 Children who are Blind or have Low Vision to learn wellness, sports, and nutrition from Friday evening to Monday noon on each Memorial Day Weekend since 2005. Other service activities which

complement the WCU HPE curriculum and which Monica has undertaken include over 20 undergrad students service learning trips to NY, AK, AZ, FL, and other areas of PA, to conduct sports clinics and camps for one week at a time, to teach children who are blind how to participate in sports. Monica is also the faculty advisor for the Adapted Physical Activity Club and is an active participant in on-campus student led events.

### **Professional service and recognitions:**

Through her positive and productive efforts in the classroom, the WCU community and the discipline, Monica has earned numerous awards. These awards include the WCU Legacy of Leadership Award (2010), West Chester University Civility Award (2009), the AAPAR Professional Honor Award (2009), the Leader of Distinction for Business and Professions Award - West Chester Rotary (2008), the PSAHPERD Adapted Activities Professional of the Year Award (2007), the AAALF Adapted Physical Education Professional of the Year Award, (2006), the Educator 500 Teaching Award (2006), the AAALF Aquatic Council Service Award (2001) and Honor Award (2005), the International Swimming Hall of Fame Adapted Aquatics Award (2001), the Pennsylvania Legislative Award for Service to PA's children with disabilities (1995), and the Manhattan College Health and Physical Education Department Distinguished Alumni Award for recognition in Adapted Physical Education (1993). Also, Monica was named in "Top 100 Aquatics Professionals of 2003 & 2004" by Aquatics International and received the American Red Cross Certificate of Merit for Saving a Person's Life in 1983.

### **Scholarship of teaching:**

Monica's service and scholarship related to teaching undergraduate students includes Chair of the AAALF Aquatic Council Adapted Aquatics Specialty (2000-2005), Committee Member of the Adapted Physical Education (APE) National Standards [which includes the design of the certifying test and study guide] (1992-97 & 2003), Committee Member: PSAHPERD Adapted Activities Committee (1995-); coauthor and writer of: 1) Intro to Adapted Physical Education PSAHPERD Guide 2) PA APE Placement Guide Intro., Co-author: AAALF Aquatic Council's Adapted Aquatic Position Statement (1998), Co-author with Gayle, GW and Stevens, SF: textbook: Adapted Aquatics Programming: A Professional Guide (1998 & 2007; Human Kinetics Publishers). Author: Chapter on "Adapted Aquatics" in Winnick, JP (ed). 2000 & 2005, Author: AAALF Adapted Aquatics Specialty "Guide to Training Teachers and Assistants of Adapted Aquatics", CD-ROM, and two credentialing exams (2005), Author & Participant- DVD: Introduction to Adapted Aquatics, Human Kinetics Publishers (2007), and Author: Article in Aquatics International, "Top 10 mistakes pool operators make in complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act"(2004). Monica has also given multiple presentations at the AAALF/APAC AAHPERD National Convention (1999, 2001, 2003, 2004, 2009).

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