



NEWS RELEASE

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University of Michigan Professor Receives Lifetime Achievement Award from SHAPE America

RESTON, VA, April 1, 2016 — Dale Ulrich, Ph.D., a professor in the Departments of Movement Science and Health and Fitness in the School of Kinesiology at the University of Michigan will receive the Julian U. Stein Lifetime Achievement Award from SHAPE America – Society of Health and Physical Educators at its 131st National Convention & Expo in Minneapolis, April 5-9. The organization gives the recognition to a SHAPE America member who best exemplifies Dr. Julian Stein’s leadership in teaching, mentoring, writing, speaking and volunteerism at all levels of professional involvement. Ulrich will be recognized on Thursday, April 7, during the Claudine Sherrill Awards Breakfast.

The award recognizes SHAPE America members who are innovative, creative, visionary and take risks. It honors those that exemplify the very best in dedication to an active lifestyle and fitness for everybody. “We are very proud that members like Dale Ulrich are continuing Dr. Stein’s good work in the field of adapted physical education,” says SHAPE America President Steve Jefferies, professor emeritus, Central Washington University.

Ulrich completed his Ph.D. in 1981 in the Department of Health & Physical Education at Michigan State University and started his higher education career at Southern Illinois University-Carbondale. His areas of interest include maximizing health, physical activity, motor skill development, community participation, and quality of life in children with Down syndrome and autism.

His contributions have made a significant impact in adapted physical activity and motor development. Ulrich’s development of the Test of Gross Motor Development (TGMD, TGMD-2) is the most popular assessment tool used to measure fundamental motor skills in the U.S. School districts throughout the country use the TGMD when making eligibility decisions for adapted physical education services and developing individualized programs in physical education. Researchers also use the instrument when conducting motor development studies in the field.

Dr. Joonkoo Yun, who completed his Ph.D. under Ulrich’s direction, says the researcher is a strong believer in providing evidenced-based practices to help support people with disabilities. “I spent a lot of time with him driving all over Indiana and neighboring states to collect data to examine the effect of treadmill training on motor development in infants with Down syndrome. We would drive for two-

three days every week for five years to collect data. He is truly dedicated to adapted physical activity research and helping those with disabilities live a full life.”

Since 1980, Ulrich has procured more than \$6 million to support his research initiatives and the work of his doctoral and post-doctoral students. He has a total of 75 research articles in national and international peer-reviewed scholarly journals and has presented more than 180 data-based research papers across the globe. He is frequently invited as a keynote speaker at research and professional conferences dealing with pediatric disabilities.

Ulrich has served as the president of the North American Federation of Adapted Physical Activity and was the chair and host of two of its symposiums. He has held the position of associate editor or editorial board member of several journals. Additionally, Ulrich is a member of the Science, Research and Intervention Advisory Board for Down Syndrome Education International and SHAPE America’s former Research Consortium. He was also elected into the National Academy of Kinesiology in 2005.

In addition to his Ph.D., the award-winning professor holds a master’s in education in adapted physical education and special education and a bachelor’s in health and physical education from West Chester University of Pennsylvania.

About SHAPE America

SHAPE America – Society of Health and Physical Educators is the nation’s largest membership organization of health and physical education professionals. Since its founding in 1885, the organization has defined excellence in physical education, and our National Standards for K-12 Physical Education serve as the foundation for well-designed physical education programs across the country. We provide programs, resources and advocacy to support health and physical educators at every level, from preschool to university graduate programs.

SHAPE America has 50 state affiliates and is a founding partner of national initiatives such as the Presidential Youth Fitness Program, Let’s Move! Active Schools and the Jump Rope For Heart/Hoops For Heart programs. “50 Million Strong by 2029” is our commitment to empower all children to lead healthy and active lives through health and physical education programs. For more information, visit <http://www.shapeamerica.org>.

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