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At the University of Michigan (UM), Ron Zernicke is Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery, with joint appointments in Kinesiology and Biomedical Engineering. He was Dean of the UM School of Kinesiology and is currently Director of UM Exercise & Sport Science Initiative (www.essi.umich.edu).

He was Executive Director of the Alberta Provincial Bone and Joint Health Institute, and at the University of Calgary (UCalgary), he was Wood Professor in Joint Injury Research in Cumming School of Medicine; Professor/Dean of Kinesiology; and Professor, Schulich School of Engineering.

After matriculating at Concordia University Chicago (BA) and University of Wisconsin–Madison (MS/PhD), he joined UCLA and was Professor/Chair of Kinesiology when he was recruited to Calgary. He received: UCLA Award for Distinguished Teaching, City of Calgary Community Achievement Award (Education), UCalgary Award for Outstanding Achievement in Graduate Supervision, and was Alumnus of the Year (Concordia University Chicago). He received an honorary DSc from University of Waterloo.

He was President of the Canadian (CSB), American (ASB), and International (ISB) Societies of Biomechanics, and Co-Chaired two ISB Congresses and 4th World Congress of Biomechanics. Research awards include: NASA (Cosmos Achievement Award), Society for Physical Regulation in Biology and Medicine (Yasuda Award for Outstanding Research Paper), ASB/ISB (Delsys Award), CSB (Career Award), CORS (Founder's Medal for Best Research), and CIHR (Partnership Award). He is an elected Fellow of ISB, CSB, ASB, American College of Sports Medicine, and National Academy of Kinesiology (President, 2020-2021).

His career research support (>\$45 million) includes: Arthritis Society of Canada, Adidas, NBA/NBPA, Detroit Tigers, Canadian Space Agency, NSERC, CFI, CIHR, NASA, NSF, and NIH with his focus: (1) bone adaptation, (2) human movement dynamics and performance, and (3) joint injury and osteoarthritis.