

Press Release

UNC Sport and Exercise Science Professor Wins National Award

Dr. Jim Stiehl, Professor of Sport and Exercise Science in the College of Natural and Health Sciences at the University of Northern Colorado, has received the prestigious Julian W. Smith Award from the Council for Adventure and Outdoor Education/Recreation of the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance. The award recognizes an individual who has shown significant professional service and scholarship in the area of adventure and outdoor education/recreation over an extended period of time. It was presented at their National Convention in Fort Worth, Texas April 9, 2008. Among his many contributions, Dr. Stiehl's notable professional efforts include developing and teaching more than a dozen outdoor and adventure classes, instructor with the National Outdoor Leadership School, supervision of the university's challenge ropes course, and mentoring doctoral students as they have investigated such varied topics as: outdoor education programming with alienated youth, perceptions of river rafting guides, meta-analyses of adventure programs, and an exploration of challenge by choice. He has co-authored four books and has particular interest in how outdoor and adventure experiences can influence the well-being of youngsters, especially those from the most disadvantaged backgrounds and those with the most troubled histories.