

2006

Editor's Introduction and Acknowledgments

Karen Paisley
University of Utah

Leo H. McAvoy
University of Minnesota

Anderson B. Young
SUNY Cortland

Wynn Shooter
University of Utah

Joshua Bochniak
SUNY Cortland

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Recommended Citation

Paisley, Karen; McAvoy, Leo H.; Young, Anderson B.; Shooter, Wynn; and Bochniak, Joshua (2006) "Editor's Introduction and Acknowledgments," *Research in Outdoor Education*: Vol. 8, Article 2.

Available at: <https://digitalcommons.cortland.edu/reseoutded/vol8/iss1/2>

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Editors' Introduction and Acknowledgements

Welcome to Volume 8 of *Research in Outdoor Education*! This is the third time that what were formerly known as the *Proceedings...* have been published under this new name. The articles and abstracts contained in this volume have been subjected to the scrutiny of your peers in outdoor education and, we believe, make contributions to our understanding of the field. A tremendous variety of methods are addressed in the ten papers and twelve abstracts contained in this volume, and we hope you take the time to be inspired by the creativity of the authors.

As with Volume 7, references and/or bibliographies have been included for the abstracts so that you can identify key sources. You will also find contact e-mail addresses for the lead authors of the abstracts to facilitate asking any questions you may have. Full contact information is provided for the lead authors of papers for the same reason. Again, similar to Volume 7, Associate Editors and article reviewers focused on the presence and use of a theoretical framework for papers to be included this volume. As a result, the articles contained within are grounded in theory and represent the field's efforts to shift toward theory-driven, intentional programming. Congratulations!

The number of people required to make a publication like this possible is overwhelming. None of this would happen without Andy Young and his colleagues in the Department of Recreation and Leisure Studies at SUNY Cortland. The Research Committee provided solid leadership for the Symposium and the direction of this publication. Leo McAvoy coordinated the submission of the initial abstracts. The Associate Editors gave of their already limited time to facilitate fair and blind review of the papers. Field reviewers spent hours crafting specific and useful feedback. Authors dedicated themselves to thoughtfully drafting original papers and then thoughtfully responded to reviewers' comments. Dedicated graduate students, like Wynn Shooter, do as much for the project as they could possibly learn from it. This Volume truly represents a synergetic effort and has been a joy.

If anyone has been overlooked, please accept our humble apologies and most sincere thanks.

Note: Copies of the first seven volumes are still available from the Coalition for Education in the Outdoors. Contact <http://www.outdooredcoalition.org>