

# 2010 National Conference on Outdoor Leadership

## *Presentation Summary*

This is a compiled list of the Conference Workshop Proposals that have been accepted for the 2010 National Conference on Outdoor Leadership. The scheduled times and dates for the Conference Workshops will not be announced until February 2010. Please note that this is not a final list, and the information contained herein is subject to change.

**Title:** **If a Tree Falls in the Woods is that Enough to Start a Lawsuit?**

**Presenter:** Jim Moss, Attorney at Law - *Colorado Mountain College/Outdoor Recreation Law Review*

**Description:** A Court recently held the ACA standards for operating a camp, when they had been adopted by the ACA member could be used to define the standard of care. Violation of a standard is the first step in deciding whether or not a duty had been violated.

**Title:** **Developing an Outdoor Adventure Program Risk Management Plan - A 5 Step Plan**

**Presenter:** Michael A. P. Barker, Risk Manager- *City of New Haven Outdoor Adventure Program/PRCA*

**Description:** This presentation is designed to introduce participants to formal risk management concepts and to provide information to assist with the development, implementation and assessment of an effective risk management plan for their programs. The presentation discusses the contributions necessary at all staff levels to maintain an effective risk management program.



**Title:** **Know What You Know and if You Don't Know, Shut-Up!**

**Presenters:** Dr. Chris Cashel, Professor, retired - *Oklahoma State University*  
Scott Jordan, Coordinator for Outdoor Adventure - *Oklahoma State University*

**Description:** WEA participants know the Petzoldt saying know what you know and know what you don't know. This session will use that as its basis to discuss what happens when people think they know but do not! It may be useful to teach leaders to be quiet and follow when they are unsure. The curriculum topics of leadership, judgment, expedition behavior, and ability and limitation issues will be woven into an entertaining and insightful session.

**Title:** **The Event Never Got Started, How Can I be Liable?**

**Presenter:** Jim Moss, Attorney at Law - *Colorado Mountain College/Outdoor Recreation Law Review*

**Description:** Some type of race or event is occurring every day. Most events are prepared for the risk management of someone injuring themselves during the event. This program will look at those issues: Participants traveling to or from the event, participants preparing for the event, spectators watching the event.

**Title:** **Lessons Learned from Leading an Outdoor Program**

**Presenter:** Ivan Bartha, Coordinator for Experiential Programs - *St. Cloud State University*

**Description:** So a college or university hired you to take over the outdoor program, now what? Where do you even begin? Those are the questions we asked after we took over our respective programs five years ago. Some of the most useful and surprising changes came from circumstances and events we never could have anticipated. By learning from our mistakes and success, participants will be able to evaluate macro & micro needs necessary to get a program off the ground. This will be a guided discussion with emphasis on developing priorities, establishing an appropriate culture and strategies for working within the university/college system.

**Title:** **Spring Use of the Western Slopes of the Tetons**

**Presenter:** Maurice Phipps, Professor- *Western Carolina University*

**Description:** Planning concerns for spring wilderness courses on the Western Slope of the Tetons to include research of historically used sites, planning, and permitting through the Forest Service

**Title:** **Development and Management of a Canoe Instructor Program as Part of a WEA National Standard Program**

**Presenters:** Steve Spencer, Professor - *Western Kentucky University*  
Tammie Stenger- Ramsey, Professor- *Western Kentucky University*

**Description:** This NSP Program is solidly intertwined with the American Canoe Association. Participants join ACA and become instructors. Program philosophy: See one, do one, teach one...progresses from a beginning ACA class to Whitewater to Canoe Instructor training following ACA protocols. Additionally, students participate in: a River Rescue Workshop and service projects.

**Title:** **Promoting Nature and Knowledge through Fun Active Brain Based Learning.**

**Presenters:** Christine Rochester, Associate Professor- *Colorado State University- Pueblo*  
Jenny Piazza, Associate Professor  
Doug Stockton, Student

**Description:** Participants will learn how to use brain based research techniques to engage students in active learning. Session includes activities that increase nature appreciation and knowledge. These lessons are easy to implement in K-16 programs. Learn multiple strategies for engaging all levels of learners in physical activity while learning content.

**Title:** **Towards A Multi-Dimensional Understanding of Outdoor Leadership**

**Presenter:** Dr. Mark Tozer - *University of Central Lancashire*

**Description:** This presentation aims to conceptualize a number of ideas about leadership within a multi-dimensional framework. These notions, which have been shaped by the results of recent empirical studies and supported by the established literature, are based upon experiential reasoning and have been formulated through a process of theory elaboration. It will address key elements that the author regards as essential for developing a contemporary understanding of leadership by practitioners in the outdoors.

**Title:** **Thinking of Operating an Adventure Business: What you Need to Know.**

**Presenter:** Steve Gustafson, President/CEO- *Experience Based Learning, Inc.*

**Description:** This workshop will focus on some of the details for preparation and provide a Business Readiness Checklist prior to opening a Rope Course or Canopy Tour business. Insurance, marketing, human resources, legal, and business protection will be subjects addressed in this workshop.



**Title:** **The Coaching Process For Outdoor Leaders**

**Presenter:** Dr. Mark Tozer- *University of Central Lancashire*

**Description:** The coaching process for outdoor leaders will be of use to anyone involved in facilitating the skills development of others. It moves away from the idea that we are 'instructors' and towards the understanding that part of what we do when teaching others can be described as 'coaching'. The workshop will use a mixture of short theory sessions, quick practical examples as well as real, anecdotal experiences and applications to bring about knowledge transfer.

**Title:** **Outdoor Risk Management Training Tool - The Development of Critical Adventure Scenario Exercise(CASE)**

**Presenter:** Guan-Jang Wu, Assistant Professor- *Department of Recreation and Leisure Industry Management, National Taiwan Sport University*  
Yun Chang, Teaching Assistant

**Description:** In recent years, risk management has become the focal point in the field of outdoor adventure industry due to the alarmingly ever increasing accidents around the world. Efforts have been made to re-examine every details of operation and policy with the goal to minimize unacceptable risks. This workshop will introduce a training tool Critical Adventure Scenario Exercise (CASE) that can be used to address the importance of risk management. The purpose of CASE is to improve outdoor leaders' decision making ability by means of studying, discussing real, critical incidents that took place in the field. Moreover, CASE also includes expert opinions in each scenario for readers to understand the rationales behind each decision. CASE can be a practical training tool for outdoor leaders to exercise their decision making skills. This workshop will introduce the development of CASE and invite participants to experience how to use this training tool.

**Title: Why Don't You Act More Like A Girl?**

**Presenter:** Lindsay Henderson, Adjunct Instructor - *Northern Michigan Univeristy*

**Description:** This presentation will address gender stereotypes as persistent, yet often subtle, barriers to female participation in outdoor activities. Join Lindsay for an exploration of these stereotypes and active analysis of how they are represented in current outdoor media. Participants should come prepared to discuss ideas, share stories, and brainstorm solutions.

**Title: What can I do with my Rec Degree?!**

**Presenter:** Rachel Collins, Graduate Student- *University of Utah*

**Description:** This presentation will address the important questions of what to do when you pass that magic milestone of graduation. We'll spend some time talking about when and what to decide about graduate school, internships, and some things to look for in those first jobs after college.

**Title: Getting the Most from Your Staff**

**Presenter:** Brett Morgan, Outdoor Recreation Coordinator- *University of South Florida*

**Description:** Want to know the keys to making your staff happy, effective, and perform at a high level? I'll tell you the key issues to look for and how to make sure you are addressing them.

**Title: Contributions of the Outdoor Education Industry to Global Climate Change**

**Presenter:** Will Hobbs, Assistant Professor - *Georgia College & State University*

**Description:** We will share the collective findings of student research investigating Outdoor Education influences (from curricula to operations to management) on climate change. Looking at climate change as the primary context, participants will share their personal ideas in an open discussion to develop practical strategies to move the industry forward.

**Title: Expectations in Sustaining a Career in Outdoor Leadership**

**Presenter:** Genevieve Marchand, Lecturer & Coordinator of Outdoor Recreation- *Coastal Carolina University*

**Description:** Are you a new outdoor leader? Would you like to do this for the next 10 years? Have you ever experienced burnout? Do you wish you could reduce the turnover of your outdoor leaders? In this workshop, you will learn the role of your expectations and how to better prepare future outdoor leaders.

**Title: What Every Trip Leader Should Know: Six Essentials for Conflict Resolution**

**Presenter:** Thayer Raines, Professor- *Green Mountain College*

**Description:** Participants will learn the six essentials for effective conflict resolution including behavior contracting, benefits of conflict, active listening, collaborative speaking, brainstorming, and win-win consensus. This is an interactive workshop; participants will have the opportunity to resolve simulated conflict scenarios using the ABCD model.

**Title: Supersize Your Bag-of-Tricks: Activities for Outdoor Leaders**

**Presenters:** Kim Collins, Assistant Program Coordinator - *Indiana University Outdoor Adventures*  
Tyler Kivland, Trip Leader - *Indiana University Outdoor Adventures*

**Description** Are You Looking For New Activities to Use on Your Trips? Come to this workshop!

**Title: Where Recreation and Culture Collide**

**Presenter:** Jason Hotchkiss, Executive Director- *4 Rivers Institute*  
Brian Francis, Co-Founder/ Board Member - *4 Rivers Institute*

**Description:** Where Recreation and Culture Collide-is a discussion on the integration of minorities into adventure based recreation, business and education. We will explore the inseparable history of adventure education and the traditional ways of Native Cultures. We will look at some of the obstacles to using recreation as a means to providing jobs and a healthy lifestyle in Indian Country.

**Title:** **Assessment and Evaluation: Keys to a successful self study**

**Presenter:** Chris Pelchat, Instructor - *Ithaca College*  
Jessie Rome, Graduate Student- *Indiana University*

**Description:** As we move to our new structure one of the tasks of an affiliate will be to design and complete a self study for accreditation. One of the things that is required for a self study is to be able to demonstrate your ability as an organization to effectively assess and evaluate your students. This workshop will help to define the different types of assessment and evaluation options for affiliates.

**Title:** **Creating Rubrics for WEA's Core Competencies**

**Presenter:** Scott Robertshaw, Associate Director of Student Recreation- Outdoor Pursuits-  
*Colorado State University Pueblo*

**Description:** At CSU-Pueblo we utilize a co-creative student directed process for creating evaluation tools. The new core competencies provide a framework from which we design, implement and evaluate our process. Workshop participants will receive examples of program documents and be provided opportunities for collaboration with others. Outcomes will range from individual ideas to collaboration initiatives. Anyone who works with or is interested in a feedback or evaluation tools is welcome to attend, contribute and collaborate.

**Title:** **Outcome Based Staff Training**

**Presenter:** Jackson Wilson, Assistant Professor- *San Francisco State University*

**Description:** How focused are your staff trainings on outcomes? Have you prioritized those outcomes? Are those outcomes achievable? Do those outcomes conflict? This session will a presentation of academic research meshed with a discussion of ideas about staff training.

**Title:** **Complying with ADA in Outdoor Leader Certification Programs**

**Presenter:** Dr. Michael McGowan- *Western Illinois University*

**Description:** Responding constructively to the American's with Disabilities Act in post secondary outdoor leadership certification programs. Developing programmatic protocols for determining undue burden, readily achievable modification, fundamental alteration of the nature of an activity and participant safety in regard to reasonable accommodation will be explored and discussed.

**Title:** **The Meaning of Wilderness: Discursive Implications for Outdoor Education**

**Presenter:** Babs H. Grossman-Thompson, M.A - *Colorado State University -Pueblo*

**Description:** Different historical meanings of wilderness remain highly influential in outdoor education today, determining philosophical and logistical structures of outdoor programs. This presentation will explore and problematize these discourses in the hopes of suggesting how outdoor education can be made more inclusive and diverse through a deeper understanding of these meanings.

**Title:** **How to Make the Most of Your Summer**

**Presenter:** Ellen M. Schiltz, Graduate Student - *Western Kentucky University*  
Amanda Even, Graduate Assistant

**Description:** Not sure what to do this summer? This is your chance to find out about different opportunities and forms of employment available during the summer. Collegiate programs, non-profit organizations, commercial guiding, summer camps and studying abroad will all be discussed. Come find out how to make the most of your summer!

**Title:** **Planning and Leading Organized Night Hikes**

**Presenter:** Brad Daniel, Professor- *Montreat College*

**Description:** This seminar will present how to organize and sequence activities on a night hike. Topics will include the purposes, goals, barriers, guidelines, safety management tips and debriefing questions. Participants will receive descriptions of over twenty activities commonly used on educational night hikes.

**Title:** **Learn From My Mistakes: A Dialectical Approach to Training Outdoor Educators**  
**Presenter:** Brad Daniel- *Montreat College*  
**Description:** This workshop offers a fun, effective method for training educators how to teach in the outdoors. It involves a short skit illustrating many common mistakes. The lesson usually focuses on a subject that is inappropriate for the setting or the season. It is discussed using a multi-staged sequential debrief.

**Title:** **Corporate Programming: Wins & Losses**  
**Presenter:** Shane Sullards- *Lapdog Inc.*  
**Description:** This workshop will focus on the sharing of ideas – specific to Corporate Programming. The presenter will focus on sharing details from actual corporate programs facilitated and strongly encourage participants to share from their experiences. Wins, losses, how to's, what to's will all be discussed.



**Title:** **Activity Variations Based on Your Outcomes and Constraints**  
**Presenters:** Jackson Wilson, Assistant Professor- *San Francisco State University*  
Aiko Yoshino, Ph.D  
**Description:** Hmmm, now why did you pick that particular activity? Did that variation or progression best meet your outcomes? This session will explore the practice of intentionally modifying different activities (energizers, name games, ice-breakers, initiatives, etc.) to best meet your needs.

**Title:** **The Language of Nature**  
**Presenter:** Nathaniel Miles Millard- *Utah State University*  
**Description:** John Dewey called language “the tool of tools.” Language is a system of transferring meaning. Strings of metaphors connect us to our landscape. This presentation will look at the philosophical connections between humans, language, and their landscape and present preliminary research attempting to measure these connections. We will look at how we “deconstruct” a landscape and the implications for instructors.

**Title:** **Barking Up the Right Tree: Interpretation Skills for Outdoor Leaders**  
**Presenter:** Lindsay Henderson, Adjunct Instructor- *Northern Michigan University*  
**Description:** How do you make nature and history fun in the backcountry? With interpretation! This workshop will focus on creating engaging experiences for building connections with the natural and cultural environments. Learn about puppets, storytelling, guided imagery, characterization and portable props to use with your next group.

**Title:** **Preparing for Accreditation: How OSU is Developing its Outdoor Leader Certification**  
**Presenter:** Scott Jordan, Coordinator for Outdoor Adventure-*Oklahoma State University*  
**Description:** OSU has changed from a 14 day Professionals Short Course format for developing the Outdoor Leader in a two year process. We have taken the six core competencies into two seven day field training experiences, three workshops and a variety of practical leadership experiences in the field through our trips program. At the same time we are developing student instructor portfolios and stream lining policies and procedures for the accreditation process.

**Title:** **Frank Lupton: A Conversation with a Founder**  
**Presenter:** Patrick Lewis, Graduate Student- *Oklahoma State University*  
Emily Mckenzie, Graduate Student- *Oklahoma State University*  
Ivan Bartha, Coordinator for Experiential Programs- *St. Cloud State University*  
**Description:** The WEA has a rich history littered with colorful and influential leaders. This presentation will provide an opportunity to reconnect with a leader intimately involved with the inception of the WEA, Dr. Frank Lupton. This session will present a video recorded conversation with Dr. Frank Lupton focusing on his role, thoughts and perceptions of being an active participant in the shaping of WEA history. Following the viewing of the video conversation, session participants will discuss emergent themes and have the opportunity to offer personal antidotes and stories. Ultimately the presentation will seek to highlight the past and hopefully inform the future.

**Title:** **Building a Relationship with Nature through Play**

**Presenter:** Briget Tyson Eastep, Ph.D. - *Southern Utah University*

**Description:** This session will explore how play can engage the emotions and build an appreciation and respect not just for nature, but for our relationship with nature (Hull, 2000, p. 55). Please attend this session with shoes and clothing appropriate for playing outside in a natural area.

**Title:** **JWEA: Opportunities for education, sharing experiences, and getting published**

**Presenters:** Briget Tyson Eastep, Ph.D. - *Southern Utah University*

Rachel Collins, Graduate Student - *University of Utah*

**Description:** Join a discussion on opportunities through the JWEA.

**Title:** **Co-instruction in Wilderness Education**

**Presenter:** Franklin Vernon, Graduate Student- *University of New Hampshire*

**Description:** The American wilderness education field has been using co-leadership as a default model for running courses for decades. Oddly enough, research, training, hiring, and evaluating in outdoor leadership has primarily looked at single-leader models. As such, our field oftentimes appears like a tennis team where players are taught singles-tennis in practice, but are expected to play doubles-tennis in meets. Come join our discussion as we investigate what is currently being done on co-leadership in relevant fields and what the future of co-leadership development may be for us.

**Title:** **Understanding the Professional Ropes Course Association (PRCA) & New RC Technology**

**Presenters:** Joel Cryer, Director- *Adventure mas!*

Mike Barker, Trainer

**Description:** The Professional Ropes Course Association (PRCA) was formed as an industry association addressing the needs and concerns of every sector of the industry. How does it do this? Do we really need an ANSI American National Standards for the Ropes Challenge Course Industry? Learn how the ANSI process works and how the PRCA's proposed standard protects you from outside interference and returns training and certification back into your hands. This session will also explain the PRCA's role in safety innovations and introduce this newest technology to the participants.

