In Memoriam

Richard Bruce Parr, Ed.D.
Professor Emeritus
1943-2015

Richard was born in New Bedford, MA and graduated with a bachelor’s degree in physical education from Plymouth State College in New Hampshire in 1965. He went on to receive his master’s degree in health education from Central Michigan University in 1966 and his Ed.D. in exercise physiology from the University of Northern Colorado in 1971.

Dr. Parr came to CMU in 1967 and provided 43 years of academic teaching excellence in the school of health sciences within the college of health professions. He was a founding co-director for the CMU adult fitness program; a Fellow of the American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM) and active leader in ACSM state, regional, and national levels; he developed the health fitness major at CMU; was a founding co-director of the CMU cardiac rehabilitation program; clinical director of internships at CMU; founding director of the CMU community weight loss program; president of the Governor’s Council on Physical Fitness, Health, and Sports; and served on the advisory board for The Herbert H. & Grace A. Dow College of Health Professions. Dr. Parr influenced the lives of many people, students, faculty and professional colleagues, throughout his career as he mentored and encouraged them in a direction to which they too would become successful. In 2011 following his retirement, Dr. Parr became a professor emeritus of CMU.

Dr. Parr received the Champion, Innovation in Teaching award in 2004 and has mentored numerous students to national, regional and state research presentations and published abstracts. He best exemplified the positive qualities of the exercise physiology program in which he taught. Therefore, a Richard B. Parr Endowed Visiting Professorship/Guest Scholar Program in Clinical Exercise Physiology was created at CMU through The Herbert H. & Grace A. Dow College of Health Professions. The endowed visiting professorship/guest scholar program will allow students and faculty exposure to the most advanced professionals in the field who will contribute to the efforts and passion in teaching and learning. For those wishing to make a memorial contribution, please consider the Richard B. Parr Endowed Visiting Professorship/Guest Scholar Program in Clinical Exercise Physiology at CMU. Donations can be made at the following link: [http://giving.cmich.edu](http://giving.cmich.edu) or by contacting Brett Scott, Director of Development, The Herbert H. & Grace A. Dow College of Health Professions, Health Professions Building 2215, Mount Pleasant, MI 48859. Brett can also be reached by phone at (989) 774-1731 or by email at brett.scott@cmich.edu.