

**Remarks to the Academy of Leisure Sciences  
by David R. Austin, Ph.D., FALS**

First, I wish to thank the members of the Academy who selected me to serve as president for the 2000/2001 term. I am proud to provide leadership for the Academy. In assuming the position of president, I wish for you to know that I will take this responsibility seriously and work to carry out the agenda that members desire.

**Thanks to John Crompton.** In making these remarks, I would be remiss if I did not begin by acknowledging the good work of John Crompton, who served as president of the Academy for 1999/2000. John joined forces with his colleague, Peter Witt, to launch a campaign to identify top students who have the potential to complete a Ph.D. in leisure behavior. This campaign has been highly successful and is a program that I will urge the Academy to continue. Another area in which Peter has assisted John is in the updating of information on Fellows in the Academy. You will notice that member information on the Academy Web site has been brought up-to-date and the entire Web site is probably in the best shape it has ever been in. Our sincere appreciation should go to Ed Jackson who has taken responsibility for the Academy Web site. In sum, all of us owe John a debt of gratitude for continuing to advance the work of the Academy.

**What is Next?** The question of what we should strive to accomplish in the coming year and years thereafter is one that I have pondered during the past year while serving as president-elect. First, and foremost, I wish to complete those tasks that are endorsed by our membership. Therefore, I would like to make some modest proposals for the consideration of members of the Academy.

**Continuing the Future Scholars Program.** Dan Dustin has provided commendable leadership with the Future Scholars Program. I would urge that this program be continued and that members of the Academy support it in every way that we can.

**Continuing Ph.D. Identification Program.** I would urge the Academy to continue the program begun by John and Peter to identify potential scholars. The use of email to collect and distribute the names and addresses of top students seemed to work well and should be continued.

**Considering Two-Year Terms for Officers.** Past-president Alan Ewert suggested that the Academy consider having two-year terms (rather than the current one-year terms) for officers. This proposal, I believe, should be discussed at the Academy meeting and the views of all members of the Academy should be sought during the 2000/2001 term. If a change is desired then it can be enacted for the 2001/2002 term.

**Suspend Dues for 2000/2001.** President Compton chose to suspend the collection of dues for 1999/2000. Howard Tinsley has assured me that we have sufficient funds for the foreseeable future. In light of a positive budget situation, I would request that members consider suspending dues for the coming year.

**Updating the “White Papers” produced by the Academy.** Goef Godbey has suggested that the Academy should determine if it wishes to update the “white papers” that have appeared on the Web site. When I asked for opinions from members, all of those who responded believed that the papers serve an important purpose and should be rewritten. I would propose that a special committee be appointed to oversee the task of producing a new series of “white papers.” Further, I would urge that members of the Academy allocate stipends to those members who author the new papers. Authors of the papers (probably two to four authors per paper) would be selected from proposals submitted to the special committee and a stipend would be paid to the authors once the final version of the paper was delivered and approved by the special committee. I would propose that the stipends be \$250.00 per paper. The stipend could be used by the authors in any way they felt was appropriate. Suggested uses would include such areas as employing a student to assist with a literature review or paying a professional editor to edit the final version of the manuscript.

**Urge the Use of FALS by Fellows.** After their names, fellows in many academic academies list the initials that designate their membership as an academy fellow. For example, my wife is a Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing (FAAN). She and her colleagues list FAAN following their names. I would present a modest proposal to members of the Academy of Leisure Sciences to adopt the use of FALS, particularly when publishing books and scholarly articles. Hopefully this can become a regular practice that brings attention to our Academy and to leisure sciences. It is a practice that I have personally adopted with positive responses from those who have noted the FALS following my name.

**Final Words.** I consider it to be an honor to serve as president of the Academy of Leisure Sciences. I apologize for missing our Phoenix meeting. I would not have been absent if I were not out of the country attending another professional meeting. Please do not take my absence to, in any way, reflect a lack of commitment to our Academy. I will do my best to serve well as your president.

David R. Austin, Ph.D., FALS  
President, Academy of Leisure Sciences

Remarks prepared for the annual meeting of the Academy of Leisure Sciences, October, 2000.

9/19/00 DRA

**ALS Luncheon Business Meeting (12-1:30)  
(Hyatt Hotel Curtis B room)**

Welcome/Agenda	John Crompton
Introduction of Professor Ma Huidi	Geof Godbey
Introduction of New and Past Future Scholars	Karla Henderson
Introduction of New Fellows:	John Crompton/Dan Dustin
Mark Havitz	Dan Dustin
Robert Manning	Leo McAvoy
Joe Roggenbuck	Bill Hammitt
Jerry Vaske	Bob Ditton
Ellen Weissinger	Karla Henderson
Introductions of Other Fellows Present	John Crompton
Special Presentation	Gary Ellis
Outgoing President's Remarks	John Crompton
Outgoing Officers	John Crompton
Welcome of New Officers	David Austin, President
	Susan Shaw, President-Elect

**Business Meeting 1:30 - 2:00 p.m.**

Welcome/Agenda	Susan Shaw
Financial Status	Tony Tinsley
Views of Incoming President	David Austin/Susan Shaw
Discussion Issues:	
Potential Ph.D. candidates program	Peter Witt
Web Page status and update	Ed Jackson
Consider 2-year term for officers	Susan Shaw
Dues status for 2000/2001	Susan Shaw
Updating the "white papers"	Susan Shaw
Other Announcements	
Adjournment	