



Starla McCollum

Starla McCollum graduated from Winthrop University with a B.S. in Physical Education in 1982 and an M.S. in Physical Education Pedagogy in 1984. She began her teaching career in Rock Hill in 1984 at Ebenezer Avenue Elementary School where she was named Teacher of the Year for 1990-91. She continued her studies at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University earning her Ph.D. in 1997 in Curriculum and Instruction in Physical Education.

Starla was an Assistant Professor at the University of New Hampshire and is currently an Associate Professor at Georgia Southern University where she serves as the liaison to the College of Education. She is an active scholar in physical education teacher education with 15 publications in such journals as *Journal of Teaching in Physical Education*, *Teaching Elementary Physical Education*, *Strategies*, *Journal of Physical Education*, *Recreation and Dance*, and *The Physical Educator*. She has received 21 different grants for a total of \$374,255 over her career. She has made more than 100 presentations at the state, district and national levels. She has been trained as a reviewer for NASPE/NCATE, is a Physical Best Instructor, and by all measures a terrific teacher!

The Georgia Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance acknowledged her teaching effectiveness by naming her University Physical Education Teacher of the Year in 2005. In 2008, Starla received the Teaching Award for the College of Health and Human Sciences and was nominated for the Georgia Southern Award for Excellence in Contributions to Instruction. Starla's professional service includes serving as faculty advisor for Georgia Southern's Physical Education Majors Club which was awarded Majors Club of the Year by the Georgia Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance in 2008.

Starla has an extensive list of service to the discipline of physical education. At the national level, she is currently serving as a journal reviewer for the *Journal of Physical Education*, *Recreation and Dance* and has been a reviewer for *Teaching Elementary Physical Education*. At the state level, she has chaired the Elementary Physical Education Section for Georgia AHPERD and served on the Health and Physical Education Advisory Committee for the State Department of Georgia as the Higher Education Representative. She has provided numerous volunteers for field days, walkathons, fitness days, and other community level activities. She is an engaged member of her community and profession.

While attending Winthrop, Starla played on the volleyball team and is a member of the Easley High School Athletic Hall of Fame. It is with great pleasure, that we, the current faculty and staff, welcome Starla McCollum as a member of the Class of 2011 Distinguished Alumni.