

Kym Kirby
Candidate for President Elect



Dr. Kym Kirby, Professor of Physical Education, (retired) Lander University, Greenwood, S.C. is the current Executive Director of South Carolina AHPERD. Her educational preparation includes a PhD and a MAT degree with an emphasis in Physical Education Pedagogy from the University of South Carolina, and a B.S. in Recreation and Parks Administration from Clemson University. Dr. Kirby's 40-year professional career includes 14 years as a Director of Recreation, 4 years as a public-school physical education teacher, and 20+ years teaching physical education pedagogy at the collegiate level.

She is currently a member of the National Academy for Health and Physical Literacy (NAHPL), a 25-year member of SHAPE America, Southern District and has been elected to numerous leadership positions in each organization. Service in these positions have afforded her opportunities to develop leadership skills as well as a broad understanding of how the professional organizations function and serve their members.

Kym has been actively involved in South Carolina AHPERD, serving in multiple positions within SCAHPERD prior to becoming Executive Director. She has worked with the SC Fitnessgram project, SC Physical Education Standards Writing Advisory Committee, and SC Health and Physical Education Key Leaders.

Regionally, she is currently the Chair of the Southern Tier NAHPL Advocacy Committee and regularly leads conference sessions on Advocacy. From 2012-present she was elected or appointed to various positions on the Southern District of AAHPERD Leadership Council.

Nationally, since 2022 she has been a Member of the National Advocacy Committee for the NAHPL. She also has served on the SHAPE America Convention Proposal Review committee since 2015.

Dr. Kirby's publication/presentation interests center on Teacher Preparation in Physical Education and Advocacy.