

David L. Gallahue

When David L. Gallahue began his career at Indiana University in 1970 as an assistant professor in the Department of Physical Education (now the Department of Kinesiology), little did he know—and little were his aspirations to do so—that someday he would serve as dean of the School of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation (HPER). But in fact, 32 years later, he became the school's fifth dean. It is a role that he has fulfilled with distinction and honor, but also with a great deal of humility. He readily acknowledges and reminds others that the effectiveness of an academic dean is directly attributable to the hard work and dedication of faculty and staff colleagues who labor tirelessly to contribute to the success of the school and its students.

David Gallahue was born on February 15, 1943, in Niagara Falls, New York, to parents Douglas and Loretta Gallahue. Raised in Buffalo and educated in the local public school system, he transitioned to the Midwest to pursue his higher education interests. His particular interest in physical activity and sport led him to the Normal College in Indianapolis, where he began his undergraduate studies in what is now a part of IUPUI's School of Physical Education and Tourism Studies. He finished his undergraduate degree in Bloomington's HPER in 1964. It was in Bloomington that David met his wife, Ellie. Immediately following completion of his B.S. degree, he began his professional career in Fort Wayne, Indiana, as an elementary school physical education teacher. Within two years, he furthered his education by pursuing a master's degree at Purdue University, which he completed in 1967.

The late 1960s were a tumultuous period in our nation's history, particularly with respect to the Vietnam War and its effects on young people. It was no less a turning point for 24-year-old David Gallahue, who was contemplating his options for the future. Almost by accident David discovered a career opportunity as a teaching fellow at Temple University in 1967, and decided to move in a career direction that just a few months earlier he would never have imagined. The teaching fellowship at Temple marked the beginning of a doctoral program in human development and special education that culminated in an Ed.D. degree in 1971. Even before he finished the degree, he was offered a faculty position back in Indiana as an assistant professor, and, as the saying often goes, the rest is history. During the next 37 years, David Gallahue distinguished himself as a leading expert in the field of the applied aspects of the motor development and movement skill learning of children and youth in physical activity and sport settings. He served in several administrative roles, including assistant department chairperson, assistant dean, associate dean, and now school dean from 2002 to 2007. Throughout his career David considered his role to be as an active participant in the community of scholars, and felt it essential always to emphasize the importance of academics in all matters of administration.

In addition to his many IU roles, David has also served as a visiting professor, guest lecturer, or keynote speaker on more than 200 occasions at universities and professional conferences in over 20 countries. He is a past president of the National Association for Sport and Physical Education and past chair of both the Council on Physical Education for Children and the Motor Development Academy. He is an elected member of the American Academy of Kinesiology and Physical Education and the North American Society for HPER. He received the Healthy American Fitness Award, and has been the international vice president for both the Asian Council on Exercise and Sport Science and the International Society for the Study of Children. He is also a consulting editor for the *Brazilian Journal of Physical Education and Sport*. He has authored numerous textbooks, book chapters, and journal articles, many of which have been translated into other languages. David also served as a consultant to two governing bodies of the United States Olympic Committee (USA Gymnastics and USA Skiing), the National Institute for Fitness and Sport, and several school districts. He has been recognized nationally and internationally for scholarship and leadership focused on children and youth, and has received honorary professorships at Beijing Sport University and Chengdu Sport University in China.

In the 1970s and 1980s David and wife Ellie were also owners/directors for more than 15 years of Challenger's Day Camp located north of Bloomington. As part of David's interest in outdoor activities, he participated in the 1992 Denali expedition in Alaska, the 2001 Great Wall Walk in China, and numerous mountain climbing adventures on the 14,000-foot peaks of Colorado.

During retirement, David and Ellie plan to continue to live on their horse farm north of Bloomington. They will enjoy spending time with their children, David Lee and Jennifer, and grandchildren. Undoubtedly David will more actively engage in his many outdoor passions, including hiking, snow skiing, and landscape gardening.

Former university president Herman Wells once pointed out that effective administration also requires a little luck, and David Gallahue certainly benefited from some lucky circumstances that enabled him to enjoy prosperous years as both a full-time administrator and faculty member. And, Indiana University and the School of HPER were also lucky to have David Gallahue for over 37 years.

David Skirvin