

I am The **ROCK**

Traci Zillifro

Job: Assistant professor of physical education.

Joined SRU: August 2004.

Background: I grew up in Oil City, which, in spite of the name, is a beautiful place. It was there that I developed a love of physical activity and the outdoors. After completing an undergraduate degree in health and physical education at Kent State University and a master's degree in counseling at Edinboro University, I left the East and headed to Crested Butte, Colo. I taught skiing and led trips in the outdoors there for three years until taking over as the coordinator for the Center for Outdoor Recreational Experience at Edinboro University. After five years there, I returned to school and earned a doctorate from Penn State University in recreation and sustainable tourism.

Interests: Professionally, I am interested in finding ways to get people of all ages to be more physically active throughout their lifetime. I am also interested in play and the importance it has in all of our lives, regardless of age. I like to travel and experience different cultures. I like to learn new things. I love my morning walks/jogs and riding my road bike with friends. And, ever since the birth of my two children, I dream about sitting on my couch and staying awake long enough to watch a whole movie.

Person I would most like to have dinner with:

I would like to have dinner with the suffragettes, including Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucretia Mott. I would thank them for fighting for my [women's] rights that have enabled me to do all of the things I've written about today.

Why I work at The Rock: I have long known that Slippery Rock University has one of the top-ranked physical education programs in the country, so when I was given the opportunity to join the faculty, I was honored. I appreciate my department's commitment to staying current and relevant and do my best to contribute.

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