



## **Stanley V Paris, PT, PhD, FAPTA**

Physical therapist, educator, and sports adventurer Stanley V Paris, PT, PhD, FAPTA, is the founder and first president of the Orthopaedic Section of the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA), and the founding president and chairman of the board of the [University of St Augustine for Health Sciences](#), a proprietary institution with campuses in St Augustine, Florida, and San Diego, California, that encompasses the Institutes of Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy.

Since his immigration to the United States from New Zealand in 1966, Paris has been actively involved in international research, clinical practice, and teaching in the area of orthopedic and manual physical therapy, with a primary specialty of the conservative management of the spine. He is the founding chairman of the International Federation of Orthopaedic Manipulative Therapy and was later elected president and made an honorary life member.

Paris is the recipient of numerous professional honors and awards. In 2006 he received APTA's highest honor in physical therapy as the 37th Mary McMillan Lecturer at the Association's annual conference. In 2002 he was named an APTA Catherine Worthingham Fellow. APTA's Orthopaedic Section instituted the annual Paris Founder's Award for Distinguished Service, and Paris was the recipient of the Founder's Award in 1996. He was made an honorary life member of the Section in 2000. In 1987 Paris received an award from the American Board of Physical Therapy Specialties for his efforts in the development of clinical specialization. He has also served on the APTA Board of Directors and as a director of many other professional and civic organizations.

Paris has published a series of manuals on manual physical therapy and is founding co-editor of the *Journal of Manual and Manipulative Therapy*. He earned his PhD in 1984 for his work in the functional anatomy of the spine with emphasis on neuroanatomy of the lumbar spine. His more than 40 articles in physical therapy have appeared in medical and osteopathic journals as well as in the 1965 book, *The Spinal Lesion*.

Paris hosted a six-part series on National Public Television entitled, "Back Pain: Cause, Prevention and Treatment." He has also produced a movie, titled "It's Your Back," and a one-day program for Rehabilitation Television Network, titled "Paris Orthopaedics: Spine Pain and Dysfunction."

Paris is a life-long adventurer and a competitive athlete. In 1986 he twice swam the English Channel, and in 1985 he completed the World Championship Ironman Triathlon in Hawaii. Paris has sailed once around the world, crossed the North Atlantic three times, and twice sailed the Pacific. He was twice appointed as physiotherapist to the New Zealand Olympic Team.