

Brian Lazar: New Executive Director at AIARE

Sunday, 28 September 2008

The American Institute for Avalanche Research and Education (AIARE) is pleased to announce that Brian Lazar of Boulder, Colorado will be taking over the reigns of the Executive Directorship from Tom Murphy. Brian has been with AIARE since its inception in 1999 and has been on the AIARE Education Committee for the past 6 years.

Brian began his career in the avalanche industry in the early 1990's working as a ski guide and avalanche course instructor for Jean Pavillard at Adventures to the Edge in Crested Butte, Colorado. He later founded the Boulder-base guide service Alpine World Ascents, where he is co-owner and avalanche program director.

After a decade of guiding Lazar returned to graduate school where he studied snow and ice mechanics in the Chugach Range of Alaska, and worked as a researcher with the Institute of Arctic and Alpine Research. Over the last several years he has been doing consulting work as a snow scientist, glaciologist and hydrologist including many projects for the ski industry.

Lazar; "I have been involved with AIARE since its beginnings nearly a decade ago, and look back at what this organization has accomplished and how it's grown with a great sense of accomplishment. What a long way we've come since the beginning, when AIARE's founding fathers (and my mentors) Jean Pavillard, Karl Klassen, and Tom Murphy began meeting in Crested Butte basements and living rooms to discuss the development of a consistent approach to avalanche education in the U.S."

Murphy; "Brian represents the next generation in avalanche education. To be turning AIARE over to such a capable, likable and intelligent individual brings me great joy. Brian has the skills and the experience to take AIARE to the next level."

Murphy will stay on and help out with the transition and will stay involved with outreach programs and the AIARE web store.