Cory Schwartz ’82
Cory Schwartz has impacted the lives of hundreds of student athletes through his tireless efforts to ensure that the UNH ski program has what is needed to perform at the highest possible level. As program budgets shrank, Schwartz solicited the help of former team members, creating a standard of annual alumni financial support that is now a model of giving for UNH athletics. Since its launch, Friends of UNH Skiing has grown to include hundreds of donors—including former team members and their families and friends, as well as corporate donors—who contribute annually to assure a Division I NCAA-quality co-ed ski program.

During Schwartz’s tenure, the UNH ski program not only outpaced other athletic teams in terms of fundraising; it also delivered consistently competitive results in national NCAA championships and produced 47 All-American athletes. Most importantly, the ski program formed one of the solid pillars in the rich UNH tradition of producing high-achieving scholar athletes, earning high NCAA Academic Progress Ratings (APR) and team grade-point averages consistently at the high honors level.

Schwartz has been head coach of the UNH Nordic ski team since 1982 and has served as ski coordinator since 1987, leading the Wildcats to 24 top-10 NCAA placements, and while his success at developing athletes who rank in the top ten nationally is well chronicled, what is less well known is his commitment to the personal development of the individuals he coaches and his ability to foster a sense of team, community, and place in history that remains with athletes beyond their four years of NCAA eligibility.

Schwartz was named the EISA Coach of the Year in 1985, 1986, 2002 and 2003 and was awarded the Al Merrill Award by the state of New Hampshire in 1998.