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## Open Sessions Sponsored by NASSS Conference Organizing Committee

The following Open Sessions are meant for papers consistent with the session's title AND none of the proposed sessions above better fit your paper. The session title and organizer are listed below.

- Politics and Protest, *Alexandra Arellano*, [aarellan@uottawa.ca](mailto:aarellan@uottawa.ca)
- Sport and Communities, *Yuka Nakamura*, [nakamura@YorkU.CA](mailto:nakamura@YorkU.CA)
- Sport and Decolonization, *Tricia McGuire-Adams*, [mcquirea@ualberta.ca](mailto:mcquirea@ualberta.ca)
- Sport and Development, *Alexandra Arellano*, [aarellan@uottawa.ca](mailto:aarellan@uottawa.ca)
- Sport and Gender, *Rebecca Wood*, [rwood2@uccs.edu](mailto:rwood2@uccs.edu)
- Sport and Health, *Parissa Safai*, [psafai@yorku.ca](mailto:psafai@yorku.ca)
- Sport and History, *Sean Chaplin*, [kseanchaplin@gmail.com](mailto:kseanchaplin@gmail.com)
- Sport and Intersectionality, *Tricia McGuire-Adams*, [mcquirea@ualberta.ca](mailto:mcquirea@ualberta.ca)
- Sport and Media, *Jorge Moraga*, [jmoraga@csub.edu](mailto:jmoraga@csub.edu)
- Sport and Nation, *Algerian Hart*, [A-Hart2@wiu.edu](mailto:A-Hart2@wiu.edu)
- Sport and Race, *Tricia McGuire-Adams*, [mcquirea@ualberta.ca](mailto:mcquirea@ualberta.ca)
- Sport and Sexuality, *Stan Thangaraj*, [stan.thangaraj18@gmail.com](mailto:stan.thangaraj18@gmail.com)
- Sport and Transnationalism, *Yuka Nakamura*, [nakamura@YorkU.CA](mailto:nakamura@YorkU.CA)
- Sport Governance, *Sean Chaplin*, [kseanchaplin@gmail.com](mailto:kseanchaplin@gmail.com)
- Youth Sport, *Sean Chaplin*, [kseanchaplin@gmail.com](mailto:kseanchaplin@gmail.com)
- Open Session(For papers that fit neither the Thematic Sessions nor the Open Sessions on this list), *Jeff Montez de Oca*, [nasssconf2019@gmail.com](mailto:nasssconf2019@gmail.com)

## Thematic Sessions Proposed by NASSS Members

Session Name and Presenter Information	Session Description
<p><b>A Colonial Relationship: The Black Athlete and Institutional Development</b> <a href="mailto:hjbilly@uh.edu">Billy Hawkins, <u>hjbilly@uh.edu</u></a></p>	<p>Intercollegiate athletics, more specifically football and men’s basketball, are major global representatives of universities as a whole, and they are critical to the institutional development, including advancement and fundraising, for these universities. Within this context, the Black athletic body is a premium at universities that once had strong colonial connections, they created enormous endowments from slavery and slave labor, and some of these institutions denied admission to Blacks for over a hundred years. Predominantly white institutions of higher education (PWIHE) have relaxed their restrictive anti-Black admission policies in order to capitalize on this commodity; once again colonizing the Black body for the extraction of athletic labor and use the Black athletic body for institutional development purposes. This session seeks to examine this paradox and interrogate the oppressive and racist athletic structures that continually colonize the Black body for institutional development and the academy that neglects the Black mind.</p>
<p><b>Affective Uprisings in the Sociology of Sport</b> <a href="mailto:ali.adam@queensu.ca">Adam Ehsan Ali, <u>ali.adam@queensu.ca</u></a></p>	<p>This session focuses on affect’s contribution to critical sport studies through exploring visceral bodily sensations, triggers, surges, as well as their qualification as feelings and emotions, in the realm of sport and physical activity. While affect theory has significantly impacted the direction of many fields across the social sciences and humanities, it has not been given sustained attention in sport studies. This is surprising given the intense feelings and emotions that are mobilized within the realm of sport. Papers in this session are asked to address how theories of affect can unsettle and discomfort colonial ways of knowing that are contested by, and reproduced within, the sociology of sport. Presenters are particularly encouraged to address the fluid relationship between affect and reflexivity to illustrate how our scholarly work is motivated by feelings, emotions, and bodily pleasures that interact with colonial systems of oppression.</p>
<p><b>Animals and Sport</b> <a href="mailto:gillett@mcmaster.ca">James Gillett, <u>gillett@mcmaster.ca</u></a> <a href="mailto:conwae1@mcmaster.ca">Emma Conway, <u>conwae1@mcmaster.ca</u></a></p>	<p>This session explore the connection between interspecies relationships and sport. We invite presentations that draw on a range of perspectives from studies of sport, interspecies relationships, and animal advocacy that recognize and explore the involvement of animals in sport. This session explores the social processes in the production of knowledge surrounding the role of humans and non-humans in sport, recreation and physical activity. The session seeks to explore the intersection between interspecies sport and power relations along the lines of indigeneity, race, class, sexuality, ability and other power relations</p>

## Critical Reflections on Sport and Domestic Violence

Lauren Anderson, [lcanderson@lasell.edu](mailto:lcanderson@lasell.edu)

In 2014, the Ray Rice assault videos took something that typically happens behind closed doors and put it out in the open to be talked about. Since then, there have been a handful of domestic violence cases in sport that have garnered national attention, with Kareem Hunt being the most recent. This session invites papers that draw upon diverse theoretical perspectives and methodological foundations in examining ways in which domestic violence in sport intersects with gender, race, class, and other power relations and identities. However, in accordance with the conference theme, this session encourages scholars to think critically not only about the ways in which institutional whiteness and heteropatriarchy have informed not only social, cultural, and political discussions of domestic violence in sport, but also have informed discussions inside academia. To that end, how can we reflectively engage in such scholarship while 1) recognizing our privileges and 2) moving beyond the academy in terms of social change?

## Death of the (Sporting) Black Atlantic?

### The maintenance of global white supremacy

Munene Mwaniki, [mfmwaniki@wcu.edu](mailto:mfmwaniki@wcu.edu)

In a recent (2019) interview, acclaimed scholar Paul Gilroy explained that, “for me the dream of The Black Atlantic died with the re-emergence of African-American music at the core of US military and cultural diplomacy. It was finally strangled by the likes of Colin Powell, Condi and the Obamas on one side and Jay-Z, Kanye and Beyoncé on the other. The Black Panther was the last nail in that coffin.” This session, if only indirectly, seeks to explore Gilroy’s assertion that the hope of diasporic anti-racist coalition building has been dashed by nationalist white supremacy and its neoliberal, militaristic, projects—often using black and brown bodies in the process. Where does (global) sport fit into this? Papers can address a range of topics and their intersection(s) with sport, including but not limited to: imperialism/nationalism, white supremacy and anti-black racism, neoliberal capitalism, and patriarchy.

## Decolonizing ‘sport’ and ‘development’ in sport-for-development and peace

Mitchell McSweeney, [mcsweenm@yorku.ca](mailto:mcsweenm@yorku.ca)

Shawn Forde, [shawn.forde@alumni.ubc.ca](mailto:shawn.forde@alumni.ubc.ca)

In the field of sport-for-development and peace (SDP), decolonizing approaches have been both advocated and employed for the purposes of scholarly investigation and practice (Darnell & Hayhurst, 2011; Oxford, 2019). This session seeks to build on these discussions relating to decolonization and to advance theoretical, conceptual, methodological, and practical insights into how SDP is researched and conducted. In line with the conference theme, we invite papers that engage with decolonial approaches in order to question the dominant meanings of ‘sport’, ‘development’, and the growing ‘SDP’ movement/industry/institution, particularly through Indigenous and marginalized perspectives. Questions we hope to explore include both substantive and methodological concerns, such as: How may research in local contexts, that adopts a decolonial approach, inform the international field of SDP? What are some of the complications, contradictions, and concerns that may arise through adopting decolonial approaches to research and SDP? All paper presentations that revolve around such questions and others related to SDP and the conference theme are invited.

### **Decolonizing College Athletics Research**

Siduri Haslerig, [haslerig@ou.edu](mailto:haslerig@ou.edu)

Kirsten Hextrum, [hextrum@ou.edu](mailto:hextrum@ou.edu)

This session will interrogate coloniality in research 'on' college athletes and athletics. Scholars have compared the unique model of U.S. college sport to slavery, a monopoly, and a cartel (Barro, 2002; Eitzen, 2016; Fleisher, Goff, & Tollison, 1992; Nocera & Strauss, 2018). Similarly, we apply settler colonialism to college athletics, focusing on how researchers' methods may perpetuate it (Patel, 2016). Papers in this session will reimagine research methods to challenge settler colonialism as it exists in dominant methodological approaches to college sport in North America. As such, we invite participants to reframe research as 'with' college athletes, rather than 'on' them. Potential paper topics might include: examining coercive participant recruitment tactics; proposing data collection methods that disrupt vertical interviewer-participant power relationships; interrogating the concept of college athlete as perpetual object rather than subject; examining how race and/or gender interact with settler colonialism, or any number of other topics connecting intercollegiate athletics research to decolonial methods. Presentations should offer concrete recommendations for researchers' practice.

### **Decolonizing Methodologists:**

#### **Critical reflections on anti-colonial research**

Simon Darnell, [simon.darnell@utoronto.ca](mailto:simon.darnell@utoronto.ca)

Madison Danford, [madison.danford@mail.utoronto.ca](mailto:madison.danford@mail.utoronto.ca)

Tavis Smith, [tavis.smith@mail.utoronto.ca](mailto:tavis.smith@mail.utoronto.ca)

There is a move to decolonize methodologies across the social sciences. Such approaches are attuned to colonial histories and social formations, and often provide researchers with theories, guidelines, tools and methods of data collection/analysis necessary to deconstruct colonial hierarchies and epistemologies in and through research. As scholars who have attempted to approach our research in this way, we submit that such approaches are useful, but also insufficient. In addition to decolonizing methodologies, what is needed is for researchers (i.e. the methodologists) to decolonize their own experiences, subjectivities, histories in, and complicity with colonialism and imperialism in its various forms, particularly for the ways in which such experiences inform and even infiltrate the research process. In this session, we invite presentations that offer such reflections, with particular consideration of how sharing such experiences might support the sociology of sport community in continuing the work of decolonizing our research.

### **Embodiment, Intersectionality, and Existence**

Faye Linda Wachs, [flwachs@cpp.edu](mailto:flwachs@cpp.edu)

This session explores research on bodies and the experience of embodiment from an intersectional perspective.

### **Examining Athlete Development**

#### **Across the Sporting Landscape**

Amanda L. Paule-Koba, [apaule@bgsu.edu](mailto:apaule@bgsu.edu)

Sport is a billion-dollar industry and often the business side of sport seems to overshadow the athlete as a person. This session will explore a variety of issues that exist surrounding athlete development. Athlete development sees the athlete as a whole person and focuses on both the athletic and personal development of the athlete. This session invites papers that examine the athlete development process and the athlete experience. How can we use this research to create better experiences for the athlete? Topics presented in this session may include, but are not limited to, the sociological aspects of athlete development, athletic identity, transitions, academic support, social justice and activism, athlete wellbeing, character and leadership development, and career development. Papers submitted to this session should emphasize the athlete over profits and address implications for practitioners.

**Fighting Matters:****'Violent' Performance, (Post-)Colonialism, and the Body**

Alex Channon, [a.channon@brighton.ac.uk](mailto:a.channon@brighton.ac.uk)

Ally Quinney, [aq16@my.fsu.edu](mailto:aq16@my.fsu.edu)

This panel session will explore ways in which sociological significance extends from and through the 'fighting body', broadly conceived in terms of individual bodies that fight, as well as social bodies of fighters in the plural. With a primary focus on relations of power, performance, and social change, the panel will feature papers exploring the ways in which martial arts, combat sports, and related activities reflect, recreate or offer the opportunity to resist various matrices of domination. The panel specifically invites work that interrogates these issues at the intersection of globalisation, (post-)colonialism, and/or indigenous knowledge and identities, in line with the conference theme; however, papers which do not explicitly foreground these topics are also welcomed. Collectively, the panel will illustrate the sociological uniqueness of fighting within sporting and similar contexts, particularly through reflecting on how apparently 'violent' practices amplify or subvert existing narratives pertinent to the session's conceptual themes.

**HBCU research in physical activity, sport, and athletics**

Jasmine M. Hamilton, [jmhamilton@pvamu.edu](mailto:jmhamilton@pvamu.edu)

Jeremy Cheeks, [jeremy.cheeks@aamu.edu](mailto:jeremy.cheeks@aamu.edu)

The purpose of this session is to illuminate the scholarly endeavors of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and other minority serving institutions (MSIs) in physical activity, sport, and athletics. Historically, these activities have played an integral role in the experiences, traditions and reputations of these institutions. Although there is limited research on these experiences, the contributions have served as a foundation in the recreational, amateur, and professional arenas. In this session, we welcome quantitative and qualitative research that examine issues and challenges pertaining specifically to HBCUs and other MSIs to include but not limited to: academic engagement and development, faculty scholarship, athletic experiences, exploitation, cultural appropriation, and physical activity and recreational sport.

**Indigenous Mascots, Names, and Identity Issues**

Jane Stangl, [jstangl@smith.edu](mailto:jstangl@smith.edu)

The use of Indigenous names and symbols by sports teams as mascots and names has been demonstrated in social science research to be harmful to Indigenous communities, and especially youth. As a result, NASSS (amongst other academic organizations) passed the Native American Imagery Resolution in 2005 that called for the "discontinuation of Aboriginal/Native American symbols, names, imagery, culture and personas in sport and upon sports teams and educational institutions". This session will present current research on the use of Indigenous imagery, names, and symbols by sport and educational institutions; Indigenous efforts to resist and end that usage; and teaching about living Indigenous peoples in their rich variety of cultures in North America and beyond that counters stereotypical imagery.

**Is This What I Signed Up For?**

Jim Denison, [jim.denison@ualberta.ca](mailto:jim.denison@ualberta.ca)

Through the work of a number of NASSS members, it is evident that what is largely driving decision-making and problem-solving in a multitude of sport contexts today, as well as what purports to represent innovation in sport, is the result of sport's increasingly aggressive profit orientation and uncritical reliance on the sport sciences. For many individuals working in various capacities in sport, this condition may not be what they thought they signed up for. Rather, what they believed they were signing up for was participation in an activity that values above all else the human desire for self-expression and the pleasure that arises from improvement and challenging one's limits in healthy and appropriate ways. This session is intended to explore the tensions individuals engaged in one way or another in sport today experience when faced with this contradiction and the actions they have taken in response.

**Locating Latina/o/x Decolonial Praxis  
across Critical Sport Sociology**

Jorge Moraga, [jmoraga@csub.edu](mailto:jmoraga@csub.edu)

The call for decolonizing sport sociology interestingly coincides with the 50-year anniversary of Ethnic Studies and the race and gender based social movements that contested the Eurocentered “modern/colonial” arrangement in society and academy. This session aims for “decolonizing minds, indigenizing hearts” by turning to Chicana feminism (Pérez 1999, Sandoval 2000, Blackwell 2011), Latin American philosophy (Migñolo 2011, Quijano 2007, Maldonado-Torres 2011) and critical ethnic studies (Ferguson 2012, Grosfoguel 2012). Its major considerations ask what/how Latina/o/x decolonial praxis can further sport sociology grounded in feminist cultural studies (Adams et. al, 2012) and critical cultural study of sport (Andrews and Giardina 2008). Interested submissions might consider the role of sport and sporting cultures across: geo-political arrangements and movements in Latin America, the Caribbean, and the Global South; intra- and inter-ethnic/racial identities; neo-liberal/global capitalism; colonial/modern gender system; intersectional activism; and transnational circulation and containment of ideologies, media, people, labor, and knowledge/power formations.

**#Metoo and Sport Professions:  
Examining Education, Training, and Response**

Brenda A. Riemer, [briemer@emich.edu](mailto:briemer@emich.edu)

Erica J. Zonder, [ezonder@emich.edu](mailto:ezonder@emich.edu)

The purpose of this session is to explore how individuals in sport professions are affected by sexual harassment. Over the past few years, we have learned and researched the realities of sexual harassment by coaches and doctors, but there has been less research and media attention on the topic of sexual harassment within other sport professions. Are we overlooking the experiences of individuals in such fields as athletic training, sport performance, and marketing (just to name a few)? The oppression of females in sport through sexual harassment also serves to reduce the number of women in the field. Papers exploring any of these areas of sexual harassment are welcome.

**New Directions in Disability Sport Scholarship**

Ben Powis, [ben.powis@solent.ac.uk](mailto:ben.powis@solent.ac.uk)

James Brighton, [james.brighton@canterbury.ac.uk](mailto:james.brighton@canterbury.ac.uk)

Despite the recent burgeoning interest into disability sport, scholarship in this field is often accused of reinforcing ableist attitudes, treating disability as a homogenous construct, and failing to adequately acknowledge intersections of disability alongside other dimensions of embodied identity (e.g. race/ethnicity, gender, sexuality, age and class). Furthermore, in spite of a handful of offerings, empirical research continues to predominantly attend to athletes with more ‘normative’ impairments and addresses Paralympic or elite sport in preference of recreational or non-elite competition. These shortcomings are indicative of our collective failure to engage with contemporary, innovative theoretical and methodological frameworks. Therefore, in this session we invite papers that challenge the dominant approaches in disability sport scholarship and provide new empirical, theoretical and methodological directions. We particularly welcome papers which engage with anti-oppressive, anti-ableist, and decolonializing approaches as we seek to expand the limited critical scholarship in this emerging field.

**Political Economies of Sport and the Active Body**

Adam Beissel, [abeissel@miamioh.edu](mailto:abeissel@miamioh.edu)  
Michael Friedman, [mtfried@umd.edu](mailto:mtfried@umd.edu)

This session will provide a forum for scholars looking to share their research on the political economies of sport and the active body. Scholars are encouraged to submit both theoretical and empirical research on the behavioral, developmental, and sociological economies of sport, physical culture, and fitness active body. Submissions are welcome to take on a diverse array of subjects including (but not limited to) sport mega-events, professional sport leagues, sport stadiums and urban development, issues of social and economic (in)justice in collegiate sport, and economies of fitness and physical culture.

**¡Reclamando Nuestros Raíces! Proyectos de  
Descolonización en Comunidades Deportivas Latinas**

Jaime Morales, [amorale9@vols.utk.edu](mailto:amorale9@vols.utk.edu)  
Jen McGovern, [jmcgover@monmouth.edu](mailto:jmcgover@monmouth.edu)

From the European “discovery” of the New World to the current global economic system, América Latina is situated within multiple colonial projects and is a site of complex racial and ethnic dynamics. Though much has been written on those histories, most research on race and ethnicity within the sports studies field has been fixated on the black and white racial binary. While these studies have been instructive, they continue to manifest projects of racial imperialism and settler colonialism by excluding the Latinx diaspora. Though often overlooked by scholars, sport has played a significant role for those with ties to Latin America, beginning with our indigenous ancestors, to the integration of Latinx athletes in modern sports, to the Latinization of professional sports. This session, partially entitled ¡Reclamando Nuestros Raíces! (Reclaiming Our Roots!), challenges sport scholars to expand anti-oppressive and anti-racist scholarship in new directions by drawing attention to the experiences, challenges and issues of the Latinx diaspora. The session will include research that critically examines Latinx populations and traditions in both North American and International sporting cultures with the broad goal of “decolonizing minds, and indigenizing hearts.”

**"#ReclaimingMyTime": Reclaiming Sport Narratives"**

Ajhanai Newton  
[ajhanai.newton@uconn.edu](mailto:ajhanai.newton@uconn.edu)

In 2017, Congresswoman Maxine Waters stated the infamous House floor procedure phrase of, "Reclaiming my time". Such a phrase, went viral for its symbolic underpinning of a confident Black woman "reclaiming her time" in a space that refused to acknowledge her authority and power. The phrase, "reclaiming my time" has transcended House floor procedure and is now used in popular culture to address instances of subordination of certain identity groups. This session will highlight sport narratives that need to be reclaimed due to misinformation, wrongly purported messages, and lack of knowledge about certain experiences and narratives within sport. The reclaiming of narratives is the focus of this session.

**Science, technology, and sport**

Sarah Barnes, [sbarnes42@gatech.edu](mailto:sbarnes42@gatech.edu)

Matt Ventresca, [matthew.ventresca@ucalgary.ca](mailto:matthew.ventresca@ucalgary.ca)

This session invites papers that critically examine intersections of science, technology, and sport. While open to a variety of academic perspectives, we especially welcome papers that engage with science and technology studies or digital humanities approaches. Aligned with this year’s conference theme, we also encourage submissions exploring science, technology, and sport intersections through anti-oppressive research practice and indigenous ways of knowing. Potential topics include but are not limited to: decolonizing practices in sport science and technology; sport technologies and technologies of the active body; injury, risk, and sport medicine; doping, drugs, and bioethics; sports technologies and (dis)ability, gender, race, class, and sexuality; sport science labs and scientific practices; sport science and technologies in/as media; digital, immersive, or virtual realities in sports; and, sustainability and sport.

**Socio-Cultural, Economic, and Ethical Issues Impacting the Future of College Athletics**

Robert Case, [rcase86@gmail.com](mailto:rcase86@gmail.com)

In 1929, the Carnegie Foundation issued a report detailing the major issues affecting college athletics. A number of the issues identified in the 1929 report still impact college athletics today. Issues associated with college athletics in 2019 include commercialization and the athletic arms race, recruiting violations, academic integrity problems, exploitation of minority athletes, a win at all costs attitude, unionization and fair compensation for athletes, Title IX and gender equity, college player violence and drug use, escalating coaching salaries, illegal behavior by coaches, sexual assault by athletes, athlete graduation rates, spiraling expenditures of college athletics, influence of television and the media, and the realignment of conferences. The purpose of this session is to explore issues that impact the future of college athletics from socio-cultural, economic, and ethical perspectives with the hope of shedding additional light on these issues and providing suggestions for their possible resolution in the future.

**Sport and Religion**

Zachary T. Smith, [zsmith23@vols.utk.edu](mailto:zsmith23@vols.utk.edu)

Historically, sport has been used to further the agenda of colonial projects. Many of these projects occurred under the auspices and direction of religious organizations: for example, Christianity and athletics at the Carlisle Indian Industrial School, or the “reformatory” impulses of the YMCA’s work with immigrant populations in the US, as well as its missionary activity abroad. More recently, work in the area of sport for development and peace has been implicated, as sport is often a tool for religious NGO’s and mission organizations. Thus, the purpose of this panel is to offer a forum for scholarship on religion and sport, with particular attention to notions of colonialism, broadly interpreted. General work on sport and religion will be considered, but preference will be given to presentations that tie in to the conference theme. Topics might include: sport, mission work, and colonialism; religion, colonialism, and sport for development and peace; the “colonial” shape of religion and sport scholarship generally; or issues of power and representation for religious sport organizations (e.g., Global Sports Chaplaincy).

**Sport and settler-decolonization**

Alexandra Arellano, [aarellan@uottawa.ca](mailto:aarellan@uottawa.ca)

Cindy J. Gaudet, [cgaudet@ualberta.ca](mailto:cgaudet@ualberta.ca)

Indigenous ally scholarship in sport shares an engagement with critical social justice and anti-oppression approaches that can often enact and obscure systemic violence. Emerging settler learning, engagement and solidarities are leading scholars from multiple disciplines to turn to settler colonial theory in search of new conceptual tools to address decolonization. This session interrogates what happens when settler and Indigenous scholars seek to deconstruct and transform the settler colonial logic of systems in sport research. What are we learning and unlearning through these approaches? How does action occur and how do we become engaged scholars? What opportunities and possibilities emerge? What does such action look like? How do we envisage decolonial futures? How do we avoid being complicit in a violent history of benevolence, for example, in sport for development? What challenges, complexities and barriers are faced? Why and how do we still resist using settler colonial theory in sport research?

**Sport in Today's Urban Environment**

Tyler Sigmon, [tyler.sigmon@morgan.edu](mailto:tyler.sigmon@morgan.edu)

Ryan King-White, [rwhite@towson.edu](mailto:rwhite@towson.edu)

In today's urban environment, there are more ways than there have ever been for individuals to participate in organized sport and recreation. While there have unarguably been marginalized populations harmed by the expansion of urban sport and recreational opportunities (namely those that cannot afford to participate in the increasingly popular for-profit leagues), many individuals, including NASSS researchers, are participating at levels never seen in the past. This session looks at benefits beyond the immediate sense of organized recreational programming for all populations, and add to the growing body of research aimed at how cities are continuing to find new ways to use sport and recreation to combat urban community issues.

**Sport Management and the (Public) Sociology of Sport**

Adam Love, [alove1@utk.edu](mailto:alove1@utk.edu)

Many sociology of sport scholars find themselves working in sport management academic programs. Indeed, many scholars may attend conferences and publish in journals from the fields of both sport management and sociology of sport. In these ways, some meaningful overlap exists between the two fields. Such connections between the fields are perhaps particularly relevant given recent attention to public sociology of sport. In some ways, activities such as teaching sport management students and engaging with sport management practitioners may be conceptualized as "doing" public sociology of sport. Ultimately, this session invites submissions that highlight or interrogate the potential (dis)connections between sport management and sociology of sport.

**Sport Participation and Family**

Steven M. Ortiz, [sortiz@oregonstate.edu](mailto:sortiz@oregonstate.edu)

Participation in sports — youth programs, adult hobbies, elite competitions, and more — can become an obsession. Athletes or sport enthusiasts may interpret their single-minded pursuit as the key to success, dedication, or discipline, and this attitude may be supported by teammates, coaches, parents, fans, partners, and families, but it can ultimately have a negative effect on the athlete and others, leaving them open to some level of exploitation or oppression. For example, when a professional/elite athlete's career dominates a marriage or domestic partnership, these career-dominated relationships can require a partner to make costly sacrifices as they support the athlete's success. Conversely, athletes can become overly fixated on certain outcomes that negatively affect their mental and emotional health and lead to exploitation through any number of channels. This session explores the myriad ramifications of sport obsession and how it leads to oppression and exploitation of athletes and those they care about.

**Sport, the environment and sustainable development**

Rob Millington, [r.millington@utoronto.ca](mailto:r.millington@utoronto.ca)  
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In recent years, sport has been increasingly cast as an agent of sustainable development, with organizations like the UN positioning sport as a catalyst to poverty alleviation, gender equality, good health, and as a means to “implement positive responses to climate challenges.” Indeed, as the sport for development (SFD) sector continues to grow, sport’s contribution to sustainable development has become more pressing as “developing” polities are more likely to see the effects of climate change before and more profoundly than “developed” ones. However, the connections between SFD and sustainability have been subject to critique, particularly for the dubious environmental record of the sport industry, and for the fact that “sustainability” is itself a contested term, operating as a “strategically deployable shifter” often detached from any environmental meaning. This session thus aims to explore the intersections between sport, the environment and development, with particular attention paid to issues of sustainability, decolonization, and land rights.

**Stress, Coping, and Social Support in North American Sport**

Sarah Hatteberg, [hattebergsj@cofc.edu](mailto:hattebergsj@cofc.edu)

Despite ample evidence of the salutary effects of sports participation, research suggests athletes participating in elite-level sport are at risk of suffering from a host of adverse mental health consequences as a result of stressors associated with competitive athletics including but not limited to power, control, and oppression. Furthermore, scholarship suggests that sports participants may cope with stressors in unhealthy or ineffective ways (e.g., through substance use or abuse, internalization, or denial). The purpose of this session is to explore new and innovative research on the stress experiences associated with sport, and on the sources of and barriers to effective coping and social support processes found among sport participants, with the overall goal of identifying evidence-based intervention strategies to effectively reduce sport-related strain and associated mental health consequences. Submissions related to this year’s conference theme of decolonial praxis are particularly encouraged, though all stress- and coping-related submissions are welcomed.

**Teaching the Sociology of Sport:  
Pedagogies, Assignments, and Issues**

Emily Dane-Staples, [edane-staples@sjfc.edu](mailto:edane-staples@sjfc.edu)

The scholarship of teaching and learning is an important part of any academic conference. This session invites participants to share their practical strategies and/or concerns for effective teaching and learning in the sociology of sport. In keeping with the conference theme, we hope that at least some of the presentations will demonstrate methods for designing classroom spaces and assignments that seek to decolonize sport sociology.

**The Making of Surfing:  
Appropriation, Coloniality, and Revisionism**

Anne Barjolin-Smith, [anne.fle.esl@gmail.com](mailto:anne.fle.esl@gmail.com)

Surfing as lifestyle, competitive sport, counter-culture, art, religion is a complex global practice shaped not only by Indigenous cultures but also by a history of colonization—spatial, cultural, and intellectual. Surfing constitutes one of the examples in which colonialism generated cultural appropriation and gave settlers—North Americans and Europeans—the power to rewrite surfing’s history and to gain linguistic, economic, cultural, political, ideological, and scholarly monopolies. The postcolonial culture of sport scholarship compels us to question the consensual myths, symbols, and representations of sport cultures. This session asks how can new fields of study, such as surf studies, deconstruct rooted histories built through colonial media and literature in order for sport scholarship to become a space of encounter, debate, and renewal between indigenous and colonizing institutions. The session ponders on ways to move surf scholars in new anti-oppressive and egalitarian directions in order to inform global sport scholarship.

## **The Spectacle of the Athletic Body**

Steve Marston, [sbmarston@gmail.com](mailto:sbmarston@gmail.com)

A half-century ago, theorist Guy Debord (1967) identified the “spectacle,” his term for commodified imagery, as pervasive in contemporary life. Drawing on this concept’s influential legacy, this panel turns to the athletic body as a central piece of social spectacle. A focus on the body enables analysis of how the material (flesh, blood, bone, etc.) is transformed into mediated commodity, how the “real” is made “hyperreal.” While this spectacularization is amplified in the age of digital/social media, contributors are also encouraged to examine historical representations of the athletic body. Following the panel’s critical focus on articulations of power and identity, contributors may address how mediation has been intertwined with colonization, particularly of those athletes whose bodies reflect marginalized identities.

## **Theorizing and Narrativizing #MeToo in Sport and Physical Culture**

Guy Harrison, [gharrison@ysu.edu](mailto:gharrison@ysu.edu)

Created in 2006 by social activist Tarana Burke, #MeToo resurfaced in the fall of 2017 as women and men took to social media to offer support as survivors of sexual misconduct -- online and offline harassment, sexual assault, and rape. The hashtag came to symbolize resistance against a culture that has enabled sexual misconduct in a variety of contexts, which include the world of sport, the most prominent case of which was that of Larry Nassar, team doctor for the U.S. Gymnastics team. Scholars are encouraged to submit abstracts for papers that deepen and challenge our understanding of how phenomena that include, but are not limited to, rape culture and toxic masculinity inform (and are informed by) instances of sexual misconduct in sporting and physical culture. Papers that investigate the ways in which sportspeople have negotiated their own experiences with sexual misconduct -- and mediated representations thereof -- are also highly encouraged.

## **Thinking reflexively about Indigenous and decolonial methodologies**

Simon J Barrick, [simon.barrick@ucalgary.ca](mailto:simon.barrick@ucalgary.ca)

Building from the conference theme—Sport Sociology and the Responsibility for Decolonial Praxis: Decolonizing Minds, Indigenizing Hearts—this session invites presenters to think reflexively about the complexity of utilizing Indigenous and decolonial methodologies in critical sport sociology research. Engaging with Indigenous and decolonial methodologies leads researchers to confront the relationship(s) between histories of oppressive power relationships resulting from colonialism and how these histories manifest themselves in contemporary socio-cultural contexts. Thus, presenters are asked to share insights surrounding how Indigenous and decolonial methodologies inform (or may inform) their scholarship. Presenters are also asked to consider how incorporating such methodologies may lead to empowering non-mainstream populations (e.g., racialized minorities, newcomers, persons with disabilities, and various intersecting identities) through involving such individuals and communities as active collaborators directly in the research process. To encourage critical, wide-reaching dialogue, conceptual discussions, reflexive insights from ongoing and completed research, and calls to action are welcome.

**Title IX and Sport: Forging Pathways to Fight Oppression**

Erica J. Zonder, [ezonder@emich.edu](mailto:ezonder@emich.edu)

Courtney L. Flowers, [Courtney.Flowers@tsu.edu](mailto:Courtney.Flowers@tsu.edu)

Gender equity remains a critical issue in college and high school athletics. Men were head coaches of 59.8 percent of women’s college teams in 2015-16 (NCAA, 2017). From 2011-2016, interscholastic boys’ participation opportunities increased by over 50,000 and the number of girls’ opportunities grew by over 150,000, yet “current girls” interscholastic participation numbers have never reached the boys pre-Title IX level (NCAA, 2017). Therefore, there is a need to deconstruct the ways in which power and oppression continue to influence intercollegiate and interscholastic athletic programs. Engagement in scholarship surrounding Title IX may forge pathways in confronting this injustice. Aligning with the conference theme of “decolonizing sport sociology,” this session seeks to highlight Title IX scholarship which sparks critical examination of gender equity in sport and challenges gender-based oppression, power, and marginalization in sports.

Reference:NCAA (2017). Title IX at 45: The Status of Women in Intercollegiate Athletics. Retrieved from [www.ncaa.org/about/resources/inclusion/title-ix-45-years](http://www.ncaa.org/about/resources/inclusion/title-ix-45-years)

**Work Matters: Sport Work and Precarious Realities**

Dale Sheptak, [rsheptak@bw.edu](mailto:rsheptak@bw.edu)

In sport, part-time front of house staff for public assembly facilities, including ushers, concessions workers, ticket takers, and security personnel belong to an emerging class of workers, the precariat (Standing, 2012). They find themselves in the same position as millions of disenfranchised workers across the globe who are underemployed or in a position where the prospect of full-time employment is scarce. This reality forces individuals to assemble, what we will refer to as, a portfolio of jobs that offer little to no long-term economic security. This session invites presentations that address the nature of the sport labor market. Questions addressed may include: is the economic model of the sport industry a breeding ground for precarious labor?; what attributes of the sport labor market allow for current forms of precarious labor?; and what are the societal and ethical considerations of using precarious labor in sport.

## Open Panel and Roundtable Sessions Sponsored by NASSS Members

Session Name	Session Description
<p><b>Teaching Strategies to Promote Active Learning in Sport Sociology (Panel)</b></p> <p><a href="#">Alexandra N. Fairchild</a>  <a href="mailto:anfairchild1@stritch.edu">anfairchild1@stritch.edu</a></p>	<p>This panel session invites participants to share what teaching strategies they utilize to promote active learning in sport sociology-related undergraduate and graduate courses. Panelists will be asked to offer what specific teaching strategies they are currently using in addition to discussing what student feedback related to these teaching strategies has been. In an effort to connect the panel discussion with the conference theme, examples of activities that encourage students to reflect upon the ways in which power and oppression work through and within sport are especially encouraged.</p>
<p><b>Women's sportswear relative to social justice (Panel)</b></p> <p><a href="#">Linda K Fuller</a>  <a href="mailto:LFuller@worcester.edu">LFuller@worcester.edu</a></p>	<p>Whether embossed with slogans (such as “Gender is a social construct,” “Nevertheless, she persisted,” or “Injustice for some is injustice for all”), colored or crowned by emblematic symbols, the outfits that female athletes wear might be pre-ordained by a sporting organization or simply the athleisurewear of individual choice. Yet, as in the arena of Sport for Development (S4D), much of women’s sportswear remains dependent upon societal notions, constrained by religious protocol, patriarchal controls, peer pressures, even industry-chosen construction. Equally important is examining where, and by whom, and under what conditions it is produced. As women’s sports become ever more accepted, it is time to examine how their clothing fits, literally, into the fabric of a discussion on decolonial praxis.</p>
<p><b>HBCU Stories: Discussing the State of HBCUs and the Study of Sport (Roundtable)</b></p> <p><a href="#">Jasmine M. Hamilton, <a href="mailto:jmhamilton@pvamu.edu">jmhamilton@pvamu.edu</a></a>  <a href="#">Jeremy Cheeks, <a href="mailto:jeremy.cheeks@aamu.edu">jeremy.cheeks@aamu.edu</a></a></p>	<p>Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) are described by the Higher Education Act of 1965 as, “...any historically black college or university that was established prior to 1964, whose principal mission was, and is, the education of black Americans, and that is accredited by a nationally recognized accrediting agency or association determined by the Secretary [of Education]...” Currently, there are 101 HBCUs that offer doctoral, masters, and undergraduate degrees. However, the perceptions of HBCUs and resulting experiences in sport, education, and beyond are often undervalued or misrepresented. Thus, the purpose of this roundtable discussion session is to examine the state of HBCUs (to include successes and challenges) for faculty and students through the relevance of sport.</p>