

**Simon Barrick** is a PhD Candidate in the University of Calgary's Faculty of Kinesiology in Alberta, Canada. Beyond academia, Simon loves all things sports (especially curling), running, spending time with friends and family, sunsets, and sneaking in the odd non-thesis reading.

**Vision for NASSS:** The NASSS annual conference represents an important opportunity for graduate students to share their research, build networks, and engage with likeminded individuals around a common goal of critically interrogating the role of sport in society. Extensive graduate student contributions (both past and current) have helped grow NASSS, a legacy that I plan to build on as your next Graduate Student Representative. In this role, I intend to help expand existing initiatives such as Take a Student to Lunch and the graduate student lunch panel. I will also advocate for more graduate student service opportunities during the NASSS conference (e.g., registration table volunteers, A.V. support, and assisting keynote speakers) to help offset conference expenses (through having one's conference registration fee waived). To help address the well-known isolation faced by graduate students, I will also foster opportunities for NASSS graduate students to meet at relevant conferences, workshops, and symposia beyond the NASSS conference, as well as organize an online community to engage with your fellow graduate students throughout the year. Lastly, I will advocate on your behalf on the NASSS Executive Board to ensure the graduate student voice is heard.

**Qualifications for Office/Leadership:** I have held several NASSS and non-NASSS leadership positions that have prepared me for this role. Within NASSS, I served on the conference steering committee in 2016, co-organized the 2017 conference registration table, and served as a conference registration table volunteer from 2016 to 2018. I am also presently a member of the 2019 conference steering committee. Beyond NASSS, I served as president of my departmental graduate student association during my Master's at the University of Waterloo, and am currently president of my departmental graduate student association at the University of Calgary. I am also chair of the University of Calgary's Graduate Students' Association Newcomers and International Students' Sub-committee. I was also the Graduate Student Representative with the Canadian Association of Leisure Studies annual conference in 2018. Beyond academia, I have extensive research and consulting experience with various provincial and national sport organizations including: Curling Canada, Curling Alberta, Skate Canada, and Hockey Canada. In these roles, I have demonstrated an ability to serve groups and individuals, develop innovative programs and opportunities, as well as engage with stakeholders to improve the experiences of graduate students. In this NASSS role, I would look forward to building on these skills and expanding the opportunities available to graduate students.

**Summary of Publications/Presentations:** Broadly, my research focuses on the intersections of sport, social inclusion, community building, nationalism, and integration. My Master's research involved exploring the experiences of adults in "learn-to" sport programs. In my current PhD research, I am exploring the role that winter sport participation plays in the integration of new immigrants to Canada. I have presented my research at the 2016-2018 NASSS annual conferences and various other sport and leisure conferences (e.g., North American Society for Sport Management, Canadian Association of Leisure Studies, Alberta Recreation and Parks Association, and Canada Sport for Life). I have also published in *Sport in Society* about the importance of using qualitative research methods in sport mega-event research and *Journal of Sporting Cultures and Identities* about the impact that Olympic medal designation has had on the sport of curling. My research involving adult sport participants in learn-to-curl leagues is currently under review in *Qualitative Research in Sport, Exercise, and Health*.

**Mustafa Karacam** is a third year Ph.D. student in the School of Kinesiology at Queen's University.

**Vision for NASSS:** Having attended a substantial number of international conferences, I must say that NASSS has been the best conference experience for me as a graduate student in the last two years thanks to its welcoming intellectual environment. In my experience, the graduate student specific activities have played the major role in making my NASSS experience exceptional among any other conferences. As the graduate student representative, I seek to create more opportunities for graduate students to have more active roles in the NASSS community while sustaining existing graduate student activities. I also aim to build and nurture a stronger network among graduate students as well as between grad students and faculty members for greater intellectual and professional support. In addition, I will work enthusiastically to represent the concerns and interests of a diverse group of graduate students in order to facilitate a welcoming, safe and inclusive intellectual environment for all graduate students at NASSS. I have acquired a considerable conference experience, and I am very approachable. Therefore, I believe that I am a good fit for the graduate student representative position.

**Qualifications for Office/Leadership Experience:** As a Ph.D. student, I organized the 17th Macintosh Sociology of Sport Conference at the School of Kinesiology and Health Studies at Queen's University in 2019. In 2014, as a master's student at the Faculty of Sport Sciences at Hacettepe University in Turkey, I worked as an organizing committee member for the International Association for Physical Education and Sport for Girls and Women (IAPESGW) Regional Symposium: International Gender Issues and Sport in Turkey. With a colleague, I took a lead role in setting the conference schedule, finalizing the conference program, and managing the accommodation, transportation and catering of participants. In 2015, as a member of Turkish Association of Sport and Physical Activity for Women (KASFAD), I worked as an organizing committee member for the "Women are Walking and Running" event that aimed to raise awareness about the importance of girls' and women's participation in physical activity in Turkey. My role included, but was not limited to, setting up the event area, coordinating participants and volunteers before and during the event, ensuring safety precautions for participants and promoting the event on various media outlets. Aside from academic experience, I competed as a national athlete in the sport of archery for 15 years, and worked as an archery coach in 2013-2016 in Turkey. As an athlete, I developed a wide range of life-long skills such as strong coping mechanisms and decision-making. As a coach, I furthered my leadership and management skills. My position required me to guide athletes under my supervision to long distance competitions and to arrange the accommodation, transportation, and nutrition of those under my supervision.

**Summary of Publications/Presentations:** Since 2012, I participated and presented academic papers in a number of international conferences. Following the attendance of my first NASSS in 2017, I presented a paper at the 2018 NASSS Conference. My paper looked at how a video project by the International Olympic Committee on trans athletes ideologically worked to sustain its management over trans athletes in elite sports. In 2014-2015, I presented two papers derived from my master's project where I looked at nutritional supplement use in the construction of masculinities in the fitness context. I presented one paper at the *World Congress of Sociology of Sport* in Paris, France and the other paper at the *1st International Conference on Men and at Masculinities 'Identities, Cultures, Societies* in Izmir, Turkey. In 2014, I presented a paper on gender inequality in sport management in Turkey at the *IAPESGW Regional Symposium: International Gender Issues and Sport* in Ankara, Turkey and a paper on the gendered experiences of women boxers in Turkey, with other two authors at the *13th International Sport Sciences Congress*. During my Master's degree, I also participated in two international short-term courses in 2013 and 2014: 1) Copenhagen International Summer School for Young Researchers, and 2) Sport as a Means for European Citizenship at the University of Coimbra, Portugal. Between 2015 and 2018, as a first author, I published a number of book chapters related to gender and sport in Turkey: *Gender Diversity in European Sport Governance; Pierre Bourdieu, Organization, and Management* by Routledge; *Gender Issues in Sport* --a very first Turkish scholarly book on gender and sport—and another book chapter on the muscularity phenomenon among young Turkish men by Hacettepe University. Now, I am working with a colleague on a new book chapter where we will tackle the issues related to LGBT athletes in Turkey, an issue that is has not been addressed due to homophobia related issues and institutional constraints in Turkey.

**Anna Posbergh** is a second-year doctoral student in Physical Cultural Studies in the Department of Kinesiology at the University of Maryland.

**Vision for NASSS:** The annual meeting at NASSS has a unique energy unlike other international conferences, including opportunities to present our work and network with accomplished scholars in our field. There is a clear focus on the mentorship and support of graduate students, a testament to the impact of grad student attendees and previous Grad Student Reps, who create a supportive environment to help foster innovative research. These goals of the conference manifest in programs such as the graduate student panel and *Take a Student to Lunch*, which provide professional development opportunities. On a personal level, the grad student peer mentorship program helps integrate those without previous NASSS contacts into NASSS's inclusive environment. To build on these existing programs, I would like bridge the professional and personal with an online repository of current NASSS graduate student members. This would include university affiliation and research interests, and would enable connections forged during the conference to extend beyond November. I envision this not only extending current networking and collaborative research opportunities, but providing information for prospective graduate students as a way to continue to grow the international NASSS community.

**Qualifications for Office/Leadership Experience:** This past year, I served as co-chair of the UMD Physical Cultural Studies Graduate Student Conference, which involved managing every aspect of an academic conference, including supporting fundraising efforts and organizing a panel on athletes. In particular, I brought my own experience as a collegiate athlete to help create this student-led panel, which will focus on the role of the NCAA in shaping the student-athlete experience. I am also the editor of UMD's *The Corpus*, an online blog dedicated to critical discussions of the body, physical culture, and sport. In this position, I have invited guest authors and contributors to help further the conversation around sport sociology and physical culture.

**Summary of Publications/Presentations:** My academic interests have always involved gender relations and (in)equity around women. As an undergraduate, I helped Dr. Nicole LaVoi collect and code data for the Tucker Center's annual "Report Card": a yearly publication that gives universities a 'grade' on the number of women head coaches for men and women's sports. My current research especially focuses on the (bio)ethics of sex testing and subsequent regulatory policies. Last year at the 2018 NASSS meeting, I presented a textual analysis of the International Association of Athletics Federation's 2018 proposed policy on testosterone regulation in female athletes. My findings from this presentation were accepted for publication in a special issue of the *International Journal of Information, Diversity, and Inclusion* (July 2019, vol. 3, issue 3). This spring, I completed data collection and analysis on research investigating the difference in perceptions of the 'ideal' track and field athlete between male and female athletes, and am looking forward to presenting my findings at the 2019 NASSS meeting. I am also currently completing a media analysis piece with Dr. David L. Andrews, looking at the universal message of neoliberal post-feminism in Nike's transnational pro-women advertisements. Beyond my own dissertation research, I am also working with my advisor, Dr. Shannon Jette, and our research team to publish the results of our creative curricular intervention, the *Embodied Brainstorming Workshop*. This publication features a collaboration between Theatre and Performance Studies and Kinesiology, using movement to foreground difficult conversations around discrimination in the current political climate.