

Academy President Reaches Out to African Nations to Enhance Sports Programs

Academy President Dr. T. J. Rosandich visited New York City in September in conjunction with the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) session to further an initiative undertaken in 2015 to discuss with the leaders of several African nations the importance of sports in the development of programs for youth.

In 2015 Rosandich met with His Excellency Sam Kutesa, then-President of the UNGA and the current Foreign Minister of Uganda, to discuss the U.N.'s Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the U.N.'s long-term guidelines for global enhancement and improved sustainability that were adopted by the General Assembly in June, 2015. The presentation highlighted the important role that can be played by sport as a means to achieving several of the SDGs.

Together with Academy Trustees Joe Szlavik and Peter Tichansky, Rosandich during the two-day visit was able to meet the Hon. Hage Geingob, the President of Namibia; Hon. William Ruto, the Deputy President of Kenya; Hon. Janet Kataaha Museveni, Uganda's First Lady and Minister of Education and Sports; and His Excellency Michael Mousa-Adamo, the Gabonese Ambassador to the

U.S. and the U.N. The Academy president discussed the role of sports for development, particularly with respect to youth. Tichansky is Chief Executive Officer of the Business Council for International Understanding and Szlavik is President of Scribe Strategies & Advisors, Inc.



His Excellency Dr. Hage G. Geingob, President of Namibia, recently met with Academy President Dr. T.J. Rosandich at the United Nations General Assembly in New York City. From left are Geingob; Academy Trustees Peter Tichansky and Joe Szlavik; and Rosandich. Rosandich met with His Excellency Martin Andjaba, Namibian Ambassador to the United States, to discuss Protocols of Cooperation between the Academy and Namibia to support the development of sport in the African nation.

All of the meetings were successful, particularly the one on 22 September with Museveni, with whom Rosandich met to dis-

uss developing a Protocol for Cooperation for efforts to enhance sport in the East African nation. This was a first step toward establishing sport education programs in Uganda.

"We agreed that if Uganda partnered with the Academy, this would help improve the quality of sports in the country," Museveni said. "Ugandans will also recognize sports as an integral part of the learning process in schools."

"As with many African nations, youth constitute a very large portion of the Uganda population," Rosandich said.

"Research has shown that among the best tools available to prepare youth for productive roles in society are well conceived and implemented sports programs. So the relationship between education and sports in the schools is a natural one.

"The United States Sports Academy has a long history of successfully assisting countries around the world with the development of their sports programs and we are looking forward to working with our Ugandan colleagues to make this a reality," Rosandich added.

The Academy has had a long-term involvement in the development of sport in Africa, including a major project in Gabon that began in 2010 (*continued on next page*).



Dr. Bennet Omalu
 Jokl Sports Medicine Award
 Page 4

IN THIS ISSUE

Enhancing Sports Programs in Africa	2
American Sport Art Museum and Archives	3
Awards of Sport	4-5
International Outreach	6-7
Alumni Achievements	8-9
People, Places and Programs	10-11



Dr. Brad Schoenfeld
 Eisenhower Fitness Award
 Page 5

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The United States Sports Academy is an independent, non-profit, regionally accredited, special mission sports university created to serve the nation and the world with programs in instruction, research and service. The role of the Academy is to prepare men and women for careers in the profession of sports.

ACCREDITATION

The United States Sports Academy is regionally accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award baccalaureate, master's, and doctoral degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of the United States Sports Academy.

The United States Sports Academy accepts students regardless of race, religion, age, gender, disability or national origin.



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ENHANCING SPORTS PROGRAMS IN AFRICA

(continued from cover) The Academy sent a team of experts to the country and developed a comprehensive report on the state of facilities, equipment, programs and staff qualification, as well as other associated aspects of Gabon's sport program and made recommendations on the development of sport based on those findings. The Academy also conducted a facilities review and legacy study related to uses for Gabon's 40,000-seat Friendship Stadium in Libreville, which was built as the site of the 2012 Cup of Africa Nations Football (Soccer) Tournament.

The Academy also has done work in Kenya, where it conducted studies of the entire sport complex and was involved in the development of youth sport.

In Botswana, the Academy has trained sports leaders through the International Certificate in Sports Management and Sports Coaching programs, as well as conducted a design review of the Molepolole Sports com-



plex and a feasibility study for development of a national sports academy there. The Academy has been involved in sports related education and outreach programming with more than 65 countries around the world since its founding in 1972. ■

Uganda First Lady and Education and Sports Minister Janet Museveni met with Academy President Dr. T.J. Rosandich in New York City on Thursday, 22 September 2016, to discuss a Protocol of Cooperation between the East African country and the Academy. The two discussed improving the quality of sports and integrating sports as part of the learning process in schools in Uganda.

plex and a feasibility study for development of a national sports academy there.

The Academy has been involved in sports related education and outreach programming with more than 65 countries around the world since its founding in 1972. ■

Support Your Academy During the Annual Fundraising Drive

The Academy is currently reaching out to faculty, staff, students, alumni, friends and supporters during its annual fundraising drive. All who believe in the Academy and its missions of teaching, research and service are encouraged to participate.

The Academy was founded nearly a half century ago on the belief that the quality of sport education and coaching needed to be improved if American athletes were to perform competitively and safely at the top levels in sport.

Now known around the world as "America's Sports University®," the Academy is the nation's largest sports university with thousands of graduates at the bachelor's, master's and doctoral degree levels. The Academy has changed lives by launching successful careers in sport, and these graduates have elevated sport and the sport profession worldwide.

In addition to its teaching programs, the Academy's research and service programs have also touched countless lives in its community and around the world.

As an independent, non-profit institution that does not receive state or federal appropriations, the Academy must continue to be creative to find the right mix of funding to enable it to continue achieving its objectives. Private giving is an important part of this equation.

The Academy asks for your generous support as it continues to touch lives and enhance sport and the sport profession. The Academy asks that you make a tax-deductible gift today and that you remember the institution as you make your long-term philanthropic plans. You can give immediately by going to www.ussa.edu/donate or by calling the Academy at (251) 626-3303. ■

Burns, Whyte Named 2016 Sport Artists of the Year

The Academy has named sculptor Steven Whyte and painter Gregory Burns as its 2016 Sport Artists of the Year.

Whyte, a British born American sculptor known internationally for his realistic and engaging bronzes of people, has received acclaim for his highly detailed and stirring works on the dynamic spectacle of athleticism. These include his 13-foot monument of 1957 Heisman Trophy winner John David Crow for Texas A&M University, the first Heisman winner in the storied history of Aggie football. The work is now a focal point at Texas A&M's Kyle Field.

The success of the Crow sculpture won Whyte a second commission with Texas A&M for a monument to the tradition of their ferociously dedicated student fans, referred to as the "12th Man." The "War Hymn Memorial" is a slightly larger than life-sized monument in which twelve A&M students are linking shoulders and feet in the midst of their "War Hymn cheer."

Burns is an acclaimed athlete and painter who proves daily that art and sport can co-exist on the highest levels. He is a world champion Paralympic swimmer who has won



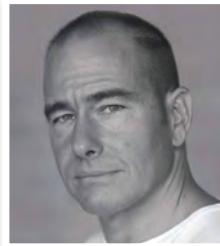
Steven Whyte



"John David Crow Monument Maquette" by Steven Whyte.



"Podium" by Gregory Burns.



Gregory Burns

five gold and silver medals and broken four world records in three Paralympic Games. He is also a world-class contemporary artist, whose abstract impressionist paintings and exhibitions have received acclaim for more than three decades.

Burns specializes in painting contemporary pieces inspired by his extensive travels throughout Asia, Europe and the Americas. The joy he derives from painting the figure infuses his sports art with the same energy he once reserved for athletics. ■

IN MEMORIAM

Remembering the Energetic Art of Hans Erni

A year has come and gone since the world lost one of its most gifted artists who perfected his craft over more than a century of life. At age 106 the great Hans Erni passed, but he left behind a legacy that will be forever enjoyed.

The Academy's 1988 Sport Artist of the Year, Painter, and the artistic pride of Lucerne, Switzerland, Erni inspired millions during his lifetime and his work continues to do so today, just over a year since his passing on 21 March 2015.

A pioneer of the abstract expressionist movement, Erni's work re-shaped the familiar and the real with the intention of expression. The results were colorful works reflecting reality while vibrantly conveying movement, vitality, energy and action. He often painted briskly, with quick strokes, adding further energy to his works.

Forty-five of his works are in the Academy's collection depicting a wide range of sports including American football, archery, basketball, bobsled, boxing, skiing, cycling, equestrian, fencing, hockey, figure skating, gymnastics, judo, kayaking, luge, rowing, shooting, soccer, swimming, tennis, relay, volleyball, weight lifting, yachting and many others. His works at the Academy also include pieces celebrating the Olympic Games. ■



2015 College Football Game of the Year Painting Unveiled



"FINISH!" by Daniel Moore.

After a disappointing early-season loss to Ole Miss, where a failure to finish the game strong dashed the University of Alabama's chances for victory, one word solidified the remainder of the Crimson Tide's 2015 football season: "FINISH!"

"FINISH!" is the title of Daniel Moore's original painting commissioned by the Academy to commemorate Alabama's 2015 College Football Playoff National Championship and to reflect the spirit of the College Football Game of the Year Award, which went to the Crimson Tide for its win over the undefeated and top-ranked Clemson University Tigers.

The College Football Game of the Year Award was developed in 2005 by the Academy to pay tribute to a team whose efforts in a college football game exemplify the principles of high athletic endeavor, complete dedication to victory and unified team effort.

A blue ribbon panel of 17 members consisting of former college football coaches and athletic directors and including Academy faculty selects the weekly winner of the Academy's College Football Game of the Week Award by ballot. The committee is chaired by former U.S. Naval Academy athletic director Jack Lengyel. At the conclusion of the college football season, the panel selects the Academy's College Football Game of the Year.

In honor of each year's winner, the Academy commissions Moore, the 2005 Sports Artist of the Year, to create a painting portraying a memorable or pivotal moment to commemorate the College Football Game of the Year. The Academy also donates \$5,000 to the winning school's scholarship fund. Prints are available for purchase at www.newlifeart.com. ■

Dr. Bennet Omalu Wins Dr. Ernst Jokl Sports Medicine Award

Dr. Bennet Omalu (left) received the Academy's 2016 Dr. Ernst Jokl Sports Medicine Award from Academy Trustee Dr. Robert Block at the University of California – Davis.

Omalu is a forensic pathologist and neuropathologist whose autopsy of Pittsburgh Steelers center Mike Webster led to his discovery of Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy, or CTE, in football players. Omalu is currently chief medical examiner of San Joaquin County, Calif., and is an associate clinical professor in the University of California – Davis Department of Medical Pathology and Laboratory Medicine.

Omalu's work has been a catalyst for advancement of athletic competition to better



prevent head injury, including improvement of safety equipment such as football helmets; rule changes to reduce injury; and enhanced medical protocols to address concussions. His work has touched all levels of sport, from youth to professional.

Omalu's life-long dedication to CTE and traumatic brain injury sufferers and their families inspired a group of supporters from the scientific community, as well as from the sports, arts and entertainment world, to launch a foundation in his name. The Bennet Omalu Foundation is committed to funding research, raising awareness, providing care and finding cures for people suffering from CTE and traumatic brain injury. ■

Academy Presents Distinguished Service Award to Javelin Thrower and Longtime U.S. Naval Academy Coach



United States Naval Academy cross country coach Dr. Albert Cantello (left) received the Academy's 2016 Distinguished Service Award from Jack Lengyel, former athletic director at the U.S. Naval Academy, who is a former trustee of the Academy and chair of its College Football Game of the Year Committee. The award was presented to Cantello at the Naval Academy seawall.

Cantello has served more than half a century in coaching at the United States Naval Academy. A former world-class competitor in the javelin, Cantello once held every national and international record in the event. In 1959, he set a world record in the javelin of 282 feet 3 inches (86.04 meters) and competed for the U.S. Olympic Team the following year in the 1960 Olympic Games in Rome.

In addition to his success as an athlete, Cantello has been a legendary coach. He is in his 53rd season at the U.S. Naval Academy and 48th as cross country head coach. Since his arrival at Annapolis more than 50 years ago, the Midshipmen have been one of the most consistent

men's cross country programs, both regionally and nationally.

In his tenure at the helm of the Navy cross country program, Cantello boasts a 244-70-1 career record. Cantello's all-time head coaching record in cross country, indoor track and outdoor track is 321-82-2, a .796 career winning percentage. Among his victories are 48 "N-Stars," or gold stars which are given for defeating Army, including 36 as the head coach of the cross country program — more than any other Navy mentor in one sport. In cross country, Cantello has led the Midshipmen to a 36-10-1 cross country mark against Army, prior to which Navy held a 12-19 record against the Army's Black Knights.

From 1981-88, Cantello held a dual coaching role, guiding Navy's men's indoor and outdoor track squads while maintaining his cross country duties. As Navy's head track coach, Cantello led the Midshipmen to a 67-9-1 dual meet record. During 1986-87, his combined record in cross country, indoor and outdoor track and field was a remarkable 23-1. During his tenure, Cantello's teams have beaten the archrival Army 36 times in cross country and 12 times in track and field with him as the head coach (1981-1988). Including his years as an assistant coach for the track and field team (1968-1980, 1989-present), he has accrued 96 wins versus Army. Cantello led the Midshipmen to seven of the last eight Patriot League Championships from 2008-11 and 2013-15. ■



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Stanford AD Bernard Muir Receives Maddox Sport Management Award



Stanford University Athletic Director Bernard Muir (right) received the Academy's 2016 Carl Maddox Sport Management Award from Academy Trustee Dr. Gary Cunningham at a ceremony at Stanford.

Through four seasons under Muir's leadership, Stanford extended two of the most unfathomable streaks in college athletics. In 2015-16, Stanford captured its 22nd consecutive Learfield Sports Directors' Cup, an award presented to the most successful all-around intercollegiate athletics department in the nation. In the last 40 seasons the Cardinal has won at least one National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) national championship, the longest streak in the nation.

In 2015-16 the Cardinal captured NCAA titles in men's soccer and women's tennis, as well as the U.S. Collegiate championship in synchronized swimming and the Intercollegiate Rowing Association (IRA) national championship in lightweight rowing. Stanford has won 132 overall championships and 109 of those are NCAA titles. In addition, the Cardinal men won the university's fourth Capital One Cup, awarded annually to the best men's and women's Division I college athletics programs. Muir is also highly regarded for his commitment to academics as 17 of Stanford's varsity teams received Academic Progress Rate (APR) Public Recognition Awards from the NCAA. ■

Clemson's Dabo Swinney Wins Stagg Coaching Award



The Academy's Director of Doctoral Studies Dr. Fred Cromartie presented Clemson University head football coach Dabo Swinney (left) with the 2016 Amos Alonzo Stagg Coaching Award during the annual football kickoff celebration at Clemson University.

Swinney guided Clemson to the number one national ranking in every College Football Playoff poll in 2015 and led the Tigers to their first National Championship Game appearance under the new College Football Playoff National Championship format. The Tigers led the University of Alabama in the fourth quarter of the championship game, but came up just short, 45-40, in an epic game.

Following the team's 14-1 record and No. 2 final ranking, Swinney was the recipient of 10 national and two Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) Coach-of-the-Year honors. In eight years as head coach, Swinney has led the Tigers to the ACC Championship game three times, won two ACC Championships, won or shared four ACC Atlantic Division titles and won five bowl games.

Over the past five seasons, Clemson has compiled a 56-12 record, the most wins in a five-year period in school history. Thirty-six of the victories have come against ACC teams. The 2015 seniors finished their careers with a 46-8 record, including a 29-4 mark in the ACC. ■

Bodybuilding Fitness Expert Dr. Brad Schoenfeld Presented with Dwight David Eisenhower Fitness Award

Dr. Brad Schoenfeld (left) received the Academy's 2016 Dwight David Eisenhower Fitness Award from Academy Trustee Peter Tichansky at Times Square in New York City.

Regarded as one of the world's leading strength and fitness experts, Schoenfeld is a lifetime drug-free bodybuilder and advocate of natural bodybuilding who has won multiple natural bodybuilding titles. Through his research, writing and speaking, he has expanded global awareness and knowledge of health and fitness. Schoenfeld is considered one of the leading authorities on body composition training, which includes muscle development and fat loss. He is also a



best-selling author of multiple fitness books including "The M.A.X. Muscle Plan," widely referred to as the "muscle-building bible;" "Look Great Naked" (Los Angeles Times bestseller and #1 on Amazon.com); and the "Women's Home Workout Bible."

Schoenfeld is widely regarded as a "trainer of trainers." He is an assistant professor in the exercise science department at Lehman College in the Bronx, N.Y., where he directs the human performance laboratory. He was previously a faculty and board member at the American Academy of Personal Training in New York City, a vocational school for fitness trainers. ■

Academy Continues to Expand International Presence and Impact

In addition to recent efforts to expand its international education and outreach programs in Africa (*see cover story*), the Academy continues to make its presence felt around the world, as it has done in more than 65 countries since its founding in 1972. Here are some recent highlights:

United Arab Emirates

Officials of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and the Academy held an Opening Ceremony for the UAE Football Association Academy for Sports Management (FAASM), a new program to enhance the success of soccer in the region, on 24 April 2016 in Abu Dhabi.

The Football Association Academy (FAA) is dedicated to the development of soccer administrators in the UAE through a Football Club Operators License Program offered cooperatively by UAE Football Association (UAEFA) and the Academy. This effort includes football certification programs that offer professional preparation and training for coaches, athletes, administrators and operatives at all levels in the UAE football club system.



Officials of the UAE and the Academy celebrated the Opening Ceremony for the UAEFA FAASM, known as the FAA. Shown left to right are Majid Abweh, Development Officer for the Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA); H.E Yousef Yaqoob Al Serkal, UAEFA President; Stuart Larman, Head of Development for the Asian Football Confederation; Dr. Brandon Spradley, United States Sports Academy Director of Sports Management and Alumni Association Executive Director; Raymond Verheijen, Chief Executive Officer of the World Football Academy; H.E. Sheikh Nahyan bin Mubarak Al Nahyan, UAE Cabinet Member, Minister of Culture and Knowledge Development, and Chairman of the General Authority for Youth and Sports Welfare; Alexandre Gros, Manager of Development Asia at FIFA; H.E. Obaid Salem Al Shamsi, FAA Chairman; and Abdulla Al Ahmed, Senior Vice President for Business at Etisalat, the Emirates Telecommunications Corporation.

Thailand

For the tenth consecutive year, the Academy hosted leading students from Thailand on a sports study tour of the United States to enrich their knowledge of sport.

The Academy invited the students from the Sports Authority of Thailand (SAT) International Certification Program to participate in the 2016 SAT Sport Study Tour from 1-14 August 2016. The program provided the 18 delegates with an up-close and in-depth look at American sports programs and facilities around the country.

As part of the study tour, the group visited the Academy campus in Daphne, Ala., where they attended workshops and made presentations about their observations related to the tour. On 12 August they were honored with certificates in a graduation ceremony, followed by a reception with the Academy faculty and staff.



Academy President Dr. T.J. Rosandich, second from left on front row, celebrates graduation with students and leaders of the Sports Authority of Thailand (SAT) at the conclusion of the International Certification Program study tour.

People's Republic of China

The Academy's relationship with the People's Republic of China has been bolstered recently through numerous activities.

President Rosandich visited China as an invited panelist at the Federation of University Sports of China (FUSC) U.S. Strategic Dialogue on Student Sports, which was part of the 7th Annual U.S.-China High-Level Consultation on People-to-People Exchange. Held 7 June 2016, the dialogue was created to provide opportunities for collaboration among leaders in the U.S. and China to enhance sports relationships between the countries. A particular focus was to allow China to learn more about university intercollegiate sports in the U.S., as China is interested in further developing sport at the university level.

In addition to serving as a panelist, Rosandich was able to successfully facilitate a visit to China by the Duke University women's soccer team, which played exhibition games with China's Beijing Normal University. The games were widely enjoyed by conference participants and provided an unforget-

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Academy President Dr. T.J. Rosandich facilitated two international friendly soccer matches between the women's teams of Duke University and Beijing Normal University in China. The matches were held in conjunction with events being hosted by the FUSC to promote and expand sports in China. While in China, he also participated in panel discussions on how to use media of all types to raise the visibility of university sport there. Rosandich is in the center in the black shirt.

table experience to the American and Chinese college athletes to experience international competition.

On that visit to China, Rosandich signed a memorandum of understanding with leaders of China's Capital University for Physical Education and Sports (CUPES) in Beijing to work together on programs to enhance sport and sport education between the two sports institutions and the two nations. CUPES is a public sports university located in Beijing with a wide range of academic programs in sports at the bachelor's, master's and doctoral levels.

In other activities with China, the Academy recently hosted 18 former elite athletes from China on campus to prepare them for careers in coaching as part of the Academy's International Diploma in Sports Coaching (IDSC) program. Students in the program previously competed in a variety of sports in China at the national and Olympic levels.

The students, who are being trained for careers in coaching as their competitive careers in China have come to a close, were selected to study at the Academy as part of an educational and exchange learning program. The Academy is collaborating on the program with the Shanghai Administration of Sports (SAS) in China.

Through the IDSC program, Academy Faculty travelled to Shanghai where they taught some 100 students in a wide range of coaching courses and were afforded the opportunity to experience Chinese sport and culture firsthand. From that student group, 18 of the top students were selected to come to the Academy's campus for further instruction and experiential learning, including attending sport events and visiting sports facilities in the area. All involved in the program recognize the importance of the cultural exchange aspects of the program.

While in the U.S., the students received more than 40 days of instruction and experiential learning, graduating with their International Diploma in Sports Coaching in a campus ceremony on 7 October 2016. ■



On a recent goodwill visit to China, Academy President Dr. T.J. Rosandich signed a memorandum of understanding with leaders of China's CUPES in Beijing to work together on programs to enhance sport and sport education between the two sports institutions and the two nations. Shown from left are Professor Dr. Wu Hao, Director of the Scientific Research Office; Professor Dr. Zhong Bingshu, President, CUPES; Rosandich; Professor Dr. Zheng Xiaohong, Director of the Graduate School; and Ma Ying, Director of the Foreign Relations Department.



The Academy hosted 18 former elite athletes from China on campus to prepare them for careers in coaching as part of the IDSC program. The students are pictured with Academy President Dr. T.J. Rosandich, front center, at a 7 October graduation ceremony at the Academy.

NOTABLE ALUMNI

LaTanya Sheffield Named Academy's 2016 Alumna of the Year



LaTanya Sheffield
Credit - Long Beach State Athletics, John Fajardo

A former Olympic hurdler and American record holder who is now a successful college assistant track coach and Olympic assistant coach has been named the Academy's 2016 Alumna of the Year.

LaTanya Sheffield, who earned her Bachelor of Sports Science degree in Sports Management magna cum laude from the Academy in 2011, is the 2016 winner of the institution's top annual award for alumni achievement.

An Olympic hurdler and former American record holder, Sheffield is a successful college assistant track coach. She was an assistant coach for the women's team for USA Track & Field (USATF) at the Olympic Games in Rio

de Janeiro, Brazil, working with the sprinters and hurdlers.

Sheffield is currently an assistant track coach at Long Beach State University (LBSU) in California, where she trains male and female athletes in sprints, hurdles and relays. In her four successful seasons at LBSU, her teams have broken several long-standing school records and won four Big West Conference championship titles, as well as numerous All-Conference and All-American honors.

"Having been an Olympic athlete and now serving as an Olympic coach, I feel that I have come full circle and it has been an amazing circle in all aspects," Sheffield said. "Being able to work with USA Track & Field as an athlete and now as a coach has been an incredible journey."

As an athlete, Sheffield was a finalist in the 400-meter hurdles at the 1988 Olympic Games in Seoul, South Korea. She finished eighth with a time of 54.36 seconds. "What I remember most in 1988 were the opening and closing ceremonies," she said. "You find out you are part of something very great. They are definitely moments that define how you see yourself and how others see you."

Sheffield also represented the United States at the 1987 World Championships. She was a two-time gold medalist at the Olympic Sports Festival in 1987 and 1993 and won a bronze medal at the 1987 Pan American Games.

In addition to her service to Team USA's coaching staff for the 2016 Olympic Games in Rio, she was an assistant coach for the U.S. women's team at the 2013 World Championships in Moscow, Russia. Sheffield was in charge of the sprints, hurdles and relays at the World Indoor Championships in 2008 in Valencia, Spain, and in 2006 in Moscow, as well as at the Pan American Games in 2011 in Guadalajara, Mexico, and in 2007 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. ■

Where Are They Now?

Greg Bonds (Ed.D., Sports Management, 2016)

After working for 25 years in the Jacksonville (Ala.) State University athletics department, Bonds was recently named senior associate athletic director for the Gamecocks.

Bonds oversees all financial aspects in the department; coordinates personnel searches with the athletic director; and monitors the department's commitment to equity and student-athlete wellbeing, among other duties. He previously served as associate athletic director for internal affairs; assistant athletic director and coordinator for NCAA Compliance; director of student athletic services; and assistant women's basketball coach.

"The educational experience I received at the Academy has enhanced my professional career," Bonds said. "My involvement with intercollegiate athletics spans over 25 years. The Academy helped broaden my knowledge base while strengthening my leadership skills, scholarly activity, and professional engagement needed in today's ever-changing environment." ■



Greg Bonds

Kristene Kelly (Ed.D., Sports Management, 2014)

Kelly was hired in June as the athletic director at Keene State College in Keene, N.H., an NCAA Division III school. For the previous 10 years, Kelly was associate athletic director at Saint Augustine's University in Raleigh, N.C. Prior to her work at Saint Augustine's University, Kelly served as sports information officer at Johnson C. Smith University in Charlotte, N.C., and as an academic counselor at the University of Tennessee.

"I recommend the Academy to anyone who truly loves the business of sport," Kelly said. "The faculty are caring but tough. The high academic expectations, the vast library resources, the distinguished faculty and the ability to work at your own pace without giving up your career were all things that attracted me to the Academy." ■



Kristene Kelly

Fred Reed (M.S.S., Sports Management, 2002)

A veteran football coach with experience at both the collegiate and professional levels, Reed is in his first season as the defensive backs coach at Eastern Michigan University.

Reed spent the previous three seasons as an assistant coach at Syracuse University. He has made coaching stops at Ohio University, the University of Buffalo, the University of Nebraska-Omaha, Michigan Technological Institute, the University of Minnesota-Morris and the University of South Dakota. He also coached at the professional level in 2006-07 as a defensive assistant coach with the NFL's Detroit Lions.

"I am proud to be an alumnus of the Academy and feel the education I received there prepared me to understand all facets of the sports industry and its impact on society," Reed said. ■



Fred Reed

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**Based on 2015 exit interviews*

Jody Steliga (M.S.S., Sports Management, 2010)

Steliga was hired as men’s basketball director of operations at the University of California Davis.

Prior to joining the UC Davis staff, Steliga was an assistant coach at Colorado Christian University in Lakewood, Colo., where she helped lead the Cougars to their most successful season in program history by finishing with 23 victories and a final four appearance in the Rocky Mountain Conference Tournament. She also coached the women’s basketball team at Mendocino College in Ukiah, Calif. for eight seasons.

“The Academy helped strengthen my foundation and really fine-tuned my passion for athletics, teaching, and leading to a professional level,” Steliga said. “I’m grateful for my education from the Academy as my guide.” ■



Jody Steliga

Dr. Bonnie Tiell (Ed.D., Sports Management, 2004)

Tiell was named Woman of the Year in Sports by Women in Sports and Events of Cleveland, Ohio, and was also named a regional recipient of the 2016 Teaching Excellence Award by the Accreditation Council of Business Schools and Programs.

Tiell is professor of sport management at Tiffin University in Tiffin, Ohio. She earned her Doctor of Sports Management from the Academy in 2004 and was named Academy Alumna of the Year in 2014. She is a member of the Academy’s National Faculty.

“Obtaining a doctorate from the Academy was a long-time dream and it was easy to take advantage of the quality and convenience the online format offered,” Tiell said. “Within months of receiving my doctorate, I was offered a full-time faculty position at Tiffin University.” ■



Dr. Bonnie Tiell

Greg Walker (B.S.S., Sports Coaching, 2012)

Walker was named the head coach of the U.S. Men’s Sitting Volleyball Team for the 2016 Paralympic Games in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. A native of Huntingdon, Pa., Walker has been active with the U.S. Men’s Sitting Volleyball Team since 2013. Walker is also the head men’s volleyball coach at Sacred Heart University in Connecticut, an NCAA Division I university in the Eastern Intercollegiate Volleyball Association.

“The thing that makes the Academy so great is that they offer sport specific studies with incredibly supportive faculty to help with the distance learning,” Walker said. ■



Greg Walker

Alumnus Serving on Los Angeles Rams’ Award-Winning Athletic Training Staff

Academy alumnus Byron Cunningham is in his seventh season as a physical therapist and assistant athletic trainer for the award-winning training program of the Los Angeles Rams of the National Football League (NFL).

Cunningham is responsible for the care, prevention, treatment and rehabilitation of player injuries in coordination with the team’s head athletic trainer.

“My biggest enjoyment about my profession is being hands-on with the players on a daily basis,” Cunningham said. “My responsibility consists of rehabilitation of athletic injuries, from your day-to-day ankle sprain to the knee or shoulder injury that requires surgery and takes 10 months to rehab.”

Cunningham earned a bachelor’s degree in physical therapy from Florida A&M University in 1998 and a Master of Sports Science degree in sports medicine from the Academy in 2002.

“The Academy prepared me for my career because I had instructors who cared and challenged me on a daily basis, and in sports nothing comes easy because ultimately the end result is about winning,” Cunningham said. “Earning my degree from an institution that focuses only on sports was very exciting because sports are something that I have always participated in, whether as an athlete or a fan.



Byron Cunningham

“I’m thankful every day knowing I can come to work and do a job that I’ve dreamed of doing since my time at the Academy. My career goal is to become a director of rehabilitation or head athletic trainer for a professional sports team.”

The Rams training staff was named the 2015 NFL Athletic Training Staff of the Year by the Professional Football Athletic Trainers Society. ■

Legendary Soccer Coach Says Academy Helped Him Attain Satisfying Career

Alumnus Nelson Cupello is among the nation’s top 10 active junior college men’s soccer coaches in career wins and has been a National Coach of the Year, but he is quick to point out that coaching is about far more than wins and losses.

“Coaching gives you great satisfaction because you get a chance to make an impact on young people’s lives and you get the opportunity to help them become good citizens and good people,” Cupello said.

Cupello, 64, has served as men’s soccer coach at Monroe Community College (MCC) in Rochester, N.Y., for 26 years. With a record of 339-124-34, he ranks among the nation’s top 10 in wins among active coaches in men’s junior college soccer. He was named the 2012 Junior College National Coach of the Year by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America and is a member of the National Junior College Athletic Association Coaching Hall of Fame.

He received his Master of Sports Science in sports coaching from the Academy in 1989 and was named head men’s soccer coach at MCC the next year.

“My master’s degree from the United States Sports Academy enabled me to stay employed as a collegiate head coach,” Cupello said. “I had an undergraduate degree, but I needed more knowledge in coaching and I wanted to learn more about administration as well. I took classes in administration, sport science and coaching, and I think it was tremendous. It really opened my eyes.

“My degree from the Academy gave me an opportunity to meet people who became coaches and I have worked with them throughout my career,” he said. ■



Nelson Cupello

Academy Hosts Schoolchildren for Olympic Day

The Academy hosted more than 70 children ages 5-11 on 23 June 2016, for “Olympic Day,” a worldwide annual celebration in recognition of the Modern Olympic Games. The children from a local summer camp visited the American Sport Art Museum and Archives, where they were able to see paintings, sculptures and more, depicting Olympic sports.

The children also learned about the Olympics from Academy President Dr. T.J. Rosandich and from Darrick Heath (standing in back), who represented the U.S. in the 1996 Atlanta Olympics as part of USA Team Handball.

More than 160 countries take part in Olympic Day, which was created in 1948 to commemorate the birth of the Modern Olympic Games and focuses on the Olympic values and ideals such as fair play, perseverance, respect, and sportsmanship. ■

Academy Faculty Members Come Together for Training and Collaboration

Members of the Academy’s Non-Resident Faculty came from around the country to join the Resident Faculty for two days of training and collaboration at the Academy’s campus in Daphne, Ala., in mid-August. The training focused on student learning and institutional expectations, technology, catalog and policy changes, as well as institutional effectiveness. The training sessions also gave Non-Resident Faculty members the opportunity to collaborate with the Academy’s Resident Faculty, leadership and doctoral teaching assistants. ■



Front row, from left: Director of Sports Management Dr. Brandon Spradley, President Emeritus Dr. Thomas P. Rosandich, President and CEO Dr. T.J. Rosandich, Dean of Academic Affairs Dr. Stephen Butler, and Chair of Sports Coaching Dr. Bret Simmermacher.

Middle row, from left: Non-Resident Faculty members Dr. Mike Culpepper, Dr. Mike Spino, Dr. Marty Avant, Dr. Tim Rice, Dr. Les Dutko, Dr. Dexter Davis, Dr. Tim Newman, and doctoral teaching assistants Sara Weber and Wanyi Tang.

Back row, from left: Doctoral teaching assistants Benjamin Billman and Alex Hoffmann; Chair of Sports Exercise Science Dr. Vincent Ramsey; Non-Resident Faculty members Dr. Erwei Dong and Dr. Donn Renwick; Chair of Recreation Management Dr. Rodney Blackman; doctoral teaching assistant Jason Williams; and Non-Resident Faculty members Dr. Stan Drawdy, Dr. Jordan Moon and Dr. Bob Stinchcomb.

Not pictured: Resident Faculty Dr. Fred Cromartie, Director of Doctoral Studies (*see page 5*), and Sandra Geringer, Acting Director of Sports Studies; and Non-Resident Faculty Dr. Anthony Borgese, Dr. Redell Hearn, Austin Latour, Dr. David Peterson, Sharon Rainey, and Dr. Bonnie Tiell.

Academy Welcomes Three Doctoral Teaching Assistants to Campus

The Academy recently selected Alex Hoffman, Wanyi Tang, and Jason J. Williams (pictured from left to right) to participate in its three-year residential doctoral program as doctoral teaching assistants on campus. The new doctoral teaching assistants will join the current resident doctoral students on campus.

Hoffmann holds a bachelor’s degree in Exercise Science from Central College and a master’s degree in kinesiology from California State University, Fullerton. He has extensive experience working as a strength and conditioning coach and sports nutritionist for professional and collegiate athletes.

Tang earned a bachelor’s degree from the Beijing Language and Culture University and a master’s degree in translation and interpreting from the University of Westminster. She was a teaching assistant and lecturer at the School of Foreign Languages at the Central University of Finance and Economics in Beijing and a liaison officer for the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association of China.

Williams holds a bachelor’s degree in marketing from the University of Idaho and dual master’s degrees in business administration and sports business management from the University of Central Florida. He is certified by Precision Nutrition, Functional Movement Systems and NSCA, as well as being certified as a performance specialist by EXOS. ■

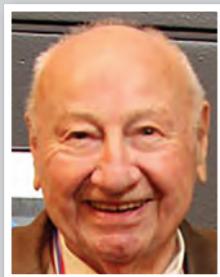
Trustee Emerita Sally Rosandich



Sally Rosandich, a former Academy Trustee and long-time employee instrumental to the founding and success of the institution, passed away on 28 June 2016. She was 81 years old.

Following the founding of the U.S. Sports Academy, Rosandich played many roles within the institution as it grew including serving as its first Secretary and Finance Director. She also served as a member of the Academy's Board of Trustees for several years. She traveled extensively throughout Asia, the Middle East and Europe with her husband, Founding President Dr. Thomas P. Rosandich, contributing to the development of many sports education and service programs abroad, some of which still exist to this day. ■

Founding Trustee Dr. George Uhlig



The Academy mourned the loss of one of the founding members of its Board of Trustees who served the Academy for more than 40 years. Dr. George E. Uhlig passed away on 14 March 2016, at age 82.

"Many people played a role in the development of the Academy," President Emeritus Dr. Thomas P.

Rosandich said. "However, nobody played a more important role in making the Academy what it is today than Dr. Uhlig. "In fact, he provided a constant source of invaluable information on academic policies throughout our history."

Uhlig was one of the Academy's founding Trustees in 1972. He was responsible for the Academy relocating from Milwaukee, Wisc., to the campus of the University of South Alabama in 1976, where he served as the dean of the College of Education for 26 years before retiring in January 2003. ■

Academy Hosts Iranian Bodybuilders



The Academy recently enhanced international friendships through sport by hosting an advanced bodybuilding class on campus for athletes from Iran.

Under the program, 11 athletes from throughout Iran were on the Academy campus for five days of classroom and hands-on instruction, culminating with the awarding of certificates and Continuing Education credit. Participants primarily were personal trainers and fitness professionals, some of whom are interested in advancing to professional bodybuilding.

The program was sponsored by the U.S. Iran People Friendship Society (UIPFS), a Washington, D.C.-based non-profit organization dedicated to strengthening the ties between the people of the United States and Iran. The organization's mission is to build a bridge between the two nations through educational and cultural programs.

Participants in the Academy's Advanced Bodybuilding class learned about modern training approaches, nutrition, safety, and other topics important to effective bodybuilding. In addition to classroom instruction, the course included activities in the Academy's Human Performance Laboratory and weight rooms.

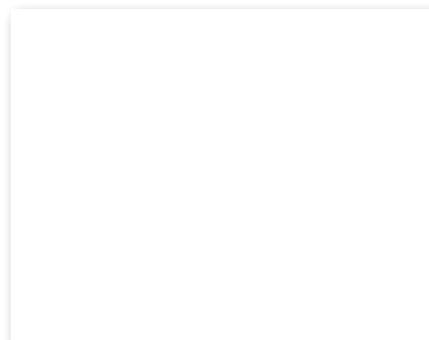
The Academy has a long history of international sport education going back more than 40 years and involving more than 65 nations around the world. ■

National Faculty Member Helps Lead Olympic Torch Relay

As the Olympic Torch wound its way through Brazil en route to the lighting of the Olympic Cauldron in Rio de Janeiro, an Academy National Faculty member was central to the success of the torch run.

Daniel Bertorelli, who owns a film production company in Rio, worked with the Rio 2016 Olympic Committee and served as one of the Master of Ceremonies for the Rio 2016 Olympic Torch Relay. In addition to helping organize and execute the intricate details of the torch run, he was selected to carry the torch through the streets of Juiz de Fora, his hometown in Minas Gerais, Brazil.

As a former Governor of the American Society of Rio de Janeiro, Bertorelli has served as an ambassador to educate people about the symbolism and operational details of the torch. In addition to serving on the Academy's National Faculty, Bertorelli is an actor, screenwriter and founder of The Hercules Company, an entertainment film production company in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Hercules focuses on action, adventure and sports audiovisual content. ■



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