

THE ACADEMY

A PUBLICATION OF THE UNITED STATES SPORTS ACADEMY



A New Focus: Academy's New Center Sets Sights on Global Expansion

Academy Expands International Opportunities in Guinea

After a meeting of the President of Guinea H.E. Dr. Alpha Condé, left, and United States Sports Academy President Dr. T.J. Rosandich, the Academy will aid in the development of the national sport program in the west African nation. pg.8



THE ACADEMY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Mr. Robert C. Campbell III,
Chairman, Mobile, AL

Ms. Joan Cronan, Knoxville, TN

Dr. Gary Cunningham, Santa Barbara, CA

Ms. Susan McCollough, Gulf Shores, AL

Dr. Lee McElroy Jr., Troy, NY

Dr. Marino Niccolai, Mobile, AL

Dr. T.J. Rosandich, Fairhope, AL

Dr. Thomas P. Rosandich, Daphne, AL

Mr. Jack Scharr, St. Louis, MO

Mr. Joseph Szlavik, Washington, D.C.

Dr. Don C. Wukasz, Austin, TX

MISSION STATEMENT

The United States Sports Academy is an independent, non-profit, 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 Academy.

The United States Sports Academy accepts students regardless of race, color, sex, national origin, religion, age, disability or genetic information.



America's Sports University®

One Academy Drive
Daphne, AL 36526-7055
Phone: (251) 626-3303
Fax: (251) 621-2527

E-mail: academy@ussa.edu

Website: www.ussa.edu

Editor: Eric Mann

Layout and Design: Corey Blake

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

A Tribute to the Artist and the Athlete, and to My Friend Joan Cronan

Even though fall is always a busy and hectic time here at the United States Sports Academy, it is also always one of the most rewarding ones.

Every November we put on our annual Academy's Awards of Sport and this year we celebrate the 35th anniversary of this great and unique program we affectionately refer to as "A Tribute to the Artist and the Athlete."

This year – Thursday, 14 November – I am proud to recognize with an Honorary Doctorate my good friend and Academy Trustee Joan Cronan, the former women's athletic director at the University of Tennessee, whose remarkable career saw the Volunteers women's athletic programs reach historic heights.

I have a deep respect for Joan's considerable accomplishments. She served UT for 29 years until 2012 and during her tenure, the athletics department there created more opportunities for female athletes by expanding women's sports from seven to 11. The Volunteers also won 10 NCAA women's titles and 24 Southeastern Conference championships during her time there.

In addition, we will recognize our 2019 Sport Artist of the Year, the great painter Steven Lester. The artist is known for his colorful action sports themes and what he calls "representational expressionism." If you've visited the American Sport Art Museum & Archives recently you may have already seen some of Lester's work featured in the gallery and in our main lobby.

As we enter into this 35th season of Awards of Sport programs, I hope you will join us in celebrating the fond memories we've had here at the Academy over the years and also in creating new ones to share with friends and family for years to come.

Sincerely,

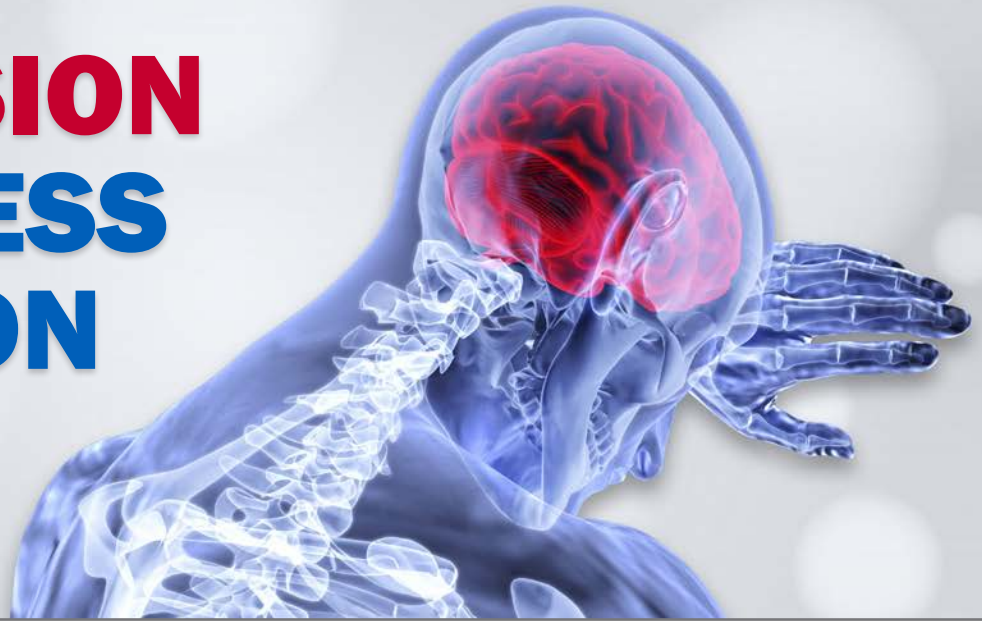
Dr. T.J. Rosandich
President and CEO



IN THIS ISSUE

President's Column & Concussion Awareness	2-3
Faculty Focus.....	4-5
Alumni Achievements.....	6-7
Cover Story	8-9
International Outreach.....	10-11
Awards of Sport.....	12-13
ASAMA.....	14
People, Places, and Programs.....	15

CONCUSSION AWARENESS EDUCATION



Faculty Takes The Lead

The Academy continues to be a leader in concussion awareness education in the community as chair of sports management Dr. Brandon Spradley and faculty member Robert Herron visited high schools in the Mobile (Ala.) County Public School System (MCPSS) this fall to inform and educate their athletes about the issue.

Since 2016, the Academy has worked with the University of South Alabama (USA) Department of Neurology and the MCPSS under the Concussion Awareness Program (CAP), funded in part by a grant from the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) to USA.

Under the program directed by USA, the University and the Academy developed procedures for use by the school system to better protect student athletes from the negative health consequences of concussions. Students, coaches and others involved in contact sports programs receive training on concussion awareness and prevention. Protocols are also put in place to make sure that student athletes who sustain concussions are not allowed to return to play until medical professionals approve.

“We want this program to help the athlete make an educated decision when their safety is on the line,” Spradley said. “We want them to be educated about the signs and symptoms of concussion, but we also want them to be able to make an informed decision about it. We also want to help athletes be confident to help their peers if the situation arises.”

Spradley has been a key member of a team of Academy faculty who have played a significant role in encouraging and implementing concussion research and education programs across Baldwin and Mobile counties on Alabama’s Gulf Coast.

The second element of the program relates to ensuring

that athletes with concussions are given proper medical treatment and not allowed to resume competing until medically cleared. This is achieved by medical intervention and by using the King-Devick Test and the Sport Concussion Assessment Tool (SCAT) 5 test. After suffering a concussion or suspected concussion, the tests are taken again. Under the protocol, players suspected to have suffered concussions cannot resume competition unless released by medical professionals.



Dr. Spradley Selected as Reviewer for Journal of Concussion

Chair of sports management Dr. Brandon Spradley has been named as a reviewer for an international academic journal focused on the study of concussions. Spradley will review articles for the Journal of Concussion, a peer reviewed, open access journal devoted to a multi-disciplinary, broad-based approach to head injuries and their care. The journal encourages concussion-related research in neurosurgery, neurology, psychiatry; ear, nose and throat; physiotherapy, rehabilitation, sport, transport and epidemiology. It is published by Sage Publishing, which has offices in Los Angeles, London, New Delhi, Singapore and Washington, D.C.

FACULTY FOCUS

Wahlström , Aquino Represent at ACBSP, WAAD Conferences

Academy faculty members Dr. Tomi Wahlström and Dr. Carlos Tasso Aquino recently represented the institution at conferences for the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP) and the World Association of Academic Doctors (WAAD).



Wahlström is the Academy's vice president of academic affairs and Aquino is the executive director of the institution's Center for Professional Studies and Continuing Education. The pair represented the Academy at the ACBSP conference in Houston, Texas, in June. Aquino was a featured speaker at the conference, where he presented on "Entrepreneur Education: The Future of Employment in Higher Education." The Academy is a candidate for accreditation for the institution's sports management program through ACBSP.



Aquino was the keynote speaker at the WAAD conference in Tampa, Fla., where he presented on "The Age of Learning Management Systems: The Disruptive Innovation in Higher Education." The speech touched on teaching methods related to the adult student learning experience and new learning management systems.



Library Director Dr. Vandy Pacetti-Donelson Presents at Conference in Italy

Academy library director Dr. Vandy Pacetti-Donelson recently made a presentation at an international library conference in Florence, Italy.

At the 2019 Qualitative and Quantitative Methods in Libraries conference, Pacetti-Donelson presented a bibliometric study that demonstrates a method to identify scientific specialties in conference proceedings. Bibliometrics is the analyses of patterns of information related to usage data, impact, or publication data in print or electronic format. Her research demonstrates that the nature of scientific specialties can be identified in knowledge domains outside of the traditional publication records and proposes a methodology to collate data and complete an analysis without traditional database usage.

Left: Academy library director Dr. Vandy Pacetti-Donelson, center, with University of Southern Mississippi graduate student Ariel Jordan, left, and Marilyn Brisset, a librarian from the U.S. Virgin Islands.



SAVE THE DATE

Academy Graduation 2020

Saturday, June 20, 2020

Check our website and social media for additional information and updates as the become available.

Williams, Herron Take Part in NSCA Conference

Academy faculty members Dr. Jason Williams and Robert Herron attended the National Strength and Conditioning Association (NSCA) National Conference in Washington, D.C., in July.

Williams, a recent graduate of the Academy's doctoral program, and faculty member Herron, took part in an oral presentation related to Williams' doctoral dissertation: "The potentiation effects of a sled-towing load corresponding to a 50% velocity decrement on subsequent sprint time in high-school soccer athletes."

Additionally, Herron was a part of six other oral or poster presentations at the conference which explored such topics as NFL Combine performance, longitudinal body-composition tracking in NCAA Division 1 gymnasts, evaluation of low frequency electrical stimulation during post-exerciser recovery, and novel tools for assessing perceived exertion during resistance training.



Dr. Jason Williams presents at the National Strength and Conditioning Association (NSCA) Conference in Washington, D.C., in July 2019.

Academy Hosting Inaugural Doctoral Dissertation Seminar

Because of its commitment to student success, the Academy announced it will host its first Dissertation Writing Intensive Workshop at the Robert Block Library on 13-15 November, 2019, on the institution's campus in Daphne, Ala.



The workshop will be delivered collaboratively by full time faculty and staff. There will be classroom-based activities about writing, researching, formatting, the IRB process, and more, combined with hands-on sessions, round tables, and one-on-one sessions with faculty members. Each session will provide practical advice on how to tackle the different stages of your dissertation while offering strategies to help you understand writing a long-term project. While this information is offered during the degree program and is spread across multiple courses, the condensed and focused format may provide insight, inspiration for topic development, exposure to new methodologies, and time for planning and drafting.

Academy Faculty Present at NASSM Conference in New Orleans

Academy faculty members and doctoral students Jillian Rosandich and Robert Herron recently represented the institution at the North American Society for Sport Management (NASSM) Conference in New Orleans, La.

Herron and Rosandich, who also serve as doctoral lecturers on the Academy campus in Daphne, Ala., attended the conference both for professional development and also to present a paper they co-authored with the Academy's chair of sport management Dr. Brandon Spradley.

The paper encompassed research on data obtained from Likert scales; possible Likert-alternatives, such as visual analog scales; and also focused on the gaps that can exist in data derived from Likert scale responses. Highlights from the weekend, aside from the honor that came from presenting their research, included an inspiring keynote address from Earle F. Zeigler Award recipient, Dr. Jennifer McGarry, who is an integral part of the sport management program at the University of Connecticut.

ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS

Byron Cunningham Named Alumnus of the Year

Los Angeles Rams director of rehabilitation and assistant athletic trainer Byron Cunningham is the Academy's 2019 Alumnus of the Year. Cunningham, who earned his Master of Sports Science degree in sports medicine from the Academy in 2002, has spent eight seasons working in the Rams' athletic training department. Cunningham is responsible for the care, prevention, treatment and rehabilitation of player injuries in coordination with the head athletic trainer.



Prior to joining the Rams staff, Cunningham was head athletic trainer at the University of Illinois from 2007-09, after serving the two previous years as the university's assistant athletic trainer from 2005-07. Cunningham spent 2004-05 as the head athletic trainer at Bishop McNamara Catholic High School in Kankakee, Ill. Cunningham also has experience working internationally, serving as an assistant athletic trainer with NFL Europe's Rhein Fire in 2004. He also interned with the Chicago Bears in 2003, Auburn University from 2001-03, and the Indianapolis Colts during the team's 2002 training camp.

Dr. Angel Mejico Named California Teacher of the Year



When Dr. Angel Mejico graduated from the United States Sports Academy doctoral degree program, one of her instructors gave her a piece of advice that has stuck with her ever since.

"He told me, 'take everything you learned here and go do something great with it,'" Mejico said, and she did just that.

While working as a visual arts teacher at El Cerrito Middle School in California's Corona-Norco Unified School District, Mejico founded an art academy and annual art expo which have gained notoriety around the state. Because of her efforts in the classroom and school district, Mejico was named one of California's five Teachers of the Year in 2019.

Mejico earned her Doctor of Education degree in sports management from the Academy in 2016.

"The Academy taught me a different way of thinking," Mejico said. "Every course I took taught something different and useful."



The Academy Student of the Month for August 2019 was doctoral student Dennis Figures, of Bryan, Texas. Figures has earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from the Academy and hopes to work as a sports analyst in broadcast television or as a sports management faculty member at the collegiate level.



The Academy Student of the Month for September 2019 was doctoral student Kerrilyn Curtin, of Manorville, NY. Curtin is the director of market research for the LPGA and recently finished her doctoral mentorship program, where she studied LPGA consumer/fan behaviors at York College of Pennsylvania.

ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS



Dennis Lindsey

(M.S.S. Sports Management 1994)
was promoted to executive vice president of basketball operations for the NBA's Utah Jazz.



Adam Petway

(B.S.S. Sports Coaching 2015)
is the lead biomechanist and strength and conditioning specialist for the NBA's Philadelphia 76ers.



Jermaine Johnson

(B.S.S. Sports Coaching 2007)
is an assistant basketball coach at Troy (Ala.) University.



Terlynn Olds

(M.S.S. Sports Coaching 2002)
is the associate athletic director of internal operations and senior women's administrator at the University of Alaska Fairbanks.



Dr. Jason Williams

(Ed.D. Sports Management 2019)
is a teaching faculty member at Florida State University.



Dr. Joseph Spears

(Ed.D. Sports Management 2011)
is now an associate professor of sports management and NCAA faculty athletic representative at Bowie (Md.) State University.



Dr. Monique Carroll

(M.S.S. Sports Management 2012)
is the deputy athletic director for internal operations and senior women's administrator at South Carolina State University.



Cindy Hodo

(M.S.S. Sports Management 1989)
is the owner and founding partner of Quest Group, a boutique advertising agency and health and wellness business in Birmingham, Ala.



Dr. John Lesaine

(Ed.D. Sports Management 2015)
is the assistant dean for student success and persistence at Newberry (S.C.) College.



Dusty Gunn

(M.S.S. Sports Coaching 2008)
is the director of athletics at Notre Dame High School in Chattanooga, Tenn.



Anthony D'Onofrio

(M.S.S. Sports Management 1997)
is the director of the graduate athletic administration program at Endicott College in Boston, Mass.



Anthony Anderson

(M.S.S. Sports Coaching 2013)
is the assistant head coach and director of player development for women's basketball at the University of Texas El Paso.



Dr. Craig Bogar

(Ed.D. Sports Management 2010)
is the director for the School of Health Sciences at the American Public University System.



Dr. Alan Ledford

(Ed.D. Sports Management 2016)
is the program director and assistant professor of sport management at Wilmington (Ohio) College.



A New Focus:

A New Focus:

A New Focus:

A New Focus:

coaches, administrators, and other sport professionals require to be effective in their jobs.”

Dr. Carlos Tasso Eira De Aquino is the executive director of the center, charged with the development of new, consumer-targeted courses along with expanding the institution's current post-secondary, non-degree education offerings in the United States and around the world.

Finland and the FasciaMethod

Part of the CPSCE's mission is to offer more consumer-based courses targeted at the general public, so it was fitting that in May the Academy offered its first online, video-driven personal fitness course that showcased the Finnish FasciaMethod course.

The course details the myofascial training concepts developed by ProFTraining, the Academy's partners in Finland. In the course, students will learn why active dynamic chain mobility training like the FasciaMethod is the most recommended method for mobility, movement control, and body maintenance. Students who complete the course will be able to plan and instruct their own FasciaMethod body maintenance program for themselves, their clients, or in a group setting.

Also in Finland, the Academy in partnership with ProFTTraining and the Varala Sports Institute launched its International

*Cover image: Academy faculty Dr. Carlos Aquio, Dr. Brian Wallace, Dr. Brandon Spradley, and Dr. Roch King, have played a crucial role in developing the international programs for the institution's new Center for Professional Studies and Continuing Education.

Certification in Sports Management (ICSM) to help students in that country train for careers in the sport profession.

The certification will take approximately eight months to complete and upon successful completion, the student will be issued an International Certification in Sports Management from the Academy. Students will be considered Academy alumni, which will provide them access to a network of thousands of peers working in the world of sport.

The program will focus on relevant sports management topics such as administration, sports marketing, sports facilities and events, sports business, human resources, sports security, and public relations.

Strength & Conditioning Gains

The Academy is taking strides to provide a training program to prepare strength and conditioning professionals for the preeminent certification exam in their field.

The Academy is working to develop a National Strength and Conditioning Association (NSCA) approved preparation program to help strength and conditioning professionals as they take their Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist

(CSCS) exam – the preeminent certification of its kind.

Academy chair of sports exercise science Dr. Brian Wallace has been developing the 10-module program, which will culminate with the student's ability to pass the Academy's Sport Strength and Conditioning Certification (SSCC) exam, which would prepare them for the NSCA's CSCS exam.

Continuing education units (CEUs) will also be available for those who need annual recertification credentials to stay at the forefront of their field.

The Academy completed a pilot program for the Sports Authority in Thailand in 2019 and will offer the program domestically as well. The Academy plans to roll out the program internationally in Thailand, Malaysia, Finland, South America and Singapore.

Further, the Academy will soon add a Master of Sports Science degree in Advanced Strength and Conditioning which will culminate in a Master's level SSCC*M certification. This will be a certification entailing written, oral questions/ responses and practical demonstrations of the candidate's knowledge, skills and abilities. It will be the highest level certification in Strength and Conditioning available.

Sport Development in Guinea

The Academy signed an agreement with the west African nation of Guinea to help strengthen the national sports effort there.

The President of Guinea H.E. Dr. Alpha Conde led a delegation from that country to the United States ahead of the United Nations General Assembly in New York in September 2019. While visiting the U.S., President Conde and his retinue met with Academy President Dr. T.J. Rosandich to discuss the ways the institution could use its expertise to aid in sport development in Guinea. Following the meeting, Guinea Foreign Minister H.E. Mamadi Toure and Rosandich signed a Protocol of Cooperation.

The Academy will assist Guinea in creating a comprehensive approach to the development of a national sport effort that produces high-performance athletes and includes support services for its sport programs.

The Academy will also aid in the identification of talent by helping to develop a scientific basis for athlete training and sports medicine, and work to create a national feeder system for sport starting at the youth level to prepare athletes for a high level of competition.

The Academy will also assist Guinea in the implementation of training programs for sport administrators, coaches and program support personnel, and will work with Guinea governmental entities to develop programs of sports related to cultural exchanges including Olympism, sports art, youth activities, and history.



With the President of Guinea H.E. Dr. Alpha Condé looking on, Guinea Foreign Minister H.E. Mamadi Touré, left, and United States Sports Academy President Dr. T.J. Rosandich signed a Protocol of Cooperation to aid in sports development in the west African nation.

INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH

President's Tour of Nations

Academy President Dr. T.J. Rosandich visited sport, education, and government leaders around the world in 2019.

In the Republic of the Philippines, the Academy signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Philippine Sports Council (PSC) to deliver certification programs in that country.

In India, Rosandich signed as a witness to an MOU for two sport management programs between the Administrative Staff College of India and the Sports Asia Foundation who serve as the Academy's representative on the sub-continent.



Academy President Dr. T.J. Rosandich met with Philippine Sports Commission Chair William "Butch" Ramirez during a visit to the Philippines.



In Malaysia, Y.B. Datuk Abdul Rashid bin Asari, Chairman of the Standing Committee for Cultural and Tourism Malay Tradition and Heritage for the Malaysian State of Selangor, met with Academy President Dr. T.J. Rosandich to discuss developing sports tourism.

In Dubai the President visited the Academy's associates in the United Arab Emirates Football Association Academy, where the institution has played a role in the development of the Football Club Operators License Program.

In Bahrian, Rosandich met with Shaikh Mohammed Daij Al-Khalifa, the president of the Bahrain Paralympic Association, to discuss the Academy's adaptive sports program in that country. The program trains university students, physical education teachers and coaches there to support athletes with adaptive needs.

In Malaysia, Y.B. Datuk Abdul Rashid bin Asari, Chairman of the Standing Committee for Cultural and Tourism Malay Tradition and Heritage for the Malaysian State of Selangor, met with Academy President DR. T.J. Rosandich to discuss developing sports tourism.

Finally, in Nepal the President met with members of the Nepal Olympic Committee, National Sports Council, Sports Sciences Department of Tribhuvan University, and the Nepal Army about potential programs there.

Developments in Brazil

Sylvio Maia and Werner Fomin, the owners of Winner's Sports Entertainment, visited the Academy campus to sign a Protocol for Cooperation with the Academy in an effort to boost the development of sports professionals in Brazil.

Currently both Maia and Fomin are managing partners at LSA Pro, a newly created club that played its first season in the United Professional Soccer League (UPSL). The main focus of the UPSL is to attract investors and to help players to reach a higher level such as the United Soccer League (USL).



Sylvio Maia, Academy Vice President of Academic Affairs Dr. Tomi Wahlstrom, Werner Fomin, and Executive Director of the Center for Professional Studies and Continuing Education Dr. Carlos Aquino.

Thai Students Graduate

In September 2019, the Academy once again welcomed students from Thailand to campus to graduate from the institution's International Certification in Sports Management (ICSM), International Certification in Sports Coaching (ICSC), and National Sports Coaching Program (NSCP). The Academy's longstanding partnership with the Sports Authority of Thailand (SAT) is a certification program that provides advanced sport education to students in that country to prepare them for careers in sport.



Thai students celebrate their graduation from the Academy's sport education program with Academy Chair of Sports Coaching Dr. Roch King.

The post-secondary, non-degree programs are first taught in Bangkok, then the top students from the program are chosen to participate in a Sports Study Tour of venues in the United States. The program culminates with further study and a graduation ceremony on the Academy campus in Daphne, Ala.

In the spring the institution sent Chair of Sports Coaching Dr. Roch King, along with instructors Dr. Bonnie Tiell and Charles Temple, to Thailand to teach those programs. In June the institution sent instructors Dr. Mike Haahes, Dr. Dave Shrock, and Dr. Christopher Rampacek to Bangkok on teaching assignments.

Cooperation between the Academy and Thailand goes back to the 1980s and the Academy and the SAT have a Memorandum of Understanding to work together in sports education and training through 2020.

More than 200 Graduate in Bahrain

The Academy's program to train physical education teachers and coaches in the Kingdom of Bahrain to support athletes with adaptive needs culminated with 223 students completing the program.

Academy National Faculty member Marty Floyd traveled to the island nation in the Middle East three times since June 2018 to teach the post-secondary, non-degree certificate program in disabled and adaptive sport for the Bahrain Sports Federation for Disabilities (BSFD).



The Adaptive Sports program is a unique course of advanced study designed for coaches and physical education teachers who have or want to have experience working with athletes with varying degrees of adaptive needs. The program has a two-pronged approach that includes working with competitive athletes and developing inclusive programs for recreational athletes.

**Alumni Encouraged to Follow Academy's
LinkedIn Page for Job, Mentorship Info**



AWARDS OF SPORT

Steven Lester Named 2019 Sport Artist of the Year

After four decades of leadership in the commercial creative field, Atlanta's Steven Lester fully embraced his passion for painting and quickly gained notoriety for what he calls "representational expressionism." Because Lester's action sports themes resonate with vibrant life and elicit a visceral, emotional response, he has been named the Academy's 2019 Sport Artist of the Year.

"I am truly honored to receive this prestigious award from such a highly regarded institution as the Academy," Lester said. "Many of the previous recipients have been people I have admired and followed all of my career."

He was selected as one of only 16 artists in America to be a 2019 Fellow in the Clark Hulings Fund's Art-Business Accelerator Program.

Lester has been invited to stage several live painting events at the 2020 Summer Olympics in Tokyo, Japan. He created a series of Olympic-themed paintings which were unveiled at a solo sports art exhibition at the Eastern Shore Art Center in Fairhope, Ala., in August 2019.



Kasper Receives 2018 Eagle Award

After he played a key role in the success of the Pyeongchang 2018 Winter Olympics in South Korea, International Ski Federation (FIS) President Gian Franco Kasper received the Academy's 2018 Eagle Award, the institution's highest international honor.

Kasper was presented his Eagle Award in Oberhofen, Switzerland, by EU Business School President Dr. Dirk Craen. Craen was the recipient of the Academy's 2016 Distinguished Service Award.

Kasper is a Swiss ski official who has been president of the International Ski Federation (FIS) since 1998 and is the current president of the Association of International Winter Sports Federations (AIOWF). He served as head of the Association of Winter Olympic International Federations during the Olympics in Pyeongchang in February 2018, contributing significantly to the success of the Games.

Photo to right: FIS President Gian Franco Kasper, right, was presented the Academy's 2018 Eagle Award by EU Business School President Dr. Dirk Craen.





Nowinski Earns 2019 Jokl Award

Dr. Chris Nowinski, one of the world's leading advocates for sport related concussion research and education, has been named the recipient of the Academy's 2019 Dr. Ernst Jokl Sports Medicine Award.

Nowinski is a social entrepreneur leading a global conversation on concussions, CTE (chronic traumatic encephalopathy), and the future of sports. He is co-founder and CEO of the non-profit Concussion Legacy Foundation (CLF), and author of the critically acclaimed 2006 book *Head Games: Football's Concussion Crisis*.

Nowinski is also a co-founder and investigator at the Boston University CTE Center. He has coauthored more than 30 scientific publications, including a groundbreaking study published last week in *Annals of Neurology* that found each year playing tackle football increases the odds of developing CTE by 30 percent.

Nowinski led recruiting efforts for the 266 deceased football players who made that study possible. Following the publication of the study, he launched CLF's Tackle Can Wait campaign, which compares the risk of youth tackle football to smoking and encourages parents to wait until their child is at least 14 before playing tackle.

Crossen Receives Samaranch Award

Former Navy SEAL platoon commander and current United States Paralympic champion skier Dan Crossen has been named the winner of the Academy's 2018 Juan Antonio Samaranch IOC President's Disabled Athlete Award.

Crossen won gold in the 7.5km biathlon at the Pyeongchang 2018 Paralympic Winter Games and became the first American male and second American ever to claim a gold medal in any biathlon event in either the Olympics or the Paralympics.

Crossen also took silver in the men's 15km cross-country sitting skiing, 12.5km biathlon sitting, 15km biathlon sitting and 7.5km cross-country sitting. He also won bronze in the 1.1km cross-country sprint sitting event.

A native of Topeka, Kansas, Crossen is a double-amputee after being injured by an improvised explosive device while he was serving in Afghanistan. Along with his activities as a Paralympian, Crossen enjoys running, reading, traveling and surfing.



Eylanbekov's Eisenhower Masterworks to be Dedicated in 2020

The masterworks of sculptor Sergey Eylanbekov at the Gen. Dwight David Eisenhower Memorial are another step closer to completion with the announcement of the official dedication ceremony coming on 8 May 2020 on the National Mall in Washington D.C. Architect Frank Gehry's design for the Eisenhower Memorial was developed in collaboration with a creative team of artists and engineers.

Eylanbekov, the Academy's 2004 Sport Artist of the Year, is designing the sculptures that will commemorate Eisenhower as Supreme Commander of the Allied Expeditionary Force in World War II and as 34th President of the United States. Placed at the core of the memorial in the nation's capital, the statues will be executed in bronze and complemented by bas reliefs carved in stone.



Academy 2019 Sport Artist of the Year Steven Lester (second from right), with Art Committee members Susan McCullough, Bruce Larsen, B.J. Cooper, Nancy Raia, and Amanda Youngblood.

Student Works Judged by Art Committee

After being inspired by the renowned sport art collection at the American Sport Art Museum & Archives (ASAMA) on the campus of the United States Sports Academy, a handful of students from the Mobile, Ala., area created some award winning sport art of their own.

The students (pictured below) – from the Rotary Youth Club, St. Paul's Academy, and the National Charity League – created art inspired by their recent ASAMA visit. The art was displayed at the Eastern Shore Art Center (ESAC) in Fairhope at First Friday Art Walk to be judged by members of the Academy's prestigious Art Committee.



Academy Art Committee Chair Nancy Raia brought a group of students from the Rotary Youth Club in Fairhope to tour the American Sport Art Museum & Archives (ASAMA).

Historic Tennis Magazines and Books Donated to Museum

The owners of an antique store in Ohio recently donated a unique collection of tennis magazines and books to the American Sport Art Museum & Archives (ASAMA).

Priscilla and Greg Wilt of Sidney, Ohio, donated the collection of tennis magazines dating from 1974 through 2018 to ASAMA. The collection is not sequential, but instead the pieces follow the athletic careers of tennis stars through years of magazine feature photos and articles.

Some of the all-time tennis greats are featured, including Andre Agassi, Bjorn Borg, Steffi Graf, Venus Williams, Billie Jean King, and others. The donated collection also includes biographies, memoirs, educational and instructional books, and ephemera of the game of tennis.

The collection is featured in a special display in the Academy's Dr. Robert Block Library along with selections of tennis art held in ASAMA.



Library Director Dr. Vandy Pacetti-Donelson studies a collection of tennis magazines donated to ASAMA.

PEOPLE, PLACES AND PROGRAMS

Academy Receives MCTS Isaiah J. Whitley Legacy of Excellence Awards

The Academy was recognized for its rich history of partnership with the Mobile County Training School (MCTS) at the Legacy Luncheon at the Robert Hope Community Center in Plateau, Ala.

Academy President Dr. T.J. Rosandich and Chair of Sports Management Dr. Brandon Spradley accepted Isaiah J. Whitley MCTS Legacy of Excellence awards from MCTS Alumni Association President Anderson Flen. The award is named in recognition of the former MCTS principal Isaiah J. Whitley, whose efforts led to the school's ability to secure monetary aid from the state of Alabama. Whitley served as the principal there from 1910 until his death in 1923.



The Academy has a history of partnership and engagement with MCTS. Former MCTS Alumni Association president, the late William Clark, served on the Academy's Board of Trustees between 2012 and 2015. Clark served 26 years in the Alabama House of Representatives and is a member of the Mobile Sports Hall of Fame for his accomplishments as a basketball coach.

Dr. Milly Cowles

The Academy mourned the loss of former trustee Dr. Milly Cowles, a longtime leader in education and one of the founders of Head Start programs in the United States. Cowles, born in Ramer, Ala., in 1932, passed away on 7 August 2019. She served on the Academy's Board of Trustees between 2003 and 2016.



After receiving her Ph.D. at the University of Alabama in 1962, she began a long career as a professor at Rutgers University, The University of Georgia, The University of South Carolina, and the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) where she was the first woman Dean of the School of Education. While at UAB, Cowles initiated and directed the Ph.D. program in early childhood education and the joint educational leadership doctoral program with the University of Alabama. She took a leadership role in numerous professional organizations, especially the Southern Early Childhood Association (SECA).

IN MEMORIAM



Dr. Nabil Elattar

The Academy is mourning the loss of longtime administrator and friend Dr. Nabil Elattar, who passed away recently at age 84.

Elattar played a significant role in the marketing and program administration of the Academy's sport education programs in the Middle East. Elattar worked for the institution in an administrative capacity in Saudi Arabia for more than a decade, offering vital support in client relations and public relations. Elattar also worked throughout the Arabian Gulf region and with his knowledge of Arabian culture, and was critical in implementing the Academy's sports and physical fitness programs in the countries in which the Academy worked.

THE UNITED STATES SPORTS ACADEMY®

One Academy Drive
Daphne, AL 36526-7055
1.800.223.2668
info@ussa.edu

America's Sports University®



WWW.USSA.EDU



10/2019 - 8000

The United States Sports Academy accepts students regardless of race, color, sex, national origin, religion, age, disability or genetic information.

Degrees for Modern Sports Professionals

Earn your sports management degree from the only American institution focused on sport. Our courses are taught by sports professionals to prepare you for work in the sports industry.

- **100% online**
- **flexible**
- **affordable**
- **sport focused**
- **enroll any time**

Get started today!
1-800-223-2668
www.ussa.edu



Accreditation Council for
Business Schools and Programs