

THE ACADEMY

A PUBLICATION OF THE UNITED STATES SPORTS ACADEMY



New Approach for Changing Times

Landmark Accreditation for Sports Management Programs

International
Programs Return

Grads Impacting
the Sports World

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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 accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) to award baccalaureate, master's, and doctoral degrees. Questions about the accreditation of the United States Sports Academy may be directed in writing to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097, by calling 404-679-4500, or by using information available on the SACSCOC website (www.sacscoc.org).

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



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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Adapting to a Changing Sports Landscape

As I reflect on the events of the past 18 months and look at the road ahead, it becomes ever clearer that the society in which we live has been undergoing change and remains in a time of transition. Insofar as sport is a microcosm of society, it only stands to reason that the sport profession similarly has been affected by the many changes wrought by the onset of the COVID pandemic.

In retrospect, the column that I wrote for the spring 2020 edition of The Academy some 18 months ago suggested that the onset of COVID could very well turn out to be a "black swan event"; an occurrence that is completely unexpected and turns to become transformative. In so many ways, the events since then have been borne out of this prediction.



Dr. T.J. Rosandich
President and CEO
The United States Sports Academy

I do not have to recount in detail just how thoroughly sports programs and competition schedules at all levels from interscholastic to collegiate and on to high-performance were disrupted during the balance of 2020. In some instances, sports seasons were canceled or truncated, participants were faced with added requirements to participate in competition, and the ability of spectators to attend events was greatly limited.

Now in 2021 as I write this, the delayed 2020 Tokyo Olympics opened without fans in the stands. In just over six months we will see the opening of the 2022 Winter Olympics in Beijing, the world's most populous country. But who is going to go there to see the event? Later in 2022, Qatar, arguably among the most sparsely populated countries, will host the Football World Cup. Will spectators be able to go there?

COVID has also served as a catalyst for cultural change throughout broader society. Social messaging has become a feature in education institutions, corporations and commercial enterprises, in political messaging and in virtually all forms of expression in the media and entertainment. Messaging has also attached to sports and has appeared at virtually all levels of the sport

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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

hierarchy. Whatever one's opinion is concerning the issues involved, the climate has proven to be more divisive than it has been unifying.

I also believe that the onset of COVID has served to accelerate other changes to sport that were afoot here in the United States. Collegiate sports are now entering the age of name, image, and likeness (NIL) that promises more financial opportunities for college athletes but also to fundamentally transform intercollegiate sport.

Concurrently, the Athlete Marketing Platform (AMP) launched by the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee (USOPC) holds promise to do the same for chronically underfunded high performance athletes on America's national teams.

All of these developments and many more are coming together at a time in history when disruption to the familiar patterns and practices of the past are changing the way that the business of sport has been conducted. The changes that the profession is experiencing are also manifesting in other ways not so readily apparent.

I recently read a piece in the Sports Business Journal that 2021 is currently on track for the highest turnover of collegiate directors of athletics since these kinds of records have been kept. It is anticipated that some 70 athletic directors will retire or otherwise step down during the course of the year. Beyond this "changing of the guard," many of those assuming the top job have not matriculated through the traditional pathways of working themselves up through various sport organizations but are coming to the job with a fresh perspective from industry or the legal profession.

As I reflect on all of these changes, I'm reminded that in 1972 when the Academy was founded, the sport profession was also in a time of turmoil and transition. That year saw franchise fights between the NCAA and the AAU for control of athletic talent and the sanctioning of sport events. These issues carried over into the 1972 Munich Olympics, a watershed year for the U.S. national teams in which different sports suffered comparatively poor results. Out of this debacle came the President's Commission on Olympics that eventually culminated in the Amateur Sports Act of 1978.

There were other indicators at the time that suggested that the sport profession required reform. Among these were the Blythe Muller Report that found a correlation between the professional preparation of coaches and the number and severity of injuries to their athletes.

In summation, untrained coaches injured their athletes; a situation compounded by rudimentary sports medicine and



SAVE THE DATE: During the coming academic year 2021-2022, the Academy will celebrate its 50th Anniversary. The institution is planning a Founder's Day anniversary celebration for 22 April 2022.

athletic training. The obvious solution was education; a response that led to the founding of the Academy.

During this academic year (2021-2022), the Academy will celebrate its 50th Anniversary. We will do so knowing that sports education is as important today as it was then.

As institutions are faced with a changing environment they too must change and adapt. It is precisely these trends that led the Academy to seek a programmatic accreditation at all three degree levels for its storied sports management programs.

Rather than choosing a much narrower focus for this endeavor, for example, one whose sole focus is sports management, the Academy selected the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP) very simply because it is our view that management in the sports profession is a business. In choosing this path, the Academy is once more a trailblazer being the very first with sports management programs to receive a programmatic business accreditation through the ACBSP.

So as the Academy celebrates its 50th Anniversary in the coming academic year, we do it with a renewed sense of purpose and a curriculum that is adapting to changing times in a changing environment.

Dr. T.J. Rosandich
President and CEO



New Approach for Changing Times

Chair of sports management Dr. Brandon Spradley said ACBSP accreditation makes the Academy's sports management programs stand out in the world of higher education.

ACBSP Accreditation Marks 'Paradigm Shift' for Academy's Sports Management Degree Programs

The Academy hit a historic landmark in its half-century of delivering sports education programs as it became the first sports university to earn accreditation from the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP), the world's leading organization offering accreditation services to business degree programs focused on teaching and learning.

Founded in 1972, the Academy – known around the world as America's Sports University – now offers ACBSP accredited sports management degrees in its Bachelor of Sports Science and Master of Sports Science programs.

In addition, the Academy is the first and only school in the world with an ACBSP accredited doctoral degree in sports management. The ACBSP organization accredits business education programs around the world at more than 1,000 campuses.

"The Academy is proud of this achievement, marking the quality of the institution's highly regarded sports management programs," Academy President and CEO Dr. T.J. Rosandich said. "Since its founding in 1972, the Academy has been a leader in providing quality sport education programs for the development of the profession and to have our sports

management degrees accredited by ACBSP is in keeping with this tradition."

The institution received formal notification of its accreditation status from ACBSP in April 2021, marking the culmination of a two-year accreditation process.

"It is a great honor and privilege for the Academy to join the 1,200 ACBSP accredited business programs in more than 60 countries," Academy Provost Dr. Tomi Wahlstrom said. "Sport is a multibillion dollar industry with many management opportunities. Our quality academic programs are the best way to prepare for careers in this exciting field. We are looking forward to being active participants in the ACBSP community and serving as sports management leaders."

In early 2019 the Academy became a candidate for accreditation from ACBSP.

Becoming a candidate starts the accreditation process, and candidates must develop an action plan for meeting ACBSP's standards and criteria. Last year the Academy hired Dr. Carlos Aquino as its ACBSP consultant to help guide the institution through the accreditation process.

Following Aquino's recommendations and the completion of a self-study, the Academy welcomed an accreditation team of evaluators to campus for a virtual site visit in March.

Indiana Wesleyan University faculty member Dr. Jeffrey Boyce worked as the accreditation team's chairperson.

"There are a variety of benefits for schools that are accredited by ACBSP," Boyce said. "Our focus is on continuous improvement. It doesn't matter how good your school is now, it can always be better. ACBSP accredited schools are afforded input, guidance, and professional development benefits so that they can continue to improve."

A Paradigm Shift for the Academy

In early 2020, the Academy welcomed ACBSP mentor Dr. Kathleen Cornett to campus to advise the institution on the accreditation process and review data collected that would later be used to complete an all-important self-study.

"ACBSP accreditation is important for the Academy because it validates the quality of accredited programs," Cornett said. "To have ACBSP accredit your sports management program is a validation of the quality of what the Academy offers its students."

Wahlstrom called the ACBSP accreditation a "paradigm shift" for the Academy.

"Rather than focusing on offering sports management programs to sports professionals alone, this accreditation will help us to offer sports management as an option to management professionals," Wahlstrom said. "We are excited to be accredited because of the added diversity we bring to ACBSP in sports management."

"Sport is a multi-billion-dollar industry and there are many management positions available in the field. Rather than getting an MBA with an emphasis in Sports Management from a typical business school, students will be better prepared for these careers by getting a Master of Sports Science (M.S.S.) or Doctor of Education degree from us. We are a genuine sports university, and we know sports better than business schools do."

"ACBSP accreditation demonstrates that we also know business and management, and we are the first and only sport management program in their roster."

Chair of sports management Dr. Brandon Spradley hailed the accreditation as a historic moment for the Academy. "Our sports management program has always been unique



Provost Dr. Tomi Wahlstrom has called the ACBSP accreditation a "paradigm shift" for the Academy.

as one of the first of its kind in higher education, but this accreditation makes it even more unique," Spradley said. "We are the first and currently only institution to have this designation at all three degree levels within our sports management program."

"Our sports management programs have been through extensive review throughout the ACBSP accreditation process to ensure they provide quality education and prepare students to become professionals in sport, business, and leadership."

"I am pleased that through this process, ACBSP saw that our programs truly help students develop their business acumen, administrative proficiency, and leadership skills."

Founded in 1988, the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP) is a global business education accrediting body and the only organization to offer accreditation to all levels of collegiate business educational degree programs from associate to doctoral.



Alumni on the International Stage

Academy graduate Scott Novack, left, is the program operations manager for the U.S. Men's Eagles Sevens rugby team. Novack served as the team leader when USA Rugby competed in the Tokyo 2020 Olympics.

Academy Grads Coach for Team USA at Tokyo 2020

A pair of Academy graduates and former Alumna/Alumnus of the Year honorees represented the United States as coaches for national teams at the Tokyo 2020 Olympics.

The institution's 2018 Alumnus of the Year Scott Novack served as the team leader for USA Rugby at the Games, while 2016 Alumna of the Year LaTanya Sheffield was an assistant track and field coach for Team USA.



Scott Novack and
LaTanya Sheffield

Novack has more than 18 years of experience as a sports administrator, managing Olympic and national teams that have won eight Olympic medals, seven world championships and more than 60 World Cup medals. Novack – the USA Rugby Men's Eagles Sevens program operations manager – served Team USA as team leader for the fourth Olympic Games.

"My Academy degree and mentorship program really set me up for a good career," Novack said.

"The experience I got, especially during mentorship in London, was invaluable. Getting my master's degree from the Academy helped me to meet the people I needed to meet, which led to my career. My Academy mentorship was a fantastic opportunity."

It was Sheffield's second consecutive time working as an assistant track and field coach for Team USA at the Olympics after serving the same role at the Rio 2016 Games.

In addition to her work with USA Track and Field, Sheffield is the head women's track and field coach at Long Beach State University. She's also a former Olympian herself, having been a top-10 finisher in the 400-meter hurdles at the 1988 Olympics in Seoul, South Korea. 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.

"The Academy also helped me achieve a more complete understanding of what modern student-athletes go through and prepared me academically to be a better coach," she said. "My degree program at the Academy was rigorous and it made me strive to excel. The program helped me to press for excellence and was important in my getting my job at Long Beach State."

"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," she said.

Greg Walker Named 2021 Alumnus of the Year

A volleyball coach with more than a decade of experience coaching at the Paralympic and collegiate levels, Greg Walker is the Academy's 2021 Alumnus of the Year.

Earning his Bachelor of Sports Science degree in sports coaching cum laude from the Academy in 2012, Walker is the head coach of the U.S. Men's Sitting Volleyball National Team and a consultant and training coach for the Men's Indoor National Team. He is also the head volleyball coach at Smith College in Northampton, Mass.

A native of Huntingdon, Pa., Walker has been active with the U.S. Men's Sitting Volleyball Team since 2013 and has served as head coach since 2016. Sitting volleyball is a variation of the original game but designed for athletes with adaptive needs. The sport is governed by the same rules as the traditional game with a few modifications. Players must maintain seated contact with the floor, the net is just over 3 feet high, and the court is approximately 33 feet by 20 feet. Highlights of his service include leading the American team in the 2016 Paralympics in Rio de Janeiro and to a silver medal at the 2017 ParaPan American Championships.

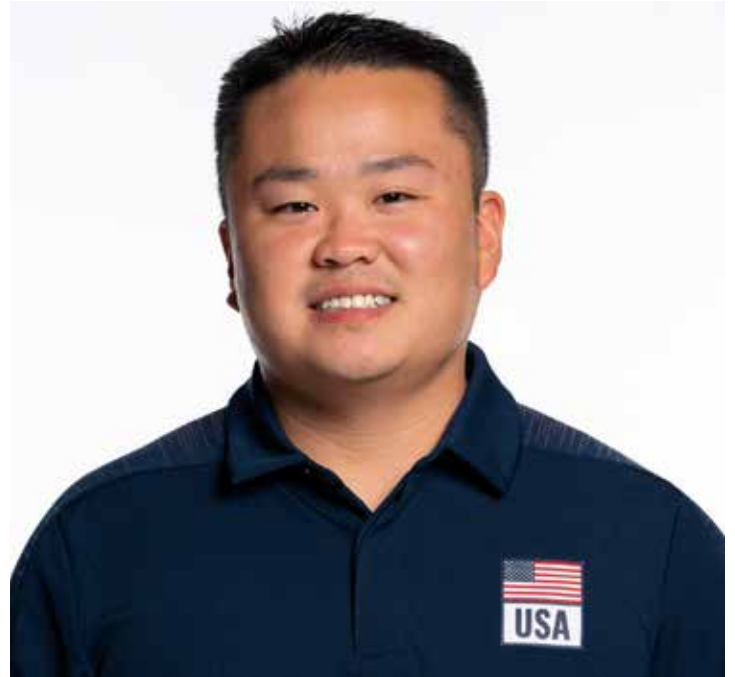
Walker said his Academy education helped propel his career at a time when he was working as an assistant volleyball coach in the collegiate ranks.

"The Academy really showed me how much goes on behind the scenes in an athletic program," Walker said. "Once I realized I wanted to pursue coaching as a career, I knew I needed a thorough education with more than just formations and plays. The Academy gave me an in-depth knowledge of the ethics, psychology and theories behind coaching and my career has benefited because of it."

"The thing that makes the Academy so great is that it offers sport specific studies with incredibly supportive faculty to help with the distance learning. The faculty and instruction at the Academy are second to none. The faculty also has an extensive amount of work in the athletics field. They are able to really facilitate discussions and actually take the time to really connect with students."

"The Academy also has great resources for students. I learned a lot by reading The Sport Journal and my course materials because I was immediately able to use that information in my career. My education at the Academy helped to fine tune the skills I use every day."

Walker was named a member of the American Volleyball Coaches Association "30 Under 30" class for 2017, an award



2021 Alumnus of the Year Greg Walker

that honors up-and-coming coaches at all levels of the sport. He said he is excited to be part of one of the fastest growing sports in the United States.

"Volleyball is growing exponentially around the country and it recently overtook basketball as the most-played sport for girls and women in America," Walker said. "I'm excited to see that around the country, leagues and clubs are opening for younger and younger kids each year. You also have beach volleyball programs beginning around the country and in non-traditional places."

Before being hired at Smith College in 2020, Walker spent the 2019 season as an assistant coach at the University of Southern California. There, he oversaw all recruiting efforts, planned practices, created scouting material and was the point person for admissions, compliance, academic support, strength and conditioning, sports information and equipment. His career also includes coaching stops at Sacred Heart University (Ct.), Alderson Broaddus University (W.Va.), Pfeiffer University, and Mississippi State, and additional time as a volunteer coach at the University of Oregon, Mercer University, and Juniata College.

"I love sports because of the role they play in making an impact in the lives of athletes," Walker said. "Coaching volleyball, I get to work with young people during one of the most pivotal times in their lives. I'm fascinated with how sport is a microcosm of life."

ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS

Karen M. Carty

(M.S.S. Sports Management 2009)

is the assistant commissioner for media relations for the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC).



Dr. Joshua Greer

(Ed.D. Sports Management 2020)

is an assistant professor and sports management program coordinator at Bethel University in Tennessee.



Dr. Greg Bonds

(Ed.D. Sports Management 2016)

is the senior associate athletic director at Jacksonville (Ala.) State University.



Kris MacPhee

(M.S.S. Sports Coaching 2010)

is the technical director for Hockey PEI (Prince Edward Island) in Canada.

Dr. China Jude

(M.S.S. Sports Management 1996)

is the vice president for diversity, equity, and inclusion for the NFL's Denver Broncos.



Dr. David Peterson

(Ed.D. Sports Management 2014)

is an assistant professor of kinesiology at Cedarville University in Ohio and the author of two academic textbooks.



Chad Killinger

(M.S.S. Sports Management 2003)

is the head women's basketball coach at Indiana State University.



Dr. Kristene Kelly

(M.S.S. Sports Coaching 2010)

is the deputy athletic director for internal affairs and senior woman administrator at Vanderbilt University.

Gracie Steidley

(B.S.S. Sports Studies 2019)

is the head softball coach at the University of Antelope Valley in California.



Matt Lowe

(M.S.S. Sports Coaching 2018)

is the head women's cross country coach at Grays Harbor College in Washington.



Graduation Photos on the Academy campus

Academy graduates are invited to the institution's campus in Daphne, Ala., for a photo with President Dr. T.J. Rosandich and faculty members. For information, contact communications@ussa.edu. Left: Dr. Joshua Greer (Ed.D. Sports Management) with chair of sports coaching Dr. Roch King, President Dr. T.J. Rosandich, and director of doctoral studies Dr. Fred Cromartie. Right: Terri DeFour (M.S.S. Sports Management) with President Dr. T.J. Rosandich and chair of sports management Dr. Brandon Spradley.

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Featured Student: Kevin Edwards

Kevin Edwards currently works as the head men's and women's volleyball coach at Baruch College in Manhattan, N.Y. The Academy's June 2021 Student of the Month, Edwards is pursuing his Bachelor of Sports Science (B.S.S.) degree in sports strength and conditioning and hopes to use it to open a high performance volleyball training facility.

A former Trinidad & Tobago international volleyball player (1996-2009), Edwards is a familiar face in New York volleyball circles. The Brooklyn resident coached the Baruch women's team to its first-ever postseason win in 2019 and was voted the CUNYAC Coach of the Year. In the same year, he coached the Baruch men's team to its first CUNYAC Championship and reached the NCAA Tournament for the first time since 2005.

"The Academy is wonderful because it provides me the flexibility to study on my schedule, which often means I'm studying late in the evenings after practices or matches or on my off days," Edwards, who is taking advantage of the



Academy's FastTrack option, said. "I'm grinding through the program as quickly as possible within my schedule. The program is a good fit for me.

"My courses have all been immediately applicable to my every day work. My anatomy and physiology class has been particularly helpful and the labs for that class really bring the courseware to life."

Prior to coaching at Baruch, Edwards also worked as a coach at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, NYU-Poly, and the New York City College of Technology. In addition, he has coached at the high school level and also works at The Sports Center at Chelsea Piers as a beach and indoor volleyball instructor.

He holds an FIVB International Level 2 coach certification and a USA Volleyball Impact Certification.

Congratulations to the Academy's Students of the Month!

The Student of the Month program is an ongoing recognition opportunity. Each month, Student of the Month nominees are submitted by Academy faculty and staff, then a committee is charged with selecting the honoree. Students are selected based on their performance in the classroom, dedication to the Academy's programs, service to the community and more.

July 2021:

Joseph Grillo

Ed.D. Sports Management

Grillo plans to use his degree to become a full time college professor and expand his personal fitness business.



August 2021:

Paulo Santos

B.S.S. Strength & Conditioning

Santos plans to work as a fitness coach at a gym when he retires from law enforcement.

May 2021:

Lauren Hedges

B.S.S. Strength & Conditioning

Hedges hopes to pursue a career in the personal training and fitness industry.



April 2021:

John Pantuosco

M.S.S. Sports Studies

Longtime high school teacher and coach is futhering his education with a master's degree.



February 2021:

Eric Street

Ed.D. Sports Management

Street presented at the 35th Annual Association of Applied Sport Psychology conference.

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

BACK ON TRACK: International Programs Rebounding

As the Covid-19 pandemic ravaged populations around the globe, the Academy was not immune its effects. In 2020 and early 2021, the impact of the pandemic brought to a standstill most of the institution's post-secondary, non-degree sport education programs delivered internationally.

Throughout the year Academy faculty and staff worked tirelessly with international education partners to devise strategies for program delivery virtually or 100 percent online.

Thailand ICSM, ICSC Delivery Goes Virtual

The Academy recommenced the delivery of its International Certification in Sports Management (ICSM) and International Certification in Sports Coaching (ICSC) with the Sports Authority of Thailand virtually in June 2021.

The programs, traditionally taught in person on the ground in Bangkok, were delivered 100 percent online in Zoom sessions throughout the summer.

Approximately 60 Thai students - 30 in ICSM and 30 in ICSC - participated in the courses, which were delivered in five sessions. The sessions covered elite sports and athlete management, as well as sports coaching and management topics.

Sports education 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.

The Academy traditionally taught its ICSM and ICSC programs in person in Thailand. Last year, the program was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The ICSC program includes a wide range of coaching and related administrative skills, and the ICSM program includes sports event planning, marketing and public relations, and facilities.

Sports Marketing Course Taught Online in Spain

The Academy teamed up with GBSB Global Business School to provide an online, instructor facilitated sports marketing course to students at the Barcelona-based institution.

The 10-week post-secondary, non-degree sports marketing course was taught by the director of doctoral studies Dr. Fred Cromartie and chair of sports management Dr. Brandon Spradley. The course launched in April and covered sport marketing principles and the elements of the marketing mix. Topics include advertising, promotions, pricing, sponsorships,



Delivery of the Academy's International Certification in Sports Management program resumed this summer in Bangkok, Thailand, where students and administrators learned from Academy instructors through a series of Zoom conference classes.

and market segmentation. The Academy in 2020 agreed to work with GBSB Global Business School to teach its world renowned post-secondary, non-degree sport education programs to students there utilizing computer mediated technology.

Academy Picked as Coaching Ed. Provider in India

The Academy expanded its international reach after receiving notification from the Sport Authority of India (SAI) that it was among several institutions empaneled as education partners with that nation's National Institute of Sport.

The announcement means that the Academy was selected by the SAI to design, develop, and deliver sports coaching and exercise science courses for India's National Centre for Sports Coaching (NCSC), which was set up by the government of India and the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports at Netaji Subhash National Institute of Sports at Patiala, the premier sport educator in that nation.

The Academy was also recognized by the Telangana State Council of Higher Education (TSCHE) as an approved provider for sport education programs in the State of Telangana in India. In addition to the TSCHE recognition, Rosandich was invited to join the organization's Advisory Board, whose

President Appointed to Bahrain GSA Board of Directors

Furthering his lifelong interest in sport, His Majesty The King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa King of Kingdom of Bahrain issued a royal decree on 13 May 2021 establishing the Kingdom's General Sports Authority (GSA), affiliated with the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports (SCYS).

The GSA Board of Directors will work under the supervision of His Highness Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al-Khalifa, who is the First Deputy President of SCYS, President of Bahrain General Sports Authority and President of the Bahrain Olympic Committee.



Dr. T.J. Rosandich

instruction, research and outreach programs.

President Elected as FISpT Board VP

Academy President and CEO Dr. T.J. Rosandich was unanimously voted to serve as a Board Vice President for the International Sport For All Federation (FISpT) during a virtual assembly meeting in May.

In addition to the Vice President role, Rosandich will also serve as a member of the FISpT Board of Directors.

In a move that will bolster the Academy's longtime relationship with the island nation in the Middle East, President and CEO Dr. T.J. Rosandich was appointed by royal decree to the Board of Directors of the newly formed GSA. The Academy President will serve as one of nine members of the GSA, a group charged with furthering the development of the Kingdom's national sport effort.

"Having lived and worked in the Arabian Gulf region for ten years working on sport development, Bahrain was always one of my favorite places to be," Rosandich said. "I was privileged to serve for a year in Bahrain as an advisor to the General Organization for Youth and Sports (GOYS), a predecessor to the GSA. At that time, His Majesty (then the Crown Prince) was the President of the SCYS and I was afforded the opportunity to meet with him from time-to-time concerning programs and projects through which I came to appreciate his passion for sports. This appointment reflects my expressed desire to continue working with the Kingdom and to contribute to the development of the national sport effort there."

The Academy's involvement in Bahrain goes back more than 40 years to the beginnings of the Academy's international

The Academy President will participate in the organization's next meeting in November 2021 in Milan, Italy, which will coincide with the annual meeting of the Federation Internationale Cinema Television Sportifs (FICTS), of which he is also a member of the Commission for Youth, Culture and Education. The President of FISpT is Prof. Franco Ascani who also serves as the President of FICTS, an international organization which promotes the universal idea of culture through sport.

The FISpT is an International Olympic Committee (IOC) recognized sports federation that aims to further develop and promote the ideals of "sport for all" – that sport is a basic human right that enables people to live more fulfilling lives – and the values of universality, tolerance, and ethics. Rosandich has been involved with FISpT for nearly two decades.

"I was both honored and humbled with the nomination and subsequent vote", said Rosandich. "Having been involved with international sport generally and the concept of sports for all specifically, I'm looking forward to my continued service with FISpT. There is much to do coming out of the hiatus in activities over the past year owing to the pandemic."

offices are located in Telangana's capital city of Hyderabad. In that role, Rosandich will assist in the review of foreign tertiary institutions seeking to establish relationships with Telangana-based schools for the recruitment of students.

Sports Education Talks with Ugandan Ambassador

Ugandan ambassador H.E. Mull Sebuja Katende met with Rosandich while the Academy President visited Washington, D.C., this summer. The pair discussed ways the Academy may be able to aide the Republic of Uganda advance its national sports effort.



Ugandan ambassador H.E. Mull Sebuja Katende and Academy President Dr. T.J. Rosandich met in Washington, D.C., to discuss sports education efforts.

Academy Won't Raise Tuition for Second Year

In a move recognizing the profound nature of the global economic disruption brought forth by the continued hardships related to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Academy will not raise tuition for its undergraduate and graduate degree programs for the second consecutive academic year.

The institution is also temporarily waiving application fees at the bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degree levels as the nation continues to recover from the economic impact of social distancing, business shutdowns, and hardship across the United States due to the pandemic.

Please contact the Academy's admissions team at 1-800-223-2668 or email admissions@ussa.edu for registration information.

The Academy's degree programs feature a low and reasonable tuition rate, and the institution also pays for student textbooks and examination proctoring fees.



This represents a savings of more than \$2,000 over the course of the bachelor's program, with similar savings for the Academy's graduate programs. Unlike most schools that have fees for virtually every service imaginable, the Academy has only the one tuition cost for each course – what you see is what you get. Financial Aid is also available for eligible students.

Online Dissertation Workshop Aims to Help Doctoral Students Get Started

Completing a doctoral dissertation can be a daunting task for even the most accomplished students, and that's why the Academy is offering its new online Dissertation Workshop.

The self-paced course presented as a workshop will introduce research design methods employed in a variety of settings. The format and techniques for writing a scholarly research paper will be presented and various types of research commonly used will be reviewed.

The purpose of this workshop is to help scholars focus on their own research and writing as they work toward completion of their dissertations. The workshop is designed to assist

graduate students at all stages of their research. Examine your ideas and attitudes toward the dissertation process and develop your toolset to effectively complete a quality dissertation.

The workshop will help students who may be struggling with writing their dissertation to cultivate a scholarly identity, improve understanding, break dependency on external feedback, and understand the internal logic of the dissertation.

The workshop course, which cost \$195, is open to Academy students and those from outside the institution who also may need help writing a dissertation.

Academy Ranked Among Alabama's Best Universities

The Academy earned praise for its sports education programs after being recognized as one of the top colleges in the state of Alabama by Intelligent.com.

According to Intelligent.com, the institution was also recognized as being the best school for sports education. In addition, its Master of Sports Science (M.S.S.) degree in sports management was ranked among the top 10 sports management graduate degrees in the country by the same site.



The Intelligent.com 2021 rankings were calculated through a unique scoring system which includes student engagement, potential return on investment, and leading third-party evaluations. Intelligent.com analyzed hundreds of schools with comparable programs on a scale of 0 to 100.

The methodology uses an algorithm that collects and analyzes multiple rankings into one score to easily compare each university's degree program.

Provost, CPSCE Director Named SportEdTV Contributors

A pair of United States Sports Academy academic leaders have been named contributors to SportsEdTV, a leading online resource for free video instruction, coaching education, and blog posts about the profession of sport.

Academy provost Dr. Tomi Wahlstrom was named a senior contributor for the platform, serving its audiences of coaches, league executives, sports strategic planners, and managers.

“Dr. Tomi Wahlstrom is a multilingual, multicultural academic leader with expertise in teaching, business, academic management, consulting, and clinical human services and applies them in the sports world, a community we are pledged to serve,” said Robert Mazzucchelli Founder and Chairman of SportsEdTV.

“SportsEdTV is missioned as the worldwide leader in FREE online sports instruction having a contributor with the sports education credentials of Dr. Tomi Wahlstrom enhances our position there,” added Victor Bergonzoli, CEO of SportsEdTV.

In addition, Dr. Katrina Wahlstrom, who currently directs the Academy’s Center for Professional Studies and Continuing Education, was also named a contributor to the site to bolster its coaching and sports management content.

“Dr. Katrina Wahlstrom’s expertise will be especially valuable to our coaching and league management constituencies, important communities which have hefty appetites for reliable information,” Mazzucchelli said.

“Applying her solid credentials to sports is a blend the sports world can surely benefit from, especially the thousands of managers who lead local sports leagues,” Bergonzoli added.



Provost Dr. Tomi Wahlstrom and Center for Professional Studies and Continuing Education director Dr. Katrina Wahlstrom.

Herron Presents at ACSM, NASSM Conferences

The 2021 American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM) Annual Meeting and World Congress featured a presentation of an abstract prepared by acting director of sports exercise science Robert Herron. Herron collaborated with scholars from other universities on the abstract, titled “Tire Pressure’s Impact on Physiological and Performance Variables in Wheelchair Basketball Players.”



Robert Herron

Herron also worked with chair of sports management Dr. Brandon Spradley, lecturer Holly Park, and faculty member Jillian Rosandich to present an abstract on race issues in sports at the online North American Society for Sport Management (NASSM) Conference in June.

Emphasis in Esports Management

Esports have swept the nation and the world because of the increasing availability of online streaming media platforms. Our Esports emphasis will prepare students like you for leadership roles in this emerging billion-dollar sports field. Master’s degree students and qualified undergraduate students are eligible to take an emphasis in Esports Management with the following courses:

- Esports: A Global Phenomenon
- Esports Administration
- Esports Facilities and Event Management

Jubilee Festival Art Unveiled at ESCC Event on Campus

The Eastern Shore Chamber of Commerce unveiled the featured poster art for the 33rd Annual Jubilee Festival of Art at the American Sport Art Museum & Archives (ASAMA) on the Academy campus.

The unveiling was part of the Eastern Shore Chamber of Commerce's Business After Hours event and featured an original painting by local artist Linda Scott.

The Jubilee Festival of Art is traditionally home to a confluence of art, music, and local seafood vendors set along the oak-lined streets of Olde Towne Daphne.



Jubilee Festival artist Linda Scott, center right, with Academy Art Committee members Susan McCollough, Nancy Raia, and Angie Phillips.



President Speaks at International Child Art Foundation's World Children's Festival in DC

Academy President Dr. T.J. Rosandich addressed the International Child Art Foundation's World Children's Festival on the National Mall in Washington D.C. in July.

Rosandich gave his remarks during the opening ceremony for the festival, which is held every four years and is considered the Olympics of creativity and imagination.

The festival is a national and global showcase for STEAMS Education which integrates Art and Sport with STEM disciplines for children's holistic development.

Local Students Tour ASAMA

A group of boys from the Bayside Academy (Daphne, Ala.) summer camp visited the American Sport Art Museum & Archives (ASAMA) on the Academy campus for a tour in June.

The museum features 1,800 pieces of sports art in a variety of media, and is free and open to the public Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m.

Group tours are available by request by calling 1-800-223-2668 or by email communications@ussa.edu.



Academy Honors Sport Achievers with Awards Program

The Academy's Awards of Sport program has annually recognized the highest achievers in the world of sport.



Eagle Award: Riccardo Fraccari

World Baseball Softball Confederation President Riccardo Fraccari, left, was presented the Eagle Award by Academy Trustee Emeritus, 1995 Sport Artist of the Year, and Olympian Foundation President Dr. Liston Bochette III during an Olympic baseball tournament qualifier game in Florida.



Corbin, Kelly Honored at Vanderbilt

Vanderbilt University deputy athletic director for internal affairs and senior woman administrator Dr. Kristene Kelly, right, was presented the Academy's 2020 Alumna of the Year Award in Nashville, Tenn., during a Vanderbilt University baseball game by Academy Trustee and University of Tennessee Athletics Director Emerita Joan Cronan, center. In addition, Cronan presented the Academy's Amos Alonzo Stagg Coaching Award to Vanderbilt baseball coach Tim Corbin, left, during the same ceremony.

Honorary Doctorate: Vlad Marinescu

International Esports movement leader Vlad Marinescu received an Honorary Doctorate from the United States Sports Academy during a virtual presentation that was livestreamed to a global audience.

The presentation was held virtually – Marinescu was in Budapest while the Academy Board of Trustees, President Dr. T.J. Rosandich and Provost Dr. Tomi Wahlstrom were in Daphne, Ala. – due to COVID-19 travel restrictions.

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