

Academy President Visits Sport Education Partners Across the Globe

United States Sports Academy President and CEO Dr. T.J. Rosandich recently made a month-long tour of Asian nations calling on the Academy's sport education partners and developing new relationships for collaborative international sport education.



Leaders of the Sports Authority of Thailand (SAT), Akrouw Sangesith (left), National Sports Coaching Program team leader, and Jinda Dechpimol (center), SAT director of administration are shown with the Academy President's Cabinet.

Rosandich met with education, sport and governmental leaders in China, Malaysia, Thailand and Singapore, all countries where the Academy has conducted sport instruction, research and outreach programs in some cases spanning decades.

"These trips are very beneficial as they allow the Academy to regularly connect with people around the world with whom we work to advance the cause of sport education," Rosandich said.

"Our objectives are two-fold. First, we are able to work with our global partners to assess existing programs and how effective they are at achieving their sport education objectives.

"Second, these trips give the Academy and our international colleagues the opportunity to discuss new and exciting ideas for future programs."

In China, Rosandich discussed current and future programs with officials representing the cities of Shanghai (see related story) and Rizhou; Zhengzhou University; and the Songshan Shaolin Temple Warrior Monk Training School in Deng Feng. A key

focus of these discussions was sport education for children and youth. The Academy president met in Bangkok with Thai sport leaders, including the Sports Authority of Thailand (SAT), where developments included signing of an extension of the long-standing certification program to prepare students in Thailand for careers in sport (see related story). The visit also featured Rosandich speaking on the development of the Thai sports industry to senior sports administrators at the King Prajadhipok's Institute,

which is dedicated to furthering the training and preparation of senior leaders throughout the government.

In Malaysia, Rosandich met with leaders on continuing the long-term partnerships between that country and the Academy, especially in support of youth health and fitness. The Academy president also met with officials at the University Putra Malaysia, one of the top universities in the country, regarding future cooperative sport education programs.

The Academy president traveled to Singapore to meet with officials of International Sports Academy-Singapore (ISA-S) to discuss ongoing collaborative programs.



Dr. T.J. Rosandich (center) shares mementos with the Shanghai Administration of Sports (SAS); Zhang Zhi Ming (left), SAS vice director for science and education and youth affairs; and Luo Wenhua (right), SAS deputy director general.

For more about the Academy's international programs, see related stories in this issue and go to www.ussa.edu/international-sport-education/. ■



Graig Kreindler
 2018 Sport Artist of the Year,
 Painter, Page 3

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Lou Cella
 2018 Sport Artist of the Year,
 Sculptor, Page 3

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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, religion, age, gender, disability or national origin.



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Sport Education: A Cause Worth Traveling For

Recently I spent the better part of a month running from airport to airport and moving from hotel to hotel in one of my regular international trips to visit the Academy's educational partners in several countries around the world.

Even though the pace can be frenzied, I truly feel like I have one of the best jobs in the world. I am able to reconnect with old sport education partners in other countries, as well as make new friendships in pursuit of sport education and cooperation. I get to meet with people who believe like we do at the Academy that sport and sportsmanship can be a true cure for most of the world's ills.



Academy President and CEO Dr. T.J. Rosandich with Dato Lokman Hakim bin Ali, the permanent secretary of the Malaysian Ministry of Youth and Sports, during his recent tour of Asia.

Through my travels I am constantly reminded why the Academy first got involved in sport instruction, research and service around the world some four decades ago. Further, I'm inspired to continue bringing to bear the Academy's collective sport knowledge, experience and resources toward making a positive contribution to sport education around the world.

When I meet someone who began as a student in one of our programs and has progressed to a leadership role in sport in his or her country, I truly know that we are achieving our mission. Or when I see a country's sports program blossom and achieve accomplishments at previously unheard-of levels, whether it is better coaching in the public schools or a higher Olympic medal count, I know we are making a difference.

I'm also inspired when we are called upon to help accomplish a new and worthwhile mission in a country where we worked decades ago. For instance, we recently did this in Bahrain – our very first international partner many years ago. As chronicled in this issue of *The Academy*, we returned there recently to assist in an important

effort to better prepare coaches to work with athletes with adaptive needs.

Indeed, since its founding in 1972, the Academy has been dedicated to providing education as a tool to enhance and uphold sport as a powerful force for what is good and healthy in the world. I am proud to say that the Academy has been directly involved in more than 65 countries and the list continues to grow.

As we look toward our half-century mark in sport education, the Academy is proud of what it has done to advance the cause of sport education around the world. But, as I have mentioned in this column, our work is far from over. First, the Academy must continue to use education to work with countries around the world to develop their sports programs to the greatest extent possible, enhancing the health and welfare of our global family.

Secondly, the Academy must continue to be an educational leader in addressing the serious issues facing sport. It is no secret that sport around the world has been rocked by highly visible ethical lapses, governance issues and outright corruption that has stretched from the local and college level to the pinnacles of international competition. These problems can only be solved through a long-term commitment to education and awareness, and the Academy is making this a priority in our academy programs and in our outreach efforts.

Yes, we as sport educators have a lot of work left to do and many lives left to enhance. At the Academy, we have 46 words that drive us each day to stay focused on that important job at hand. We refer to it simply as our "Mission Statement."

"The United States Sports Academy is an independent, non-profit, accredited, special mission sports university created to serve the nation and 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."

Now where is that suitcase?

Editor's note: Academy President and CEO Dr. T.J. Rosandich recently marked his 40th year of service to the Academy. For more information about the Academy's international programs, go to www.ussa.edu/international-sport-education/. ■

Public Invited as Academy Introduces 2018 Sport Artists of the Year

The public is invited as the Academy introduces its 2018 Sport Artists of the Year in a special art show and reception that is part of its 34th Annual Awards of Sport program, a celebration of sport and art and "A Tribute to the Artist and the Athlete."

The event, which is free and open to the public, will be held at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, 8 November 2018, on the Academy's campus located at One Academy Drive in Daphne, Ala. A reception will follow. Those interested in attending are encouraged to RSVP at (251) 626-3303 or email communications@ussa.edu, but reservations are not required.

The Academy's Awards of Sport honor those who have made significant contributions to sport in categories as diverse as the artist and the athlete. The Academy's American Sport Art Museum and Archives (ASAMA) annually recognizes these men and women through its Sport Artist of the Year, Honorary Doctorates, Athletes of the Year and Alumni of the Year awards.

A highlight of the evening will be the unveiling and addition to ASAMA's permanent art collection works by the Academy's 2018 Sport Artists of the Year: painter Graig Kreindler of Bronxville, N.Y., and sculptor Lou Cella of Chicago, Ill. Additional works by the two will also be featured in an art show at the event.

Coming from a family of artists and growing up in the Chicago area, Cella studied both fine art and graphic design at Illinois State University.



Babe Ruth by Graig Kreindler

After several years working as a graphic artist, he moved to three-dimensional art working as a sculptor. Cella joined Chicago's famed Rotblatt/Amrany Studio of Fine Art, where his life-sized and larger works are in great demand for sport venues across the United States. Notable works include Harry Caray, Ernie Banks and Ron Santo at Wrigley Field; The Six Detroit Tigers and Ernie Harwell at Comerica Park in Detroit; quarterback Bart Starr for the Green Bay Packers Heritage Trail; and Carlton Fisk at US Cellular Field in Chicago.

Kreindler is widely known for his nostalgic paintings that capture in remarkable detail the simpler bygone days of sport. To Kreindler, no other sport embodies the relationship between generations and the sense of community like baseball. His goal is to portray the national pastime in an era when players were accessibly human, and the atmosphere of a cozy ballpark was just as important as what happened on the field. He is proud to act as a visual historian and his award-winning sports work has appeared in juried shows and museums nationwide, as well as having been featured in nationally distributed books, newspapers, magazines, and both Internet and television featurettes.



Ron Santo by Lou Cella

As part of the 2018 Awards of Sport Program, the Academy will announce its 2018 Honorary Doctorates and Alumnus of the Year awards later, along with the Male and Female Athletes of the Year, which will be selected in January with the input of international online balloting. For more, go to www.asama.org

Gulati Presented Honorary Doctorate



Longtime United States Soccer Federation (USSF) President Sunil Gulati has been awarded the Academy's 2017 National Honorary Doctorate for his outstanding contributions to the sport of soccer at all levels in the United States.

Academy President and CEO Dr. T.J. Rosandich, right, made the presentation to Gulati at

Columbia University in New York City, where the honoree holds a prestigious lectureship in the economics department.

Gulati's leadership in the development of soccer in the United States spans more than three decades. He chose not to seek re-election as USSF president earlier this year after completing his third four-year term, a record for the position. ■

Runyan Receives Roosevelt Award

Former National Football League player and U.S. Congressman and current NFL Vice President of Football Operations Jon Runyan was presented the Academy's 2017 Theodore Roosevelt Meritorious Achievement Award.

Academy President and CEO Dr. T.J. Rosandich presented Runyan the award at the NFL offices in New York City. The award is presented to an individual in any amateur or professional sport, past or present, who has excelled as a contributor to both sport and society over at least a decade. ■



Academy President Dr. T.J. Rosandich and Jon Runyan

Faculty Member Says World Cup Will Boost American Soccer

Academy Director of Doctoral Studies Dr. Fred Cromartie says America can expect a rise in the popularity of soccer and greater future success of American soccer teams in anticipation of the 2026 World Cup, hosted by the United States, Mexico and Canada.



Dr. Fred Cromartie

The so-called “United” bid defeated a bid by Morocco by 134 to 65. The winning bid marks the return of soccer’s largest international tournament to the United States for the first time since 1994. Bid organizers and FIFA officials expect record crowds and the use of existing venues to bring in revenues of more than \$14 billion.

The United States last hosted a FIFA Men’s World Cup in 1994 and hosted the FIFA Women’s World Cup in 1999 and 2003. In 2026, 60 out of 80 matches are expected to be played at existing venues in the United States.

“This United bid is unique because it offers an opportunity for Americans to see some great international soccer,” Cromartie said. “If I want to, I can go up to Canada or visit Mexico to take in a match. I would love to do that. And it also gives people from coast-to-coast in America the chance to see a truly global sports tournament.” ■

In Memoriam: Faculty Member, Alumnus Dr. Robert Stinchcomb



Dr. Robert Stinchcomb

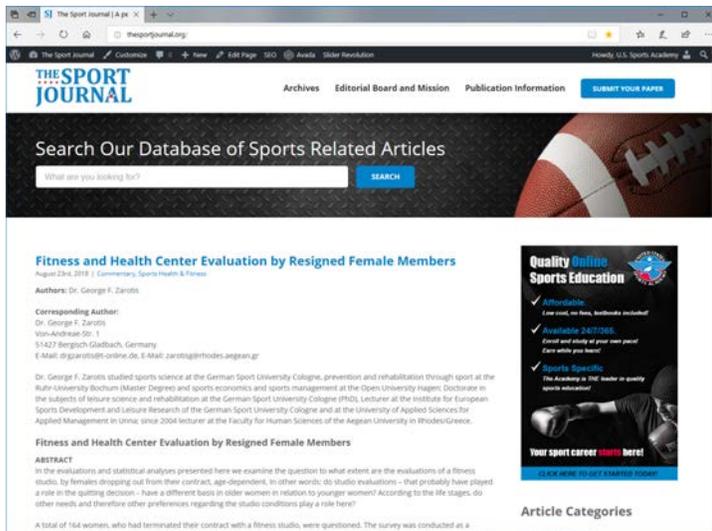
The Academy mourns the loss of Dr. Robert A. “Bob” Stinchcomb, an Academy alumnus and non-resident faculty member who passed away recently at age 59.

Stinchcomb earned his Doctor of Education degree in sports management with a sports leadership specialization from the Academy in 2014 and was chair of Sport Management at Shorter University in Rome, Ga., simultaneously serving on the Academy’s non-resident faculty.

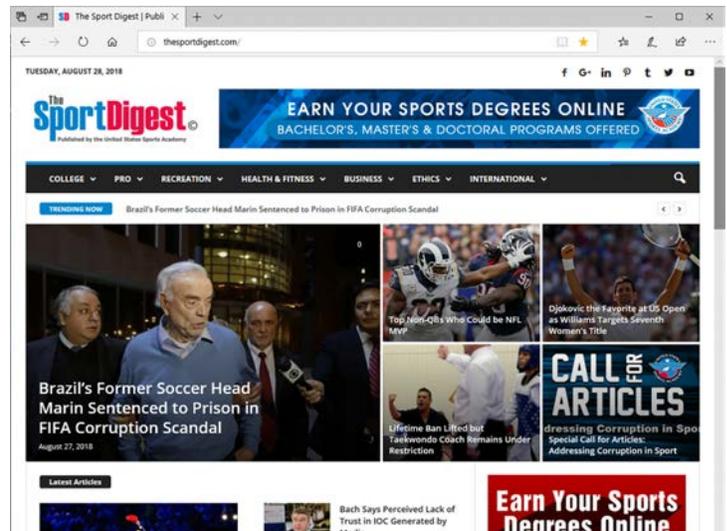
Stinchcomb had more than 30 years of college and high school coaching and administration experience. He coached football at West Texas State University, Samford University, the University of South Carolina, Auburn University, and Florida State University, where he received his Master of Science degree in physical education and administration. ■

Academy Online Sports Publications Offer Something for Everyone

As a new academic year is now in full swing, it is a good time to remind everyone of two important free public services provided by the Academy. The Academy offers as a free public service *The Sport Journal* online academic sport journal and *The Sport Digest* daily online blog of current topics in sports and sports “news you can use.” These two online publications are collectively accessed more than 800,000 times per year by readers around the world.



Visit *The Sport Journal* today at www.TheSportJournal.org



Visit *The Sport Digest* today at www.TheSportDigest.com.

Wahlström Named Vice President of Academic Affairs

Veteran administrator Dr. Tomi L. Wahlström has been named vice president of academic affairs at the Academy. Wahlström is a multilingual, multicultural academic leader with expertise in teaching, business, academic management, consulting and clinical human services.

Before joining the Academy, Wahlström served as acting dean at Schiller University and academic facilitation manager at Ultimate Medical Academy, both in Tampa, Fla.

He previously served for more than a decade at the American Intercontinental University (AIU) in Chicago, Ill., and Los Angeles, Calif., where he held numerous roles including lead faculty, program chair, associate vice president of academic affairs and dean of business. Wahlström previously served as vice president of academic affairs at Argosy University in Tampa, Fla., dean of professional studies and human services at Edward Waters College in Jacksonville, Fla., and executive director of the Center for Social Responsibility and Community for the State University of New York at Oneonta. He has also served on the faculty for the Chicago School of Professional Psychology, Colorado State University Pueblo and the University of Maryland.

Wahlström holds a Doctor of Management degree from Colorado Technical University, a master's degree in human resource management from the Hawaii Pacific University and a master's degree in instructional design from Saint Leo (Fla.) University. He earned his bachelor's degree in psychology from Hawaii Pacific. ■



Dr. Tomi Wahlström

Geringer Presents at National Conference

Academy Director of Recreation Management and Sports Studies Dr. Sandra Geringer recently made a presentation on student financial literacy at a national conference of student affairs professionals.

Geringer spoke at the 2018 NASPA Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education Assessment and Persistence Conference in Baltimore, Md. The conference was designed to promote student learning and success by strengthening assessment, improving educational quality and developing persistence programming. Persistence relates to a student's ability to continue and complete his or her education.



Dr. Sandra Geringer

Geringer has an extensive background in both education and sports and earned her Doctor of Education degree in sports management at the Academy. She presented on the topic of online financial literacy. The presentation touched on the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) Principles of Accreditation, which require that institutions provide guidance to help student borrowers understand how to manage debt and loan repayment.

In addition to her recent national presentation, Geringer is serving as a pre-publication reviewer for a new book on sports law, ethics and integrity. Geringer is reviewing the chapter on sports business and global sport governance for the upcoming text, "Law, Ethics and Integrity in the Sports Industry," by publisher IGI Global. ■

National Faculty Member Chairs Singapore Olympic Athletes' Commission

Academy National Faculty member and Singapore International Sports Academy (ISA) chief executive officer Mark Chay has been named chair of the Athletes' Commission of the Singapore National Olympic Council (SNOC).

A former Olympic swimmer, Chay, 36, has a history of success as an athlete and an athletic administrator. The former Singapore Sportsman and Sportsboy of the Year represented his home country in five editions of the Southeast Asian (SEA) Games, two Asian Games, two Commonwealth Games and two Olympic Games (2000 and 2004). The Academy and Singapore's ISA have worked together for more than 15 years on sports education programs for the Southeast Asian nation, with Chay serving the past three years as ISA CEO.



Mark Chay

In his latest position, which he will hold while continuing as ISA CEO, Chay will lead the SNOC Athletes' Commission in representing the interests of athletes in Singapore and promoting the values of Olympism. Members are elected by athletes through Singapore's National Sports Associations and maintain contact with the International Olympic Committee Athletes' Commission. ■

Academy Extends Long-Time Education Program with Thailand

The Academy's long-standing certification program to provide advanced sport education to prepare students in Thailand for careers in sport recently was extended with the signing of an agreement with sport leaders in Thailand to hold the program again in 2019.



Academy President and CEO Dr. T.J. Rosandich, left, discusses sport education cooperation in Thailand with Pongpanu Svetarundra, Thailand's permanent secretary of the Ministry of Tourism and Sports.

During a recent international tour of nations to connect with the Academy's many educational partners around the world, Academy President and CEO Dr. T.J. Rosandich signed an agreement with leaders of the Sports Authority of Thailand (SAT) to extend to 2019 its International Certification in Sports Coaching (ICSC) and International Certification in Sports Management (ICSM) programs.

The post-secondary, non-degree programs in Bangkok are designed to prepare people in Thailand for careers in coaching and related athletic



Students and administrators from Thailand visit the Academy campus during their recent Study Tour of the United States.



Signing the extended agreement in Bangkok between the Academy and the Sport Authority of Thailand are, from left, Teerapot Siriwan, SAT chief of human resources development; Prachoom Boontiam, director of regional sports development; Academy President and CEO Dr. T.J. Rosandich; Boonto Sangvien, acting governor of the SAT; Jinda Dechpimol, SAT director of human resources; and Akrouw Sangesith, secretary of the vice minister for Tourism and Sports.

professions. The ICSC program includes a wide range of coaching and related administrative skills, while the ICSM program includes management topics such as sports event planning, marketing and public relations, and facilities.

Each year under the program approximately 100 students are drawn from the SAT and its affiliated sport organizations around the country to attend the certification programs – typically 50 for each certification. Following the conclusion of the classroom portion of the program in Bangkok, which is provided by Academy instructors, the SAT selects the best students from each program for a special study tour of sport in America.

This September, a delegation of students and administrators from the SAT took part in an educational tour of various sports organizations and venues for two weeks from coast to coast in the United States. The program culminated with a graduation ceremony and reception hosted by the Academy faculty and staff at the Academy's campus in Daphne, Ala. ■



Academy President and CEO Dr. T.J. Rosandich discussed new sports development initiatives with key leaders while in Thailand. From right are Dr. Anat Yodbangtoeypol of the Ministry of Tourism and Sports; Dr. Nilmanee Sriboon of the Department of Sports Science and Sports Development at Thammasat University; Rosandich; and Akrouw Sangesith of the Sports Authority of Thailand.

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Academy Working in Adaptive Sports in Bahrain

The Academy is continuing its longstanding relationship with the Kingdom of Bahrain by teaching in a national program to help coaches there develop better skills in working with athletes with adaptive needs.

Academy National Faculty member Marty Floyd recently traveled to the island nation in the Middle East to teach a certificate program in disabled and adaptive sport for the Bahrain Sports Federation for Disabilities (BSFD).

The Adaptive Sports program is a course of advanced study for coaches 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. ■



Academy instructor Marty Floyd with students in Bahrain.

Academy Continues Coach Training Program in Shanghai, China

Several members of the Academy's National Faculty have recently taken part in the institution's international sports education program in Shanghai, China, that prepares former elite athletes there for careers as coaches.



Instructor Charles Temple fencing with students in Shanghai.

Academy National Faculty members, a group of highly qualified faculty who teach in the Academy's international education programs, have been conducting the institution's International Diploma in Sports Coaching (IDSC) program in Shanghai. Conducted by the Academy and the Shanghai Administration of Sports (SAS), the program provides classroom instruction, experiential learning, and educational travel to the United States for former elite athletes in the Shanghai area to prepare them for careers in coaching and athletic related fields.

National Faculty members teaching in the program include Dr. Marc Margolies, Dr. Dexter Davis, Charles Temple, Dr. Charles Ware, Dr. Phillip Capps, Dr. Barbara Wise, Dr. Bonnie Tiell, Dr. Jeff Potter and Dr. Tim Dornemann. ■

Academy and Finnish Health and Wellness Company Sign Agreement

The Academy has signed a cooperative agreement with the Finnish company ProFTraining Finland to provide educational opportunities to students in Finland seeking to work in the health and fitness field, as well as integrate the company's health care techniques into Academy coursework.

ProFTraining will be given exclusive rights to promote in Finland the Academy's bachelor's, master's and doctoral programs, as well as its post-secondary non-degree programs. ProFTraining specializes in sports services and products that assist customers with their well-being. As part of the agreement, the company's myofascial training concepts will be offered as part of the Academy's educational programs.

ProFTraining (<http://proftraining.fi/>) specializes in sports concepts to provide solutions for well-being and an energetic life. The concepts are developed by experienced physiotherapists and sports professionals to meet the demanding needs of both well-being and sports professionals and consumers. The concepts are designed for sports training, body care and rehabilitation to individuals and group exercises. ■



Academy President and CEO Dr. T.J. Rosandich signs an agreement with, from left, Academy Vice President of Academic Affairs Dr. Tomi Wahlstrom, Rosandich, and ProFTraining Finland partners Ms. Viivi Kettukangas, Mr. Atte Varsta, Ms. Raisa Varsta and Ms. Anne Puranen.

Academy Mourns Loss of Thai Sports Leader Nat Indrapana

The Academy is mourning the loss of Nat Indrapana, a long-time member of the International Olympic Committee and a key figure in the development of sport in Thailand and Asia. Indrapana, who passed recently at age 80, served the Sports Authority of Thailand (SAT) as its vice-governor and board member, among many other sport leadership positions. ■



Nat Indrapana

Scott Novack (M.S.S. Sports Management, 1997)

Scott Novack has been named program operations manager for the USA Rugby Men’s Eagles Sevens team.

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.

As part of his degree program, he participated in a cooperative program between the Academy and the West London Institute of Higher Education (now incorporated into Brunel University), where he met other students and administrators who helped to spark his interest in international sports like rugby.

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



Scott Novack

Conor O’Shea (M.S.S. Sports Management, 1996)

Ireland native Conor O’Shea, who earned his master’s in a cooperative program between the Academy and the West London Institute of Higher Education (now incorporated into Brunel University), is currently serving as head coach of the Italian National Rugby Team.



Conor O’Shea

A former college and professional player, O’Shea said his Academy degree helped him realize his dream to stay in rugby as a career, even after an injury ended his playing days.

“Distance learning was the only way I could have completed the degree,” said O’Shea, who was competing professionally when he got his Academy degree. “While at an institution that has so many sports people, it was easy to continue to train and be ready for my next season. I was very fortunate to find the fit. ■

Joshua Steffen (M.S.S. Sports Coaching, 2007)

Academy alumnus Joshua Steffen was recently named head basketball coach at the nation’s second oldest all-women’s college. Steffen, who has 17 years of coaching experience including 12 at the collegiate level, was hired to take the reins of the women’s basketball program at Stephens College in Columbia, Mo.

Steffen previously served as women’s basketball coach at Concordia University Chicago.

“I think the thing that made the Academy master’s program so invaluable to me was that it was so interactive,” Steffen said. “I was able to share experiences and feedback with my fellow students and teachers. It really helped me to be able to talk to other people who were interested in and doing the things that I was doing.” ■



Joshua Steffen

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

Academy alumnus Greg Walker, whose volleyball coaching experience includes leading the U.S. Men’s Sitting Volleyball Team in the 2016 Rio Paralympic Games, has been named assistant men’s volleyball coach for the University of Southern California.

Walker had previously served the past three years 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 United States Sports Academy so great is that it offers sport specific studies with incredibly supportive faculty to help with the distance learning,” Walker said. ■



Greg Walker

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

Academy doctoral alumna Dr. Kristene Kelly has been named the senior associate athletics director and Senior Woman Administrator at the prestigious Ivy League school Dartmouth College.

Kelly started at Dartmouth in Hanover, N.H., in August 2018 after spending the previous two years as the athletics director at Keene State College in Keene, N.H. She has extensive experience in athletics administration at the college level, including seven years in various administrative roles at Saint Augustine’s University in Raleigh, N.C.

“I recommend the Academy to anyone who truly loves the business of sport,” she said. “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.” ■



Dr. Kristene Kelly

Grant Watley (M.S.S. Sports Coaching, 2011)

Grant Watley said his Academy master’s degree taught him more than just the “x’s and o’s” of coaching, which he says has contributed to the advancement of his career and his recently being named head cross country and track and field coach at Midland University in Fremont, Neb.

Watley was hired at Midland after spending five years as the head coach of cross country, associate head track and field coach and the recruiting coordinator for the University of Sioux Falls in South Dakota.

“The Academy does a great job of making each and every class practical to the sports world,” Watley said. “Coaching is a lot of work outside of the x’s and o’s with the amount of recruiting and administrative work that is demanded, and the Academy helped immensely in preparing for that aspect of my profession.” ■



Grant Watley

SUCCESSFUL CAREERS IN SPORT!

Paul Smith (M.S.S. Sports Management, 2002)

Academy alumnus Paul Smith, who was recently promoted to principal at Smithville High School in Texas following a long career in football coaching, education, and administration, says he uses his Academy degree “every day.”

Smith was promoted after most recently serving as Smithville’s assistant principal. Smith has coached football at numerous levels – from youth football to NCAA Division II – as well as overseas. He said his Academy education enabled and guided his transition from athletics to administration.



Paul Smith

“I truly value my education at the Academy and have used and it every day,” he said. “I am glad to be an alumnus and I am grateful for the opportunity the Academy has provided me.” ■

Corey Lewis (M.S.S. Sports Management, 2005)

Veteran coach and educator Corey Lewis recently used his Academy master’s degree to transition into a promotion as a high school principal at Hartsville (S.C.) High School, where he had previously served as assistant principal.



Corey Lewis

In addition to administrative work and classroom teaching, Lewis also previously served as the school’s varsity baseball coach and assistant football coach.

“I have found that the same sports management concepts that I learned from my Academy master’s degree – strategic planning, risk management, public relations – have transferred to my job in school administration,” Lewis said. ■

Dr. Tim Dornemann (Ed.D. Sports Management, 2014)

Dr. Tim Dornemann said his Academy doctoral degree has been beneficial to his career as an educator, scholar, writer and international instructor.

Dornemann is the director of sports performance at Barton College in Wilson, N.C., where he oversees the strength and conditioning programs for 21 intercollegiate athletic teams. He coordinates and teaches in Barton’s exercise science program and has three books to his credit. He is a member of the Academy’s National Faculty, a group of highly qualified faculty who teach in the Academy’s international post-secondary non-degree education programs, and has taught in countries including Malaysia, China, and Thailand.



Dr. Tim Dornemann

“I had looked at attending traditional doctoral degree program, but the opportunity to complete my degree through the Academy was a blessing,” Dornemann said. ■

Jeremiah “Jay” Condon (M.S.S. Sports Coaching, 2007)

Track and field coach Jeremiah “Jay” Condon is using his Academy master’s degree to transition from coaching at the high school level to the collegiate ranks after being hired by Castleton University in Vermont.



Jeremiah Condon

A Vermont native, Condon was hired to coach the Spartan men’s and women’s track and field teams after several years coaching at Granville High School in Granville, N.Y. He said his Academy education directly led to his coaching career.

“I always wanted to coach at the highest level and thought the education and skills the Academy would teach me would help, and they did,” Condon said. ■

Mary Beth Spirk (M.S.S. Sports Management, 2002)

Academy alumna Mary Beth Spirk has over 30 years of basketball coaching experience and recently added another title to her resume -- athletics and recreation director at Moravian College in Bethlehem, Pa.



Mary Beth Spirk

Spirk is the winningest women’s basketball coach in Moravian’s history with 579 wins, ranking among the top active Division III coaches.

“I became an assistant basketball and softball coach at Moravian College in 1981,” she said. “After about six years, the head coaching position in both sports opened, I applied, and 31 years later, here I am.

“The Academy was a perfect fit for me,” she said. “It offers an opportunity for working professionals in the sport field or looking to get in the sport field a chance to get a degree in a seamless and affordable fashion.” ■



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ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS (CONTINUED)

Lance Noble (M.S.S. Sports Coaching, 2005)

An accomplished soccer player, coach and administrator at virtually every level of the game, Academy alumnus Lance Noble is using his skills as the soccer club director for one of the nation's largest youth recreation and athletics organizations.

Noble is club director for the Texas Thunder, a youth soccer organization of the Plano Sports Authority (PSA), which offers the largest non-profit youth soccer program in Texas. The PSA offers year-round youth soccer for more than 500 teams in the Plano, Texas, area. Overall, the PSA serves more than 130,000 youth in nearly 20 sports each year. Noble has more than 20 years as a soccer coach and player.



Lance Noble

“Because of my degree, I was able to teach classes while I coached at some of my stops along the way, which made me a more ideal candidate for employment.” ■

Barry Haley (M.S.S. Sports Management, 1988)

Academy alumnus Barry Haley has been named 2017-18 Athletic Director of the Year by the Massachusetts Secondary Schools Athletic Directors Association (MSSADA).



Barry Haley

A Middleton, Mass., resident, Haley has more than 30 years of service as a high school athletic director and more than 40 years working in school sports programs. He has worked as the athletic director at Concord-Carlisle Regional High School in Concord, Mass., since 2006.

“The Academy provided the perfect blend of timing and the ability to work within my school district under supervision to prepare me for my career,” Haley said. ■

Drew Richards (M.S.S. Sports Management, 2013)

Academy alumnus and University of North Carolina Pembroke men's basketball associate head coach Drew Richards was recently honored as one of the best assistant coaches in NCAA Division II by CoachStat.net, a website that uses analytical data to compile a comprehensive ranking of men's basketball coaches in a variety of categories.

CoachStat.net said the list, which featured 25 top Division II assistant coaches, was “balanced by a wide scope of basketball, administrative, community and other responsibilities.”



Drew Richards

“I chose the Academy because of a recommendation from (Creighton University head basketball coach and Academy alumnus) Greg McDermott,” Richards said. “The Academy prepared me for my career by touching on multiple avenues that I have come across in higher education.” ■

Ernie McCook (M.S.S. Sports Management, 1999)

After spending nearly two decades as an assistant football coach at one of NCAA Division II's most successful programs, Academy alumnus Ernie McCook has been promoted to head football coach at the same program.

McCook spent 18 years as an assistant coach for the Rams of Shepherd University in Shepherdstown, W.Va., working his way up from position coach to offensive coordinator to assistant head coach for legendary coach Monte Cater, who recently retired after 31 years. McCook's offenses have consistently ranked among the best in NCAA Division II.



Ernie McCook

“The Academy was great because it was flexible and I was able to finish my degree during the summer and stay in coaching.” ■

Daniel Prevett (M.S.S. Sports Management, 2014)

Daniel Prevett wears many hats at Brewton-Parker College in Mount Vernon, Ga., as the vice president for athletics and student development and head men's basketball coach. The Academy alumnus said his work there would be “nearly impossible” without his Academy master's degree.



Daniel Prevett

“My Academy degree got my foot in the door for opportunities I would not have had otherwise,” Prevett said. “In the world of athletics administration, especially at the collegiate level, you almost have to have a master's degree in a sports field.” ■

Joe Esposito (M.S.S. Sports Coaching, 1990)

Academy alumnus Joe Esposito has more than 28 years of collegiate basketball coaching experience, including more than 10 years working under legendary coach Tubby Smith. Now, he's accepted a coaching position at one of the nation's top basketball schools.

Esposito was recently hired as a special assistant to University of Nevada Las Vegas (UNLV) head men's basketball coach Marvin Menzies. Esposito spent the last 11 seasons working under Smith at Memphis, Texas Tech and Minnesota, where he played a pivotal role in recruiting, player development and scouting.



Joe Esposito

A native of The Bronx, N.Y., Esposito said former Assumption College basketball coach Jack Renkens – a 1985 Academy master's degree graduate – inspired him to pursue his Academy education.

“My time at the Academy was fantastic and I learned so much which helped me advance in my career,” Esposito said. “I built so many great relationships at the Academy with so many people with whom I still keep in touch. The courses were all relative to the jobs I have had and gave me so much knowledge of what to expect in the world of athletics.” ■

Congratulations to our recent graduates, who hail from around the world.

Doctoral Graduates

Dr. Lisa Marie Ahearn (Auburn, Maine) – Ed.D. Sports Management, Sports Leadership specialization, with honors.

Dr. Betsy J. Conaty (Monticello, N.Y.) – Ed.D. Sports Management, Sports Leadership specialization, Sports Health and Fitness emphasis, with honors.

Dr. Alyssa B. Czarnecki (Topsfield, Mass.) – Ed.D. Sports Management, Sports Leadership emphasis.

Dr. Tina McLeod Harris (Bronx, N.Y.) – Ed.D. Sports Management, Human Resource Management specialization, Sports Medicine emphasis.

Dr. Christopher P. Johnson (Newton, Mass.) – Ed.D. Sports Management, Sports Leadership specialization, Sports Theory emphasis.

Dr. Terry L. Obee (Bowling Green, Ky.) – Ed.D. Sports Management, Sports Leadership specialization, Sports Theory emphasis.

Dr. Todd D. Pitts (Grand Rapids, Mich.) – Ed.D. Sports Management, Sports Leadership specialization, with honors.

Dr. John C. Ritzen (Chadron, Neb.) – Ed.D. Sports Management, Sports Leadership specialization, Sports Coaching emphasis, with honors.

Dr. Tafadzwa Fadzi Sithole (Mobile, Ala.) – Ed.D. Sports Management, Sports Marketing specialization.

Dr. Jacqui Virgil (Thomasville, Ga.) – Ed.D. Sports Management, Sports Leadership specialization.

Master's Graduates

Gregory L. Barnes (Montgomery, Ala.) – M.S.S. (dual degree) Sports Studies and Sports Management

Kourtney Candace Ames (Jamestown, N.Y.) – M.S.S. Sports Studies

Britten A. Caballero (West Des Moines, Iowa) – M.S.S. Sports Management, NCAA Compliance emphasis

Ronald K. Davis (New Orleans, La.) – M.S.S. Sports Management

Benjamin W. Flack (Watertown, Wisc.) – M.S.S. (dual degree) Sports Management and Sports Coaching

Tara C. Garrett (Sherman Oaks, Calif.) – M.S.S. Sports Studies

Cameron J. Gerson (San Francisco, Calif.) – M.S.S. (dual degree) Sports Medicine and Sports Health and Fitness

Sylvia Guerrieri (Fairfax, Va.) – M.S.S. Sports Studies

Michael Higgins (Dallas, Texas) – M.S.S. Sports Studies, Sports Psychology emphasis

Todd J. Howanitz (Johnson City, Tenn.) – M.S.S. Sports Studies

Amanda S. King (Louisville, Ky.) – M.S.S. (dual degree) Sports Coaching and Sports Health and Fitness

Morgan A. Leatherwood (Duluth, Ga.) – M.S.S. Sports Studies

Claudia Beristain Llanes (Mexico City, Mexico) – M.S.S. Sports Studies, Sports Psychology emphasis, with honors

Matthew A. Lowe (Shelton, Wash.) – M.S.S. Sports Coaching

Joseph W. McFarland (Dearborn Heights, Mich.) – M.S.S. Sports Management, Recreation Management emphasis

William Nevels Jr. (Buford, Ga.) – M.S.S. Sports Management

Grant M. Palmer (El Segundo, Calif.) – M.S.S. Sports Health and Fitness

Travis Quarles (Goldsboro, N.C.) – M.S.S. (dual degree) Sports Management and Sports Coaching, NCAA Compliance emphasis

Michael J. Raia (Fairhope, Ala.) – M.S.S. Sports Management, with honors

Jillian L. Rosandich (Fairhope, Ala.) – M.S.S. Sports Management, with honors

Lakesha S. Sankey (Atlanta, Ga.) – M.S.S. (dual degree) Sports Management, Sports Coaching

Jamil A. Smith (Lancaster, Calif.) – M.S.S. (dual degree) Sports Coaching, Sports Medicine

Robertson Tarver (Houston, Texas) – M.S.S. (dual degree) Sports Management and Sports Coaching

Brendan Wilkins (Pawcatuck, Conn.) – M.S.S. Sports Coaching, NCAA Compliance emphasis

Bachelor's Graduates

Travis Grimes (Byron, Ga.) – B.S.S. Sports Strength and Conditioning, with highest honors

Glenn A. Stephenson (Mobile, Ala.) – B.S.S. Sports Management

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

If you need information to help you find a mentorship or a job in sport, or if you are interested in stronger ties to fellow alumni or to the Academy, the Academy strongly encourages you to connect today with our new LinkedIn page and group.

Anyone who has completed at least one course is considered an alumnus and can connect. If you have already connected with the Academy through LinkedIn in the past, it is important that you sign up again.

Due to the new European General Data Protection Regulation, or GDPR, which addresses the export of personal data outside the European Union (EU), the Academy must conform to new regulations regarding privacy and how personal data is used. As such, the Academy is currently reaching out to alumni and supporters to encourage everyone to re-confirm your connection to the Academy's LinkedIn page. This is an important tool for career development and maintaining relationships within the Academy family. ■

LinkedIn 

Marathon Started by Academy Founding President Celebrates 50th Running

One of the nation’s longest running marathons, started by Academy Founding President Dr. Thomas P. Rosandich, recently celebrated its fiftieth running in Hurley, Wisc.

Wisconsin’s longest continuously running marathon, the Paavo Nurmi Marathon was held on 11 August 2018, as it is always held on the second Saturday in August. Rosandich, a native of Sheboygan Falls, Wisc., founded the race in 1969 in honor of Paavo Nurmi, who was the Finnish winner of nine Olympic gold medals in running. The name pays homage to the Finnish heritage of the Hurley area.

At the time of the race’s founding, Rosandich and wife Sally Gentile Rosandich, a native of Hurley, were operating the Olympia Sport Village in nearby Upson, Wisc. A converted mining camp set deep back into the woods, Olympia was the only dedicated all-season sports camp in the nation, and athletes and teams from around the country would visit the camp to hone their skills. Rosandich thought the race would be a perfect way to help athletes achieve that objective.

“While I might have conceived the race, it is the Chamber of Commerce in Hurley and the local community that has really kept it going all of these years,” he said. “The event certainly would never have made it 50 years without them.” ■



Dr. Thomas P. Rosandich and wife Sally operated Olympia Sport Village as a young couple, and the camp was the genesis of the Paavo Nurmi Marathon, which this year celebrated 50 continuous years. The couple is shown with U.S. Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy, who was assassinated during the 1968 presidential race – the same year of the marathon’s founding.

Academy Trustee, Art Committee Member Selected for Niagara Falls Exhibit



B'Beth Weldon with “Pure Intent.”

An Academy trustee and a member of the Academy’s Art Committee recently were selected for a prestigious international art exhibition at Niagara Falls to emphasize the importance of global access to clean drinking water.

Susan N. McCollough and B’Beth Weldon were among 37 artists selected from 18 countries for the exhibit “Water for Life,” which ran three months at the Niagara Falls History Museum in Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada.

McCollough’s works in the exhibit were two abstract oil paintings entitled “Beneath, the Ocean Whispers,” and “Beneath Rays of Whispers ... Silence.” Weldon’s work in the exhibit was an oil abstract entitled, “Pure Intent.” Both feature rich aquatic themes. ■



Susan McCollough with “Beneath, the Ocean Whispers,” (top), and “Beneath Rays of Whispers ... Silence.”

Support Your Academy During the Annual Fundraising Drive

The Academy during November will be 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 our teaching programs, the Academy’s research and service programs have also touched countless lives in our 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 we continue to touch lives and enhance sport and the sport profession. We ask that you make a tax-deductible gift to the Academy 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 call the Academy at (251) 626-3303. ■

Goldman Appointed to President's Council on Sports, Fitness and Nutrition

President Donald Trump recently appointed Academy Board of Visitors Chairman Dr. Robert Goldman to the President's Council on Sports, Fitness and Nutrition (PCSFN).

Goldman also recently earned the 2018 Arnold Classic Lifetime Achievement Award from Arnold Schwarzenegger at the 30th anniversary celebration of the Arnold Sports Festival in Columbus, Ohio. The award is presented annually to an individual who has made notable contributions to the fitness industry and offered a lifetime of service to an enhancement of sports performance and promotion. The festival is the world's largest multi-sport fitness weekend, with more than 80 sports and events drawing more than 20,000 athletes and 200,000 sports fans.

Goldman founded the International Sports Hall of Fame (ISHOF) in 2012 to honor individuals who have made outstanding contributions to sport. Inductions are held each year at the Arnold Sports Festival. ■



Dr. Robert Goldman

Academy Trustee Joan Cronan Receives NACDA's Top Award

The National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics (NACDA) has awarded former University of Tennessee (UT) Women's Athletics Director and NACDA Past-President Joan Cronan the 52nd James J. Corbett Memorial Award, the highest honor one can achieve in collegiate athletics administration.



Joan Cronan

Cronan served as NACDA President in 2008-09 and on the Academy Board of Trustees since 2014. She also received the Academy's 2011 Carl Maddox Sports Management Award, which is given annually to an individual for contributions to the growth and development of sport enterprise through effective management practices.

Cronan served as the women's athletics director at Tennessee for 29 years until 2012. In 2017, Cronan was honored by the NCAA with the inaugural Pat Summitt Award, which recognizes an individual in the Association's membership for positively influencing college athletes and their experiences through careerlong commitment to advocating for college sports. ■

Renowned Surgeon, Faculty Member Pens Book: "Victory in the Game of Life"

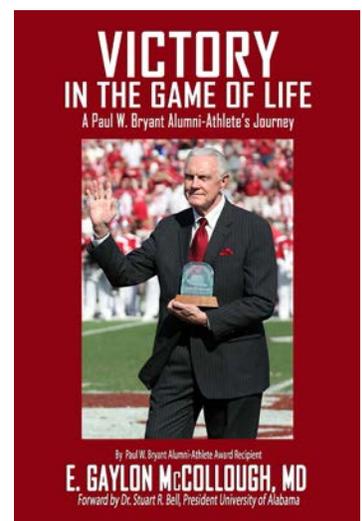
"What does it take to become a champion?" In his latest publication, Dr. E. Gaylon McCollough answers this question and provides sage advice to competitors from all walks of life.

McCollough is a member of the Academy's National Faculty and recipient of its 2015 Theodore "Teddy" Roosevelt Meritorious Achievement Award. In 2017 McCollough received his alma mater's Paul W. Bryant Alumni-Athlete Award. The honor is a function of the University of Alabama (UA) National Alumni Association. McCollough is the author of 16 books, three of which are textbooks within his profession of facial plastic surgery. In his latest publication the doctor provides a "warts and all" account of his own journey to victory in what he calls "The greatest game of them all – the game of life."

McCollough's memoirs chronicle his humble beginnings as the only son of a south Alabama plumber who overcame inherent limitations and setbacks to then proceed to the realization of never-expected accolades as an Academic All-American on Coach "Bear" Bryant's 1964 National Championship team, draftee of the Dallas Cowboys, world-renowned facial plastic surgeon, mentor to the next generation of appearance and health enhancement physicians and surgeons and inductee of the State of Alabama's Sports (and Senior Citizens) Halls of Fame.

Readers will gain broader understanding of the role carefully selected mentors and a supportive life-partner play in the achievement of goals. Moreover, readers will see how six-time National Championship Coach Nick Saban's "Process" (of precision preparation and execution) is an extension of Coach Bryant's winning methodology and the criteria associated with The Bryant Legacy. McCollough not only chronicles his own experiences in overcoming challenges that life throws in the paths of competitors who choose to embrace excellence and reject mediocrity, it provides the encouragement and time-tested methods that ensure victory, regardless of the arena of competition.

Profits realized from the sales of "Victory in the Game of Life..." are pledged to the UA National Alumni Association and the Paul W. "Bear" Bryant Museum. Proceeds will further honor individual and team achievements memorialized by the Bryant Museum and the United States Sports Academy. Proceeds from "Victory in the Game of Life..." obtained through the Academy will be shared in kind. The book can be ordered from the Academy bookstore by going to <https://bookstore.ussa.edu/> and clicking on the gifts and accessories tab. ■



Famous Caddie Now Greets ASAMA Visitors

A life-sized sculpture of one of the most famous caddies in golf history now greets visitors to the United States Sports Academy thanks to a recent donation to the institution's American Sport Art Museum & Archives (ASAMA).

Donated to ASAMA by Jupiter, Fla., real estate professional, golfer and artist Cary Lichtenstein and sculpted by renowned artist Clyde Ross Morgan, the bronze caddie – titled “Keep Yer Eye on the Ball” – was inspired by a famous incident at the 1913 U.S. Open in Brookline, Mass. That was when the underdog 20-year-old amateur golfer Francis Ouimet was victorious over golf's greats of the day after being encouraged by his 10-year-old caddie, Eddie Lowery, to “be sure to keep your eye on the ball.”

Ouimet was the first amateur to win the U.S. Open, a rare feat achieved by only five amateurs in history, the last occurring in 1933. Lowery's story was featured in the 2005 Disney film “The Greatest Game Ever Played.” ■



Academy President and CEO Dr. T.J. Rosandich and trustee Susan N. McCollough admire “Keep Yer Eye on the Ball.”

Artist Donates Assemblage Commemorating First Televised Olympics

Mobile, Ala., artist Robert Lord Zimlich recently donated an original painting, “First Televised Olympics,” to the Academy's American Sport Art Museum & Archives (ASAMA).



Artist Robert Lord Zimlich, right, with Academy President and CEO Dr. T.J. Rosandich.

Zimlich said the painting is one in his latest in a series representing firsts in sports history, from Sumerian cave art of boxing to the present. The 1936 Berlin Olympic Games were the first in history to be televised, as the Nazi government employed a closed circuit television system to broadcast the games as a propaganda tool to large viewing halls in Berlin and other locations, where tens of thousands viewed on small television screens. In the assemblage, Zimlich depicts the lighting of the Olympic torch on a facsimile of an actual-size vintage television set of the type used in the 1936 broadcast.

Ironically, 1936 was the Summer Olympics when Nazi Germany's claims of Aryan supremacy backfired as African-American Jesse Owens bested Germany's top athletes to win four gold medals.

Zimlich has served as a member of the Academy's Art committee since 1999 and served as ASAMA art curator from 2005 to 2013. ■

Sport Artist Charles Billich Meets with Pope, Will Paint Vatican Cityscape

Two-time United States Sports Academy Sport Artist of the Year and world-renowned contemporary surrealist painter Charles Billich recently had an audience with Pope Francis and was commissioned to paint one of his famous city scapes in honor of the Vatican City.

Billich, one of the most famous and prolific living Australian painters, was named the Academy's Sport Artist of the Year in 2013 and 1999. Born in Croatia, Billich now resides in Sydney, Australia.



Artist Charles Billich's meets with Pope Francis to discuss painting a cityscape for the Vatican.

“I am humbled that the Pope is going to guide me through this journey of painting the Vatican,” Billich told Sydney's Daily Telegraph. “Having his blessing makes the painting so much more meaningful.”

Billich's city scapes commemorating the Beijing 2008 Olympics, along with similar cityscape pieces marking the London 2012, Salt Lake City 2002 and Sydney 2000 Olympics are on display ASAMA. ■

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Eylanbekov Sculpts for Eisenhower Memorial

Academy 2004 Sport Artist of the Year Sergey Eylanbekov is busy sculpting masterworks for the Gen. Dwight David Eisenhower Memorial that will be located near 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. The Eisenhower Memorial Commission, created by Congress, is overseeing creation of the project.

One composition of Eylanbekov's bronze sculptures will represent Eisenhower as the 34th President of the United States, flanked by civilian and military advisers. Another composition of bronzes will represent Eisenhower as Supreme Allied Commander during World War II, with the 101st Airborne Division before their jump into France.

Monumental bas reliefs by Eylanbekov will also be a part of the sculptural composition. The project is expected to be complete by 8 May 2020, the 75th Anniversary of VE Day. ■



Sculptor Sergey Eylanbekov working on clay model of Gen. Dwight David Eisenhower.

ASAMA Receives LeRoy Neiman Olympic Posters



Harry R. Fisher, left, with Academy President and CEO Dr. T.J. Rosandich.

The Academy recently received a donation of three LeRoy Neiman Olympic art posters to its American Sport Art Museum & Archives (ASAMA), expanding one of the museum's most popular collections among visitors.

The posters, which feature the Seoul 1988 Olympic Games, were donated to ASAMA by Mobile, Ala., resident Harry R. Fisher. The posters feature swimming and gymnastics and were distributed by Fisher's former employer, ARAMARK, to commemorate the 1988 Summer Olympic Games, which were hosted in Seoul, South Korea.

The Academy presented Neiman with its 2007 Sport Artist of the Year Award and several of his pieces are featured prominently in the Neiman Room adjacent to the Dr. Thomas P. Rosandich Gallery on the Academy campus. Neiman is credited by many as being the inventor of contemporary sport art. He died in 2012 at the age of 91. ■

Bradstock Serves at Pyeongchang, to Chair New Olympic Art Committee



Roald Bradstock

Academy 2003 Sport Artist of the Year Roald Bradstock of Atlanta, a two-time Olympian, took part in his third Olympic Games in South Korea. Only this time, the javelin thrower did so as a painter taking part in the historic "Olympic Art Project."

Bradstock was one of four former Olympians who brought the Olympic values to life through art by coming together with current athletes for the project. More than 100 Olympians, Bradstock and other artists completed 15 paintings inspired by different Winter Olympic events. The works were shown in the Olympic Village in Gangneung.

Bradstock said the project was the beginning of a movement that aims to reinvigorate the relationship between art and the Olympics, an idea that was promoted by Pierre de Coubertin, the founder of the modern Olympic Games. The success of the

Pyeongchang project led to Bradstock recently being named to chair the newly formed Art Committee of the World Olympic Association (WOA), an organization that works with the 148 National Olympians Associations (NOAs) around the world.

The WOA is teaming up with Olympian artists to enhance the role of art and culture in the Olympic Movement with the formation of a new Olympic Arts Committee. The committee will support the framework of Olympic Agenda 2020, which calls for greater harmonization of sport and culture, while highlighting the essential role Olympian artists play in spreading the Olympic values worldwide. ■



Bradstock painting mural at Pyeongchang



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