

## WEDNESDAY, JULY 13

**8:00AM — 8:30AM**  
**ATHLIFE FOUNDATION STAFF**  
 HUDDLE UP REGISTRATION  
 TEMPLE UNIVERSITY  
 (EDBERG-OLSON FOOTBALL FACILITY)

**8:30AM — 4:30PM**  
**JEFFREY O'BRIEN, HUDDLE UP**  
*FEATURE FULL DAY WORKSHOP*  
 HUDDLE UP TO END GENDER VIOLENCE  
 TEMPLE UNIVERSITY  
 (LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED)

Huddle Up to End Gender Violence leverages the transcendent power of sport to eradicate gender violence, in all of its forms, and the sexism underpinning this abuse. Huddle Up addresses the full continuum of abusive behaviors and empowers participants to understand how misogynistic language, sexual harassment, gendered bullying, sexual assault, rape and domestic violence are linked together. This understanding inspires participants to have the courage to challenge behaviors on all levels of the continuum.

**4:00PM — 8:00PM**  
**ATHLIFE FOUNDATION STAFF**  
 LOEWS PHILADELPHIA HOTEL  
 GENERAL CONFERENCE REGISTRATION  
 PARLOR P1 FOYER — 3<sup>rd</sup> FLOOR

***Highlight:***  
**Don't forget about the**  
**NY Mets vs. Phillies Weekend Group**  
**Discount tickets (FRI-SAT)**

## THURSDAY, JULY 14

**7:30AM — 8:45AM**  
**ATHLIFE FOUNDATION STAFF**  
 GENERAL CONFERENCE REGISTRATION  
 HOWE FOYER — 33<sup>rd</sup> FLOOR

**8:30AM — 9:00AM**  
**JEFF MCCANN & JON HARRIS**  
 OPENING SESSION  
 HOWE ROOM — 33<sup>rd</sup> FLOOR

**9:00AM — 11:30AM**  
**DR. NA'ILAH SUAD NASIR**  
**UC-BERKELEY**  
 RACE, LEARNING, & EDUCATIONAL  
 INEQUALITY: FOSTERING LEARNING IN  
 DIFFICULT TIMES  
 HOWE ROOM — 33<sup>rd</sup> FLOOR

Key structural challenges to educational equality will be examined. Detail will be discussed about the predicament this poses for under-represented students' learning in schools, contrasting this with the nature of teaching and learning in sports and community-based settings. Characteristics of effective learning environments, and how we can support students in navigating the many challenges they face in schools, will also be considered.

**11:45AM — 1:00PM**  
**LUNCH BREAK (ON YOUR OWN)**

***Tip: Try the Reading Terminal Market***  
*Mouth-watering aromas. Locally grown and exotic produce. Amish specialties. Fresh meats, seafood, and poultry. Handmade confections and baked goods straight from the oven. Everything you need to create a memorable meal, from cookbooks, to table linens, to kitchen ware, to fresh cut flowers, and more. Plus the widest variety of restaurants under one roof. Find it all here at Philadelphia's historic public market, Reading Terminal Market!*



## **THURSDAY, JULY 14 (CONT'D)**

### **1:15PM — 3:15PM** **GROUP TRAINING SESSIONS**

*ALL NEW ATTENDEES*

**DR. AL PETITPAS**

**SPRINGFIELD COLLEGE**

DEVELOPING YOUR PROGRAM'S

POSTIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT APPROACH

HOWE ROOM — 33<sup>rd</sup> FLOOR

The purpose of this session is to introduce participants to the principles and practices that form the foundation of positive youth development through sport. Participants will be introduced to a framework for promoting youth development that is based on the best practices of experts in the field of developmental psychology. Participants will also learn strategies for building collaborative working alliances, and for creating empowering relationships with participants. Proven strategies and practices for mentoring will be presented and discussed.

*RETURNING ATTENDEES*

**DR. TAUNYA TINSLEY**

**WAYNESBURG UNIVERSITY**

THE SPORTS ZONE

PSFS ROOM — 33<sup>rd</sup> FLOOR

Participants in sports sometimes report experiencing a very positive state of consciousness which has been likened to a state achieved by athletes to a peak experience" (Dillon & Tait, 2000). During this experience, athletes experience total engrossment, effortless, and transcendence of self achieved independent of performance. This workshop will focus on advanced issues and techniques in counseling high school athletes and assisting them with experiencing *The Sports Zone* or the peak

experience off the field or court. More specifically, this workshop is designed for participants to improve their career development, counseling, and skill building techniques with the athlete population. Participants have an opportunity to develop and practice strategies to enhance their effectiveness in counseling this unique cultural group.

*RETURNING ATTENDEES*

**PHYLLIS LERNER**

**JOHN HOPKINS UNIVERSITY**

COACH LIKE A TEACHER

TEACH LIKE A COACH

THE TERRACE — 33<sup>rd</sup> FLOOR

Too many educators habitually do things in one environment, that when the context shifts (field to classroom, gym to lab), the negative consequences for student learning become terribly obvious. In small teams, we'll analyze, practice and upgrade five high impact teaching and coaching strategies: responsibility, engagement, persistence, rigor and advocacy.

**1:15PM — 4:30PM**

**DR. KATHLEEN GABRIEL**

**CALIFORNIA STATE CHICO**

RESEARCH INTERVIEWS

ROBERTS BOARD ROOM — 33<sup>rd</sup> FLOOR

Conference attendees will participate in individual research interviews conducted by Dr. Kathleen Gabriel. Dr. Gabriel's research will focus on the continued development of programs and the academic athletic support profession's impact in secondary education. Some attendees will have a scheduled interview time with Dr. Gabriel. If you do not have a scheduled interview and would like to participate in Dr. Gabriel's research, please notify an AthLife staff member.



## THURSDAY, JULY 14 (CONT'D)

**3:30PM — 4:30PM**

**JEFFREY O'BRIEN**

**NATIONAL CONSORTIUM FOR  
ACADEMICS & SPORTS**

**GENERAL SESSION**

**LISTEN. LEARN. LEAD: LEADERSHIP LESSONS  
FROM THE INSIDE-OUT  
HOWE ROOM — 33<sup>rd</sup> FLOOR**

Leadership is one of the most over-used and under-defined concepts around today. It is talked about everywhere while remaining elusive to many organizations, teams, and individuals in leadership positions. Taking the mystery out of leadership development, this session will focus on inside-out leadership and challenge participants to consider their own motivations and purpose for their work. Inside-out leadership includes emerging leadership approaches such as transformational and emotionally intelligent leadership. This will be a highly interactive discussion designed to introduce core inside-out concepts and introduce resources for participants to utilize in their organizational settings.

**5:30PM — 6:30PM**

**ATHLIFE CONFERENCE ATTENDEES**

**PROFESSIONAL HEADSHOTS**

**PSFS ROOM — 33<sup>rd</sup> FLOOR**

Your headshot is one of the most important elements of your LinkedIn profile. A good first impression encourages the viewer to read the rest of your profile. In fact, your profile is 14x more likely to be viewed simply by having a professional profile picture. Conference attendees will have an opportunity to take a professional headshot/photograph to enhance their professional brand.

**6:00PM — 8:30PM**

**RECEPTION & ATHLIFE YOUTH INSPIRE**

**AWARDS CEREMONY**

**(DINNER FARE & VIP GUESTS)**

**LES CAZE ROOM — 33<sup>rd</sup> FLOOR**

## FRIDAY, JULY 15

**5:45AM — 7:00AM**

**ATHLIFE FOUNDATION STAFF &**

**CONFERENCE ATTENDEES**

**ATHLIFE ARMY ROCKY RUN**

**STREETS OF PHILADELPHIA**

This is your shot... a chance to get your daily exercise and see the "Rocky" monument and steps at the Philadelphia Museum of Art. Conference goers will take on the 2.6 mile round-trip run/jog/walk to the iconic steps and take in a breathtaking view of the Philadelphia skyline. So, channel your inner Rocky, grab your running shoes and show the AthLife Army you can go the distance.

**8:30AM — 9:15AM**

**KENNETH MILES**

**LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY**

**RECONCILING EMPOWERMENT vs.**

**ENTITLEMENT**

**HOWE ROOM — 33<sup>rd</sup> FLOOR**

Reconciling Empowerment vs Entitlement, the idea is that we work to empower and not entitle the student-athletes, yet by having special services and facilities (much more so on the college side), are we actually in some ways creating the entitlement mentality? How do we empower vs entitle with all the special treatment that occurs? Reconciling Empowerment and Entitlement are terms that require deeper understanding of the



## FRIDAY, JULY 15 (CONT'D)

complexities involved in each, especially regarding student athlete development. The answer is never simple, but it is worthy of exploration as this enigma consumes the world of athletics.

### **9:30AM — 10:45AM** **BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

**ALFRED GUANTE**  
**UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT**  
JOURNEY OF THE  
FIRST-GENERATION COLLEGE STUDENT  
*PSFS ROOM — 33<sup>rd</sup> FLOOR*

The first-generation student is a worker, a fighter, a caregiver, an interpreter, and wears many more hats. Above all else, the first-generation student is a survivor who finds a way when there is none. However, these students still continue to fall behind the curve and it is not fair to continue to ask them to be super and overcome obstacles their wealthy or non-first generation counterparts cannot even imagine going through. This workshop is intended to serve as an introduction to the first generation college student. It will explain who classifies as a first-generation student, some of the challenges that come with that, and the unique stories that shape this particular population. Through a group activity, and provided information about first generation students, the audience will be engaged in meaningful conversations while enhancing their understanding about this unique population.

**JEN CIACCIO, TEMPLE UNIVERSITY**  
**KAT LONGSHORE, LAFAYETTE COLLEGE**  
**MIRIAM MERRILL, TEMPLE UNIVERSITY**  
**ERICA TIBBETTS, GEARING-UP**  
COMING OUT or INVITING IN: EXPLORING &  
CHALLENGING  
LGBTQ ISSUES IN SPORT  
*HOWE ROOM — 33<sup>rd</sup> FLOOR*

This presentation is designed to help participants learn how to understand, promote, and to help LGBTQ members feel safe and accepted and that they have an ally in their sporting environment. Participants will engage in activities involving group interaction, interpretation, and improvisation. These activities can be used in consulting to help athletes, teams, and coaches recognize stereotyping, hurtful language, and assumptions made about LGBTQ individuals. Using a digital workbook, the participants will join together with the presenters to develop best practices for incorporating what was learned into sport psychology settings. After the workshop, participants will have access to the digital workbook where they can review the session to help further the goal of recognizing their capabilities as LGBTQ allies and bring the list of best practices into their consulting work.

**CARLA SUBER**  
**UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS at**  
**URBANA-CHAMPAIGN**  
LEVELING THE PLAYING FIELD: TIPS FOR  
ASSISTING PARENTS AND COACHES OF  
ADHD/LD STUDENT ATHLETES THROUGH  
THE RECRUITING PROCESS  
*THE TERRACE — 33<sup>rd</sup> FLOOR*

Students with diagnosed learning disabilities and/or ADHD, struggle with questions regarding disclosure, transition of services, and access to resources as they enter college.



## **FRIDAY, JULY 15 (CONT'D)**

During the recruiting process, student athletes and parents should ask several questions and seek information to determine if there is appropriate academic support at prospective schools to ensure there is not a lapse in educational services. Topics such as disclosure, documentation and the relationship between athletic academic services and disability support services will be presented.

**11:00AM — 1:00PM**

**SPOTLIGHT PRESENTATIONS & LUNCHEON**  
HOWE ROOM — 33<sup>rd</sup> FLOOR

**KYLE DUNNINGTON**

**LINKEDIN TALENT SOLUTIONS**

We'll hear the latest from LinkedIn, how it's relevant to the education industry and how we can better help build our professional profiles and aide our students with this critical career development tool.

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR ACADEMIC  
ADVISORS FOR ATHLETICS - N4A**

A professional network of more than 1000 members, you will enjoy opportunities through a listserv, regional meetings, and a National Convention. In addition, members have a forum of professionals willing to help navigate the myriad of topics that this profession provides. Members can expect to enjoy first-rate workshops, nationally-known featured speakers, and stimulating discussion of current issues in the academic/athletic advising field. Specific programming for "New Members" as well as programming for veterans and all those in between will benefit you in your commitment to student-athlete welfare. Members receive reduced registration rates for N4A Conventions, an

opportunity to belong to the N4A listserv for the exchange of information and ideas, and Receive N4A's e-newsletter, NACADA's Athletics Administration and Daily Review publications.

**NUSKOOL, ABRAN MALDONADO**

NuSkool redefines education through the transformation of pop culture into a learning experience. NuSkool finds teachable moments in all forms of entertainment, from TV to music and video games, creating lessons schools can use to engage struggling students. The subscription-based online platform allows teachers to create virtual classes, providing access to lessons based on trending topics that matter most in students' lives. It's relevant, real life learning.

NuSkool produces articles, standards aligned lesson plans, quizzes and other types of assessments. Their work began as student engagement specialists, with an expertise in both entertainment and education. NuSkool's unique approach to content development is formed by their research interests in the fields of student-centered learning, personalized learning, culturally responsive pedagogy, games based learning and 21st century skills.

**PLEDGE IT**

PLEDGE IT is a unique online fundraising platform, empowering athletes and teams to raise money for a cause through their gameday performance. Our fully automated, mobile-friendly fundraising solution helps athletes raise money by simply playing the game. Fans can pledge to donate any amount for every touchdown, home run, or point scored.



Our do-it-yourself platform makes it easy to launch an engaging campaign in minutes. Fully automated payment processing and integrated social media tools makes it the best way to raise money during the season. Our campaigns raise twice the national average. PLEDGE IT is used by athletes of all sports and all levels.

### **PREP 48**

Prep48 is a web-based technology that allows coaches, counselors, and teachers to firmly educate student athletes and parents on NCAA Initial Eligibility requirements. Student athletes and parents can engage head on in tracking their progress as they reach for their goals of playing sport beyond high school.

**1:00PM — 5:00PM**  
**HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM BUILDING**  
THE ATHLIFE UN-CONFERENCE  
*HOWE ROOM — 33<sup>rd</sup> FLOOR*

Is this the prelude to the Olympics? Well . . . it just might be, or it can just be a highly engaging, active afternoon of identifying real challenges and developing a wealth of strategies and solutions to build the best programs for your schools! Participants will work in teams, connect, engage, and compete throughout the afternoon guided through relevant themes salient to your program building over the last six years. There are no traditional lead presenters or power point presentations, this is driven by you, for you. Participants are encouraged to come prepared to share their challenges and roadblocks and their best tools for success!

**9:30AM — 5:00PM**  
**DR. KATHLEEN GABRIEL**  
**CALIFORNIA STATE CHICO**  
RESEARCH INTERVIEWS (CONT'D)  
*ROBERTS BOARD ROOM — 33<sup>rd</sup> FLOOR*

## **SATURDAY, JULY 16**

**8:00AM — 9:15AM**  
**HOSTED BREAKFAST**  
HOWE ROOM — 33<sup>rd</sup> FLOOR

**9:15AM — 9:45AM**  
**GENERAL SESSION**  
HOWE ROOM — 33<sup>rd</sup> FLOOR

**9:45AM — 11:30AM**  
**CONCUSSIONS IN SPORT:  
ISSUES FOR YOUTH,  
EDUCATORS & PARENTS**  
*PRESENTED BY BRYN MAWR  
REHABILITATION HOSPITAL &  
THE RUTGERS EXERCISE  
PSYCHOPHYSIOLOGY LAB*  
HOWE ROOM — 33<sup>rd</sup> FLOOR

Most athletes with a concussion will recover quickly and fully, but for some athletes, signs and symptoms of a concussion can last for days, weeks, or longer. If an athlete has a concussion, his or her brain needs time to heal. A repeat concussion that occurs before the brain recovers from the first injury can slow recovery or increase the chances for long-term problems. In rare cases, repeat concussions can result in brain swelling or permanent brain damage. It can even be fatal. A panel of medical professionals, and researchers will share truths and misconceptions of concussions in youth and high school sports and provide tips on how to safeguard young athletes, and be more effective in our work with student athletes.

**11:30AM**  
**ATHLIFE FOUNDATION STAFF  
CONFERENCE WRAP-UP &  
CLOSING REMARKS**  
HOWE ROOM — 33<sup>rd</sup> FLOOR



## THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

### THE ATHLIFE FOUNDATION, INC.

The AthLife Foundation is a national 501(c)3 non-profit organization, whose aim is to ensure that in our nations most challenged communities, deserving student-athletes can achieve academically, garner the skills to succeed in post-secondary pursuits, and be prepared to compete in their future careers beyond sport. The AthLife Foundation assists schools in creating the right kind of sport experiences for student-athletes through a platform that develops professional academic-athletic coaches, advisors, and mentors.

This is our 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, which has evolved into a student-athlete development industry leader for secondary educators. We would like to welcome you all, and thank you for your commitment and passion to educate, develop, and inspire your student-athletes!

### ATHLIFE, INC.

AthLife empowers Lifeletes™ to meet and exceed their academic and career goals. Created in 2004 to service the education, career development, and life skill needs of athletes. AthLife's approach is to guide the client through a process that builds skills and confidence, thus enabling them to assume control over their ongoing career development. Currently, AthLife contracts with the NFL Players Association, NBA Retired Players' Association, and the Major League Soccer's Players' Union to assist their constituency. On the collegiate level, AthLife has worked with staff and student-athletes at more than 40 college and university athletic departments, primarily at BCS caliber schools, from every major conference in the areas of education and life skill development.

### THE HEISMAN TROPHY TRUST

The Heisman Memorial Trophy annually recognizes the outstanding college football player whose performance best exhibits the pursuit of excellence with integrity. Winners epitomize great ability combined with diligence, perseverance, and hard work. The Heisman Trophy Trust ensures the continuation and integrity of this

award. The trust, furthermore, has a charitable mission to support amateur athletics and to provide greater opportunities to the youth of our country. The goal through these charitable endeavors is for the Heisman Trophy to symbolize the fostering of a sense of community responsibility and service to our youth, especially those disadvantaged or afflicted. All assets of the trust beyond the expense of maintaining the annual presentation of the Heisman Memorial Trophy are reserved for such charitable causes. The trustees, who all serve pro bono, are guided by a devotion to college football and are committed to community service and the valued tradition which the trophy represents.

### THE JOE MOORE FOUNDATION FOR TEAMWORK

The Joe Moore Foundation for Teamwork is a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to fostering the essential aspect of all great societal endeavors: teamwork. JMFT's mission is to bring that spirit of collective achievement not only to sports, but also to schools, organizations, businesses and communities.

By recognizing the accomplishment of the most outstanding offensive line unit in college football, the award promotes the value of teamwork, praising the collective achievement over the individual. As a philanthropic organization, JMFT supports organizations that significantly impact communities in the following areas:

**Youth, Education and Sports** – By working with organizations that support student-athletes, we will promote the values instilled in them through teamwork and help to propel them to academic and athletic success.

**Health Initiatives** – The Foundation will focus on two areas that are especially meaningful to the Moore family and to the founders of the Foundation: Lung Cancer Research/Care, and Obstructive Sleep Apnea (OSA).



## **THE WASHINGTON REDSKINS CHARITABLE FOUNDATION & COACHES IN THE CLASSROOM**

The mission of the Washington Redskins Charitable Foundation is to make a positive and measurable impact in the lives of children in our community. Since its start in 2000, the Foundation has given back more than \$16 million to the community, focusing primarily in the areas of education, community outreach and health and wellness.

The WRCF has effectively partnered with leading youth development entities in order to carry out a vision to impact the lives of high school student-athletes in Washington, D.C., Prince George's and Montgomery Counties (MD), and the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Utilizing *Coaches in the Classroom*, they have developed programs with key school district partners to improve the high school student-athlete experience by working in the past with the Play It Smart program, the Center for Youth Development through Sport at Springfield College, and now, the AthLife Foundation.

Through *Coaches in the Classroom*, the Academic-Athletic Advisor has access to valuable incentives and rewards to help drive their programs accountability and a message of responsibility to the student-athletes involved.

Student-athletes have a chance to participate in Redskins events, are rewarded with once in a lifetime community service opportunities with the Redskins Charitable Foundation, personal and professional development, and are taught the valuable experience of receiving rewards without entitlement.

The WRCF continues to play an integral role in the lasting development of the Coaches in the Classroom program, and it's a privilege to have them as a part of our team.

## **PRESENTER & TRAINER BIO'S**

### **DR. NA'ILAH SUAD NASIR**

Dr. Na'ilah Suad Nasir was appointed by Chancellor Nicholas B. Dirks as the second Vice Chancellor for Equity and Inclusion, at UC Berkeley in August 2015. Nasir began her term on November 1, 2015. She oversees an operation that includes 150 full-time staff and an annual operating budget of \$20 million.

Nasir was recently the H. Michael and Jeanne Williams Chair of African American Studies, and holds the Birgeneau Chair in Educational Disparities in the Graduate School of Education. Nasir is a Professor in the School of Education and the Department of African-American Studies. She joined the Berkeley faculty in 2008 from the School of Education at Stanford University, where she won the St. Claire Drake Teaching Award in 2007.

She is the author of *Racialized Identities: Race and achievement for African-American youth*, published by the Stanford University Press in 2011. Nasir's research examines the racialized and cultural nature of learning and schooling. She is interested in the intertwining of social, cultural, and political contexts and learning, especially in connection with inequity in educational outcomes. She has also published over 30 articles in scholarly journals.

Nasir has also been an integral member of the Resident Faculty Program where Berkeley faculty integrate themselves into student life and provide support for students by living alongside them in the residence halls. In this role, she has worked with Resident Faculty colleagues to promote academic achievement and to create an inclusive and comfortable community that encourages personal growth and development. She received a teaching award from the African American Student Development Office in 2011, and she strives to integrate her scholarly work with her commitment to community and engaged scholarship.





She received her BA in 1993 from Berkeley (Social Welfare and Psychology) and her PhD in 2000 from UCLA (Psychological Studies in Education).

### **DR. AL PETITPAS**

Dr. Al Petitpas is a professor in the psychology department at Springfield College, where he is the director of the center for youth development and research. He is a licensed psychologist in Massachusetts, a fellow in Division 47 of the American Psychological Association, and a certified consultant of the association for the applied sport psychology. In addition to being the principal developer and training consultant for play it smart, he has provided consulting services to a wide range of sport organizations including, The First Tee, the NCAA, NBA, NFL, USOC, US Ski Team, and the LPGA.

### **DR. TAUNYA TINSLEY**

Dr. Tinsley is a licensed professional counselor and the owner of Transitions Counseling Service, LLC, a life skills program where she provides individual, marriage, family and group counseling and consultative services. Additionally, Dr. Tinsley is the Clinical Director of the Mount Ararat Baptist Church Counseling Center. In addition to providing clinical and consulting services, Dr. Tinsley is an Associate Professor in the Department of Counselor Education and Program Coordinator for the Graduate Certificate in Sports Counseling both at California University of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Tinsley has over 20 years working in the K-12, college/university and athletic and sporting environments. Her experiences range from coaching high school and college athletes, athletic administration, and conducting life skills training to consulting and providing professional counseling and psychological services. Her experiences include working with culturally diverse educators, students, athletes in and from a variety of athletic conferences including the Big Ten, the Big East, the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference, the Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference and the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics.

Moreover, Dr. Tinsley has worked with the National Football Foundation, the NFL and the Pittsburgh Steelers to provide services to high school student athletes as part of the Play It Smart program and the Academics In Motion program. Additionally, her worked continued in 2011 with the NFL Player's Association, providing consulting and counseling services as part of "the business of football, rookie edition."

### **PHYLLIS LERNER**

Phyllis Lerner, MA, Faculty Associate: Johns Hopkins University Graduate School of Education; Teach For America Partnership

In 1973, Phyllis Lerner was the USA leader to the Children's International Summer Village (CISV) in Sweden. Since then, she has continued to spiral back to global education efforts including 6 more years with CISV, work in Mumbai, India's area made famous in the film Slumdog Millionaire and with American Jewish World Service (AJWS) in western Thailand's Burmese refugee camps. With an undergraduate degree in Physical Education from Springfield College, to the California Department of Education's Title IX Gender Equity Office, and her current role at JHU, Phyllis is best described by the titles she honors from Agahozo-Shalom Youth Village (ASYV-Rwanda): Auntie and teacher.

### **DR. KATHLEEN GABRIEL**

Dr. Gabriel began her career in the educational field right out of college, accepting a secondary teaching position as a high school social science teacher. Not long after that, she started working with students with learning disabilities. She was also a mentor teacher for her school district and received the "Teacher of the Year" award.

Then, she was invited to the University of Kansas to participate in the doctorate program. At Kansas, she developed a program for student-athletes who were academically at-risk. After much success with this program, she was asked to develop a similar program at the University of Arizona. There, Dr. Gabriel organized and directed the strategic study program for the intercollegiate



athletic department before becoming a faculty developer for the university teaching center.

Currently, Dr. Gabriel is an assistant professor in the school of education at California State University, Chico. A member of the AthLife Foundation Board of Directors, she is the author of *Teaching Unprepared Students: Strategies for Promoting Success and Retention in Higher Education*. Dr. Gabriel also continues to conduct “teaching workshops” at universities and colleges across the United States. She has been a leader in designing the training and workshops for our academic-athletic counselors, and of course, is always a major presenter at our annual conference for teachers, counselors, coaches and administrators.

### **JEFFREY O'BRIEN**

Jeffrey O'Brien is the Director of Huddle Up, Branded A Leader & Athletic Leadership in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (AL 21) with the National Consortium For Academics & Sports. For two-decades, Jeff O'Brien has been committed to maximizing the leadership potential of high school, collegiate, and professional athletes with a specific focus on personal growth and development. Jeff is one of the nation's leading sports based leadership development educators and provides technical assistance, training, and curriculum development for high school, college and professional sports, educational institutions, corporations, government agencies, non-profit organizations and community groups.

O'Brien's work within athletics is extensive. Jeff has developed and delivered trainings for thousands of student-athletes, coaches, and administrators at over 150 universities, including leading conference-wide training relationships with the Southeastern Conference, A-10 Conference and Big Ten Conference. Jeff has worked with dozens of professional sport teams and leagues including the NFL, MLB, NBA, WNBA, NASCAR and MLL. In all of these interactive trainings and workshops, leadership provides the foundation for entrée into a variety of personal development areas. Jeff is the NCAA Leadership

Development lead consultant (2014-2017) conceptualizing, developing, and delivering the NCAA Leadership Forum facilitator's training, student-athlete Color Team sessions, and Leadership Academy workshops.

### **KENNETH MILES**

Kenneth Miles' commitment to the “well rounded” student-athlete comes from his time as a four year letterman at the University of Virginia. Miles earned both a Bachelor of Arts degree in Studio Art and a Master of Education in Social Foundations of Education from the University of Virginia. After Miles' graduation, he returned to his high school, Gonzaga College, to be an art teacher from 1993-95 before returning to serve as the Academic and Life Skills Coordinator to student-athletes at Virginia for two and a half years.

Miles arrived at Syracuse University in 1997 as the Director for Academic Support, and in 2002 became the Assistant Dean for Student Services and in 2006 became the Executive Director for Diversity Enrollment Management and Graduate Admissions in the iSchool starting in 2006. He created the Kenneth O. Miles Scholarship at Syracuse University through the Our Time Has Come Initiative. The scholarship is designed to assist a Syracuse University student of color cover the costs of a college education. Impassioned by his own doctoral research in Cultural Foundations of Education and his interactions on campus, Miles defines this scholarship as his contribution to a larger societal, educational and economic problem.

In 2008, Miles joined the LSU family as the Executive Director of the Cox Communications Academic Center for Student-Athletes, and in May 2012, Miles was named the Assistant Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs and Executive Director the Cox Communications Academic Center for Student-Athletes. In addition, Miles earned a Master of Science degree in Cultural Foundations of Education from Syracuse University. Currently, he is working on his



doctorate in Cultural Foundations of Education from Syracuse University. Miles' research investigates how first generation Black students navigate post-secondary education at traditionally white institutions.

Miles is a member of the Commission on Access, Diversity, & Excellence, Baton Rouge Rotary and the Baton Rouge Chamber of Commerce. He also serves on the LSU Museum of Art Advisory Board, Board of Directors for 100 Black Men Metro of Baton Rouge, and the Board of Directors for Volunteer of America, Greater Baton Rouge. In addition, Miles is currently serving as President-Elect for the National Association of Academic Advisors for Athletics.

### **JEN CIACCIO**

Jen B. Ciaccio is a full-time doctoral student in the Department of Kinesiology at Temple University. Her research broadly covers various topics within exercise psychology. More specifically, she is interested in the development of character traits through movement that can predict achievement (i.e. self-control, grit, habit, resilience) and the potential impact on motivation, adherence, mental health and goal achievement in exercise and life. Jen works as a Teaching Assistant in Temple's Department of Kinesiology, instructing in the social psychology of physical activity. She also currently interns with Temple University's Institute for Survey Research, working specifically with projects tied to public health and physical activity.

### **DR. KAT LONGSHORE**

Dr. Kat Longshore is a Mental Performance Coach and assistant professor of Psychology at Lafayette College. She is passionate about empowering people to be their best selves as well improve their performance on the field and in life. Kat earned her Ph.D. in the Psychology of Human Movement in 2015 from Temple University and her MSc in Sport Psychology in 2009 from Brunel University. Kat is a British Association of Sport and Exercise Science (BASES) Accredited, Sport Psychology pathway, practitioner. Kat has nearly 10 years of applied experience working with

athletes, coaches, and teams across a variety of ages, sports, and levels on the mental side of the game.

Highlights include, England Women's Lacrosse Team, Great Britain Women's Softball Team, Women's DI Lacrosse and Softball, and Mindfulness Training for DI athletes (football, field hockey, soccer, volleyball, lacrosse, tennis). Kat is also the creator of the Mindfulness Training for Coaches (MTC) program, an evidence-based stress and emotion management program for coaches.

### **MIRIAM MERRILL**

Miriam Merrill is a second year doctoral student in the Psychology of Human Movement program at Temple University. She received her bachelor's degree from the University of Cincinnati and her Master's of Education degree in Sport Administration from Xavier University. Miriam has spent the past ten years working in athletics in higher education. Her career began in coaching and she later transitioned into athletic administration as the Director of Athletics at Richard J. Daley College (Chicago, Illinois). As a doctoral student, her areas of research involve women of color in athletic administration and the freshman student-athlete transition from high school to college. Miriam was awarded a First Summer Research Initiative grant in 2015 that enabled her to investigate the perceived barriers of women of color in senior-level athletic administration positions. Some of her awards include her induction into the University of Cincinnati's Hall of Fame and, most recently, the Dr. Carole Oglesby Endowed Scholarship in 2015.

Ms. Merrill's conference and presentation appearances include the 2015 Association for Applied Sport Psychology's national conference, Black Student Athlete Summit at the University of Texas-Austin, and the College Athletes' Rights and Empowerment Conference. Miriam is a member of the National Association of Collegiate Women Athletics Administrators, the Minority Opportunities Athletic Association, and the Association for Applied Sport Psychology.



### **DR. ERICA TIBBETTS**

Erica “Tibbs” Tibbetts, PhD is the Program Manager at Gearing-Up (gearing-up.org), a Philadelphia based non-profit organization that provides women in transition from abuse, addiction, and/or incarceration with the skills, equipment, and guidance to safely ride a bicycle for exercise, transportation, and personal growth. Erica earned her doctorate at Temple University in The Psychology of Human Movement in 2015. Her research focuses on how best to engage diverse populations in physical activity and the benefits to underserved populations can of participating in exercise and sport. She has been working with the Temple Varsity Women’s Fencing team as their mental skills consultant since 2012 and also consults with a variety of individual and team sport athletes in the Philadelphia area. When not working or consulting, Erica hangs out with her dog, trains for triathlons and marathons, and enjoys good nachos.

### **CARLA SUBER**

Carla Suber works as a Learning Specialist at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Irwin Academic Services for Student Athletes since 2006. Her team responsibility is football where she works with all students in areas such as study skills and time management. Her primary population within this group are those with specific learning disabilities and ADHD. She also has vast teaching and clinical counseling experience working with adolescents and families in the city of Philadelphia, PA and most currently in Champaign, IL. She earned a Bachelor’s degree from Florida A&M University and master’s degrees from the University of Pennsylvania (Secondary Education) and Temple University (Counseling Psychology), respectively. She is a Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) in Illinois. Carla’s clinical areas of focus include working with late adolescents and young adults on issues such identity development, anxiety, depression and life transitions. Most recently, Carla has been an NFL Rookie Success Program presenter for the Chicago Bears.

### **ALFRED GUANTE**

Diverse higher education experience of over 10 years. Includes college access, graduate and undergraduate admissions, student services, and research. Currently conducting Educational Outreach for the University of Connecticut in an effort to generate a more diverse pool of applicants. Also serves as the Advisor for the Dominican Student Association, sits on the Advisory Board for the Puerto Rican Latin American Cultural Center and its Somos Huskies Scholarship committee, Mentor for academically at risk students, member of the Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Observance Committee, member of the Association of Latina/o Faculty and Staff (ALFAS) and participates in search committees when needed.

### **NOTES, NETWORKING, CONTACTS:**

