

Change in Intercollegiate Sport

George B. Cunningham
Texas A&M University

This issue represents my last as editor of the *Journal of Intercollegiate Sport*. Dr. Laura Burton will take over as the next Editor-in-Chief. She is an excellent scholar and reviewer, widely published in the area of college sport. As an associate professor of sport management at the University of Connecticut, Dr. Burton studies ways to increase the proportion of women in leadership positions, and how sport participation is associated with women's career progression. In addition to serving on the review board of several journals, Dr. Burton served as guest editor (with Jon Welty Peachey) in a special issue of the *Journal*, focusing on ethical leadership (see Burton & Welty Peachey, 2014). I have every confidence Dr. Burton will pick up where Scott Kretchmar (our founding editor) and I have left off, taking the *Journal* to new heights.

As this is my final issue, I have reflected on my time as Editor. Our mission reads:

This interdisciplinary journal publishes articles from the sciences, social sciences, humanities, and professional fields, providing a complete look at all factors affecting intercollegiate sport. The research presented crosses traditional academic boundaries and challenges current views and practices while maintaining an informative rather than editorial focus.

Sarah Fields, the associate editor during my tenure, and I have endeavored to remain true to this calling. During my time as editor, we have published special issues on academic reform (e.g., Oriard, 2012), economic inequality (e.g., Zimbalist, 2013), and ethical leadership (Burton & Welty Peachey, 2014). There is an upcoming special issue, slated for June 2015, focusing on creating social change through sport. We have also published a variety of articles focusing on the structure and processes of intercollegiate sport, the impact of sport on the community, and the well-being of student-athletes. In doing so, we have maintained an interdisciplinary emphasis and focused on challenging the current perspectives on intercollegiate sport.

Any success of the *Journal* is a testament to the reviewers and authors. Since January 2012, the average review time from submission to decision is 36 days, pointing to the conscientiousness of the review board members. Further, the articles have made an impact on the field. According to Google Scholar, during my time as editor, published articles have been cited an average of 1.9 times, and 69% have been cited at least once. These data suggest the authors are publishing quality scholarship in the *Journal* that other researchers are using to inform their own work.

Current Issue

The current issue contains a number of peer-reviewed articles, focusing on topics such as the relationships among transformational leadership, organizational culture, and work outcomes; doping in sport; student-athlete development; and career strategies among millennial women in the coaching profession.

In addition, my interest has been piqued by various current events in college athletics. The proposed restructuring of NCAA; the very sad and disappointing news of widespread academic misconduct at the University of North Carolina; discussions of athlete payment and exploitation; and the on-going discussions of academic progress and reform—these are just some of the topics currently being debated. Given the current state of flux, I felt it prudent to gather the insights of various scholars who are thought-leaders in the academic assessment of intercollegiate sport.

Luckily for the readers and me, those who I approached to write a commentary agreed to do so. Thus, the first section of the issue includes a scholarly forum on the state of intercollegiate sport. The authors focus on role conflict among student athletes (Harrison & Buckstein), rebranding efforts focusing on academic success (Southall), the denial of athlete rights (Staurowsky), and, as a divergence from the first three articles, the myth of the exploited athlete (Osborne).

Concluding Thoughts

I am appreciative of the opportunity to work with truly outstanding people during my time as editor. I am especially grateful to Sarah Fields, who has been a wonderful colleague to help guide this ship; P. Chelladurai, who nominated me and encouraged me to accept the editor role; and Scott Kretchmar, the founding editor who worked closely with the late Myles Brand to help start the *Journal*. I look forward to seeing the *Journal* progress even further under Laura Burton's leadership.

References

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