



Introducing the NASPA Student-Athlete Knowledge Community Research Agenda

With great enthusiasm, I am excited to introduce our Student-Athlete Knowledge Community-supported research agenda. As the mission of the SAKC focuses on creating and advancing new knowledge, we recently underwent an extensive process to inform the current and future steps for a developing research agenda. Through significant data triangulation formulated from a needs assessment of the current membership, needs assessment of the current leadership team, a polling exercise conducted during a 2014 NASPA SAKC-sponsored presentation, and a literature review facilitated across our membership, a resulting sequenced topical timeline developed. This timeline is introduced below:

- Fall 2015: Promote overall plan for research agenda and share topical areas and timelines
- Spring 2016: Career Readiness/Life After Sport
- Fall 2016: Topics surrounding Mental Health
- Spring 2017: LGBTQ related issues
- Fall 2017: Alcohol and Other Drugs
- Spring 2018: Race and Ethnicity

We are actively encouraging members to contribute to this initiative in multiple ways, including interviews with noted experts, literature reviews of new and relevant publications, original research, and sharing of best practices occurring across college campuses and relevant organizations.

As means to demonstrate the types of information we are looking for, be sure to check out the research article titled, **Comparing Professional Pathways: A Meta-Analysis of Careers of College Athletics Support Staff and Student Affairs Administrators** located on our website.

The development of new knowledge starts with newsletter contributors—they will be key to the creation of information to ensure the agenda's goals are met. Let us know how we can be of support as you consider ways to create and develop content for this publication. We look forward to seeing your submissions! For additional information about how to contribute, contact Carrie Smith at cvsmith1@uga.edu.

Sincerely,
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