



HOW TO APPLY FOR A FREE STUDENT TICKET



The Allen Sack National Symposium Advancing Integrity in College Sport 2023 - REALIZING THE PROMISE OF GRADUATION

Moderated by National Award-Winning Journalists



Christine Brennan
USA Today



Mark Hyman
Povich Ctr. Sport Journalism



William C. Rhoden
ESPN/Andscape

APPLY BELOW for our one-day symposium to learn more about a critical issue in college sport – why are Division I revenue sport athletes failing to graduate at acceptable rates? Who are these athletes and how should they be helped? Read below to learn more about the program and review questions and answers about policies related to free student tickets.

Why Our Donors/Sponsors Make It Possible for Students to Attend at No Charge

Conferences such as the Symposium are important professional development activities for students that they typically cannot afford. They get to hear and meet members of the national sports and higher education media, leaders and key influencers from national sports governance organizations and higher education organizations working in their chosen career field, members of the U.S. Congress and their staff, and nationally recognized experts in the economic and legal aspects of college athletics. One hundred sports management, sports law, and other currently enrolled students in sports-related majors from colleges and universities within 60 miles of Washington D.C. (with preference given to students from HBCUs and other low-resourced institutions) will attend at no charge thanks to sponsors and donors. We believe you are the future leaders who will ensure that college athletics is a safe and rewarding experience, free from

race and sex discrimination, and delivering on the promise of receiving a meaningful education.

Educational Materials, Mentoring and Networking Opportunities

In addition to formal expert panel presentations, students in attendance will receive the following mentorship and networking opportunities:

- Issue experts will be seated at each student table for lunch to answer questions and provide advice;
- Each student will receive a complimentary subscription to the TDGEF newsletter;
- Each student will receive a complimentary student membership in The Drake Group, our sister organization working directly with Congress on policy issues;
- Each student will receive issue summaries and research papers on all topics covered at the symposium; and
- Each student will participate in a closing cocktail/networking gathering that enables you to meet and interact with panelists and experts as well take advantage of a book exhibit and author autograph signing opportunities.

Event Overview

The purpose of the 2023 Allen Sack National Symposium is to address the causes of poor graduation rates among college athletes in revenue sports. Speakers will focus on male and female scholarship athletes who are participating in football and basketball at the highest competitive levels of the NCAA – athletes who are majority minority and whose sports annually generate \$15.8 billion in annual revenues for their athletic programs. We will explore remedies to inform decisionmakers, including athletics and higher education stakeholders, policymakers, and college athletes themselves.



PROGRAM DETAILS

The Tuesday, April 18, 2023, one-day program features three national award-winning journalists, each moderating a 90-minute panel of experts with each panel examining a critical perspective related to unacceptable graduation rates among Division I revenue-sport athletes.

8:30-9:00am Registration/Coffee. Coffee, tea, muffins, Danish, individual fruit and plain yogurt cups, bagels, and cream cheese.

9:15-10:45am PANEL #1 – Who Is the College Athlete Who Is Not Graduating?

Moderator: William C. Rhoden, *ESPN/Andscape*, former New York Times Columnist

A panel of former college athletes examines the reality of the athletics experience and reflects on the graduation statistics, demographics, and causative factors of college students participating in Division I revenue sports: e.g., 52 percent of all NCAA Division I men's basketball players; 38% of all Division-I football players, and 38 percent of all Division I women's basketball players who were full scholarship recipients and required to be full-time students did not graduate within six years. A clear majority of these athletes are students of color.

11:00am-12:30pm PANEL #2 - Aspects of the College Athlete Environment That Negatively and Positively Contribute to Academic Outcomes.

Mark Hyman, Director, *The Shirley Povich Center for Sport Journalism*

Are current academic and other support programs for college athletes structured to achieve graduation success? What constitutes a meaningful education and a safe and supportive educational environment? Do coaches make a difference in college athlete academic outcomes? Are there underlying issues related to racial inequities, time demands, and/or abusive coaching practices that should be addressed? How does athletic injury and adequacy of coach training affect athlete classroom performance?

12:45-1:45pm AWARDS LUNCHEON featuring presentation of TDGEF national awards. TDGEF board members and national experts will be seated at student tables during lunch for informal discussion/Q&As. The awards program includes recipients of the TDGEF Student Journalism Prize for Investigative Reporting in Intercollegiate Athletics, TDGEF Hero Award, and TDGEF "Making A Difference" Award, among others.

2:00-3:30pm PANEL #3 - Are We Getting What We Paid For? Entertainment or Education?

Sally Jenkins, *Washington Post*, Sports Columnist and Feature Writer

What are the economic drivers of college sports and how do they affect athlete education? The NCAA's Division I athletics enterprise generates \$15.8 billion in annual revenues of which only \$2.9 billion --18.2 percent -- is returned to athletes in the form of athletics scholarships and only 1 percent is spent on medical treatment and insurance protections compared to 35 percent spent on administrative and coach compensation and 18% on lavish facilities. Will a redistribution of expenditures address unacceptable academic outcomes or the long-term impact of athletic injuries?

3:30-5:00pm NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES. All attendees are invited to attend a post-symposium networking and cocktail reception, book exhibit, and author autograph signing event.

Answers to Frequently Asked Questions

Q1: How many tickets are available and how are applicants selected?

A1: 100 students selected on a first come/first served basis from each of two groups of colleges and universities (lower-resourced institutions (Historically Black Colleges and Universities

(HBCUs), Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities (TCCUs), Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs), and community colleges) and Other. There is a limit of one free ticket per applicant and no more than 4 students will be selected from the same school unless a school or alumnus sponsors a student table for their institution or additional openings become available due to late cancellations.

Q2: How soon will I know whether my application is successful?

A2: Student selections/notifications begin on February 15, 2023, and all applicants will be notified of their selection by no later than April 10, 2023.

Q3: Will I be able to sit with my classmates?

A3: There is a notes field in the application where you can request seating with others. We will try to accommodate such requests but cannot guarantee that we can do so.

Q4: How will tickets be received?

A4: Your ticket will be waiting for you at the National Press Club (529 14th St NW, Washington, DC 20045) on the day of the event (Tuesday, April 18, 2023) at the 13th floor Ballroom Registration Desk. Please bring photo ID.

Q5: What is the appropriate dress for the event?

A5: Business attire.

Q6: Will food be available, or do we leave for lunch?

A6: Breakfast (Coffee, tea, muffins, Danish, individual fruit and plain yogurt cups, bagels and cream cheese) and a served lunch are provided at no charge. There is no need to leave the venue once you arrive. There is no food at the post-symposium networking/cocktail reception but you will be provided with one ticket for a free beverage with additional beverages available on a cash purchase basis. Thus, there is no need to leave the venue once you arrive.

Additional questions? Email: CollegeSportsSymposium@gmail.com