



## ***Webinar Series – Critical Issues in Collegiate Athletics***

### **WEBINAR #39**

### **Women in College Coaching and Administration – The Double Standard**

**Thursday, May 16, 2024 – 2:00-3:30 p.m. EST**

#### **MEET OUR PANELISTS**



**DONNA A. LOPIANO, Ph.D., MODERATOR, President, Sports Management Resources, LLC and Adjunct Professor of Sports Management at Southern Connecticut State University.** She is the former Chief Executive Officer of the Women’s Sports Foundation and served for 18 years as the University of Texas at Austin’s Director of Women’s Athletics. Recognized as one of the foremost national experts on gender equity in sport, she has testified about Title IX and gender equity before three Congressional committees and has served as an expert witness in over thirty court cases. Lopiano received her bachelor’s degree from Southern Connecticut State University, her master’s and doctoral degrees from the University of Southern California and is the recipient of five honorary doctoral degrees. She is the current President of The Drake Group.



**RITA CROCKETT, former Assistant Athletic Director and Head Indoor and Beach Volleyball Coach, Florida International University.** Crockett played professional volleyball in Switzerland, Italy and Japan, was a member of the 1982 FIVB Bronze Medal and 1984 Silver Medal USA Olympic Volleyball Teams, and 1989 WPVA Beach Volleyball World Champion. She served as Head Volleyball Coach of the Swiss National Team, the RTV Basel Professional Club Team (Switzerland) and at the University of Iowa. Her honors include AVCA National Coach of the Year, an International Volleyball Hall of Fame, Texas Black Sports Hall of Fame, San Antonio Sports Hall of Fame and University of Houston Athletics Hall of Fame inductee. She is a graduate of the University of Iowa.



**NICOLE LaVOI, Director, the Tucker Center for Research on Girls & Women in Sport and Senior Lecturer, School of Kinesiology, University of Minnesota.** As a leading scholar on gender, leadership, and women coaches, Dr. LaVoi has published 100+ book chapters, research reports and peer-reviewed articles in top-rated journals. Her seminal research includes the annual *Women in College Coaching Report Card™* which is aimed at retaining and increasing the number of women in the coaching profession and holding decision makers accountable, a groundbreaking book *Women in Sports Coaching* (2016), and a documentary *GAME ON: Women Can Coach*. She is an award-winning athlete and coach, distinguished teacher, regional Emmy winner, two-time Hall of Fame inductee and was named a 2023 USTA Champion of Equality. She earned her M.A. and doctoral degrees from the University of Minnesota.



**PETRA MARTIN, Assistant Director of Graduate Recruitment and Student Support, College of Engineering, University of Arkansas.** Former Head Women's Swimming Coach Rutgers University and Bowling Green State University and Assistant Swimming Coach, University of Arkansas, George Mason University and the University of Maryland. Martin was an All-American swimmer at the University of Maryland and a member of the Czech National Team. Martin earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Finance and Marketing and Bachelor of Arts in Economics from the University of Maryland College Park.



**THOMAS NEWKIRK** is a civil rights attorney practicing in Iowa for almost 35 years. During the last 20 years Tom has developed a specialization in implicit bias and developing methods to reduce bias as a risk in employment, medicine, criminal justice, and college athletics. As a lawyer, Tom applies this specialization to represent coaches in all sports and all divisions impacted by the student-athlete complaint phenomena. In addition to his law practice, Tom devotes a substantial portion of his time to educating universities on the harmful effects of stereotypes and works to develop methods to respond to the nationwide problem of student-athlete complaints that are undermining the coaching profession and holding women back from full equality in leadership roles in college sports.



**JILL ZWAGERMAN, Partner and Employment, Discrimination, and Civil Rights Attorney at Newkirk Zwagerman.** Zwagerman focuses much of her practice on helping employees who have been harassed and discriminated against based upon their gender. Zwagerman has a special interest in helping those who have been discriminated against in athletics, representing coaches and students across the country and has helped clients earn verdicts and settlements, including an \$11.8 million verdict in a sexual harassment case and a \$6.5 million settlement for gender discrimination in sports cases. She earned her undergraduate and J.D. with Honors from Drake University.