Victoria Jackson

GSI 2019 grant report and “deliverables”

My training as a historian has taught me to “follow the story.” If a historian goes into a subject thinking to write about it a particular way, but then the sources tell a different story, the good historian follows the story. Following the story makes for a better final product, more honest history, and, with hope, an ability to influence the present and future by sharing critical, relevant lessons of the past. In 2019, the stories related to my work became “name, image, and likeness” in big-time college sports; gender equity in global sport; and intersex (DSD) and transgender athletes’ rights. Fortunately, these three topics are closely related to my work, and in 2019 I was privileged to have the opportunity to enjoy many writing and speaking engagements in these three subject areas.

Most directly related to the project for which I received a GSI grant for 2019 is NIL, because NIL is a racial justice issue and an economic empowerment issue. Listed below are my opinion pieces, interview in all media forms, speaking engagements, and quotes in others’ journalistic writes on the topics of college sports reform and especially NIL. I have not included all my engagements related to gender equity and women in sports, and intersex (DSD) and transgender athletes, and if you would like to see those lists, I would be happy to send them too. I have highlighted the engagements that might be of most use for the GSI to highlight as they were supported by your generous grant.

I spent 2019 solidifying my place among the nation’s top experts on racial justice and gender justice in American big-time college sports. Few of us do both race and gender, and more of us should. As a former NCAA champion and historian of college sports who continues to work with intercollegiate athletic programs across the country, I bring a unique, informed, (and I would argue, reasonable) perspective to the reform conversation because I place the position and best interests of students who play sports first.

I have connected, collaborated, and brainstormed with college sports reform leaders across the nation, including Ramogi Huma, Bob Orr, John Shoop, Solomon Hughes, Robert Turner, Andy Schwarz, Jay Bilas, Ellen Staurowsky, David Ridpath, Tim Nevius, and many more (including journalists, not listed here), political leaders like Nancy Skinner (California’s Fair Pay to Play Act), Joe Tate (Michigan State football player and representative behind Michigan’s bill), and Mark Walker (the North Carolina representative who introduced the “Student-Athlete Equity Act” to U.S. Congress). I even spoke with Maverick Carter about my “college sports are like Jim Crow” piece in the *L.A. Times*. In early 2020, Ramogi Huma asked me to join the oversight board of the National College Players Association, and I was honored and accepted.

As I continue to work in this space, I am confident I will become more involved in leadership and decision-making, as I am an educator and former elite athlete who cares deeply about the health, wellbeing, and education of our students who play sports. At the same time, I believe I have earned others’ respect because I stick to my research and knowledge understand the complexities involved. At the same time, I understand the value and potential of college sports to serve ALL students who play them, and I know universities can do a better job to fulfill this mission. Much of my writing in 2019 has been future-looking with an optimistic focus on solutions rather than a continued hammering on the issues.

The 2019 GSI grant enabled me to “listen to the stories” of 2019 that I was best equipped to engage—NIL, gender equity, and intersex/transgender athletes’ rights—and I continued to build my national reputation through writing and speaking engagements that took me around the country and world in 2019. This work has enhanced the book project, and in early 2020 I met with a prominent book agent who thinks I have great stories to tell. We are working to complete a book proposal to sell to a major trade press in 2020. A renewed GSI grant for 2020 would enable me to continue this work.

Victoria Jackson

April 10, 2020

**2019 Deliverables, engagements supported by 2019 GSI grant:**

**Opinion Pieces**

* “The Pac-12 should defy the NCAA and embrace California’s law letting student-athletes earn dollars,” *Los Angeles Times*, October 13, 2019: <https://www.latimes.com/opinion/story/2019-10-13/ncaa-pac-12-pay-student-athletes-california-law>
* “Un buen momento para el futbol feminine,” *Letras Libres*, June 20, 2019: <https://www.letraslibres.com/mexico/cultura/un-buen-momento-el-futbol-femenino>
* “Como o Futebol Feminino Brasileiro Pode Se Fortalecer Depois da Copa,” *Epoca*, June 13, 2019: <https://epoca.globo.com/artigo-como-futebol-feminino-brasileiro-pode-se-fortalecer-depois-da-copa-23735202>
* “How to take the scandal out of big-time college football and basketball,” *Los Angeles Times*, January 4, 2019: <https://www.latimes.com/opinion/op-ed/la-oe-jackson-ncaa-lifetime-scholarships-20190104-story.html>

Printed in syndication as “‘Lifetime scholarships’ for student-athletes would let them make up for lost academic time” in *Miami Herald, Raleigh News & Observer*, and elsewhere: <https://www.miamiherald.com/opinion/op-ed/article224083410.html>

**Interviews and Profiles—Print, Television, Podcast, Video, Radio**

* “When NCAA Critiques Clash,” *The Intercollegiate*, January 29, 2020: <https://theintercollegiate.substack.com/p/when-ncaa-critics-clash>
* “How Universities could Start Paying NCAA Student-Athletes,” The Show radio interview KJZZ, January 13, 2020: <https://theshow.kjzz.org/content/1392516/how-universities-could-start-paying-ncaa-student-athletes>
* “Former Tar Heel student-athlete a name to know amid debate of collegiate sports reform,” profile by Chapel Fowler for *Raleigh News & Observer*, November 28, 2019: <https://www.newsobserver.com/sports/college/acc/unc/article237769564.html>
* ”Thoughts on Colin Kaepernick’s Scheduled Tryout & Victoria Jackson on the NCAA,” Bill Rhoden on Sports podcast, conversation with Bill Rhoden and Jamal Murphy, November 15, 2019: <https://soundcloud.com/user-876026376/thoughts-on-colin-kaepernicks-scheduled-tryout-victoria-jackson-on-the-ncaa>
* “A name to know in the debate of college athlete reform,” profile by Chapel Fowler, UNC Media Hub, October 31, 2019: <http://mediahub.unc.edu/a-name-to-know-in-the-debate-of-collegiate-sport-reform/?kl>

Published by WRAL (Raleigh’s NBC affiliate), November 4, 2019: <https://www.wralsportsfan.com/a-name-to-know-in-the-debate-of-collegiate-sports-reform/18743567/>

* “California law could catalyze a new future for college sports,” The State of Things radio show, WUNC, October 11, 2019: <https://www.wunc.org/post/california-law-could-catalyze-new-future-college-sports>
* Conversation about college sports and “name, image, and likeness” with UNC professors Matt Andrews and Jonathan Weiler, Agony of Defeat podcast, October, 2019
* “California Governor signs ‘Fair Pay to Play’ Act,’” The Show radio interview, KJZZ, October 1, 2019: <https://kjzz.org/content/1201436/california-governor-signs-fair-pay-play-act-allowing-college-athletes-receive>
* “Is the Fair Pay to Play Act fair?” Karen Conti Show, WGN, September 23, 2019: <https://wgnradio.com/2019/09/23/is-the-fair-pay-to-play-act-fair/>
* “College Football 150: This is Us,” appearances in multiple episodes in the documentary series, *ESPN Films*, first airing September 17, 2019: <https://www.espn.com/video/clip/_/id/20367363>
* “What the ‘Varsity Blues’ indictments, Wilken decision say about NCAA sports,” *Why Sport Matters* podcast conversation with Ken Shropshire, March 15, 2019: <https://globalsportmatters.com/podcast/2019/03/15/what-the-varsity-blues-indictments-wilken-decision-say-about-ncaa-sports/>
* “Can Student-Athlete Gain More Control Over Their Lives and Earnings?” Interview with Steve Goldstein, *The Show*, KJZZ/NPR, March 19, 2019: <https://theshow.kjzz.org/content/824191/can-student-athletes-gain-more-control-over-their-lives-and-earnings>
* “How do NCAA’s amateurism rules impact a player like Zion Williamson?” *Why Sport Matters* podcast conversation with Ken Shropshire, February 22, 2019: <https://globalsportmatters.com/podcast/2019/02/22/podcast-how-does-ncaas-amateurism-rules-impact-a-player-like-zion-williamson/>

**Speaking Engagements**

* *Talk on college sports and power, privilege, and allyship, invited talk to kick off Vanderbilt University Sport and Society Initiative’s “race, gender, and sports” speaker series, March 26, 2020 POSTPONED*
* “Reflections on NCAA Exploitation Debates: Victoria Jackson and Nathan Kalman-Lamb in Conversation” invited talk at Duke University, October 4.

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S1QLs1AqhUU>

* “Black athlete labor pays for white athlete privilege, and other ways American college sports should make us all uncomfortable,” Invited keynote, University of Arizona Controversial Issues in Higher Education annual conference. June 27, 2019:<https://cihe.arizona.edu/speakers>

Video: <https://cihe.arizona.edu/livestream>

Tucson Daily Star coverage: <https://tucson.com/sports/arizonawildcats/ua-s-controversial-issues-symposium-addresses-student-athletes-title-ix/article_1c9b0bf2-c1b8-5976-a263-8d3ad3075751.html> (I believe Harry Edwards watched the video and wrote Ken about it!)

* “Mujeres Floreciendo en el Deporte” (Women in Sports forum), hosted by Tec de Monterrey, in partnership with CONAPRED (Mexican federal commission to prevent discrimination) and ASU Sun Devil Athletics/women’s soccer, June 24, 2019: <https://tec.mx/es/noticias/monterrey/deportes/vivira-tec-futbol-femenil-internacional-en-el-estadio-borregos>
* “Black athlete labor and white athlete privilege – and disparate educational outcomes – in big-time college sports,” invited talk, University of Colorado at Boulder, April 9, 2019. In addition to this talk, I visited and spoke in 2 Philosophy of Sport classes and 1 Sports Governance class while in Boulder.
* “Breaking the Glass Ceiling: Women in College Sports,” Invited talk and panel participant, University of South Carolina College Sports Research Institute annual conference, April 3-5, 2019. (David Ridpath included me on this panel so I could be provocative and point out to advocates for women’s college sports that when we advocate for more, the burden of creating that “more” is placed on disproportionately black men who play football and basketball at PWIs. I put out a call that advocates of women’s college sports can do that work, but we must do it from a place of allyship and prioritizing the more pressing issue of the exploitation of revenue-sport athletes, the majority of whom, at Power 5 schools, are black.)
* Panel moderator, “Race, Gender, and Inclusion in Intercollegiate Athletics,” ASU Global Sport Summit, March 29, 2019. ASU Now write-up covering panel: <https://asunow.asu.edu/20190331-arizona-impact-looking-sports-microcosm-racial-gender-disparities-society>
* “Critical issues in race and sport” HST 130 class visit, speaking on panel with Robert Turner and Greg Moore, March 28, 2019. Greg Moore’s article about the class, for *Arizona Republic*: <https://www.azcentral.com/story/sports/college/asu/2019/03/28/arizona-state-students-sports-experts-race-culture-economics/3289407002/>
* “Sport Majilis: A Conversation on Global Sport, Gender Equity, Race, and More,” public talk at NYU Abu Dhabi, February 28, 2019.
* Host and Moderator, “The Renaissance of the African American Athlete,” Global Sport Institute Black History Month event with London 1948 Olympians Herb Douglas and Harrison Dillard, and discussion of their documentary on 9 African American medalists in the Berlin 1936 Olympic Games, February 11, 2019*:* <https://globalsport.asu.edu/events/global-sport-conversation-series/renaissance-african-american-athlete>; ASU Now write-up: “Sport Continues to Drive Social Change”: <https://asunow.asu.edu/20190211-global-engagement-global-sport-institute-african-american-athletes-social-change> *Arizona Republic*: <https://www.azcentral.com/story/sports/olympics/2019/02/12/1948-olympians-still-passing-forward-inspiration-jesse-owens/2842526002/>

**Quotes in Selected Journalistic Pieces, Sharing Expertise as Sports Historian**

* Jeff Metcalfe, “Arizona could join states allowing athletes to benefit from name, image, likeness,” *Arizona Republic/AZ Central*, January 17, 2020: <https://www.azcentral.com/story/sports/college/asu/2020/01/17/arizona-could-join-states-allowing-college-athletes-benefit-name-image-likeness/4502647002/>
* Ethan Bauer, “Amid a minefield of generic nicknames, how do college mascots distinguish themselves?” *Deseret News*, January 10, 2020: <https://www.deseret.com/indepth/2020/1/10/21052358/clemson-lsu-tigers-nicknames-mascots-college-tribal> (I imagine Ethan was not expecting a discussion of Confederate symbology in Southern PWI football, but glad he enjoyed it!)
* Jarod Hector, “Too Big to Fail? Why the NCAA is at Another Crossroads over Athletes’ Rights,” *BET*, November 15, 2019: <https://www.bet.com/news/sports/2019/11/15/op-ed--too-big-to-fail--why-the-ncaa-is-at-another-crossroads-ov.html>
* Wesley Jenkins, “Hundreds of Colleges may be out of Compliance with Title IX. Here’s Why,” *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, October 23, 2019: <https://www.chronicle.com/article/Hundreds-of-Colleges-May-Be/247396>
* ESPNW summit panel talking points for moderator Sarah Spain, “The Value of College Athletes. To Pay or Not to Pay,” October 22, 2019: <https://www.espnwsummit.com/event/print_agenda>

Also aired as an episode of Sarah Spain’s That’s What She Said podcast, “Image and Likeness,” October 29, 2019: <http://www.espn.com/espnradio/podcast/archive/_/id/14603142>

* Nathan Fenno, “NCAA Sports are doomed they say. Yeah, we’ve heard that before,” *Los Angeles Times*, October 2, 2019: <https://www.latimes.com/sports/story/2019-10-02/college-athletics-reform-ncaa-doomsday-title-ix>
* Brady, McCollough, “Women respond to Pac-12 assertion that new California law would hurt female athletes,” *Los Angeles Times*, October 1, 2019: <https://www.latimes.com/sports/story/2019-10-01/college-athletics-reform-ncaa-women-olympics>
* Ethan Bauer, “Should college athletes be paid for their names and images? Where college sports could go from here,” *Deseret News*, October 1, 2019: <https://www.deseret.com/indepth/2019/9/19/20871318/college-athletes-paid-for-their-names-and-images-college-sports-terrelle-pryor-tattoogate>
* Jarod Hector, “’Fair Pay to Play’ Act seems like a step in the right direction, but if NCAA has its way, it will be more of the same,” *BET*, September 13, 2019: <https://www.bet.com/news/sports/2019/09/13/fair-pay-to-play-act-seems-like-a-step-in-the-right-direction-bu0.html>
* Chris Hummer, “The NCAA vs. Everyone: On the student-athlete likeness debate,” 247sports.com, September 13, 2019: <https://247sports.com/Article/NCAA-student-athlete-likeness-debate-California-bill-Fair-Pay-to-Play-Act-135516864/>
* Noble Ingram, “The End of Amateurism? What’s Behind the Calls to Pay College Athletes,” *The Christian Science Monitor*, March 27, 2019: <https://www.csmonitor.com/EqualEd/2019/0327/The-end-of-amateurism-What-s-behind-calls-to-pay-NCAA-athletes>
* A.J. Perez, “College admissions scandal a ‘slap in the face’ to minority athletes,” *USA Today*, March 18, 2019: <https://www.usatoday.com/story/sports/2019/03/18/college-admissions-scandal-how-wealthy-leveraged-racial-bias-sports/3167906002/>
* Jeremy Bauer-Wolf, “Video Games: Entertainment or Sports?” [article on current state of collegiate esports] *Inside Higher Ed*, February 12, 2019: <https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2019/02/12/new-frontier-college-athletics-video-games>