ACC-CRIA INNOVATION INITIATIVE SMALL GRANT PROGRAM RECIPIENTS ANNOUNCED

Seven ACC Faculty and Student Research Projects Funded Totaling $22,000

Greensboro, NC Today, officials from the Atlantic Coast Conference announced the inaugural recipients of the Innovation Initiatives Small Grant Program. Seven research proposals were selected and awarded grants totaling $22,000.

Proposal authors, which included both faculty and students, represented seven different ACC institutions. A total of 22 proposals were initially submitted earlier this fall.

The purpose of the grant program is to fund research examining issues related to college athletics administration. Specifically, the program calls for research proposals with a focus on one of five key areas:

1. Student-athlete welfare (mental health, time, physical health)
2. Revenue generation (donor relations, ticket sales, arms race of expenditures)
3. Athletics organizational behavior (work-life balance, salaries, culture)
4. NCAA rules (transfer students, scholarship levels, sports wagering)
5. Current issues (NIL, COVID, Social Justice)

Grant recipients will present their findings to ACC athletics administrators at the conference’s spring meeting in 2021.

The winning grant submissions are outlined below.

Perceptions of ACC sport psychologists and Athletic Trainers on mental-health strategies for student-athletes ($1,700)

- Chris Boyer, MS – Ph.D. Student and Assistant Vice Chancellor, Strategic Brand Management, NC State University.
- Virginia Blake - Undergraduate Student and Women’s Basketball Team Manager, NC State University.
- Jason N. Bocarro, Ph.D. - Department of Parks, Recreation & Tourism Mgt, NC State University
- Jonathan M. Casper, Ph.D. - Department of Parks, Recreation & Tourism Mgt, NC State University
- Kimberly Bush, Ph.D. - Department of Parks, Recreation & Tourism Mgt, NC State University
• Michael B. Edwards, Ph.D. - Department of Parks, Recreation & Tourism Mgt, NC State University
• Joel Pawlak, Ph.D. - Department of Forest Biomaterials and NC State Faculty Athletic Representative
• Danielle Smith, M.S. Teaching Assistant Professor - Department of Exercise and Sport Sciences, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.
• Michelle Joshua, Ph.D. - Sports Psychologist, NC State University.

The Impact of College Conference TV Networks on College Football and Basketball Attendance ($2,700)
• Jeremy Losak, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Department of Sport Management, Syracuse University
• Samuel Marteka, Undergraduate 4th Year Sport Analytics Major, Syracuse University
• Mackenzie Mangos, Undergraduate 2nd Year Sport Analytics Major, Syracuse University

Development and validation of a multidimensional mental health screening instrument ($5,500)
• John Lalor, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Department of IT, Analytics, and Operations, The University of Notre Dame
• Scott Nestler, Ph.D., Associate Teaching Professor, Department of IT, Analytics, & Operations, The University of Notre Dame
• Martin Barron, Ph.D., Assistant Teaching Professor, Department of IT, Analytics, & Operations, The University of Notre Dame
• Seth Berry, Ph.D., Assistant Teaching Professor, Department of IT, Analytics, & Operations, The University of Notre Dame

Relationship between dietary intake, diet quality, and biomarkers of health and performance in ACC cross country runners ($1,500)
• David E. Barney, MS, Nutrition Sciences PhD Candidate, Department of Nutrition, Food, & Exercise Sciences, Florida State University
• Stephen R. Hennigar, PhD, Assistant Professor, Department of Nutrition, Food, & Exercise Sciences, Florida State University
Examining the impact of family and organizational culture on the work-nonwork relationship of intercollegiate athletic department employees ($5,850)

- Kyle Bunds, PhD, Associate Professor, Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism Management, North Carolina State University
- Elizabeth Taylor, PhD, Assistant Professor, School of Sport, Tourism and Hospitality Management, Temple University
- Matt Huml, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, University of Cincinnati, Sport Management, University of Cincinnati
- Julie Wayne, Professor, School of Business, Wake Forest University

A Tale of Two Cities: COVID-19 and Student-Athletes’ Psychological Well-Being ($2,750)

- Carter Floyd, Doctoral Student, College of Education, Department of Sport Management, Florida State University
- Susmit Gulavani, Doctoral Student, College of Education, Department of Sport Management, Florida State University
- James Du, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Sport Marketing, College of Education, Department of Sport Management, Florida State University
- Jason Pappas, Ph.D., Associate Teaching Professor, College of Education, Department of Sport Management, Florida State University

College Athlete Advocacy & Activism: Perceptions of Support in the Fight for Racial and Social Justice ($2,000)

- Molly Harry, M.A., Doctoral Student, Curry School of Education, University of Virginia