

**The Siegel Institute for Leadership, Ethics & Character
Research Study: Women and Sports**

The Siegel Institute is conducting a research study to analyze the effects of participating in sports on the lives of women. The study will look at factors that restrict or deter women from participating in such activities. A team of five members of KSU faculty and staff (highlighted below) are collaborating on this project which will also explore the influences on women who play sports and investigate the impact of outside factors on women's decisions to continue in or leave the sports world.



*Linda M. Johnston
Executive Director,
The Siegel Institute for
Ethics, Leadership &
Character*

Dr. Linda M. Johnston is Executive Director of the Siegel Institute for Leadership, Ethics & Character and an Associate Professor of Conflict Management. She holds a Ph.D. in Conflict Analysis and Resolution from George Mason University, a Master's in Institutional Administration and a Bachelor's in Dietetics from Michigan State University. She has taught at George Mason and Antioch University McGregor prior to coming to Kennesaw.

On the Study

Dr. Johnston's interest in sports research began with an interest in why some sports become violent, and grew into interests in cross-cultural differences in sports, sports and leadership, and sports and peacekeeping. She has participated in several sports-related studies and is currently working on a book on sports and peacekeeping. "This study melds my interests in both sports and what motivates women."

Dr. Debarati Sen is a cultural anthropologist with a background in sociology and gender studies. Dr. Sen's research and teaching embody a commitment to issues of social justice from a feminist perspective. At KSU she holds a joint appointment in the department of Geography and Anthropology and the Ph.D. Program in International Conflict Management. Before coming to KSU, Dr. Sen was a tenured faculty at American University in Washington D.C and was an instructor at Rutgers University in New Jersey. She earned her Ph.D. in Cultural Anthropology at Rutgers University and her M.A. in Sociology, Delhi School of Economics at Delhi University in India.

On the Study

Coming from a culture in India, where sports is not a celebrated vocation for women, into American culture where women are selectively accepted in certain sports because of prevailing patriarchies, Dr. Sen believes that she will bring a unique vantage point to the project. She adds, "I am excited about this project as it will help me understand what motivates and sustains sportswomen in the USA. As a long-term feminist ethnographer and researcher I hope to add a reflexive and intersectional lens to the understanding of women in sports."

Prof. Frances Ohanenye has worked in education for more than twenty years at the K-12 and college levels. She holds a M.A. in journalism from the University of Georgia and a B.S. in mass communication from Middle Tennessee State University. In addition to her current position as a public speaking instructor at KSU, Prof. Ohanenye is a contributing writer for Yahoo! Voices and the Atlanta Education Examiner. She is also an editor, ghost writer, test-prep and study skills tutor, and keyword maximizing writer for Search Engine Optimization (SEO).

On the Study

Prof. Ohanenye became involved in sporting events during her formative years when competitive sports made their way into schools for the first time. She was featured in local TV coverage as the first player when her high school launched its first tennis court and was so talented in soccer that people called her "Pele," after the male Brazilian player widely regarded as the best soccer player of all time. "When I see women involved in professional sports," she says, "my heart rejoices with incredible justice to see how far womankind has come, especially in Third World countries where culture can be crippling and where resources can be very scant."

Coach Karen Weatherington enters her third season as head coach of the KSU volleyball program. She has guided the Owls to the best two seasons in the program's history. Her coaching career began fifteen years ago when she served as top assistant coach at New Mexico State University (NMSU) in Las Cruces. Weatherington came to KSU after serving four seasons as Associate Head Coach at Butler University in Indianapolis, IN. Weatherington completed her M.S. in Education at Butler College. She graduated from NMSU with undergraduate degrees in journalism and psychology.

On the Study

Coach Weatherington says that sports has been an integral part of her life and that being an athlete has equipped her with many critical skills, such as having a strong work ethic, a goal-oriented mentality and passion. Weatherington says she follows in the footsteps of a long line of women who saw her athletic ability and taught her that humility, positive attitude and mental toughness must accompany natural talent in order to be successful. "I've met and was influenced by so many incredibly talented women who remain accessible to those they lead and who share their stories to encourage women to compete in all areas of sports," she says.



*Karen Weatherington
Head Coach
KSU Volley Ball*

**MEET FOUR KSU STUDENTS WORKING WITH THE SIEGEL INSTITUTE'S
RESEARCH AND SERVICE PROJECTS**



CRYSTAL MONEY

Crystal Money works on the GACE Research Project for the Siegel Institute. She is collaborating with KSU's Career Services Center to create a survey to be administered to students, graduates, faculty, and professionals at a conference in March 2012. The survey's focus is

to document the current role of internships in both the university and the job market. The questions attempt to gauge the effectiveness of internships in both gaining leadership experience and securing employment. Most college students today are required to participate in some type of internship. The goal through the survey is to gain a better understanding from all parts of the internship process in order to provide students with as much knowledge, skills, and experience as possible.

Crystal earned an undergraduate dual degree in Cultural Geography and Africa & African Diaspora Studies. During that time, she was an intern for the Peoplestown Project with Dr. LeeAnn Lands. Crystal has spent multiple summers abroad in Africa studying the cultures of both North and East Africa. She is in her first semester of KSU's American Studies Masters program.



LINDSAY SARIPKIN

As an intern at the Siegel Institute, Lindsay Saripkin is learning about grant writing and creating environmental education programs for visually-impaired youth. On behalf of the Siegel Institute, Lindsay has written a proposal for the Annie's Grants for Gardens

Program. The program, entitled "Community Garden to Advance Environmental Stewardship for Visually Impaired Youth," will target approximately twenty-five children, ages eight to eleven.

After graduating from the University of Georgia, Lindsay spent three years in Costa Rica teaching English, writing for a bilingual magazine, and immersing herself in the Spanish language. Lindsay also works as a GRA for Dr. Ulf Zimmermann. After graduation, Lindsay hopes to start a career in community development with an emphasis in education and environmental sustainability.



STEPHANIE SIDNEY

Stephanie Sidney has worked for the past year as a graduate research assistant at the Siegel Institute where she assists in writing proposals for grants and publishes the Institute's bi-monthly newsletter. Most recently she has worked on the grant proposal for The Big Read, a national reading program sponsored by the National Endowment

of the Arts.

Stephanie is a graduate student in the Master of Arts in Professional Writing (MAPW) program at Kennesaw State University. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in English from Agnes Scott College in Decatur, Georgia. She has worked in media for ten years during which she has held positions as Public Relations Director of Atlanta's Interdenominational Theological Center, as a TV news producer for CBS, and as an editorial assistant at the Atlanta Journal & Constitution. Her matriculation in the MAPW program encompasses a major in creative nonfiction and fiction (memoir, TV/film script writing, and poetry) with a minor in applied writing, to be utilized in teaching and grant writing. She is a native of Griffin, Georgia. In her spare time she enjoys hiking and reading memoirs of extraordinary people.



SHONDRAE KNIGHT

Dr. Linda Johnston, Executive Director of the Siegel Institute, nominated Ms. Shondrae Knight for the KSU Adult Learner Award.

Shondrae Knight gave herself two more years to complete her undergraduate courses, after working towards her bachelor's degree for

fourteen years. She has been able to do so in only one and a half years and will graduate in May 2012. She describes her educational experience as a journey with many obstacles that she has overcome. "I am a 30-year-old-mother of three who are all consistently on the honor roll," she explains. "When I re-enrolled at KSU, my GPA had dropped to 1.2 and I was determined to raise it." She has taken six to seven classes per semester to raise her GPA and will apply to law school after graduation. Describing herself as one who "works hard and loves hard," Shondrae says she makes it her business to meet someone new everyday and encourage the people she encounters. "I have a passion for public speaking and enjoy impromptu speeches. I am always working to take my talent in these areas to a higher level," she says. Shondrae has been a member of Toastmasters and is currently President of the Legacy Owls Toastmasters at KSU. She is also the founder and director of the non-profit organization, Don't Forget About Me Inc, founded in 2010 to help children in urban neighborhoods. Shondrae is an education advocate and participates in many projects that serve the homeless.

**The Siegel Institute recognizes Dr. Melissa Browning
Siegel Institute faculty member**

Dr. Browning holds a Ph.D. in Christian Ethics from Loyola University in Chicago. Her primary research areas include Feminist theology and ethics, sexual ethics, bioethics, and HIV and AIDS. Her most recent project focuses on the ways in which marriage is an HIV/AIDS risk factor for women in East Africa. In this project, Dr. Browning builds on fieldwork completed in Mwanza, Tanzania where women were asked to re-imagine Christian marriage as a space of safety and health for women. As an ordained Baptist minister in the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, Dr. Browning attempts to balance her academic work with her commitment to the church and the world. She has worked in relief and development with street children and refugees in Nairobi, Kenya and has also completed academic fieldwork and study in the East Africa region. Additionally, Dr. Browning has presented numerous papers at academic conferences and has published both academic and popular articles. Aside from her post at KSU, she is currently an Adjunct Instructor in Ethics at Lexington Theological Seminary and McAfee School of Theology at Mercer University.



Melissa Browning, Ph.D.

**“LUNCH & A MOVIE” and “LUNCH & A BOOK” Discussion Series
Siegel Institute Conference Room
3391 Town Point Drive, Suite 2400, Kennesaw, GA 30144
Noon—2:00 p.m.**

Join faculty and students to discuss books and films highlighting the lives of individuals in leadership and activism.
Lunch provided. Complimentary books and movies provided to each participant.

4/3/12 – Book: *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*. Facilitator: Dr. Marilyn King, Associate Director of the Graduate Nursing Program, KSU WellStar School of Nursing.



The Siegel Institute Ethics Scholarship was established to help support a student interested in performing research in leadership or ethics at the Siegel Institute for Leadership, Ethics & Character at Kennesaw State University. Please be sure to designate the Siegel Institute as the recipient of your donation; your gift will help a deserving graduate student. Students can apply now for the scholarship using the online application. <http://www.kennesaw.edu/scholarships/>

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Siegel Institute Ethics Scholarship

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**THE VOICE
OF ETHICAL LEADERSHIP**

March 15, 2012

The Newsletter of the Siegel Institute for Leadership, Ethics & Character
Edited by Stephanie Sidney, MAPW

**Dr. Linda Johnston and Mr. David Baugher
to Co-Chair Graduate Student Association**

Dr. Linda Johnston, Executive Director of the Siegel Institute is pleased to announce that she and Mr. David Baugher, Director of Graduate Admissions at Kennesaw State University, will co-chair the Graduate Student Association (GSA) beginning in the 2012-2013 academic year. The GSA is a networking body that helps put together and promote programs that teach and connect graduate students. The organization provides networking and social events that connect the 2,000 graduate students from all the colleges and schools at KSU. The GSA also offers financial assistance to graduate students looking to attend conferences for academic purposes. <http://gsa.ksuclubs.com>

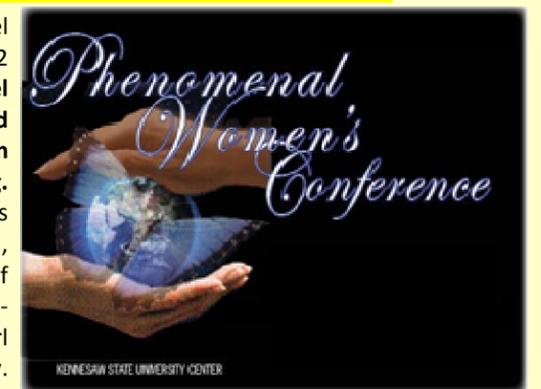


I am excited to begin working with the Graduate Student Association and Dr. Linda Johnston. In my role as the Assistant Dean for the Graduate College I look forward to serving as a strong resource for the GSA and hope that together we can develop programs that will benefit our graduate students and get them more involved in the organization and KSU as a whole.

David Baugher
Director of Graduate Student Admissions

**12th Annual Phenomenal Women’s Conference
“Create, Innovate and Collaborate: New Paths in Women’s Leadership”
Friday, March 23, 2012 - 8:30 a.m.–4:00 p.m.**

This year’s Phenomenal Women’s Conference will feature speakers, a panel discussion, workshops, and a networking lunch, where the recipient of the 2012 Phenomenal Woman Award will be announced. **Of note is that the Siegel Institute initiated a series of pre-conference workshops (held January 19th and February 9th, 2012) with a total of 32 attendees who shared best practices on business and conflict negotiation, time management, and goal setting.** Workshop topics on March 23, 2012 will include new developments in women’s leadership, work/life balance, life’s transitional phases, communication, rediscovering civility, negotiating, how to be politically active, and the role of sports in the development of young women leaders. Haley Kilpatrick, award-winning Executive Direct of Girl Talk, will give the opening keynote address. Girl Talk is one of the fastest growing nonprofit mentoring programs in the country. Please join us!



The Siegel Institute strives to be the face of the ethics mission and the embodiment of the leadership and ethics commitment of Kennesaw State University. Our mission is to promote study, research, reflection, and understanding of ethics and leadership through experiential opportunities and excellence in scholarship and teaching for members of KSU and the wider community. Through course offerings, campus services, and applied research, the Institute supports KSU’s campus-wide efforts to prepare ethical leaders who can meet the challenges of increasing global awareness, technology, literacy, diversity, integrity, and lifelong learning.
www.kennesaw.edu/siegelinstitute • 678-797-2000 • 3391 Town Point Drive, Suite 2400, Kennesaw, GA 30144