

NAGWS Gender Equity Survey

During the summer months NAGWS conducted a Title IX/Gender Equity Survey on Survey Monkey to begin to get a handle on what information would be most valuable to members on this issue.

To date 240 individuals responded to the survey...thank you! The results provide some interesting paths of exploration while confirming some assumptions held beforehand:

- Nearly 62% of the respondents reported that they HAD discussions about gender equity in their professional setting.
- Nearly 55% of the respondents said they had a gender equity plan in their setting; 18% said they did not; over 27% did not know.
- Nearly 75% of the respondents said their school had made adjustments in the athletic program to address gender equity issues; nearly 13% had not; 13% did not know.
- When asked what adjustments were made, just over 80% said that their school had increased sport offerings; 34% had provided more facilities; 33% had hired more coaches and nearly 18% had offered less men's sports.
- More than 62% of respondents DID NOT know who their Title IX coordinator is.

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SHAWN'S SENSE



As I sit down to write my first Presidential statement for the *NAGWS Gazette*, there is much excitement and also many questions as to the evolution of NAGWS. For 110 years, so many individuals have continued to work toward our mission of developing and delivering equitable and quality sport opportunities for ALL girls and women through relevant research, advocacy, leadership development, educational strategies, and programming in a manner that promotes social justice and change.

And now in 2009, it is a time of reflection, transition, and evolution as we approach a time of questions about our financial viability and the likelihood of transitioning into a Council within AAPAR in the AAHPERD structure. In addition, I know the NAGWS Board and others are working to honor our legacy of the past and continue our mission toward the future in other ways. So with that in mind, today we must open our minds to the possibilities ahead. We all our committed to "Never Again Girls and Women Without Sport" so our focus is never diminished. Our work is far from complete!

Without a doubt, more than ever, organizations such as NAGWS need to be ever present and alive with a

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Obesity Numbers Rising for Girls

Our numbers are going up, but in this case, that is not a good thing! According to the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey from the National Center for Health Statistics, all children under 18 are in trouble, but statistics for overweight girls ages 12-17 continue to rise at an alarming rate.

In 2006, 17.5% of females ages 12-17 were considered overweight (up from 16.0% in 2004 and 15.2% in 2002). Overweight is defined as body mass index (BMI) at or above the 95th percentile of the 2000 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention sex specific BMI-for-age growth charts.

For females ages 6-11, 14.1% were considered overweight in 2006. That number was down from 17.6% in 2004 and slightly lower than the 14.9% level in 2002.

For the overall group of females ages 6-17, 2006 numbers dropped slightly from 2004's 16.8% to 15.9%. Overall numbers in 2002 showed a 15.1% rate for overweight in girls in all age groups.

Adults aren't much better off. According to the "F as in Fat: How Obesity Policies Are Failing in America 2009" report released this summer by the Trust for America's Health and Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, adult obesity rates increased in 23 states and did not decrease in any state in the past year.

Mississippi recorded the highest adult obesity rate (32.5%) and led the field for the fifth year in a row. Other states with high rates include Alabama (31.2%), West Virginia (31.1%) and Tennessee (30.2%).

Colorado recorded the lowest adult obesity rate (18.9%) and

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and more...



“You’re not obligated to win. You’re obligated to keep trying to do the best you can every day.”

— Marian Wright Edelman

Badminton Anyone?

According to The National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS), Badminton is a “hot” sport with more than 15,000 female participants in 2007-08.

Leading the way in badminton are California (185 schools), Illinois (88 schools) and New York (43 schools). California ranked second overall in athletic participation (boys and girls) behind Texas.

The badminton numbers for females don’t rival the traditional sports – like basketball (17,564 schools), outdoor track and field (15,772 schools) or volleyball (15,009) – but in terms of what the NCAA calls the “Emerging Sports,” badminton is doing well.

Emerging Sports are those sports that are trying to achieve championship level status with the NCAA. The list has also included archery (43 schools/544 participants overall for females at the high school level), equestrian (165 schools with 1,314 female participants) and synchronized swimming (Minnesota had 19 programs).

Bruce Howard, NFHS Director of Communications, says that the fastest growing sports for females at the high school level, though, are lacrosse and bowling.



Anorexia and Title IX

A lawsuit has been filed naming Pittsburgh Public Schools, Frick Middle School and Principal Wayne Walters as defendants in a case charging the named parties with Title IX violations related to bullying of a female student at the school.

Several boys in the school were accused of bullying a female student about her weight over a two-year period contributing to the girl’s developing anorexia. The case accuses the school and administration of failing to provide equal educational opportunity by neglecting to resolve the bullying, and of failing to have or enforce policies addressing student misconduct.

Title IX has traditionally been applied most often to cases involving athletics and scholarships, but the U.S. Supreme Court has supported that peer-on-peer harassment is includ-

ed in the legislation. In an Associated Press [article](#). Tom Hutton, Senior Staff Attorney for the National School Boards Association, said schools are responsible for stopping bullying; failure to do so has been interpreted as a lost educational opportunity under Title IX.

In the same AP article Lynn Grefe, CEO of National Eating Disorders Association, explained that bullying could add to the dynamics of anorexia which usually develops in “people with anxiety, obsessive-compulsive or perfectionist behavior.” Greve did not know of any similar suits being filed.

According to the Pittsburgh Post Gazette (August 20, 2009), Pittsburgh Public School officials have issued a statement saying they have a policy in place to address student misconduct. The female student has since enrolled in a private school.

Basketball Legends Celebrations in Indy

As part of the celebration of AAHPERD’s 125th Anniversary in Indianapolis this March, NAGWS is planning to host a Basketball Legends game featuring some of the great names of women’s basketball. The game is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, March 18.

Players and final site will be announced in the Fall, but Valerie Still and Lynette Woodard have taken the lead in coordinating the players for the game. Still (currently completing her dissertation at The Ohio State University) was the ABL World Champion MVP, played

and coached in the WNBA, and played in the Italian Professional League. Woodard is a Hall of Famer, played in the Italian Professional League, was an Olympic Gold Medal Winner and Captain (1984), and was the first female to play as a Harlem Globetrotter!

A number of activities are currently in the planning stages to highlight both the development of the game and celebrate the history of women’s basketball. Watch for updates on the Basketball Legends Celebration and keep your calendars free for a great night of fun and excitement in Indy!



Mary Jennings Sport Camp Scholarship Deadline

The Fall deadline for the next Mary Jennings Sport Camp Scholarship is October 1. Girls ages 10-14 are eligible to apply for support to attend a sport camp of their choice.

Information on the fund and application process is available on the NAGWS site. In addition, groups or individuals can support the fund by hosting a fundraiser or contributing individually. Each scholarship to date has been in the range of \$500.

This summer Lara Lathrop attended Nike Tennis Camp in New England as our Summer 2009 honoree. If you know a girl who would like to attend a sports camp, please refer her to the Mary Jennings pages and urge her to apply TODAY!

“ There is one thing stronger
than all the world, and that is an idea
whose time has come. ”
— Victor Hugo

New WSPAJ Co-Editors Appointed



Dr. Joy T. DeSensi and Dr. Athena Yiamouyiannis have accepted the positions of Co-Editors of NAGWS' peer-reviewed publication *Women in Sport and Physical Activity Journal* (WSPAJ) effective June 2009.

WSPAJ is published online three times per year and is one of two journals world-wide focusing on girls and women in sport. NAGWS began publishing WSPAJ online in 2005. Emphases of the journal are the development of theory about women and their physicality, gender issues relevant to women in sport and physical activity, feminist re-conceptualizations of existing knowledge, and action-oriented research. Contributions for the Journal are sought throughout the world and from traditional and non-traditional settings.

Dr. DeSensi is currently the Associate Dean of the University of Tennessee Graduate School and Professor in the Department of Exercise, Sport, and Leisure Studies where she served as Department Head for ten years. Dr. Yiamouyiannis joined Ohio University's Sports Administration faculty in 2006. Previously, she served three years as the Executive Director of the National Association for Girls and Women in Sport (NAGWS).

The new co-editors are currently at work forming a new Journal Editorial Board and processing the current queue of submissions. Further information about submitting research, subscribing to the Journal or access to the Journal is available through the NAGWS web site.

WSPAJ subscriptions are a very affordable \$20 per year for individuals (members of AAHPERD) and \$50 per year for libraries, so if you are not currently a subscriber, sign on now. The next issue of WSPAJ will be published in early Fall 2009.

What is "GLAMPING?"

Glamping is the new word for glamour camping! Despite the rustic appeal of traditional camping for some people, others find the possible bugs, dirt and manual labor involved in the camping experience to be unattractive or even repulsive.

Some campgrounds are now offering concierge-like services to "glampers" – things like tent set-up on site, cooking support, individualized instruction and more modern conveniences. Companies serving traditional campers are now also providing more glamorous products like upscale large tents with room divisions, much more elaborate (and heavy) cooking systems, and accessories to modernize the outdoor experience. *Are you a potential glamper?*

Title IX DVD Hits the Market

NAGWS' newest instructional resource, a 3-disc DVD entitled *Title IX: Implications for Women in Sport and Education*, has hit the market and is a "must-have" for anyone who teaches Title IX, conducts research on Title IX or is simply interested in gender equity.

The 14-chapter product features interviews with more than 30 men and women who focus on topics such as Title IX requirements, legislative history, social context, impact and intended/unintended consequences. A multitude of rich visual images supplement the information. Each chapter includes questions for further exploration that can be used in the classroom or for personal understanding.

Speakers filling the more than three hours of material include Bernice Sandler, Birch Bayh, Christine Brennan, Linda Carpenter, Vivian Acosta, Lucinda Adams and Donna Lopiano. Other speakers viewers will recognize include Doris Corbett, Don Sabo, Chris Shelton, Carole Oglesby and many more.

Significant contributions by Ketra Armstrong and Janet Parks were made to complete this project. An annotated table of Contents, a complete list of speakers, and ordering information are posted on the NAGWS web site. The DVD is for sale at \$80 for members/\$99.95 for non-members.

The DVD project was completed in partnership with WBGU-PBS (Bowling Green State University) and supported in part by a grant from the Research Consortium. Watch for the trailer on the new AAHPERD web site this Fall!

Disc 1

- Chapter 1: Governance of U.S. Women's Intercollegiate Athletics: Play Days to the NCAA – Part 1 (12:43)
- Chapter 2: Governance of U.S. Women's Intercollegiate Athletics: Play Days to the NCAA – Part 2 (14:08)
- Chapter 3: Multiple Meanings of Sport for Girls and Women (18:35)
- Chapter 4: Opportunities for Women Prior to the 1975 Title IX Regulation (20:21)
- Chapter 5: Intended Consequences of Title IX (15:56)

Disc 2

- Chapter 6: Unintended Consequences of Title IX (20:09)
- Chapter 7: Fulfilling the Promise of Title IX (14:04)
- Chapter 8: The 2002-2003 Commission on Opportunity in Athletics (22:13)
- Chapter 9: Acosta & Carpenter; Research We Can Count On (11:14)

Disc 3

- Chapter 10: Grove City College v. Bell: Four More Years Without Title IX (6:30)
- Chapter 11: Landmark Supreme Court Decisions: Cannon, Franklin, and Jackson (12:49)
- Chapter 12: Bernice R. Sandler; Godmother of Title IX (14:56)
- Chapter 13: Patsy Takemoto Mink: A Driving Force in the House of Representatives (12:55)
- Chapter 14: Birch Bayh: Title IX Champion in the Senate (18:57)

Annotated table of contents: www.wbgu.org/titleIX

IMPLICATIONS FOR WOMEN IN SPORT AND EDUCATION

Title IX experts discuss topics such as its intended and unintended consequences, landmark legal decisions, and misconceptions about the law's effect on men's athletics.

THREE-DISC SET

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“Make no little plans; they have no magic to stir the blood... make big plans; aim high and hope they work.”

— Daniel Burnham



WPS Adds Two Teams

Women's Professional Soccer (WPS) has announced the addition of two new teams who will begin play in 2010. The Philadelphia Independence and the Atlanta Beat will join the current seven teams in the league.

Comparing the Numbers

One of the key pieces of monitoring Title IX is to compare numbers – numbers of female and male athletes as well as numbers of female and male students.

At the high school level, it appears that states are receiving little guidance in how to monitor those numbers. The National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHA) reports annual statistics by sport, gender and state. But how do states gather those numbers?

In an August 16, 2009 feature, Cincinnati's newspaper, The Enquirer (www.cincinnati.com), evaluated 62 public schools in four area counties and found that schools reported data (if they reported it at all) in haphazard ways. Data for rosters might apply to one school year, while data for enrollment might apply to another. Of the 62 schools evaluated, 10 failed to provide information at all; 23 of the schools that did provide information had female participation rates at least 10 percentage points lower than their percentage of female enrollment.

The newspaper also found that no governing organization in Ohio (or neighboring Indiana) tracks Title IX information at the high school level. However in nearby Kentucky, since 1999 the Kentucky High School Athletic Association has required high schools to file annual Title IX reports. Schools found to be out of compliance are given improvement guidelines; failure to implement those guidelines can result in loss of contests in future seasons. KHSAA not only collects data annually – it also suggests schools meet female athlete participation rates within 3% of female enrollment.

The High School Sports Information Collection Act of 2009 sponsored by Maine Sen. Olympia Snowe would help all high schools report data consistently. Before the passage of Title IX in 1972, fewer than 300,000 girls played organized sports; today that number is more than 3 million.

Critics of the Snowe bill are nervous about the pending legislation citing time and money as obstacles. But Mike Barren, KHSAA assistant commissioner, laughs it off saying, "It's not that difficult. We've been doing it for ten years. It's really pretty easy."

Recent data has indicated that girls in urban schools are even less likely to have sport opportunities and that urban schools are out of compliance with Title IX at a much higher rate than their suburban counterparts. In Ohio, however, data does not exist to compare urban and suburban schools.

The Enquirer requested public information documents and found that the data (when gathered) does support the notion that urban girls are less-served than others. In comparing data for several schools, the newspaper found that the suburban schools they looked at might not achieve proportionality, but they did offer more options for girls to compete and proportionality numbers were more in alignment.

For example, at suburban Lakota West, girls made up 49% of the student population and held 38% of the roster spots last year. Girls at Lakota West could choose from 11 sports.

At urban Hughes Center, 58% of the school's population was female in 2007-08 (Ohio Dept. of Education); 88% are African American. Female athletes comprised 31% of Hughes' athletes in 2008-09 and had 4 sports to choose from. (Hughes is part of the Cincinnati Public School District which did not submit 2008-09 enrollment figures.)

Several other schools were examined in each category and the pattern is the same. So if Title IX requires schools to address issues of gender equity in athletics and no one is tracking the numbers, how can a school/district know they need to change those numbers? In Ohio (and many other states), nobody is checking.

OHSAA does keep records of male and female athletes statewide, but it is not broken down by school. OHSAA does not make a participation rate suggestion or collect Title IX data, but it does publish a gender equity manual and refers people needing Title IX guidance to the regional Office of Civil Rights.

The Office of Civil Rights (OCR) is the Title IX enforcement body, but OCR does not monitor schools; instead, OCR responds to complaints. In Ohio, the OCR office in Cleveland received 34 complaints about sex discrimination in athletics in the five years between Jan. 1, 2004 and Dec. 31, 2008. At the national level, according to National Women's Law Center, OCR initiated one compliance review of a school's athletic program between Jan. 1, 2002 and Dec. 31, 2006. During that same time, 416 Title IX complaints were made with the national OCR.

Regular evaluations of Title IX compliance can help a school do a better job in providing sports opportunities for all. Highlands High School (Fort Thomas, KY) has used their record-keeping to improve their program. Highlands has a 102-member football team, but yet 43% of the school's athletes were females in 2007 – 6% shy of the female enrollment.

After their most recent report, Highlands athletic director Dale Mueller determined the difference the department was that the spending per male athlete compared to female athlete was too high. As a result, Highlands decreased expenditures per male athlete by \$4 while increasing expenditures per female athlete by \$51. The department also applied more money to rehabbing the softball field and adding a weight room for volleyball and basketball players...both male and female.

Mueller says, "I see our girls' soccer team battling for state championships every year. And that's because of Title IX reporting."





What do YOU think?

A regular column asking questions about current issues in sport

First Lady Michelle Obama was on the news recently causing a bit of an uproar about...shorts! Yes, Mrs. Obama was on vacation with the family in the 100-plus degree Grand Canyon when she appeared in public in shorts.

Undoubtedly a great deal of attention has been paid to Mrs. Obama and her fashion style since the Obamas arrived at the White House, but critics who equate her public appearance in shorts to the downfall of modern society or a defaming of the Office of the President may have gone a bit too far. After all, the woman WAS on vacation!

This summer a bit of a furor was also raised when Christine Brennan, noted Washington Post columnist and NAGWS' 2008 Guiding Woman in Sport, was quoted out of context commenting on a viral video posted on YouTube featuring ESPN sideline reporter Erin Andrews in the nude. Andrews had been secretly videotaped at her hotel through the door's peephole (giving all the more meaning to the term "Peeping Tom"); Brennan commented on the need for all reporters to be professional and have a solid skill set to ensure longevity in the field, but she also condemned the one who filmed Andrews and those who posted and re-posted the tape.

Brennan's comments were made to sound like she condemned Andrews for her physical appearance, but she raised a question that has been asked for years: Are there different standards for men and women in the same situation? Lauren Ashburn (Gannett Broadcasting) called the dilemma "the ugliness of beauty" and media personalities (male and female) were drawn into dialogue about the inappropriateness of not only secretly taping anyone but also about equating someone's gender and dress with their ability to do their job.

No doubt there is appropriate dress for appropriate occasions for anyone...after all, President Obama got a bit of attention for those jeans at the baseball game! For women, though, there may be a higher standard...or maybe it's a blurrier line?...for what is appropriate.

Shorts in the Grand Canyon for a hot vacation day? More than 80% of 300,000 respondents to a Today Show survey thought that Mrs. Obama's shorts were acceptable. It seems to make sense...*what do YOU think?*

“Not everything that matters can be counted, and not everything that can be counted matters.”

—Albert Einstein

SHAWN'S SAYINGS

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strong voice and reserve. Assorted examples from this summer reflect this message explicitly.

First, President Obama has named a Presidential Council on Women and Girls, dedicated to providing a coordinated federal response to the challenges confronted by women and girls and to ensure that all Cabinet and Cabinet-level agencies consider how their policies and programs impact women and families. This is a strong statement reflecting the White House's belief that more needs to be accomplished on many levels related to women and equity issues, whether it is health care, employment issues, or opportunities in physical activity.

On June 23rd, I attended a White House Celebration of Title IX, a first of its kind in such grandeur. Hosted by Valerie Jarrett, Senior Advisor to the President and Arne Duncan, Secretary of Education, the panel included athlete/activist Billie Jean King, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights Russlynn Ali, and President of the National Women's Law Center Marcia Greenberger to name a few. The overwhelming message was Title IX has had a tremendous impact BUT much more needs to happen to insure true equity for all.

Just this last Sunday the *New York Times Magazine* dedicated the issue to "Why women's rights are the cause of our time." "The oppression of women worldwide is the HUMAN RIGHTS cause of our time. And their LIBERATION could help solve many of the world's problems, from poverty to child mortality to terrorism. A 21st-century (wo)manifesto." (Kristof & WuDunn, *NY Times Magazine*, 8/23/09, p. 29).

This message resonated at the July 2009 International Association for Physical Education and Sport for Girls and Women (IAPESGW) Congress in Stellenbosch, South Africa where I had the great opportunity to attend and present. During the Congress, clear focuses were the concern for all women and girls globally, the progress that has been made to date, and the identification of future goals. For example, how wonderful that Nike and the United Nations have teamed up so that a uniform can be designed that allows Muslim women to honor their faith but also to move without restriction. But how can South African girls celebrate movement when they are also often worried that if they look fit there is a stigma associating thinness with HIV infection? Our work continues.

Current IAPESGW President (NAGWS Past President), Darlene Kluka was a grand host of the Congress and another NAGWS Past President Christine Shelton brought a Smith College contingent who helped to honor one of our international foremothers Dorothy Ainsworth. Ainsworth was a longtime NAGWS member and a founding member of the IAPESGW.

So as we approach a new season, our convictions of purpose are strong. The examples for needing continued perseverance and action are endless. I thank all of you for who you are and what you stand for. I thank my mentors Mimi Murray and Lucille Magnusson for fostering a belief in fairness and allowing me to help continue and honor the NAGWS mission and the people who continue to believe in and act for it!

In the NAGWS Spirit,
"Citius, Altius, Fortius,"

Shawn

OBESITY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

was the only state with a rate below 20%. The report noted that Colorado's adult obesity rate has increased steadily each year since the 2004 report (16%).

Thirty states recorded percentages of obese or overweight children (ages 10-17) at or above 30% according to the "F as in Fat" report. Mississippi again led the field with 44.4% rate of obese and overweight children; Minnesota and Utah tied for the lowest rate at 23.1%.

The report indicated that 20 states have passed requirements for BMI screenings of children or adolescents or have passed legislation requiring other forms of weight-related assessments in schools. Five years ago, only four states had passed screening requirements.



Title IX in the News

During the past several months several challenges to Title IX/ Gender Equity issues have hit the news:

Quinnipiac University tried to cut two men's teams and one women's team earlier this year; the American Civil Liberties Union sued Quinnipiac and the women's team was reinstated (while a third men's team was dropped).

Several colleges have made decisions to cut teams (Vermont cut baseball and softball, Kutztown cut swimming and soccer, and MIT cut men's gymnastics, ice hockey, golf, wrestling, alpine skiing and pistol) and it is likely that more decisions to cut teams will happen as economic challenges must be met.

The Florida High School Athletic Association (FHSAA) was challenged by parents of six girls who objected to budget decisions being made while trying to exclude football from the analysis. Nancy Hogshead-Makar represented the parents in their request to negate the football exclusion; lawyers for the FHSAA fought against the suit on the grounds that football was a co-ed sport.

A Title IX suit was filed in Indiana this summer by a former girls' basketball coach charging the Indiana High School Athletic Association (IHSAA) and 14 corporations whose girls' basketball teams compete against the County schools with gender-based scheduling. The disparity was first reported in 1997 when analysis showed that 10.5% of the IHSAA girls' games were scheduled on Friday nights and 48.1% of the boys' games were on Fridays. Since 1997 those ratios have improved (In 2008 girls played 29.5% of their games on Friday or Saturday nights plus the Wednesday before Thanksgiving; boys played 68.7% of their games on that schedule according to Indianapolis Star research), but the suit charges that IHSAA ignored the 1997 warning and allowed the disparities to continue into current scheduling.

At the same time, some positive impact has been recorded as a result of Title IX:

Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU) received a positive report this summer on their progress in addressing gender equity concerns following a settlement with two female coaches related to Title IX concerns.

Georgia State University conducted a feasibility study to explore the possibility of elevating their football program to a Bowl subdivision. The recently published study predicted an athletics department budget increase of \$7.3 million to accommodate the move for foot-

ball with additional expenses for upgrades of other facilities/programs and Title IX concerns, causing the university to rethink the feasibility of such a move.

A report issued by University of Colorado at Boulder Title IX Consultant Nancy Hogshead-Makar indicated that CU-Boulder is making progress on integrating policies, training personnel and addressing sexual assault and sexual harassment issues on campus. Hogshead-Makar was hired by CU-Boulder as a condition of a 2005 lawsuit charging a hostile climate toward women based on the conduct of male student-athletes and recruits. The lawsuit was settled in 2007. Hogshead-Makar's Interim Title IX report is available at www.colorado.edu/news.

But questions about Title IX still remain. The College Sports Council (CSC), a coalition of coaches, athletes, parents and fans advocating for Title IX reform, has issued a report claiming that female athletes have far more opportunities than male athletes to earn scholarships and participate in many college sports, but the statistics used in the report excluded football numbers. In a Washington Post article (Uneven Playing Fields by H. Clay McEldowney, August 6, 2009 on www.washingtonpost.com), McEldowney, a director at CSC, advocates for the use of a survey to assess whether schools are meeting their athletic needs and claims "...as legal action groups and gender activists are riding to the rescue of women's sports, there appears to be no similar savior for men's athletics."

Groups who have been advocating for women's sports (like NAGWS) have opposed the survey method as being inadequate to accurately assess interest. Given the fact that many more males had been participating in sports than females prior to Title IX and those numbers have moved to a more balanced ratio (although still not correct), interest in specific sports has also changed.

Today, for example, soccer is a much more common activity than it was 30 years ago, and other sports have become popular...or not...as time has passed. Perhaps this settling of numbers has more to do with WHAT sports athletes are interested in rather than THAT we are offering the same activities we always have.

No doubt dollars have a lot to do with the decision-making in all these sport decisions, and with the economic climate continuing to be unsettled, it appears that we have only just begun to see that gender equity decisions do require foresight and planning, not simply a balancing of numbers.

“ Leadership should be born out of understanding of the needs of those who would be affected by it. ”

— **Marian Anderson**

New AAHPERD Web Site Launch

This Fall AAHPERD will be launching a new web site! Significant time and effort has been put into modernizing the web site and improving the navigation of the site, and those who have been working on this project for the past year are just about ready to show you what they have done.

More color, more graphics, better navigation, opportunities for video, and more will be a part of the new site. Members will be notified of the launch, so keep watching!

Swimming Super Suit Banned for Competition

FINA officials voted to ban the high-tech swimsuits being worn in competition at its General Congress in July. In August, The National Federation of High School Associations (NFHS) Board of Directors also approved a motion to ban the super suits immediately in high school swimming competition.

The LZR Racer suit first debuted in early 2008 and a number of other companies have developed similar suits. During the same time, more than 130 world records have fallen.

The ban, however, will not go into effect until 2010 for international competition. Commentators at the recent Swimming World Championships in Rome were unsure of what effect the delayed ban will have on recording world records between now and 2010.

Mark Shubert, general manager of the US National Team, said records established while wearing the super suits should be stricken, but others think maybe 2008-10 records will simply require special notations.

The developing technology of swim suits has been a topic of discussion since 2000, but since the LZR Racer hit the stores, another dozen companies have produced similar suits. The effect of the compressing suit is to increase the streamlining of the swimmer (which some critics have said devalues athleticism in the sport) and increase the swimmer's buoyancy.

According to NFHS, swimming/diving ranks eighth in popularity for girls with 147,197 participants in 6,766 schools (2007-08) and tenth for boys with 111,896 participants in 6,428 schools in the same year.



When: February 3, 2010

Where: Your School or Community

How: visit www.NGWSDCentral.com, to locate the Community Action Kit and Event Submission Form

Why: Help girls to "Stay Strong, Play On" by hosting a National Girls And Women in Sports Day Event

If you have questions or comments, contact mmclaughlin@aahperd.org or 703-476-3470.

SURVEY CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

- About half of the respondents (50.4%) said their school does have trainings on gender equity issues.
 - Nearly 57% of respondents said they are aware of inequities in their school system.
 - Just over half of the respondents (53%) said they have spoken up about inequities in their school system. If they had NOT spoken up, the primary reason was lack of administrative support (12.7%) followed by "it's just the way it is at my school" (6.8%). Only 5.1% indicated a fear of losing their job as the reason for not speaking up.
 - Just over 20% of those who spoke up said they felt repercussions from doing so. More than half (54.7%) said awareness of gender equity needs improved as a result of their speaking up.
 - Nearly 80% of the respondents felt application of Title IX was a critical tool for addressing today's economy/budget crisis.
 - Overwhelmingly (94.9%) respondents did NOT feel that enforcing Title IX means taking away opportunities from boys/men.
 - 97% of the respondents disagreed with the statement that "girls simply do not want to play sports at the same level boys do."
 - Just over 80% of the respondents support the efforts to expand Title IX-like legislation to public recreation programs and high schools.
 - When asked whose responsibility it is to enforce Title IX, the respondents ranked School Administration first followed closely by Teachers/Coaches. Other options (in rank order) were Federal Government, Parents, Athletes and Other.
 - 72% of the respondents indicated that they would accept the opportunity to learn more about Title IX through staff development sessions.
- The Title IX/Gender Equity is part of a series of online surveys of the NAGWS membership on services and opinions. Although not highly scientific tools, the surveys are helpful to NAGWS staff and leaders in strategic planning and evaluation.
- Thank you all who participated in the Title IX/Gender Equity Survey, and keep your eyes open for the next NAGWS survey!

Back to School - Time to Follow Your Next Steps

What: *Your Next Steps* - a web resource available by subscription for female student-athletes in Junior High, High School and College.

How: By visiting the website, and reading the information provided.

Where: www.yournextsteps.org.

Cost: \$10

* Group rates available upon request

If you have questions or comments, contact mmclaughlin@aahperd.org or 703-476-3470.



Women Ski Jumpers Denied

Following a challenge by a group of female ski jumpers advocating for inclusion of their event at the Vancouver Games, the British Columbia Supreme Court ruled in July that the International Olympic Committee (IOC) is guilty of discrimination, but the court has no authority to change the events being offered at the Games.

The female jumpers had asked that the court rule that ski jumping for women would be added or the ski jumping event for men should be eliminated. The suit was brought forward based on the reasoning that denying the ski jump event to females violated the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

In continuing to deny the event to women, the IOC actually will be barring the jumper who holds the world record for the farthest jump on Whistler Olympic Park's K95 normal hill – Lindsey Van, a world champion for the U.S. women's team, who set a record of 105.5 meters in January 2008.

LGPA Commissioner Resigns

Carolyn Bivens, LGPA Commissioner, resigned on July 13 following a rocky four years at the helm of one of the most successful professional women's sports leagues.

During Bivens' tenure, the LPGA Tour was unsuccessful in negotiating or extending a satisfactory number of sponsor contracts, but Bivens was able to sign a 10-year contract with the Golf Channel as part of her Vision 2010 plan. Bivens' strategy was to let contracts end with the hope that better television contracts would increase the return on new sponsor contracts, but the plan was not successful.

In July many of the Tour's top players sent a letter of nonsupport to Bivens resulting in her resignation.

NAGWS reported several years ago on an initiative by Bivens early in her tenure to require foreign players to take English lessons so they could speak to the media on the Tour.

NAGWS Brings Back PROJECT ACCLAIM

A number of years ago NAGWS offered a giving opportunity called Project Acclaim to honor mentors, leaders and others of influence, and now Project Acclaim is back!

In its 2009 version, Project Acclaim allows individuals to recognize people who have been mentors or had an impact on their lives by offering three levels of recognition:

- For a \$25 donation to NAGWS, the names of both the honoree and the donor will be listed on a Project Acclaim Honor Roll on the NAGWS web site
- For a \$50 donation to NAGWS, the names of both the honoree and the donor will be listed on a Project Acclaim Honor Roll AND a brief summary of why the individual is being honored will be included on the NAGWS web site
- For a \$100 donation to NAGWS, both the names and the summary will be included along with a short video highlighting the honoree's story (guidance will be provided for the video component)

Project Acclaim is a wonderful way to recognize the people in your life who have shaped your career and philosophy. There is no limit to the number of honorees each person can submit, so get started TODAY! Nomination forms are available on page 9, additional forms are available on the NAGWS website.

Greensboro Cuts AD Post

The NCAA News reported that Greensboro College has eliminated the position of Athletic Director in an attempt to address the financial issues confronting the Athletic Department. A coach is expected to assume the Director's duties.

As part of their overall economic plan, Greensboro also eliminated seven full-time and three part-time faculty and staff positions and increased faculty course loads.

The College had announced a 20 percent salary cut in the spring. It is expected that the cut will decrease by as much as half as a result of their recent actions.

Kim Strable, the outgoing Athletics Director, oversaw an expansion of sports from 8 teams to 16 teams during his 20-year tenure. One of those additions was football.

Greensboro was also able to co-host the Division III Men's and Women's Soccer Championships with the City of Greensboro in 2004 and 2005.

USOC to Launch TV Network

The U.S. Olympic Committee has announced launch of the U.S. Olympic Network in partnership with Comcast following the 2010 Olympic Winter Games in Vancouver.

The new channel has received broadcast rights for 31 of the 39 Olympic sports in the United States and plans to offer live events, taped specials, archived footage, coaching instruction and other original content. The network does not plan to broadcast the Olympic Games.

The deal was negotiated by Peter Ueberroth who expects the new network to co-exist with NBC's Universal Sports which also covers Olympic-style sports. The IOC, however, issued a rebuke to the USOC saying the move was premature and that the IOC had not had time to evaluate the proposal. Permission to use the word "Olympic" and use of any archived footage is under control of the IOC.

Observers also question what potential effect the move might have on the Chicago bid to host the 2016 Olympic Summer Games which must be approved by the IOC.



PROJECT ACCLAIM NOMINATION FORM

(Please type or print)

Your Name: _____ Your Email: _____

Address: _____ AAHPERD Member? Yes No

_____ NAGWS Member? Yes No

Name of HONOREE: _____

If you would like us to contact your Honoree with information about the Project Acclaim Honor Roll posting, please provide contact information:

Address: _____ Email: _____

_____ Phone: _____

Honor Roll Donation Level (check one):

_____ \$25 – Listing of Honoree and Donor on Honor Roll

_____ \$50 – Listing of Honoree and Donor on Honor Roll with descriptive paragraph of Honoree

Include 100-250 words about the Honoree: _____

_____ \$100 – Listing of Honoree and Donor on Honor Roll with descriptive paragraph of Honoree **and** 2-minute video story link (Video story link directions will be emailed upon receipt of nomination)

Please provide a **separate** nomination form for EACH nominee.

There is no limit on the number of nominees you submit!



For more information please contact A.J. Ries at 703-476-3452 or aries@aahperd.org
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IAPESGW World Congress • July 16-19, 2009 • Stellenbosch University, Stellenbosch, South Africa



Johanna Adriaanse (Chair of the International Working Group on Women and Sport - Australia), Shawn Ladda, Christine Shelton, Rosa Lopez de D'Amico (IAPESGW Board Member/from Venezuela), Margaret Talbot (Chief Executive of the Association for Physical Education UK)



Shawn Ladda, Christine Shelton, Stephanie "Gabby" Gabbert (Smith Soccer Coach)



Muslim Women Panelists with Shawn Ladda and Darlene Kluka



Shawn Ladda, Karin Lofstrom (Executive Director of Canadian Association for the Advancement of Women and Sport and Physical Activity), Stephanie "Gabby" Gabbert, Jane Stangl (Faculty Member at Smith)



Christine Shelton with Smith College contingent



Christine Shelton with Dorothy Ainsworth (on the screen)



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