



THE ALLIANCE FOR ACADEMIC
ATHLETIC COACHES
AND EDUCATORS



2023 National Conference - Agenda



Wednesday, July 12th

1:00 PM - 5:00 PM - Special Kick-Off Session

Navigating Leadership Challenges in the 21st Century

Dr. Jeffrey O'Brien - Institute for Sport & Social Justice

21st Century Leadership challenges are unique and exacerbated by under-supported and over-extended positions. Beyond being a support-system, this session will engage participants in learning to handle those challenges better.

Applying emotional intelligence to address leadership challenges and effectively work through conflict & stress at work and in relationships will be the key focus.

6:30 PM - 9:30 PM - Opening Reception - The Hotel

Impact Speaker & Panel Moderator

Keith S. Ford - Principal, Quincy High School (MA)

Keith is a former student-athlete who took full advantage of an academic athletic development program in High School. He will be sharing his journey from high school, to Northeastern University's football program, to his current profession, and those critical lessons learned that helped catapult him into a leading Secondary Education Administrator role. Keith will moderate an evening panel, featuring three additional graduates from high impact student-athlete development and support programs across the AthLife Foundation and 3ACE network.



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Thursday, July 13th

9:00 AM - 9:30 AM - Opening Session

Impact Speaker

Jeremiah Brown - The LEAD NYC

Jeremiah aims to inspire and educate people on the value of, servant leadership, resilience, and their mental performance. By integrating mental health into the broader discussion of culture building, and servant leadership, he encourages individuals and organizations to create environments that prioritize both the success and well-being of their teams.

9:45 AM - 10:45 AM - General Session

AI & The Future of Teaching and Learning

Kristina Ishmael Deputy Director, Office of Ed. Tech, US DOE

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has become an integral part of modern society, transforming the way we live, work and learn. In the field of education, AI is being used to create new opportunities for personalized learning and innovative teaching methods. However, integrating AI into education also presents several challenges, including ethical considerations, potential biases, and the need for proper training. We will explore the role of AI in education, look at some relevant tools, talk about their safe and responsible use, and determine ways to leverage them in our collective work.



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Thursday, July 13th

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM - Breakout Sessions - Round 1

Network Driven Workshops

Peer led sessions to support student-athlete development at the secondary level. Details to follow.

1:15 PM - 2:30 PM - Panel Session

Career Development for Student Athletes

Guy Troupe - Moderator - Troupe 21 & Associates

Heidi VandeHoef-Gunn - University of Virginia Athletics

Nathaniel McGill - University of Maryland Athletics

Nathaniel Brown - 5A Elite Youth Empowerment

2:45 PM - 3:45 PM - Breakout Sessions - Round 2

Network Driven Workshops

Peer led sessions to support student-athlete development at the secondary level. Details to follow.

4:00 PM - 5:00 PM - Strategic Planning Session

Informal Working Session

Academic Athletic Coaches and Educators will have an opportunity to collaborate and create a year-long planning tool for program implementation.



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Friday, July 14th

9:00 AM - 9:45 AM - General Session

Impact Speaker

Jennifer Lynne Williams - USA Basketball Foundation

Jennifer will share her expertise in building a championship student-athlete culture that prioritizes winning and academics, and best practices of fundraising, development & partnerships to leverage your program.

10:00 - 11:15 AM - General Session

HBCU Showcase & Panel Discussion

An opportunity to hear from athletic administrators and student-athlete development specialists as they offer their knowledge and expertise on the importance of connection and the HBCU experience.

Stay tuned for panelists info.

11:30 - 12:30 - Breakout Sessions - Round 3

Network Driven Workshops

Peer led sessions to support student-athlete development at the secondary level. Details to follow.

2:00 - 3:00 PM - Strategic Planning Session

Informal Working Session

Academic athletic coaches and educators will have an opportunity to engage in a question and answer session on critical issues to building and sustaining a successful student-athlete development program.