

## 2013 North American Society for Sport Management Conference (NASSM 2013)

### Writing Manuscripts for Publication: A Professional Development Workshop for Diversity Researchers Sponsored by the NASSM Diversity Committee

*Akilah Carter-Francique, Texas A&M University*  
*Marvin Washington, University of Alberta*  
*Algerian Hart, Western Illinois University*  
*Adam Love, Mississippi State University*  
*Joshua Pate, James Madison University*  
*Jacqueline McDowell, University of Illinois*

**Diversity**

**Saturday, June 1, 2013**

**60-minute symposium,  
roundtable, or workshop  
(Room 412)**

**Abstract 2013-293**

**2:35 PM**

As noted by Cunningham and Fink (2006), "Diversity has been and will continue to be one of the most important issues facing managers of sport and leisure organizations" (p. 462). Hence the dissemination of quality research is imperative in understanding and explaining diversity-related phenomenon and answering pressing questions. The majority of extant diversity research is conducted from a positivistic perspective; and thus, this area of scholarship could greatly benefit from other paradigmatic approaches and different theoretical approaches to the study of diversity (Cunningham & Fink, 2006). Moreover, a review of the diversity literature revealed a need for more theory-driven research, and research that goes beyond race and gender and focuses on surface-level diversity such as age, physical ability, and obesity, and deep-level diversity such as sexual orientation, attitudes towards work, religious and spiritual beliefs, and personality characteristics.

Hence, the goal of this workshop is to respond to these needs and advance the careers of junior faculty and doctoral students by helping them publish diversity research in top-tier academic journals. This professional development workshop for NASSM members provides an opportunity for junior faculty, post-doctoral fellows, and doctoral students to receive constructive feedback on manuscripts focusing on diversity within the sport and leisure context. This workshop will offer participants a chance to be mentored and have their work reviewed by leading scholars in the field. These scholars have served as reviewers, editors, associate editors, and editorial board members of leading journals in the sport management field. In order to improve the quality of sport management scholarship, it is imperative that seasoned college and university faculty continue to develop their unique talents and skills for their professional growth, but to also help mentor the next generation of scholars. Mentoring develops the profession, and "by not mentoring, we are wasting talent" (Wright & Wright, 1987, p. 207).

This workshop will commence with a discussion of characteristics of good manuscripts and common reasons for manuscripts to be rejected. Next, approximately half of the workshop will be devoted to all selected workshop participants receiving constructive feedback on their manuscripts from invited reviewers and other workshop participants. The workshop is intended to be highly interactive, as participants will discuss their own experiences and challenges to manuscript writing. The workshop will conclude with a presentation on the state of diversity research and areas in need of investigation. Participants will be provided with a packet of handouts providing tips about succeeding and surviving the research publishing process and instructions on how to effectively review articles as well.

A message will be sent to NASSM members, via the listserv and newsletter, inviting them to submit manuscripts, in progress, for consideration. Manuscripts will be selected based on the following criteria: (1) they focus on diversity-related issues within the sport management and leisure field, (2) they are in near-final form for submission to a referred journal, and (3) they are not currently under journal review. Participating in this workshop will entail submitting the manuscript at least one month prior to the NASSM conference to a member of the Diversity Committee. Workshop participants will need to provide a focus for the review process by describing particular dilemmas, questions, or concerns as well as the targeted journal.

Manuscripts will undergo a preliminary review to make sure they fit the intent of the workshop. Due to the intense nature of the review process, a limited number of manuscripts will be selected for the workshop. Manuscript

## **2013 North American Society for Sport Management Conference (NASSM 2013)**

selection will be based on “fit” of the manuscript and also limited by the number of invited reviewers. Manuscripts that are selected for inclusion in the workshop will be sent to invited reviewers in the field and other participants in the workshop to review prior to the NASSM conference. Each selected workshop participant will submit an article and review another participant’s article. NASSM members whose manuscripts are not selected for inclusion in the workshop or members who do not submit a manuscript for review can still participate in the workshop and benefit greatly from the presentations and discussions.