



USOPC Mental Health Task Force



Allison Brock Olympian

Allison “Ali” Brock was part of the 2016 U.S. Dressage Equestrian Team that won a team bronze medal at the Olympic Games Rio 2016, as well as a reserve team member for the Pan American Games Toronto 2015. Brock is the current USOPC Athletes’ Advisory Council representative for the US Equestrian Federation and is very active with USEF as a volunteer.



Eileen Carey Director, U.S. Paralympics Nordic Skiing

Eileen Carey is in her seventh season with the U.S. Paralympics Nordic Program, her second as the program’s director. Before her director role, Carey served as head coach of the U.S. Para Nordic Skiing team. With a focus on athlete-centered coaching and innovation, she led the team to a record 16-medal performance at the Paralympic Games PyeongChang 2018. Additionally, Carey co-chairs the World Para Nordic Skiing Coaches Advisory Group.



Shannon Decker The Speedy Foundation, executive director and co-founder

Shannon Decker, executive director and co-founder of The Speedy Foundation, holds a master’s degree in educational leadership from the University of Idaho and has over 10 years of private and public teaching and administrative experience in Idaho, Nev., and Calif. She is a Mental Health First Aid, QPR, and safeTALK facilitator, who leads training to further the foundation’s mission of promoting mental health education and advocating for suicide prevention.



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Rachael Flatt Olympian

Rachael Flatt is an athlete representative for the USOPC's Mental Health Task Force. During her 18-year figure skating career, she competed at the Olympic Games Vancouver 2010 (finished seventh), was the 2010 U.S. national champion and 2008 world junior champion, and won four medals on the grand prix circuit. After retiring from competitive skating in 2014, Flatt graduated from Stanford University in 2015, where she worked with Dr. C. Barr Taylor on researching digital mental health tools, with a specific focus on eating disorders. She is currently pursuing her Ph.D. in clinical psychology at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill under Dr. Cynthia Bulik, as she researches eating disorders in athletes and technology-based mental health tools and services.



Kensa K. Gunter, Psy.D., CMPC Gunter Psychological Services

Dr. Kensa K. Gunter is a licensed psychologist and a Certified Mental Performance Consultant. In her Atlanta-based private practice, she provides mental health and mental performance services to athletes competing at high school, collegiate and professional levels.

Dr. Gunter also serves as a consultant for various sport organizations and has provided lectures at various conferences on topics including, but not limited to, athlete mental health, coach mental health, clinical work with athletic populations, mental skills for elite performance and cultural diversity in sport. Dr. Gunter is listed on the USOPC's sport psychology registry, is a member of APA Division 47, and is currently the President-Elect for the Association for Applied Sport Psychology.



Stanley Herring, MD
Clinical Professor, Departments of Rehabilitation Medicine,
Orthopedics and Sports Medicine, and Neurological Surgery
University of Washington

Dr. Stanley Herring is a board-certified physical medicine and rehabilitation physician who has been in practice for over 36 years. He is a clinical professor in the departments of Rehabilitation Medicine, Orthopedics and Sports Medicine, and Neurological Surgery at the University of Washington. Additionally, Dr. Herring holds the Zackery Lystedt Sports Concussion Endowed Chair.

Dr. Herring is a co-founder of the Sports Institute at UW Medicine where he serves as senior medical advisor. In addition, Dr. Herring serves as co-medical director of the UW Medicine Sports Concussion Program, a partnership of UW Medicine and Seattle Children's Hospital. He is also a medical director of Sports, Spine and Orthopedic Health for UW Medicine, and is one of the team physicians for the Seattle Seahawks and Seattle Mariners. Dr. Herring's practice focuses on the diagnosis and management of neurological and musculoskeletal injuries, particularly focusing on spinal disorders in active people and athletes, as well as sports-related concussions.

Dr. Herring has held many national leadership positions, including president of the North American Spine Society, member of the Board of Trustees of the American College of Sports Medicine, and board member of the Foundation for Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation. He is also a founding member of the American Medical Society for Sports Medicine and the Psychiatric Association of Sports, Spine and Occupational Rehabilitation.

Dr. Herring is on the editorial boards of professional journals and has been an editor of nine textbooks, as well as an author of 92 peer-reviewed journal articles and 55 textbook chapters. He was a major contributor to the successful passage of the Zackery Lystedt Law in Washington State, and his continued work helped pass similar youth concussion legislation in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.



Adam Krikorian **Olympic Coach**

Since taking over as the head coach of the U.S. Women's Senior National Water Polo Team in 2009, Adam Krikorian has led Team USA to 18 golds within 21 major FINA championships. These victories include gold in the 2012 and 2016 Olympic Games, along with a world championship title in 2009, 2015, 2017 and 2019. Krikorian helped the United States maintain a number-one world ranking for most of his tenure and recently guided the team to a record-breaking 69 game winning streak.

Following the Olympic Games London 2012, Krikorian was honored with the USOPC's National Coach of Year Award and was the 2013 Jack Kelly Fair Play Award recipient.

Following the Olympic Games Rio 2016, Krikorian was again named Coach of the Games by the USOPC at the Team USA Awards. In early 2017, Krikorian was also honored by the Los Angeles Sports Council and the LA Sports Awards by receiving the first-ever "Extraordinary Achievement in Olympic Sport" honors.

Prior to being named the head coach of the U.S. Women's Senior National Water Polo Team, Krikorian was the head coach of the University of California, Los Angeles men's and women's programs for 10 years. As a student-athlete, assistant coach, and head coach, Krikorian has been a part of 15 national championships.

Krikorian graduated from UCLA with a psychology degree and a business administration emphasis in June 1997. A standout player at UCLA from 1992-1995, he captained the squad in his final two years, leading UCLA to the 1995 men's NCAA national championship, the school's first title in 23 years. He was also voted "Most Inspirational" in each of his final three seasons at UCLA, and in 2016, was inducted into the UCLA Hall of Fame.



Chris Murphy **Paralympian**

Chris Murphy is a Paralympic cyclist with a concentration on the discipline of racing on the velodrome. After experiencing complications during the birthing process, Murphy's brachial plexus in his left shoulder was damaged, leaving his left arm and shoulder with permanent nerve damage, a condition known as Erb's Palsy.

As a track cyclist, Murphy has earned six world championship medals, including two world championship golds in 2017, as well as competing at the Paralympic Games in Rio 2016. Chris moved to Colorado Springs, Colorado, from southern California in 2014 after earning an undergraduate degree in music performance at California State University, Fullerton in 2007. Murphy enjoyed a career as a freelance musician before turning his attention to cycling full-time.



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Theresa Nguyen **Mental Health America, chief program officer**

As MHA's chief program officer and vice president of research and innovation, Theresa Nguyen works to improve access to mental health care through data and digital-based innovations. Her areas of special interest include prevention, early intervention, education and building a full recovery-oriented mental health system of care. Nguyen manages MHA's programs including screening, the state of mental health in America and workplace wellness. She additionally oversees MHA's research which explores the integration of peers into research, the use of technology to support people in the earliest stages of recovery, and how large-scale data provides insight into gaps in support systems across the country.

As a licensed clinical social worker, Nguyen has over 15 years of experience in mental health as a clinician, educator and advocate. Her clinical experience focused on working with children and adults with serious mental illness, homelessness, dual diagnosis treatment and early intervention of psychosis. As an advocate, she worked to build a consumer-based mental health workforce to improve access to treatment through community-based and recovery-oriented mental health programs, and to address the needs of underserved communities. She is an adjunct professor in California and has taught courses covering mental health recovery, psychosocial rehabilitation and social welfare policy. Before joining MHA, Nguyen worked at both MHALA (Los Angeles) and MHAOC (Orange County, California).



William Parham, PH.D., ABPP **Sports Psychologist**

Dr. William Parham is a professor in the Counseling Program and Interim Associate Dean of Faculty at Loyola Marymount University. He has devoted his professional career to teaching, training, clinical, administrative and organizational consultation venues. He is a licensed psychologist, board certified in counseling psychology by the American Board of Professional Psychology and past-president of the Society of Counseling Psychology of the American Psychological Association where he also is recognized as a fellow in Divisions 17 (Society of Counseling Psychology), 45 (Society for the Study of Culture, Ethnicity and Race) and 47 (Exercise and Sport Psychology). In addition, Dr. Parham currently serves as the director of the Mental Health and Wellness Program of the National Basketball Players Association.

For most of his professional career, Dr. Parham has focused on working with athletes across organizations (NBA, NFL, MLB, USOPC, USTA, MLS, UCLA, and UC Irvine), levels (professional, elite, amateur, collegiate and youth) and sports (basketball, football, gymnastics, softball, baseball, track and field, tennis, golf, swimming, volleyball, figure skating). He has also worked with performance artists in drama, theatre and music.

Dr. Parham's emphasis on personal empowerment, discovering and cultivating innate talents and looking for hidden opportunities in every situation are trademark foci. He is widely known through his scholarship and conversations with domestic and international audiences, and for his work on the interplay between sport psychology, multiculturalism/diversity, trauma and health psychology.



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Keenan Robinson **Athletic Trainer, NGB Medical and Mental Health**

Keenan Robinson joined USA Swimming as the sports medicine and science director in 2016, and is responsible for evaluating injury epidemiology in national team swimmers, identifying risk factors, and streamlining medical care for Team USA swimmers to reduce training time loss or surgical procedures.

An NATABOC certified athletic trainer and NSCA certified strength and conditioning coach, Keenan brings 16 years of direct swimming support at the club (North Baltimore Aquatic Club), university (University of Michigan and Arizona State University), and international level. He has served on Olympic and world championship medical staff. Keenan is believed to be the only strength coach to have programmed and coached three different swimmers to world championship titles while they were in high school, college and then post-graduate careers. He has provided day-to-day performance medicine care for teams across USA Swimming's membership spectrum that have won sectional, junior national, NCAA and national titles. Keenan also serves on the eight-member USOPC Sports Medicine Standards Advisory Group.

Keenan's extensive experience in evaluating and implementing physiological and biological measures has led to performance improvements in swimming. He has been published in the Journal of Athletic Training, Current Sports Medicine Reports, and is in the process of co-authoring two textbooks.



Allison Schmitt **Olympian**

Allison Schmitt is a three-time Olympian in swimming, having competed at the 2008, 2012 and 2016 Games. She holds eight Olympic medals and five world championship medals.

Schmitt started swimming at age nine after playing a large variety of other sports. She attended the University of Georgia where she won several NCAA and national titles. She is currently pursuing a master's degree in social work from Arizona State University, while also training for the Olympic Games in 2021.



Victor Schwartz, MD The Jed Foundation, chief medical officer

Dr. Victor Schwartz serves as the chief medical officer of The Jed Foundation, which helps protect emotional health and prevent suicide for teens and young adults in the United States. Through his work with The Jed Foundation, Dr. Schwartz has worked on mental health programming with the SAMHSA, NBA, NFL, NCAA, MTV, HBO, Facebook, National Council for Suicide Prevention, Higher Education Mental Health Alliance and Clinton Health Matters Initiative.

Previously, he was the dean of students at Yeshiva University after serving as the director of the counseling center at the university. Dr. Schwartz is also a clinical associate professor of psychiatry at New York University's School of Medicine, and was a medical director and chief psychiatrist at the counseling service for 14 years.

He is a distinguished life fellow, was a member of the Presidential Task Force on College Mental Health, and co-chair of the working group on law and college mental health – all the American Psychiatric Association. He was also a co-chair of the committee on the College Student of the Group for the Advancement of Psychiatry.

He has written and lectured extensively on college mental health and suicide prevention; particularly concerning the management of mental health crises in colleges, legal issues in college mental health, suicide prevention in the media, and the mental health of athletes.

Dr. Schwartz additionally co-edited, with Dr. Jerald Kay, *Mental Health Care in the College Community*. He is also a frequent contributor to popular media reports about college mental health, suicide prevention and mental health in teens and young adults.