



WHERE ATHLETICS
MEETS ACADEMICS

2023



CHALLENGE



UNITE



INSPIRE



INNOVATE

2023
ANNUAL BUDGET
Calendar Year

\$6,023,895
TOTAL REVENUE

**REVENUE
SOURCES**

Avalon Alliance
The Trust (Powered by the NFLPA)
NFL Player Care Foundation
Douglas J. Hertz Family Foundation
The Priddy Family Foundation
Tulane Center for Sport Brain Bank
School of Professional Advancement

**FULL-TIME EMPLOYEE
FUNDING**

\$3,428,354

**NEW
FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES**

Lawrence Jackson
Patrice McGhee
Vanessa Batiste-Leal
Kayla Scott
Ryan Barrios
Kristen Monsalve
Troy Smith
Chelsea Bernard

**NUMBER OF
FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES***

38

EDUCATION

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN SPORT STUDIES

The Master's in Sport Studies stackable certificates offer practical, professional skills for graduate students who want to pursue or advance a career in the sports industry.

SPORTS MEDICINE GRAND ROUNDS 2023

*The Basics of Transgender &
Non Binary Identities*

Heidi Breaux DSW, LCSW, BACS-R

*Nephro-Sports: The Kidney
at Work in Play*

**Nancy Gritter, MD,
NFL Team Physician**

*Audiological Evaluation of the
Peripheral and Central Auditory
System, and Rehabilitation*

**William "Burt" Walters
MCD, L-AUD, CCC-A**

*Music Therapy in Clinical Settings:
Applications Replacement Therapy*
Penny Roberts, PhD, MT-BC



Heidi Breaux DSW, LCSW, BACS-R



**Nancy Gritter, MD,
NFL Team Physician**



**William "Burt" Walters
MCD, L-AUD, CCC-A**

SPORTS LAW

Tulane Sports Law Program 30TH Anniversary Celebration

The Sports Law Program celebrated the 30th anniversary of its founding with a special event in November 2023 at Tulane Law School. The event honored founder Gary Roberts and included two panels of high-profile sports industry speakers (all Tulane Law alumni) discussing changes on the horizon for the industry. It ended with a networking reception, giving students an invaluable opportunity to meet and speak informally with alumni.



Co-founder Gabe Feldman, director of the Tulane Sports Law program/Sher Garner Professor of Sports Law

Tulane Sports Law Program turns 30 — and is limitless



< *Read more about the history and growth of the Tulane Sports Law Program*

Celebrating 30 years, Tulane Sports Law Program looks to the future



< *Read more about the Tulane Sports Law Program's plans for the future*

Tulane Sports Analytics Club

Launched by the Center for Sport in 2019, the club roster expanded to 35 active members in 2023. The club was selected for an academia project by PFFA Acquisitions, LLC.

ISAAC POPPER FSB '24, president of the Tulane Sports Analytics Club, is a prime example of a student reaping the benefits of engaging with the Center. In addition to leading the Tulane team that brought home first place in the 2023 Inaugural NBA Trade Deadline Competition, Popper serves as peer mentor for the TIDES course “Hot Topics in Sports Law,” and landed a position as an ESPN+ Broadcast Statistician for Tulane basketball.



Popper and his teammates (pictured: Asher Nissanoff, Cameron Dartez, John Burrows, Max Yazdian, Isaac Popper) took home 1st place in the 2023 NBA Trade Deadline Competition at Arizona State University.



As a 4-year board member and current president of the Tulane Sports Analytics Club, I have had the opportunity to host discussions, present research, compete in international competitions, and attend world-class conferences. Winning the Arizona State NBA Trade Deadline Competition and participating in the Tulane Pro Basketball Negotiation Competition introduced me to many NBA executives and agents. Now, I intern with one of the agents I met at Tulane Law School. — ISAAC POPPER, FSB'24

Sports Law Mentorship Program

Every year, the mentorship program connects current Tulane Sports Law students with sports mentors in students' specific areas of interest in the industry. The 2023-24 program matched a record 90 mentors with more than 60 current Tulane sports law students. Mentors work across the sports industry with professional teams, leagues, players' associations, agencies, national law firms and major college athletics programs.

Sports Law Diversity Spotlight

The Diversity Spotlight highlights Tulane Law graduates thriving in the sports industry through interviews with a current Tulane Law student.



SUMMER 2023

DEMEKA FIELDS (L '16)

Counsel, Global Sports Marketing/Data Privacy with New Balance, interviewed by third-year Tulane law student, Sydney Williams.



WINTER 2023

KIMBERLY HAYNES (L '00)

Founder of OMBI Group, interviewed by first-year Tulane law student, Ryane Mejia.





Sportswise: A Podcast About Sports and the Law

Hosted by Center co-director and sports law program director **Gabe Feldman**, the podcast — formerly known as Between the Lines — looks at stories in the sports world, including the untold (and often misunderstood) legal story behind the headlines and significant events and lawsuits that have been overlooked or forgotten. In 2023, the podcast introduced a news segment — the Sports Law Rundown — with Sports Law Program Manager, **Eric Blevins**.

In 2023, the podcast hosted an all-star lineup of sports law experts in conversations running the gamut from antitrust cases against the NCAA and WWE to the LIV golf saga. Guests included:

Sports law legend **Jeffrey Kessler**, co-executive chairman of Winston & Strawn (and lead lawyer on many athlete antitrust cases)

Paul McDonald and **Mike Willemin**, lead plaintiffs' lawyers in *Johnson v. NCAA*

Ross Dellenger, senior college football reporter for Yahoo! Sports

Scott Bearby, NCAA Senior VP and General Counsel

Jennifer Abruzzo, General Counsel of the National Labor Relations Board

Jeremi Duru, American University Sports Law Professor and Director of the Washington College of Law Sport and Society Initiative

Mike McCann, Senior Sports Legal Reporter for Sportico, and Associate Dean, Law Professor and SELI Director at University of New Hampshire Law

Andrew Brandt, Exec. Director of Villanova's Moorad Center for Sports Law; Sports Illustrated contributor; former Green Bay Packers General Manager

Christine Montenegro, partner with the Kasowitz Benson Torres law firm and a lead lawyer in MLW antitrust lawsuit against WWE

Oliver Luck, Executive Director, ASUN-WAC football conference; Chairman, Altius Sports Partners; former NFL quarterback

Matt Stoller, the director of Research at the American Economic Liberties Project



Sports Law Society

The student-run organization of the Sports Law Program hosts a huge variety of annual events, including sport-specific negotiation competitions, symposia and more.

6th Annual Tulane Pro Basketball Negotiation Competition

Read about it in [The Atlantic](#) >

9th Annual Tulane Pro Football Negotiation Competition



16th Annual Tulane International Baseball Arbitration Competition

2nd Annual Tulane International Fútbol (Soccer) Negotiation Competition

6th and 7th Annual Women in Sports Law Symposia

The Women in Sports Law Symposium (WiSLS) is a networking and professional development event that recognizes lawyers for their work and achievements within the professional scope of sports law, while connecting generations of change-makers interested or involved in the industry.



Back row (L-R): Hannah Ryan, Jasmine Williams, Julia Harter, Lily Argyle, Whitney McBay, Josie Cowley, Jordan Reist, Sydney Williams, Tiffany Anderson, Briley Chambers, Ryane Mejia, Victoria Branch. Seated (L-R): Casey Driskill, Hannah Mulholland

Entertainment and sports law conference brings top industry brass to Tulane



^ *Read more about
the conference*

The 6th Annual Tulane Entertainment & Sports Law Conference

Co-presented by Tulane Law School and the Tulane Center for Sport, the 2023 conference was headlined by keynote speaker **Jonathan Banks**, star of *Breaking Bad* and *Better Call Saul*. The conference drew more than 200 attendees and 41 speakers, including top executives from major league teams, renowned lawyers from national sports law practices, Academy Award and Grammy Award winners, and from major studios like ESPN, Netflix, Amazon, Sony and SiriusXM.



CLINICAL SERVICE

*Veterans served in
3-day screening*

121

*Veterans served in
3-week IOP*

28

*Participating
family members*

61



TULANE UNIVERSITY CENTER FOR
BRAIN HEALTH

TRIPLED GROWTH

Our biggest accomplishment in 2023: exponential growth. The Center for Brain Health tripled the number of Veterans in the care program, reaching a critical milestone by optimizing the resources we have to maximize the number of Veterans we care for. We've also opened the program to include first responders (many of whom are also Veterans).



[^] *Read more news
about the Center*

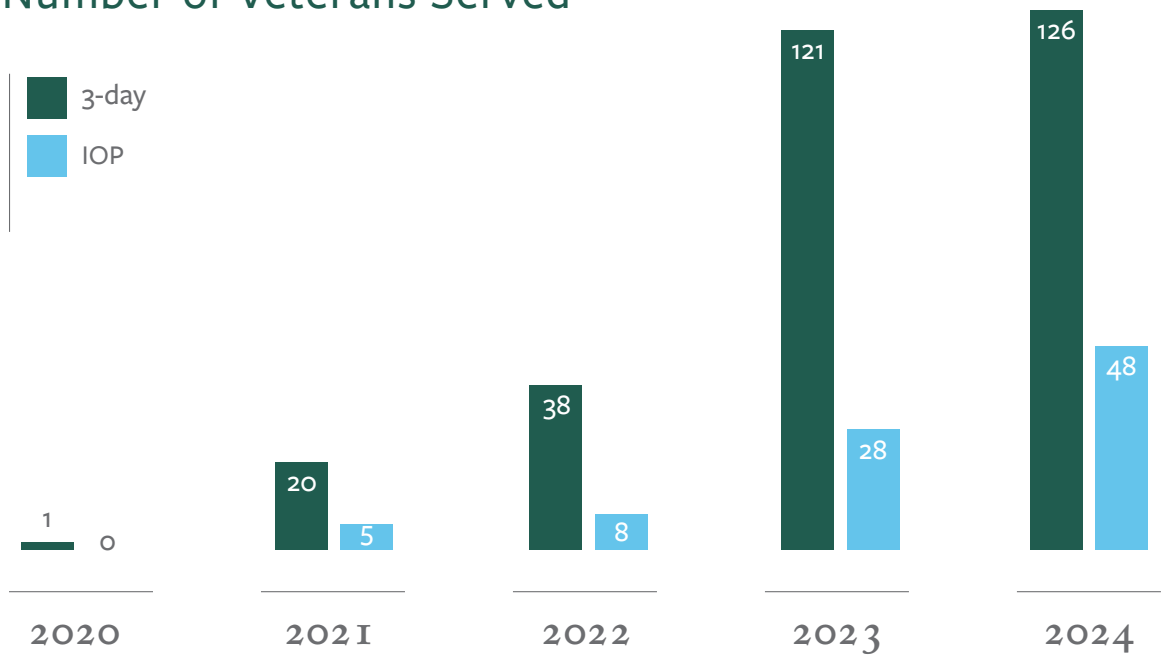
146

INQUIRIES

137

COMPLETED
APPLICATIONS

Number of Veterans Served



Center for Brain Health named “Purple Heart Entity”



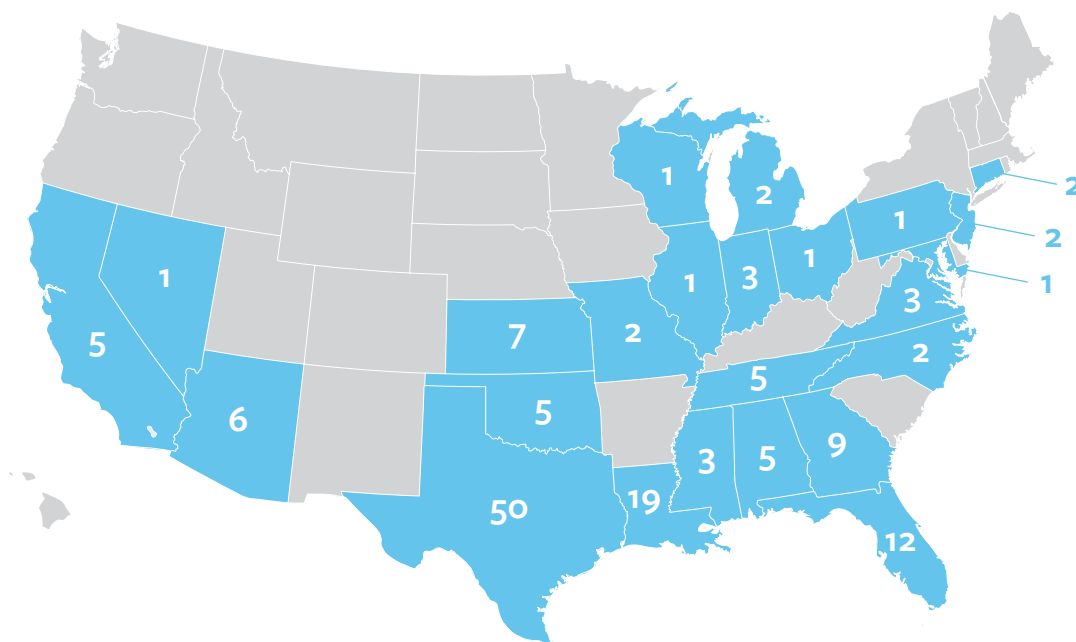
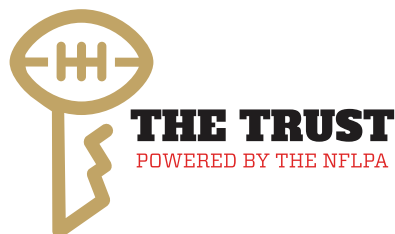
In November 2023, the Military Order of the Purple Heart (Louisiana) named the Center for Brain Health a “Purple Heart Entity” in recognition of the Center’s service and dedication to our country’s Veterans. Our medical director, **Dr. Greg Stewart** received the award at a Tulane football game honoring Veterans Day.

THE PROFESSIONAL ATHLETE CARE TEAM (PACT)

PACT cares for retired professional athletes through partnerships with the NFL Player Care Foundation and NFL Players Association.

*2023 Total
New Players*

148



PLAYERS FROM **24 STATES** VISITED THE PACT CLINIC
IN 2023 THROUGH THE TRUST PROGRAM



NFL PLAYER CARE FOUNDATION HEALTHY BODY & MIND SCREENING

This free national screening program is open to all former NFL players and includes a series of private and confidential screenings, mental health resources and education. These screenings are offered as part of NFL PCF's research programs, which help to advance public awareness and scientific understanding of health issues that affect NFL players.

	FORMER PLAYERS	RETURNS	NEW
FEBRUARY 2023 Tempe, AZ (Super Bowl)	98	50	48
MARCH 2023 Baltimore, MD	34	9	25
APRIL 2023 Kansas, MO (Draft)	46	15	31
JUNE 2023 Seattle, WA	42	15	27
AUGUST 2023 Canton, OH	40	32	8
SEPTEMBER 2023 Chicago, IL	33	23	10
OCTOBER 2023 Dallas, TX	68	35	33
NOVEMBER 2023 Tampa, FL	60	21	39
FEBRUARY 2024 Las Vegas, NV (Super Bowl)	106	72	34

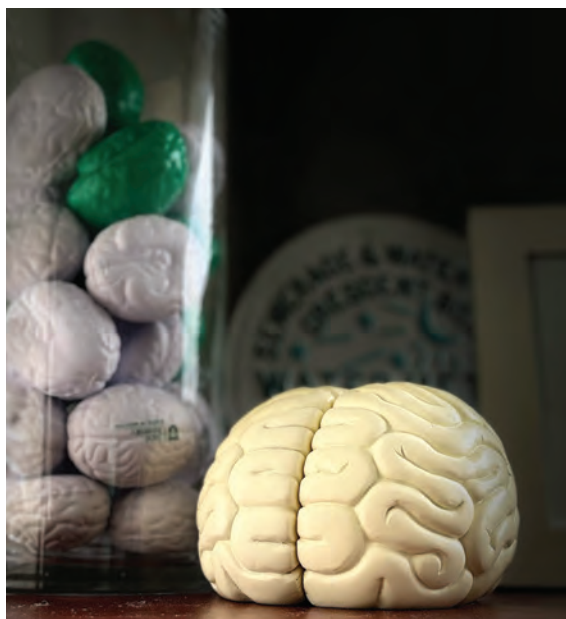
RESEARCH

*Brains
in Bank*

9

Committed

23



TULANE CENTER FOR SPORT BRAIN BANK

Through the Center for Sport, the Tulane Brain Bank acquires tissue samples and clinical information to better understand the pathology, etiology, and epidemiology of trauma-related neurodegenerative disorders. These donations enable our researchers to study the disease mechanisms that lead and/or contribute to the development of Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy (CTE) in former athletes and members of the military.

INFRASTRUCTURE

- Continued expanding the data collection cloud-based ecosystem of the NFL Player Care Foundation Healthy Body and Mind Screening, NFL TRUST Brain and Body Assessment, and Avalon Alliance/Tulane Center for Brain Health programs.
- Implemented program-specific automations and business intelligence solutions, including workflows and dynamic reports, to support informed clinical decision-making, research, sponsor reporting, and enhance overall data management efficiency.
- Created interoperability frameworks to facilitate seamless data transfer among multiple standalone systems.
- A key achievement this year was the launch of the Center for Sport Cardiovascular Imaging Core, featuring an integrated state-of-the-art Cardiovascular Information System. This centralized core streamlines cardiac imaging and data processing workflows through the following features, providing a platform for large-scale comprehensive cardiac phenotyping:
 - Efficient processing of ultrasound-based measurements of cardiac structure and function
 - Advanced analysis and reporting of key cardiovascular parameters from echocardiography
 - Comprehensive electrocardiogram (ECG) data analysis and diagnostic interpretation
 - Seamless integration of imaging data from echocardiography and ECGs
 - Robust quality control and standardized reporting capabilities.



PATIENT DATA

Processed multidimensional health data from 814 patients enrolled across 3 programs, resulting in over 65 GB of curated data points for analysis.

COLLABORATIONS / PARTNERSHIPS / ALLIANCES

Ongoing cross-disciplinary research collaborations with:
NFL Player Care Foundation, Avalon Action Alliance, Uniformed Services University, Department of Epidemiology at Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, Tulane University School of Medicine, Section of Cardiology at Medical College of Wisconsin, Section of Cardiology at University of Cincinnati, University of Colorado, Harvard University, Emory University, American College of Cardiology, and the American Heart Association.



RESEARCH PROJECTS

7

“The Boat Operators Assessment of Traumatic Brain Injury (The BOAT-TBI Study)” *Ongoing*

“The Association Between Hand Grip Strength and Depression in Retired National Football League Players”

“Inflammation Associates with Depression among Former National Football League Players”

“Sleep Apnea and Right Ventricular Function in former NFL players”

“Sleep Apnea and Atherosclerotic Cardiovascular Disease Risk among Former NFL Players”

“Professional Playing Career and Left Atrium Dimension in former NFL Players”

“Distribution and Determinants of Fractional Shortening in former NFL Players”

ACCEPTED WORKS & PRESENTATIONS

I4

Fernandez C, Razavi AC, Romero A, Stewart GW.

Retirement Time Is Associated with Lower Left Ventricular Mass in Retired National Football League Players. *Journal of the American College of Cardiology* 2023 Mar, 81 (8_Supplement) 2393

Fernandez C, Razavi AC, Romero A, Stewart GW.

The Association of Altered Glucose Homeostasis with High Coronary Artery Calcium in Retired National Football League Players. *Journal of the American College of Cardiology* 2023 Mar, 81 (8_Supplement) 2371

Priemer DS, Stewart GW, Fernandez C, Perl D.

A Unique Case of Severe Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy in a Special Warfare Combatant-Craft Crewman of the United States Navy.

International Conference on Alzheimer's Disease and Parkinson's Disease. 2023

Lawrence F, Stewart GW. Spiritual Healing: Its Role and Importance in Whole-Person Health for Veterans with Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI).

Partnerships for Veteran & Military Health Conference: Strengthening the Networks. 2023

MacKenna H, Stewart GW. Traumatic Brain Injury: An Integrative Approach to Healing the Mind.

Partnerships for Veteran & Military Health Conference: Strengthening the Networks. 2023

Breaux H, Stewart GW. Healing From Grief for Veterans and Caregivers of Veterans with Military-Related Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI). *Partnerships for Veteran & Military Health Conference: Strengthening the Networks.* 2023

Solliday K, Stewart GW. The Case for Unmounted Equine-Assisted Therapy as an Effective Component of Trauma-Focused Care for Veterans.

Partnerships for Veteran & Military Health Conference: Strengthening the Networks. 2023

Tetrick M, Stewart GW. The importance of considering self-appraisal in memory intervention. *Partnerships for Veteran & Military Health Conference: Strengthening the Networks.* 2023

Roberts P, Stewart GW. Music Therapy in PTSD: Mindfulness with Sound and Purposeful

Communication. *Partnerships for Veteran & Military Health Conference: Strengthening the Networks.* 2023

Fernandez C, Stewart GW. GO-Train: Unifying Data from Multiple Wearables into a Single Application.

Interamerican Society of Cardiology Conference. 2023

Fernandez C, Stewart GW. Myocardial Perfusion Imaging in Professional Athletes with Moderate to High Atherosclerotic Cardiovascular Risk.

Interamerican Society of Cardiology Conference. 2023

Fernandez C, Stewart GW. Multimodality Imaging in the Evaluation of Structural Heart Disease among Competitive Athletes. *XXXIII Mexican Congress of Cardiology*

Fernandez C, Stewart GW. “The 1,2,3” of Portable Echocardiography in the Assessment of Pericarditis in Competitive Athletes. *Panamanian Society of Cardiology Scientific Sessions.* 2023

Fernandez C, Stewart GW. Olympians and Heart Disease. *Panamanian Society of Cardiology Scientific Sessions.* 2023

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



TULANE VOLLEYBALL ANALYTICS CAMP

Thanks to generous grants from the Simons Foundation, Southeast Center for Mathematics and Biology, and the National Science Foundation, this free, week-long camp for New Orleans youth drew 20 students who learned how to use analytics to improve their play. The camp, a collaboration with Tulane Mathematics professor Scott McKinley, included classroom and court sessions.



PARTNERSHIP WITH MLB YOUTH ACADEMY

The Center for Sport continued its great relationship with MLB's Youth Academy program, with staff developing and teaching two courses: Sports Law & Business (Summer 2023) and MLB Arbitration (Fall 2023).



THE STARTING BLOCK

The Center for Sport is the primary education partner for this innovative, 18-month course designed to build impactful relationships between multicultural and multifait communities in Greater New Orleans through the lens of practical learning and career-building for high school students interested in the sports industry. In 2023, the Center completed the first course with a cohort of approximately 40 students, which began in November 2021.



< *Read more about
The Starting Block's first graduation*



Looking ahead to 2024, we're making exciting progress in key areas of our mission.



The Center for Sport is working with Tulane Freeman School of Business to develop a formal interdisciplinary sports degree program (a major, minor and certificates) and provide experiential learning and career development for undergraduate and graduate students. No other university has developed this level of sport-centric formal academic program. Not only will this new program expand the Center's leadership in sports law and medicine, it also brings new strength to other schools at the university.



In addition to moving the Center for Brain Health to its new (bigger and better!) location on the East Jefferson General Hospital campus in Metairie, the partnership with LCMC is fostering new opportunities for the Center to expand and improve service to Veterans and first responders. A newly-formed advisory board is helping to grow the Center's vision to sustain the brain injury treatment program and extend its reach in the Gulf South region. Look for announcements about the first annual Center for Brain Health Brain Fest in Fall 2024.

GIVING

The work we do wouldn't be possible without the generous support of several organizations.

We'd like to thank you for your commitment to our team, our work and our vision.

THE GOLDRING
FAMILY FOUNDATION

THE PRIDDY
FAMILY FOUNDATION

DOUGLAS J. HERTZ
FAMILY FOUNDATION



**THROUGH SPORT WE
UNITE.CHALLENGE.
INSPIRE.INNOVATE.**

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

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