

## Katja Sonkeng | *Curriculum Vitae*

Department of Kinesiology  
Western Illinois University  
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### EDUCATION

**University of Georgia, Athens, GA** **August 2021**

*Department of Kinesiology*

Ph.D. in Sport Management and Policy, GPA: 4.0/4.0

Major Advisor: Dr. Jepkorir Rose Chepyator-Thomson, Professor, Sport Management and Policy

Dissertation title: *Forced Women Migrants in the United States: Experiences and Perspectives involving Sport and Physical Exercise*

**Southern Illinois University Carbondale, Carbondale, IL** **May 2016**

*Department of Kinesiology*

MS.Ed. in Sport Studies, GPA: 3.84/4.0

**University of Giessen, Giessen, Germany** **October 2008**

M.A. in Journalism, GPA: 3.75/4.0

Published Master thesis:

*Und montags geht es zur Probe. Der Giessener Konzertverein von 1792 bis 2008.*

**University of Michel de Montaigne, Bordeaux, France** **April 2007**

Concentration in History and Language Studies

*Erasmus Study Abroad Program*

**Tennessee State University, Nashville, TN** **May 2006**

Concentration in Communications

*ISEP Study Abroad Program*

### RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

#### Research Interests

- Diversity and equity issues in sport
- Sport labor migration
- Sport and health
- Gender in sport

#### Teaching Interests

Courses taught: Intro to Sport Management, Sport Policy and Governance, Sport Facilities and Event Management, Public Media Relations in Sport, Internship in Kinesiology

## PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS

1. **Sonkeng, K.,** & Chepyator-Thomson, J. R. (2020). Exploring the healing touch of pickup basketball as a self-care method for educators and helping professionals: An ethnographic approach. *Qualitative Research in Sport, Exercise and Health, 12*(4), 465-480.
2. **Sonkeng, K.,** & Chepyator-Thomson, J. R. (2020). Examination of Policy Influences on Player Migration and Socio-cultural Impacts in European Professional Basketball. *International Journal of Sport Management, 21*(2), 101-131.
3. Attia, M. A. S., Chepyator-Thomson, J. R., & **Sonkeng, K.** (2018). The use of sport promotion mix to increase consumption of services: A case study of El-Hawar Sporting Club (HSC) in El-Mansoura, Egypt. *Journal of Research in Health, Physical Education, Recreation, Sport & Dance ICHPER.SD, 10*(1), 28-38.
4. Hazzaa, R., **Sonkeng, K.,** & Yoh, T. (2018). Antecedents and consequences of student-athletes contentment with academic services. *Journal of Intercollegiate Sport, 11*(1), 65-81.

## BOOK CHAPTERS

1. Chepyator-Thomson, J. R., Seiler, S., **Sonkeng, K.,** & Kim, S. (2021). Sports policies and their sociocultural impacts. In J. J. Zhang, E. Kim (Eds.). *Sport Governance and Operations. Global Perspectives* Routledge: London, UK.
2. **Sonkeng, K.,** Chepyator-Thomson, J. R. (2021). Websites. In P. M. Pedersen (Ed.), *Encyclopedia of Sport Management*. Elgar Encyclopedias in Business and Management series. Cheltenham, UK: Edward Elgar Publishing.
3. **Sonkeng, K.,** Chepyator-Thomson, J. R. (2021). Club System. In P. M. Pedersen (Ed.), *Encyclopedia of Sport Management*. Elgar Encyclopedias in Business and Management series. Cheltenham, UK: Edward Elgar Publishing.
4. Chepyator-Thomson, J. R., Kim, S., **Sonkeng, K.,** Jolly, S., Goyen, C., & Rotich, W. (2021). Diversity in sport innovation. In J. J. Zhang, J. J. B. G. Pitts, & L. M. Johnson (Eds.). *International Sport Business Management: Issues and new ideas (pp. 113-123)*. London, United Kingdom: Routledge.
5. Chepyator-Thomson, J. R., **Sonkeng, K.,** Byron, K. C., Dexter, M. R., & Matz, R. (2020). Global Perspectives on Track and Field: Origins, Transformations, and Impact on Individuals and Societies. In J. Nauright, and S. Zipp (Eds.), *Routledge Handbook of Global Sports (pp. 261-272)*. London, UK: Routledge.
6. Chepyator-Thomson, J. R., Ojo, A., **Sonkeng, K.,** Traore, K. (2020). Introduction. In J. R. Chepyator-Thomson, A. Ojo, K. Sonkeng, & K. Traore (Eds.), *Youth, globalization, and*

*society in Africa and its diaspora* (pp. 1-19). Newcastle, UK: Cambridge Scholars Publishing.

7. Chepyator-Thomson, J. R., Ojo, A., **Sonkeng, K.**, Traore, K. (2020). Conclusion: Perspectives on Africa and its diaspora in the context of the chapters and literature. In J. R. Chepyator-Thomson, A. Ojo, K. Sonkeng, & K. Traore (Eds.), *Youth, globalization, and society in Africa and its diaspora* (pp. 278-285). Newcastle, UK: Cambridge Scholars Publishing.

### BOOK REVIEWS AND BOOK PUBLICATIONS

1. Chepyator-Thomson, J. R., Ojo, A., **Sonkeng, K.**, Traore, K. (2020). *Youth, globalization, and society in Africa and its diaspora*. Newcastle, UK: Cambridge Scholars Publishing.
2. **Sonkeng, K.** (2019). Sport and society in global France: Nations, migrations, corporations (Studies in Modern and Contemporary France). *International Journal of Sport Communication*, 12(3), 442- 445. DOI: 10.1123/ijsc.2019-0053.
3. **Sonkeng, K.** (2019). Autoethnography as a lighthouse: Illuminating race, research, and the politics of schooling: A book review. *The Qualitative Report (TQR)*, 25(4).
4. **Sonkeng, K.** (2009). *Und montags geht es zur Probe. Der Giessener Konzertverein von 1792 bis 2008*. (Published Master's Thesis). Verlag der Ferberschen Universitaetsbuchhandlung, Giessen.

### MANUSCRIPTS IN PROCESS

1. **Sonkeng, K.**, Chepyator-Thomson, J. R., & Washington, G. (Nearing submission). Sport in times of crisis: An impact assessment of the coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19) on college students at SEC member institutions. *To be submitted to Journal of Issues in Intercollegiate Athletics*, Fall 2020.
2. **Sonkeng, K.**, Chepyator-Thomson, J. R. (Nearing submission). The power of role models: Telling the stories of four Women leaders in International Sport Federations. To be submitted to *Women in Sport and Physical Activity Journal (WSPAJ)*, Fall 2020.
3. **Sonkeng, K.**, Chepyator-Thomson, J. R. (Data Collection). Inclusion and diversity in sports academy: A cross-sectional analysis of attendees' characteristics and demographics of sport management conferences in North America and Europe. *To be submitted to Journal of Sport Management*, Spring 2021.
4. **Sonkeng, K.**, Chepyator-Thomson, J. R. (Data collection). Women migrants in the United States: Experiences and perspectives on sport and physical exercise as a pathway to social inclusion. *To be submitted to Sport in Society*, Spring 2021.

5. Chepyator-Thomson, J. R., Goyen, C. K., & **Sonkeng, K.** (Data Analysis). COVID-19 and impact on international students' academics, migration, and Social connectedness in Southern four-year universities. *To be submitted to Journal of Studies in International Education*, Spring 2021.

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

1. **Sonkeng, K.**, Chepyator-Thomson, J. R. (Advisor), (February 2021). *Inclusion and Diversity in Sports Academy: A Cross-Sectional Analysis of Attendees' Characteristics and Demographics of Sport Management Conferences in North American and Europe* COSMA 2021 Virtual Conference.
2. **Sonkeng, K.**, Chepyator-Thomson, J. R. (Advisor), (November 2020). *Globalization and Development of Sport Diaspora: Migrants in the Global North*. Open Paper Session at NASSS Virtual Conference.
3. **Sonkeng, K.**, & Chepyator-Thomson, J. R. (Advisor) (September 2020). *Involuntary immigrants in the United States: Experiences and perspectives on sport and physical activity*. Oral presentation at the 28th EASM European Sport Management Virtual Conference.
4. **Sonkeng, K.** (March 2020). *NAFSA Advocacy Day*. Representative of the International Student Community at UGA, Washington, D.C. (Cancelled due to COVID-19).
5. **Sonkeng, K.** (February 2020). *UGA International Student Life (ISL) Representative*. Georgia International Leadership Conference (GILC), Covington, GA.
6. **Sonkeng, K.**, & Chepyator-Thomson, J. R. (Advisor) (Nov. 2019). Successful integration through the unifying power of sport? *A critical analysis of sport clubs, initiatives, and government policies in Germany through the lenses of migrants and lawmakers*. Oral presentation at the North American Society for the Sociology of Sport (NASSS) Conference.
7. **Sonkeng, K.** (May 2019). *Meet my Personal Lighthouse: Pick-up Basketball as a positive Reinforcer for Mental Health and Cross-Cultural Relations*. Skype presentation at the 15th International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry (QI2019), Champaign-Urbana, IL.
8. **Sonkeng, K.** (February 2019). *Pickup basketball as a culture bridge builder and a path to inclusion in the classroom of a Historically White Institution in the Southeast*. Oral presentation at the Applied Sport Management Association (ASMA) Conference.
9. **Sonkeng, K.**, & Chepyator-Thomson, J. R. (Advisor) (Nov. 2018). *Exploring the Healing Touch of pickup basketball as a self-care method for educators and helping professionals. An ethnographic approach*. Oral presentation at NASSS Conference in Vancouver, Canada.

10. **Sonkeng, K.**, & Chepyator-Thomson, J. R. (Advisor) (Nov. 2018). *From beat box, breakdance, and baggy pants: Hip hop as builder for cultural bridges and social injustice awareness among European female basketball players*. Oral presentation at NASSS Conference in Vancouver, Canada.
  
11. **Sonkeng, K.**, & Chepyator-Thomson, J. R. (Advisor) (May 2018). *Symptom or paradox of globalization? A Historical Comparison Between Soccer's Proneness to Racism and Fan Violence with Cricket and Rugby*. Oral presentation at the 46th Annual Convention of the North American Society for Sport History (NASSH), University of Manitoba, Canada.
  
12. **Sonkeng, K.** (March 2018). *Unpacking antecedents for soccer's proneness to racism and fan violence: Similarities and differences in cricket and rugby*. Poster presentation at College of Education Research Conference, University of Georgia.
  
13. **Sonkeng, K.** & Chepyator-Thomson, J. R. (Advisor) (November 2017). *Comparing socio-cultural impacts of sport policies applied in European professional basketball leagues*. PowerPoint presentation at the 2017 NASSS Conference in Windsor, Ontario, Canada.
  
14. **Sonkeng, K.**, Hazzaa, R., & Yoh, T. (Advisor) (June,2016). *An Examination of student-athletes' advising contentment*. Poster presentation at the North American Society for Sport Management (NASSM) 2016 Conference, Orlando, FL.
  
15. Hazzaa, R., **Sonkeng, K.**, & Yoh, T. (Advisor) (June 2016). *CSR Initiatives in college athletic programs: A web site content analysis of community service endeavors*. Oral presentation at the North American Society for Sport Management (NASSM) Conference

#### GUEST LECTURES AND SPEAKER ENGAGEMENTS

Semester	Course	Topic
Fall 2021	KINS 4830 Sport Policy and Governance	Sport in Germany
Summer 2021	Social Justice Summit 2021 at Western Illinois University	Inclusive Sport Leadership: A blueprint towards culturally responsive and equitable classrooms in Higher Education
Spring 2021	Virtual Panelist at 2021 Global Educational Forum	Conducting research during the COVID-19 pandemic
Spring 2021	KINS 4830 Sport Policy and Governance	Sport policy and labor migration
Spring 2021	Virtual Speaker at LEAD, William Woods University	Women in sports

Fall 2020	ETAP 2200 Education around the world	Education in Germany
	KINS 4830 Sport Policy and Governance	Sport policy and labor migration
Fall 2018	ETAP 2200 Education around the world	Education in Germany
	KINS 4830 Sport Policy and Governance	Social media policies in German sports
Spring 2018	ETAP 2200 Education around the world	Education in Germany
	KINS 4830 Sport Policy and Governance	Equity issues in German sports
Spring 2018	12 <sup>th</sup> Annual Global Educational Forum	Work in progress – Women’s participation in German sports
Fall 2014	Carbondale Community Event	Growing up in Germany

### SCHOLARSHIPS, FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS AND HONORS

1. **2020-2021 Graduate School Emerging Leaders Program.** University of Georgia.
2. **2020-2021 Future Faculty Fellows Program.** Center for Teaching and Learning, University of Georgia; \$300 award.
3. **2020 Saeeda Peermahomed Award.** Department of International Student Life at the University of Georgia; \$1,000 award.
4. **2020 Outstanding Graduate Student Award.** Department of International Student Life at the University of Georgia.
5. **2020-2021 Dissertation Completion Award.** University of Georgia Graduate School.
6. **2020-2021 Mary Ella Lunday Soule Scholarship Award.** Department of Kinesiology at the University of Georgia; \$51,608 award.
7. **2020 NAFSA Region VII Advocacy Day Travel Grant.** Division of Student Affairs at the University of Georgia.
8. **2019-2020 Travel Grant.** Department of Kinesiology at the University of Georgia; \$500 award.
9. **2019-2020 Travel Grant.** University of Georgia Graduate School; \$500 award.
10. **2019 Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award.** University of Georgia Graduate School.
11. **2018-2019 Travel Grant.** University of Georgia Graduate School; \$500 award.
12. **2018 Global Excellence Award.** Department of International Student Life at the University of Georgia.
13. **2018 Roberta Park Graduate Travel Fund.** North American Society for Sport History; \$300 award.

14. **2018 Outstanding Assistant for Global Conference Award.** Department of Kinesiology at the University of Georgia.
15. **2017-2018 Travel Grant.** Department of Kinesiology at the University of Georgia Graduate School; \$500 award.
16. **2006-2007 ERASMUS Exchange Program.** University of Michele de Montaigne, Bourdeaux, France.
17. **2005-2006 ISEP International Student Exchange Program.** Tennessee State University, Nashville, Tennessee.
18. **2005-2006 Academic Honor, Dean's List.** Tennessee State University, Tennessee.

### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**Department of Kinesiology, Western Illinois University Macomb, IL Aug 2021 – Present**  
*Assistant Professor in Kinesiology-Sport Management*

**Department of Kinesiology, University of Georgia Athens, GA Aug 2017 – Present**  
*Graduate Teaching Assistant / Mentor*

Served as Instructor of Record for undergraduate online/remotely and face-to-face taught basic physical education courses (e.g., tennis) and upper-class lecture-based courses in sport management (Sport Policy & Governance, Internship in Kinesiology, Intro to Sport Management). Provide general support and one-to-one assistance to students during office hours and through email correspondence; submitted timely progress reports and forms to the appropriate divisions/ departments as well as recorded grades.

Create syllabi, prepare lesson plans, and lecture notes, as well as assignments and exams. Invite guest speakers for lecture-based courses, e.g., former NBA player Carlos Strong.

**Department of Kinesiology, Southern Illinois University Carbondale, IL Aug 2014 – May 2016**  
*Graduate Teaching Assistant*

Served as Instructor of record for undergraduate activity and lecture-based courses in physical education, e.g., strength training, bowling, weight control, concepts of physical activity. Provided general support and one-to-one assistance to students during office hours and through email correspondence; submitted timely progress reports and forms to the appropriate divisions / departments as well as recorded grades. Prepared and delivered presentations for class lectures as well as created and wrote syllabi, assignments, and exams.

### RELEVANT INDUSTRY WORK EXPERIENCE

**ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex Lake Buena Vista, FL 06/2016 – 06/2017**  
*Public Affairs / Internal Professional Communications Intern*

Created weekly and special-edition Tell-A-Casts (information pamphlets) for ESPN Wide World of Sports, Disney's Water Parks & Miniature Golf, *runDisney*, and Mickey's Retreat.



Wrote and published recap stories, operational and informational messages, public and marketing announcements on the intranet, internal radio & TV, brochures, virtual bulletin boards.

Designed fliers/posters to inform employees about discounts and company-wide activities. Assisted with editorial and photographic coverage of events and stories for the various internal communication channels.

**College of Business, Southern Illinois University    Carbondale, IL    08/2014 – 05/2016**

*Marketing Graduate Assistant, Dean's Office*

Wrote and edited weekly news articles and content for monthly college-wide newsletter, conducted interviews with faculty, students, and alumni to gather information for various promotional and marketing materials.

Updated and maintained the College of Business web site and social media platforms such as Facebook and Instagram.

Produced short YouTube and Facebook videos and provided training sessions for employees and supervisors on video editing with Adobe Premiere CC and the internal university-wide content management system.

Implemented the first social media strategy for the college and increased followers by 25% on Facebook as well as Twitter impressions from 1,000 to 10,000 a month as well as planned and maintained a rolling social media calendar.

Assisted with college-wide special events, such as awards ceremonies, external board meetings, and receptions.

**INOVA Multimedia LLC    Jersey City, NJ    11/2011 – 05/2014**

*Marketing Manager / Project Manager*

Supervised the execution of NY / NJ based infotainment project run by PATH and NBC.

Handled all internal and external communication, including writing and distributing press releases, newsletters, the editorial supervision of the corporate website.

Led the U.S. subsidiary with a global team of two technical engineers.

Prepared promotional materials e.g., image films, presentations, trade shows proposals (InnoTrans (Berlin)/Computex (Taipei)).

**Chicago Bulls/Sox Academy    Lisle, IL    05/2015 – 08/2015**

*Summer Marketing Intern*

Developed interactive company presentation for the NBA, produced and edited video commercials and video recaps of celebrity youth summer camps, including interviews with former Chicago Bulls' players and Bulls/Sox Academy president and coaches. Link:

<https://prezi.com/lhwvgartwbu7/bullssox-academy-presentation/>

Wrote recap stories of baseball team, designed monthly newsletters and camp posters, updated website and databases using infinity; promoted the Bulls/Sox Academy programs at MLB Chicago White Sox games and local community events.

**WMSV-TV Channel 4 (NBC Affiliate)    Nashville, TN    01/2006-04/2006**



*Intern – Sports Department*

Edited and produced news/feature stories (e.g., Women’s Boxing in Nashville), conducted pre-game interviews with coaches.

**ACADEMIC SERVICE, CONFERENCE, AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

**Involvement with National Academic Organizations and Conferences**

<i>Facebook Group Moderator</i>   NASSS Communications Committee	2021
<i>Student Volunteer Moderator</i>   2021 COSMA Virtual Conference	2021
<i>Student Registration Volunteer</i>   2018 NASSS Conference, Vancouver, British Columbia	2018

**Department of Kinesiology, University of Georgia**

<i>Community Outreach Committee and Newsletter Editor</i>   Anti-Racism Task Group	2020
<i>Clean up volunteer</i>   Stonehenge Community Center in Athens	2020
<i>Co-organizer, abstract reviewer</i>   Annual Global Educational Forum	2017-Present
<i>Student Panel discussion host</i>   Annual Global Educational Forum	2019
<i>Soccer tournament co-organizer</i>   UGA Mandela Washington Fellowship Program	2019

<b>Mary Frances Early College of Education, University of Georgia</b>	
<i>Sport Management Ambassador</i>   Student Ambassador Program	2018-2020
<i>Facilitator</i>   International Student Support Group	2019
<b>Division of Student Affairs, University of Georgia</b>	
<i>Chairperson</i>   International Student Advisory Board (ISAB)	2019-2020
<i>Graduate Student Representative</i>   International Student Advisory Board (ISAB)	2018-2021
<i>Faculty Advisor</i>   UGA NCBBA Men’s Basketball Club team	2019
<b>Southern Illinois University Carbondale, Carbondale, Illinois</b>	
<i>In-Game Volunteer and Contributor</i>   Saluki Athletics Media Services	2014-2016
<i>Secretary Officer</i>   Sport Studies Association	2014-2016
<i>Volunteer Photographer</i>   Southern Illinois Special Olympics Ducky Derby Dash	2015
<b>International Journal of Sports Marketing and Sponsorship</b>	
<i>Guest Reviewer</i>	2020
<b>Routledge Publishers</b>	
<i>Review of Governance and Policy in Sport Organizations (Hums &amp; MacLean)</i>	2021

## CERTIFICATIONS AND TRAINING

Certificate in Interdisciplinary Qualitative Studies, University of Georgia	Expected May 2021
Graduate Certificate in Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, University of Georgia	Expected May 2021
Graduate Certificate in Women’s Studies, University of Georgia	May 2020
Mid-Semester Formative Evaluation (MSFE) Training	2018-2019

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS & MEMBERSHIPS

North American Society for Sport History (NASSH)	2018-2019
North American Society for Sport Management (NASSM)	2016-Present
North American Society for the Sociology of Sport (NASSS)	2017-Present
European Association for Sport Management (EASM)	2019-Present
UGA Blue Key Honor Society	2019-Present