

Cantu-Guskiewicz Research Endowment for Sport Concussion



About the Endowment: The Cantu-Guskiewicz Research Endowment for Sport Concussion, established in 2007, provides an annual research grant for a qualified graduate student conducting concussion-related research under the direction of a research mentor who has published at least one concussion-related research article. Once the balance of the endowment reaches \$1,000,000, the endowment will continue funding graduate student research, but the first priority will be to fund a biannual research grant of \$100,000 to a qualified junior faculty member conducting concussion-related research.



About Dr. Cantu: Rober Cantu, MD, FACS, FACSM, received an MA in endocrinology and an MD from the University of California Medical School in San Francisco. He currently serves as Clinical Professor Department of Neurosurgery and Co-Director of the Center for the Study of Traumatic Encephalopathy, Boston University School of Medicine, the Chairman of the Medical Advisory Board Sports Legacy Institute, and medical director of the National Center for Catastrophic Sports Injury Research, an ongoing registry for data collection and analysis of spine and head injuries. From this data, important contributions have been made in sport safety and accident reduction; most notably football rule changes concerning tackling and blocking with the head, the establishment of football helmet standards, improved on-the-field medical care, and coaching techniques. Dr. Cantu also serves on the Board of Trustees as Vice President of NOCSAE (National Operating Committee on Standards for Athletic Equipment) and is Co-Director of the Neurological Sports Injury Center at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, MA. Dr. Cantu has served as a consultant to many scholastic and professional athletes on the return to collision sports after a head or spine injury, and speaks on a variety of health-related interests, including the overall benefits of moderate regular exercise, special health and exercise concerns of senior citizens, and sports safety issues for high school athletic trainers, coaches, students and parents.

About Dr. Guskiewicz: Kevin is the Kenan Distinguished Professor and founding director of the Matthew Gfeller Sport-Related Traumatic Brain Injury Research Center and the Center for the Study of Retired Athletes at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He also serves as the Chair of Exercise and Sport Science and holds joint appointments in the Department of Orthopaedics, UNC Injury Prevention Research Center, and Doctoral Program in Human Movement Science at UNC-Chapel Hill. Over the past 17 years, Dr. Guskiewicz has investigated the effect of sport-related concussion on balance and neuropsychological function in high school and collegiate athletes, the biomechanics of sport concussion, and the long-term neurological effects of concussion in retired professional football players. He has been named Fellow of the American College of Sports Medicine (2003), the American Academy of Kinesiology (2006), and the National Athletic Trainers' Association (2008). In 2010 he was named to the NCAA's Concussion Committee and the NFL's Head, Neck, and Spine Committee. In 2011, Dr. Guskiewicz was recognized for his research with a prestigious MacArthur Fellowship grant.

Research Grant Recipients:

- 2019 Christina VanderVegt, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- 2018 Jennifer Savage, Michigan State University
- 2017 Not Awarded
- 2016 Elizabeth Teel, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- 2015 Laura Ann Zdziarski, University of Florida
- 2014 Melissa Kay, A.T. Still University
- 2013 Adam Raikes, Utah State University

Status: LEVEL 1 ENDOWED, LEVEL 2 IN PROGRESS

Commitment: \$50,000 (Level 1), \$1,000,000 Level 2

Amount Received: \$84,668.84

Outstanding Pledges: 0

*as of 6/30/2019

Individual Donors:

Robert C. Cantu

Dawn Comstock

Francis Feld

Vincent Ferrara

Kevin Guskiewicz

Donor Organizations:

Easter Athletic Trainers' Association