



CALL FOR PAPERS

PHYSICAL CULTURES OF THE BODY 2024

A VIRTUAL AND IN-PERSON CONFERENCE

Thursday, January 11, 2024: Virtual Conference on Zoom
Friday, January 12, 2024: In-Person at Stark Center

ABSTRACTS DUE: NOVEMBER 19, 2023
ABSTRACT ACCEPTANCE: DECEMBER 3, 2023

SPONSORED BY: THE H. J. LUTCHER **STARKCENTER** FOR
PHYSICAL CULTURE & SPORTS
WWW.STARKCENTER.ORG

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

As home to one of the world's leading research groups dedicated to the study of physical culture, the **H.J. LUTCHER STARK CENTER FOR PHYSICAL CULTURE AND SPORTS** is proud to announce that the **2024 Physical Cultures of the Body Conference** will be a hybrid event. In this, our fourth annual conference, our focus remains on historical and other humanities-based approaches to the study of exercise, strength, sport training, strength athletes, competitive lifting, the healthful benefits of exercise, and all other aspects of what we call "physical culture" across the millennia. However, our hope is that many of you will choose to present in person this year and perhaps also make time to use the Stark's resources during a visit to Austin. By meeting together we can, hopefully, learn more about each other, discuss our work, create new collaborations, and help the field of Physical Culture Studies continue to grow.

The conference is also sponsored by the Stark Center's *Iron Game History: The Journal of Physical Culture*. The journal has established two awards for the conference: The David P. Webster Award for Best Graduate Essay and The Terry Todd Award for Best Paper by a Working Scholar. Each award winner will receive **\$300.00**. *Iron Game History* is peer-reviewed and highly cited as all our back issues are on-line and free to all for download. Submissions from scholars at all stages of their careers, and from all academic disciplines, are welcomed. To learn more go to: [*Iron Game History*](#).

Conference Schedule:

Thursday January 11: Virtual Conference using Zoom: For those who participated in previous years, the format will be the same on Thursday. The virtual conference will consist of 75-minute sessions, thematically arranged, containing three papers of 20 minutes each and a 15-minute discussion period. The organizers will attempt to create sessions from individual papers, or you can submit an entire session of three papers and/or a panel presentation. Scholars already in Austin on Thursday will be able to watch the Zoom sessions at the Stark Center on our big screen.

Friday, January 12: In-Person Sessions at the Stark Center: We hope to use the same 75 minute format

for our in-person sessions, which will be held at the Stark Center on Friday. A special feature on Friday's program is a session dedicated to **Dr. John Fair's new biography, *Tommy Kono: The Life of America's Greatest Weightlifter*** (McFarland Press, 2023). This excellent book was made possible by the acquisition of the Tommy Kono papers, now housed at the Stark Center. Dr. Jason Shurley and Dr. Fair are both scheduled to speak in that session.

Please note: All presenters on Friday are expected to be in Austin. We are not anticipating having some people on Zoom while others present in person. Our aim is to try and bring our scholarly community together. Coffee, other drinks, snacks and a free lunch will be provided to conference attendees on Friday. We will share information on hotels and other matters when we know more about total number of Friday attendees. The archives will be open all week before the conference if you wish to come early and do research.

There is no charge to present a paper or simply attend the conference as an audience member. We will require registration to watch the Zoom sessions on Thursday and to be an audience member at the Stark Center on Friday. Watch our website for future details./

To Submit a Paper or Session for Consideration: Please submit abstracts as a WORD DOC via email to kim@starkcenter.org. The abstract for **individual papers** should contain in order:

1. Please write either "ZOOM" or "IN PERSON" at the top of the page. Please also indicate if this is an Individual Paper or Part of a Session. If submitting a paper as part of a session/panel please also see below.
2. Your name; academic affiliation; email address, and phone number. Graduate students must also include the name of your supervising advisor and your departmental home department.
3. Full title of paper as it should appear in the conference program.
4. A 250-300 word abstract discussing the paper's themes, sources, broad theoretical and/or methodological approaches, and significance of the research.
5. Short biography of the author(s) of approximately 50 words.

Session or panel organizers should submit a sheet containing all the information above for themselves and listing the names and affiliations of all speakers. Sessions should have an over-arching title and each paper should be individually named. Abstracts may all be pasted into one document or they can be submitted individually.

The University of Texas is in the heart of downtown Austin, making it a convenient vacation spot for academics. Looking south in this photo you can see the tall UT administration tower, the rotunda of the capital building, and the skyscrapers of Austin's vital urban center.



Come join us and see why people have made Austin one of America's most popular travel destinations. And, let us know if you'd like to come early and do research in our archives.

Conference Organizers: Kim Beckwith: kim@starkcenter.org and Jan Todd: jan@starkcenter.org.