



# RACE, SPORTS, AND POLITICS: CONFRONTING INJUSTICE IN THE HISTORY OF BOSTON

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## SYMPOSIUM SESSIONS:

WORLD POLITICS, BOSTON, AND THE INTEGRATION OF COLLEGIATE FOOTBALL

COMMEMORATING BOSTON'S BLACK ATHLETES

BOSTON'S BLACK ATHLETES: SOCIAL JUSTICE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

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**BOSTON COLLEGE | STOKES HALL SOUTH 195**  
**FRIDAY, APRIL 11, 2025 | 1:00PM-6:00PM**

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## Symposium Co-Sponsors:

Boston College Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Committee,  
Boston College Winston Center for Leadership and Ethics,  
BC Athletics Department & Office of Student-Athlete Academic Services,  
Brockton Historical Society,  
Brockton Area Branch NAACP

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**Welcome 1:00-1:15 PM**

**Welcome Speaker: Sheriff of Suffolk County, Steven W. Tompkins**

**Introduction 1:15-1:30 PM**

**Project on Boston Sports and Race:**

Dr. Robert Cvornyek and Douglas Stark

Boston's Black Athletes: Identity, Performance and Activism (Lexington Press, July 2024)

Race and Resistance in Boston: A Contested Sports History (University of Nebraska Press, February 2025)

**Session 1 1:30-2:30 PM World Politics, Boston, and the Integration of Collegiate Football**

Panelists: Susan A. Michalczyk, Ph.D., MCAS Assoc. Prof. of the Practice, Boston College

Robert Cvornyek, Professor Emeritus of Sport History, Rhode Island College

Gloria Repress-Churchwell, Producer and Director LIMITLESS: The Dr. Chester Pierce Story

Moderator: Michael Harris, Director, Student-Athlete Academic Services, Athletics Diversity & Inclusion Designee

**Break 2:30-3:00**

**Session 2 3:00-4:00 PM Commemorating Boston's Black Athletes**

Panelists: Chris Boucher, Biographer of Bucky Lew and Wendy Johnson, Bucky Lew's granddaughter

Joanne Montgomery, Lou Montgomery's daughter

David Joyner, brother of Russ Joyner, BC '83

Willie A. Wilson Jr., Prof, Adult Learning Center, and Curator, Brockton Historical Society-

Marvin Hagler statue in Brockton

Boston Landmarks Commission: slide presentation

Moderator: Deborah Hogan, Ph.D., Asst. Director, School of Social Work Doctoral Program

**Session 3 4:00-5:00PM**

**Boston's Black Athletes: Social Justice and Community Engagement**

Panelists: Stuart Primus, BC '85

Joshua Beekman, BC '05, Director of Football Initiatives

Troy Bowers, BC '87

Moderator: Steve Benton, BC'89

**Closing Remarks 5:00-5:30 PM**

Robert Cvornyek, Douglas Stark: Future Directions for the Black Athletes in Boston Project

Susan Michalczyk: The Lou Montgomery Foundation

**Reception to Follow**

