

Kevin Guskiewicz, Ph.D., M.S., A.T.C.

Dean, College of Arts and Sciences. Kenan Distinguished Professor, Department of Exercise and Sport Science. Co-Director, Gfeller Sport-Related Traumatic Brain Injury Research Center at UNC-Chapel Hill

Chapel Hill, NC, US

Kevin Guskiewicz is a neuroscientist and internationally renowned expert on sport-related concussion.

Description

Kevin Guskiewicz, a neuroscientist and nationally recognized expert on sport-related concussions, became dean of the College of Arts and Sciences on Jan. 1, 2016. Previously, he had served as senior associate dean for the natural sciences and chair of the department of exercise and sport science in the College.

As dean, he oversees the largest academic institution on campus, encompassing more than 70 academic departments, curricula, programs, centers and institutes.

A 20-year member of Carolina's faculty, Guskiewicz is the Kenan Distinguished Professor of Exercise and Sport Science and co-director of the Matthew Gfeller Sport-Related Traumatic Brain Injury Research Center and director of the Center for the Study of Retired Athletes. He holds appointments in the department of orthopaedics, department of physical medicine and rehabilitation, the UNC Injury Prevention Research Center and doctoral program in human movement science.

Guskiewicz earned a B.S. in athletic training from West Chester University, M.S. in exercise physiology/athletic training from the University of Pittsburgh and Ph.D. in sports medicine from the University of Virginia. Over the past 22 years, his research has focused on sport-related concussion, investigating its effect on balance and neurocognitive function in athletes, and the long-term neurological issues related to playing sports.

His groundbreaking work has garnered numerous awards, including fellowships in the American College of Sports Medicine, the National Academy of Kinesiology and the National Athletic Trainers' Association. His research has also influenced concussion guidelines and recommendations made by these organizations as well as the NCAA and the NFL. He was named to the NCAA's Concussion Committee, the NFL Players Association's Mackey-White Committee and the NFL's Head, Neck, and Spine Committee.

In 2011, he was awarded a prestigious MacArthur Fellowship for his innovative work on the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of sport-related concussions. He and his colleagues used that award to help improve safety in high school sports and to help the U.S. military identify and treat serious head injuries. In 2013, Time magazine named him a Game Changer, one of 18 "innovators and problem-solvers that are inspiring change in America."

Topics

Concussion, Brain Injury, Neuroscience, Injury Prevention, Athletic Injuries, Athletes, Youth Sports Safety, Movement Science, Orthopaedics, Exercise, Physical Science

Past Talks

Concussion: Innovative Solutions to a Challenging Problem in Sports and the Military
Tar Heel Tailgate Talk

Concussion Epidemiology: Incidence Differences by Sport, Gender and Age
University of Michigan Injury Center Sport Concussion Summit

Use of Innovative Technologies for the Prevention and Management of Sport-Related Concussion
Sports Neuropsychology Concussion Symposium

Education

University of Virginia
Ph.D. Sports Medicine

University of Pittsburgh
M.S. Exercise Physiology/Athletic Training

West Chester University
B.A. Athletic Training

Accomplishments

Appointed Dean, College of Arts and Sciences, UNC-Chapel Hill

After a national search to replace Dean Karen Gil, who announced she was stepping down to return to teaching, Kevin Guskiewicz was named the next dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, effective Jan. 1, 2016.

Most Distinguished Athletic Trainer Award

Recognizes members of the National Athletic Trainers' Association who have demonstrated exceptional commitment to leadership, volunteer service, advocacy and distinguished professional activities as an athletic trainer.

Order of the Golden Fleece, University of North Carolina

Founded in 1904, The Order of the Golden Fleece is the University's oldest and highest honorary society. Members are selected based upon service to the University as reflected in scholarship, motivation, creativity, loyalty, and leadership in academic and extracurricular pursuits. Those eligible for selection must possess exemplary character and can include juniors, seniors, graduate students, staff, faculty and alumni who have made significant, lasting contributions to the University.

Time Magazine "Game Changer"

In 2013 Time magazine named Kevin Guskiewicz a Game Changer, one of 18 "innovators and problem-solvers that are inspiring change in America."

West Chester University's Sturzebecker Hall of Fame Inductee

An honor awarded to Dr. Guskiewicz by West Chester University.

2013 Distinguished Alumnus Award

Curry School of Education, University of Virginia.

2013 Commencement Speaker, University of North Carolina

The speaker for Winter Commencement is typically a distinguished faculty member.

University of Pittsburgh Legacy Laureate

Distinguished Alumni Award.

MacArthur Fellow

The MacArthur Fellowship, commonly referred to as a "Genius Grant," is a prize awarded annually to individuals who show exceptional merit and promise for continued and enhanced creative work and are citizens or residents of the United States.

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