The body has, and will continue to be, an area of intense interest in academia. As one of the world’s leading groups in the study of physical culture, the H.J. Lutcher Stark Center for Physical Culture and Sports is proud to announce a VIRTUAL CONFERENCE focused on historical and other humanities-based approaches to the study of physical culture. We define physical culture as “the various activities people have employed over the centuries to strengthen their bodies, enhance their physiques, increase their endurance, improve their health, fight against aging, and become better athletes.” We therefore welcome papers from both established scholars and graduate students exploring all humanities-based aspects of physical culture. Papers must represent new research and may not have been published or presented elsewhere.

Open to scholars from around the world, paper presentations must be delivered in English, and the conference itself will happen in “real time,” based on Central Standard Time in Austin, Texas, USA. More details on timing and how the conference will run will be sent after we see the number of papers submitted.

This conference is co-sponsored by Iron Game History: The Journal of Physical Culture (IGH) now edited by Professors Tolga Ozyurtcu, Jason Shurley, and Kim Beckwith. The editors welcome the submission of presented papers for a special issue of IGH planned as a companion to the conference. The journal has established
two awards for this special edition: 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 $250.00. Like other academic journals, Iron Game History is peer-reviewed, non-profit, and welcomes contributions from scholars at all stages of their careers and from all academic disciplines. To learn more, go to: Iron Game History.

**To Submit a Conference Abstract:**
Please submit abstracts of approximately 250 words as a WORD DOC to kim@starkcenter.org. The abstract should contain:

- Full title of paper: as it will appear in the conference program
- Explanation of the paper’s themes, topics, sources, broad theoretical and/or methodological approaches, and significance of the research.
- Your preferred title/name; academic affiliation; email address, and phone number.
- A short biography of the author(s) of approximately 50 words.
- Graduate students must also include the name of your supervising advisor and their email.

**Submission types:**
Individual or co-authored papers of 20 minutes. (Three papers to each session of 75 minutes--includes 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—or a panel presentation.

For questions, please email conference co-organizers:
Conor Heffernan -- Conor.Heffernan@austin.utexas.edu
Jan Todd -- jan@starkcenter.org