

MARY G. MCDONALD
PROFESSOR
HOMER C. RICE CHAIR OF SPORTS AND SOCIETY
ADVANCE PROFESSOR, IVAN ALLEN COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS
SCHOOL OF HISTORY AND SOCIOLOGY
GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
123 Old CE Building Mary.mcdonald@hsoc.gatech.edu (404)894-6835
February 2026

I. EARNED DEGREES

- Ph.D., 1995 University of Iowa, Iowa City
Field of Study: Cultural Studies of Sport and Leisure
Secondary Focus: Historical Analysis of Sport
Dissertation: Clean "Air": Representing Michael Jordan in the Reagan-Bush Era
- M.Ed., 1983 Xavier University, Cincinnati, Ohio
Area of Concentration: Physical Education
- B.S., 1981 University of Dayton, Dayton, Ohio
Major: Physical Education: Minor: Health Education. Graduated Magna cum laude

II. ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

- August, 2021 ADVANCE Professor, Allen Ivan College of Liberal Arts, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, Georgia (term 2021-2027)
- August, 2013 Professor and Homer C. Rice Chair of Sports and Society, School of History and Sociology, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, Georgia
- 2010-2013 Professor, Department of Kinesiology and Health, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio
- 2001-2010 Associate Professor, Department of Kinesiology and Health, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio
- 2009-2013 Joint appointment, Western Program in Individualized Studies, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio
- 1997-2013 Affiliate, Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies Program, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio
- 1995-2001 Assistant Professor, Department of Kinesiology and Health, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio

III. HONORS AND AWARDS

- Homer C. Rice Chair of Sports and Society; Ivan Allen College, Georgia Institute of Technology, 2013-present.
- Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts, ADVANCE Professor, Georgia Institute of Technology, 2021-2027.
- Class of 1934 Outstanding Service Award, Georgia Institute of Technology, 2025
- Faces of Inclusive Excellence; Institute Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Georgia Institute of Technology, 2019.
- North American Society for the Sociology of Sport (NASSS) Service Excellence Award, 2018.
- Georgia Power Professor of Excellence. One of six campus-wide recipients and selected to represent the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts, Georgia Institute of Technology, Fall 2015 & Spring 2018.

Visiting Scholar, School of Kinesiology and Health Studies, Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, Canada, 2011-2012.

Honorable Mention, Sociology of Sport Journal Article Award for Cooky, C. & McDonald, M. G. (2005). If you let Me play: Liberal discourse and young girls' insider-other narratives, October 2006.

Visiting Scholar, Department of Health and Sport Studies, University of Iowa, Iowa City, January 17-May 20, 2005

Visiting Scholar, School of Kinesiology and Health Studies, Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, Canada, February 2-5, 2005

Visiting Scholar, Chelsea School, University of Brighton, Brighton, England, November 20-December 1, 2004

Recipient of a "37th Annual Choice Outstanding Academic Title" award for Birrell, S. & McDonald, M. G. (Eds.). (2000). *Reading sport: Critical essays on power and representation*. Selected by Choice: Current Reviews for Academic Libraries. Over 25,000 items were received for consideration, Choice publishes reviews of 6,500 titles annually and in 2000, 640 titles received this award.

IV. RESEARCH, SCHOLARSHIP AND CREATIVE ACTIVITIES

My research and teaching interests center around narrative construction and inequality in sport.

A. PUBLISHED BOOK CHAPTERS AND EDITED VOLUMES

A1. Book Chapters

Ventresca, M. & McDonald, M. G. (2025). The debilitating discourses of Long Covid: The public pedagogies of sporting bodies. In D. Lupton (Ed.). *Long Covid and society: International perspectives*. Melbourne: Palgrave Macmillan.

McDonald, M. G. & Barnes, S. (2025). Playing for our team: The WNBA, LGBTQ+ advertising, and neoliberal capitalism. In S. Jackson & D. L. Andrews (Eds.). *Sport, advertising, and global promotional culture: Identities, commodities, spaces, & spectacles* (288-304). London: Routledge.

McDonald, M. G. & Sterling, J. (2023). Sport, science, and technology. In L. A. Wenner (Ed.), *Oxford handbook of sport and society* (pp. 438-457). Oxford: Oxford Handbooks.

Barnes, S. & McDonald, M. G. (2022). Race, racism, and racial entanglements. In M. Phillips, D. Booth, & C. Adams (Eds.), *Routledge companion to sport history*. London: Routledge.

McDonald, M. G. & Sterling, J. (2020). Feminist New Materialisms and the troubling waters of the 2016 Rio de Janeiro Olympic Games. In J. Newman, H. Thorpe & D. Andrews (Eds.). *Sport, physical culture and the moving body: Materialisms, technologies, ecologies*. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University.

Ventresca, M. & McDonald, M. G. (2020). Forces of impact: Critically examining sports' "Concussion Crises." In M. Ventresca & M. G. McDonald (Eds.), *Sociocultural examinations of sports concussion* (pp. 3-20). London: Routledge.

McDonald, M. G. (2020). Screening saviors?: The politics of care, college sports and screening athletes for sickle cell trait. In J. Sterling, J. & M. G. McDonald (Eds.). *Sports, society and technology: Bodies, practices, and knowledge production* (pp. 247-267). New York: Palgrave.

Sterling, J. & McDonald, M. G. (2020). Introduction: Sports, society, and technology. In J. Sterling & M. G. McDonald (Eds.), *Sports, society, and technology: Bodies, practices, and knowledge production* (pp. 1-14). New York: Palgrave.

- McDonald, M. G. (2019). Sport for development and peace, and feminist theory. In H. Collison, S. Darnell, R. Giulianotti, & P. D. Howe (Eds.), *Routledge handbook of sport for development and peace* (pp. 197-207). London: Routledge.
- McDonald, M. G. & Shelby, R. (2018). Feminism, intersectionality, and the problem of whiteness in leisure and sport spaces and scholarship. In L. Mansfield, J. Caudwell, B. Watson & B. Wheaton (Eds.), *The handbook of feminisms in sport, leisure, and physical education* (pp. 497-514). London: Palgrave.
- McDonald, M. G. (2017). Feminist perspective of race/ethnicity and gender in sport. In G. Sobiech & S. Günter (Eds.), *Sports and gender-(inter)nationale sportsoziologische geschlechter-forschung* (pp. 109-119). Berlin: Springer.
- McDonald, M. G. (2014). Mapping whiteness and intersectionality: Troubling gender and sexuality in sport studies. In J. Hargreaves & E. Anderson (Eds.), *Routledge handbook of sport, gender and sexuality* (pp. 151-160). London: Routledge.
- McDonald, M. G. & Cooky, C. (2013). Interrogating discourses about the WNBA's "bad girls": Intersectionality and the politics of representation. In L. Wenner (Ed.) *Fallen sports heroes, media and celebrity culture* (pp. 193-207). New York: Peter Lang.
- McDonald, M. G. (2012). Out of bounds: The Women's National Basketball Association and neoliberal imaginings of sexuality. In M. L. Silk & D. L. Andrews (Eds.), *Sport and neoliberalism: Politics, culture and consumption* (pp. 211-224). Philadelphia: Temple University.
- McDonald, M. G. & Thomas, C. (2010). The Rutgers women's basketball team talks back: Intersectionality, resistance and media power. In S. S. Prettyman & B. Lampman (Eds.), *Learning culture through sport: Perspectives on society and organized sport* (pp. 78-91). Langham: Rowan and Littlefield.
- McDonald, M. G. (2009). The whiteness of sport/media scholarship. In H. Hundley & A. Billings (Eds.), *Examining identity in sports media* (pp. 153-172). Thousand Oaks: Sage.
- McDonald, M. G. (2008). Michael Jordan. In Whitaker, M. (Ed.), *African American icons in sport: Triumph, courage and excellence*. (pp.145-156). Westport: Praeger.
- McDonald, M. G. (2007). Do you believe in Miracles? Militarization, masculinity and the 1980 US Olympic ice hockey team. In S. Wagg & D.L. Andrews (Eds.), *East plays west: Essays on sport and the cold war* (pp. 222-234). London: Routledge.
- McDonald, M. G. (2006). Beyond the pale: The whiteness of queer and sport studies scholarship. In J. C. Caudwell (Ed.), *Sport, sexualities and queer theory* (pp. 33-46). London: Routledge.
- McDonald, M. G. (2006). Sport and Power. In A. Rainey & J. Bryant (Eds.). *Handbook of sports and media* (pp. 501-522). Mahwah, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates.
- McDonald, M. G. (2005). Imagining benevolence and nation: Tragedy, sport and the transnational marketplace. In M. L. Silk, D.L. Andrews & C.L. Cole (Eds.), *Sport and corporate nationalisms* (pp. 127-142). Oxford: Berg.
- McDonald, M. G. (2005). Model women?: Sporting femininity and consumer culture. In S. Jackson & D. L. Andrews (Eds.), *Sport, culture, and advertising: Identities, commodities, and the politics of representation* (pp. 24-38). New York: Routledge.

- Ingham, A. & McDonald, M. G. (2003). Sport and community/communitas. In R. Wilcox, D. L. Andrews, R. L. Irwin, & R. Pitter (Eds.), *Sporting dystopias: The making and meaning of urban sport cultures* (pp.17-34). Albany: State University of New York.
- McDonald, M. G. (2001). Safe sex symbol?: Michael Jordan and the politics of representation. In D. L. Andrews (Ed.), *Michael Jordan, inc.: Corporate sport, media culture and post-modern America* (pp. 153-174). Albany: State University of New York.
- McDonald, M. G. & Andrews, D. L. (2001). Michael Jordan: Corporate sport and post-modern celebrityhood. In D. L. Andrews & S. J. Jackson (Eds.), *Sport stars: The cultural politics of sporting celebrity* (pp. 20-35). London: Routledge.
- Birrell, S. & McDonald, M. G. (2000). Reading sport, articulating power lines: An introduction. In S. Birrell & M. G. McDonald (Eds.), *Reading sport: Critical essays on power and representation* (pp. 3-13). Boston: Northeastern University.

A2. Edited Volumes

- Ventresca, M. & McDonald, M. G. (Eds.). (2020). *Sociocultural examinations of sports concussion*. London: Routledge.
- Sterling, J. & McDonald, M. G. (Eds.). (2020). *Sports, society, and technology: Bodies, practices, and knowledge production*. New York: Palgrave.
- Birrell, S. & McDonald, M. G. (Eds.). (2000). *Reading sport: Critical essays on power and representation*. Boston: Northeastern University.

B. REFEREED JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS

- Shelby, R., Barnes, S., Parvin, N. & McDonald, M G. (2020). The conjoined spectacles of the “Smart Super Bowl.” *Engaging Science, Technology and Society*, 6, 312-319.
- McDonald, M. G. (2020). Once more with feeling: Sport, national anthems, and the collective power of affect. *Sociology of Sport Journal*, 37(1), 1-11.
- Liberti, R. & McDonald, M. G. (2019). Back on track: Wyomia Tyus, breaking historical silences, and the sporting activist legacies of 1968. *International Journal of the History of Sport*, 36(9-10), 706-811.
- Davidson, J. & McDonald, M. G. (2018). Rethinking human rights: The 2014 Sochi Winter Olympics, LGBT protections, and the limits of cosmopolitanism. *Leisure Studies*, 37(1), 64-76.
- McDonald, M. G. (2017). Traveling discourses of Title IX: Gender and sport for development in an era of securitized interests. *Third World Thematics*, 2(1), 37-53.
- Adams, M.L., Davidson, J., Helstein, M., Jamieson, K., Kim, K.Y., King, S., McDonald, M. G., & Rail, G. (2016). Feminist cultural studies: Uncertainties and possibilities roundtable. *Sociology of Sport Journal*, 33, 75-91.
- McDonald, M. G. (2015). Imagining neoliberal feminisms? Thinking critically about the US diplomacy campaign, “Empowering Women and Girls Through Sports.” *Sport in Society: Cultures, Commerce, Media, Politics*, 18(8), 909-922.
- Lisec, J. & McDonald, M. G. (2012). Gender inequality in the new millennium: An analysis of WNBA representations in sport blogs. *Journal of Sports Media*, 7(2), 153-178.

- Birrell, S. & McDonald, M. G. (2012). Break points: Narrative interruptions in the texts of Billie Jean King. *Journal of Sport and Social Issues*, 36(4), 343-360.
- Martin, A. & McDonald, M. G. (2012). Covering women's sport? An analysis of Sports Illustrated covers from 1987-2009 and ESPN the Magazine covers from 1998-2009. *Graduate Journal of Sport, Exercise and Physical Education Research*, 1, 81-97.
- McDonald, M. G. & King, S. J. (2012). A different contender? Barack Obama, the 2008 presidential campaign and the racial politics of sport. *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, (Special Issue: New Positions in Race Theory: The Politics of Sport), 35(6), 1023-1039.
- McDonald, M. G. & Toglia, J. (2010). Dressed for success? The NBA's dress code, the workings of whiteness and corporate culture. *Sport in Society: Cultures, Commerce, Media, Politics*, 13(6), 970-983.
- McDonald, M. G. (2008). Rethinking resistance: The queer play of visibility politics, the Women's National Basketball Association and late capitalism. *Leisure Studies*, 27(1), 77-93.
- Cooky, C. & McDonald, M. G. (2005). If you let me play: Liberal discourse and young girls' insider-other narratives. *Sociology of Sport Journal*, 22(2), 158-177.
- McDonald, M. G. (2002). Queering whiteness: The peculiar case of the Women's National Basketball Association. *Sociological Perspectives* (Special Issue on Gender and Sport), 45(4), 379-396.
- Nathan, D. & McDonald, M. G. (2001). Yearning for yesteryear: Cal Ripken, Jr., the streak and the politics of nostalgia. *American Studies*, 42(1), 99-123.
- McDonald, M. G. (2000). The marketing of the Women's National Basketball Association and the making of postfeminism. *International Review for the Sociology of Sport*, 35(1), 35-48.
- McDonald, M. G. & Birrell, S. (1999). Reading sport critically: A methodology for interrogating power. *Sociology of Sport Journal*, 16(4), 283-300.
- McDonald, M. G. (1999). Unnecessary roughness: Gender and racial politics in domestic violence accounts as media events. *Sociology of Sport Journal*, 16(2), 111-133.
- McDonald, M. G. (1996). Michael Jordan's family values: Marketing, meaning and post Reagan America. *Sociology of Sport Journal*, 13(4), 344-365.
- McDonald, M. G. (1996). Horatio Alger with a jump shot: Michael Jordan and the American dream. *Iowa Journal of Cultural Studies*, 15, 33-47.

C. OTHER PUBLICATIONS

C1. Special Issue Journal Editorship

- Schultz, J. & McDonald, M. G. (2021). Guest editor of a special issue: "Reading the past critically": Honoring the legacy of Susan Birrell. *Journal of Sport History*, 48(2).
- Chawansky, M. Hayhurst, L., McDonald, M. G. & Van Ingen, C. (2017). Guest editor of a special issue of *Third World Thematics*, 2(1) "Innovations in Sport for Development Research." (This special issue has reprinted as an anthology published by Routledge, 2019).
- Sterling, J., Phillips, M. & McDonald, M. G. (2017). Guest editor of a special issue of the *Journal of Sports History*, 44(2) "Doing Sports History in the Digital Present."

King, S. & McDonald, M. G. (2007). Guest editor of a special issue of the *Sociology of Sport Journal*, 24(1) “(Post)Identity and Sport.”

McDonald, M. G. (2005). Guest editor of a special issue of the *Sociology of Sport Journal*, 23(3) “Whiteness and Sport.”

C2. Overview Articles in Special Journal Issues

Schultz, J. & McDonald, M. G. (2021). An introduction to “reading the past critically”: Honoring the legacy of Susan Birrell. *Journal of Sport History*, 48(2), 95-101.

Chawansky, M. Hayhurst, L., McDonald, M. G. & Van Ingen, C. (2017). Introduction: Innovations in sports for development research. *Third World Thematics*, 2(1), 1-6.

Sterling, J., Phillips, M. & McDonald, M. G. (2017). Introduction: Doing sports history in the digital present. *Journal of Sports History*, 44(2), 135-145.

King, S. & McDonald, M. G. (2007). (Post)identity and sport: Introduction and overview. *Sociology of Sport Journal*, 24(1), 1-19.

McDonald, M. G. (2005). Mapping whiteness and sport: An introduction. *Sociology of Sport Journal*, 22(3), 245-255.

C3. Online Resource and Invited Articles in Refereed Journals

McDonald, M. G. & Barnes, S. (2024). Ideology. In V. Girginov (Ed.), *Routledge resources online-Sport Studies*. London: Routledge. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9780367766924-RESS45-1>

McDonald, M. G. (2020). “So much winning”: Michael Jordan, *The Last Dance*, and intersecting pandemic politics. *Journal of Sport History*, 47(3), 276-279.

McDonald, M. G. (2017). What meaning for sustainability? The politics of sustainability. *Journal of Policy Research in Tourism, Leisure and Events*, 9(2), 219-223

McDonald, M. G. (2012). Thinking through sport, analyzing whiteness. *Journal of Multicultural Discourses*, 7(3), 235-241.

Knoppers, A. & McDonald, M. G. (2010). Scholarship on gender and sport in Sex Roles and beyond. *Sex Roles*, (Anniversary Paper) 63(5-6), 311-23.

McDonald, M. G. (2009). Dialogues on whiteness, leisure and (anti)racism. *Journal of Leisure Research*, 41(1), 5-21.

C4. Book Reviews

McDonald, M. G. (2001). *Heroines of sport: The politics of difference and identity*. By Jennifer Hargreaves. Reviewed for the *International Review for the Sociology of Sport*, 36(3).

McDonald, M. G. (1999). *Contesting the Super Bowl*. By Dona Schwartz. Reviewed for the *Sociology of Sport Journal* 16(3).

McDonald, M. G. (1998, Winter). *Making waves: The inside story of managing and motivating the first women's team to compete for the America's cup*. By Anna Seaton Huntington. Reviewed for the *Association for the Study of Play Newsletter*, 22(3).

McDonald, M. G. (1996, Spring). *Women, media, and sport*. By Pam Creedon (Ed.). Reviewed for the *Association for the Study of Play Newsletter*, 21(1).

C5 Digital Curation and Supervision

Ventresca, M., McDonald, M. G., Carter-Francique, A., Clevenger, S., Day, M., Dickerson, N., Mack, M., Rick, O. (2024 launch). *Sound, sport, and the digital*. Public facing website which hosts past sound-sport webinars as well as an archive of scholarly and sonic resources.

Ventresca, M. & McDonald, M. G. (forthcoming, 2026). *The Covid sports project*. Public facing website which features a timeline of key movements within sport and as well as scholarly podcasts. Podcast topics include: the history of sport and pandemics; sport, Covid-19, and social inequalities; “bubbles,” athletes as “model organisms” of experimentation and Covid-19; long Covid and athletes; Covid-19 and the sport media landscape; Black Lives Matter activism, sport, and Covid-19; and The Olympic Games and Covid-19.

C6. Popular Publications

McDonald, M. G. Review of art exhibit Score: sports + art at the Georgia Museum of Contemporary Art published as *A Sports Sociologist Assesses “SCORE: Artists in Overtime”* (2014, March 19) on *Burnaway*, an Atlanta-based arts blog. <http://burnaway.org/score-sports-arts/>

McDonald, M. G. Sports and domestic abuse (2014, September 23) on the *Georgia Tech Amplifier*. <https://www.iac.gatech.edu/news-events/stories/2014/10/link-sports-domestic-abuse/331241>

C7. Reprinted Articles, Book Chapters, and Special Issue

Chawansky, M., Hayhurst, L., McDonald, M. G. & van Ingen, C. (Eds.). (2019). *Innovations in sport for Development research*. London: Routledge. This anthology was originally published as a special issue in *Third World Thematics*, 2(1), 2017.

McDonald, M. G. (2008). Michael Jordan. In Whitaker, M. (Ed.). *African American icons in sport: Triumph, courage and excellence*. (pp. 145-156). Westport, CT: Praeger. Updated and reprinted in Whitaker, M. (Ed.). (2011). *Icons of Black America: Breaking barriers and crossing boundaries* (pp. 509-518). Westport: Praeger.

McDonald, M. G. (2000). The marketing of the Women's National Basketball Association and the making of postfeminism. *International Review for the Sociology of Sport*, 35(1), 35-48. Reprinted in R. Boyle (Eds.). (2016). *Sport and Communication*. London: Sage

McDonald, M. G. (1999). Michael Jordan's family values: Marketing, meaning and post Reagan America. *Sociology of Sport Journal*, 13(4), 344-365. Reprinted in A. Ault (Ed.). (1999). *Perspectives: Race and ethnicity* (pp. 47-60). Bellevue, IA: Houghton-Mifflin CourseWise Publishing.

McDonald, M. G. (1999). Michael Jordan's family values: Marketing, meaning and post Reagan America. *Sociology of Sport Journal*, 13(4), 344-365. Reprinted in J. Johnston (Ed.). (2001). *The American body in context* (pp. 145-175). Wilmington, DE: Scholarly Resources.

McDonald, M. G. (1999). Michael Jordan's family values: Marketing, meaning and post Reagan America. *Sociology of Sport Journal*, 13(4), 344-365. Reprinted in C. Lamb (Ed.). (2016). *From Jack Johnson to LaBron James: Essays on race, sports, and the media*. Lincoln, NE: University of Nebraska.