Dear Friends,

The AALS Section on Law and Sports is pleased to announce that we will recognize Professor Timothy Davis by presenting him with the Section Award at the 2018 Annual Meeting in San Diego. The Section award recognizes an individual for substantial and significant contributions to scholarship, teaching and service in the area of law relating to sports. Professor Davis, a member of the Wake Forest University School of Law, is a leading sports law scholar, who has published extensively. His scholarship has contributed significantly to the developing body of sports law, particularly regarding contract and race issues. He is a first-rate teacher and has won several awards for teaching. He has also served in leadership roles in numerous sports law organizations and is a past chair of this Section.

The award will be presented at the beginning of the Section on Law and Sports Program on Thursday, January 4, 2018 at 10:30 a.m. We hope that you will join us to celebrate Professor Davis’ receipt of the award and then stay for our Program on “Legal Implications of Social and Political Activism in Sports.” The program will examine both public and private law issues that arise whenever individuals and organizations in the sports industry try to make socially responsible choices or engage in social or political activism. When QB Colin Kaepernick kneeled during the national anthem at NFL games during the 2016 football season, he quickly became a symbol of a renewed era of athlete activism. His action sparked a national discussion and strong reactions that have kept this topic in the news.

The panel, Jeffery B. Fannell (Jeff Fannell & Associates and formerly Assistant General Counsel of the MLBPA), Meg Penrose (Texas A & M School of Law), Laura Rene McNeal (Brandeis School of Law, University of Louisville) and Ettie Ward, moderator (St. John’s University School of Law), will examine both public and private law issues that arise whenever individuals and organizations in the sports industry try to make socially responsible choices or engage in social or political activism. The panel is co-sponsored by the Section on Contracts.

The Section’s Business Meeting will be held right after the program concludes. All are welcome to attend the Business meeting; if you cannot attend, but would like to be involved in Section leadership, please contact either Ettie Ward (warde@stjohns.edu), Chair, or Jodi Balsam (Jodi.balsam@brooklaw.edu), Chair-elect.

Finally, our incoming Chair, Jodi Balsam, has organized a Section Luncheon on January 4 at 12:45 at the Edgewater Grill, a restaurant a short walk from the Marriott. If you would like to attend, please e-mail Jodi Balsam (Jodi.balsam@brooklaw.edu).