



## The 2019 Fall Distinguished Lecture

Presented by the Tucker Center for Research on Girls & Women in Sport

# Celebrating the Career of a Groundbreaking Scholar: Professor Mary Jo Kane



Mary Jo Kane, PhD



Shari Ballard

**Tuesday, October 15, 2019, from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.**

Cowles Auditorium, Hubert H. Humphrey Center,  
University of Minnesota West Bank Campus

*Free and open to the public*

### About the Lecture:

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In 1993, the Tucker Center was established due to the vision of its first Director, Professor Mary Jo Kane. Over the past 26 years, her scholarship, teaching, mentoring and community outreach have

shaped the landscape for sportswomen. And, her contributions throughout her 30-year career have influenced countless stakeholders who advocate for gender equity.

Our annual Distinguished Lecture will examine the arc of Professor Kane's academic career as she is interviewed by U of MN Foundation Trustee, Shari Ballard. Please join us for this historic moment and celebration of the Tucker Center's Founder who has lived the mission of making a difference in the lives of girls and women in sports.

### About the Panelists:

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**Mary Jo Kane** is a Professor in the School of Kinesiology and an internationally recognized scholar. She has published extensively on media representations of women's sports and is the recipient of the first Endowed Chair in the nation related to women's sport: The Dorothy McNeill Tucker Chair for Women in Sport & Exercise Science. Professor Kane is a Fellow in the National Academy of Kinesiology, and is a past recipient of the Scholar of the Year Award from the Women's Sports Foundation. In 2018, she was named one of the 100 Most Influential Sports Educators by the Institute for International Sport. Her research has been cited by the *New York Times*, *USA Today*, and the *Washington Post*.

**Shari Ballard** is the former Senior Executive Vice President and President of Multichannel Retail at Best Buy. She currently serves as Vice Chair of the U of MN Foundation's Board of Trustees and is a member of the Board of Directors at Ecolab Inc. After she received her bachelor's degree in social work from the University of Michigan-Flint, Ballard began her career at Best Buy as an assistant store manager. She rose through the ranks of Best Buy to lead at the highest levels of corporate management. Ballard has been listed in *Fortune* magazine's "Most Powerful Women in Business" on several occasions. *Fortune* has cited her leadership at Best Buy as an essential component in "one of the most impressive turnarounds in retail over the last decade."