ABSTRACT
We created and held a college empowerment conference for minority, high school student-athletes.

Our target audience was minority, high school student-athletes from Stockton, based on the disparities that exist for this group.

Our goal was not to deter students from chasing their goals in pursuing playing at D1 colleges or going professional but to provide alternatives for them and help them build a stronger sense of identity rooted in academics, aside from athletics.

THE NEED
> African American men are 13x more likely to be on a football or basketball scholarship than White men.
> Asian (55.9%) and non-Hispanic white populations (37.3%) were more likely to hold a bachelor's degree or higher, respectively, when compared with the black population at 23.3% and the Hispanic population at 16.4% nationally.
> Student athletes with a STEM major are 15%, while the student body with a STEM major is 25%.
> Women student athletes are “just as likely to major in STEM fields as their non-athlete peers” while men are not.
> In Stockton there is a lack of attainment of a bachelor’s degree within the African-American, Native Hawaiian, and Hispanic populations.

ACTIVITIES
> Keynote Speaker: Dr. Ian Brown (former Stanford football player, current surgeon at UC Davis Medical Center)
> Workshops: STEM and Pre-health preparation, networking and exposure, leadership, and motivation.
> Student Panel: 3 collegiate athletes, 3 former high school athletes

PRE-SURVEY DATA
Our goal was to provide the tools and knowledge needed for those who responded “Yes” when asked if they believe their only way of making it onto higher education is strictly by way of athletics. We aimed to provide them the confidence and resources to pursue ANY major/career path.

POST-SURVEY DATA
Top 5 Resources/Insights Gained from the Conference
1. Introduction to Internships
2. Awareness of Non-athletic Scholarships
3. Importance of Office Hours in College
4. New Study Skills
5. Time Management

FUTURE DIRECTIONS
Summer 2019
> Expand into an organization
  - Help all underrepresented students in higher education reach and navigate college
> Begin the process of developing a Non-Profit based on the same ideals

Spring 2020
> Hold the second “Be More Than Your Sport” Empowerment Conference
> BMTYS will become a branch within our organization

IMPROVEMENTS
> Tailor workshops to better suit students interests
> Career opportunities besides science related majors
> Make more interactive, allow students to move locations
> Advertise months in advance

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
Thanks to all of our sponsors for supporting this event and Marcella Anthony for the guidance.