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LSA 2024

Book of
Abstracts

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 **WORKSHOPS****Emerging Voices in Leisure Studies: a candid discussion for graduate students and early career academics on the state of the discipline**

Brianna Blassneck and Heather Gibson

University of Florida

Abstract:

While it may be an exciting time to conduct leisure research (Carnicelli, 2023), what was once a chaotic brickyard (Forscher, 1963) is now an overflowing data warehouse with the AI Revolution. How do we navigate leisure forward? And how have we fared on our journey from over 20 years ago when there were calls for change as new learning models emerged rapidly (Godbey, 2000)? This workshop session is concerned with creating a space for graduate students and early career academics to openly discuss challenges within the discipline before pivoting to recommendations on how to reimagine our path forward. A workshop meant to ensure that the voices of the emerging scholars are heard, this session can be considered a counterpart to Dustin et al. (2012) where the future of leisure studies was discussed at length from the administrator perspective. To begin, the audience will be invited to complete a short electronic questionnaire to gather anonymous problem topics followed by the facilitator leading the conversation based on these insights. The Leisure Studies Association Conference 2024 is the right opportunity to empower the next generation of leisure scholars to speak in a unified voice where they envision the future of the discipline. Participants of the workshop will work to consider how we frame leisure for the next generation of leisure scholars and present where they imagine the discipline to be in the next 10 to 20 years.

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Brianna Blassneck: Brianna is a PhD Candidate in Tourism, Hospitality & Event Management at the University of Florida. Her research interests include youth development, prosocial/antisocial behaviors, and youth programming. Her professional experience ranges recreation programming, venue operations, and event management. Brianna holds a CMP certification and has served in leadership roles for MPI and FFEA. She has instructed Convention Sales and Service, Advanced Event Management as well as assisted the UF study abroad program in Australia.

Dr Heather Gibson: Heather is a Professor and Undergraduate Coordinator in the Department of Tourism, Hospitality and Event Management at the University of Florida. Her research interests include leisure, tourism and sport behavior in mid and later life and the wellbeing associated with participation, women as tourists, sport tourism (specializing in sport events and active sport tourism), and perceived risk in tourism. She teaches classes in tourism theory, sport tourism, leisure theory, and introductory tourism.

Leisure, Human Rights and Everyday Life with Dementia

Dr Chris Russell and Dr Liz Carlin

University of Worcester; University of the West of Scotland

Abstract:

Leisure is a part of everyday life. This should be the case for people living with dementia, as much as anyone else. Unfortunately, this is often not so. People living with dementia often find opportunities to engage in and enjoy leisure truncated or denied (Sport England, 2020). This can be linked to issues related to access or the way in which services are organised, or, prevailing societal attitudes about dementia, as much as about the impact of the condition upon individuals (Gray et al., 2023).

This conference offers opportunity for these matters to be explored and interrogated, the conference sub-theme 'Leisure and (Human) Rights' seeming to be the ideal pathway.

The proposal is to convene a workshop, ideally of one hour's duration, with 'Leisure, Human Rights, and everyday life with dementia' as the focus.

The suggestion is that individuals living with dementia are invited to play a full part in the workshop. There is excellent work going on locally involving people living with dementia and leisure, and this provides a strong basis to develop the workshop's content and structure.

Outcomes of the workshop would include:

1. Progressing understanding of leisure, and its relationship to human rights in the dementia context, so that better outcomes for people living with dementia can be realised.
2. Encouraging attendees at the workshop to consider how learning might be applied in other situations. For example, with and among groups of people who are marginalised in similar ways to people living with dementia, with the aim of enhancing beneficial outcomes in relation to human rights through leisure.

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Dr Chris Russell is a Senior Lecturer employed by the Association for Dementia Studies, at the University of Worcester. His research and writing have a focus upon dementia, leisure and citizenship. Chris is Course Leader for the Post Graduate Certificate in Person Centred Dementia Studies. This is a fully online course, with leisure and citizenship woven into its offering.

Dr Liz Carlin is a lecturer in Sport Coaching and Development at the University of the West of Scotland and is programme leader of the BSc (hons) Sport Coaching and Development. Her area of expertise in teaching and research focuses on sport and physical activity for people from targeted populations including people with disabilities and people living with dementia.

Breaking Down Barriers to Martial Arts: Reducing resistance to education for children who have dropped out of the school system.

Dr Charles Spring, University of Derby College of Business Law and Social Sciences

Abstract:

Martial arts are a broad set of activities that offer the opportunity to engage in a physical activity that can produce a range of benefits for young people in an educational setting. This workshop will use some of the findings so far determined through literature that has been reviewed previously (Spring, 2022; Spring and Lee, 2023; Spring 2021; Spring 2017) and show how they link to the area of leisure research and how they can also fit into the realm of wellness benefits. It also highlights the preparation for a study using a cohort of children from a school setting. Moderations that can be observed in resistance to engaging in education through engagement with martial arts include; reduced anxiety, anger and frustration, whilst excitement and calmness can be improved. Work undertaken by the author of this proposal in mainstream schools highlight reactions of carers and teaching assistants as being very positive too noting improvements in anxiety and positive behaviours. There is also the potential to create a third space for individuals who feel outside of other groups and apart from society, the club or group created through martial art activity gives the opportunity for a sense of belonging to something other. The workshop will include some practical participation, use of music to create mood and some fun engaging in several different martial arts based activities.

Key words: *Resistance, Martial Arts, Children, Inclusive Leisure, Participation*

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Spring, C., (2017). Integrating Martial Arts for Disability Communities: Case Study of 'Breaking Down Barriers' Events. Poster Presentation Abstract *National Wellness Conference* June 19-21st 2017. St. Paul, Minnesota USA.

Dr Charles Spring is a Senior Lecturer in applied management programmes at the University of Derby in the Centre for Contemporary Hospitality and Tourism. With research specialism in the area of martial arts and professionalism and the use of martial arts as a wellness intervention. A member and education officer for the Institute of Martial Arts and Sciences also active in Breaking Down Barriers to Martial Arts. I have trained in martial arts for 52 years and still compete as a veteran with world, European and national titles won.

Resisting Leisure Research Through Imperial Eyes Using Response Art

Rowena Tam, School of Graduate Studies, Concordia University, Canada.

Abstract:

Tuhiwai Smith (1999) denounces research as “probably one of the dirtiest words in the Indigenous world's vocabulary” (p. 1) and argues that it is produced through “imperial eyes” (Smith, 2012, p. 42). As research has and continues to be used as a colonial tool, we question whether it has the capacity to be principled and ethical. It is imperative that as western-based researchers, we unlearn from our indoctrinated settler-colonial perspectives and privilege decolonial epistemologies and ontologies to offer an anti-colonial lens steeped in responsibility and care.

Arts-based practices have been used to humanize the qualitative research process and allow for reflexivity within the research design, data collection and dissemination processes (Gallant and Yuen, 2021). Through the recollection of dreams, imagination, storytelling, singing, dancing, beading, drumming, and the visual arts, artistic practices have always been central to the Indigenous experience, predating textbook methods of arts-based research in western literature (Anthony et al., 2020).

In this workshop, the art therapy intervention *response art*, developed by art therapist Barabra J. Fish (2012), will be employed to facilitate an arts-based research analysis process centring decolonial values. Participants are invited to engage in storytelling, artmaking and creative writing through the shared experiences of emotionally, creatively and physically reflecting and responding to one another through art, followed by a discussion. The simulative experience will contextualize an analysis process that privileges relationality, reciprocity, and care, moving beyond conventional, reductionistic, and restrictive thought patterns and behaviours (Kovach, 2009).

As researchers, we must reimagine our responsibilities and wield our privilege to boldly resist western settler-colonialism and dismantle its agents and institutions. We must be comfortable with being uncomfortable and embrace our vulnerabilities into our roles as researchers. We are not indifferent, objective or nonpartisan cogs in the academic machine, and we must reject any and all ideologies suggesting otherwise.

Key words: *response art, arts-based research, creative arts therapies, decolonizing research*

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Rowena Tam (she/her) is a creative arts therapist, Concordia University Ph.D. Student, and guest living and working in Tiohtiá:ke/Mooniyaang/Montréal, on unceded Kanien'kehá:ka territory. Rowena has public and private clinical experience working with frontline workers at Indigenous-serving organizations, women and Inuit men involved with the criminal in/justice system, poor and young racialized adults, as well as neurotypical and neurodiverse children and adults.

'I Curate Art-based Research Experiences: Paintings, Poetry, Pictures & Playscripts'

Richard Keith Wright¹ and Richard Mitchell²

¹AUT Centre for Active Ageing, Auckland University of Technology, New Zealand

²Capable NZ, Otago Polytechnic, Dunedin, New Zealand

Abstract:

A workshop inspired by creative non-fiction.

A meeting where imagination is our only restriction.

A workshop that we think no one should miss.

A place to discuss what the Greeks called Poiesis.

A workshop for painters and poets born to create.

A session for storytellers who wish to curate.

A workshop for the screenplays written to be read

A space for the playwright living in your head

A workshop for singers with lyrics yet to be heard

A gathering where pictures speak louder than words,

A workshop for those who love to narrate.

A gathering that positivists will probably hate.

A workshop that asks experts to exit the stage.

A space to reminisce, regardless of age.

A workshop for followers of Carolyn and Art.

A session that targets the soul and your heart.

A workshop to challenge the way that you act.

A place to separate the truth from the fact.

A workshop that'll fill three-quarters of an hour.

A meeting to edutain, to engage, and empower.

A workshop for the curious to come along and question.

A workshop for the converted, to whom we'll offer a suggestion.

A workshop to celebrate artistic expression.

A workshop whose abstract leaves a lasting impression.

Dr Richard Keith Wright is Co-Director of the Auckland University of Technology (AUT) Centre for Active Ageing and Leader of the Graduate Programme in Sport and Exercise. Rich is a storyteller, a leisure sociologist and lifestyle entrepreneur who sees active recreation and sporting fixtures as a means of creating social change. He is the founder and Chair of the Sporting Memories Foundation Aotearoa New Zealand. He is also a poet.

Professor Richard Mitchell works at Capable NZ, Otago Polytechnic (NZ) and has been a pragmatic (some would say opportunistic) academic in Australasia for 25 years. His research and teaching traverse the diverse landscapes of wine, hospitality, tourism, sport, leisure, design, culinary arts, education and business. He is an overweight but (mostly) dedicated weekend warrior who has 'competed' in dozens of triathlons, distance runs and long distance bike rides. He avidly blogs about his painful exploits.

Exploring the leisure-health nexus – continuing an important global conversation

Janette Young, University of South Australia

Richard McGrath, University of South Australia

Nicole Peel, Western Sydney University

Hazel Maxwell, Western Sydney University

Abstract:

Arguably focus on the connections between leisure and health have weakened over time with the growth of academic and applied specialisation across both fields. However, a number of authors have argued that intersectional, multi-disciplinary foci are needed to bring connections between leisure and health together again (Rojek, 2010; Watson and Scraton, 2013; Peel et al., 2021, Maxwell et al., 2022).

In this workshop participants will be able to become part of an international conversation that has been occurring across the Leisure Studies Association (LSA - funder), World Leisure Organisation (WLO), and the Australian & New Zealand Association for Leisure Studies (ANZALS) and team members other networks on the intersections of health and leisure. To date discussions have included topics of disability, ageing, children and young people, human-animal relationships, art and the arts. Discussions have been cross disciplinary and trans-disciplinary with colleagues from health, community services, veterinary sciences, leisure studies. Conversations have included colleagues in Australia, New Zealand, the Netherlands, and the UK.

Our focus has been on how taking leisure seriously, as foundational to health and wellbeing can transform health understandings. For example, engaging with pets can be fundamentally grounding when people face life changing events such as impaired communication post stroke; laughter moves life saving exercise from boring to fun; and leisure time engagement learning deaf sign language can prompt deep desires for communicative justice.

Our workshop will present the key themes identified across two online webinars and invite participants to comment on and add to these. In addition, delegates attending this session will be provided opportunities to discuss future information dissemination and networking/

collaborations. Academics and practitioners working across a variety of fields including clinical healthcare, health promotion, public health, sport, recreation, the arts and human-animal leisure intersections are encouraged to join and add to this global conversation.

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Dr Janette Young is a researcher at the University of South Australia whose primary research focuses on the intersections of human health and animal lives in particular pet animals. Together with her colleagues she has been exploring the intersections of leisure and health more generally, a collaboration that has led to a series of papers, chapters and an edited book in recent times.

Dr Richard McGrath is a lecturer and researcher at the University of South Australia. His research interests cover a range of fields including leisure/recreation/art/sport provision for various at-risk population groups, in particular people with disabilities and older people. Through a sociological criticalist lens his research and teaching encompasses aspects related to social justice and equity, inclusive and exclusionary practices concerning the interrelationships between leisure, sport and health.

Dr. Nicole Peel, a senior lecturer and Director of Academic Program at Western Sydney University, focusing on researching leisure and recreation for marginalized individuals, with a particular emphasis on enhancing their health and well-being. Her work extends to individuals and families navigating complex systems, such as those with disabilities, those in the foster care system, and incarcerated individuals. Using leisure literacy with a social justice lens to empower individuals.

Dr Hazel Maxwell is the Director of Academic Programs for Health, Physical Education and Sport Development at Western Sydney University. Her research and teaching focuses on physical activity, community sport, social inclusion and diversity management. She has been exploring social capital and diversity in non-for-profit organisations in sport and health promotion contexts. Most recently she has been investigating the sporting experiences of Indigenous women in Australia using a strengths-based approach.

 **PRESENTATIONS****The *Spectre* of tourism: Power, culture, and the Día de Muertos parade in Mexico City**

Bailey Ashton Adie, University of Oulu, Finland

René G. Cepeda, Karlsruhe Institute for Technology, Germany

Abstract:

Films are frequently used as subtle marketing campaigns, with countries vying to be the setting of popular film franchises, which is precisely what Mexico did with the James Bond film, *Spectre* (2015). In the film, Mexico City is featured in the opening scene, with a large Día de Muertos parade serving as the backdrop for the action on screen. This parade, however, was entirely invented for the film and is almost in direct contrast to the ways in which the holiday is traditionally celebrated. Día de Muertos, which is part of UNESCO's Intangible Cultural Heritage list, is customarily a private and intimate family event that has its origin in the blending of indigenous and catholic religious practices. However, following the film's success, both the Mexican Tourism Board and the local government in Mexico City focused on bringing to life the parade seen in the film, going so far as to include some of the original props, but, more importantly, framing the new parade as a cultural event as opposed to a film one. This is an important distinction as it is only a recent example of a long history of elite decision-making in tourism designed to use indigeneity, normally without the inclusion of indigenous voices, as a marketing tool to attract, predominantly, rich tourists from the Global North. This presentation, then, will focus on this event as an example of power imbalances within the Mexican tourism industry as well as a form of film-driven self-orientalization through the adoption of a purely Hollywood depiction of Día de Muertos. In particular, there are significant implications not only for local culture and traditional practices, but there is also a wider discussion to be had on the impact of film tourism on intangible cultural heritage, particularly wherein geopolitical power imbalances exist.

Bailey Ashton Adie is a researcher in the Geography Research Unit at the University of Oulu, Finland. Her research interests include World Heritage, heritage tourism, community

resilience, community-based tourism, natural hazards and tourism, second homes, film tourism, and dark tourism. She is the author of *World Heritage and Tourism: Marketing and Management* (2019) and co-editor of *Second Homes and Climate Change* (2023). She is the current Chair of the Leisure Studies Association.

René G. Cepeda is a Mexican multidisciplinary designer/artist/art historian specializing in new media art. He has master's degrees in museum studies and art history and a Ph.D. which combined design and curatorial practice to help curators engage with interactive new media art and create exhibitions that retain the meaning and interaction of such works. His current research interests lie in the preservation and dissemination of new media art, particularly in the field of interactive art.

Developing tourism's impact on the circular economy: a roadmap for responsible tourism following the first 10 years of Scotland's North Coast 500 (NC500) route.

Professor Cara Aitchison, Cardiff Metropolitan University

Abstract:

The circular economy and Scotland's ambition of becoming net zero by 2045 are key pillars in Scotland's *National Strategy for Economic Transformation* (2022) and the nation's tourism strategy *Scotland Outlook 2030: Responsible Tourism for a Sustainable Future* (2020).

Challenges in developing, delivering and consuming tourism sustainably and responsibly are extensive and exacerbated in remote, rural, upland and coastal environments. In Scotland's North Highlands, striving to balance the natural landscape and visitor economy continues to reflect the title of George Young's (1973) *Tourism: Blessing or Blight?* half a century on since its publication.

The North Coast 500 (NC500) is a 516-mile route established by North Highland Initiative (NHI) in 2014 to develop tourism and the visitor economy for the benefit of the rural and coastal North Highlands of Scotland; it encapsulates both the most rewarding and challenging in responsible tourism. This paper examines the first decade of the NC500 route and presents a road map for the next decade.

Recent changes to visitor numbers, expenditure and impact, fuelled by the rise of the post-Covid campervan and increased desire for nature, adventure and outdoor experiences, provide a timely opportunity to reflect on Scotland's inaugural long-distance driving route. Lessons learned are presented with recommended changes to policy and practice to deliver a more sustainable second decade for the NC500. The paper draws on Visit Scotland's 2024 survey of 4,554 respondents who had undertaken motorhome, campervan or camping trips within Scotland in the last five years and scrutinises the impact of the reported tourist behaviour and visitor experience in relation to the circular economy. In particular, recommendations are made for increasing both visitor experience and visitor expenditure while maintaining the environmental sustainability of the NC500 route and the places, people, landscape and nature that make up Scotland's North Coast 500.

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Cara Aitchison is Professor Emerita in Geography and Cultural Economy at Cardiff Metropolitan University where she was President and Vice-Chancellor (2016-2024). She has held Professorships in five UK universities and Board/Council positions with the Academy of Social Sciences, All-Party Parliamentary Universities Group, CBI Wales, Visit Scotland, and Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh. She was Chair of the Sport and Exercise Sciences, Leisure and Tourism Sub-Panel for REF 2014 and is a previous Chair of the LSA.

Residents' Attitudes Toward the Saudi Arabian Formula One Grand Prix and Its Socio-Cultural Impacts: A Case Study of Jeddah City.

Wael Albogami, School of Business & Law, University of Brighton, UK

Abstract:

This poster presents the socio-cultural impacts of Formula 1 (F1) on the residents of Jeddah city in Saudi Arabia (KSA) and their attitudes toward these impacts. While leisure, tourism and sporting events' impacts on host communities are well-researched, most research in this area focuses on Western and Chinese cities, but there's a need for more insights from Arab countries (Hadinejad et al. 2019; Algassim et al. 2021). In contrast to this lack of research in the Arabian context, the Gulf Cooperation Council countries (GCC), including Qatar, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates and KSA, are enjoying a boom in the hosting of sporting events, such as the Qatar 2022 World Cup and F1 in Abu Dhabi, Bahrain and Jeddah (Al-Emadi, Sellami & Fadlalla, 2022; Formula 1, 2022). However, the booming leisure in the tourism and events market could positively and negatively impact communities in various ways, including socially and culturally. So, it is important to understand residents' attitudes toward these impacts, which helps to fill the reported gap in the Arabian context of tourism and sporting events. Accordingly, this poster presents the Jeddah residents' attitudes toward hosting F1 and its socio-cultural impacts. Through a qualitative method, In-depth interviews will be conducted with twenty residents aged above 18, men and women, who live near the F1 circuit and different parts of the city, with varying levels of education, and small business owners near the circuit. All of whom are integral parts of the Jeddah community. While the findings are pending, as interviews are ongoing until March 2024, the research anticipates revealing findings to be presented at the LSA conference 2024. These findings will enhance the field of Leisure Studies by broadening the understanding of sporting events' impacts in the Arabian context. Therefore, this poster outlines the research background, gaps, method, findings, and conclusion.

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Wael Albogami is an academic lecturer at the Faculty of Tourism at King Abdul-Aziz University in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. In Oct 2022, he started his doctoral research at the University of Brighton in the United Kingdom under the supervision of Dr. Barbara Grabher as a lead supervisor. His current Ph.D. study focuses on Jeddah residents' attitudes toward hosting F1 and its socio-cultural impacts and is expected to be completed in Oct 2026.

Mercado de Bolhão (Porto/Portugal) : Um ícone da cidade entre a banalização do espaço, gentrificação e resistências - Bolhão Market (Porto): an icon of the city amidst the trivialization of space, gentrification and resistance

Sílvia Cristina Franco Amaral, Universidade Estadual de Campinas, Brazil

Maria Manuel Baptista, Universidade de Aveiro, Portugal

Abstract (Portuguese):

Em 30 de novembro de 1910, Hans Hittorf requereu à Câmara do Porto um candelabro anunciador provido de iluminação elétrica, montado na fachada da Rua Sá da Bandeira, n.º 259, já o mercado de avulsos do Bolhão assentava praça nas imediações, ainda ao ar livre. A licença para o reclame do Instituto Berlitz foi emitida em janeiro de 1911, sendo que a construção do edifício do Bolhão, da autoria de António Correia da Silva, iniciou-se em 1914.”(LIMA, 2023). Em setembro de 2022, o Mercado foi (re)inaugurado sob a auspiciosa designação, dada pela autarquia local e pelos órgãos de comunicação social, como a “alma” da cidade do Porto. O estudo procurou analisar a nova vida do mercado, buscando por meio de uma cartografia sensível analisar os diferentes aspectos contidos neste “novo mercado”. O que este trabalho propõe, neste contexto, é uma análise crítica dos processos de intervenção urbana em áreas centrais históricas. Olhamos as normas dos usos dos espaços, o cotidiano dos que vão ao Mercado do Bolhão na busca do lazer, turístico ou cidadão, o “código de posturas” desejáveis para o espaço – um olhar para a “educação do corpo”(SOARES, 2021), o papel e perspectivas de uso dos comerciantes que ocupam as lojas internas e externas do mercado, os novos e os chamados “comerciantes históricos” (CAMARA DO PORTO, 2015). O que se observa, no lugar do Turismo Cultural ou do Lazer Cidadão, modelo adequado para conciliar rentabilidade econômica, melhoria da qualidade do ambiente urbano e preservação do Patrimônio Cultural, é um turismo predatório, direcionado para o mercado e voltado à média e alta renda. Assim a “alma” do Porto vai se tornar uma “fantasmagoria”, arremedo de um sentido da produção local que banaliza o espaço e torna o Mercado do Bolhão mais um mercado na cena globalizada.

Abstract (English):

On November 30th 1910, Hans Hittorf requested from Porto City Council a light-up sign equipped with electric lighting, mounted on the façade of Rua Sá da Bandeira, n.º 259. The Bolhão wholesale market was located nearby, still an open air market. The license for the Berlitz Institute's claim was issued in January of 1911 and construction of the Bolhão, designed by Antonio Correia da Silva, began in 1914 (Lima 2023). In September 2022 the market was (re)opened under the auspicious designation, given by the local authority and the media, as the "soul" of the city of Porto. The study sought to analyse the new life of the marker, seeking through careful mapping to analyse the different aspects contained in this "new market". What this paper proposes, in this context, is a critical analysis of urban intervention processes in historic central areas. We look at the norms for the use of spaces, the everyday lives of those who go to the Mercado do Bolhao in search of leisure, tourism or city life, the "code of postures" desirable in the space – a look at the "education of the body" (Soares 2021), the role and perspectives of use of the traders that occupy the internal and external shops of the marker, the new and so called "historical traders" (Camara do Porto 2015). What we see, in the place of cultural tourism of urban leisure, a model aligned to reconcile economic profitability, improving the quality of the urban environment and the preservation of cultural heritage, is predatory tourism, directed to the market and aimed at medium and high incomes. Thus, the "soul" of Porto becomes a "phantasmagoria", a mockery of the sense of local production that trivializes the space and makes the Mercado do Bolhao just another market on the global scene. **(Translated by LSA2024 OC)**

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Sílvia Cristina Franco Amaral Graduação em Educação Física pela Universidade Federal de Santa Maria (1989), mestrado em Ciência do Movimento Humano pela Universidade Federal de Santa Maria (1995), doutorado em Educação Física pela Universidade Estadual de Campinas (2003), pós-doutorado na Universidade de Barcelona no Departamento de Geografia Humana. É Professora Titular da Faculdade de Educação Física da Universidade Estadual de Campinas e coordenadora do Grupo de Estudo e Pesquisa em Políticas Públicas e Lazer (GEP3L/Unicamp).

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Maria Manuel Rocha Teixeira Baptista licenciou-se em Filosofia pela Faculdade de Letras da Universidade do Porto em 1986, e concluiu o Mestrado em Psicologia da Educação pela Faculdade de Psicologia e Ciências da Educação da Universidade de Coimbra, com a dissertação "Estereótipos de Adultos Moçambicanos face à Aprendizagem" em 1996. Doutorou-se em Cultura pela UA, com especialização em Filosofia da Cultura, com tese intitulada "A Paixão de Compreender – A Filosofia da Cultura em Eduardo Lourenço" em 2002. Em 2013, realizou as suas Provas de Agregação na Universidade do Minho, na área de especialização de Hermenêuticas Culturais, com uma lição intitulada "A Identidade Cultural Portuguesa, do colonialismo ao pós-colonialismo –Memórias sociais, imagens e representações identitárias".

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Tourism Dependency: Challenging the Support Narrative

Sebastian Amrhein, Radboud University Nijmegen/Netherlands, scientific associate at Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences in Kleve/Germany

Abstract:

Protest and resistance against tourism and its negative effects aroused significant attention prior to the pandemic (Colomb & Novy, 2016; Milano et al., 2019). While these movements offered hope to some researchers, anticipating fundamental changes to the growth-driven tourism industry (Dodds & Butler, 2019; Higgins-Desbiolles et al., 2019), others delegitimized their concerns (Butcher, 2020), accusing them of frustration due to the lack of economic benefit from tourism (Buhalis, 2020). These assertions are rooted in the widely accepted narrative in tourism that the more people benefit economically from tourism, the greater the approval/acceptance. As Boley et al. (2018) emphasize, this narrative rests on both methodological and interpretative weaknesses. We align with this assumption and contend that the narrative is no longer tenable and merely serves to perpetuate growth driven tourism development. To support this claim, we conducted a review of existing resident attitude literature. Additionally, we draw upon insights from social movement research, incorporating Pierre Bourdieu's theory of practice and statements from representatives of the Frankfurt School. This theoretical framework serves to elucidate our assertion and forms the basis for interpreting a qualitative study conducted on the example of the Balearic Island of Mallorca.

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Sebastian Amrhein has several years of practical experience in tourism planning, management and working with indigenous communities in Asia, Europe and Latin-America. Currently, he is employed as a research associate and lecturer at the Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences in Kleve/ Germany. Sebastian is a PhD Candidate at the Radboud University in Nijmegen/ Netherlands. His research interests include the interrelations of (capitalist-)tourism and societies with an actual focus on protest and social movements.

Will slow tourism slow down air traffic demand?

Pavlos Arvanitis, The Business School, Edinburgh Napier University.

Abstract:

The air transport industry has experienced almost ceaseless growth (Graham, 2000) despite numerous factors that contributed to its slowing down. This growth comes from new travellers and present ones taking more or longer holidays. This trend is getting even bigger given that there are over 1.8 billion millennials all over the world (Neufeld, 2021), generating more than \$165 billion in tourism receipts, almost 20% of the global tourism market (Kaihatu et al, 2020). At the same time travel shaming amongst the same age group has become apparent, particularly during and after the covid-19 pandemic (Huang et al, 2023).

The cost of travel to and from the destination and the cost of accommodation at the destination make up the travel cost, which will decide how much income must be allocated to travel. In turn, variables like exchange and inflation rates will have an impact on this (Graham, 2006). The increased monetary challenges in conjunction with global political turbulence would suggest that declining disposable income would result to weaker demand for leisure travel, but this has not materialised. At the same time there is increasing interest and demand for 'slow tourism and 'slow travel' with 'slow travel' focusing mostly on a low carbon travel practices resulting in longer stays, less travel, enriched experience, emphasis of the journey itself, and a deeper connection with a place thus stressing more sustainable, responsible consumption practices (Klarin et al, 2023).

This paper explores the contradicting forces between slow travel, increased passenger demand for leisure traffic and monetary pressures affecting leisure demand focusing primarily in Europe. Slow tourism tends to focus more on quality slow paced tourism activities which are more linked to leisure than tourism or travelling, allowing the participants to explore further and deeper the attributes of the destination they are visiting.

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Pavlos Arvanitis is an Associate Professor of Tourism and Aviation Management at Edinburgh Napier University, United Kingdom. Pavlos was awarded a PhD in Airport Development and Economic Geography by the University of the Aegean, Greece. He has extensive experience in EU-funded research projects related to destination management and planning as well as airport development and destination development. His research interests lie within the area of tourism and airport development, interaction, and co-creation.

Small-scale Carnival Festivals in Marginalized Areas: Reviving Local Heritage and Community Benefits.

Fiona Eva Bakas, Lusofona University, Lisbon, Portugal, Maria Psimouli, American College of Greece, Athens and Stella Kladou, Hellenic Mediterranean University, Crete, Greece

Abstract:

The ability of festivals to attract visitors to a region, and to contribute to its economic and social well-being explains why they are a tool in many tourism policies and strategies (Mair & Weber, 2019). Research on community inclusion until now has focused on the effects of large festivals in big cities (Smith et al., 2022). Community engagement is key for small-scale festivals, in a small city context, for them to serve as a vehicle for sustainable development, reinvigorate latent cultural heritage, potentially stimulate inward migration and enhance community resilience (Qu & Cheer, 2022). In terms of their role in tourism, small-scale festivals can provide a critical mass of activity and marketing, which is required to attract tourists to rural areas for a few days (Bakas et al., 2019). However, little is known about how community-led festivals emerge and evolve, what the organizers' main aims are, the role of tourism and what benefits the local community gets from their engagement in these events.

This research focuses on the organization, role and importance of carnival-festivals which are defined here as pagan-inspired events primarily led and organized by members of the local community. Drawing on theoretical background relating to festivals as a tool for tourism development and local sustainable development, the research uses empirical data collected in February 2023, from two carnival-festivals; in Portugal ("Entrudo de Gois") and in Greece ("The Night of the Ghosts") held in a mountainous village and a small town respectively. Both festivals are community-led, involve locals in the preparation and implementation stage, attract international and national visitors, and are proudly presented by the local societies as part of their cultural heritage. This exploratory study builds on qualitative data, deriving from participant observation field notes and semi-structured interviews with festival organisers, to find out how they have evolved. Findings provide useful insights to scholars and practitioners aiming to understand motivations and challenges associated with the development of small-scale, community-led carnival-festivals, their relationship to sustainability and tourism and the

role of inclusive practices to build and maintain a sense of community and belonging through such festivals.

Keywords: *carnival festivals, community benefits, strategy, heritage, extra-metropolitan areas, tourism.*

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Fiona Eva Bakas, PhD (Otago University, 2015), is a critical tourism researcher with international teaching experience and over 20 years of corporate and academic work experience. Having completed two postdocs (2014-2020), she is currently a tourism lecturer at Lusófona University, and IGOT, University of Lisbon, Portugal. Fiona is a collaborating researcher in the CREATOUR creative tourism observatory and associate member of NGO Equality in Tourism. Research interests: festivals, gender in tourism labour, marginalized areas, entrepreneurship, qualitative methods and creative tourism.

Dr. Maria Psimouli is an Assistant Professor of International Business and Entrepreneurship and a Fellow of the Center of Excellence for Food, Tourism and Leisure, at the American College of Greece (ACG). Her research interests lie in the field of place branding and the ways its aspects can be managed and employed for the economic development and competitiveness of places.

Stella Kladou is an Assistant Professor at the Hellenic Mediterranean University in Crete, Greece. She has published in prominent academic journals, edited books, and participated and/or led international and national projects. She is in the editorial review board of *Annals of Tourism Research*, the editorial board of other international journals, and in the organizing and/or scientific board of international conferences. Her research mainly pertains to place branding, cultural and wine tourism.

Fim de semana no parque, de Racionais MC's: uma análise das referências ao Lazer na periferia - Weekend in the park, by Racionais MC's: an analysis of Leisure references in the periphery

Juliana Cristina Barandão, Faculdade de Educação Física da Universidade Estadual de Campinas (Unicamp).

Abstract (Portuguese):

A problemática da desigualdade social atinge diversos aspectos da vida na sociedade capitalista assumindo diferentes graus de intensidade, a cada período, se configurando na privação de direitos, dentre eles alimentação, emprego, habitação, saúde, educação e o lazer. A privação de direitos é a forma atualizada de violência e de expropriação da necessidade da acumulação da sociedade capitalista, resultado de decisão política deliberada de restringir o acesso aos direitos conquistados por meio de lutas sociais (Boschetti, 2018). O objetivo desse trabalho é analisar a crítica social do acesso as políticas de lazer, ou da sua ausência, que se configura também como um projeto político, a partir das referências do lazer presentes na letra da música “Fim de semana no Parque”, do grupo Racionais MC's, de São Paulo, que tem destaque no cenário do rap brasileiro por seu ativismo político em denunciar o racismo e a desigualdade social dos jovens periféricos.

Abstract (English):

The problem of social inequality affects diverse aspects of life in capitalist society, assuming different degrees of intensity in each period, resulting in the deprivation of rights, including food, employment, housing, health, education, and leisure. The deprivation of rights is the contemporary form of violence and expropriation of the need for accumulation in capitalist society, the result of a deliberate political decision to restrict access to rights conquered through social struggles (Boschetti 2018). The objective of this work is the analyse the social critique of access to leisure policies, or their absence, which is also configured as a political project, based on the leisure references present in the lyrics of the song “Fim de Semana no Parque”, by the group Racionais MC's from São Paulo, which stands out in the Brazilian rap scene for its political activism in denouncing racism and social inequality among young people from the periphery. **(Translated by LSA2024 OC).**

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Developing scales to measure perceptions of liveness at music festivals from attendees who are Deaf, disabled or neurodiverse.

Adrian Bossey, Cornwall Business School, Falmouth University

Abstract:

This presentation considers the development of scales to measure audience perceptions of liveness at music festivals. Three phases of research will be considered:

An initial phase carried out item development processes, to produce three pre-test liveness Likert scales. Two iterations of primary research were carried out to collect and interpret empirical evidence from 164 respondents. Formats and viewpoints generating the greatest acceptance or resistance were identified. The findings from three test liveness scales, supported the thesis that it is possible to develop liveness scales to measure attendee perceptions of liveness at music festivals (Bossey 2023). However, it was concluded that the scales require significant further development, expert review and simplification to improve ease of use and reliability of responses, in alignment with Churchill and Peter (1984:364). An opportunity was identified to create a scale which relates to accessibility for audience members who are Deaf, disabled or neurodiverse (Bossey 2023).

As a second phase, subsequent research considered the thesis that; it may be possible to develop a scale to measure perceptions of liveness at music festivals from attendees who are Deaf, disabled or neurodiverse. An initial scale development process informed primary research which was carried out at the Live Audience Accessibility & Augmentation (LAAA) project. LAAA installed a haptic dance floor at Falmouth University over a period of 4 days in May 2023 to gather audience responses and deliver knowledge exchange outputs. In total, 76 respondents completed the initial (phase two) questionnaire during the LAAA Project.

A third phase of research commenced with further reflection and enhancement which was intended to further develop a scale to measure perceptions of liveness at music festivals from attendees who are Deaf, disabled or neurodiverse. This resulted in a revised scale, which was tested at Boomtown Fair in August 2023 and the Deaf Rave Festival in October 2023. In total, 141 respondents completed the revised (phase three) questionnaire on-site at the two music festivals. This data is currently being analysed.

Research findings will be presented from all three phases and common themes identified. Furthermore, a brief update will be provided into on-going research measuring audience perceptions of experiencing the BEAT BLOCKS multi-sensory interactive flooring system, or wearing Woojer Haptic Vests on-site at selected Music Festivals.

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Adrian Bossey is Head of Subject at Cornwall Business School, Falmouth University and former artist manager whose clients included Carter the Unstoppable Sex Machine and Chumbawumba. At Falmouth, Adrian leads delivery of courses including BA(Hons) Sustainable Festival Management in partnership with the Eden Project. Adrian is a Trustee of Attitude is Everything and Chair for the Association of Events Management Educators. His research interests include potential digital futures for live performances at music festivals. <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-9874-6323>

Symbolic Self-Defence In Women's Rugby: (Re)Interpreting Resistance

Charlotte Branchu, University of Liverpool

Abstract:

This paper is based on ethnographic fieldwork with women's rugby players in the North of England. In this context, women who play grassroots rugby have very varied practices of gender presentation, gender work, and (self-)representational work. Participants exhibit both characteristics of 'emphasised femininity', sometimes even sexism or homophobia, as well as resistance to gender norms. For some women, this comes with a rejection of gender conformity/subversion, the experience of being gendered or, sometimes, feminism. These positions can be understood when in a context where gender itself is a limiting or stigmatizing identity (Singh, 2023). I analyse these practices as pragmatic politics (Branchu, 2023), and present the concept of symbolic self-defence as a means to understand the everyday, mundane practical arrangements and position-taking that participants use to defend the legitimacy of their practice or their identity. Players want to be taken seriously (Breeze, 2015) and seek recognition (Lamont, 2012). Whilst players are therefore not trying to 'rock the boat', this does not mean that they do not attempt (or manage) to change existing dominant and dominating structure, and that there is no localised or ramifying social change.

The paper poses the question of how we can understand and 'see' resistance, both methodologically and conceptually. In doing so, it seeks to ask *what* is social change and *how* (if) we can measure it as social scientists?

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Charlotte Branchu is a Lecturer at the University of Liverpool. She works on education, social theory, valuation and embodied inequalities. She has published about it in *Body and Society*, and in her book *Tackling Stereotype: Corporeal Reflexivity and Politics of Play in Women's Rugby*.

An Old Woman Travels Solo around the Mediterranean: Autofiction, Mythology and Theoretical Analysis

Josephine Burden

Abstract:

Beyond the geographic certainty of the sea, the Mediterranean has been identified as a region in terms of connectivity (Horden & Purcell, 2000). Stories of the Mediterranean region are told by people who live around her shores and who travel across the sea, including many who come from other parts of the world as tourists or as migrants. The diverse communities that live around the littoral are linked by ease of travel and may identify across National boundaries. Since 2009, I have travelled the littoral of the Mediterranean Sea and reflected on those travels at home in Malta. I write about my travels in a manuscript entitled “Middle Sea Dreaming: Short stories on a long journey”. During the pandemic, I enrolled in another Masters degree in Mediterranean Studies at the University of Malta and undertook a critical analysis of a tiny fragment of my travel writing for my dissertation. In this paper, I examine the construction of the Mediterranean Imaginary through the heroic male traveller (Fox, 2009) and use the framework of Carol Pateman’s (1988) theory of the sexual contract together with Simone de Beauvoir’s (1956) extension of theories of self and other to examine my experience as an old woman traveling alone through North Africa.

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Dr Josephine Burden is a former Australian academic in Community Cultural Development. She now lives in Valletta, Malta and is a community arts worker, a writer and a traveller. In

March, 2024, she graduated with another Masters degree, this time in Mediterranean Studies from University of Malta. Her dissertation, under the supervision of Prof. Ivan Callus, was the first to use creative writing as an approach to understanding the Mediterranean as a region.

Increased Resistance Against the Olympic Games – Reasons and Implications for Future Applicants and Hosts

Katharina Bürger, School of Business and Law, University of Brighton, United Kingdom

Abstract:

The resistance and protests against mega-events have increased in recent years both among the general public and activists. The Olympics in particular are under growing scrutiny, since these events are prone to cost-overruns, human rights violations, and bribery allegations (VanWynsberghe et al., 2021; Boykoff, 2017). Often, protests are not limited to the host city, but rather there is a transnational support network of advocates campaigning against the Olympic Games (Boykoff and Gaffney, 2020). Despite their benefits, such as improvement of existing and development of new infrastructure, Olympic Games offer limited positive impacts for the local communities and often carry long-term negative legacies such as destruction of ecosystems, high costs exceeding the benefits of the event, or gentrification caused by price increases, which can all lead to opposition (Ribeiro et al., 2021; Aelbrecht, 2020).

This paper explores the reasons why the Olympic Games are increasingly met with resistance and acts of protest, where these protests come from and what future organisers/host cities can learn from previous failed attempts to bid for and host the Olympics. Fewer cities are willing to bid for and host the Olympic Games; e.g. the 2022 Winter Olympics saw four cities holding referenda and an additional two withdrawing their application (Könecke and de Nooij, 2017). Often, referenda as a public decision-making tool are used by the public to prevent a bid or application. This was also the case for the bidding stages for the 2022/2026 Winter Olympics in Graubünden (Switzerland) and 2024/2028 Summer Olympics in Hamburg (Germany), which this paper focuses on. Drawing on discourse analysis of materials such as websites, brochures, flyers, newspaper articles etc., this presentation offers an important contemporary insight into the politics and processes of bidding for and public perception of mega-events.

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Katharina Bürger is a PhD candidate at the School of Business and Law at the University of Brighton, United Kingdom. Her research interests include mega-events and in particular Olympic Games and how such are increasingly met with opposition and resistance by a diverse range of stakeholders.

Does 'cultural appropriation' Shed Light on the Problems and Potential in Cultural Encounters in Tourism and Events?

Jim Butcher, Canterbury Christ Church University

Abstract:

Cultural appropriation involves the adoption or taking of aspects of another culture other than one's own. The term has been applied both to material objects, styles of dress, language and gesture. It is contested in terms of its usefulness, and also whether or not it is a negative or positive aspect of cultural encounters (Malik, 2019). Given the status of 'culture' as one of the most contested words in the English language, this is unsurprising (Williams, 1976).

Cultural encounters are intrinsic to tourism and events. As a result, disputes over cultural etiquette and social justice in people's leisure lives have referenced, or focused on, cultural appropriation.

The paper will review references to cultural appropriation related to tourism and events in the UK media, and also in academic journals (e.g. Leleto, 2019; Viken, 2020) over the last 20 years. A loose, interpretive content analysis of these sources enables us to do a number of things:

First, the paper will situate the discussion, noting that the popularity of the term, and perhaps also some of its implicit assumptions, are quite recent.

Second, the paper will look at wider ideological trends that have contributed to problematization of inter-cultural encounters. In particular trends associated with the rise of an 'identity politics' that some argue has become divorced from material differences and arguably goes too far in locating (and challenging) power at the level of intercultural encounters (Malik, 2023).

Third, the paper will look at the specifics of the invocation of cultural appropriation in tourism and events to scratch beneath the surface of the 'culture wars' and provide a nuanced analysis. This will consider, together, legal, moral and political aspects of the disputes.

Finally, the paper will provide a provisional, discursive answer to title's question.

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Jim Butcher is a Reader at Canterbury Christ Church University. His interests lie in the political and human geographical debates about tourism. He has published a number of books, papers and articles on this and related themes. He co-ordinates and edits for the project *Tourism's Horizon: Travel for the Millions*.

Spin Poi: Leisure participation or cultural appropriation?

Anna Carr, University of Otago

Jessica Hinerangi

Abstract:

Leisure activities often draw on the practices and traditions of other cultures – such leisure can be seen as harmless, but cultural ‘exchange’ can be messy (Lai 2010). This paper argues that the ‘leisuring’ of cultural practises needs to be critiqued to protect the cultural significance of the traditional values surrounding the original practises.

Yoga is a classic example of cultural appropriation that has gone global. Commercial bungy jumping was inspired by the nagol (land diving) of Pentecost islanders, Vanuatu. In 2020 traditional chiefs from the Pentecost Islands called for compensation for the appropriation of their tradition (Srinivasan 2020). Yet commercial bungy operations have profited with minimal acknowledgment nor compensation for the Pentecost Islanders. In Aotearoa New Zealand spin poi, inspired by Māori performance of poi, has been packaged and promoted as a commercial product embraced by the wellness and fitness industry as an exercise that is skilful, fun and entertaining – but have the values of poi been lost in the process?

Insights can be gained from critiquing the reflections of those engaging in such leisure activities and this paper explores reactions in online social media to spin poi. A content analysis of spin poi participants’ social media posts is countered with Māori practitioners’ thoughts on the commercialisation of their cultural practice. As Han (2019) noted, cultural appropriation can lead to cultural appreciation. Spin poi, as a culturally inspired leisure activity, attracted comments and critique that are wide-ranging: from fun to “a little bit messy”, achingly skilful and culturally contentious”, challenging and centering to artistically appreciative, dynamic and dynamising.

So, can culturally inspired leisure activities be a bridge between cultures or further the cultural divide? Is leisure another avenue for continuing colonialism and colonial actions in the modern world?

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Anna Carr is an Associate Professor at the Department of Tourism, University of Otago, New Zealand. Her research interests focus on cultural landscapes, nature tourism, political ecology and indigenous tourism. She is a member of ATLAS, CAUTHE, the Canadian Mountain Network and serves on the editorial boards of *Tourism in Marine Environments*, *Frontiers*, *Journal of Ecotourism* and the *Journal of Heritage Tourism*.

Jessica Hinerangi is of Ngāti Ruanui, Ngāruahine, Ngāpuhi and Pākehā descent. She is a poet, artist, muralist, journalist and illustrator, working primarily on Instagram under the name @maori_mermaid. Her writing has appeared in *Landfall*, *Starling*, *Critic*, *The Big Idea* and *The Pantograph Punch*. Her poetry collection, *Aria*, was published by Auckland University Press.

Reimagining Leisure Beyond the Rest-Work Dichotomy

Ioana Cerasella Chis, University of Birmingham

Abstract:

In this presentation, I critique and reject productivist portrayals of leisure as an individualised and passive non-activity. In response, I consider leisure/resting as a collective necessity that requires structural, social transformation, and I call for its prioritisation as part of anti-disabling capitalist struggles over waged and unwaged work. The presentation is structured as follows.

First, I posit that collective, anti-disabling capitalist struggles ought to move beyond the conceptualisation of work, activism, and leisure strictly as part of a zero-sum game. Instead, an expansive, materialist understanding of these three forms of activity is necessary, in relation to oppression and exploitation. Resting, then, is an active process produced through leisurely activities whose meanings and roles ought to be analysed in their historical and socio-political specificity.

Second, I argue that no activity, on its own, is inherently or universally 'good', 'bad', restful, or non-restful – instead, we ought to consider whether and how certain leisurely activities fully reproduce, resist, or move beyond disabling capitalist social relations and infrastructures. To illustrate this point, I will draw on concrete examples -namely, sleeping, returning home from a work shift, and sitting in a café-, and their socio-political meaning, positioning, and manifestations in different contexts.

Third, I propose that a fundamental social transformation of society towards centring the collective necessity of rest entails critiquing and changing the overall institution of work. Thus, time-based demands for 'less work and more leisure' or increasing free time in everyday life are an important starting point – however, on their own and devoid of a perspective that takes the structural processes of disabling capitalism into account, they remain incomplete. In short, efforts for anti-productivist, collective social change ought to build and make space for infrastructures and social relations that move against-and-beyond disabling capitalism's productivism and its failed version of leisure/rest.

Ioana Cerasella Chis is a doctoral researcher at the University of Birmingham, in the Political Science and International Studies Department. She is a member of Marxism and Disability Network's steering group and co-convener of British Sociological Association's Theory Study Group. Ioana's current research project explores the politics of disablement and precarious work in the UK, through which she aims to make theoretical and empirical contributions to Critical Political Economy, Disability Studies, Sociology, and activist circles.

Understanding the impact of Covid-19 on children and young people's community sport participation in Scotland: the perspectives of Scottish sport organisations

Julia Chan and David Scott, Abertay University

Abstract:

This study aimed to explore how Covid-19 impacted Scottish sport organisations' ability to provide children and young people with access to community sport across Scotland. The objectives were to identify changes in participation of children and young people in community sport. In addition, to evaluating the impact of Covid-19 on the management and delivery of sport.

Twenty-two representatives from Scottish sports organisations were recruited to participate in an interview. Nine national organisations, five regional organisations and eight local organisations were recruited. Interview questions required representatives to provide background information on their organisation and its provision of community sport during the COVID-19 pandemic in addition to identifying any organisational changes. In total, 19 hours and 20 minutes of audio was recorded. Data was analysed thematically using an interpretive lens.

Notable changes in children and young people's participation in community sport are present such as a decline in participation and increased interest in participating in outdoor sport. Additionally, outdoor sport participation was seen to be least effected due to a quicker return to sport in comparison to indoor or contact sports. Most organisations provide young people with opportunities to make decisions and occupy leadership positions to affect change within sport. Various factors are influencing organisations' ability to deliver community sport to children and young people such as a reduction in volunteers, staff shortages, decreased sport facility access and reduced funding opportunities. Organisational changes were identified to have resulted from the pandemic such as changes to their operational practices, improved networks and increased focus on wellbeing. Covid-19 has contributed to the deterioration of existing participation-based issues in community sport however, it has also created new problems. It is important sport organisations are aware of these national issues to help support them deliver community sport to children and young people.

Dr Julia Chan Teaching fellow in Sociology of Sport and Exercise at Abertay University in Dundee. Recently Julia was the research assistant for the project ‘Where and how has Covid-19 influenced the participation of children and young people in community sport in Scotland?’ Julia's other research interests focus on practices and interactions of care in sport, safe sport, and creative methodologies.

Dr David Scott is a Lecturer in Sport Development in the Division of Sport and Exercise Sciences, Abertay University, UK. His research focuses on the role of sport for development in individuals' lives, particularly in relation to social justice, environmentalism, and monitoring and evaluation. He teaches on modules concerning the sociology of sport, sport development, and sport for development.

‘My body was no longer a problem’: A Stieglerian Analysis of the Relationship Between Electric-Mountain Biking, Disability and Green Exercise.

Jim Cherrington, Sheffield Hallam University, UK.

Abstract:

In this presentation, I will examine the experiences of e-mountain biking technology from the perspective of disabled users. Drawing upon interview data from a broader sample of e-mountain bike users in England, the presentation will analyse the socio-natural and socio-technical tensions that exist between e-mountain bike use and other users of these spaces, as well as the implications that such relations may have in encouraging alternative conceptualisations of green exercise. In putting scholarship on disability and non-human nature in conversation with the work of Bernard Stiegler (2013), the presentation will highlight the superficiality of existing ideologies of nature, explore the freedoms that come with being a ‘body-bike hybrid’, and understand the myriad ways the e-mountain bikes can facilitate critical engagement with ableist attitudes towards outdoor recreation. In doing so, this study contributes to a small, but growing body of literature which attends to the intersections between disability, technology and green exercise.

Jim Cherrington is Senior Lecturer in Physical Activity, Sport, and Health at Sheffield Hallam University, UK. His research explores how identity, bodies, knowledges, and objects are materialised in/through everyday life, with much of his recent work dedicated to investigating the socio-historical, socio-technical, and onto-political conditions of mountain biking.

Between representation and reality: Reimagining favelas at the 2016 Olympic Games

Bryan C. Clift, North Carolina State University, USA; Adam Talbot, University of the West of Scotland; Conor Wilson, University of the West of Scotland

Abstract:

Sport mega-events (SMEs) have been at the forefront of the 'festivalization' or 'eventification' of the contemporary urban experience, particularly in the Global South (see Roche, 2006; Hannigan and Steinbrink, 2017). SMEs like the Olympic Games provide alluring opportunities for host cities to leverage opportunities for urban redevelopment, build event-related infrastructure and stimulate economic development (see Coaffee, 2010; Gold and Gold, 2008). Setting aside the anticipated economic benefits, SMEs are often sold on their perceived ability to leverage positive urban representations by projecting positive images of a city through the event (Broudehoux, 2018, Sanchez and Broudehoux, 2013). In this sense, SMEs become an important element of urban entrepreneurialism within periods of international inter-urban competition by positioning the city to a global audience as a place to visit and invest. However, such representations do not always correspond to the on-the-ground lived experiences of cities, thus creating a mismatch between urban reality and representation.

The paper takes as its case the Rio 2016 Olympic Games and the treatment of favelas by contextualizing and contrasting the official sanctioned representations of Rio de Janeiro by the Brazilian Olympic Committee (BOC) against their on-the-ground realities. Detailing the violent processes of formalisation, particularly in relation to forced evictions and policing in favela communities in preparation for the event, the paper shows how the population of Rio's favelas were negatively impacted by the hosting of sport mega-events in the city. This contrasted starkly with the representation of favelas in BOC documentation and especially the Olympic Opening Ceremony, which aimed to portray favelas as dynamic places of youth and culture through music, dance, and vibrant colour. We demonstrate how sporting spectacles are used for urban reimagining in ways that legitimates neoliberal logics of urban (re)development, thereby perpetuating and pacifying violence on the urban poor, particularly in the global south.

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Reclaiming Barcelona: Exploring Emotional Nuances in Community Cultural Festival Dynamics

Dr. Alba Colombo, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya

Abstract:

This study delves into the intricate emotional dynamics surrounding the reclamation of festival spaces in Barcelona, shedding light on the complex entanglements experienced by citizens and communities. Within the realm of festive cultural practices, encompassing traditional and popular celebrations, emotions manifest intricately, interwoven with a profound sense of belonging, identity, and community cultivation. However, the inquiry extends to the nuanced variations of these emotions within the challenging context of crises, marked by overwhelming tourism, economic strains, and health tensions.

This article focuses on the Cors Muts festival in Barceloneta, a longstanding community celebration viewed as cultural heritage, exploring tensions arising from evolving social demographics and the use of public spaces. Through in-depth interviews and participant observation, the research unveils emotionally charged responses of residents during this community event. Framed within critical event studies, the contribution addresses the imperative to manage emotional tensions. By viewing festivals as emotional landscapes where individuals and communities renegotiate and reinforce meanings, the article critically examines emotional encounters among organizers, audiences, and participants.

This research provides valuable insights into the emotional reclamation of festivals and spaces, contributing to a broader understanding of emotions, socio-cultural experiences, and festival spaces.

Dr Alba Colombo Associate Professor and Researcher at Universitat Oberta de Catalunya, Barcelona, specializing in critical analysis of cultural and leisure events. Recognized for expertise in traditional and popular festivals as social and cultural expressions, spaces of resistance, and platforms for cultural equality rights. Track record in transformative social research, with contributions to projects like EURO-FESTIVAL and ATLAS Events Monitoring. Recently served as Principal Investigator for a EU-HERA funded project on festivals.

Power, Change, Resistance: Examining Issues of Gender and the Emergence of Female Competitors in the Sport of Swimming, c.1870s-1920s

Dr Steven Cock, York St John University

Abstract:

Prevailing sociocultural attitudes regarding ‘appropriate’ forms of masculine or feminine behaviours alongside societal expectations that women were to maintain contemporary standards of ‘modesty’ often impacted the involvement of women in certain competitive sports, leisure activities and pastimes during the nineteenth century (Hargreaves, 1994). Whilst there were gradual trends towards female participation in swimming as a leisure or recreational activity during the late nineteenth century, such issues often served to limit opportunities for female involvement within swimming as an emerging competitive sport (Love, 2007; Parker, 2010). Indeed, many of the initial trends towards the sportisation of competitive swimming took place predominantly amongst middle class males in England during the mid-to-late nineteenth century (Cock, 2012). The fields of sport and leisure have however long served as arenas for gendered power-struggles as well as processes of change and resistance. Drawing upon empirical data generated through processes of archival research and documentary analysis, this paper will begin to examine some of the key contemporary power-struggles surrounding the initial emergence of women in competitive swimming during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. It will be argued that gradual trends towards increasing opportunities for women to participate in many emerging sports – such as competitive swimming – were based on long-term power-struggles between different people, organisations and groups. There was a need for women to challenge prevailing gendered perceptions and ideologies across broader social networks within which the emerging competitive swimming nexus was operating during this period. Such developments will be examined in relation to complex networks of established-outsider relationships and interrelated power-struggles towards greater functional democratisation (Liston, 2007; Velija, 2019), which were integral to facilitating the emergence of female competitors within competitive swimming and in beginning to challenge prevailing gendered identities and interdependencies across both sport and society.

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Dr Steven Cock is Senior Lecturer in Business and Management in York Business School at York St John University. His research interests include the examination and analysis of areas linked to long-term processes of social and cultural change within the sport and leisure industries.

How can consolidated tourist destinations be differentiated from their rivals? The case of Barcelona.

Crespi-Vallbona, Montserrat. Business Department, Mascarilla-Miró, Oscar. Economic Department and Mascarilla-Miró, Oscar. Economic Department, Universitat de Barcelona

Abstract:

Mature destinations have different challenges trying to attract tourism and please its citizenship. Hence, they have to maintain its touristic interest to standard demand and also not to undecieve those tourists with more advanced experiences. Second, they have to concern for daily life of citizens and avoid the negative effects of touristification. This balance is quite delicate, and often has to do with the sensitivity and commitment of the party in the local government. However, what has a general consensus is the need of destinations to differentiate from the homogeneous rest of regions and create new content, consumable resources or marketing events to guarantee their positioning. In this sense, the main responsibility of destinations is to satisfy both users, tourists and citizens. Hence, its aim has to do with holistic experiences, which collect these wide approaches (Crespi-Vallbona, 2021). Furthermore, leisure is commonly seen as free time from work and other obligations and is proved its contribution to the quality of life for people. In this sense, the design of leisure experiences should take into account different components: hedonism, participation, local culture, nostalgia and knowledge (Crespi-Vallbona, 2021a).

Specifically, this research aims to analyse the volume and growth of tourist houses in the central touristic neighbourhoods of Barcelona (this is Ciutat Vella) as the starting point to identify the behaviour of tourists regarding their interests searching for local heritage attractiveness and community atmosphere. Then, different cases are analysed in order to show how Barcelona struggles to keep on its attractive brand for the visitors, as well as, for its inhabitants. Methodologically, secondary data used in this research comes from official registered tourist houses (Catalunya Government), Open Data (Barcelona municipality), from the Airbnb tourist platform, from the Incasol Data and Municipal Register of Inhabitants. Primary data are collected through in-depth interviews to neighbours, social movement managers and political representatives from Turisme de Barcelona (local DMO, Destination

Management Organization). Results show which the opportunities and priorities are for key actors to design policies to find a balance between all different interests.

Key words: *touristification, tourist houses, governance, tourism demand, airbnbification*

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Montserrat Crespi-Vallbona, PhD: Researcher and associate professor at the Business Department of the University of Barcelona (UB), Spain. Member of the *Business Research Group* (UB). Head of Studies of International Business Degree. In addition, researcher at different Investigation Project (I+D), such as “*Cities in transition. Urban fragmentation and new socio-spatial patterns of inequality in the post-pandemic context*”. As a result, the impact of tourism on economic, social, cultural and urban structures of the territory are analyzed.

Oscar Mascarilla-Miro, PhD: Researcher and associate professor at the Economic Department of the University of Barcelona. Director of the Postgraduate Agency of the University of Barcelona. Researcher at the CAEPS Economic Analysis Center and the

Reference Network in R&D in Economics and Public Policies of the Generalitat of Catalonia.
Speaker at different conferences, he has published in different scientific journals of international impact -classified in the ISI- and is the author of different books and teaching manuals.

Pilgrimage as Resistance

Jeffrey Crittenden, Faculty of Theology, Huron University

Abstract:

Through exploring ancient pilgrimage, this presentation will demonstrate how travel in the Ancient world incorporated elements of 'Rights, Responsibilities, and Resistance' as they play out in the transformation of society. In the Ancient Western world, pilgrimage was essential to one's rights, responsibility and resistance. First, rights. Every citizen had the right to free and safe travel throughout the ancient world. Second, responsibility. Every citizen was responsible for maintaining and supporting the local/civic/national gods and goddesses of their respective cultural contexts. Further, beyond a responsibility, to have 'prayers' answered (i.e. pilgrimaging to Corinth to pray to Aphrodite for love or pilgrimaging to Mount Olympus to pray for courage) or 'wisdom' (i.e. the pilgrimage to Delphi to speak with the Oracle or Athens to pray to Athena) or simply for restoration (i.e. to Smyrna to the healing waters for an ailment or near Ephesus for ancient psychiatric care) one had a responsibility to pilgrimage to the site for themselves or on behalf of a loved one. Third, resistance. Resistance will be presented in a two-fold argument. First, for citizens, it was an act of resistance to the 'forces' that prevented health, love, wisdom, etc. (for example, it was understood then that the gods or a god or something beyond understanding was causing the illness, drought, discomfort hence it needed a counteraction such as a bribe or a prayer or a request). Then, second and perhaps more interesting, the pilgrimage of NON-citizens (slaves, runaways, prisoners, people not recognized) offers a profound glimpse into the dangers and occasional reward of 'deviant' pilgrimage. Following an exploration of ancient pilgrimage, observations and implications for pilgrimage today ('protest' pilgrimage, 'dark' tourism and tourism of the privileged).

Jeffrey Crittenden, Ph.D., is an Assistant Professor of the Faculty of Theology, Huron University (London, Ontario, Canada), Founding Director of the Centre for Practical Theology (Canada) and an avid pilgrimage leader and participant.

More-Than-Food Tourism

Dr Anna de Jong, University of Glasgow, UK

Professor Peter Varley, Northumbria University, UK and Western Norway University of Applied Sciences, Norway

Dr Chloe Steadman, Manchester Metropolitan University, UK

Professor Dominic Medway, Manchester Metropolitan University, UK

Associate Professor Leif Longvanes, Department of Business Administration, Western Norway University of Applied Sciences, Norway

Abstract:

Animal ethics has received limited attention within food tourism research, despite ethical issues associated with the preparation and consumption of animals for food in tourism settings. Whilst the few attempts that have sought to engage with the ethical dimensions of animal meat consumption in food tourism have largely prioritised anthropocentric perspectives, that decentre the animal and are focused on identifying fixed, universalised and essentialised demarcations regarding the consumption of animal meat as either right or wrong. This research seeks to bring these two gaps within the literature together, in introducing a relational ethics to food tourism. Multi author participant observation is utilised to examine a touristic encounter with smalahove, a traditional Norwegian dish of smoked and boiled sheep's head. Through this case study we argue that future food tourism research ought to shift focus beyond the tourist experience, so as to fully understand the processes through which animals become eaten, and force reflection on the invariably dominant relationship between humans and animals.

Dr Anna de Jong's research examines relations between tourism and place, guided by concerns of inequality.

Professor Peter Varley's research examines cultural responses, subjective meaning making and experiences in places.

Dr Chloe Steadman's research examines consumer culture, the body, time, place, and atmospheres.

Professor Dominic Medway's research examines interactions between places, spaces and those who manage and consume them.

Associate Professor Leif Longvanes's research examines sustainable value creation in tourism.

From Art of Living to Activist Affordances: (Re)conceptualising Leisure from the Standpoint of Forced Migration

Nicola De Martini Ugolotti, Bournemouth University, United Kingdom/Associazione Frantz Fanon, Italy

Abstract:

Based on an 18-months ethnographic research with 60 men and women seeking asylum who co-created a weekly music-group in Bristol, Britain, this paper considers how the reciprocal constitution of time, space, power, and leisure can be conceptualised from the standpoint of lives lived in asylum systems. The paper discusses how immobility, temporariness and waiting were differently lived and tentatively redefined by the men and women in the music group amid state-enforced procedures employing time as a necropolitical tool of deterrence (De Martini Ugolotti and Webster, 2023; on necropolitics, see Mbembe, 2003). Building on these considerations, the paper interrogates recent “re-imaginings” of leisure in the 21st century as “an art of living” (Blackshaw, 2017) in liquid/post-/late- “modernity” through a perspective that draws on the work of critical disability scholar Arseli Dokumaci (2023) to conceptualise leisure as “acts and arts of survival in a *shrinking* world” (x, emphasis added). Through such a dialogue, the paper challenges leisure scholars to address how we can understand, theorise, and teach leisure from the standpoint of the lives lived in asylum systems, and more widely from the borderlands, thresholds and crossings that cut across this historical and planetary conjuncture. The paper contends that such a standpoint sheds light on what is re-claimed through leisure *when and where* acts of recreation and acts of survival blur and overlap with each other, reconfigure received pedagogies of the political, and give us the measure of why and how leisure constitutes a site from where to address injustice and sustain social and planetary life in the present conjuncture (De Martini Ugolotti, 2024).

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Nicola De Martini Ugolotti is Senior Lecturer in Sport and Physical Culture at Bournemouth University, United Kingdom and member of Associazione Frantz Fanon in Turin, Italy. He has co-edited the book “*Leisure and Forced Migration: Lives Lived in Asylum Systems*”, (w/ Jayne Caudwell, Routledge, 2022). His book monograph “*Music, Forced Migration and Emplacement: Sounds of Asylum Bristol*” will be published by Palgrave MacMillan in August 2024.

Regulation of Leisure as an Uphill Battle: The Case of Cancelled Festivals and Concerts in Türkiye

Gökben Demirbaş, Dr., Trakya University, Türkiye

Abstract:

This paper, drawing on a critical discourse analysis, examines the ways in which the area of leisure becomes a subject of political struggle over the (non)legitimising certain cultural characteristics as constituent to national belonging in Türkiye. Leisure has always been an area of life through which cultural capital is formed, legitimated, and challenged. As ‘all capital is context specific’ (Skeggs, 2004: 19), national space is a crucial context within which certain cultural characteristics are legitimised as signs of the national belonging, while others are attributed with negative value. In Türkiye, the dominant symbolic order promoted a secular, largely Western lifestyle, which is defined by certain scholars as ‘deterritorialised cultural capital’. The dominance of secularism has always been challenged by its ‘Other’, the Islamic culture. Since the 1980s, the rise of political Islam in Türkiye heightened the tension and turned the political struggle between parties into a struggle over defining the core cultural characteristics of the nation. Regulating leisure in contemporary Türkiye, therefore, has become an uphill battle for political groups.

This paper aims to understand the nature of this struggle through an empirical study about the cancellation of festivals and concerts in the last two years in Türkiye. Since 2022, city and district governors have cancelled many festivals and some concerts through a generic reasoning which can be summarised as maintaining public order and peaceful atmosphere, preventing violence and other offences as well as respecting to the rights and freedoms of ‘others’. The paper sheds light on this process through an empirical study. The research is designed as a critical discourse analysis and the empirical data collected for this paper consists of the official documents, news published on newspapers, the statements of politicians, musicians and event organisations on TV programmes and social media

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Gökben Demirbař is a lecturer at Trakya University, Türkiye. She holds a PhD degree in sociology from the University of Glasgow, Scotland. Her research interests include different aspects of the sociology of leisure, with a particular focus on gender, everyday life, urban space, youth, politics and citizenship.

Adventure Philanthropy: A Typology Of Charity Challenge Tourists

Dr Adele Doran, Sheffield Hallam University, UK

Abstract:

Classic understandings of philanthropy refer to goodwill towards fellow humans (Novelli et al., 2016). In contrast, contemporary meanings of the term equate to helping humankind through donating money and time, and charitable gift-giving. The notion that one can “do good” through “giving back” whilst travelling and through the purchase of travel products continues to increase in popularity (Bryans, 2022; Novelli et al., 2016), and has given rise to the wider term of travel philanthropy (Honey, 2011).

Philanthropy in adventure tourism is typified by travellers participating in challenges to raise funds for charity and has received limited scholarly interest (see Coghlan & Filo, 2013; Goodwin et al., 2009; Rickly & Clouser, 2019). Yet, demand for this form of tourism is buoyant, as consumers are increasingly interested in adventure holidays that enable them to achieve a personal challenge, make iconic journeys or expeditions, and spend time in the natural environment for its therapeutic value and to conserve and protect it (Alexander, 2023). Correspondingly, we know little about the negative impacts of adventure philanthropy (Novelli et al., 2016), therefore, there is significant scope for research in this emerging form of tourism.

This study contributes to this latent body of knowledge on adventure philanthropy by drawing on a number of interrelating fields of study to understand the evolution of charity challenges, aid the conceptualisation of this form of tourism, and create a typology of its tourists. The study adopted a qualitative approach and data were collected through 18 semi-structured online interviews. Participant criteria included a requirement to have participated in a challenging activity (e.g., climbing, canoeing, cycling, trekking, skiing, running etc), that lasted for a minimum of 2 days, and with a goal of raising funds for charity. The challenge could be commercially- or self-organised. Data is currently undergoing thematic analysis, drawing on themes derived from the literature.

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Dr Adele Doran is a researcher of outdoor recreation and adventure tourism. Her research focuses on consumer behaviour; well-being; equality, diversity, and inclusivity; adventure media and marketing; decent work; and entrepreneurship. She is an experienced project leader who has worked with private and public organisations to collaborate on research and consult on projects. Adele has experience employing a range of qualitative and quantitative methodologies.

21-years later: Femininity, masculinity, physicality and the English tabloid press

Gemma Dunn, Buckinghamshire New University

Ben Clayton, Buckinghamshire New University

John Harris, Glasgow Caledonian University

Abstract:

Over the course of the Euro 2000 men's football championship and the 2000 Wimbledon tennis championship, Harris and Clayton (2002) examined how femininity, masculinity, and physicality were created and represented within the pages of the English tabloid print sports media. The predominantly qualitative analysis described eight dominant themes within the tabloid print media, including the relative invisibility of female athletes, the emphasis of traditional masculine traits of male athletes, the contradictory reporting of pain and sacrifice of male and female athletes, the creation of (male) heroes and national identities, the coverage of 'appropriate' female sporting roles, non-task relevant commentary for female athletes, the trivialization of female accomplishments, and the eroticizing of the female body. The present research is interested to see what, if anything, has changed 21-years later during the confluence of the Euro 2020 and Wimbledon 2021 tournaments.

The research followed a deductive thematic analysis of 2081 sports-related articles over 30 consecutive days of coverage in the *The Sun* and *The Mirror* newspapers (11 June – 11 July 2021) to test the present-day efficacy of the themes developed by Harris and Clayton 21-years earlier. Findings suggest that while the relative invisibility of female athletes remains a significant issue, there is limited evidence to support the existence of the other gendered themes, which suggests an improved *quality* of coverage of female athletes and a reduction in the masculinising of reporting about male athletes.

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Gemma Dunn is Lecturer in Sports and Physical Education in the School of Human and Social Sciences, Buckinghamshire New University. Her interests as a player and coach are in women's football, coach development, and PE teaching.

Ben Clayton is Associate Professor of Sociology of Sport and Qualitative Methodology in the School of Human and Social Sciences, Buckinghamshire New University. He has published widely in the field of sport and masculinities, as well as in sport and parenting, sports coaching, disability sport, and the use of creative nonfiction for sociology of sport.

John Harris is Professor of Cultural Business in the Glasgow School for Business and Society, Glasgow Caledonian University. He has eclectic research interests and has published in a variety of academic journals across traditional disciplinary boundaries. He is the author of *Rugby Union and Globalization* (Palgrave Macmillan), and co-editor of various collections focusing on sport.

Falando às Mães (Speaking to the Mothers) in Jornal das Moças: Deconstructing advice to Brazilian mothers on children's physical activity and education, 1930-1960.

Carolina Fernandes da Silva, Assistant Professor, Physical Education Department, Sports Center, Federal University of Santa Catarina

Bruna Letícia de Borba, PhD student, Physical Education Graduate Program, Sports Center, Federal University of Santa Catarina

Eileen O'Connor, Associate Professor, School of Human Kinetics, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Ottawa

Abstract:

Physical activity has long been recognized as valuable practice of leisure. While the development and dissemination of ideas on physical activity is well established in the literature, the role of women in its promotion is less understood.

In Brazil, an important source for historical research on women is the *Jornal das Moças*, a conservative women's magazine published between 1914-1965, inspired by North American and European women's magazines. This study explores how discursive constructions of health and physical activity in *Jornal das Moças* between 1930-1960 served as tools to validate physical activity and education in the school environment. This period of study encompasses the beginning of physical education schooling in Brazil in the 1930s to the first law governing the teaching of physical education in the 1960s. Women and mothers were singled out as partners to ensure the future of their nation by confirming their commitment to support physicians' teachings on children's bodies that were deeply linked to nationalism, hygiene, health and wellness of a nation. Our research findings suggest that while drawing on materialist discourses, physicians assumed the power of decision-making and mastery over children's and mothers' bodies.

Advice to mothers on the need to educate and support children's physical activity also extended to the women themselves as mothers were discouraged to partake in sport considered <violent> and all beach-related practices. Our research critically interrogates these varied subjects related to leisure, physical activity and education and the prescribed practices to be performed by high-income cisgender white Brazilian women of this period. Yet,

discourses were not universally accepted and internalized into practices. In this poster, we demonstrate how *Jornal das Moças* can be considered a vehicle for the diffusion of cultural ideologies to critically examine representations of the cisgender female body and their children in the context of the health of a nation.

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Carolina Fernandes da Silva, PhD in Human Movement Sciences, is an Assistant Professor and Bruna Letícia de Borba is a PhD student at the Physical Education Department in Federal University of Santa Catarina in Brazil. Eileen O'Connor is an Associate Professor in Human Kinetics at the University of Ottawa, Canada. Their research areas include the history of health, the body, women, leisure, and sport.

Bigger Is Not Necessarily Better: Case Study of Sofar Sounds and the Sociality of Hyper Local Music Events

Prof. Rebecca Finkel, Queen Margaret University

Abstract:

Raymond Williams (1958 [1983]), in his seminal essay, 'Culture is Ordinary', argued that culture is not just for the educated elite; rather, the sociality of culture is something for all of human society to enjoy due to the connections and communication it can provide. Through this inclusive and relational lens, cultural activities people engage in do not need to be extraordinary to be meaningful. Although these ideas may sound quaint given the power and ubiquity of the spectacle today, especially given ever changing globalised economic and political landscapes, this paper seeks to exfoliate our understanding of popular culture in contemporary society by returning to examine 'ordinary' forms of culture through a case study of Sofar Sounds. Sofar Sounds, according to their website, "transforms everyday spaces – like a rooftop or art gallery – and turns them into captivating, intimate venues for secret, live music performances, creating an immersive experience that brings guests and artists closer together." The emergence of hyper local music events exists in sharp contrast with the big stadium concerts and huge music festivals often associated with live music. The emphasis on non-traditional venues, financial and physical accessibility, and attempts to create a diverse cultural ecology in situ creates (arguably unusual) leisure settings with sociality and not necessarily commercialism at its core. By utilising auto-ethnography and participant observation approaches along with artist and performer interviews, this emerging research seeks to contribute to the meaning-making of popular culture in contemporary society and highlights the potential for degrowth in changing cultural practices.

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Prof. Rebecca Finkel is a Professor of Critical Event Studies and Director of the Research Centre for Culture in Society at Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh. Research frames critical event studies within conceptualisations of social justice, gender in/equality, and cultural

identity. Co-Editor of Routledge Critical Event Studies Research Book Series as well as published in gender studies, cultural management, urban geography, media, leisure, tourism, and events journals and books, including co-editing special issues on EDI-related topics.

Self-tracking and the Structuring of Human Movement

Dr. Jonathan Finn, Wilfrid Laurier University

Abstract:

Whether in the form of Cederström and Spicer's (2015) 'wellness syndrome,' Martschukat's 'Age of Fitness' (2021) or Millington's (2020) 'Fitness 2.0,' self-tracking has become a dominant practice within contemporary society. This rise in practice has been met by a parallel rise in scholarship. Exemplified in the work of Deborah Lupton, critical analyses of self-tracking emphasize the neoliberal underpinnings of the practice, through which the responsibility of health, wellness and fitness has been reconfigured as a moral quest for the individual. Often borrowing from Foucault, scholars of self-tracking rightly point to the disciplining and surveillant functions of the practice while also finding room for user agency, resistance and play.

Missing in much of the literature on the topic is the structuring properties of self-tracking. Smartwatches, wearables and their companion apps function by reducing highly variable human activity to a series of select, quantifiable data points. The resultant data-displays do more than represent a person's physical activity, they actively shape user experience by regulating what can and cannot be known. In this way, qualitative aspects of human movement such as joy, sadness, or satisfaction are rendered invisible in the quantitatively over-determined data-displays. Lupton (2015) refers to this as the 'flattening' aspect of self-tracking, Adams (2019) calls it 'homogenizing' and Toner (2018) says it amounts to the 'anaesthetisation of human experience.' Drawing from an ethnographic study of 20 members of a local endurance sport club, this paper highlights the need to recognize the structuring properties of self-tracking. Doing so allows us to better understand the ways in which self-tracking instrumentalizes human movement and to think through possibilities of resistance and reclamation.

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Jonathan Finn is Professor of Communication Studies at Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, Canada. He is the author of *Beyond the Finish Line: Images, Evidence and the History of the Photo-Finish* (McGill-Queens, 2021), *Capturing the Criminal Image: From Mugshot to Surveillance Society* (Minnesota, 2009) and editor of *Visual Communication & Culture: Images in Action* (Oxford, 2012). His current project is a critical analysis of the self-tracking app, Strava, and is funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.

Productivity And Leisure Among Women Academics At A Historically Black College And University

Kristine Fleming; Vanessa Pitts Bannister, Florida A&M University

Abstract:

While the initial wave of the COVID-19 pandemic may have subsided, the lingering effects continue to influence multiple facets of our lives, especially among women academics of underrepresented communities. This study examines the unique experiences and challenges related to work-life and leisure among women faculty members at a historically Black college and university (HBCU) to include the intersectionality of gender, race/ethnicity, dependent care, marital/partner status, and other identities. A mixed-methods sequential explanatory design was conducted in two consecutive phases to provide a nuanced and comprehensive understanding of the work-life and leisure experiences of women faculty members at a HBCU. The first phase included a self-report survey administered via Qualtrics among women academics at a HBCU in the Southeast U.S.A. (n = 87). For the purposes of the current study, a brief report of the frequencies and associations of items from the first phase of the self-report questionnaire will be reported to include the International Physical Activity Questionnaire-Short Form, Work-to-Leisure Conflict, and productivity before and during the pandemic. An emphasis on the current study will report findings from the second phase, which incorporated purposeful sampling to conduct focus group interviews during spring 2022 among women academics with children (n = 8) and without children (n = 8), and considers other intersecting identities to include BIPOC (n = 13) and non-BIPOC (n = 3). Using grounded theory design, data is systematically coded and analyzed to gain a more nuanced understanding of the identities associated with women academics and perspectives that challenge assumptions related to productivity and work-life balance to pursue leisure. The findings from the study acknowledge and explore the unique experiences and environments that foster success and well-being to inform higher education administrators to design policies and practices to better support, retain, and empower women faculty members of underrepresented identities in academia.

Kristine Fleming, EdD, is the Interim Department Chair of Health, Physical Education and Recreation and Assistant Professor and Coordinator of Health, Leisure, and Fitness Studies at Florida A&M University. She completed a doctoral degree in leisure, youth, and human services and a master's degree in community health education at University of Northern Iowa. Her research interests include leisure and health behaviors, social justice, and culturally responsive teaching practices in leisure and health education.

Vanessa Pitts Bannister, EdD, is the Department Chair of Secondary Education, Technology Education, and Foundations and Professor and Coordinator of Mathematics Education at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University. She completed a Postdoctoral Fellowship at the University of California at Berkeley and a doctoral degree in mathematics education at the University of Pittsburgh. Her research interests include teachers' pedagogical and content knowledge concerning curriculum materials and equity and diversity issues in mathematics education.

A preliminary analysis of the perceptions of golf among students attending a historically Black college and university

Kristine Fleming, EdD, Florida A&M University

Holly Lauren Garcia, Florida A&M University

Arenteanis Brown, Florida A&M University

Abstract:

Perceived as a predominantly elite and traditionally exclusive sport, the perceptions of golf among students attending Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) remains understudied. The purpose of the study is to provide a preliminary analysis of the unique and often overlooked perceptions of golf among students attending a HBCU. A self-report questionnaire was administered via Qualtrics among students attending an HBCU in the US Southeast. More specifically, the level of experience, barriers, and exposure to the sport are explored, including the multifaceted perceptions of active and inactive golf participants. The majority of students who completed the survey (n = 243) identified as African American or Black (95%). Although most students participated in traditional golf in their lifetime (53%), only 22% indicated participating in golf during the past year. Despite not playing in the past year, 25% of students who completed the questionnaire showed an interest in playing golf in the future. As golf continues to evolve to increase participation, the perceptions of students attending a HBCU provides a comprehensive understanding of golf within the HBCU student experiences, contributing to a broader dialogue on sports, identity, and belonging. This research enriches the academic discourse and provides practical insight for golf organizations, educational institutions, and policymakers in a leisure setting that has historically minimized the experiences of students attending HBCUs to reimagine a sport with the hope of encouraging belonging and acceptance.

Kristine Fleming, EdD, is the Interim Department Chair of Health, Physical Education and Recreation and Assistant Professor and Coordinator of Health, Leisure, and Fitness Studies at Florida A&M University. She completed a doctoral degree in leisure, youth, and human services and a master's degree in community health education at University of Northern Iowa. Her

research interests include leisure and health behaviors, social justice, and culturally responsive teaching practices in leisure and health education.

Holly Lauren Garcia is a Graduate Assistant in the Department of Psychology at Florida A&M University. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology at Colby College and is pursuing a Master of Science in Community Psychology at Florida A&M University. She has 10 years of experience providing inclusive programs, including summer camp programming for children with autism. She is passionate about improving mental health literacy for youth and educators.

Arenteanis Brown is a Graduate Assistant in the Department of Health, Physical Education and Recreation at Florida A&M University. He earned a Bachelor of Science in Health, Leisure and Fitness and is pursuing a Master of Science in Sport Management at Florida A&M University. He has over 10 years of experience coaching elite-level athletes and supervising community recreation programs. He is passionate about youth development and mentoring youth in community recreation programs.

The Hundred: A Sociological Analysis Of Gender Relations And The (Semi-Professionalisation Of Women's Cricket In England

Thomas Fletcher, School of Events, Tourism and Hospitality Management & Carnegie School of Sport, Leeds Beckett University, UK.

Philippa Velija, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Roehampton, UK.

Rafaelle Nicholson, Faculty of Media & Communication, Bournemouth University, UK.

Abstract:

In this article, we adopt a critical sociological perspective to understanding gender relations and cricket, through the lens of The Hundred - a new, short-form tournament, described by the England and Wales Cricket Board as being part of its long-term commitment to making cricket a gender-equal sport. The Hundred is the first sporting tournament in the world which, from the outset, featured fully aligned competitions for both men's and women's teams, including equal prize money, but not equal pay, which the recent Independent Commission for Equity in Cricket condemned. Drawing on concepts of professionalisation as a gendered process we discuss data from interviews with thirty-three people working in cricket to consider how gender relations continue to impact opportunities for women in cricket. This article further supports the need to conceptualise professionalisation in sport as gendered by considering the ways The Hundred facilitates opportunities for men's and women's cricket differently.

Thomas Fletcher is Professor at Leeds Beckett University, and Managing Editor of the journal *Leisure Studies*. Among other things, he is currently working on a three-year AHRC large grant examining online hate in the context of football tournaments, and collaborating with the England and Wales Cricket Board on their inclusive environments work streams.

Metaverse Events: Hyperreal Performativity of the Synthetic Self

Dr Matt Frew, University of the West of Scotland

Dr Jenny Flinn, University of the West of Scotland

Theo Tzanidis, University of the West of Scotland

Abstract:

This paper argues that, in an age of acceleration where digital and social mediation is a given, events and the event experience are undergoing a radical transformation. Emerging DARQ* technologies and an accelerating Metaverse are reshaping the event landscape, birthing a new era of extended reality events (XREvents). Drawing upon a Future Studies poststructuralist position, with an auto-ethnographic and virtual reality methodology (Kozinets, 2023) we propose that the accelerating Metaverse represents the emergence of a new fifth space of XREvents (Frew, Tzanidis & Flinn, 2023). This virtual domain fundamentally challenges the primacy of live events, revealing the constructed nature of real experiences within the intensifying hyperreality we inhabit.

Our analysis sheds light on how the once seemingly real world of events, and the selves within them, have always been entangled in a web of digital and social mediation. Events have become potent expressions of hyperreality where the self is caught in a vortex of mediation; an omnipresent global gaze that perpetually mirrors the self, and the event experience, back becoming a self-legitimising performative construct. However, the Metaverse promises unimaginable freedom where the self, unfettered by the laws of physics, biology or morals of the physical 'real world', is cloned into a synthetic self that can engage in new worlds of experience (Ball, 2022).

In XREvents, the synthetic self can become whatever, go wherever, create, consume and relive endless ecosystems of event experiences. Nevertheless, the speed, scale and scope of DARQ technologies points to a trajectory where the rich detail and sensory saturation are so deep that XREvents become the ultimate hyperreal Spectacle (Hardawar, 2021; Frew, 2013). The promise of XREvents can become a prison where the synthetic self will be perpetually profiled, AI data scanned and scrapped into a new cyber-performativity. Therefore, while we argue that the rise of XREvents challenges appeals to authentic or 'real' events, we acknowledge a future

DARQ Metaverse may well become a cyber-performative construct. Of course, there is always the possibility that we will see resistance to the seductive dreamscape of XREvents. However, as resistance is reappropriated or creativity assimilated the hyperreal Spectacle is, ironically, really all there is.

*(Distributed Ledger Systems, Artificial Intelligence, Virtual, Augmented, Mixed to Extended Reality, Quantum Computing)

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Dr Matt Frew is a Senior Lecturer in Enterprise and Transformational Technologies. As a social theorist/futurologist, Matt specialises in how phenomenon and trends in digital, social and transformational DARQ technologies are challenging and changing how we work, learn and live. Matt's work focuses on how this age of accelerating techno-culture is revolutionising the structuring relations of space, time and our embodied condition.

Dr Jenny Flinn is a Lecturer in Events Marketing. She has a particular interest in the experiential aspects of events, including design, creativity and innovative uses of technology to enhance

and extend the event experience. Jenny is involved in a number of projects which seek to bridge the gap between the events industry and Higher Education, with a focus on developing the employability of students and contributing to further professionalisation of the industry.

Theo Tzanidis is a Senior lecturer in Digital Marketing. He is passionate about exploring and applying emerging technologies in the digital business transformation sector, such as reality technologies, AI for business, metaverse, Web3, and 3DWeb. Theo is currently involved in several digital transformation projects, aiming to cultivate new business competencies and opportunities in these domains. He is also a contributor to the World Economic Forum Agenda on metaverse for business and digital transformation themes.

Disconnect to better reconnect: the role of mindfulness in hypermodern holiday experiences

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Alain Decrop, Professor, University of Namur, Belgium.

Abstract:

In a hypermodern world of continuous acceleration and pressure, consumers are longing for bubbles in their lives where they can disconnect and recover from their everyday burdens. Recent years have witnessed the search for recovery through the consumption of spiritual retreats, pilgrimages, silence hotels, yoga, meditation holidays, etc. The thirst for these forms of consumption echoes a “slowed down temporal experience achieved via a decrease in certain quantities (travelled distance, use of technology, experienced episodes) per unit of time through altering, adopting, or eschewing forms of consumption” (Husemann & Eckhardt, 2019, page 1142). What these experiences signal is a deep need from contemporary consumers to escape temporarily their everyday lives’ universe, in order to refresh and come back restored (Cova, Carù and Cayla, 2018, page 3). Escaping everyday life has been identified as a central component in tourism experiences, a condition that gives access to rich and fulfilling experiences (Frochot, Elliot and Kreziak, 2017; Turner, 1974; Wang, 1999).

The present study argues that escaping everydayness is made possible not only because consumers physically and mentally cut free from dailyness. Escaping also happens because consumers’ mindsets and ways of relating to their surroundings is changing: they become more available to the world around them and to the experience they are living, thereby allowing for inner transformations. Naturally, this process echoes the works relating to mindfulness.

The authors investigated how an Alpine hiking and refuge experience allowed individuals to disconnect and (re)construct themselves. Through 45 semi-structured interviews, we explored how holiday components (the activities, the hut, and the wilderness context) contribute to a state of mindfulness and, *in fine*, to a personal transformation process. In addition to interviewing, we also conducted participant observation sessions that we recorded in diaries.

The paper contributes to the literature through an original conceptualization of the disconnection/reconnection process, with mindfulness as a core category. It shows that

holiday experiences may provide a favorable ground for transformative experiences because consumers are likely to develop a mindfulness mindset. Hiking as well as the contrasting and stimulating environment of the mountain and the refuge trigger a number of processes, including distancing, deceleration, contemplation, arousal and self-transcendence that appear to be crucial to the mindfulness state and to the broader disconnection/reconnection dynamics.

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Isabelle Frochot is specialized in the study of tourist behaviour and started her research career by investigating psychographic segmentation studies (benefit segmentation) applied to historic sites, rural tourists, and service quality scales. Isabelle then moved her research focus to the mountain tourism context, concentrating on the analysis of the consumer experience (experience sequencing, nesting dynamics in a holiday context, immersion, and disconnection/reconnection processes in tourism consumption).

Alain Decrop is Full Professor of Marketing at the University of Namur, Belgium. Founding member of NADI-CeRCLe (Namur Digital Institute - Center for Research on Consumption and Leisure), he is also 1st Vice-President of the French Marketing Association (AFM). He holds master degrees in modern history and economics, and a Ph.D. in business administration. His research interests include consumer behavior, collaborative economy, qualitative methods, and leisure/tourism marketing.

The meanings and contributions of everyday moments of leisure

Dr. Karen Gallant, School of Health and Human Performance, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada

Dr. Rien “R” Alexander, Faculty of Kinesiology and Recreation Management, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

Dr. Heidi Lauckner, School of Occupational Therapy, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada

Dr. Stephanie Mason, Faculty of Education, Brock University, St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada

Brittany Bhatnagar, School of Occupational Therapy, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada

Ashlyn Stevens, School of Health and Human Performance, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada

Dr. Susan Hutchinson, School of Health and Human Performance, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada

Abstract:

This presentation reimagines leisure by drawing attention to momentary leisure experiences, such as pausing to chat with a friend on the street or brew a cup of tea, exploring the value of short-duration leisure experiences that serve as junctures amid obligatory or routine activities. Harmon and Duffy (2021) highlighted the potential of momentary experiences as meaningful leisure, drawing on Lefebvre’s conceptualization of *moments* as pivotal points of feeling, immediacy, and presence. Through concept synthesis (Authors, under review), we developed the concept of *everyday moments of leisure (EML)*, defining EML as “*subjectively-defined and noticed enjoyable, personally-resonant momentary experiences that occur within ordinary places and activities.*” This presentation considers the roles such moments play in peoples’ lives, drawing on phenomenological research involving interviews with 20 individuals willing to share their real-world understandings of EML. Research participants were invited to engage in up to three interviews focusing on their perceptions and experiences of EML. After an initial interview (n=20) where the concept of EML was introduced and discussed, interested

participants documented examples of EML (photos, videos or writing) which they shared during a second interview (n=16). Finally, participants whose EML were associated with specific public places were invited to discuss their experiences during an on-site go-along interview (n=6, Alexander et al., 2020). We are collaboratively analyzing data using Smith et al.'s (2022) process for interpretive phenomenological analysis. We are excited by our early findings that suggest participants experience EML as moments of connection to themselves or their past, significant others, and the natural world, and as a source of stability, escape, fun, invigoration and grounding – despite brief, unstructured leisure being often overlooked in our field. We suggest that noticing short-duration leisure experiences may offer an important avenue for experiencing unstructured and less commodified leisure in the context of everyday lives.

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Dr. R. Alexander (Robyn Moran, they/them) is a NeuroQueer settler Canadian. R recently completed their PhD in Recreation and Leisure Studies at the University of Waterloo, inquiring into urban public space, gentrification, settler colonialism, and queer subcultures. R is a current Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) postdoctoral fellow (hosted at the University of Manitoba), where they are working on arts-based, queer, and post-qualitative approaches to making research publicly accessible.

Brittany Bhatnagar (she/her) is a Masters student in Occupational Science in the School of Occupational Therapy at Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Her research primarily focusses on the lived experiences of occupational balance (OB) among graduate students. She is especially interested in the connection of OB and wellbeing as people navigate their daily

obligatory activities and non-obligatory activities such as socialization, leisure, or self-care opportunities.

Dr. Karen Gallant (she/her) is an Associate Professor in Recreation and Leisure Studies in the School of Health and Human Performance at Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada. Her research examines and highlights the role of community-based recreation settings and experiences in facilitating social inclusion. She is particularly interested in momentary leisure experiences in places that are part of peoples' everyday lives.

Dr. Susan Hutchinson (she/her) recently retired from her role as Associate Professor in Recreation and Leisure Studies in the School of Health and Human Performance at Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Her research predominantly focused on the ways leisure serves as a resource in coping with, adapting to, and experiencing personal growth following negative life events and chronic health problems.

Dr. Heidi Lauckner (she/her) is an Assistant Professor in the School of Occupational Therapy at Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada. She brings an occupational perspective, which focuses on the things we do in our everyday life and the factors that shape them, to community participation and community development. She is particularly interested in the intersections between individual and collective doing and social change.

Dr. Stephanie Mason (PhD, MEd, MA) (she/her) is an Assistant Professor in Adult Education at Brock University in Ontario, Canada. She specializes in informal learning, arts-informed research, and public places for learning. She has published in the *International Journal of Talent Development and Creativity*, *Engaged Scholar Journal*, and *Art/Research International*, and has a forthcoming chapter in Conrad and Archers' *Portraits of academic life within higher education* (in press).

Ashlyn Stevens (she/her) is a PhD Candidate in the Faculty of Health at Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada. Her research focuses on examining the therapeutic uses of nature-based leisure and recreation experiences. In particular, she is interested in the role of outdoor adventure activities in the trauma recovery of women who have experienced intimate partner violence.

Sport-event Participation as a Space for Mid and Later life and Wellbeing: A Social Worlds Perspective

Heather Gibson, University of Florida

Ying-Chen (Anny) Chen, University of Florida

Dahye Jung, University of Florida

Tyler Smith, University of Florida

Abstract:

Over the past 20 years mid and later life competitive sport-event participation has grown helped by changing social expectations and increased longevity (Dionigi et al., 2017). In the US, the Senior Games is one of the oldest multi-sport-events for individuals aged 50+. Cardenas et al. (2009) found Senior Games participation is motivated by social and physical health and Gibson et al. (2002) found competition and athlete identity were important. Heo et al. (2013) using a Serious Leisure lens found the more involved participants are higher in life satisfaction and health outcomes. Using Seligman's (2011) PERMA wellbeing model Filo and Coghlan (2016) found charity sport-event participants experienced wellbeing in all five PERMA domains. Unruh's (1979) Social Worlds is an approach used to understand progression and social involvement in leisure-domains (e.g., Shipway et al., 2012). Lee (2020) suggested that Social Worlds also illuminate the societal context of immersion in leisure worlds. Consequently, gender and life stage may influence engagement in Social Worlds.

The purpose of this exploratory study was to investigate the effects of Senior Games' Social World membership, gender, and life stage mid (51-60), early-late (61-70), and later-life (71-91) on wellbeing (PERMA, Seligman, 2011). An online survey of Senior Games participants yielded N=222 responses, males (n=116) and females (n=83), aged 51-91 years. MANOVA revealed Social World membership and life stage differences in wellbeing associated with Senior Games ($p < .05$). Specifically, Insiders reported the highest Senior Games wellbeing in all five PERMA domains. Early-late-lifers reported higher Engagement and Meaning wellbeing than mid-life and later-lifers ($p < .05$). No significant gender differences in wellbeing were found. As populations age, meaningful involvement in activities with social and physical engagement becomes more

crucial for later-life wellbeing (Heo et al., 2013). Sport-event participation may be a potential arena for early-late-lifers' wellbeing particularly as they adjust to retirement.

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Dr. Heather J. Gibson is a Professor and Undergraduate Coordinator in the Department of Tourism, Hospitality and Event Management at the University of Florida. Her research interests include leisure, tourism and sport behavior in mid and later life and the wellbeing associated

with participation, women as tourists, sport tourism (specializing in sport events and active sport tourism), and perceived risk in tourism. She teaches classes in tourism theory, sport tourism, leisure theory, and introductory tourism.

Ying-Chen (Anny) Chen is a PhD student in the Department of Tourism, Hospitality, and Event Management at the University of Florida funded by a scholarship from the Ministry of Education in Taiwan. Her research interests are sport tourism, VR applications, consumer behavior in leisure industries, and how leisure contributes to well-being in individuals' later life. She earned her bachelor's and master's degrees in Leisure Management from National Pingtung University in Taiwan.

Dahye Jung is a PhD student in the Department of Tourism, Hospitality, and Event Management. Her research focuses on sport tourism, exploring how regular participation in sports events and leisure contributes to health and well-being in individuals' later life. She earned her bachelor's and master's degrees in Tourism Development from Jeju National University in South Korea. She also worked at the Jeju Research Institute for five years, participating in community development research projects.

Tyler Smith is an undergraduate student in the College of Health & Human Performance at the University of Florida and is part of the Sport Management Program. His interests include sport history and sport sociology. Once he graduates, he plans on pursuing a master's and PhD.

Exploring older male perceptions of physical leisure activity (PLA) and contribution to mental well-being using different methodologies

Dr. Catherine Gorman, School of Tourism and Hospitality Management, TU Dublin, Dublin 7, Ireland

Angie Hartnett, School of Tourism and Hospitality Management, TU Dublin, Dublin 7, Ireland

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Men's Health Forum Ireland (MHFI) is an all-island body that seeks to promote and enhance the well-being on men and boys (www.mhfi.org)

Abstract:

Physical activity (PA) has important positive impacts on social and mental health (Toepoel, 2013), and according to Giuli *et al* (2012), those experiencing depression, stress or cognitive decline exhibit lower rates of PA. Engaging with PA regardless of age and gender, mitigates cardiovascular disease, positively influences mental health and other non-communicable diseases (Lavie *et al* 2019). Research demonstrates that physical activity throughout the life course and into old age mitigates negative effects of ageing (Taylor, 2014). However, this message is not being received by older people in Ireland and the percentage of people aged 50+ with low levels of physical activity rose from 34% in 2016 to 39% in 2018 (HPAI, 2019). Between 2015 and 2050, the proportion of the world's population over 60 years will nearly double from 12% to 22% (WHO, 2022), and in the Republic of Ireland, the population aged 65 and over is set to double from almost 700,000 in 2019 to 1.6million in 2051 (Institute of Public Health, 2020).

Supported by MHFI, this research utilises a mixed methodology and explores physical leisure activity (PLA) from the perspective of older males (n=32 > 65 years) in three different locations; rural, peri-urban and urban. Research tools included use of a questionnaire based on WEMWBS, interviews utilising a walk and talk participative approach, and focus groups. A number of questions relating to Covid were included, as during this period this cohort were particularly impacted and encouraged to disengage.

Robertson *et al.* (2015) suggests that negative stereotyping of older adults demotivates the individual, decreases self-efficacy and this can be self-fulfilling. Exploring the perceptions of physical leisure activity (PLA) by older adults, contribution to mental well-being and the impact of Covid, provides understanding of motivations, and challenges that need to be addressed in order to accelerate increased engagement by older people in PA.

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Catherine Gorman: As a Senior Lecturer in the School of Tourism and Hospitality Management, TU Dublin, Catherine lectures in a number of modules underpinned by sustainability. She is member of Communities of Practice including HyFlex, SDG Literacy, Green Campus and the Engaged Research Network, and supervises students from undergraduate to PhD. Academic outputs and research interests relate to sustainability, negotiating aging through physical leisure activity (PLA), pedagogies that focus on experiential teaching and learning, and Community Based Learning (CBL).

Angela Hartnett: A practicing physiotherapist in rural Ireland, Angie has worked with a number of sports teams, from local football clubs to international rugby teams, including the Springboks and All Blacks. She has an MSc in Sports Physiotherapy from Cardiff University and is completing a PhD using RRI, exploring perceptions and motivations to physical activity participation in an older (≥ 65 years) rural population, with the view to facilitating and promoting meaningful PA to this cohort.

Joseph Tierney: As a lecturer in TU Shannon, Joe facilitates a range of subjects across the area of leisure and inclusive physical activity. Joe has a BSc in Leisure Management; MA in Design for Digital Media and M.Sc.in Sports Science. Joe is a results-driven leisure industry professional with comprehensive experience including leisure facility management and project development. He is completing a PhD exploring the motivations of older outdoor adventurers and opportunities to promote sustainable physical activity engagement.

Embedding strategies for sustainable tourism development: North Sulawesi, Indonesia

Clair Greenaway; Sarah Gunning ; Dr Richard Harper, University of Gloucestershire

Abstract:

Indonesia has embarked on a widespread socio-economic project that promotes sustainable economic development and enhances connectivity across the archipelago as outlined in the government's ambitious *Blue Economy* programme and its subsequent alignment with the World Economic Forum's *Ocean 20* project that promotes socio-economic growth through a healthy ocean and healthy ocean economy.

Within the *Blue Economy* agenda, sustainably managed tourism is seen to be one sector that can contribute to the economy of local coastal areas. The opportunity exists for these coastal areas to build upon Indonesia's already successful beach and coastal tourism reputation through capacity building in local human resources, i.e. through the formal and informal education to transfer knowledge and skills to local people (Ministry of National Development Planning/National Development Planning Agency (BAPPENAS), 2021 pp28-9).

Launched in 2020, the UK government funded Skills for Prosperity programme sought to enhance opportunities for education, professionalisation and industry growth in the Indonesian maritime sector. With a particular focus on maritime tourism, the United Nations International Labour Organization as lead delivery partner, collaborated with stakeholders in North Sulawesi to foster grassroots tourism expertise and embed sustainable growth practices. This ambitious intervention worked with beneficiaries in four coastal villages, all closely linked to Indonesia's Super Priority Tourism Destination, Likupang, to promote engagement with the leisure industries and enhance the ability of local communities to leverage opportunities for tourism growth. This presentation will report on findings of a qualitative evaluation of the grassroots training intervention, exploring the impact of Skills for Prosperity at individual, community and industry level.

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Clair Greenaway is Academic Course Leader for Events Management at the University of Gloucestershire.

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Exploring Newcomer Settlement Service Organizations as Sites of Leisure Knowledge and Programs for Iranian Immigrant Women Balancing Dual Work Responsibilities

Mahsa Hadidi, School of Human Kinetics, University of Ottawa, Canada

Dr. Eileen O'Connor, School of Human Kinetics, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Ottawa

Abstract:

Current research demonstrates that leisure can enhance immigrants' overall health and well-being (Frias & Dattilo, 2020; Rezazadeh & Hoover, 2018; Rich et al., 2015). However, immigrant women in the workforce may face barriers and challenges to leisure as a result of time constraints, economic disparities and cultural expectations (Rezazadeh & Hoover, 2018; Spracklen et al., 2015; Suto, 2013). In the case of Iranian immigrant women, a dearth of research exists on leisure participation of women in the paid workforce while balancing caregiving responsibilities (Soltani et al., 2021). Our research will explore Iranian immigrant women's leisure opportunities within a broader examination of the role of newcomer settlement services in providing targeted leisure activities for immigrant women between 25-60 years of age. Our guiding questions will explore how women become aware of leisure programs as we seek to gain insight on current barriers and challenges to participation. We would also explore women's preferences of engaging with integrated newcomer settlement services or those focused exclusively for women. Newcomer services can provide crucial resources and support related to work, housing, or banking, and this research will explore the potential to also address socio-cultural needs such as leisure (Quirke, 2015).

Our research will adopt intersectionality as theoretical lens to establish a framework that explores how various identities, including gender, immigration status, language ability, religion, and social roles intersect to shape experiences of disadvantage (Crenshaw, 1994). Our approach will involve qualitative methodology and methods to capture women's voices using rich textual and observational data such as online surveys, semi-structured interviews, and active participation in leisure activities for observation.

In this poster, we will present the parameters of this doctoral study in progress and present preliminary findings and reflections on the role of newcomer settlement service organizations

as sites of leisure knowledge exchange and programs for Iranian immigrant women in Ontario, Canada

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Mahsa Hadidi, PhD student of uOttawa, focuses on immigrant and refugee women's engagement in sports, leisure, and physical activity. Her PhD investigates the impact of community settlement services on facilitating Iranian immigrant women's participation in leisure activities. Actively involved at uOttawa, Mahsa contributes to the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion committee, serves as a PhD representative on the HKGSA committee, and co-presented a paper at the 2023 Canadian Committee on Leisure Research in Ottawa.

Eileen O'Connor, Associate Professor, School of Human Kinetics, University of Ottawa researches and supervises graduate students in gender, leisure, and health; history of sport; socio-cultural studies in sport. Dr. O'Connor is Principal Investigator on a SSHRC-funded project to co-develop inclusive leisure activities with a local settlement service organization; was a co-academic lead on a pan-Canadian SSHRC Partnership Grant on Community-Campus Engagement and held a uOttawa Chair in University Teaching on experiential learning and community-campus cooperation.

Sport Leisure Travel Motivations and Climate: A Study Of Alpine Tourism

Elisabeth Happ, Cornelia Praxmarer-Kohli, Stefanie Schöttl: University of Innsbruck, UMIT
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Abstract:

Leisure practitioners in alpine urban destinations have previously preferred to use their own cars for travel and on-site mobility. This is being countered by emerging trends in on-site mobility (Mailer et al., 2019) - including urbanization, Gen Z as a guest group (cars are no longer a status symbol, decline in driving license ownership) and increasing environmental and climate awareness across all population groups (European Commission, 2021).

This study aims to investigate motivating and hindering factors for using climate-friendly on-site mobility for sports and leisure activities. For this study the Motivation-Opportunity-Ability model by MacInnis et al. (1991) serves as a theoretical basis. Locals and tourists (in 2 ski resorts, December 2023) were interviewed. The semi-structured interviews were conducted during the gondola ride. Due to the special nature of the survey location, the questionnaire and the study design were designed to suit the survey location and the time available.

Results of the study add insights into leisure practitioners' behavior regarding on-site mobility, showing that, first, only half of tourists arriving by car also use it for transport on-site. Bursa et al. (2022a) highlighted the relatively high proportion of public transport journeys for skiing, which can be attributed to the ski buses available in winter. Second, the distance to the bus stop is a decisive influencing factor in the choice of transport. Proximity to the bus stop was mentioned as a motivation for using the bus. Interestingly, the distance to the nearest bus stop was also the most frequently cited reason for not using the bus. Third, the interviews showed that both locals and tourists found the information on local mobility easily accessible. Finally, locals emphasized the time factor and having to change too often when rejecting public transport, supporting the results by Mailer (2018).

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Elisabeth Happ, Ph.D.- is an Assistant Professor at the Department of Sport Science at the University of Innsbruck and at UMIT TIROL in Austria. Her research interests include the analysis of the sports industry and topics relating to sports and health tourism.

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From recreation to sport to staff: The lived experiences of football staff

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Abstract:

Great attention has been given to the recreational, leisurely, and professional experiences of players and coaches (Galan et al., 2021; Imperlini et al., 2020; Sweeney et al., 2021). What has been less articulated is the transition from recreational activities to professional sports (Morris et al., 2016; Stambulova et al., 2009; Swainston et al., 2020). Even less is known about the experiences of leisurely and high-performance athletes (i.e., division 1 or varsity athletes) who find careers in sporting clubs off the pitch/field/ice such as team managers, academy development staff, operational managers, communications & marketing team members, or on financial teams.

With a particular focus on football (soccer) within the Canadian context, this presentation shares the lived experiences of leisurely and high-performance athletes who have transitioned into off-the-field staff positions; roles that are essential to the sustainability, longevity, and success of the teams. Football in Canada has long existed, however, with the Canadian Premier League beginning in 2019 (<https://canpl.ca>) and the announcement that Canada will co-host the 2026 World Cup, there has been a rapid growth in the number of people playing and watching football across Canada. It is reported that in 2020, before the global pandemic, there were more football players in Canada than ice hockey (Terrell, 2022), Canada's official sport. In this presentation, special attention is paid to the mental and holistic health of staff members and how their roles impact and influence their abilities to stay well. Findings from several interviews lead us to argue that staff at high-performance, amateur, academies, and semi-professional clubs should have similar access to services that are provided to players and coaches, such as physical therapy and psychological care. We end by acknowledging that participation in sports (in this case football) as a staff member offers comparable euphoria to being a player when staff receive the same care as players and coaches.

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Alnoor Dastoor Hasham is an MSc. student in the Sports Directorship Program at the Global Institute of Sport at the University of East London. Alnoor's passion for football encompasses playing, coaching, and team operations at recreational and semi-professional levels which has provoked a career in professional sports. His research and professional practice aim to push the boundaries of sporting development to include the enhancement of players' life skills and off-the-field staffing health and holistic well-being.

Dr. Shemine Alnoor Gulamhusein is a Muslim scholar occupying the lands of the WSÁNEĆ peoples. She has a deep-seated commitment to creative, innovative, and interdisciplinary understandings, the dismantling of, and re-creating accessible, culturally grounded, and transformative research. Her research centers on migrant subjectivities, diasporic self-making, and theorizing in-between spaces.

Leisure-Spiritual Processes: A Qualitative Study

Paul Heintzman, University of Ottawa

Abstract:

Empirical research on leisure and spirituality has expanded dramatically in the last 20 years. The most common spiritual outcome studied is spiritual experience which may be defined as “an acute experience of a spiritual nature” (Chandler et al., 1992, p. 170). While there are dozens of studies on leisure and spiritual experience, fewer studies exist on leisure and spiritual well-being which is viewed more as a state of being than an experience (Gomez & Fisher, 2003). Given that many of these studies on spiritual well-being have focused on one leisure activity or on one population group, more research is needed. Perhaps equally important, if not more important than investigating the relationships between leisure and spiritual well-being, is the study of the factors or pathways that link leisure with spiritual well-being. That is, what is it about leisure that either facilitates or hinders spiritual well-being? Malinakova et al. (2018) recommended that future research should focus on the possible pathways between leisure and spiritual outcomes. Thus, this qualitative research project focuses on the pathways that link leisure and spiritual well-being. The study involves in-depth interviews with a purposive sample of diverse participants to uncover any pathways that link leisure and spiritual well-being in addition to the ones that have been identified in previous research. The purposive sample is being drawn from people who have a familiarity with spirituality and are comfortable talking about it. Particular attention in this study is devoted to: (1) how leisure may hinder or detract from spiritual well-being as previous research has tended to focus only on how leisure may facilitate spiritual well-being, and (2) whether leisure-spiritual coping (Heintzman, 2008) is a process that links leisure with spiritual well-being. Interpretive analysis is being used to analyze the data and identify the themes that will be presented.

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Paul Heintzman is a professor of Leisure Studies at the University of Ottawa. He teaches courses related to concepts of leisure, parks and protected areas, and recreation and the environment. His research interests include parks and outdoor recreation, leisure and spirituality, and Christianity and leisure. He is Past Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Leisure Research*.

How many comply to a trail pass funding model when open access?

Tobias Heldt, Jana Brehmer, Omar Alnyme, Dalarna University, Sweden

Abstract:

Recreational trail of high quality for activities like cross-country skiing or mountain biking (MTB) are often the main attraction that drives a visit to a destination. In countries where open access to the recreational landscape applies, user compliance to the funding model is a key for the long term economic sustainability of the trail product. Practically, trail providers struggle with obtaining knowledge about the actual quantitative use of their trails and ultimately to define the success of their funding model. From a research perspective, understanding of mechanism that makes a user to comply is a challenge. This study aims to identify the actual compliance rate to a cross-country ski pass funding model at a Ski resort in the county of Dalarna, Sweden. The research question “*What is the **actual** compliance rate to a trail pass system of visitors at the resort?*” is answered by using a three quantitative data sources; a) on-site surveys that captures visitors’ demographics and skiing behaviour as well as the stated behaviour for the trail pass purchase, i.e. compliance to the funding model (*I did not buy/I do not want to answer*); b) counters are positioned along the trail, capturing the actual use of the trails; c) the daily/weekly/monthly trail pass sales at the ski resort. Comparison of the three data sources with provides information about inaccuracies and conspicuous features to make conclusions about the actual rate of compliance and non-compliance. The paper also includes a discussion on funding models for cross-country ski trails and especially the feature of visible trail pass badges/stickers, that the skier are prompted to wear, and its effects on purchase behaviour. Limitations, especially related to the installed counters and skiers that possibly slip through all three data collection techniques are discussed and acknowledged.

Tobias Heldt is an associate professor of Tourism and head of Centre for Tourism and Leisure Research at Dalarna University, Sweden. He is an applied tourism researcher grounded in behavioural economics researching e.g. mobility in rural areas; funding of recreational trails; sustainable food choices; impact of tourism and events; the horse industry. Tobias research using field experiments, survey and big data, often linked to GIS and spatial planning.

Supporting Inclusive Leisure for Older People through Digital Tools for Promoting Health, Well-Being and Social Connection

Catherine Hennessy, Richard Haynes and John Ritchie, University of Stirling, on behalf of the GOALD team

Abstract:

Current perspectives on leisure in later life are strongly oriented around the health and well-being effects of leisure activities on ageing individuals and their potential for creating social connections (Hennessy, 2023). Increasingly digital technology is playing a part in supporting healthy ageing through assisting older people to stay physically active, remain socially connected and maintain independence (Sixsmith, Horst and Milhailidis, 2022). This presentation examines the work of the GOALD (Generating Older Active Lives Digitally) project, a 3-year investigation into the efficacy of digitally-mediated leisure activities for older people aimed at prolonging healthy life, funded by the UKRI as part of the government's 'Healthy Ageing Challenge'. GOALD used a 'co-production' approach bringing together older adults living in the community and residential care, and community and care staff working with older people, with researchers and digital product developers as part of an inclusive co-design process for developing digital tools to support health-promoting leisure. GOALD participants were selected to include diversity in older people's locations, health status, functional abilities/impairments and circumstances in order to ensure the input of individuals whose views may be excluded in product design. GOALD focused on two areas of leisure activities—physical activity and sports-based reminiscence. The project's co-production groups tested a range of digital technologies and tools designed to facilitate these activities and provided feedback and ideas for new/adapted products to GOALD's business collaborators. This feedback was subsequently used by businesses to modify existing products and create novel ones tailored to the needs and preferences of diverse older users. This presentation highlights the project's experiences of working with older adults and other members of the community to co-create digital tools for supporting inclusive and meaningful health-enhancing leisure activities for older adults. The perspectives of businesses on participating in the co-design process with older adults are also discussed.

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Catherine Hennessy is Professor of Ageing in the Faculty of Social Sciences at the University of Stirling where her research focuses on older people's health, well-being and social inclusion. She was Principal Investigator on the GOALD project. She has written on leisure as a means of social inclusion in later life in the volume *Countryside Connections: Older People, Community and Place in Rural Britain* (The Policy Press, 2014).

Richard Haynes is Professor of Media Sport in the Division of Communications, Media and Culture, Faculty of Arts and Humanities. His research focuses on the interrelationships between sport, the media and culture, and his recent work has focused on sporting heritage. His latest book (co-written with Raymond Boyle) is *Streaming the F1 Rivalry: Sport and the Media in the Platform Age* (Peter Lang, 2024).

John Ritchie received his PhD from the University of Stirling in 2019 and worked as a Lecturer until taking up a Post-Doc with GOALD. Now the project is finished he has returned to lecturing as well as his other job as an actor and performer.

An exploration of co-creation between customer and supplier within the hospitality and tourism industry

Naomi Kendal, Jennifer Lawlor, Deirdre Quinn, TU Dublin, Ireland.

Abstract:

Co-creation in the context of the hospitality and tourism industry is a current and compelling area for exploration. This is because when customers can actively participate and engage with the supplier at every stage of the experience, a unique and memorable phenomenon is designed, allowing them to co-create value (Vargo & Lusch, 2006). This level of autonomy is both encouraged and expected and can result in building connections and relationships.

Co-creation refers to value being co-created with the customer and not just for the customer (Michel, Brown, & Gallan, 2008; Prahalad & Ramaswamy, 2004). Co-creation allows for the development of personalised unique experiences, changing the role of both supplier and customer whereby the customer is now more informed and connected and is an active participant and/or designer in the process. Greater accessibility and development of technology has strengthened and encouraged value co-creation, (Fuller *et al.*, 2009), with digital technologies becoming integral to customer experience and value propositions (Tussyadiah *et al.* 2018), thus empowering the customer to take more of an active role.

Whilst the literature recognises the relevance of co-creation for the hospitality and tourism industry, and its importance in creating competitive advantage (Nasution & Mavondo, 2008; Sanchez *et al.*, 2006), and given that the key principle of Service-Dominant logic is that the customer is always a co-creator of value (Vargo & Lusch, 2004), some research gaps remain regarding the drawbacks of tourist co-creation (e.g. Zhang, 2023).

Specifically, further research is required regarding factors that have been identified which are required for successful co-creation: perceived clarity of the task, ability or technical competence, and motivation (Beltencourt, Ostrom, Browne & Roundtree, 2002). It is important to explore the balance between the expectations of potential customers and the co-creation experience as well as the impact of unsuccessful co-creation attempts on trust and relationships between supplier and customer (Gligor & Maloni, 2022).

The purpose of this presentation is to explore co-creation practices in the tourism and hospitality industry, with the aim of presenting a research agenda relating to customer motivations and participation.

The paper also outlines how an interpretivist, qualitative approach to studying co-creation can be used, responding to McColl-Kennedy *et al.*'s (2015:250) call to utilise “phenomenological methods...to enable better understanding of how customers make sense of their lived and imagined experiences”.

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Economics Of Intergenerational Volunteering: A Sequential Exploratory Mixed-Methods Study

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Abstract:

Background and objectives: Emerging literature highlights the importance of engaging older adults and youth during the COVID-19 pandemic, however there is paucity of information surrounding economics of such community-based voluntary initiatives. Using a sequential exploratory mixed-method, this study explored the out-of-pocket financial spending/savings and opportunity costs of an intergenerational volunteering program, more specifically the Snow Buddies program which aims to match older adults with youth volunteers during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Approach: This study employed a sequential exploratory mixed-methods (i.e., qualitative and quantitative) approach to data collection. Primary data were collected through qualitative interviews with older adults and youth volunteers. Guided by qualitative interviews, two participatory small group workshops were conducted with purposively selected participants to co-design a short survey questionnaire for measuring the financial spending/savings/opportunity costs. The survey was administered online as well as paper version to older adults and youth volunteers across the Niagara Region. Qualitative data were analyzed using a thematic analysis and descriptive analyse was performed on the survey data.

Results: A total of 14 interviews were conducted, which revealed three themes, (i) out-of-pocket expenses, (ii) opportunity costs, and (iii) perceived financial gain. Older adults and youth volunteers incur minimal expenses/time losses relative to financial saving from intergenerational volunteering program. The survey (n=55) estimated an average CAD\$123 spending per task. An average \$62 were saved from potentially prevented trips or fall events translating into a benefit-cost ratio of \$0.54 for every dollar spent. Some older adults were more likely to have higher spending due to their vulnerability status (i.e., live alone or remote geographical location in respect to accessing health facilities). Youth reported an average of 83 minutes to complete each voluntary task, which conversely resulted in the opportunity cost of \$22 per task, indicating minimal time/productivity losses.

Conclusions: This study highlights the evidence on the economics of intergenerational volunteering using the case of the Snow Buddies program during the COVID-19. Future work is needed to further explore the long-term economic benefits of preventing health system-related costs (i.e., in-patient and out-patient visits, surgical procedures, and recovery).

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Dr. Khowaja's work focuses on the application of community-based approaches to promote aging and wellbeing. He has applied economics modelling and mixed-methods research to inform policy decisions about resource allocation. Specific areas he has researched include the economic impact of quality improvement initiatives, the cost-effectiveness of community-based interventions, and patient-oriented research for measuring societal costs.

Unveiling the Knowledge Acquisition Processes of Heritage Interpreters

Khrisnamurti, University of the West of Scotland

Abstract:

The study of heritage interpreters has gained popularity among scholars over the years. While significant research has been conducted on interpreters' performance and their impact on visitor satisfaction, their knowledge-acquisition process remains largely unexplored. This study delves into how heritage interpreters in Indonesia gather, process, and utilise information to create engaging and informative narratives. Through semi-structured interviews with interpreters, trainers, and tourists in Indonesia, the study uncovers the intrinsic and extrinsic motivations driving interpreters to seek knowledge, such as passion, curiosity, a sense of care, and job requirements. The findings reveal that the interpreters employ diverse learning mediums, from books and physical libraries to digital platforms like online articles, multimedia content, and digital libraries. One of the key insights from the study is the transition from traditional reliance on printed materials to the increasing utilisation of digital resources, reflecting broader technological advancements and changing information consumption habits. This shift not only broadens the scope of accessible knowledge but also highlights the importance of adapting to new information landscapes. The study also emphasises the importance of validating information and employing various strategies to ensure the accuracy and reliability of the source of information they gathered. This involves a meticulous process of cross-checking and consulting credible sources to uphold the quality and authenticity of their interpretations. Furthermore, this study explores the method interpreters use to acquire knowledge, from training to a collaborative approach in knowledge acquisition through peer knowledge sharing, engaging with visitors, and involving the local community

Khrisnamurti is a PhD candidate at the University of the West of *Scotland*. His research examines the communication process of heritage interpreters that affects the attitudes and behaviours of visitors. The research also investigates how heritage interpreters acquire and develop knowledge to create the interpretation narrative. He is a lecturer at Universitas Negeri Jakarta, Indonesia and has been involved in several tourism projects with The Ministry of Tourism and Creative Economy of the Republic of Indonesia.

Outdoor Multimedia Leisure Spaces as Sites of Contested Meaning

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Abstract:

This paper explores the role of multimedia in the natural environment by analyzing an international media company's series of outdoor art installations. The art series attempts to construct multimedia performances by integrating high-tech audio-visual technologies into natural environments, such as parks or forests. These tourist attractions develop a feedback loop between the natural context and the multimedia installations on these sites, evoking mythical and enchanting environmental themes in the process. This project analyzes 11 sites located around the world. Through participant observation at two sites and textual analysis of the company's website and social media responses, I attempted to answer two research questions: 1) How does the company use multimedia to reshape the natural environment? 2) How do visitors represent their experiences in these integrated multimedia/natural spaces? 3) How do these multimedia attractions influence the local communities? First, my findings suggest the organization attempts to use multimedia to augment a sense of enchantment in the natural environment through multimedia performances and interactive games within these wilderness art installations. Second, I examine how the multimedia company's use of nature contrasted with and negatively impacted the environmental beliefs and cultural practices of some indigenous populations. These findings raise questions about the cultural and ecological implications of the media/nature nexus and encourage future research on the effects of environmental multimedia productions.

Dr. Josiah Kidwell is a Visiting Assistant Professor at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV). His research focuses on critical approaches to the intersection of media, culture, environment, and religion. He also teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in social theory at the university.

Pro and semi-pro trail runners: An examination of the leisure experiences at ultra running events in Northern Europe

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Julius Z. Strömberg, Norwegian School of Sport Sciences, Norway

Abstract:

Ultra running events are an extreme form of long distance running which go beyond the standard marathon distance of 26.2 miles (Watkins, Wilson and Buscombe, 2022). Participation in trail and ultra events has been on the rise over recent decades which has led to the formalisation of international and national bodies, such as the Trail Running Association UK.

There has been considerable work focused on the motivations, experiences and participation at ultra and trail running events. For example, examinations on determining participation and re-participation behaviours at ultra and trail events (e.g. Knobé, 2006; Voltes-Dorta and Martín, 2021) and running events as a recreational pursuit (e.g. Lynch, Jonson and Dibben, 2007). Yet, research is lacking into what shapes these events' leisure spaces for participants, what this means to be part of these vastly developing running communities, as well as negotiating these often not well understood and difficult to access event environments, locations and organisers. In particular, the gendered nuances of leisure across these events include the barriers to female participation (e.g. Lincoln, 2021; Valentin, Pham and Macrae, 2022).

In January 2024, five focus groups were conducted with several athletes representing the Swedish Trail Association. Leisure experiences of these athletes competing in trail and ultra running were examined and structured against four major themes: Event entry and selection, athlete sponsorship, equality and diversity and navigating dual careers. Our findings reveal that challenges relate to elite athletes' relationships to this leisure pursuit. This research offers recommendations relevant to improving the quality of leisure experiences at ultra running events through providing better facilities, amending selection criteria and approaches, supplying more inclusive event branding, prize money equalisation and enhancing the support, specifically, for women, on course to feel safe whilst sharing these community experiences with other participants at these events.

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Seth I. Kirby is a Senior Lecturer in Sport and Leisure Management in the School of Science and Technology, Nottingham Trent University, UK. He specialises in sport management with a research focus on international sporting event impacts and legacies. His research interests span the fields of sports, events, urban studies and the environment, with particular attention on the business and spatial impacts of regional sporting events right through to mega-sporting event regeneration, legacy planning, strategic leveraging and environmental sustainability. Seth is also the Co-Founder of the Ultra Running Research Network.

Lessons learned from managing language issues while conducting international leisure fieldwork

Brian Komyath, Maria Curie-Skłodowska University, Lublin, Poland

Abstract:

The challenges of conducting fieldwork where the researcher shares the same language as his/her respondents are multiplied when the researcher cannot rely on a common language with one's respondents. The "difficulties and complexities" of such "can easily discourage researchers from initiating cross-cultural inquiry in the first place" (Harzing *et al.*, 2013, p. 131). For the sake of leisure research, these complexities should be compensated for, and can be through "methodological jamming [experimentation]," to deal with the "messiness" (Yuen & Gallant, 2022) of conducting international leisure research beyond one's cultural environs (Pate & Kumm, 2020). Many leisure activities are not engaged in by people in all cultures, but many leisure activities are engaged in by people from multiple cultures and stand to benefit from cross-cultural research. This native English-speaking researcher's project illustrates this and my aim is to share what I have learned from managing language issues (Ly & Spjeldnaes, 2020) while conducting research on the pilgrimage routes to Santiago de Compostela. Using tens of languages wasn't feasible. Just Spanish or English would be overly limiting. Ultimately, languages of the top 5 walking nationalities (by 100,000 of their census populations) were chosen. A questionnaire was deemed more practicable than interview translators. Pilot fieldwork yielded rich observational data and was used (along with interviews) to discard and add possible questions. The questionnaire was finalized in simple English to aid its translations (into Spanish, Portuguese, Italian and German) and put online. (Paper was utilized, too, but even older walkers didn't seem interested in paper.) Foreign language flyers were semi-effective, but asking possible respondents to participate by scanning a QR code off a clip-board held by the researcher was often more effective. Methodologies of 'outsiders' (such as used by this researcher) has utility for studying many leisure populations outside of one's own country; and, as leisure is a broad field, it would benefit from more fieldwork conducted by cross-cultural researchers.

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Brian Komyathy is an American (and former teacher of English) with a M.A. in Sociology from Lancaster University. He is currently pursuing a doctoral degree in sociology in Poland, researching pilgrimage travel to Santiago de Compostela as a form of sport tourism. Brian (ORCID: 0000-0001-6756-4474) has published on the state of research into pilgrimage travel to Santiago, the sports leisure of Frederick W. Taylor and the philosophy of nature sports in general.

Culture And Heritage: A Study on Festivals And Food Using Repertory Grid And Photo-Elicitation Method

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Melodena Stephens, PhD, Mohammed Bin Rashid School of Government, Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Abstract:

In an age of rapid globalization, travel, and social media, preserving a country's heritage and culture is challenging. The words 'culture and heritage' are often used interchangeably, though different. The context of this study is the UAE, which has only 15% of its population as local (the rest are expats). The methodology employed is an adapted repertory grid and photo-elicitation method. To ensure that the topics were relevant to the current debate on the culture and heritage of the UAE, we conducted a facilitated brainstorming session in a tourism class, where thirty topics were chosen, including family, festivals, cooking, clothes, sports, leisure, friends, animals, *majlis* (gathering place), travel, heritage, culture, art, artifacts. To get a cultural perspective from at least two generations, 91 interviews between youth and their elders were conducted in Dubai, while 182 pictures were collected from the students' family albums. Of the 182 pictures in this presentation, 16 were analyzed, four images representing the past and four the present, respectively, for two categories related to leisure: festivals and food. The study contributes to existing academic discourses on the boundaries between heritage and culture. While both terms are expressed using intangible and tangible artifacts, heritage is part of the past that is brought into the culture of the present or the future through a negotiated process of narratives and by making intangible values tangible. Heritage can be reinforced into culture via behaviors and attitudes. The findings have implications for policymakers as they balance the fragile world between preserving cultural elements necessary to reflect the heritage and the need for economic contributions. The study also contributes to methodologies using pictures and interviews with the older generations to bridge the generation gap.

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Dr. Filareti Kotsi, a recipient of several recognition awards, is a Professor at the College of Communication and Media Sciences at Zayed University in the United Arab Emirates. Her leadership of multidisciplinary teams in tourism resulted in eighty published peer-reviewed journal articles and book chapters. She is the Middle East Coordinator for the Association for Tourism and Leisure Education (ATLAS). Dr. Filareti holds a doctorate in Communication from the Ecole Normale Supérieure (France) and a master's from the Catholic University of Louvain (Belgium).

Dr. Melodena Stephens' areas of research and consultancy are in strategy, focusing on agile government, crisis management, entrepreneurship, AI ethics, and brands. She has close to 30 years of experience in industry, government, and academia at senior levels. She has won several teaching and research awards, including two UAE National Research Foundation Grants. She is passionate about emerging markets, especially the MENA region, and is frequently invited to panels and discussion forums. Prof. Stephens has published extensively – 11 books, close to 200 chapters and journal publications.

Hobos, Punks, and Tricksters: Three Figures for the Reimagining of Leisure

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Abstract:

Thinking differently or reimagining that which has become familiar is a difficult task, particularly when considerable energies have been dedicated to delineating conceptual boundaries, limits, and criteria (Kuhn, 1962; Feyerabend, 2010). Within this presentation we argue that leisure, as a concept and lived phenomenon, may fit within this category of “familiar,” as that which has calcified with normative ways of perceiving, investigating, as well as living and thinking through its various manifestations (Rojek, 2007). We attempt to map the processes whereby the study of leisure has moved in the direction of what Deleuze and Guattari (1980/2011) described as territorialization. This process, while necessary for the legitimization and systemization of a scholarly discipline, contributes to the difficulty of thinking leisure differently. Thus, we introduce three deterritorializing figures: hobos, punks, and tricksters. We leverage these figures to open and broaden potential perspectives, methods, and even experiences within the domain of leisure. Specifically, the figure of a hobo emphasizes rhythm over time, which helps us to reimagine spatiotemporal arrangements within leisure (Kumm & Pate, under review). The figure of punk illustrates differences in agency, freedom, and affect as lateral rather than vertical phenomena (Kumm & Pate, 2023). Finally, we offer the figure of the trickster (Kumm & Pate, 2018; Pate & Kumm, 2020) as a means to inject playful movement and difference within various research processes. Ultimately, we foreground these figures to articulate a leisure assemblage (Deleuze & Guattari, 1980/2011), which not only must engage in processes of territorialization and legitimization, but also leave open a means for its own deterritorialization. Through these three figures that may be taken as “illegitimate,” we argue that such potential deterritorialization is equally necessary for the continual enlivening and reimagining of leisure discourses and practices, particularly as we face unknowable futures that require us to think differently.

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Brian E. Kumm, Ph.D. is an associate professor in the Outdoor, Recreation, Tourism and Event Management Program at the University of Wisconsin–La Crosse. His scholarship addresses affective and emotive dimensions of leisure in the contexts of popular culture, particularly in relation to music and other creative arts. His scholarly goal is to articulate critical yet affirmative interrogations of contemporary social conditions in attempt to foreground ways to think, feel, and live differently.

Sasha C. Mader is a Ph.D. student in the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism at the University of Utah. She received a Master of Science in Recreation Management from the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse. Sasha's research interests include investigating the master

narratives associated with leisure education and social justice issues impacting the access and use of outdoor recreation spaces as viewed through the lens of feminist epistemologies and ontologies.

Joseph A. Pate, Ph.D. is professor of Outdoor Leadership at Young Harris College. His research is devoted to the understanding of human experience as specific and unique relational dynamics. His scholarship examines such dynamics as they manifest within the contexts of music listening, music making, and qualitative research practices. Ultimately, Dr. Pate's research foregrounds the enlivening and generative power of leisure within spaces of connection.

Public Parks in the U.S.: Their Implications for an Alternative Future

KangJae “Jerry” Lee, Ph.D., Department of Parks, Recreation, & Tourism, University of Utah

Abstract:

I challenge prevailing utopian images surrounding public parks in the U.S. by offering critical insights into their historical footage. By doing so, I aim to demonstrate how the parks spark the reimagination of our current economic structure, political system, and environmental conservation.

Despite many benefits that public parks offer (Konijnendijk et al., 2013), the histories of community and urban parks (mid- to late 1800s), national parks (late 1800s to early 1900s), and state parks (early to mid-1900s) are riddled with dispossession, criminalization, marginalization, and even murder of Indigenous peoples, the poor, and the powerless (Lee et al., 2022).

Affluent and influential White individuals gained the most profits from the real estate development of community and urban parks (Rosenzweig & Blackmar, 1992; Taylor, 2016). Some of them methodically used park developments to demolish communities of color or demarcate residential racial segregation (Caro, 1974; Loughran, 2022; Pietila, 2012). National parks were created through the ethnic cleansing of Indigenous peoples and criminalizing their hunting practices (Kantor, 2007; Spence, 1999). State officials aimed to generate tourism revenue via state parks while Jim Crow Laws curtailed people of color from visiting them (O’Brien, 2015).

Thus, I argue that what lies at the heart of American parks are meticulously crafted false promises from the White ruling class to materialize their interests. Specifically, the birth of the parks was undergirded by capitalism for endless growth and expansion, representative democracy cultivating elitism, and conservation ideologies neglecting the most pressing environmental destructions. As such, I argue that the history of the parks serves as a microcosm of human history since it exhibits distinctive parallels with the social stratification and polarization that stubbornly persist across different times and locations. By interrogating the legitimacy and fairness of the three foundations, we might be one step closer to a better future.

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Dr. KangJae “Jerry” Lee (이강재: 李康在) is a social and environmental justice researcher who uses his research and teaching activities to promote positive social changes. His research has focused on (1) social and environmental justice issues in parks, outdoor recreation, tourism, & sport and (2) the relationship between leisure participation and subjective well-being.

Genderacialised Labour and Remediating Embodiments Of Systemic Harm: The Need For Care In Labour For Restoration And Well-Being

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Abstract:

Personal support workers (PSWs) make up 58% of the long-term care workforce (Ministry of Long-Term Care, 2020) and account for 70–80% of paid care work (InFocus Ontario, 2010). Despite the critical role PSWs play in Canadian health care system, unregulated professions (like PSWs) are often excluded in research on experiences of care-giving that inform care labour policies (Estabrooks *et al.* 2015). Systemic shortcomings of LTCHs (care staff shortages, poor wages, over-work, burnout, high stress environment, etc.) leave genderacialised – racialised, gendered, and classed (Lopez, 2018)- care workers vulnerable to race and gender-based harms (RGBHs) (Ministry of Long-Term Care, 2020). RGBHs in LTCHs perpetuate care work as labour that (re)produces genderacialised bodies that labour solely for capitalist production⁵; further burdening PSWs, compromising ability to rest, recover, and temporarily relieve oneself from the physical, mental, and emotional load of care work (Lopez, 2018; Duijs *et al.* 2023). Care in labour that prioritizes holistic well-being can (re)produce possibilities of care for self and community outside of work through restoration and leisure. The ‘Free from Harm’ (FFH) Project (University of Waterloo, 2024) aims to lay the groundwork for reporting RGBH harm in LTCHs. Informed by critical feminist concepts and theories -- reproductive labour (Glenn, 1992) and social reproduction theory (Bhattacharya, 2017)) -- this presentation will highlight RGBHs experienced by genderacialised folk labouring in LTCHs. paper will share the experiences of genderacialised LTCH workers as they describe embodiments of safety and un-

safety in the workplace. Shared conceptualizations of systemic support can be used to inform harm-reducing policy reform across intersections of race, gender, and care labour equity in spaces where gendered and racialised folk labour, play (leisure), and live. This work can aid in restoring trust in a fractured care system and promote *leisure as a rights-enhancing environment*.

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Dr. Jaylyn Leighton is a Postdoctoral Trainee working at St. John's Rehab Research Program, Sunnybrook Research Institute associated to the University of Toronto. She also holds a Postdoctoral Fellow in the Department of Recreation and Leisure Studies, Faculty of Health at the University of Waterloo. Her research spans across areas of leisure, (re)productive labours, disability, rehabilitation, aging, and care (work) and takes up critical theor(ies) of disability and race, intersectionality, and feminism(s).

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Dr. Ashley Flanagan is a Research Fellow in Diversity and Ageing at the National Institute on Ageing (NIA). Dr. Flanagan's research focuses on 2SLGBTQIA+ ageing and old age with the goal of advancing comprehensive health and wellness policy, programs, and services for older adults with diverse gender and sexual identities.

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Michelle Fleming is a Knowledge Broker with the Ontario Centres for Learning, Research, and Innovation in LTC (CLRI) at Bruyere in Ottawa and Team Lead for the Supporting Diversity and Inclusion in LTC initiative. Her current portfolio values and collaborates with individuals invested in justice-oriented changes in LTC for all a part of the sector.

Beyond ‘evidence’: Co-Constructing A Meaningful Approach To The Monitoring And Evaluation Of Sport For Development Programmes.

James Lever, Abertay University

Abstract:

In recent years, Sport for Development (SfD) has been the site of calls for more rigorous Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) to produce evidence of social impact (Harris and Adams, 2016). Whilst M&E is considered vital, this research questions what constitutes ‘evidence’ and in whose interests its production serves. Shifting away from the positivistic and technocratic approaches that have developed popularity in the sector (Haudenhuyse and Debognies, 2022), this research calls for M&E that aligns with the principles of holism and participation. As opposed to focusing on ‘measurement’, it is argued that M&E frameworks should embrace complexity and prioritise the voices of SfD participants to foster an improved understanding of their lived experiences. Through a more equal distribution of power and the eradication of pre-determined indicators, the assumption underpinning this research is that M&E can be made more meaningful. The culture of accountability guiding evaluation practices (Chouinard, 2013) needs to undergo a transformation to ensure that funders are, in fact, accountable to their beneficiaries and it is not simply the other way around (Schischka, 2019). To inform this shift, it is suggested that the Capability Approach (Sen, 1999) can serve as a theoretical lens to ensure that evaluations are driven by an ethical obligation to cater for the needs of those directly concerned. Taking inspiration from the approach, the principal aim of this research is to co-design an M&E framework with a local SfD organisation that transcends simplistic causal inferences and explores the nuances of SfD involvement. In doing so, it intends to translate the theoretical ambitions of this project into a practical setting, ensuring that the resulting framework is both workable and accessible. Once constructed, the model will then be trialled within other SfD organisations of varying size, scope and reach to test its transferability and effectiveness.

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James Lever is a PhD student at Abertay University. His research focuses on the monitoring and evaluation of Sport for Development programmes, specifically in relation to social justice. He possesses a BSocSc in Social Anthropology from the University of Manchester, as well as a PGCE from Canterbury Christ Church University and an MA in Diplomatic Studies from the University of Leicester.

Camp Event 2023 at UFPR : A Community Engagement Experience in Southern Brazil

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Abstract:

Leisure is a social right in Brazil, and from childhood, people have the right to access experiences and knowledge related to this social phenomenon (da Silva and col., 2022, Teodoro and col., 2023). The objective of this study was to analyze a community engagement experience carried out at Federal University of Paraná (UFPR)/Brazil with leisure context activities (playing games, practicing slackline, theatre, draw exposition and others) from a camp event at the cited university. This objective is related with education for leisure and the work is part of research in development at UFPR under process 202366430 (this is a first experimental attempt at a camp event for research). This work consists of an experience

description of a camp event 2023 at UFPR (first it was developed a dialogue with the literature, based on classical and contemporary authors of leisure studies in Brazil, such as Joffre Dumazedier (1962), Nelson Carvalho Marcellino (2021), Gisele Maria Schwartz (2023) and others. The analysis was qualitative and based on observations made over the three days of the referred event. Participants of the study were about 50 children and young from 08 to 15 years old, the majority of them were sons and daughters of workers of different functions at the cited University. As result, the answers of children and young people of camp event 2023 at the University were positive, since they have participated of all the proposed activities, demonstrating a body learning from the different activities based on artistic and physical contents of leisure and values, in favor of the collective as friendship, companionship and solidarity. These contents and values contribute to human development and are a form of encouragement to practice physical activities throughout their lives and, mainly, to consider activities in the context of leisure as a social and human right.

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Contributions of Leisure in the Global Action Plan for a Healthier World (Gappa-Who)

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Abstract:

The harmful consequences of the obesity and sedentary lifestyle pandemics have impacted different cultures (de Araújo and col., 2023, Maltagliati and col., 2024). In an attempt to respond to these challenges, the World Health Organization (WHO) has been seeking incremental initiatives to combat these patterns, which harm societies so much. In this sense, the GAPPA Plan - GLOBAL ACTION PLAN ON PHYSICAL ACTIVITY 2018-2030 was created, which seeks to stimulate assertive actions, in favor of a more active and healthy life, by 2030 (GAPPA - WHO, 2018). Considering that leisure represents an important socio-cultural phenomenon (Harmon, 2023), even bearing in mind the inequalities of opportunities in relation to leisure (Carnicelli & Uvinha, 2023), it is already legitimized its involvement in quality of life and well-being ambits (Ho, 2023, Tena and col., 2024). Taking these arguments into account, the objective of this study was to identify how leisure is discussed in GAPPA Plan, focusing the possible contributions of leisure field as a subsidy to increase the perspectives of action towards a more active and healthy life. The study had a qualitative nature and was developed through documentary analysis. Two categories of analysis were created, which dealt with: 1- presence of the word leisure at the document and 2- cultural contents of leisure mentioned. Results indicate that, despite the considerations presented in the document, which address many aspects characteristic of leisure, this field did not deserve due attention in the document, whose contents and activities have been little disseminated in their potential, as important factors in the approach to strategies to reduce a Health inequality, deserving more in-depth and legitimacy with this field, whose dynamism can also help respond to these global challenges.

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Social Reproduction Theory, Trauma-informed Inquiry, and other Frames for Anti-oppressive Leisure Research

Kimberly J. Lopez, PhD; Giana Tomas, MA; Jaylyn Leighton, PhD; Ashley Flanagan, PhD,
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Abstract:

Social reproduction theory is a Marxist critique of capitalism that focuses on the ways labour functions to “produce” ill people through synergistic processes that structure and define individuals in society (e.g., type and status of worker, education, migration status). Tithi Bhattacharya a scholar in South Asian studies describes workers as producing labour power to create commodities. Bhattacharya goes on to ask, then, “who produces the worker?” From a leisure standpoint, some might argue that leisure is a process/practice that resists confining and defining “the worker” in a capitalist society. Further, as leisure scholars we might consider the ways labour, a practice with which leisure is entangled, contributes to and detracts from the well-being of working bodies.

The working body incurs harm and trauma from its labour in the broader system effecting its ability to access or benefit from restoration, care, and leisure. These traumas and harms are often the focus of humanist critical qualitative inquiry in leisure studies. The hope is that some theoretical and conceptual frameworks, like Trauma-informed Inquiry, Transformative Justice, and Restorative Justice, might provide insight on how we might negotiate the use and centring of narratives of harm in leisure studies.

This paper will describe the theoretical and conceptual framework underlying a project focused on *free-from-harm labour* and learnings from engaging this inquiry. More specifically, our team will discuss how social reproduction theory, trauma-informed inquiry, and transformative justice was useful for our focus on care labour and considerations for future anti-oppressive research in leisure studies.

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Giana Tomas is completing her PhD in Recreation and Leisure Studies at the University of Waterloo. Giana examines migration and (re)settlement, diasporic communities, labour, and well-being through the frames of social reproduction theory and anti-oppressive approaches.

Dr. Jaylyn Leighton, PhD (she/her) is also a Postdoctoral Trainee working at St. John's Rehab Research Program, Sunnybrook Research Institute associated to the University of Toronto. She also holds a Postdoctoral Fellow in the Department of Recreation and Leisure Studies, Faculty of Health at the University of Waterloo. Her research spans across areas of leisure, (re)productive labours, disability, rehabilitation, aging, and care (work) and takes up critical theor(ies) of disability and race, intersectionality, and feminism(s).

Dr. Ashley Flanagan is a Health Research and Policy Manager in Diversity and Ageing at the National Institute on Ageing (NIA), a Toronto Metropolitan University think tank focused on leading cross-disciplinary, evidence-based, and actionable research to provide a blueprint for better public policy and practices needed to address the multiple challenges and opportunities presented by Canada's ageing population.

Weaving a braided narrative: An approach for storying intersections, incongruences, and interstices

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Abstract:

Raddon (2002) describes how academic mothers are often found between contradicting discourses of “good mother” and “successful’ academic.” Pressures to perform, “show up” and be a “good” mother create vulnerabilities for racialized pre-/recently tenured mothers to be absorbed in an *illusio* of overwork (Lupu, 2021), or an overcommitment to (Colley & Guéry, 2015) “passionate labour” (Cannizzo, 2018, p. 91) performed amidst the precarity and impossibility (Davis et al., 2022) of “balance” between academic and family life (El-Far, 2021). Academic mothers are finding themselves unable to detach themselves from various forms of academic labour – labour that often interrupts leisure and care (Oakleaf et al., 2019). This is exemplified in work by Caudriot et al. (2011) that identified passion towards work as contributing to work/family and leisure-time physical activity interference among teachers.

Arnt and Taser (2017) describe narrative inquiry to be “a highly collaborative cross-cultural art of storying, that are relevant to any cross-cultural research project” (p. 47). In our aim to highlight the experiences, challenges, and supports needed for racialized mothers in academia, we felt it was necessary to reflect nuances among parallel journeys of being a mother and emerging scholar. In our study, we followed the intertwined journeys of several women using a method we termed *braided narrative* to reflect the complicated embedding of multiple consciousness as part of one storyline. When we acknowledged the often-conflicting storylines through the metaphor of a braid, we were able to make space for multiple possibilities for story listening and telling towards the embedding of intersubjectivity and multiple, critical consciousnesses. This presentation will describe 1) our process for crafting a braided narrative and 2) how we held tensions of experience together (e.g., the desire to not be left behind while simultaneously feeling like nothing is being done well) through the metaphor of the braid.

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Giana Tomas is completing her PhD in Recreation and Leisure Studies at the University of Waterloo. Giana examines migration and (re)settlement, diasporic communities, labour, and well-being through the frames of social reproduction theory and anti-oppressive approaches.

Dr. Karla Boluk is an Associate Professor in the Department of Recreation and Leisure Studies at the University of Waterloo. Her scholarship is guided by a social justice paradigm and critical lens the broad goals of her research program are to examine ways tourism enhances the well-being and quality of life of those involved in or affected by tourism. Karla's critical sustainable tourism scholarship pursues interconnecting approaches. Specifically, her work positions tourism as a mechanism for the creation of positive change.

Autoethnography as a Tool for Learning About Leisure: Key Reflections on Practice

Dr Rhiannon Lord, Kelly MacLeod, and Emma Welsh, Abertay University, Dundee

Abstract:

Lecturing in leisure-related subjects continues to present various challenges. These include but are not limited to navigation of contentious subject matters with students who are increasingly socially aware; debates as to whether we should embrace, ban or punish use of increasingly accessible ai tools such as Chat GPT; and sector wide foci on metrics such as student satisfaction and employability. Such parameters require educators in our field to think differently about our students' learning.

In this presentation we offer autoethnography as a tool for enhancing students' learning of leisure, whilst simultaneously supporting educators to navigate our increasingly challenging teaching environment. Autoethnography has previously been cited as a relatively new tool in leisure research. Indeed, there are a growing number of published autoethnographic works in leisure-related journals, but, to date, its use as a pedagogical tool for effective learning and assessment in leisure -related subjects has received little attention.

This presentation will provide critical reflections on conducting and supervising autoethnographic practices from dual perspectives. Reflections are driven by data captured by one lecturer/researcher who has supervised multiple student autoethnographies, capturing student experience throughout these processes via multiple qualitative methods. You will also hear from two students who conducted autoethnographies as part of their undergraduate learning and assessment. By discussing our experiences and sharing some of our work, we hope to offer the audience some insider-insight and practical guidance on how autoethnography might be used in their own teaching practices.

Dr Rhiannon Lord is a Senior Lecturer of sociology of sport and exercise at Abertay University in Dundee. Her research focuses on intersections of wellbeing and marginalised people in sport and exercise. She has a keen interest in embodied perspectives and qualitative methodologies, specifically narrative inquiry.

Kelly MacLeod is a postgraduate student at Abertay University, Dundee. Her current research is examining athlete welfare in martial arts, using gendered analyses to examine women's embodied experiences of subcultural practices.

Emma Welsh is a postgraduate student at Abertay University, Dundee. Her current research is examining young LGBT+ people's experiences of inclusivity in sport and how these can be understood in embodied ways.

Trans-Forming the Gym: Key Barriers and Solutions for Enhancing Access and Experience UK Gyms for Transgender People

Dr Rhiannon Lord, Abertay University, Dundee

Alex J Muir, LEAP Sports Scotland

Dr Ross Lorimer, Abertay University, Dundee

Abstract:

For transgender people navigating a hetero/cis-normative world is complex and challenging. Therefore, they are more likely to experience poorer health and wellbeing outcomes than their cisgender peers. Exercise is a means for improving individuals' physical and mental health, including fostering inclusion and supporting individuals' construction of synonymous body-selves as part of their self-identity(ies). Yet, numerous queer studies of sport and exercise groups suggest discrimination and segregation are common. Despite this juxtaposition, there is limited research on how gyms – a key site for exercise and development of the physical body – are accessed, used and experienced by the transgender community.

To address this, a UK-wide survey of gym-going transgender adults was conducted to better understand their experiences of accessing and using gym spaces including suggestions for development. Descriptive statistical analyses of 287 responses were used to a) understand who transgender gym goers are b) hierarchically determine the key barriers they have experienced and c) identify key practical solutions for enhancing access and quality of experiences for transgender people in UK gyms. Qualitative survey data provided context and detail on these areas.

Four key findings were identified. First, transgender gym goers are not a homogenous group; they are diverse body-selves with differing priorities and needs, which in turn affect individuals' access, use and experience of gym spaces. This should be recognised and understood in any analyses or drive for change. Second, transgender people experience many of the same barriers as their cisgender counterparts (e.g., lack of money and time), but these factors are often exacerbated by their transition. Third, transgender people experience gender-specific barriers to gym usage which are associated with their transition. We have identified the five which are

most likely to affect transgender adults in gym spaces. Finally, we offer practical recommendations for developing inclusive gym spaces for transgender people.

Dr Rhiannon Lord is a Senior Lecturer of sociology of sport and exercise at Abertay University in Dundee. Her research focuses on intersections of wellbeing and marginalised people in sport and exercise. She has a keen interest in embodied perspectives and qualitative methodologies, specifically narrative inquiry.

Alex J Muir is a LGBT+ activist who focuses on issues of LGBT+ healthcare and access to sport and exercise. He is currently the Transgender Policy Officer for LEAP Sports Scotland and offers bespoke transgender awareness training for universities and the private sector.

Dr Ross Lorimer is a Senior Lecturer of sport psychology and coaching pedagogy at Abertay University in Dundee. His research focuses on sport coaching and sport education, specifically how interpersonal factors, including empathy and gender, affect coach/athlete relations. He also has a keen interest in Strongman, CrossFit, Weightlifting and Powerlifting.

Can Leisure/recreational Hunting be Ethical? The Case for Ethical Hunting of non-native Invasive Species in Aotearoa New Zealand

Brent Lovelock, Department of Tourism, University of Otago, New Zealand

Abstract:

If Tully and Carr (2019) are correct in arguing that tourism is a facilitator of animal oppression, then hunting tourism (and leisure/recreational hunting) are probably the most culpable activities. Recent works continue a history of criticism of hunting, identifying it as an unethical tourism/leisure activity (e.g. Tickle and Van Essen's 'Seven sins of hunting tourism' (2020) and Winter's (2020) review of the ethics of animal tourism). Relevant to this paper, Winter critiques the native/introduced animal dichotomy which has been important in constructing the moral worth of animals, assigning higher value to native species than introduced species. She argues for all species being worthy of identical moral consideration, precluding the hunting of *any* species. But can a case for the hunting of non-native invasive species be made? This paper discusses the ethics and relevance of hunting as a leisure activity in a contemporary 'first world' setting, Aotearoa New Zealand, focusing on the hunting of introduced animals. The paper identifies three arguments for ongoing leisure hunting in such a setting. The first is rooted in Aotearoa's long period of bio-geographical isolation, which has resulted in an ecologically unique setting that is vulnerable to the impact of introduced mammalian species that can only be sustainably controlled through hunting. The second argument is represented by the food-security resource provided by these huntable introduced species. The importance of this game-meat for household food-security was recently demonstrated in the findings of a nationwide survey (Degarege et al., forthcoming). The third pillar of an argument for the retention of leisure hunting is the culturally significant role that hunting plays in Aotearoa, particularly for Māori, for whom introduced wild species may provide contemporary substitutes for traditional native food sources no longer available due to extinctions or because of legal protection (Dowsett et al., in preparation).

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Brent Lovelock is a Professor in the Department of Tourism and Co-Director of the Centre for Recreation Research at the University of Otago. He has a background in natural resource management and much of his research focuses on the interactions between humans and nature in tourism and recreational settings. Brent is co-author of *The Ethics of Tourism: Critical and Applied Perspectives* (Routledge) which discusses human-nature relations among other ethical issues in tourism.

Resisting Narratives of the ‘Menstrual Monster’: The Meanings Scottish Karate Athletes Attach To Menstruation

Dr Chloe Maclean, University of the West of Scotland

Abstract:

Menstruation has, in many cultures, been interpreted as a symbol of impurity, monstrosity, and of women’s unsuitability for sport. Menstruation remains surrounded in taboo and stigma, where women face expectations of continual bodily management to ensure that menstruation remains socially hidden. Yet, within the last decade Scotland has seen some significant acts that challenge the meanings of menstruation: 1. The Scottish Parliament passed the (Free) Period Provision (Scotland) act and 2. High profile female athletes have spoken publicly about their menstrual experiences. Both of these acts are steps that begin resist narrative of menstruation as monstrosity, and instead normalise and destigmatise menstruation.

Within this context, this presentation will explore the meanings Scottish female karate athletes attach to menstruation within karate settings, and the extent to which they resist prevalent discourses that continue to mark menstruation as disgusting and taboo. Karate is a practice that holds particular challenges for negotiations of menstruation as 1. the uniform is white, which enables blood to show easily; 2. karate is practiced mixed-sex, where women will menstruate in the presence of men. The data presented in this presentation is drawn from interviews with 10 female Scottish Karate practitioners aged between 18-48 years old. Findings suggest new discourses of female empowerment and an empowered menstruation are echoed within the female karate practitioners reflections, where discourses of disgusting and healthy collide. Female karate practitioners are caught between both perceiving periods as disgusting and embarrassing, and simultaneously desiring to resist such narratives and reconstruct periods as ‘normal’, healthy and positive.

Dr Chloe Maclean is a lecturer in Sociology at the University of the West of Scotland. Her research focuses on gendered embodiment in sports contexts. She is also Director of Women and Girls Interests for Karate Scotland.

Losing Leisure, Scotland's Community Centre Closures

Dr James Mahon, School of Business and Creative Industries, University of the West of Scotland, UK.

Abstract:

In Autumn of 2023 a controversial decision to close 39 leisure facilities in the South Lanarkshire local authority led to a media outcry with some politicians and communities across the central belt of Scotland expressing their anger via both traditional and social media channels, (Hutcheon and Lennon, 2023).

Scotland's local governments are coming under growing financial pressures with local authorities across the country having to consider the viability of subsidising community leisure facilities over other services.

The resistance and pressure from groups amongst others eventually led to a reversal of the planned closures. However, council leaders have highlighted the budget deficit of 64 million pounds remains for the next three years (Pollock, L, 2023).

This submission would take the form of a linear video documentary of 20 minutes in duration which will draw on contributions from across the debate including, economists, journalists and campaigners.

Ethnographic in nature, I will draw on and adopt a practice-based approach which will shed light on the role of traditional and newer forms of media play during the crisis with particular focus on how opposition and protest groups are mobilized to challenge political decisions about leisure activities that carry importance to people and the communities that benefit from them (Shaw, 2006).

In presenting the work a video documentary will be screened drawing on the key themes previously explored by Boswell et al (2019), regarding political decision making and how the UK leisure sector is exposed to budget limitations (Nichols et al, 2020).

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Dr James Mahon is a 33-year-old Romanian born Irish broadcast storyteller and University lecturer who has worked for local, regional, national and international outlets. He has accumulated more than 1000+ hours of live presenting and reporting experience. While on assignment he has covered the largest election in history in New Delhi India in 2019 as well as the ISIS occupation of Mosul in Iraq in 2017. Mahon is currently based in Scotland with ITV Border where he is a freelance self-shooting on-screen journalist. He is interested in human-interest stories and social and political issues. He is a digital media consultant, trainer, university lecturer, author and was an invited speaker at the World Journalism Conference in Paris 2019 and the UK Media Education Summit 2021 as well as MECCSA in Scotland in 2023.

Leisure and Recreational Programs by Students that Enhances their Wellness and Academic Success at a University in South Africa

Malema Makhaya, Department of Sport, Recreation and Exercise Science, University of the Western Cape, South Africa

Gawulayo Sibulelo, Department of Social Work, University of the Western Cape, South Africa

Abstract:

Introduction

Leisure and recreation offer an opportunity for physical and academic development of students and promotes social life on campus. Student support services which is part of sport and recreation on campus for student, uses extra-curricular programmes as part of the recruitment, retention and satisfaction of students as priorities and key strategies for the tertiary institutions. Students participating in co-curricular activities such as sport and recreation at universities are found to be performing well in the academics, with reduced levels of stress and time management.

Aim

To explore and describe the role of leisure and recreational programs that enhance student's wellness and academic success.

Methods

An exploratory qualitative research design was used to in this study. Only students registered for an undergraduate degree on a full-time basis were included as participants for this study. Participants were residing on and off campus accredited residences. A total of 18 participants were recruited through convenience sampling method and interviewed. The interviews ran for a minimum of 40 minutes. The interviews were audio-recorded with a digital audio-recorder and transcribed verbatim. Thematic analysis was used to analyze the transcribed data.

Findings

The findings of this study reveal that the tertiary journey for some students has intense psychological challenges resulting in chronic stress. The triggers of students' stress originate from different factors which include: social, financial, available time and self-imposed circumstances. The students' academic success is at times hindered by the existing disparities between the institutions, due to the legacy of apartheid resulting in what is termed historically advantaged institutions and historically disadvantaged institutions.

Conclusion

Campus recreation has received increased attention as recruitment, retention and satisfaction of students have become priorities for the administration of HEIs. Recreational sport participation for university students is advantageous in a variety of ways through creation of a superior quality of campus life.

Key words: *Academic success, Leisure, Recreation, Campus recreation, Wellness programs*

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Makhaya Malema is an emerging researcher in the field of Leisure and Recreation. He is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Sport, Recreation & Exercise Sciences. He holds a PhD in Sports, Recreation & Exercise Sciences, with background teachings and qualifications in Sports, Leisure and Recreation management. His current research focuses on youth with disability leadership development and leisure education.

Coproducing an Explanatory Framework of a Social Movement for Reimagining Sport and Physical Activity in Southall, UK

Professor Louise Mansfield, Brunel University London

Rajinder Singh, Head of Transformation – Let's Go Southall; Active Communities Team

Jaspal Gill, Head of Delivery – Let's Go Southall; Active Communities Team

Abstract:

This presentation explores the coproduction of an Explanatory Framework (EF) for a Social Movement (SM) approach to sport and physical activity in Southall. An SM approach in Southall is built on a set of principles connected to community leadership and engagement, relationship and capacity building, and radical system change in the design and implementation of community sport/physical activity for health and wellbeing. The work is a collaboration between sport/physical activity strategists, delivery personnel and participants in Southall, UK and researchers from Brunel University London. We critically discuss the codesign of a mixed methods approach to building, translating and mobilising evidence for the EF. The EF includes a set of principles that describe how, why and what type of social movement works, for whom and in what contexts in Southall for increasing physical activity, improving health and radically and sustainably transforming the lives of individuals and communities. It extends the theoretical framework of a SM from a more traditional association with public protest activities and social and political conflict, to more local and diverse forms of contestation (Della Porta and Diani, 2015; Tilly and Wood, 2009). We critically explore the idea of a social movement community, characterised by civic engagement and volunteering, in which local people are engaged in sustained, contested relationships with authorities which represent collective action and shared meaning and purpose (Anheier and Scherer, 2015; Tarrow, 2022). The EF provides a way of reimagining systemwide decisions about the role of sport and physical activity in improving relationships within the community and between community and local authority, personal growth and development, effective active travel strategies and appropriate design and implement of regeneration policy and practice. We argue that the coproduction of an EF has the potential to develop new ways of thinking about and implementing community-

led governance strategy and joint decision making about local, place-based design and delivery of sport/physical activity.

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Louise Mansfield is Professor of Sport, Health and Social Sciences. Her research focuses on the relationship between communities, physical activity and public health. She has extensive expertise in partnership and community approaches to physical activity and issues of health, wellbeing, inequality and diversity. Her work includes a focus on harnessing creative strategies in the design, delivery and evaluation of complex community interventions. Louise is known for developing evidence to inform policy and practice.

Rajinder Singh is Head of Transformation for Let's Go Southall and the Active Communities Team of the London Borough of Ealing. His work is central to the initiation and implementation of a Social Movement approach to community sport and physical activity and to the award of funding for the project from Sport England.

Jaspal Gill is Head of Delivery for Let's Go Southall and the Active Communities Team. Her work is central to the initiation and implementation of a Social Movement approach to community sport and physical activity and to the award of funding for the project from Sport England. Jaspal's expertise and experience in community sport and health with a focus on Mental Health has Framed the Innovative Strategies for Community-driven Leadership In The Social Movement.

Sports mega events, human rights and governance: A case study of the United 2026 FIFA Men's World Cup

Callum McCloskey, University of the West of Scotland

Abstract:

Human rights and sports mega events (SMEs) have a tumultuous history. Since the 2008 Summer Olympic and Paralympic Games in Beijing, human rights groups have increasingly focused on concerning human rights issues associated with SMEs (CSHR/Clifford Chance, 2022). Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International have expressed multiple concerns, including infringements of workers' rights, forced displacement of residents, lack of freedom of assembly, expression and the press, fan safety and security problems, as well as discriminatory laws/practices in host countries (Amnesty International, 2011; Butler and Aicher, 2015; Ganji, 2016; Human Rights Watch, 2017). Given the human rights issues in the previous four editions of the FIFA Men's World Cup (Qatar 2022, Russia 2018, Brazil 2014, South Africa 2010), FIFA was pressured to develop a Human Rights Policy in 2017 (FIFA, 2017), which was coupled with the establishment of an independent Human Rights Advisory Board. Moreover, the United 2026 FIFA Men's World Cup, to be hosted in USA, Canada and Mexico, is the first tournament in which human rights policies and plans have been in place at the level of the host nation, and awarding body, from the bid stage onwards. However, as this is a new conception for the FIFA World Cup, limited academic research has been carried out on the specifics of these plans, and how they are to work in practice. As such, this presentation explores FIFA's governance arrangements in terms of human rights for the 2026 World Cup, drawing on interviews with strategic actors from within FIFA and three host cities, and in-situ observations from Philadelphia, New York/New Jersey and Toronto.

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Callum McCloskey is a second-year PhD researcher at the University of the West of Scotland (UWS). My main research interests of sport, mega events and human rights are reflected in my work with the UWS Centre for Culture, Sport and Events, and the modules I have taught on, in terms of Global Issues in Sport and Global Trends in Events (at UWS), and the Politics of Sport at Ulster University, Belfast.

The experiences of women attending football matches, local experiences of spectating

Dr Fiona McCormack, Buckinghamshire New University

Abstract:

While there have been a few studies about the highs and lows of women and girls' experiences of football fandom and stadium attendance, the majority have originated outside the UK (e.g. Chiweshe, 2014; Lenneis & Pfister, 2015). However, in 2021 the Football Supporters Association (FSA) conducted its second comprehensive survey to document the attitudes and experiences of UK women football spectators, building on an initial study in 2014. The research revealed a number of challenges for British football clubs, including issues of sexism and misogyny and inadequate facilities, although the findings were arguably overly-generalised, and did not necessarily provide clear goals for individual clubs and stadium teams.

This research was designed to generate a local data set which could be compared to the national data from the FSA, but also aimed to develop understanding of the barriers to women at matches. To achieve this, the research used mixed methods and was conducted in two stages:

Stage 1 – Survey of Women and Girls Spectators: An anonymous online questionnaire based in the FSA survey was be distributed through email and club communications/media to people who attend a football matches.

Stage 2 – Focus Group: A focus group was be conducted with volunteers (from stage 1) to explore their experiences in more detail and gain qualitative data to support the development of proposals to improve their experience.

The results were analysed thematically, and the research revealed some interesting evidence regarding women's experiences. While this sample has lower levels of negative behaviour and good levels of satisfaction, the focus group and qualitative comments suggest that the now outdated male culture at games is no longer accepted or tolerated by women generally and, in particular, younger fans. Several actions can be suggested to improve experiences under the themes: financial; infrastructure and atmosphere / fan behaviour.

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Dr Fiona McCormack is a Associate Professor in Sport and Head of the Graduate School, my specialist area of interest is youth sport and physical activity. My interest is driven by my belief that sport and physical activity can play such an important role in positive community and youth development. I am also part of BNU's women in sport research group and have worked in the development of women's football through WSL academies and TASS. This research was conducted as part of our work with local clubs to help inform and develop good practice in sport.

Promoting Traditional Leisure: Barriers and Enablers for the Mindsport Bridge

Abby McCutcheon, University of Stirling

Abstract:

Mindsports are intellectual, competitive games, like the traditional leisure pursuits of chess and the card game bridge (Dolbysheva 2020). This paper aims to investigate why the mindsport bridge needs to promote itself, and the challenges and opportunities for promotion. Thirty in-depth, semi-structured interviews were conducted with bridge teachers, players, and National Bridge Organisation (NBO) employees/volunteers from the UK, USA, Australia, Denmark, the Netherlands, and Norway. Findings show that there is a lack of younger people (45 and under) playing bridge, and that to avoid its 'old-fashioned' label, bridge needs to be 'rebranded'. The challenges of promoting bridge include player retention, inclusivity, resistance to change, a lack of resources, and a shortage of marketing knowledge and skills in the bridge world. Opportunities for bridge promotion involve embracing digital marketing and social media, creating interactive ways for people to teach themselves, and heightening awareness of and responses to negative behaviour. Most participants cited that bridge often struggles to gain recognition as a mindsport and physical sport, and this can have negative effects. Many definitions of sport and physical activity are reductive and focus on physicality (e.g. Parry 2018; Suits 2007). Holistic definitions of sport and physical activity, however, move beyond the physiological level to the mutable, complex, and nuanced social, mental, and political qualities of the activities (Phoenix and Bell 2019). This study suggests that expanding the definitions of sport, and physical activity beyond the confines of their physiological mechanisms and understanding them as something more than just physicality offers many opportunities (Phoenix and Bell 2019). For example, re-imagining leisure, sport, and physical activity could open future avenues to further explore complex historical, socio-economic, and political factors, challenges, and concerns (Piggin 2019; 2020).

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Abby McCutcheon is a social scientist with a background in criminology and sociology. Her recent master’s research involved collaboration with Bridge: A MindSport for All (BAMSA). The project focused on the card game bridge, investigating how to increase player recruitment and retention, and how this is impacted by bridge’s categorisation (such as a sport or leisure activity). Through her additional work as a research assistant with BAMSA, Abby is co-authoring a paper that will offer a critical synthesis of existing scholarly literature and debate surrounding sport and leisure, making a case for the development of a new sub-field: Mindsport Studies.

Challenging Ableist Assumptions in Sport Mega Events

Professor Gayle McPherson, Centre for Culture, Sport and Events, University of the West of Scotland, UK

Abstract:

If mega and major sporting events are to have the sustained and lasting legacies they seek, then there needs to be a shift in the ableist logic that prevails regarding the staging and representation of such games. There is a set of assumptions by event producers about how events are staged, framed and mediated that needs to be challenged; more recently that challenge has been through the identification of 'ableism'. The concept of ableism has come to the fore most powerfully in disability studies over the last two decades (Misener, 2015; Brittain *et al.*, 2020; Kitchin *et al.*, 2021).

The normative assumption that what is functional and accessible for most of the population continues to prevail, thus maintaining the power of elites and those in positions of power. The 15% of the population who identify as people with a disability (PWD) comprises those with a range of needs and who cannot be identified only in relation to the normative-typical abilities assumed by venue operators and wider society. For example, it is reasonable to assume that PWD in a wheelchair will want to sit with family members to watch an event; it is therefore an ableist assumption to plan the accommodation of their needs by allowing space for only one person to accompany them at an event. This paper discusses five different forms of ableism identified by Hammond *et al.* (2019) and relevant to those running major sporting events: 'institutional ableism' (Beratan, 2006); 'enlightened ableism' (Beratan, 2006), 'disconscious ableism' (Broderick and Lalvani, 2017), 'benevolent ableism'; (Pearson and Misener, 2022) and 'neoliberal ableism' (Hammond *et al.* 2019). I suggest that 'institutional ableism' is deeply engrained in discriminatory structures and practices (Beratan, 2006) and evident in the assumptions informing the **physicality** of events. Equally, 'benevolent ableism' is evident in the **symbolism** of events and the constructed identity of para-athletes and their media representation as exemplified, for example, by Channel 4's *Meet the Superheroes*.

This paper draws on research from a range of major sport events to challenge normative ableist assumptions. It focuses particularly on the nexus of 'institutional ableism' and 'benevolent

ableism' to reveal a dominant construct in producing, legitimating and reproducing normative ableism in society (Misener, *et al.*, 2018).

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Professor Gayle McPherson holds a Chair in Events and Cultural Policy and is the Director of the Centre for Culture, Sport and Events at the University of the West of Scotland (UWS). Her research interests revolve around the interventions of the local and national state and wider agencies in events and festivity and the social and cultural impacts of large-scale sports events on communities and human rights of individuals.

Running Rivers: Charting Inclusive Paths in Leisure Tourism

Dr. Pathirana, M.T., Edith Cowan University Sri Lanka

Mendis, K. D. Independent Artist

Abstract:

“Running Rivers: Pilgrims of Place” is a contemporary art project born in Bibile, Sri Lanka. It boldly explores the nuanced dynamics of rerooting, reconciling, and recalibrating with the artist’s distant birthplace. The project boldly challenges conventional notions of inclusivity in leisure and tourism through its meandering approach, embracing ambiguity, exploration, and the multidimensional facets of cultural storytelling in Sri Lanka, particularly within indigenous communities.

Anchored in the sinuous flow of rivers, “Running Rivers” advocates for deliberate listening, thinking, and learning, nurturing consciousness and ethical considerations. Meandering, symbolizing a non-deterministic system, stands defiantly against linear paradigms, beckoning a convoluted, undirected, and aimlessly wandering engagement (Crosato, 2008). The art creation process meticulously follows cultural protocols, sustainably harvesting pigments from the Nilgala forest (Sri Lanka), actively involving the indigenous community over a span of 6 months (Primary data collection).

The all-embracing spirit of “Running Rivers” reaches out to diverse and minority groups, nurturing communication that steadfastly resists marginalization, oppression, and division. A symphony of sample testing and the unveiling of a pilot project unfolded to gather invaluable stakeholder views and perspectives during the exhibition “Running Rivers: Pilgrims of Place” at the Barefoot Gallery in Colombo, July 2023.

Beyond its profound transformation of communities, the project emerges as a guardian of cultural establishments, contributing in socially and economically sustainable ways (Reeves, 2002). The creation of a community-led Zero Waste design fashion label becomes a living testament, a mesmerizing tourism attraction that illuminates the cultural richness of the region. The project’s ripple effect extends gracefully to propose inclusive tourism initiatives, including the creation of art centres and experiential art hubs. With a dedicated focus on women’s empowerment, equal opportunities, and environmental conservation, “Running Rivers”

emerges as a potent catalyst for community building, the dissemination of critical perspectives, and a transformative reshaping of the narrative in inclusive leisure and tourism.

The visual and conceptual resonance of the artworks becomes a catalyst for discussions, navigating the landscape of future challenges, concerns, and opportunities within the tourism industry. Through this interdisciplinary approach, the project aspires to ignite fresh perspectives on leisure and tourism, nurturing a profound connection between individuals, cultures, and the natural world.

Key words: Inclusive Tourism, Cultural Regeneration, Meandering Paths, Indigenous Perspectives, Sustainable Practices, Community Empowerment, Art for Social Change.

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Dr. Pathirana, a distinguished tourism scholar at Edith Cowan University Sri Lanka, holds a professional doctorate in sustainable tourism. Dedicated to enhancing social well-being through tourism, he has contributed significantly to multiple sustainable tourism projects in Sri Lanka. With a passion for inclusive practices and cultural regeneration, Dr. Pathirana's work seeks to redefine the tourism narrative, emphasizing the importance of community empowerment and environmental conservation in fostering a more sustainable and equitable future.

Kuweni Dias Mendis, a Sri Lankan-Australian artist based in Australia since 1999, draws inspiration from her diasporic experience, weaving a rich tapestry of culture and identity in her work. A certified Regenerative Practitioner from Regenesys USA, Kuweni employs raw mark-making, regenerative practices, and cultural facilitation in her artistic endeavors. Her creations, rooted in ritual and ceremony, delve into the pulsation of place, reflecting a profound connection to her diverse heritage and serving as a testament to her commitment to arts activism and cultural regeneration.

Olympic Sustainability Legacy – Who Owns the Responsibility?

Steve Mills, University of the West of Scotland

Abstract:

The Olympics Games is in danger, not from a lack of athletes or demand from spectators, but from a disinclination of cities to sign up for the expense and inconvenience of hosting the Games. The average cost of hosting the Olympic Games is more than \$20billion for 16 days of competition, in a multitude of often purpose-built facilities, with no guarantee of future use, requiring huge upgrades in transport and tourism infrastructure (Zimbalist 2021). It is difficult not to view this as the single-use-plastic of the sporting world, particularly when society is faced with an increasing demand to be more sustainable by reducing its impact on the natural environment, whilst working to undo the damage already inflicted. To address the dwindling number of applications, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) has remodelled the Olympic bidding process, making it more collaborative and less expensive. Agenda 2020(+5) has embedded sustainable legacy into the bidding, planning, and hosting process, mandating that existing facilities are used wherever possible and only authorising new builds where there is a demonstrable demand and a plan for use post games. The IOC has, historically, directed the construction of facilities, infrastructure, and urban development to uphold the image of the Olympic Movement as a brand. In order to maintain this benchmark, whilst mitigating the call to be more sustainable, the IOC is ensuring that host cities justify new developments through legacy. The purpose of this presentation is to present a plan to interrogate the questions of sustainability and legacy in the new bidding process and discover whether the sustainability debt is paid through legacy, and if so, which stakeholders own the responsibility for ensuring it comes to fruition.

Steve Mills is an experienced General Manager with over 25 years working in the Sports, Health and Fitness industry. He has a passion for coaching and developing people and specialised in turning around struggling facilities. In his previous role he helped to shape LTA's Environmental Sustainability Plan. He is returning to the world of academia after over a decade out of the classroom and is excited to embark on a new set of challenges. His PhD project will focus on the Olympic Games reform through the lenses of legacy and sustainability, and he is supervised by Dr Talbot.

Poetic Pursuit of Painful Leisure: Sense-Making for Senseless Pain

Professor Richard Mitchell. Capable NZ, Otago Polytechnic, Dunedin, New Zealand

Abstract:

My journey had begun with me strewn on the pavement having just been mown down by a truck and here I was, almost 10 years later, in the same position - compromised, vulnerable and in a far from healthy state - and you know what? I couldn't wipe the smile off my face!

I had done it!!

I had come way further than full circle and done something no one would have believed possible.

I had become an ironman!

(Semi-Ironman Blog, 21 July 2011)

In 2001, I was the *survivor* of a near-death, semi-trailer versus cyclist accident. In the days, months and years hence I have endured untold *senseless, unwanted, unimaginable* pain. What, then, possessed me to turn to endurance leisure pastimes that inevitably lead to more, often excruciating, pain?

Self-inflicted pain from my endurance-based leisure induces a perverse kind of pleasure and according to Bloom (2021, p. 75) such “masochistic appetites arise in every society and within every individual”. Evidence abounds in popular culture (e.g. Fitzgerald, 2019; Karnazes, 2006; Vandebussche & Hoedemaekers, 2022) and an emergent academic literature (e.g. Tinley, 2019) of athletes who have used their pursuit of pain to overcome past *tragedy, trauma* and *loss*. As such, the pain and suffering of endurance pursuits can trigger the poiesis of our ‘narrative imagination’ and the “fashioning and refashioning not only of our pasts but also of our selves” (Freeman, 2009, p. 66).

This autoethnographic presentation explores how my painful leisure pursuits provide a talismanic affordance for a new self; one defined by a *sacred conquest, heroism* and *triumph*, rather than the *profanity of survival, victimhood* and *tragedy*. Philosophers such as Aristotle, Plato, Nietzsche and Frankl join me on this journey of self-(re)discovery as we explore the nuances of trauma, pain and suffering and their role in endurance leisure.

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Professor Richard Mitchell works at Capable NZ, Otago Polytechnic (NZ) and has been a pragmatic (some would say opportunistic) academic in Australasia for 25 years. His research and teaching traverse the diverse landscapes of wine, hospitality, tourism, sport, leisure, design, culinary arts, education and business. He is an overweight but (mostly) dedicated weekend warrior who has 'competed' in dozens of triathlons and long distance runs, swims and bike rides. He avidly blogs about his painful exploits.

“The Pandemic has aged me” The Impact of Blocked Leisure Goals on Subjective Age and Psychological Well-being in Older Adults

Dr. Steven E. Mock, Department of Recreation and Leisure Studies, University of Waterloo

Dr. Richard P. Eibach, Department of Psychology, University of Waterloo

Birgitta Munds, Department of Psychology, University of Waterloo

Abstract:

“The pandemic has aged me.” Comments like this have been quite common on social media. More generally, hardships sometimes lead people to report feeling aged by the experience. This raises the need for research to identify what particular psychological features of challenging experiences make people vulnerable to feeling older. We are developing a new theoretical model of subjective age that provides useful insights into this question. Our model indicates that people associate oldness with diminished opportunities for growth. Thus, when people perceive that their opportunities for further personal growth are blocked this will leave them vulnerable to feeling subjectively older. The pandemic is a relevant context to study this because the repeated lockdowns blocked many leisure-focused goals that are important to people in later life such as travel, remaining socially active, and volunteering in the community. For this presentation, we present preliminary findings with a sample of 240 study participants examining the impact of blocked goals during the COVID pandemic lockdown on subjective age and wellbeing. To our knowledge there has not been systematic research directly measuring and assessing people’s self-perceptions that specific hardship experiences have aged them, even though everyday discourse suggests that the idea that hardships age people is a prevalent lay theory. We hypothesize that perceiving oneself as being aged by a hardship experience will capture people’s belief that the personal impact of the experience has changed them in a lasting way that will be hard to undo or overcome. Thus, people’s reports that the pandemic has aged them should predict downstream negative impacts on psychological and physical well-being above and beyond impacts accounted for by traditional measures of how stressful and challenging the experience was.

Dr. Steven E. Mock is a professor in the Department of Recreation and Leisure Studies at the University of Waterloo with research interests in the areas of adult development and aging, coping with stigmatization, sexual minority adult development, and leisure as a coping resource.

Dr. Richard P. Eibach is a professor in the Department of Psychology at the University of Waterloo whose research focuses on social judgment, with an emphasis on the study of construal processes, naive realism, and egocentrism.

Carnival in Mexico: Transgressive masculinities or caricatured femininities?

Carlos Monterrubio, Universidad Autónoma del Estado de México, Mexico

Professor Kate Dashper, Leeds Beckett University, UK

Abstract:

Carnivals are important spaces where tradition, collective identity, and leisure intersect through cultural expressions like dance, singing, music, and theatrical performances. Symbolically, carnivals are marked by their transgressive nature, challenging established social norms. Through flamboyant costumes, alternative behaviours and identities, subversive body language and speech, music, dance, and artistic expressions, carnivals question hegemonies and established power structures.

They become arenas for role reversal, social satire, and celebration of diversity, disrupting social norms. However, they can also serve as excuses to legitimise structures of domination and inequality by acknowledging prohibited behaviours within society.

Carnivals are gendered spaces. Men often take lead roles in organisation, musical performances, dance, and presentations. Festive male cross-dressing in some carnival practices portrays mockery, ridicule, and exaggeration of feminine figures, leading to the exclusion and marginalisation of women. However, recent research in Latin America has highlighted an increasing role of women - albeit reinforcing traditional femininities - and the carnival's adoption as a space for visibility and political action for certain minority female groups striving for recognition.

In this presentation we present emerging findings from an ethnographic study of the Carnival of Santa Isabel Ixtapan, State of Mexico, to consider how masculinities, and masculine femininities, are performed and reproduced. This century-old celebration is predominantly performed by men, many of whom dress as 'viejos' (men), wearing elegant suits, gloves, tall hats, and wax masks with long beards. Accompanying them are the 'viejas' (women), men dressed as women, forming troupes that dance and celebrate to live music while traversing the town's streets. The carnival serves as a transgressive space through which gender norms and heteronormative expectations about masculinities are disrupted, yet this also works to reinforce masculine domination and further marginalise women and femininities.

Dr Carlos Monterrubio is a researcher and lecturer at the Universidad Autónoma del Estado de México, Mexico. His research interests focus on gender and interspecies relations in tourism, leisure and events in the Global South. He is a member of the Mexican Academy of Sciences (AMC) and the National System of Researchers in Mexico (SNII). ORCID: 0000-0002-3706-4644.

Dr Kate Dashper is Professor and Director of Research Degrees in the School of Events, Tourism and Hospitality Management at Leeds Beckett University, UK. Her research interests focus on gender and human-animal interactions in tourism, events, sport and leisure. She has published widely on these topics, including a research monograph *Human-Animal Relationships in Equestrian Sport and Leisure* (Routledge, 2017) and a co-edited collection *Humans, Horses and Events Management* (CABI, 2021). She is currently one of the Managing Editors of *Leisure Studies*. ORCID: 0000-0002-2415-2290

Interconnections: Cultural and Digital Infrastructure in Rural Ireland

Dr. Enya Moore, Technological University Dublin

Abstract:

This paper explores the relationship between existing cultural infrastructure and emerging digital infrastructure in rural Ireland. Focusing on both hard and soft infrastructure essential for cultural activities, it asks: What is being done to enhance connectivity, digital and otherwise, in rural Ireland? How do these approaches respond to the needs of local communities?

Drawing examples from the complex ecosystem of rural arts festivals in four regions of Ireland, the investigation sheds light on the diverse cultural venues, ranging from dedicated arts centers and community halls to pubs and domestic kitchens. While simultaneously considering digital infrastructure initiatives such as the National Broadband Plan. Through an in-depth analysis of the intersection between rural arts festivals and digitization, the research evaluates the influence of regional and national policies and strategies on cultural and digital connectivity.

The study not only delves into physical and digital infrastructure but also scrutinizes the spatial distribution of political and economic activities, emphasizing the differential impact on various regions within rural Ireland. This contribution emphasizes the critical role of connectivity in ensuring equitable access to essential cultural and digital infrastructure. The paper adds depth to the broader conversation on the role of events, particularly festivals, in addressing global challenges, highlighting the significance of inclusive and connected spaces for rural communities.

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Dr Enya Moore is a postdoctoral researcher at Technological University Dublin. She is a design researcher, writer, and educator. Her PhD thesis critically analysed the political and economic dimensions of contemporary design events in Australia, China, and the UK through ethnographic and place-based methods. She is currently working on an Irish Research Council funded project called Festivals, Audiences and Digital Experience across the School of Tourism and Hospitality and the School of Media at TU Dublin.

Cop Park, Cop City

Professor Rasul A. Mowatt, North Carolina State University, USA.

Abstract:

Pendleton (2000) warned leisure researchers and practitioners that “as the Millennium approaches it seems possible that crime and enforcement may become a defining part of an evolving leisure experience” (p. 111). Pendleton (2000) also noted, “data on policing and leisure is even more scant” (p. 112), and it remains so across all leisure-related journals and books (Mowatt, 2018). Fear of crime has always opened the doorway for residents across racialized categories to call for greater police presence (Hall et al., 1978; Forman, 2017; Seigel, 2018). This study and discussion were initiated by the simple question: Why are there police in parks? In 2022, Atlanta began building the \$9- million-dollar, 85-acre “Cop City” training complex on the historic publicly deeded Weelaunee forest (once stewarded by the Muscogee Creek people) and the yet to be nationally registered historic grounds of the Old Atlanta Prison Farm (also known as Honor Farm in the 1950s) (Atlanta DSA, 2022). With the city council’s approval, the project will destroy this forest. The project was announced in 2017 closed session, yet the site was initially hidden within a larger park development plan (without citizen approval). While the \$282 million budgeted Atlanta Police Department are the principal custodians of the site, but police departments and units from around the world will have access to it as an urban training facility complete with a Blackhawk helicopter launching and a reconstructed urban warfare simulated environment. On January 18, 2023, Manuel Paez Teran was the first forest defender of the Stop Cop City campaign that has been killed while holding an occupying protest that has been going on since the Fall of 2021 (Mowatt, 2023). And as of September 6, 2023, activist have been charged with RICO (Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act). Pendleton’s warnings in 2000 are now.

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Rasul A. Mowatt is the Department Head of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Management in the College of Natural Resources and Affiliate Professor in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at North Carolina State University. Primary areas of research are: Geographies of Race, Geographies of Violence, Animation of Public Space, and Critical Leisure Studies. Most recently published the book, *The Geographies of Threat and the Production of Violence: The City and State Between Us*, with Routledge in 2021.

Recognising The Legacy of COVID-19 on Children and Young People's Community Sport

Participation in Scotland: Rethinking Community Sport

Paula Murray, and Rhiannon Lord, Abertay University, Dundee

Abstract:

This study aimed to explore where and how Covid-19 has impacted children and young people's participation in community sport across Scotland. The objective was to understand children and young people's participation in community sport before, during and post Covid-19.

Sixty-nine primary school children participated in an interactive focus group. Children were given the opportunity to draw pictures, create maps, create collages, and talk with the researchers to answer the questions. Thirty-nine young people between the age of 13-18 years old took part in an online survey whilst 6 took part in a focus group. Forty-nine parents or guardians of children and young people took part in an online survey. Twenty-two representatives from Scottish sports organisations were recruited to participate in an interview. All methodologies focused on identifying where and how Covid-19 impacted children and young people's participation in community sport. The data collected was analysed thematically using an interpretive lens.

Important changes in children and young people's participation in community sport were apparent such as a decline in participation and changes in participation activities. Factors which encouraged participation were perceived wellbeing benefits, social connections, technology, and outdoor spaces. However, factors which discouraged participation were reduced community sport opportunities during Covid-19, reduced access to sport facilities, cost of living crisis, living with a disability, and increased social anxiety. Organisational factors which contributed to the reduced delivery of community sport were reduction in volunteers and declining funding opportunities. Whilst factors which contributed to improving the delivery of community sport were reflecting on current practices and developing a wider network. Covid-19 has contributed to the deterioration of existing participation-based issues in community sport however, it has also created new problems. Yet, the pandemic has also created new

opportunities. Community sport has changed following the pandemic therefore it is important to rethink its delivery.

Dr Paula Murray is a Lecturer in the Division of Sport at Abertay University in Dundee. Her principal research interests are in sports development and sports coaching, and where the two intersect. Recently, she was the principal researcher of the funded project ‘Where and how has Covid-19 influenced the participation of children and young people in community sport in Scotland?’

Dr Rhiannon Lord is a Senior Lecturer of sociology of sport and exercise at Abertay University in Dundee. Her research focuses on intersections of wellbeing and marginalised people in sport and exercise. She has a keen interest in embodied perspectives and qualitative methodologies, specifically narrative inquiry.

Recreational Opportunities Denied: Perceptions of Young People with Disabilities in Phalaborwa, South Africa

Ngobeni, T.B., Department of Sports, Recreation & Exercise Science, Faculty of Community and Health Sciences University of the Western Cape

Young, M.E.M., Department of Sports, Recreation & Exercise Science, Faculty of Community and Health Sciences University of the Western Cape

Malema, M.J., Department of Sports, Recreation & Exercise Science, Faculty of Community and Health Sciences University of the Western Cape

Abstract:

Introduction

People with physical disabilities are at high risk of chronic diseases due to low participation and limited recreational programs. However, adaptive recreational programs offer people with physical disabilities an opportunity to engage in recreational activities like other people without disabilities. Community and recreation providers need to make sporting and recreational opportunities available for individuals with physical disabilities. Recreational activities and accessibility should be specific to meet the needs of people living with physical disabilities and accommodate them according to their abilities.

Aim

To explore and describe the barriers encountered by young with physical disabilities to participate in recreation opportunities

Methods

A qualitative descriptive exploratory design was used in this study. Exploratory design seeks to provide explanations from based on participants' lived experiences. Twelve young people with physical disabilities aged 18-35 years was were purposefully sampled and recruited from identified centers for people living with disabilities in Phalaborwa. Semi-structured interviews were conducted making use of an interview schedule to collect data. Data for the study were audio recorded and then transcribed verbatim. Thematic analysis was used to analyse data.

Results

The findings from this study reported two themes and four subthemes. The findings revealed that being active in recreational activities create a wide range of benefits for individuals and the communities in which they live. Participation in recreational activities provide opportunities for social inclusion, enhances community identity, and promotes community integration. The findings revealed that young people with physical disabilities face difficulties in recreational participation which could increase the chance of developing secondary health conditions.

Conclusion

The government should raise awareness about the rights and dignity of people with disabilities and combat stereotypes, prejudices and lack of information about the availability of recreation programs.

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Makhaya Malema is an emerging researcher in the field of Leisure and Recreation. He is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Sport, Recreation & Exercise Sciences. He holds a PhD in Sports, Recreation & Exercise Sciences, with background teachings and qualifications in Sports, Leisure and Recreation management. His current research focuses on youth with disability leadership development and leisure education.

Turn up, switch off, slow down: How a Leisure Mindset Amplifies the Subjective well-being

Benefits of the Seaside

Dr Nick Davies, Glasgow Caledonian University

Dr Sean Gammon, University of Central Lancashire

Dr David Jarratt, University of Central Lancashire

Abstract:

Our relationship with the coast as a place for leisure is significant and coastal regions continue to be increasingly popular for visitors as the world opens up again to tourism (Eurostat, 2023). coasts have recently come into focus as a place of transformation and destinations requiring responsible management approaches because of environmental concerns including extreme weather and sea-level rise (Jarratt and Davies, 2020). However, natural aquatic environments are good for us and provide key well-being benefits (Georgiou, et al., 2021) and the prescription of nature is now considered as viable by even the more reticent GPs (Marx and More, 2022).

This presentation details research which extends the Leisure-Health receptor theory (Gammon and Jarratt, 2019) by understanding how a leisure state of mind might amplify subjective wellbeing benefits (SWB) of seaside spaces. It draws from two other theoretical constructs: affordance of the potential properties of environments perceived by individuals (Gibson, 1966), offering opportunities, not only to do, but to be; and savouring (Kurtz and Simmonds, 2015) – appreciating present moments and entering leisure spaces in the right frame of mind.

Data on 333 respondents, collected by survey questionnaire at six locations on the Lancashire, was used to construct a Seaside Wellbeing Index. Findings showed that although SWB benefits were experienced regardless of context, those at leisure demonstrated significantly higher SWI scores than those at work, indicating that a leisure state of mind is important for amplifying SWB in seaside environments. Additionally, overnight tourists were seen to have higher SWI scores, raising the question that the length of stay, slowing down and the time dimension of leisure are impactful on SWB. The presentation will argue that optimum conditions involve being at leisure, and slowing down, at blue spaces.

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Nick Davies is lecturer and programme lead for BA International Tourism and Event Management at Glasgow Caledonian University. He is interested in sustainable tourism and travel, and in particular human-environment interactions. His PhD analysed the route-choice decisions of walking tourist in national parks, and subsequent work has sought to build on this by understanding sustainable choices for active travel including the relationship between leisure and functional trip motivations.

A privatização dos espaços públicos e o lazer na cidade de Campinas - The privatization of public spaces and leisure in the city of Campinas

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Abstract (Portuguese):

Ao partirmos da premissa de que o modo de produção capitalista reproduz e perpetua desigualdades (Peet, 1975), esta pesquisa teve por objetivo analisar o processo histórico da ocupação e produção dos espaços urbanos de lazer em Campinas, cidade localizada no interior do estado de São Paulo, Brasil. Para tanto, a metodologia considerou o levantamento e tratamento de dados cartográficos (mapas, fotografia aérea e imagem de satélite) e registro fotográfico da área em estudo, bem como a interpretação do arcabouço legal, legislativo, executivo, administrativo e político das áreas de planejamento urbano, meio ambiente e desenvolvimento sustentável, habitação, infraestrutura e esportes e lazer. As novas ambições de moradia da classe econômica privilegiada não estão contidas no limite da casa como propriedade particular, mas também na privatização de seu entorno (Melgaço, 2012), nas expectativas de segurança, na exclusividade de acesso a espaços de esporte, de lazer e de contatos com a natureza, homogeneizando os que estão dentro e se distinguindo dos que estão fora. A análise do processo histórico da ocupação e produção do espaço urbano na cidade investigada demonstra um claro recorte de classe no modo como a desigualdade socioespacial é produzida e reproduzida. Mediada pelo Estado, nota-se a privatização do espaço público, a proliferação de condomínios e loteamentos fechados, a fragmentação do espaço intraurbano e a criação de espaços exclusivos e restritos a uma pequena camada da população. Sob tal lógica de ocupação do espaço, criam-se muros, nem sempre feitos de concreto, que separam o lazer dos de cima e dos de baixo. Uma realidade que explicita as dificuldades de acesso a espaços públicos de sociabilidade e lazer para maioria das pessoas da cidade.

Abstract (English)

Starting from the premise that the capitalist mode of production reproduces and perpetuates inequalities (Peet, 1975), this research aimed to analyse the historical process of occupation and production of urban leisure spaces in Campinas, a city located in the interior of the state of São Paulo, Brazil. To this end, the methodology considered the survey and processing of cartographic data (maps, aerial photography and satellite images) and photographic records of the area under study, as well as the interpretation of the legal, legislative, executive, administrative and political framework in the areas of urban planning, environmental and sustainable development, housing, infrastructure and sport and leisure. The new housing ambitions of the privileged economic class are not limited to the home as private property, but also in the privatization of its surroundings (Melgaço, 2012), in security expectations, in the exclusivity of access to sports, leisure and contact with nature, homogenizing those inside and distinguishing themselves from those outside. The analysis of the historical process of the occupation and production of urban space in the city investigated demonstrates a clear class profile in the way in which socio-spatial inequality is produced and reproduced. Mediated by the State, we can see the privatization of public space, the proliferation of condominiums and closed subdivisions, the fragmentation of intra-urban space and the creation of exclusive spaces restricted to a small segment of the population. Under this logic of space occupation, walls are created, not always made of concrete, that separate leisure of those above and below. A reality that explains the difficulties in accessing public spaces for sociability and leisure for the majority of people in the city. **(Translated by LSA2024 OC)**

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**Co-Developing Inclusive Leisure for Farsi-Speaking Immigrant Women In Ottawa, Canada:
Integrating a Community-Campus Approach with a Newcomer Settlement Service
Organization**

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Dr. Nadia Abu-Zahra, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ottawa

Dr. Emily Wills, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ottawa

Dr. Laura Ambrosio, Faculty of Arts, University of Ottawa

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PAND Settlement Services, Ottawa.

Abstract:

Among the 300,000+ immigrants settling in Canada each year, the word 'leisure' may not exist in their first language, nor does the concept of leisure or its meanings figure prominently among key settlement services provided to adults upon arrival. Settlement programs for adult newcomers and international postsecondary students often focus on the essentials of skill and resource development to ensure they have access to housing, food, and employment. In Ottawa, PAND Settlement Services provide support services for the 4000+ Farsi-speaking adults in the city but recognize a gap in not providing sport and leisure-related information across all age groups, and that few of their settlement activities reflect the interests of older adult women. As such, a partnership was created with our research team to co-develop and facilitate inclusive, asset-based leisure activities for Farsi-speaking older immigrant women in Ottawa (Dattilo, 2021; Sharpe, 2000). Older women who emigrate can experience a loss of social support networks and economic resources that can increase the likelihood of post-immigration cultural isolation, mental and physical health concerns (Amini et al., 2021; Rezazadeh & Hoover, 2018).

Leisure can address these challenges and provide potential social and health benefits including self-care (Petty & Trussell, 2021) enhanced social networks (Glover & Parry, 2008), and social inclusion (Rich, Misener & Dubeau, 2015). Barriers to leisure participation include language, awareness of activities, finances, lack of free time, weather, safe transportation, family

responsibilities and cultural restrictions (Henderson & Gibson, 2013). Our collaborative community-campus partnership adopts a Community-Based Participatory Research (CBPR) approach within an intersectional feminist framework (Crenshaw, 1994; Suarez-Balcazar, Y. 2020). This poster will share findings of our leisure preference survey, the co-development of inclusive leisure activities, and contribute to the discussion on inclusive leisure programming across the lifespan.

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Eileen O'Connor, Associate Professor, School of Human Kinetics, University of Ottawa researches and supervises graduate students in gender, leisure, and health; history of sport; socio-cultural studies in sport. Dr. O'Connor is Principal Investigator on a SSHRC-funded project to co-develop inclusive leisure activities with a local settlement service organization; was a co-academic lead on a pan-Canadian SSHRC Partnership Grant on Community-Campus Engagement and held a uOttawa Chair in University Teaching on experiential learning and community-campus cooperation.

Nadia Abu-Zahra, School of International Development/Feminist and Gender Studies, University of Ottawa, held a uOttawa Chair in University Teaching, and is Co-Investigator on a SSHRC-funded project to co-develop inclusive leisure activities with a local settlement service organization. Dr. Abu-Zahra's Research Chair and Joint Chair in Women's Studies is centred on feminist and anti-oppressive pedagogies, solidarity within learning environments, and education for community mobilization. Dr. Abu-Zahra has published widely on educational practices in Jordan and Palestine.

Emily Regan Wills, Associate Professor, School of Political Science, University of Ottawa conducts educational and organizational ethnographies and jointly held a uOttawa Research Chair in University Teaching and is Co-Investigator on a SSHRC-funded project to co-develop inclusive leisure activities with a local settlement service organization. Dr. Wills studies civil society and non-governmental organizations in Lebanon, Palestine, and the Arab diaspora, including action-research on community mobilization practices and community engagement.

Laura Ambrosio, French Second Language Professor at the Official Languages and Bilingualism Institute of the University of Ottawa and is Collaborator on a SSHRC-funded project to co-develop inclusive leisure activities. Professor Ambrosio investigates practical and theoretical aspects of languages acquisition, teaching and evaluation in various contexts including immersion. Professor Ambrosio contributes to the elaboration of pedagogical tools for second language learning and experiential learning within pluri-cultural approaches fostered by the European Council of Europe, ECLM.

Judy El-Mohtadi is MA Candidate in the Feminist Institute of Social Transformation, Carleton University and research assistant on a SSHRC grant to co-develop inclusive leisure activities. Judy is a local organizer, researcher and advocate who works on feminist pedagogy and solidarity that reimagine structures of learning to be more socially just and accessible. Judy has expertise in knowledge mobilization, equity organizing and project management, and was Project Manager with the Community Mobilization in Crisis Project.

PAND Settlement Services is an Ottawa-based non-profit organization that provides culturally and linguistically appropriate pre-arrival and post-arrival mentorship, settlement, training, support services and programs for Iranian and Farsi-speaking immigrants. They facilitate newcomers' adaptation and integration into their new life and culture. Many of the PAND Settlement Executive are well-respected former newcomers who have a unique understanding of both the barriers and the opportunities. PAND is partner on a SSHRC-funded grant to co-develop inclusive leisure activities.

Swimming with Sharks: Drones, Social Media and Seeing What Lies Beneath from Above

Rebecca Olive, RMIT University, Australia

Abstract:

For many ocean swimmers and surfers, encounters with large sharks are an everyday possibility. While the risk of being injured or killed by a shark bite or attack is very low for the general population, it is higher for regular ocean users. More common is the feeling of vulnerability and fear, which can be strong in some people and is heightened after a fatality. In Australia, various levels of Government operate a number of measures in place to mitigate the risk of human-shark encounters (e.g. nets, culls, smart drum lines). These measures often result in the deaths of many sharks and other animals, leading to protests both for and against their use. In recent years, drone footage that films ocean activity from the sky has afforded a new perspective on the regularity of non-fatal human-shark encounters and made visible the presence of sharks at many popular swimming beaches, even those with nets. With images and video shared on social media such as Instagram, they offer widely viewed evidence of how often ocean users are in proximity to large sharks, even when unaware. While footage might have initially created more fear, the volume of footage seems to be normalising non-injurious shark encounters and reducing fear. In this discussion I will explore the impacts of drone footage of human-shark encounters and how they're contributing to more-than-ocean-literacies. Drawing on sources including fieldwork, interviews, and media reports, I will explore the role of drone footage on social media in how ocean swimmers and surfers make sense of human-shark encounters.

Rebecca Olive is a Vice-Chancellor's Senior Research Fellow at RMIT University. Her feminist cultural studies work explores the role of recreational sport, physical activities and leisure in human-ocean health and wellbeing. Using fieldwork, interviews and social media analysis, she is focused on ocean swimming, surfing and sailing, and how participants experiences of encounter and vulnerability shape their ethics of care for coasts and oceans. In addition to her fieldwork, she has worked with AustLit on two projects about surfing and outdoor swimming in Australian literature; 'Waves of Fiction' and 'Swimming Wild'. You can read more about her work at www.movingoceans.com.

Carnival of the Heavens: Leisure-based Voluntary Conservation in International Dark-Sky Reserves

Dr Brendan Paddison and Dr Jenny Hall, York St John University

Abstract:

In the United Kingdom (UK), several internationally recognized Protected Dark-Sky Places exist where the night-sky is unobstructed by light pollution. The North York Moors National Park Authority (NYMNP) is leading on the creation of a protected Great Northern Dark-Sky Reserve agenda for a Northern England Dark-Skies Alliance. It has established a dark-sky public outreach programme to facilitate community awareness and engagement in dark-sky conservation and environmental protection. Although there has been a growing global movement to “protect the night” from light pollution, there is lack of social, environmental, and cultural understanding about the impact of light pollution and dark-sky conservation. The dark-sky is a “neglected” landscape and research that investigates volunteering and leisure engagement in protected dark-sky reserves is timely.

Taking an ecological justice approach, that recognises social justice and environmental issues are deeply intertwined and working in collaboration with the NYMNP and North York Moors Trust (NYMT), the aim of this research is to understand how dark-sky conservation in protected reserves can be sustained through engaging host communities as active stewards in leisure-based activities, and the benefits this creates socially and environmentally. Film ethnography is used to facilitate a critical dialogue with communities about the impact of their engagement in dark-sky leisure-based conservation activities. The findings from this research will inform NYMNP policy on how dark-sky conservation can be sustained through leisure-based volunteering, while also providing a novel understanding of how leisure and tourism-based activity can contribute to dark-sky conservation and engagement.

Keywords: Dark-Skies, Ecological-Justice, National Parks, leisure-based volunteering

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Brendan Paddison is Associate Dean, at York Business School, York St John University, UK. His research interests include tourism and destination management, destination governance and public policy. Brendan co-chairs the Tourism Education Futures Initiative (TEFI) and is tourism subject editor for the *Journal of Hospitality, Leisure, Sport and Tourism Education*.

Jenny Hall is a senior lecturer in tourism at York St John University, United Kingdom. Her research interests focus on gender, social justice and governance in tourism and adventure spaces.

Understanding Leisure in the Modern Era: What can a Scholarly Personal Narrative Tell Us About Freedom and Leisure in the Modern Era?

Professor Mary Parr, PhD, Recreation, Park, and Tourism Management, School of Foundations, Leadership, & Administration, Kent State University.

Abstract:

Almost 40 years ago, Kelly (1987) proposed a “new sociology of leisure” in his book “Freedom to Be.” He examined eight theoretical perspectives in turn; the thesis, antithesis, and synthesis of each perspective revealing a space for another theoretical perspective, resulting in a dialectical spiral. He chose the metaphor of “social existentialism” to represent an overall interpretation of his model. From this perspective, leisure is the freedom to be and to become; predicated on the premise “that there is no state of freedom that is asocial and no social context that totally precludes existential decision” (pp. 237-238). Rojek (1995) called for a “de-centering” of leisure; a radical questioning of the constructs heretofore determined to be associated with leisure, specifically freedom, choice, life-satisfaction and escape. He argued these constructs are not givens, but are themselves the product of an historical era. As such, our attachment to these foundational pillars are burdensome as we attempt to understand leisure in the modern era. More recently, attempts to de-center freedom from leisure have resulted in metaphors such as “a journey toward enlightenment” (Carr, 2017) and “devotional leisure” (Blackshaw, 2019).

Pernecky (2022) proposed “epistemological solidarity” as a way to un[re]cover leisure as an ontological concept in a postmodern context, where leisure seems to mean anything, everything, and thus nothing (see also, Blackshaw, 2019).

This presentation will employ Scholarly Personal Narrative (SPN), a qualitative method founded on “...the unabashed, upfront admission that your ‘own life signifies,’ ... your own life has meaning, both for you and for others” (Nash, 2019, p. 24). SPN is a blend of the particular (personal stories) and the general (theory and theory-building), but always begins with the personal as a means of elucidating the general. The author’s personal story of how a house became a home will be used to explore and extend metaphors for leisure and leisure theory.

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Mary Parr is a Professor of Recreation, Park, and Tourism Management at Kent State University. Research interests include understanding the meaning of leisure, particularly from a critical lens, and its relation to professional practice and the professional preparation of students.

On being inspired: Mapping the Affective potentials of legacy planning for Brisbane Olympics, 2032

Dr Adele Pavlidis, Griffith University, Australia

Abstract:

Mega sport events and their legacy planning initiatives have gained sustained interest at the intersections of several disciplines relating to sociologies of sport, sporting management and sporting geographies. While these studies have demonstrated the multifaceted potential of legacy planning initiatives including their benefits and disadvantages in public life, politics and culture, economic benefits, health, sports infrastructure and sports participation, the affective dimensions of the implementation of these legacy planning initiatives remain significantly under explored. Inspiration and sports are deeply entangled with each other and form a key driver of sport legacy plans not only as a precursor for a successful completion of mega events, but as a tool that produces tangible positive outcomes before and after the games within the wider community. These often comprise of the ways in which we engage and participate in sports beyond the tenure of these events, by encouraging us to be engaged, and inspired. However, the ways in which inspiration as an intimate affective register unfolds and entangle with the wider the sporting consciousness of a community remain under examined. In this article we interrogate the institutionalised and conventional parameters of these affective registers through analysis of official documents of mega sporting events that were hosted in Australia. We suggest that inspiration through mega events must be considered outside the conventional parameters of pride nationhood and individual competitiveness for communities.

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Adele Pavlidis is an interdisciplinary sociologist based at Griffith University. She is author of *Sport, Gender and Power: The Rise of Roller Derby* (with Simone Fullagar), and *Feminism and a Vital Politics of Recovery from Depression* (with Simone Fullagar and Wendy O'Brien). She was awarded a prestigious DECRA from the Australian Research Council in 2018 and is currently working on her third monograph, *The Affective Dynamics of Sport Organisations: Roller Derby and Australian Rules Football Diffracted* (Palgrave).

Prácticas y significados del ocio en la vida cotidiana de los estudiantes universitarios: más allá del enfoque online/offline - Practices and meanings of leisure in the daily life of university students: beyond the online/offline approach

Martín Pérez-Pollero, Universidad de Deusto, Spain

Abstract (Spanish):

El ocio y las tecnologías digitales se han convertido en elementos centrales de la vida cotidiana, especialmente para los jóvenes universitarios. Estos estudiantes, que cuentan con un acceso y una apropiación particular de las tecnologías, transitan experiencias espacio-temporales exclusivas en el marco de su formación profesional. Esta investigación explora las prácticas y representaciones del ocio en estudiantes de la Licenciatura en Comunicación de la Universidad de la República (Uruguay), con el objetivo de comprender las dinámicas que configuran su subjetividad en la era digital. Se adoptó un enfoque metodológico cualitativo de corte socioantropológico, privilegiando la perspectiva de los sujetos y sus experiencias espacio-temporales y su relación con el ocio. Se realizaron entrevistas en profundidad y se recopilaron autobiografías de 15 estudiantes, permitiendo un análisis profundo de sus vivencias. Los resultados del estudio revelan la complejidad, polisemia y ambigüedad de las experiencias espacio-temporales del ocio en los estudiantes. Las fronteras temporales se diluyen, al igual que la distinción entre online y offline, generando nuevos desafíos para la construcción de la subjetividad en el contexto digital. Esta investigación aporta valiosos insights sobre las nuevas formas de ocio que emergen en la era digital, destacando la necesidad de repensar los marcos teóricos y metodológicos para comprender las experiencias de los jóvenes en un contexto signado por la constante transformación tecnológica.

Abstract (English):

Leisure and digital technologies have become central elements of daily life, especially for young university students. These students, who have particular access to and appropriation of technologies, undergo exclusive spatio-temporal experiences within the framework of their professional training. This research explores the practices and representations of leisure in students of the Bachelor's Degree in Communication at the University of the Republic

(Uruguay), with the aim of understanding the dynamics that shape their subjectivity in the digital age. A qualitative socio-anthropological methodological approach was adopted, privileging the perspective of the subjects and their spatio-temporal experiences and their relationship with leisure. In-depth interviews were conducted and autobiographies of 15 students were collected, allowing an in-depth analysis of their experiences. The results of the study reveal the complexity, polysemy and ambiguity of the spatio-temporal experiences of leisure in students. Temporal boundaries are diluted, as is the distinction between online and offline, generating new challenges for the construction of subjectivity in the digital context. This research provides valuable insights into the new forms of leisure that emerge in the digital age, highlighting the need to rethink theoretical and methodological frameworks to understand the experiences of young people in a context marked by constant technological transformation. **(Translated by LSA2024 OC)**

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Martín Pérez-Pollero es investigador en formación del doctorado en Ocio, Comunicación y Cultura para el Desarrollo Humano (Deusto), Magister en Información y Comunicación (Udelar-Uruguay) y Licenciado en Sociología (Udelar-Uruguay). Su trabajo se concentra en comprender la influencia de las experiencias lúdico-recreativas y de ocio en las subjetividades contemporáneas. Ha colaborado en diversos artículos académicos y congresos a nivel regional e internacional. Se desempeña como profesor del Departamento de Educación de la Universidad Católica del Uruguay.

Walking and Wheeling and Inclusive Leisure: Exploring the Everyday Access-making Practices of Families Living with Disabilities in Greater Manchester

Dr Louise Platt, Manchester Metropolitan University

Dr Samantha Wilkinson, Manchester Metropolitan University

Dr. Harrie Larrington-Spencer, Active Travel Academy, University of Westminster

Abstract:

This paper will present tentative findings from a small but ongoing project that explores access-making strategies from the perspective of disabled people and parents of disabled children, recognising them as experts in navigating a world where universal accessibility is unattainable and access needs often conflict. Focusing on the Greater Manchester area, which has seen investments in the BEE Network to enhance walking, wheeling, and public transport, this research highlights the complexities of leisure mobilities for disabled families. These complexities are overlooked in urban planning, particularly regarding the extensive preparation required for seemingly mundane tasks like walking/wheeling to the playground or taking a weekend stroll. Adopting an access-making approach, this study views accessibility not as a fixed attribute of the built environment but as an ongoing process involving disabled individuals, their practices, adaptations, and equipment. This perspective shifts the focus towards understanding how accessibility is actively created through daily life. The study involves eight disabled parents or parents of disabled children in Greater Manchester. Participants will photograph the contents of their bags/buggy trays as part of their preparation for walking or wheeling. These photographs serve as conversation starters in interviews to delve into how these items facilitate access-making for leisured walking/wheeling practice. This approach aims to contribute to leisure scholarship on disability and access, emphasising the role of disabled individuals and their families in shaping accessible urban environments for leisure.

Dr. Louise Platt is Senior Lecturer in Festival Management at Manchester Metropolitan University. She is the co-editor of the International Journal of Event and Festival Management, in addition to serving on the editorial boards of both the World Leisure Journal and Leisure Studies. Louise's scholarly publications predominantly explore the theme of place

experiences, a broad area that encompasses various aspects of how places are experienced through leisure practices.

Dr. Samantha Wilkinson is Senior Lecturer in Childhood and Youth Studies. She joined MMU as Lecturer in Human Geography in 2016, before moving to the School of Childhood, Youth and Education Studies in 2018. She is an interdisciplinary researcher, and have undertaken research on a diverse range of themes, including: higher education experiences of staff and students; young people's alcohol consumption practices and experiences; and home care for people with dementia.

Dr Harrie Larrington-Spencer is a Research Fellow in the Active Travel Academy in the School of Architecture and Cities at the University of Westminster. Her research interests centralise around environmental sustainability with an emphasis on everyday urban mobility and active travel. She is particularly interested in inclusive environmentalism and the intersection of feminist theory and critical disability studies to inform this work.

Theorising Global and Local Serious Leisure Speech Communities

Aaron W. Pooley, PhD. British & American Studies, Soonchunhyang University, South Korea

Lawrence J. Bendle, PhD. Independent Researcher, Australia & South Korea

Abstract:

This project addresses the emerging concept of serious leisure speech communities (SLSC) from both a global and a local perspective. The SLSC has been identified in recent research among various groups of non-native speakers in South Korea (Pooley & Bendle, 2023a; 2023b). These have included long stay professionals, international students, and migrant homebrewers.

Typically, in applied linguistic terms, a speech community involves shared verbal and non-verbal language interactions specific to an activity or social group (Pooley & Bendle, 2023a). In these research contexts speech communities with leisure parameters emerged within each group. From a global perspective these phenomena arose from the leisure, social, and communicative challenges experienced by individuals taking advantage of novel population flows in East Asia. From a local perspective, similar challenges appeared for these individuals as they undertook casual, project, and serious leisure within their familial, educational, and social settings as non-native speakers in their host country. Here, these previously identified SLSC parameters are further considered within a conceptual matrix, which combines ideas from serious leisure participation, social worlds, and social network theories. In turn, this provides an elaborated model of a SLSC that can assist further research at the leisure and applied linguistics interface, including changing global population flows and the daily challenges of non-native speakers when fabricating leisure lifestyles in their local host communities.

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Aaron W. Pooley (PhD, Linguistics) is an assistant professor in British and American Studies at Soonchunhyang University, South Korea. His research interests include leisure and language contact, leisure and the sociolinguistics of globally mobile populations and digital leisure interactions using mobile devices and applications.

Lawrence J. Bendle is an independent researcher in Australia and South Korea. His research interests include serious leisure, network analysis, leisure and tourism systems in Asia, arts and entertainment tourism, and community-based leisure.

'It's a Run Not a Race' – Using Parkrun to Explore the Role of Non-competitive Community Running Events in Fostering Inclusive Serious Leisure Environments

Jess Porritt - University of Westminster, UK.

Abstract:

Despite its simplicity, running is not necessarily an inclusive sport. It requires disposable time for training, disposable income to buy equipment and pay race fees, and the space and privilege to safely run alone (Allen-Collinson, 2023). Community events such as parkrun play a vital role by allowing runners who are less well represented in formal race events, such as women, children, the less physically active, and those with physical or mental health conditions, the opportunity to participate in a welcoming atmosphere, engage with the running community, and receive an official time to measure their progress (Abbas, 2004; Goodsell, Harris & Bailey, 2013; Grunseit et al. 2020; Hillman et al. 2021).

In February 2024, Parkrun, the free weekly community 5km initiative in 22 countries worldwide, made the decision to remove specific gender and overall course records as they perceived the prominence of these statistics to be a barrier to participation and inclusion. This action has sparked a wide-ranging debate as to what constitutes inclusion within a running space and why participants head to their nearest parkrun every Saturday.

While researchers have thoroughly explored major running events such as the London Marathon, the same cannot be said of parkrun (Grunseit et al. 2020). What scholarship exists is comparatively recent and focusses on community, motivations, and volunteer experience as opposed to participant experiences of inclusion (Bell & Stephenson, 2014; Hindley, 2020; Ashdown-Franks et al. 2023).

This research aims to assess the importance of non-competitive community spaces such as parkrun to runners and how they impact inclusion in serious leisure spaces. Using a cross-sectional quantitative approach, parkrunners in High Wycombe will be surveyed to explore motivations for participation, experiences of inclusion and exclusion in community running environments, and participant perceptions of race times. High Wycombe parkrun is a median sized UK parkrun with an average of 470 weekly runners. Participants will self-identify their

experience level and Armbrecht's (2020) Event Quality Scale for Participatory Running Events will be used as a baseline to interpret responses.

This study will not only provide further information on the motivations and experiences of parkrunners but provide insights on the practice of inclusion in community running spaces and how inclusive running spaces are designed and delivered.

Key words: *Inclusive leisure; community spaces; running; event design; motivation*

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Jess Porritt is a PhD Researcher and Visiting Lecturer at the University of Westminster. Jess's research looks at transformational experience design and inclusion in leisure environments focussing specifically on marathons and ultra-marathons. She is also a member of the Ultra-Running Research Network.

Gender, Diplomacy and the 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup

Verity Postlethwaite, Loughborough University; Brooke Wilkinson, and Claire Jenkin, Hertfordshire University

Abstract:

The 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup was the biggest international women's sport event yet. Co-hosted by Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand, the event had over 1 million spectators in stadiums and over 2 billion television and digital viewers (FIFA, 2023; Beissel et al., 2023a). FIFA and event organizers systematically planned from the bidding process through to the post-event epoch to use the event to 'unlock the commercial value' of women's football (Beissel et al., 2023b). But, throughout, there has been a delicate balance between aims of economic growth, and the use of sports diplomacy 'harnessing the power of football to benefit society' to further gender equality by a range of tournament stakeholders. Research from across a variety of disciplines shows that sports diplomacy is particularly important when hosting an international women's sporting event (particularly football-based), because international sports organizations have traditionally been seen as an 'old boy's club' with powerful sporting administrations drawn from elite and affluent male networks (Krasnoff, 2019; Postlethwaite et al., 2022). Utilizing a series of vignettes from across the life course of the 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup, including the public debate around the proposed Visit Saudi sponsorship deal, this presentation will critically explore FIFA's attempts to balance economic growth with furthering gender equality. Based on official documents, media commentary and academic debate, discussion points will engage with the conference sub-theme of responsible leisure and offer thoughts on whether FIFA was a responsible guardian during the biggest and most successful Women's World Cup to date.

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Verity Postlethwaite is a Vice-Chancellor Independent Research Fellow in the School of Sport, Exercise and Health Sciences at Loughborough University. She completed her PhD at the University of Worcester in 2020 and has since been connected to several positions across higher education and industry. Verity’s research is broadly focused on international sport events with a particular interest in how sport and other cultural entities have been used in local, national, and international contexts to govern society.

Brooke Wilkinson is a PhD student at the University of Hertfordshire, researching the intersections between sport, diplomacy, leadership and gender. Her main interests are community sport development, research and insight, and inclusivity of minority groups. Brooke has developed a range of research experiences. Notably during her MRes at the University of Brighton, she developed skills to critically analyse documents and literature to create clear and concise reports for academic and industry purposes.

Claire Jenkin is a Senior Lecturer in Sports Development at the University of Hertfordshire. She completed a PhD at Victoria University in Australia, in partnership with Sport Australia, exploring why older adults may or may not participate in sport. Claire’s research largely involves providing evidence based insight for sports organisations, mainly in sport for development, sports diplomacy and understanding community sport participation. Current research includes leading a sport diplomacy project entitled “Sport Diplomacy across the Commonwealth: UK and Australia”.

Digital Sports Heritage Inclusion Trends: A Case Study on the National Paralympic Heritage Trust

Verity Postlethwaite and Kathryn Brown, Loughborough University

Vicky Hope-Walker and Samuel Brady, National Paralympic Heritage Trust

Abstract:

The National Paralympic Heritage Trust (herein, Trust), established in 2015, has a mission to use its collections to challenge and change negative attitudes towards disability. As a small and independent charitable trust, the capacity to manage, curate and amplify its collections is a significant task. In the recent phase of the Trust's development, digital projects and tools have been successfully co-created and commissioned, for example the Paralympic Heritage Trail App and Digital Explorations Project, to contribute to the varying tasks of the Trust. This presentation will showcase aspects of a larger collaborative project between the Trust and Loughborough University around understanding the Trust's digital capabilities and impact.

In this presentation, two aspects of the collaboration will be highlighted, firstly, key findings from a horizon scan of digital heritage inclusion trends in the UK galleries, libraries, archives, and museums sector and how the Trust is interconnecting with these broader trends. Secondly, key findings from a grey literature review of methods used in measuring the impact of digital heritage in the UK across the galleries, libraries, archives, and museum sector and how this translates into digital sports heritage trends and the work of the Trust. The contribution of this presentation is twofold, in a practical manner it builds a case study around the Trust and disability sports heritage as a tool for promoting inclusive digital heritage; in an academic manner it promotes connections across the digital, heritage and sports fields with a call to action around further research and knowledge exchange.

Verity Postlethwaite is a Vice-Chancellor Independent Research Fellow in the School of Sport, Exercise and Health Sciences at Loughborough University. She completed her PhD at the University of Worcester in 2020 and has since been connected to several positions across higher education and industry. Verity's research is broadly focused on international sport

events with a particular interest in how sport and other cultural entities have been used in local, national, and international contexts to govern society.

Kathryn Brown is a Reader in Art Histories, Markets and Digital Heritage in the School of Social Sciences and Humanities at Loughborough University. Kathryn is a specialist in three interconnected fields: modern and contemporary art, art markets, and digital art history. In 2020, Kathryn edited the *Companion to Digital Humanities and Art History* (Routledge) and has developed work to explore the disciplinary opportunities and challenges that have emerged in response to the use of digital resources and methodologies in art historical research and teaching.

Vicky Hope Walker is the Chief Executive Officer for the National Paralympic Heritage Trust. Vicky has 30 years senior management experience working across the heritage, tourism and arts sectors, including several national museums. She has a long standing interest in inclusion and established Driving Inspiration in 2007 bringing Paralympians and disabled artists into schools to celebrate Paralympic history and diversity. She has been involved in establishing the National Paralympic Heritage Trust since 2014.

Samuel Brady is finishing an AHRC CDP funded doctoral project at the University of Glasgow on the social, political and technical history of the Sporting Wheelchair. His research interests also include matters of race, gender, class and religion, and in particular how these intersect within the lives of disabled people. And is currently the Social Media Co-ordinator for Historical Perspectives, a cross-disciplinary postgraduate network for historical research and the co-founder of the UK Disability History and Heritage Hub.

Breaking Boundaries in the Golden Years: Unravelling Leisure Challenges through an Intersectional Lens for LGBTQ+, Ethnic Minority, and Disabled Older Adults

Dr Amy Prescott, Brunel University London, Department of Health Sciences

Dr Mike Thomas, Brunel University London, Department of Health Sciences

Professor Christina Victor, Brunel University London, Department of Health Sciences

Abstract:

This paper introduces our research project, Socially Inclusive Ageing across the Life-Course, but with a specific focus on the intersectionality of older adults (LGBTQ+, belong to an ethnic minority group, and are ageing with a disability) and their chosen leisure practices. As individuals age, the pursuit of meaningful leisure activities becomes increasingly vital for maintaining overall wellbeing. However, our research has begun to highlight a myriad of barriers which may impede access to and participation in leisure activities for marginalised groups of older adults, particularly those at the intersection of LGBTQ+, ethnic minority, and disability identities.

Employing a qualitative approach, we engaged in two rounds of timeline interviews with 30 participants, capturing the life histories of individuals to understand their social health, connectedness, and the evolving nature of their leisure choices over time. Thematic analysis of these interviews has revealed unique challenges faced by participants, as well as the strategies they employ to navigate and engage with inclusive leisure practices despite these barriers.

This research seeks to unravel the intricate relationships between identity, ageing, and leisure, shedding light on the choices made by individuals within these intersecting groups. By identifying barriers and strategies employed, our study aims to contribute to the development of socially inclusive policies that promote equitable access to diverse leisure opportunities for ageing individuals across varied backgrounds. This presentation serves as a platform for discussing our findings, their implications, and promoting dialogue on fostering inclusive ageing experiences for all regardless of age, orientation, ethnicity, and disability status.

Structuristic Art – Wellbeing For Children With A Physical Impairment Within An Online Setting

Onna Rageth, University of Applied Sciences of the Grisons, Switzerland

Abstract:

The Structuristic Art technique is an easy-to-learn method through which any individual is able to transform their feelings into a painting on a canvas panel, creating legacies and ‘making tangible which was previously intangible’ (Ramsay and Barlow Sweet 2008: 37). The technique uses a range of different materials to apply layers of colours, shapes, and patterns to generate – eponymously – structure as well as depth. Felix Stoffel, a Swiss communication analyst and himself an artist, established Structuristic Art in 1996. Following Joseph Beuys’ (1921-1986) famous quote ‘Everyone is an artist’ (Bonami 2005), Stoffel wanted to turn the theoretical framework of the renowned German installation artist and art theorist into practice.

In 2018, the author executed a hybrid-project called ‘Everyone is a Structuristic Artist’ (EIASA). The venture has been designed to give five children residing in the UK who suffer from the genetic condition Ectodermal Dysplasia (ED) a series of six Structuristic Art webinars. The blurring of online education and offline participation highlights the advantages of Structuristic Art workshops. Marques describes the portmanteau ‘glocal’, global and local (2013: 91). ‘Glocal’ events emerge through social interaction and artistic expression. EIASA fosters not only imagination but ‘individual creative voices, where the creative act opens a path to the kind of empowerment that enables proactive self-creation and the engineering of positive change at the community level’ (Berman 2013: 7); in short, co-creation and a sheltered online environment for visually different looking children with ED. Structuristic Art webinars can not only reach the global village but also simultaneously create a local sense of togetherness: ‘my daughter came away and said the other children had the same teeth as her, it was the first time that she had seen anyone with the same condition as her, and I feel it has helped her so much’ (Carpenter-Walters 2018). To conclude, this artistic concept is an easy-to-teach approach for leisure practitioners who aim at creating inclusive (online) experiences.

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Onna Rageth holds a BA in Cultural Anthropology from University of Zurich and a MA in Creative Events Management from Falmouth University. She is secretary of the Leisure Studies Association and Editorial Board Member of the World Leisure Journal. Onna works as a senior research associate and head of Bregaglia Lab (living lab in peripheral Bregaglia valley) at the Institute of Tourism and Leisure at the University of Applied Sciences of the Grisons in Switzerland.

Vacation at Home: Analysis of the Activities of Non-travelers During Their Vacation Time and the Resulting Economic Effects for Their Region of Residence

Laura Reiter, Ludwig-Maximilians-University Munich

Prof. Dr. Jürgen Schmude, Ludwig-Maximilians-University Munich

Abstract:

Traveling is a central element of life in Western society and is often presented as a basic need that is accessible to almost everyone (Chen/Petrick 2016). However, in Germany, about a quarter of the population does not participate in travel (FUR 2023). Nevertheless, this group is largely ignored in tourism research and is often only seen as a complementary group to travelers. Only in recent years have a few studies explicitly looked at non-travelers and examined factors that influence non-travel (e.g., Chen et al. 2018). A study conducted in Germany shows that around half of non-travelers do not want to travel out of their own volition and the other half cannot travel due to constraints (e.g., financial or health reasons) (Passauer 2019).

However, the outgoing effects (e.g., ecological and economic effects) of non-travelers or the possible social consequences that arise for non-travelers as a result of their non-participation in travel have been largely neglected in research to date. Consequently, our research first conducts a media analysis in which the representation of non-travelers in German newspapers since the year 2000 is examined. The results show that the social perception of non-travelers is not constant, but dependent on external influences such as the 2008/09 financial crisis or the Covid-19 pandemic. In addition, we assume that non-travelers have economic effects on their place of residence, as a French case study has already shown (Schmude et al. 2022).

Based on the assumption that non-travelers also engage in activities during their vacation time and incur associated expenses, our research project examines the economic effects of non-travelers in Germany for the year 2022 by a quantitative survey. The presentation will provide initial insights into the range of activities, the activity space, as well as the spending and mobility behavior of non-travelers during their vacation time.

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Laura Reiter has a sociological background and is a PhD student at the Department of Geography, at the Ludwig-Maximilians University in Munich. She specializes in tourism research and her research interests focus on the social and economic dimensions of the phenomenon of non-travel.

Jürgen Schmude held the Chair for “Economic Geography and Tourism Research“ at the Department for Geography at the Ludwig-Maximilians University in Munich from 11/2008 until 10/2021. Currently, he is scientific director of the Bavarian Center for Tourism. His main research interests are focused on the development of tourism in different regions, the various challenges for the tourism industry over time and the tourist travel behavior against the background of changing conditions over time.

Use of Problem-Based Learning to Move Toward the Inclusive Leisure and Accessible Tourism: The Case of Hong Kong

Nafiseh Rezaei, PhD, Lee Shau Kee School of Business and Administration, Hong Kong Metropolitan University.

Sandra Kit-Man Tsang, PhD, Department of Social Work and Social Administration, Faculty of Social Sciences, The University of Hong Kong.

Abstract:

Around 16% of the world's population, or 1 in 6, have some disability (WTO, 2023). Therefore, "Reduced inequality" is one of the critical sustainable development goals introduced by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO, 2017). Inclusive leisure is how people with and without impairments engage in leisure together (Rossow-Kimball & Goodwill, 2014). Accessible tourism refers to the process required to ensure that transport, accommodation, destinations, and attractions across the tourism system appropriately meet the needs of people with disabilities (PWD) (Buhalis & Darcy, 2011). It shows that the two concepts share much regarding providing services to PWD. Students from all disciplines need to learn about inclusive leisure, as many diverse industries are involved with leisure and tourism in a destination (Leiper, 1979). Thus, they will be directly or indirectly engaged with PWD. On the other hand, problem-based learning (PBL) helps students learn by solving problems and reflecting on their experiences. It places learning within real-world problems and assists students in becoming active learners (Hmelo-Silver, 2004).

Considering all these points and applying the PBL, an experiential project about inclusive leisure/accessible tourism has been added to the course syllabus (i.e., Being Different: Understanding People with Disability) at The University of Hong Kong. It is a general education course for undergraduate students regardless of their discipline. In this course, they will receive general knowledge about PWDs' social and psychological needs through a social approach by an experienced social work scholar (2nd author). The idea of this experiential project has been initiated by the previous tutor of this course, a tourism scholar (1st author). After working in this course as a teaching support staff, the first author realized that there is a solid potential synergy between these two fields (i.e., social work and tourism) to achieve inclusive leisure/accessible

tourism. The first practice round after adding this component to the course curriculum is from January-April 2024. This research aims to interview both groups (students and tutors) after conducting this experiential project to understand its effectiveness and challenges from their point of view.

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Nafiseh Rezaei obtained her Ph.D. from the School of Hotel & Tourism Management, Hong Kong Polytechnic University. After graduation, she worked as a teaching support staff in the Department of Social Work and Social Administration. Gaining interdisciplinary and cross-cultural teaching and research experiences helped Nafiseh broaden her horizons. Her research interests include tourism psychology, tourist experience, and accessible tourism.

Sandra Kit-Man Tsang received her Ph.D. in social work with an extensive background in psychology. She was the Associate Dean of HKU Social Sciences Faculty (March 2004-August 2007) and Head of the Department of Social Work and Social Administration (July 2007-June 2013) before retiring in 2022. Some of her Specializations include child and adolescent assessment and special education.

Reflections, Learnings, and Future Directions for Participatory Research in Sport and Physical Activity

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Abstract:

In this presentation, we reflect on our learnings about the state of participatory research based on our recent experience of editing a collection *Participatory Research in Sport and Physical Activity*. Increasingly, sport, leisure, and physical activity scholars are seeking to engage community members in research processes in order to enhance the relevance and impact of scholarly research. However, these processes are fraught with tensions in the context of social inequality, political polarization, and institutional cultures that value and incentivize speed and productivity. In this context, we offer our reflections on key challenges and opportunities of participatory research in sport and physical activity. These challenges include the complexity of research relationships, the implications of culture on research processes, the ethics of participation, and the impact of technology. Opportunities include the ability to learn from and about emotions within research processes, to articulate clear understandings of participatory research traditions within contemporary approaches, to develop clear and consistent language to discuss various roles within research processes, and to develop and articulate ways of engaging in participatory data analysis. Finally, we articulate future directions for advancing participatory methods and methodologies: understanding the intersection points of key methodological principals, interrogating the politics of reflexivity, as well as rethinking how we can support and build capacity for research partnerships. In doing so, we hope to stimulate further discussion and critical deployment of participatory approaches in sport, physical activity, and leisure research.

Kyle Rich is an Associate Professor in the Department of Recreation and Leisure Studies at Brock University. Kyle's research looks at the impact of policy, community, and inclusion/exclusion on experiences in sport, recreation, and physical activity programming.

Robyn Smith is currently a lecturer in Sport, Health and Exercise Sciences at Brunel University London. Her research focuses on the relationship between community sport, leisure, and well-being among young people from equity-owed communities.

Audrey Giles is a Full Professor in the School of Human Kinetics at the University of Ottawa. An applied cultural anthropologist, she uses participatory approaches to examine the intersections of gender, culture, and place as they relate to sport and injury prevention.

GOALD Stranraer Football Memories

Dr John Ritchie, University of Stirling.

Abstract:

The GOALD project used digital technology in Sports Based Reminiscence settings to enhance the lives of participants. This 3-year research programme examined how we can design, test, deliver and evaluate digital resources to facilitate structured activity programmes for 'health connectivity' in older age. Through examining the feasibility and impact of a digital approach to two existing initiatives, intergenerational physical activity (IGPA) and sports-based intergenerational reminiscence (SBIR), the research demonstrates the potential for development of related products and services to enhance support for health in later life. This documentary follows one such SBIR session, a bespoke designed session based around the 1971 Scottish Cup Final in which Partick Thistle shocked football by beating Celtic. The session features two of the players from that Partick Thistle team, Frank Coulston and Alan Rough and the documentary shows the seeds of co-designed memories sessions that GOALD rolled out to the Scottish Football Museum.

The documentary also highlights the importance of connectivity and living with sports and leisure as part of a healthy ageing process as well as the necessity of community, support and companionship brought through a shared affection for sport in a small, local community.

The GOALD project found benefits of a co-production approach to developing digital resources as well as identifying what digitally-delivered content appealed more to participants and assessed the feasibility of adoption of technology dependent on digital literacy. One aspect of GOALD's legacy is in the Football Museum's current project to interview former professional footballers to create an online digital repository of reminiscence activities and sessions that can be accessed remotely.

John Ritchie graduated Stirling in 2019 and worked as a Lecturer until taking up a Post-Doc with GOALD. Now the project is finished he has returned to lecturing as well as his other job as an actor and performer.

Sport Density: Understanding of the Relationship of Sport to Space

Walker J. Ross, University of Edinburgh

Abstract:

Sport ecology requires better measurement which quantifies the impacts of the bidirectional relationship between sport and the natural environment beyond life-cycle assessments, carbon footprint analyses, and the Sport Event Environmental Performance Measurement model (Mallen, 2018). These may be addressed through the addition of other metrics which capture variables like the use of space by sport and leisure.

Population density measures the number of people per a unit area (Ottensmann, 2018). It and environmental impacts like carbon emissions, energy consumption, and vulnerability to climate change are linked (e.g., Jones, 2014; Newman & Kenworthy, 1999). Scientific consensus suggests higher population densities have smaller environmental footprints as seen in emissions and energy consumption.

Sport ecology and leisure may benefit from an examination of population density in terms of access and the ability of spaces to accommodate participation in sport and leisure. Given the climate crisis, for sport and leisure to decrease their environmental impact it is important to extract the maximum possible use of space while limiting extraneous development (e.g., Millington & Wilson, 2016).

This conceptual presentation proposes “sport density” as a measurement of participants per playing area which assists in measuring environmental impacts of sport and leisure while considering the capacity of spaces to provide participation opportunities. Sport densities are dynamic understandings of sport and leisure with variable boundaries, participation, capacities for use of a single space over time.

Sport density allow for discussion of sport, leisure, environment, and resources per capita while addressing the call for measurement techniques (Mallen, 2018). Further, it considers how environmental harms of artificial spaces may be acceptable given participation rates over time (Backman et al., 2023; van Bottenburg & Salome, 2010). Challenges for sport density include the fluid dynamic of density being dependent upon the nuances of each sport spatially and temporally.

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Walker J. Ross is a lecturer in sport management and digital marketing at the University of Edinburgh and a member of the Sport Ecology Group. His research focuses on the bidirectional relationship between sport and the natural environment. Efforts like the UNEP's Sports for Nature Handbook and Protect Our Winters' reports on both the Winter Olympics and cycling have been aided by his expertise.

Leisure, Control and Resistance in the World of Football Fans: A Portuguese Perspective

Daniel Freire Santos, NOVA University Lisbon

Abstract:

1989 marks the year in which the Portuguese State's Constitutional Law enshrined the government's duty to prevent violence in sport. Simultaneously, a new legislation introduced fresh disciplinary regulations for sports venues, granting the State new powers of intervention. Since then, we have observed profound transformations in Portugal's football landscape, in line with global trends. These changes are exemplified by the legislation launched and the stadiums constructed, namely for the 2004 UEFA European Football Championship. The 2004 law concerning spectator control in sports introduced, among other aspects, the stadium steward, video surveillance systems and the use of low-profile policing based on the spotting technique.

Recent developments suggest that shifts in how fans experience football extend beyond governmental concerns for public order or the organization of international competitions. These transformations also align with commercial imperatives associated with the conception of football as a spectacle. A noteworthy example is Law 39/2009, which bolstered these trends. Five legislative amendments to that law, between 2011 and 2023, subsequently extended state intervention in fan control.

With this context in mind, our primary objective is to historically contextualize the discontent expressed by Portuguese fans in response to various security measures affecting them. Consequently, we aim to reflect on potential changes in fan behavior, particularly in terms of collective forms of expression and physicality, shaped by evolving legal regulations and law enforcement practices.

Finally, we will try to analyze potential strategies of resistance or accommodation in light of these processes, all while considering the outcomes of the interactions between Portuguese fans' strategies and responses from central authorities. Through our oral presentation, we hope to contribute to the discussion on the emergence of resistance strategies in a leisure activity like attending football and their impact within this sphere.

Daniel Freire Santos is currently a PhD student in Contemporary History at NOVA University Lisbon. In his doctoral project, he seeks to explore the development of football fan cultures in correlation with the study of the state policies that sought to control this sport and its supporters in contemporary Portugal. Researcher at IHC-NOVA FCSH / IN2PAST.

Bringing Virtual Nature Experiences to Communities: A Critique of Wellbeing Benefits of Portable Nature Immersive Solutions in Community Organisations

Professor Caroline Scarles, School of Hospitality and Tourism Management, University of Surrey

Professor Jon Garland, Department of Sociology, University of Surrey

Dr Maria Adams, Department of Sociology, University of Surrey

Dr Tracy Xu, School of Hospitality and Tourism Management, University of Surrey

Dr Jean-Yves Guillemaut, Centre for Vision, Speech and Signal Processing, University of Surrey

Andy Cope, Creative Core

Abstract:

While nature engagement offers benefits for physical and mental health, there are inequalities in accessing nature and variations in leisure activities performed in natural environments. In partnership with Creative Core and working with key community partners (including care homes, community centres and schools), this paper explores the wellbeing impact through the application and accessibility of immersive experiences of virtual connection to nature with a focus on populations who have socio-economic and health constraints that may impede their direct engagement with nature. Building on existing research and associated findings and outputs, portable immersive nature (green and blue space), this mixed methods study draws upon data from a series of focus groups, interviews and surveys across each of the community partners, older adults and children that were conducted after each community organisation has integrated the availability and use of these nature immersion solutions within their everyday operations for a minimum of one month. First, the paper provides greater understanding on the wellbeing effects of end-user interactions with the installations (via online survey accessed via QR code) in practice with project partners within a range of contexts as we identify the current and potential applications of the immersive experiences. Secondly, and essentially, analysis will be provided in relation to the logistics of providing and supporting the installations in accessible, high-traffic end-user spaces from financial, economic, social and wellbeing perspectives. Open-ended survey and conversational interviews with trial site managers, local government care, education and public service providers, community group representatives

provide the data to engage in a critique of the logistics, barriers and opportunities for the provision of accessible, immersive experiences within key, strategic community spaces. For example, key issues such as understanding funding and purchase constraints and opportunities, product price point in relation to return on investment, exploring who would make such purchases and what the constraints are that they would face, will all be explored with a view to increasing the availability of, and access to, virtual nature recreation experiences.

Caroline Scarles is Professor of Technology in Society in the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management, University of Surrey. Her key research interests lie in the three key areas of: the visual and multi-sensuality within society, social and cultural sustainability and how these are brought together through technology for social good.

Beyond Individual Coping: A Review of Leisure for Radical Healing

Alayna Schmidt, Clemson University

Kayla Patterson, North Carolina State University

Abstract:

Leisure for healing within systematically traumatized (i.e. oppressed) communities must go beyond individual coping mechanisms to be grounded in a framework of radical healing (Ginwright, 2010) that liberates the oppressed. Liberation psychology has acknowledged that oppressed people cannot truly heal until traumatizing systems are dismantled and replaced with livable ones (Fanon, 1966; French et al., 2020). Historical pursuits of such social transformation have been framed as leisure endeavors (Lamond & Spracklen, 2015). Gaining critical consciousness is an important part of psychological liberation from the oppressor (Freire, 1970) and has been cultivated in leisure contexts, particularly with racially oppressed youth in the U.S. (Brown et al., 2018; Theriault, 2019). Collectivism is required for social change (Ginwright, 2010) and liberation psychology (French et al., 2020), both being key components of radical healing. Yet, leisure scholarship has focused on the individual (Arai & Pedlar, 2003), missing the historically realized potential of leisure for radical healing through collective critical consciousness building and social action. This conceptual piece presents a narrative literature review of radical healing in leisure studies and points to a need to shift from individualistic leisure and healing pursuits to embrace radical healing in leisure through collective action for social change.

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Alayna Schmidt, M.S. (she/they), is a Ph.D. student at Clemson University and Lab Manager for the Race, Ethnicity, Youth, and Social Equity (REYSE) Research Collaboratory at Clemson. Their research interests are entangled in the interconnections of social justice, youth development, arts, and the environment. Through community-engaged research, they interrogate power and privilege using paradigms and methodologies that challenge hegemonic white patriarchal idea(l)s of what counts as knowledge while holding space for imagining otherwise.

Kayla Patterson is a Ph.D student at North Carolina State University studying Parks, Recreation and Tourism Management. Currently, she is studying under the advising of Dr. Corey Johnson working on research in digital equity and exploring topics around leisure sites as a pathway to resiliency and social transformation. Her background in psychology and higher education play a significant role in her desire to foster collective experiences where vulnerability, critical thinking, and justice oriented praxis converge.

Safeguarding Liberatory Themes in Participatory Meaning-Making of Critical Arts-Based Leisure Research

Alayna Schmidt, Clemson University

Abstract:

Arts-based research holds the potential for fostering participatory cultures among youth exploring liberatory ways of knowing and being that can lead to imagining the world otherwise (Goessling, 2020). Art and participatory cultures are mainstays of social and political movements (think grassroots organizing and protests) and even of democracy itself (Adams, 2002; della Porta & Mattoni, 2013). Some scholars are calling for more participatory ways of producing knowledge through critical arts-based research by engaging the public as actors (not just passive audiences) in meaning-making with arts-based data (Schmidt & Schultz, 2023). Yet there is a risk here of the work, the data, even the research participants themselves being misunderstood in ways that reinforce the dominant oppressive narratives that the research is attempting to disrupt. While there is little control over how the public may ultimately choose to engage (or not) with the data and participants, clearly grounding data in liberation theories makes it more difficult to dismiss or construct meanings that reinforce oppression without directly contending with the theoretical project the data is embedded in. This serves to reinforce the liberatory themes of the research while maintaining a participatory meaning-making process with the public. This manuscript addresses the roles of participatory culture and liberation theories in critical arts-based research by drawing examples from a research project with Black youth in Western North Carolina who challenged dominant white-centered conceptualizations of nature through an art zine.

Key words: *arts-based research; participatory culture; liberatory theory*

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Alayna Schmidt, M.S. (she/they), is a Ph.D. student at Clemson University and Lab Manager for the Race, Ethnicity, Youth, and Social Equity (REYSE) Research Collaboratory. Their research interests are entangled in the interconnections of social justice, youth development, arts, and the environment. Through community-engaged research, they interrogate power using paradigms and methodologies that challenge hegemonic white patriarchal idea(l)s of what counts as knowledge while holding space for imagining otherwise.

Negotiating Whiteness, Playing by the Rules, and Keeping You Guessing: Experiences of Race and Equality in the British University and Colleges Sport (BUCS) Leagues

David Scott, Abertay University

Abstract:

Incidents of racist abuse are prevalent across many different social institutions, with education and sport being two noteworthy areas. However, the convergence of these two institutions has yet to be explored in terms of the racial inequalities experienced by those who navigate these spaces, especially from non-white perspectives. This paper presentation will present findings from a twelve-month research project commissioned by British University and Colleges Sport (BUCS) to investigate experiences of race and equality within the university sports leagues. The project sought to promote the voices of non-white students (N=38) who engaged in sport, as well as staff (N=28) responsible for maintaining their university's participation in the BUCS leagues, across five varying universities across the UK. A Critical Race Theory perspective was adopted throughout the research process, with a particular emphasis on Intersectionality. For students, it was recognised that being a student-athlete involved constantly having to negotiate whiteness and white spaces, with implicit 'rules' having to be adhered to due to the 'lack of evidence' discourse which prevents racism from being captured, proven, and punished. For staff members, there was a prevailing sense of 'white neutrality' within their organisational cultures which encapsulated a passive or reactionary attitude towards incidents of racial abuse. It was felt much of the responsibility for addressing issues of racial inclusion were delegated elsewhere, with non-white staff members being made to feel on the periphery of their working environments. A series of recommendations have been developed within the report which continue to be enacted in co-operation with BUCS and numerous UK HE institutions, the progress of which this presentation will report on.

Dr David Scott is a Lecturer in Sport Development in the Division of Sport and Exercise Sciences, Abertay University, UK. His research focuses on the role of sport for development in individuals' lives, particularly in relation to social justice, environmentalism, and monitoring and evaluation. He teaches on modules concerning the sociology of sport, sport development, and sport for development.

Therapeutic Leisure to Foster Healing: “I’ve gone full circle”

Dr Briony Sharp, University of the West of Scotland

Abstract:

Engaging in physical activity during leisure time has long been associated with promoting overall wellness, healing, and mental wellbeing (Han and Patterson, 2011; Iwasaki, MacTavish & MacKay, 2010). However, there is very limited research dedicated to exploring the impact or barriers of partaking in physical activity following baby loss. Huberty et al. (2014, p.8), in the first study to investigate beliefs about physical activity in women after baby loss, concluded “beyond the ‘treatments’ currently offered (e.g., psychiatric medicine, support groups), physical activity may offer women a means for: 1) self-managing grief and emotions associated with loss on a daily basis, 2) improving health for subsequent pregnancies, and 3) improving quality of life long-term.” This also aligns with research agendas focusing on overall wellbeing improvements linked to the social prescribing initiative that encourages the use of local, non-clinical services in a more holistic way (Chesterman and Bray, 2018). Although there is an emerging literature that points towards the powerful role physically active leisure can play as a pathway for healing and health, there are few studies that focus on the potential impact of physical activity on bereaved parents following baby loss. This study considers both parents after baby loss and explores the realm of inclusive leisure to foster healing and process grief. Data from five focus groups and an online survey are analysed to share insights from personal narratives of trauma and healing through leisure. Situated within an interpretive phenomenological design, findings explore key themes of escapism, community, coping, socialisation, connection, and mental health. Furthermore, the perception of inclusive leisure spaces, isolation, and access to leisure opportunities are also discussed as a means to understand how inclusive leisure can be supported and practiced as a space to promote therapeutic leisure and process grief.

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Dr. Briony Sharp is a Lecturer in Event Marketing at UWS. Her research explores the social impact of events and leisure, covering EDI, wellbeing, and volunteering. She co-edited "Transforming Leisure in the Pandemic: Re-imagining Interaction and Activity During Crisis" (2022, Routledge). Briony serves as Treasurer of LSA, Social Media Editor for the Journal of Policy Research in Tourism, Leisure and Events, and is on the Executive Board of the International Journal of Event and Festival Management.

Understanding the Role of Community Voices in Developing New Arts and Cultural Venues as Drivers of Social Sustainability in Festival Cities of The Future: The Case Of Edinburgh's Dunard Centre

Dr Sarah Snell, Edinburgh Napier University

Dr Ivana Rihova, Universidad Europea de Valencia, Spain

Abstract:

Cities are under growing pressure to address the challenge of supporting more inclusive and sustainable communities. Festivals and events, increasingly used as urban development tools, can assist in the creation of sustainable cities with prosperous, happy and inclusive communities (Mair & Smith, 2021). The understanding of how such positive outcomes from events may be realised is, however, lacking in clarity.

Planned tourism and event development approaches in some urban contexts are often seen as tokenistic, exclusive and egalitarian, with stakeholder power relationships playing a crucial role (Church & Coles, 2007, Nunkoo & Gursoy, 2016). Consequently, critical and reflective perspectives are required on the role that festivals and events play in integrating community voices through participative (Burns, 2004, Tosun, 2006) and co-creative planning (Foster, 2022) to better understand and evaluate the potentially socially sustainable outcomes which could be derived from planned event development.

Through the analysis of planning documents and survey/interviews with community-based stakeholders, this project explores community participation specifically in the context of participative planning and development of new arts and cultural venues in festival cities. Focusing on the case study of the Dunard Centre as "Edinburgh's first dedicated new space for music and the performing arts in 100 years" (IMPACT Scotland, 2022), the project aims to problematise new arts and cultural venues as drivers for sustainable development in festival cities to understand how their development addresses social sustainability and assists in the creation of sustainable host communities.

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Based at Edinburgh Napier University, **Dr Sarah Snell** has a background in Events and Tourism, focusing on participative planning processes associated primarily with the development of mega sporting events. Her research interests include social sustainability and wellbeing of event communities, investigating issues ranging from human rights of host communities to mental health of sport event participants.

Dr Ivana Rihova is based in Valencia, Spain, currently working as lecturer in the Tourism department of the Universidad Europea de Valencia. Her research interests include event experience design; C2C co-creation; value in service marketing; and, the use of qualitative research in tourism and events. Most recently she has worked on projects that explore transformative event experiences and resource integration in tour guiding contexts.

‘Just pee in the sea’: Leaky bodies and dirty encounters in outdoor swimming.

Dr Miriam Snellgrove, Sociology, School of Social and Political Science, University of Glasgow

Abstract:

Outdoor swimming has gained in popularity in recent years with books, podcasts, social media groups, and swimming events all flourishing (Rew, 2022; Bates & Moles, 2023). Much of the narrative around outdoor swimming lauds its health benefits, sense of community and connection to nature (Harper, 2022). However, alongside these wellbeing narratives, there is also a growth in risk narratives, particularly in relation to the sewage that is frequently released into rivers, lakes and seas. As a result, Surfers Against Sewage highlight that many of the UK’s popular bathing spots are a health risk for water users (SAS, 2023). This paper explores how ideas around dirt and disgust in outdoor swimming are navigated and managed. Drawing on Mary Douglas’s (1966) ideas that ‘dirt is matter out of place’, and Evers’s (2019) conceptualisation of polluted leisure, I engage with swimmers’ understandings of what is and is not dirty. Peeing in the sea for example, is viewed as a normal and inevitable part of swimming, defecation less so. I further ask how our understandings of swimming bodies and their leakiness, is framed differently from ‘other’ kinds of dirty swimming encounters, with swimmers both disrupting and reinforcing nature/culture dichotomies. This paper extends ideas of dirty leisure to the case study of outdoor swimming, demonstrating how embodied practices are contextually and culturally contingent and specific.

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Dr Miriam Snellgrove is a sociologist whose research interests focus on leisure (walking, swimming and the mindsport bridge), through a qualitative methods lens (ethnography, creative methods, ethnofiction, poetry, diaries and interviews). I am particularly interested in collaborative, co-creative research that situates researcher and participant in ethical and creative research encounter.

Leisure at Work: Conditions of its production and reproduction

Nikola Staníčková, The Department of Sociology, Andragogy and Cultural Anthropology, Faculty of Arts, Palacký University Olomouc, Czech Republic

Abstract:

This paper reflects how the social structure and social system (Giddens 1984) influence the occurrence of leisure at work. The phenomenon refers to the Serious Leisure Perspective (Stebbins 2017). According to this theoretical framework, leisure occurs in the form of casual leisure, project-based leisure, and serious pursuits. Each of them is a contextually framed activity that brings a feeling of pleasure and fulfilment (Stebbins 2004). Regarding its occurrence, we can find them in leisure as well as at work. It is illustrated by the results of qualitative research that I carried out in the context of the Czech labor market (2019 - 2021) to find out how the micro-macro context influences opportunities for leisure at work. For this purpose, I did interviews with 30 participants who worked in different working conditions.

Of these, there were 27 employees and 3 employers. Based on data analysis I found out leisure at work frequently occurs there where people do high-skilled work that is oriented towards Objectives and Key Results, and less often among those who work in the service sector. Furthermore, the level of its support, acceptance and rejection is considered. Thus, we can see which forms of leisure social actors understand as a source of personal and social rewards and which are not.

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Nikola Staníčková studies the doctoral programme in Sociology at Palacký University Olomouc, the Czech Republic. Her research interests revolve around examining leisure at work.

Co-creating Visitor Experience Through an Innovative Project

Ivana Stevic, University of Aveiro

Abstract:

With this communication we intend to present an innovative, interdisciplinary approach to leisure research. From interpretivist philosophical stance and the adoption of design thinking method resulted a practical story-telling project entitled *Tile Your Visit (TYV)*, which offered an innovative experience to visitors of Porto, Portugal, while serving as basis for data collection that informed a PhD thesis in an attempt to reimagine the concepts of leisure and visitor experience.

Design thinking is increasingly applied in areas unrelated to design, such as business, management and social sciences, and used to tackling different organizational, strategic and operational problems (Cooper et al., 2009; Johansson-Sköldberg et al., 2013; Verganti, 2009). It integrates innovation, entrepreneurship, experience consumption (Lockwood, 2009), which tourism and hospitality most dependent on (Morgan & Watson, 2007). The experience focus, combined with innovation, helps overcome barriers between residents and tourists, and makes the latter seem less as ‘foreign bodies’ usurping the resident spaces (Bouchon, 2019), and more as temporary locals.

Through an exploratory case study research, we sought to collect qualitative data by means of interviews/ storytelling, and analyse it combining content, discourse and narrative analyses. There was a high acceptance rate when it comes to participating in the TYV project (>90%), and an expression of desire to participate in similar projects in the future. The study finds predominance of tangible lived experiences (e.g., related to architecture, sites, gastronomy – 68%) over the intangible ones (i.e., emotions, feelings – 32%), and maps them according to Pine and Gilmore’s 4E model (1998, 1999), Buehring and O’Mahony (2019), and Cupchik and Hilscher (2008) frameworks.

The study brings theoretical, practical and methodological contributions to leisure State of the Art. Design thinking is demonstrated as a transdisciplinary method that can lead to co-creation of an innovative, sustainable, user-centred and experience-centred initiative, which informs project-based learning.

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Ivana Stević holds a BSc in Tourism Management from the University of Novi Sad (Serbia), and a MSc in Tourism Management and Planning from the University of Aveiro (Portugal), where she is currently concluding the Doctoral Programme in Tourism. Member of Tourism and Development Research Group (GOVCOPP Research Unit), of the organising/executive

Committee of INVTUR International Tourism Conference, and of the Association for Tourism and Leisure Education and Research (ATLAS).

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Investigating The Impact and Value of Anti-racist Pedagogy within the Undergraduate Sport and Leisure Curriculum

Dr Spencer Swain, York St John University

Dr Mark Mierzwinski, York St John University

Matthew Green, York St John University

Abstract:

This paper explores the value of decolonising the curriculum and implementing anti-racist pedagogy within sports and leisure education. The research seeks to add to ambitions for social justice within higher education (HE) in the Global North by contributing to the growing interest in and action towards anti-racist pedagogy and decolonising the curriculum. Anti-racist pedagogy seeks to educate about race and racism in a way that develops critical analytical skills and illuminates uneven power relations that contribute towards systemic racial violence. In so doing, this method of pedagogy seeks to help Decolonise the HE curriculum by diversifying reading lists, critiquing Eurocentric epistemologies and ontologies, and disrupting hegemonic Whiteness. Findings from the research will demonstrate how anti-racist pedagogy can help those who fear being racially stereotyped express their experiences of racism. Explain how educating students about discursive practices such as ‘othering’ can make racism and racist acts more visible and expose the importance of teaching undergraduates about inclusion and diversity to influence their workplace practices.

Dr Spencer Swain is a sociologist with a background in social and political theory. At present, I am researching the sociology of culture and leisure, migration and diaspora, sports management and development, and inequalities within education.

An Overview and Critical Analysis Of Resistance Research In Leisure Studies

Daniel Theriault¹, and Rasul Mowatt²

¹Appalachian State University; ²North Carolina State University

Abstract:

Resistance has become a topic of interest in leisure studies. Leisure scholars have deployed resistance to position leisure as a productive response to injustice (Shaw, 2001). For example, some studies have framed leisure a site from which to challenge normative expectations related to age (e.g., Genoe & Whyte, 2015) or gender (e.g., Valtchanov, Parry, Glover, & Mulcahy, 2016). Other scholars have suggested that such challenge at least partially confirm the very norms that were resisted (e.g., Pavlidis, 2013).

However, resistance research in leisure studies has yet to be critically analyzed. This gap is significant because there has limited analysis of the extent to which resistance research has achieved its advertised aims: to improve the material lives of those subjected to oppression. Results of a critical assessment of resistance research could clarify pathways to ameliorating oppression through leisure. Therefore, the purpose of this 45 minute workshop is to present a critique of resistance research published in leisure journals.

This workshop will present some findings of a larger study in which we reviewed articles published journals which included resistance, dismantling, decolonization, and abolition in the abstract, title, or keywords. After removing apolitical uses of resistance and papers without enough information to understand the authors position on resistance (e.g., book reviews), the final archive for this workshop consisted of 206 papers.

Only 37 authors used an existing theoretical perspective to frame their examinations of resistance; all of which can be traced back to Foucault (1980). However, Foucault's work directed attention away from the material conditions of people's lives and the work needed to alter those conditions. Authors of 121 of the results argued that leisure activities were modes of resistance to oppression. In this workshop, we will consider the conditions under which leisure activities can result in material change in people's lives.

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Daniel Theriault is the program director of the Recreation Management major at Appalachian State University. Dan's work, both as a teacher and scholar, operates within a collective striving for liberation from oppression that spans centuries. Through his current research, Dan seeks to retell leisure history with Black voices and institutions.

Rasul A. Mowatt is the Department Head of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Management in the College of Natural Resources and Affiliate Professor in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at North Carolina State University. Primary areas of research are: Geographies of Race, Geographies of Violence, Animation of Public Space, and Critical Leisure Studies. Most recently published the book, *The Geographies of Threat and the Production of Violence: The City and State Between Us*, with Routledge in 2021.

Behind the Iron Curtain: Unauthorised Travel in the USSR

Dr Juliane Thieme, School of Management and Marketing, University of Greenwich

Abstract:

It is fairly known outside the former German Democratic Republic (GDR) that travel outside the Eastern Bloc was restricted for its citizens by its repressive regime. However, it is not much explored in an academic context that travel was also severely limited for its citizens to travel within the Eastern Bloc (see Keck-Szabjel & Stola, 2015). This project explores the (il)legal (im)mobilities that some travellers made use of to be able to travel to so-called friendly nations from East Germany, a movement known as “Unerkannt durchs Freundesland” (UdF; translation: incognito through friendly country) (see Reinhardt, 2014). It investigates the travellers’ perception of these (im)mobilities and their strategies around them, as well as the risk associated with these strategies.

This part of the study uses a Grounded Theory approach (Glaser & Strauss, 2017), analysing secondary qualitative data consisting of self-narratives of unauthorised travel in the USSR in the 1970s and 1980s that have been published as two separate monographs (Klauß & Böttcher, 2011; Kuhbandner und Oelker, 2016). The author free codes the data and looks for emerging themes, and second and third order topics.

So far (at the time of this abstract submission, data analysis is still ongoing), themes have emerged that centre around legalities and strategies in using loop-holes to travel; around risk, in particular in getting caught and mitigating these risks; and around the motivation to take up the illegal and risky journeys anyways.

This study contributes to the literature on (im)mobilities from a historic perspective, in the context of the GDR and USSR. It further explores the link of risk in relation to leisure travel and legal immobilities, which has not received much scholarly attention. Lastly, it challenges the perception, particularly outside of the former Eastern Bloc states, what life behind the Iron Curtain was like.

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Juliane Thieme is a Senior Lecturer in Events & Tourism and member of the Tourism and Marketing Research Centre at the University of Greenwich. She is researching independent tourism in developing countries (particularly in Colombia), and in historical contexts, using qualitative methods. As a child of the German Democratic Republic, she is keen to explore themes of resistance, social justice, and mobilities, in both her own countries' history as well as across other countries'.

Children with Disabilities' Participation: Separate Leisure Provision as Inclusion?

Rebecka Tiefenbacher, Department of Thematic Studies – Child Studies, Linköping University, Sweden

Abstract:

In research concerning children with disabilities' leisure, inclusive leisure is often conceptualized as settings or activities that accommodates all children, regardless of their needs and competencies (e.g. Austin and Lee 2013; Hodge and Runswick-Cole 2013). In this way, inclusive leisure becomes a place where children with and without disabilities can meet and spend time together. However, 'children with disabilities' is a heterogenous group with diverse needs, conditions, and interests and achieving 'inclusion' is therefore complex. Despite attention to physical, attitudinal, social as well as political factors (Wenger et al. 2021) and a strive towards inclusion (Goodwin and Staples 2005; Jeanes et al. 2018), research and reports continually find that children with disabilities face barriers to their leisure participation and inclusion (cf. Hodge and Runswick-Cole 2013; Melbøe and Ytterhus 2017; The Swedish Agency for Participation 2020).

In this presentation, I ask what happens when leisure is specifically built and organized for children with disabilities. I focus on 'separate leisure' as a phenomenon, i.e. leisure where membership and access is dependent on meeting specific criteria, such as having certain diagnoses or needs. In this way, children's needs and conditions can be the starting point of the leisure setting/activity, thus providing a space where they are the norm rather than a problem (cf. Campbell 2008; Hodge and Runswick-Cole 2013). I will share insights from an ethnographic study of a separate leisure space aimed at children between the ages of 3-11 with disabilities such as ADHD and ASD (Tiefenbacher 2023a; 2023b), focusing specifically on the conditions for children's leisure participation and inclusion. Based on a thematic analysis of the empirical material, I will discuss how this leisure setting becomes a place where the children are included and participating. In this way, I problematize how separate leisure can also be understood as inclusive leisure.

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Rebecka Tiefenbacher is a Ph.D. student at the Department of Thematic Studies – Child Studies at Linköping University, Sweden. Her dissertation project centers a leisure space for young children with disabilities, with a specific focus on children's actions and activities. Rebecka's background is in interdisciplinary childhood studies and gender studies and her research interests relate to children's non-verbal participation and representation in research, marginalized childhoods, and the intersection of childhood and gender.

“The Match that Not Every Club Wants to Play”

Felipe Bertazzo Tobar, Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Management, Clemson University.

Abstract:

European football heritage-based attractions such as stadium tours and museums, often characterized by a celebratory and nostalgic approach to football pasts, have become highly visited attractions important to football clubs’ cultural and commercial interests. In times when societies demand countries to reckon with their unspoken pasts (Macdonald, 2015), football clubs have also faced harsh scrutiny to revisit their difficult history. Supported by the social constructionism paradigm (Crotty, 1998), case study methodology (Merriam, 1998), and multi-data sources collected in forty days of fieldwork, this thirty-minute research documentary discusses how and why European football clubs of distinct sporting, commercial, and tourism statuses promote or suppress their past experiences under authoritarian regimes at their touristic attractions. The first part of the documentary covers one of the most famous clubs in the world, Real Madrid (Spain). At the Tour Bernabéu, the city’s third most visited museum, the documentary explains and uncovers the reasons behind the deliberate suppression of the club’s experiences during the Spanish Civil War, still considered a source of division within Spanish society. The second part of the documentary takes the audience to FC St. Pauli (Germany), renowned worldwide as an anti-fascist club, showcasing the fans’ bottom-up political organization to confront the club’s difficult heritage linked to the Nazi regime, which mirrors German society post-reunification’s consensus that confrontations with the past are essential in any democratic political milieu. The documentary reveals how heritage and tourism can simultaneously promote historical awareness and spaces of remembrance but also inaccurate pasts and intentional forgetting, as well as that clubs’ differences in dealing with difficult pasts are directly influenced by contemporary commercial interests and the respective socio-cultural and political approaches, including heritage and memorialization policies, adopted by each society since the aftermath of authoritarian regimes.

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Felipe Bertazzo Tobar, an international scholar from Brazil, holds the tenure-track position of Assistant Professor in the Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Management Department at Clemson University (USA). His research interests lie at the intersection of sport, tourism, heritage, events, and politics. His work has appeared in international journals such as the *International Journal of Sport Policy and Politics*, *Journal of Sport & Tourism*, *Soccer and Society*, and *The International Journal of Sport and Society*.

‘Welcome’ at what Cost? Hearing New Philippine Arrivant Stories of Mobility, Resettlement, and Labour via *Kuwentuhan*

Giana Tomas, and Kimberly J. Lopez, PhD, Department of Recreation and Leisure Studies, University of Waterloo, Canada

Abstract:

Amidst nationwide housing crises, heightened employment precarities, and inflation, Canada plans to increase the influx of new arrivants in the next year(s) ¹. As Canada continues to welcome new arrivants, public discourse that position new arrivants as burdens to the systems that ‘welcome’, yet simultaneously reproduce them as labouring bodies for production in capitalist structures ²⁻³, intensifies. New arrivants from the Philippines constitute one of the largest new arrivant communities in Canada who are known to resettle ‘well’ and maintain cultural/familial ties⁴ despite resettlement challenges (e.g., drastic changes in routines, employment, environments, culture, health, community⁵). Leisure can potentially alleviate these challenges by facilitating community connection, wellness, and sense of belonging for some new arrivants⁵. However, resettlement challenges make time for rest and leisure – crucial practices for maintaining well-being⁶, difficult to achieve. Knowledge about leisure and resettlement, including gaps in the system that interrupt new arrivant resettlement and their ability to achieve wellness, is understudied. In these contexts, migration-resettlement systems must be held accountable to ensure that new arrivants have access to leisure to maintain well-being.

To better understand insights that migration, resettlement, and ‘home’-making in Canada reveal about the systems some new arrivants interface with, this study (informed by social reproduction theory³ and *kuwentuhan* [storytelling]⁷) engages with firsthand stories of new Philippine arrivants to Canada. Stories heard via artifact-elicited⁸, collective memory work⁹ focus groups (represented as zines¹⁰), will paint a more nuanced picture of resettlement stories neglected by the system and the broader public. Through this work, migration and resettlement can be different if new arrivants were not only ‘welcomed’ and expected to navigate resettlement with limited support, but fully supported in all areas of well-being through a system that cares for new arrivants as *humans* who not only labour, but also are able to access rest and restorative leisure.

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Giana Tomas is completing her PhD in Recreation and Leisure Studies at the University of Waterloo. Giana examines migration and (re)settlement, diasporic communities, labour, and well-being through the frames of social reproduction theory and anti-oppressive approaches.

Kimberly J. Lopez works as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Recreation and Leisure Studies at the University of Waterloo in Ontario, Canada. Kim is interested in the racialization and feminization of caring labour, aging, long-term care, and discourse and digital media.

Quebec Residential Tourists and Musical Spaces in Miami

Rémy Tremblay, Department of Social Sciences, TELUQ, University of Quebec, Montreal, Canada

Abstract:

Since the 1970s, hundreds of thousands of Quebecers have visited the Miami region during the winter. From the second half of the 1980s, a real ethnic tourist community was formed, mixing permanent immigrants and residential tourists. Multiple services in French aimed at Quebecers have appeared, including many restaurants with popular singers from Quebec. However, over the past 15 years, this community has been disappearing and Quebec tourists mainly reside in modest motels or mobile home parks and campsites. Nevertheless, a fundamental leisure space still exists: Frenchie's Cafe: restaurant, leisure place and meeting place for Quebec singers. This presentation will emphasize the role of musical spaces in the cohesion of this French-speaking ethnic tourist community located in one of the largest American cities. The bulk field research for this project was undertaken in the winter of 1996, with additional interviews intermittently taking place in Quebec afterwards 2006, 2010, and 2023 to monitor whether there were any significant developments over time, especially in relation to the Frenchie's Café, which had relocated, and its music scene exclusively devoted Quebec Snowbirds. In total, key-informant interviews were conducted with 30 French-Canadian business owners in Florida, with 25 interviews taking place in 1996 and an additional 5 interviews for each of the remaining years, including the Frenchie's Cafe. The types of businesses owned and operated by the participants differed and include motels, hairdressers, travel agents, real estate agents, convenience stores, and caterers.

Rémy Tremblay completed his bachelor's and master's degrees in Geography at Laval University in Quebec City. In 2000, he obtained a doctorate from the University of Ottawa in the same discipline and then undertook a two-year postdoctoral internship at the National Institute of Scientific Research (INRS-Urbanization, Culture and Society), in Montreal. He has been a professor of geography at TELUQ's University of Québec, in Montreal, since 2005. Until 2010, Rémy Tremblay held the Canada Research Chair on the quality of life of knowledge cities. His

work mainly focuses on spatial representations. He has published on the perception that "talents" (highly qualified workers) have of the North American city, as well as on the quest for a better life of Quebec tourists and migrants in southeast Florida (Floribec). Recently, he has become interested in the relationship between geography and music.

“That’s all they care about...just these crazy photos”

Hazel Tucker, University of Otago, New Zealand

Abstract:

This paper focuses in on the notions of ‘care’ and ‘responsible tourism’ in relation to contemporary tourists’ increased focus on the self(ie) in their photography behaviour. Drawing on my longitudinal ethnographic study of tourism dynamics in the Cappadocia region of Turkey (Tucker, 2024), in the paper I will discuss the ways in which the contemporary tourists’ quests for *Instagram*-able self(ie) photos can be perceived as a form of irresponsible tourism. While tourists’ focus on and performing of self is by no means new, what has arisen from the new visual-cum-social media tourist culture is a more profound turn towards touristed places - and the peoples/communities in those places - become nothing more than a backdrop for self(ie) photographs. In the paper I will outline the implications that tourists’ disinterest, or even blatant disregard, is having - particularly vis-à-vis the local community in Cappadocia. A reduction in the extent to which they interact with tourists, together with a decreased ability to play ‘host’ to their tourist ‘guests’, has culminated in what were previously conceived as performances of hospitality becoming lost to a neoliberal logic of merely meeting tourists’ self(ie) needs. In other words, since “all they care about...[is] just these crazy photos”, there is a growing sense of an overall lack of care on the part of contemporary tourists. This paper links the notion of care with self(ie)-focused tourist behaviours in order to consider the implications of such contemporary forms of irresponsible tourism.

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Hazel Tucker is professor of tourism at the University of Otago, New Zealand. She has a PhD in Social Anthropology from the University of Durham, UK. Hazel is author of *Living With Tourism: Negotiating Identity in a Turkish Village* (Routledge, 2003) and *The Spectre of Unlimited Change: Living With Tourism in a Turkish Village Revisited* (Routledge, 2024). She is co-editor of *Tourism and Postcolonialism* (Routledge, 2004), *Commercial Homes in Tourism* (Routledge, 2009) and *Tourism Paradoxes* (Channel View, 2021).

Racehorses in Transition: Reimagining Leisure from an Interspecies Perspective

Dr Helen Wadham, Manchester Metropolitan University

Dr Nora Schuurman, University of Turku

Professor Alex Franklin, Coventry University

Abstract:

Existing conceptualisations of leisure are profoundly anthropocentric. This paper explores how paying greater attention to our relations with other animals might transform our understanding of leisure in both theory and practice. Specifically, we focus on the retraining and rehoming of ex-racehorses. In the UK, about 7,500 horses leave racing each year (www.britishhorseracing.com). Businesses and charities – some of them linked to the racing industry – have been established to help rehome these horses and/or deal with the opportunities and challenges that arise in the process. These organisations have played a key role in fostering an “ex-racer” community in the UK and elsewhere, which provides support for new owners and organises exclusive competitions at which former racehorses compete in various equestrian pursuits (Stowe & Kibler, 2016).

Ex-racers thus experience a series of spatial transitions as they move from racing yard to rehoming centre (or dealer) to private home, during which they may exchange a primarily individual and stabled existence, isolated from other horses, for that of living outside in a large herd (Stallones et al., 2023). These transitions are also temporal in nature, impacting on horses’ day-to-day lives as well as on their interactions with humans over time. The process of rehabilitation and rehoming also entails relational transformations in the lifescape of the horses concerned and their role within the socio-cultural world around them (Hockenhull et al., 2010). The horses learn new skills to equip them for the shift from being an equine athlete to their new role as a leisure horse or unriden companion. Through a multispecies ethnography of the people, horses and organisations involved, we explore retraining and rehoming as an interspecies experience. What spatial transitions and relational transformations do the various actors experience? And how does an interspecies focus on these transitions and transformations expand our understanding of the very concept of leisure? In order to explore

these questions, we draw in particular on the anthropological concepts of lifescape (Howorth 1999), liminality (Turner 1967) and home (Douglas 1991).

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Dr. Helen Wadham is Reader in Sustainability at Manchester Metropolitan University, UK. Her research focuses on collaboration across species, sectors and communities. Current projects include a focus on human-animal work and off-grid living. She is Principal Investigator of the British Academy/Leverhulme Trust-funded project "Racehorses in Transition." Helen is a fellow of the Royal Anthropological Institute, and a member of the European Group of Organisation Studies and the Institute of Place Management.

Dr. Nora Schuurman is Academy Research Fellow at the University of Turku, Finland. She is a geographer specialising in human-animal relationality, especially spaces and practices of interspecies co-living and care, animal agency, the human-animal boundary, knowledge, expertise, and animal death. She is currently studying care practices in her project "Landscapes of Interspecies Care: Working the Human-Animal Boundary in Care Practices" (Academy of Finland).

Professor Alex Franklin is Professor of Sustainability Science at Coventry University, UK. Her research is inspired by the need to advance understanding and develop more conducive ways of supporting both individual and collective forms of care practice in the context of nature-society relations, sustainable living and sustainable place-making. Alex explores collaborative and relational forms of environmental action and care, with a particular focus on situated know-how and more-than-human relations. This includes, for example, exploring at both micro and macro scales: how differing ways of knowing, understanding and practicing environmental care are brought together through place-based initiatives; and, how to improve societal 'responsibility' towards the causes and challenges of biodiversity loss and climate change.

Climate Change Impact, Risk and Adaptation on Outdoor Recreation Activity in Taiwan

Wei-Ching, Wang, Tourism Department, Shih-Hsin University, Taipei, Taiwan

Abstract:

Extreme weather patterns and unstable weather conditions caused by climate change have a significant impact on outdoor recreation activities that rely on natural resources (Matzarakis et al., 2012; Mendelsohn & Markowski, 1999;). Previous researches on the relationship between climate change and outdoor recreation have mostly focused on snow-based activities in temperate regions, with comparatively less discussion on other regions, climate patterns, and their associated recreation activities (Becken, 2013 Cocolas et al., 2016; Jenkins, 2019; Steiger et al., 2020).

Situated in a subtropical region, Taiwan experiences a warm and rainy climate, with frequent typhoons during the summer. In recent years, the impact of climate change has led to events such as intense short-term rainfall, floods, landslides, posing challenges and increasing risks for outdoor recreation activities. Therefore, this study investigates the impacts, risks, and adaptations of climate change on outdoor recreation activities via in-depth interviews with activity guides or practitioners from some several popular outdoor activities in Taiwan, including mountain hiking, diving, river tracing, and windsurfing.

The results illustrated that the impacts and risks of climate change on outdoor recreation in Taiwan can be categorized into three main types: "extreme weather patterns", "changes in environmental resources", and "unstable weather conditions". For example, floods and landslides may cause danger for mountain-based activities, while changing ecological system derived from climate change influence what divers can experience during their visits. The adaptation strategies can be mainly divided into "equipment", "experience" and "information exchange". Facing the challenge of climate change, outdoor recreation practitioners tend to deal with it by exchanging information with their fellow members and trying to enhance their own experience and equipment. Managerial implication and suggestion for future research were proposed based on the research results.

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Wei-Ching Wang is an associate professor in Tourism Department, Shih-Hsin University, Taipei, Taiwan. Her research interests include outdoor recreation management, leisure behavior and nature-based tourism. Currently she focuses her research area mainly on climate change impact on outdoor recreation and tourism.

Visitor Experience in Digital Immersive Exhibitions of Culture Heritage Sites

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Professor Caroline Scarles, School of Hospitality and Tourism Management, University of Surrey, UK

Abstract:

In recent years, culture heritage destinations have increasingly applied digital immersive exhibitions for marketing purposes. However, research has yet to explore the effectiveness of visitors' experiences of such digital exhibitions in driving subsequent travel intention to the destination shown. Thus, insight is required to research the effect of experience of and exposure to digital marketing experiences, to visitor behavior to identify which factors encourage potential tourists to visit destinations shown.

By applying the stimulus-organism-response (SOR) theory (Mehrabian & Russell, 1974), this study investigates potential tourists' behavior that comprises a stimulus (sensory perception), process (flow experience, and cognitive and affective response), and output (travel intention). "Meet Dunhuang Digital Immersive Exhibition" was chosen as the study case. As this digital show has been on in several Chinese cities recently, and has been attracting a number of visitors.

As the research on ex-situ digital immersive exhibition is limited, a two step study was conducted. Study 1 follows a qualitative paradigm. Data of reviews on "Meet Dunhuang Digital Immersive Exhibition" from Damai (<https://m.damai.cn/damai/home/index.html>) was collected. In addition, content analysis was conducted to identify visitors' sensory perception during the exhibition. Based on the results of study 1 and the literature, a questionnaire was designed and distributed for Study 2. The survey was conducted immediately after participants experiences in November 2023 when the exhibition was on in Hangzhou and Chongqing. Meanwhile, open-ended questions were followed to ask the respondents when they were willing to share. Finally, a total of 497 valid questionnaires and 72 open-ended question answers were obtained. The findings suggest that the visitors' visual and auditory sense

positively influence flow experience, and flow experience impacts cognitive and affective response which both lead to visitors' travel intention to the destination in the future.

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Sha Wang is an Associate Professor in the Department of Tourism at Fudan University. Her research interests include small tourism business, and tourist behavior.

Xinzi Luo is a master student in the Department of Tourism at Fudan University. Her research focus is tourism marketing.

Caroline Scarles is Professor of Technology in Society in the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management, University of Surrey. Her key research interests lie in the three key areas of: the visual and multi-sensuality within society, social and cultural sustainability and how these are brought together through technology for social good.

(Ir)Responsible Leisure, Planetary Sustainability and Human Wellbeing: Exploring Saltwater Citizenship

Belinda Wheaton, University of Waikato Aotearoa, New Zealand

Kate Moles, University of Cardiff

Marg Cosgriff, University of Waikato

Mihi Nemani, University of Waikato

Abstract:

Despite widespread recognition of the need for better understanding about human-ocean relationships, and the interrelated impacts on people, communities, and ecologies, human and environmental health and sustainability outcomes have largely been explored in isolation. As a growing body of research focused on coastal communities and ecologies is showing, coastal leisure such as swimming and surfing provides a space to explore these interconnections.

In this paper I discuss an in-process collaboration between researchers at the Universities of Cardiff (Wales) and Waikato (NZ) which seeks to explore ‘saltwater citizenship’, which Whyte (2019) proposed in the context of Irish surfers. He shows that saltwater citizenship holds many contradictions, and the navigation of complex and diverse identities reflective of the multiple relations of communities with their environments.

My focus is the exploratory research on saltwater citizenship in NZ. We set out to have interactions at the beach with diverse community members who work in/on the water including recreational water users, (e.g. swimmers, surfers, fishing, paddling) artists/ photographers, Indigenous Māori and members of environmental and citizen science groups. The participant-defined interactions included conversations, mobile methods (e.g. walk-and talk and swim along), and experiential encounters such as collecting and sharing kai (food). We also utilised ‘mood-boards’ a creative technique in design work, but as yet limited in its use for qualitative research. Mood boards have been advocated as a creative visual method that can help express emotions that can be difficult with traditional talking methods alone (Spawforth-Jones, 2021).

The paper discusses the benefits and challenges of these methods for understanding the complexity of local saltwater citizenship, and the ways it is understood and enacted. More

broadly, it speaks to the conference theme of (ir) Responsible Leisure illustrating the multiple, complex relations of communities with their 'local' environments, and impacts for human, more-than human wellbeing.

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Belinda Wheaton is Professor in the School of Social Sciences and School of Health University of Waikato, Aotearoa/New Zealand. Her research interests span sport and leisure with a focus on identity, inclusion and inequality. Belinda is best known for her research on informal and lifestyle sport cultures which includes 2 monographs and 3 edited collections. She is Co-editor of *The Palgrave Handbook of Feminism and Sport, Leisure and Physical Education*, and Managing Editor of *Annals of Leisure Research*.

Being for All in the Outdoors: Improving Opportunity and Access in Outdoor Sports, Leisure, Events, and Tourism

Dr. Jase Wilson, Carnegie School of Sport, Leeds Beckett University

Jason King, Carnegie School of Sport, Leeds Beckett University

Dr. Adele Doran, Department of Service Sector Management, Sheffield Hallam University

Professor Kate Dashper, School of Events, Tourism and Hospitality, Leeds Beckett University

Abstract:

Outdoor nature-based sport, leisure, tourism and events is a growing field of interest economically, socially, culturally and academically. A burgeoning field of research has indicated the social, mental, and physical benefits of nature-based access for participants (see Shanahan et al., 2019), however, more recently access inequalities have become a key focal point for research and within the outdoor sector more broadly (Dashper & King, 2022). The ‘outdoors’ (specifically outdoor sport, leisure, recreation, tourism, and events) within the UK and abroad has historically been characterised by its white, ablebodiedness, its heteronormativity, and its masculine dimensions (see Wilson & Dashper, 2022; Doran, Schofield & Low, 2018). Exclusion regarding outdoor access involves both its place and space; *spatially* the mythology of the outdoors has historically represented men and excluded Otherness while it’s geographical *place* presents significant challenges for underrepresented audiences who often disproportionately reside within densely populated urban areas or may include those with mobility challenges.

In July 2023, a participatory research workshop was held with over 40 representatives from the outdoor sector to discuss the question: *How and in what ways can we improve opportunity and access for all in the outdoors?* The workshop sought to explore, through participatory research methods, the perspectives of key outdoor stakeholders about key actions to creating a more equal, diverse, and inclusive outdoor sector. The workshop collected responses via sticky notes to set questions which rotated between groups and were later thematically categorised and ranked by individual voting. Through the process, the research sought to highlight ‘*leverage points*’ (Meadows, 2008) which are key points to intervene in a system to create change. The results are presented via the Action Scales Model (Nobles et al., 2022) which outlines four

major categories of leverage points (Beliefs, Goals, Structure, & Events). This research presentation will describe both the methods and results of the workshop in detail.

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Jase Wilson is a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Carnegie School of Sport at Leeds Beckett University. His work is centred around outdoor sport, leisure, events and tourism (OSLET) and considers aspects such as social justice and equality around access to natural environments and sport, to the socio-cultural and historical horizons of OSLET more broadly.

Women's Experiences of Hyper Masculine Sporting Spaces: Gendered Performances in High-Altitude Mountaineering Tourism in South Asia

Dr. Jase Wilson, Carnegie School of Sport, Leeds Beckett University

Abstract:

Mountains have long been viewed as spaces imbued with symbolic properties where masculine ideals of heroism are tied to colonial projects of empire building (Hansens, 2000; Isserman & Weaver, 2008). The lofty and distant summits of the Alps, or the Himalaya were discursively imagined within such masculine frameworks, prizing the 'untouched', 'virgin' spaces where only the most daring, strong and heroic climbers could reach (Davis, 2011). Adventure is historically shaped by a colonial, imperial imagination of exotic, faraway places which are juxtaposed against the backdrop of the domesticity of the home – where women reside (Guggleberger, 2015). Which speaks to the feminization of nature and landscapes as they are discursively portrayed as objects of male gaze and performance (Pritchard & Morgan, 2000). The depiction of high-altitude mountaineering as a hyper-masculine space, where bourgeois masculinity was negotiated and performed is an existing notion (see Frohlick, 2000; 2006; Purtschert, 2020). This presentation, however, aims to show how gender is negotiated by high-altitude mountaineering female mountaineers who aim to climb peaks located in the so called 'Death Zone' (peaks which measure above 8000 metres) and highlight women's experiences of hyper-masculine sporting spaces. This presentation draws upon a period of 150 days ethnographic research in Pakistan and Nepal where 25 female high-altitude mountaineers were formally interviewed. Women's experiences are presented via thematic narrative analysis to examine how women carefully negotiated their gender within male dominated spaces.

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Gender Inequalities in Sport – Exploring the Experiences of Female Coaches

Dr Urszula Wolski, Buckinghamshire New University

Abstract:

Participation and equal opportunities for women and girls continues to grow in many sports, including those sports such as cricket, football, and rugby, which conventionally have been seen as being firmly rooted within the male domain (Lake, 2012). Yet, sports remain gendered and stereotypical. The gendered division in sport is even more apparent when looking at coaching in sport, where coaching opportunities are limited in women's sports and mostly absent in men's sports (Walker and Bopp, 2011). Coaches are still vastly under-represented, and the coaching profession is a white male-dominated occupation in which women are marginalised, bullied, harassed, and excluded (Norman and Rankin-Wright, 2018).

Previous research carried out by Wolski (unpublished) which looked at the experiences of female tennis coaches found that coaches continue to experience sexism, and discrimination within their professions. Key themes identified were stereotyping, the lack of role models and feeling excluded from the Boys' Club. Current research builds on this, to explore the experiences of female coaches in other sports in different countries, particularly those sports that have traditionally been seen as male-dominated, for example, cricket and rugby.

Using a mixed methods approach, comprising of a questionnaire and semi-structured interviews, findings from the research will be presented at the conference.

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Dr Urszula Wolski - Research interests include new technologies for social research, qualitative research methods and software, the Sociology of Sport, the Sociology of Religion and Positive Psychology. Current research is looking at gender inequalities within sports coaching; character strengths and participation in sport/physical activity to promote positive ageing; and the beliefs and experiences of paranormal investigators. Previous research within the field of Positive Psychology looked at the integration of character strengths and mindfulness for achieving flow in tennis performance.

Understanding the Strength and Depth of Public Responses to a Planning Application for an Outdoor Pool

Michael Wood, Northumbria University

Dr Linda Allin, Independent

Abstract:

The 1960 Wolfenden report, Sport in the Community and the 1968 Sports Council report Planning for Sport were catalysts for the demise of outdoor swimming pools (Lidos) in policy. The mandate was 'as a general rule, [pools] should be inside (Worpole, 2002)'.

Lidos fell into disrepair and were replaced or destroyed due to this strategy as councils no longer had funds or guidance to retain them within their leisure portfolio (Smith, 2005; Pussard, 2007).

During the last two decades – accelerated by the COVID-19 pandemic, where outdoor swimming was one of the few allowable activities – there has been growth in outdoor, wild and lido swimming (Pidd, 2023), accompanied by claims of mental and physical health benefits (Massey et al, 2022).

Over 30 schemes to create, save or takeover lidos by community trusts or local authorities have emerged, nurtured by the Future Lidos Group (Wood, 2023) and their National Heritage Lottery funded “Pooling Resources” project, which has created a toolkit of resources (futurelidos.org).

Restoration of lidos requires a planning application, community consultation and approval before proceeding. Analysis of planning responses provides an opportunity to gain insight into community perspective on the restoration of lidos and whether they are seen as positive developments and resurrection of a historical cultural legacies, or not.

This study examines over 1,900 public responses to a planning approval application for a lido in North East of England, using inductive thematic analysis (Braun & Clarke, 2006). Findings reveal the strength of community feelings towards the lido. We identify key reasons respondents gave their support, including impact on tourism, health, leisure and community pride. We analyse responses in terms of the perceived community value. We uncover tensions

between restoring this historical legacy for community benefit, and issues around cost, environmental impact, potential further developments, ensuring safe and sufficient usage.

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Michael Wood is an Assistant Professor at Northumbria University in Sport Management, who has worked to restore a Lido for over a decade. Applying previous experience in strategic brand management, he presented a proposal to the Virtual Lido conference in November 2020, which led to the Formation of the Future Lidos Group in February 2021.

Dr Linda Allin is currently an independent researcher, formerly Associate Professor in the Department of Sport, Exercise and Rehabilitation at Northumbria University. Her main teaching areas were in community sport development and on the MSc Sport Management programme and she has a longstanding research and personal interest in the outdoors.

“Feed the fun”: assessing the social return on investment (SROI) attached to HUNGERBALL™.

Richard Keith Wright, AUT Centre for Active Ageing, Auckland University of Technology.

Abstract:

This study reveals the findings from the first three stages of an ongoing Social Return On Investment (SROI) Analysis of HUNGERBALL, an award-winning sport for social inclusion-focused social enterprise developed in Auckland, New Zealand. HUNGERBALL’s strategic priorities, mission and purpose focus on the development of healthy and socially-engaged communities through the provision of fast, fun and immersive play time.

A SROI Analysis has six stages, the first of which is an analysis of stakeholder perceptions. The second stage involves mapping the inputs, outputs and outcomes and the construction of a logic model, based on the findings taken from the first stage. Within the third stage, an impact map or theory of change is developed to capture the relationships between the outputs found within the logic model.

HUNGERBALL’s stakeholders were categorised by their level of power/influence and their level of interest. Two rounds of stakeholder interviews were conducted over an 18 month period, resulting in the identification of four social indicators and a logic model that focused on the perceived importance of generating enjoyable, engaging and enriching experiences. The initial social indicators were; Physical and Mental Health, Mental Well-being, Individual development and Social and Community Development.

To quote one of the participants, HUNGERBALL “*really* needs to be seen to be believed”. Whilst many of the existing games focus on facilitating fun physical activity that enhances social capital through connection and inclusion, the stakeholders analysis reveals an opportunity for HUNGERBALL to also incorporate games that require players to be innovative, adaptive and problem-solvers (under pressure). For example, a series of edutainment challenges could be given to participants, and spectators, requiring them to apply past experiences, mental arithmetic and even physics (trajectory, angles, and motion) to win points and/or prizes.

Dr Richard Keith Wright is Co-Director of the Auckland University of Technology (AUT) Centre for Active Ageing and Leader of the Graduate Programme in Sport and Exercise. Rich, as he prefers to be known, is a storyteller, a leisure sociologist and lifestyle entrepreneur who sees active recreation and sporting fixtures as a means of creating social change. He is the founder and Chair of the Sporting Memories Foundation Aotearoa New Zealand.

A Cultural Exploration of Walking and Climbing in North Arran

Yingying Zhang, University of Edinburgh

Abstract:

The North Arran mountains offer an alluring hill-walking adventure, particularly for tourists from southern Scotland (Scottish Natural Heritage, 2010). Goatfell, the Isle of Arran's highest peak, and the surrounding valleys, such as Glen Sannox and Glen Rosa, have attracted walkers and climbers since the arrival of steamboats, railways, and the 'doon the water' holiday culture (Damer, 2000). However, these adventure activities are highly dependent on the island's natural resources, a stable social environment, and robust infrastructure, such as the mountain access, ferry service and accommodation.

The COVID-19 pandemic, with its social distancing policies, significantly impacted the island's economic revenue and tourism sector (Brocek et al., 2020). While similar situations have been observed in the past outbreaks, with some existing studies on preparing for future crises (Page et al., 2006), the present challenges and conflicts in North Arran, including path erosions, unsustainable sporting events, and a lack of reliable facilities, highlight the uncertainty and the need for further understanding in this area.

This study delves into the case of North Arran, utilising materials from media, archives, governmental documents, and insights from sport people. It offers an in-depth exploration of the role that sport, especially walking and climbing, can play in this unstable island setting and examines its impact on the environment and social life of the island.

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Yingying Zhang is a PhD candidate at the University of Edinburgh. Her research focuses on the intersections of sport, space and conflicts in the mountain society.

How Different Types of Environmental Interpretation Affect Tourists' Pro-Environmental Behavior

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Abstract:

Environmental interpretation serves as an effective educational strategy for tourism destinations to guide tourists' behavior towards the environment, with the goal of achieving environmental sustainability and promoting responsible tourism¹. Existing literature has empirically verified the effectiveness of environmental interpretation in improving tourists' pro-environmental behavior². However, few research has delved to the specific psychological mechanism and underlying the behavior-shaping effectiveness of environmental interpretation³. To fill these gaps, the current research first proposed a new typology of environmental interpretation (i.e., performative interpretation vs. co-creative interpretation) in terms of its contents and form design, which is based on comprehensive literature review and robust causal reasoning. Then a total of four experiments, including one lab experiment, two field experiments (i.e., the selected destination: *Wuyi Mountain National Park, in Fujian, China*), and one online experiment at a larger scale⁴ (i.e., via *Credamo*), have been conducted to verify when, why, and how the newly-proposed typology of environmental interpretation cast an impact on tourists' pro-environmental behavior. The results indicated that: (1) Co-creative (vs. performative) interpretation shows a stronger effect on the improvement of tourists' pro-environmental behavior (i.e., the main effect); (2) Environmental self-efficacy plays a mediating role in the main effect; (3) Environmental concern (high vs. low) moderates the main effect. Specifically, when tourists possess a higher level of environmental concern, the more significant boosting effect arisen from co-creative (vs. performative interpretation is thus mitigated. The extant findings enrich the relevant literature on typology of environmental interpretation and antecedents of environmental interpretation effectiveness⁵. Moreover, the robust findings verified by a normative experimental method also prove to be inspiring for tourism destinations managers to feasibly optimize their environmental interpretation design for the sake of its enhanced effects on tourists' pro-environmental behavior.

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Ziling Zhang is a Ph.D Student at Department of Philosophy and Science, School of Humanities, Southeast University, in Nanjing, China. Her articles were published in *Frontiers in Psychology*. Her current research interest lies in the tourist behavior and tourism marketing domain. She is recently working on the research about tourists' pro-environmental behavior in national parks.

 **SPECIAL TRACKS****FOOD CONSUMPTION, ETHICS AND LEISURE****Food and Leisure: Alliances of Resistance and Identity in the Face of Depopulation**

Laura Amores-Lemus, Universidad de Sevilla/University of Seville, Spain

Abstract:

Since 2017 in Spain, the problem of demographic decline in rural areas has taken on an increasingly important dimension. While a number of measures in the institutional and legal spheres are beginning to push for greater visibility of the problem, as well as holistic attempts to solve it, no less important is the impetus that actors in their daily lives are developing to face the agony of the disappearance of their world and lifestyles. It is precisely these informal, not always planned practices that ethnography is paying attention to.

From my fieldwork in a small town of South-west Spain, I have seen the constant flourishing of central village celebrations that focus on traditional recipes and local food products. Thus, the moments of leisure, holiday and celebration of local pride are persistently (and without exception) crossed by the commensality and the defence of local foods. From communal *migas*, to the Chickpea Festival or family two-days *matanzas* (pig slaughter), I argue that, no matter the variety of these expressions, they always share an underlying logic intended to celebrate and revitalize the decaying identity of these communities. And it is precisely through food and commensality, due to its power of attraction and its quality as a diacritical element of cultures (Chrzan, 2017; López et al., 2016), that the effectiveness of these collective activities allows the recreation and permanence of identity self-esteem, distinction and sense of authenticity.

Drawing on the literature of defensive localism (Schermer, 2015; Winter, 2003), this case study exemplifies the growing relevance of phenomena such as self-expression and identity building via food products, as well as distinction, food choices based on ethics and a renewed spirit that

seeks to increase collective power and sustainable ecosystems (Blay-Palmer et al., 2016; Schenk et al., 2021), to reevaluate the vernacular (Díaz y Quintero, 2014).

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Laura Amores-Lemus is a Spanish anthropologist, Ph.D. student and researcher at the Department of Social Anthropology, University of Seville. She has worked with food anthropology, rural studies and local development since she became a member of the Andalusian multidisciplinary Research Group “Culture, Ecology and Development of Small

Territories”. Today, her thesis deals with the evolution and innovation of food practices in southwestern Spanish society. Last publications also address rural depopulation issues on those regions.

Veganism and Leisure. Research in the Italian Context

Carlo Genova, University of Turin, Italy

Alessia Toldo, University of Turin, Italy

Abstract:

In the Italian context, food represents, as is well known, a strong element of collective identification and, more generally, an important cultural reference (Harper and Faccioli, 2010; Parasecoli, 2004). Practices and patterns of preparation and consumption, in particular, serve as topics of discussion that give rise to practical and symbolic impacts, as well as strong processes of recognition and distinction, especially on a regional basis. In the last ten years, some alternative dietary styles have gained significant popularity (Stenico et al., 2024), and among these, veganism certainly constitutes one of the most significant. In many cases, "being vegan" not only means avoiding certain categories of foods but also adopting a broader and more diverse set of dietary practices that go well beyond the boundaries of the culinary field (Cherry, 2015; DaSilva et al., 2020; Gheihman, 2021; Paiva and Luiz, 2020). In this sense, being vegan is increasingly becoming a lifestyle, a form of leisure, even in the Italian context. But what does it mean to have a vegan leisure in Italy today? What are the daily practices that characterize it? What are the identification factors on which this lifestyle is based? This contribution attempts to answer these questions on the basis of research conducted in Italy through qualitative interviews with vegan individuals and analysis of the main virtual spaces to which they refer.

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Carlo Genova is associate professor at the University of Turin, where he teaches Sociology of culture and Lifestyles and urban spaces. His main fields of empirical research are youth cultures in urban space, youth political activism, food consumption and sustainability. His theoretical interests mainly focus on lifestyles and subcultures, social analysis of space and material culture, interpretative sociology.

Alessia Toldo is lecturer at the University of Turin, where she teaches International cooperation for development and Territorial policies and sustainability. His main fields of investigation are connected to local food policies, food poverty, socio-spatial justice and space-body relationship, geographies of bodies, feminisms and gender.

Mapping Ethical Choices: Geographical Influences on Moral Economy in Turin's Farmers' Markets

Tommaso Tonet, University of Bologna, Italy

Abstract:

Choosing to buy food in a specific place, be it a retail shop, a supermarket or a farmers' market, implies considering factors that are not only economic, but also involve moral sentiments. Consumption choices, therefore, pursue multiple objectives, supported not only by socially recognised practices in which one acquires social competence, but also by one's own sensibilities or conventions. What is called the 'moral economy' is realised, where the market is both influenced and influences actions of a certain morality and ethics. Based on these assumptions, Alternative Food Networks have been conceived on the one hand as a phenomenon that distances itself from conventional supply chains, and on the other hand as significant niche realities of specific social groups. Considering among the AFNs, local direct selling farmers' markets, this paper aims to investigate whether the purchases that take place there follow the principles of the 'moral economy', while at the same time placing them within a geographical logic. In a context where moral implications are constituted on different scales and the risk of an unreflective localism, what is called 'local trap', is high, it is interesting to understand how the positioning of places where local food is distributed can in turn influence consumption choices. Especially in the city of Turin, where, as also highlighted by the Turin Food Metric Report of 2023, most of the sixteen direct sale farmers' markets, promoted by private entities, are located in the highest income area of the city. It is analysed, therefore, whether this specific geographical distribution depends or makes purchasing choices, allowing an ethical consumption policy in an intertwining of networks, people and places.

Tommaso Tonet is a research fellow at the University of Turin and am involved in the study of food systems, with a focus on the Atlas of Food project and its communication. My main responsibility is to produce the Torino Food Metrics Report from 2022 and to conduct studies with focus on rural areas, crowdmapping and consumers.

Food Ethics and the Alternative Technology Movement

Miranda Vane, Kingston University

Abstract:

This paper will present a design history narrative of the ethics of the Alternative Technology movement, a loosely affiliated UK counterculture, active c.1972 – 1984. The Alternative Technologists worked outside of established institutional channels to research and develop technologies and methods for self-sufficient food production and energy generation that would not deplete the world's limited resources, in contrast to the dominant large-scale and industrialised norm. This paper will show how for the Alternative Technologists food production was not only a way of fulfilling an ideological environmental ambition, but was also a means of enacting a politics of decentralisation, establishing networked systems of knowledge-sharing and as a convivial tool for creating community. Examples will include Graham Caine's Eco House, an experimental architecture project built in Eltham, South London between 1972-75 that integrated food production systems into the domestic sphere, the creation of the Centre for Alternative Technology in Machynlleth, Wales in 1973 as an experimental research community and information hub, and Undercurrents, 'The magazine of radical science and alternative technology' that was published in the UK from 1972 – 1984.

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Miranda Vane is a design historian, researcher and curator. She is currently researching a Design History PhD at Kingston University about technological responses to concerns for food sustainability in the UK in the 1970s. Her key interest lies in looking beyond the conventional disciplinary boundaries of 'Design' to understand how creative and experimental practices negotiate our relationship with the environment and the natural world. She has a MA in the History of Design from RCA/V&A.

REGENERATIVE TOURISM, SOCIAL JUSTICE, AND THE JUST LEISURE CITY

Cardiff: 'Just city' or just Tokenism?

Dr Emma Bettinson and Professor Claire Haven-Tang, Cardiff Metropolitan University

Abstract:

In 2023, Cardiff's destination brand was boosted when it was voted both 'the best city in the UK' and 'the friendliest city in the UK' by readers of Conde Nast, an acclaimed travel magazine.

However, whilst these accolades provide obvious destination branding opportunities, adopting corporate branding techniques is not always effective if local communities are excluded from the process. A destination's sense of place is determined by the meanings given to it by locals and involving their sense of place is likely to produce a more authentic brand (Campelo, Aitken, Thyne & Gnoth, 2014). This less corporate approach aligns well with Cardiff positioning itself as one of the UK's first Equality Cities, seeking to implement comprehensive policies promoting equal opportunities and inclusive cultures.

However, like many UK cities, homelessness is a significant issue with Cardiff reporting the highest number of households assessed as homeless in 2022-23 (Welsh Government, 2023). Yet destinations seek to attract visitors and homelessness can challenge destination branding (Seo, Choi & Shin, 2021)

As a social enterprise, Invisible Cardiff trains people affected by homelessness to become walking tour guides to reduce economic inequalities and improve social justice. It represents a form of regenerative tourism advocating destination stewardship, sense of place and collaboration with the local community in recognition of their understanding of the unique potential of Cardiff. This potentially provides a vehicle for hitherto marginalised voices to be heard as part of 'just' Cardiff and, at the same time, enhance the authenticity of the destination brand.

Nevertheless, issues surround the perceived legitimacy of Invisible Cardiff with tourism and hospitality providers and policy makers. This paper provides findings from an event which

brings Invisible Cardiff together with key stakeholders to explore how Cardiff can seize this opportunity and truly claim to be a 'just city'.

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Dr Emma Bettinson is Principal Lecturer in Tourism Management and Head of Department of Tourism, Hospitality and Events at Cardiff Metropolitan University. Her research interests include niche tourism, tourism marketing, sense of place, tourism and hospitality higher education and academic hierarchy.

Professor Claire Haven-Tang is Professor of Destination Development in the Welsh Centre for Tourism Research and Associate Dean (Research) for Cardiff School of Management at Cardiff Metropolitan University. Her research interests include tourism & hospitality SMEs, Sense of Place, local food & drink, innovation in tourism, hospitality & events and human resource development issues.

Tourism Re-appraisal and Reparative Justice: A Healing Tool from Collective Trauma?

Sandro Carnicelli, University of West of Scotland, UK.

Alberto Amore, University of Oulu, Finland.

Marta Soligo, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, United States.

Abstract:

The notion of collective trauma has gained recent relevance in academia to refer to the impact of natural hazards, wars, and genocides to the affected communities. As Hirschberger (2018) points out, these traumatic collective experiences are often passed down through generations, thus becoming integral parts of collective memories. Additionally, these traumatic events can leave marks that can irremediably change collective identities (Alexander, 2004). Arguably, there have been responses to such trauma in the forms of societal healing processes (Jankovitz, 2021), but these have proved to be complex and requiring important structural changes and extensive agency. To this end, restorative justice approaches including both restitution and reparation schemes could contribute to healing of collective trauma. While restitution schemes focus on the re-integration following the pay-back from the offence, reparation schemes aim at raising care and concern of the consequences of the aggression (Frogett et al., 2007).

To date, scholars have predominantly approached tourism from a quintessentially dual perspective. On the one hand, it acknowledges the growing fetish of tourism and the exploitative nature of tourism development (Higgins-Desbiolles et al, 2019). On the other hand, it points at the global inequalities and the lasting environmental impacts on communities (Rastegar and Ruhanen 2022). In this presentation, we aim to redefine alternative paths for tourism to effectively heal affected communities through the lens of reparative justice. The latter is expected to lay down the foundations for a reparative turn in tourism. The presentation will present possibilities for tourism and leisure policy and strategies to work as tool for 'positive discrimination' tackling systems of historical oppression and marginalisation.

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Sandro Carnicelli is a Professor of Tourism and Leisure Studies at the University of the West of Scotland and the Deputy Director of the Centre for Culture, Sport, and Events. Sandro is a member of the Young Academy of Scotland, and a member of the ABRATUR (International Academy for the Development of Tourism Research in Brazil). As a researcher, Sandro has been working in the fields of Tourism, Events, and Leisure for almost 20 years. Sandro has over 50 publications between book chapters, peer-reviewed papers, and edited books.

Welcome to Fear City

Professor Rasul A. Mowatt, North Carolina State University

Abstract:

Leisure (settings, activities) have a seeming stranglehold on force delivery over other sectors in a city. (Pendleton, 2024; Mowatt, 2024). The serenity, quaint, animated, whimsical, and pleasure-filled leisure setting cannot be unsettled by the presence of the “law-breaker” (Rothman et al., 1979), thus public support to suppress the growth of a “moral panic” may present a likely robust area of study (Hall et al., 1978). The “Fear City” campaigns of New York City and Boston police officers warned tourists from coming to either city, not due to the out-of-control levels of crime but as a tactic against their defunding by city governments seeking to implement austerity measures and the redirection of public funds away from public services and toward privatized development (Phillips-Fein, 2017). Tourists arrived at the airport of either city in the mid-1970s and would be handed one million fliers produced by the Council for Public Safety with a list of warnings and cautions: “Never venture outside of downtown,” “never leave your valuables in the hotel,” “do not take public transportation...”. Convention and visitor bureaus of both cities had to proactively travel to cities throughout the world in order to alleviate growing concerns for safety. The “Fear City” campaigns were a victory for the burgeoning police union, the Fraternal Order of Police, that forced their cities to re-fund police department budgets and embark on a nationwide increase to the salaries of police officers throughout the United States (Seigel, 2018; Skaathun et al., 2022). The “Fear City” campaigns that targeted the tourism sector of New York City and Boston should serve as an informative cautionary tale on the ways that leisure spaces are often times overly policed spaces that create and maintain a social order rife with injustice, prompting the question, who has the right to the city (Mitchell, 2003)?

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Rasul A. Mowatt is the Department Head of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Management in the College of Natural Resources and Affiliate Professor in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at North Carolina State University. Primary areas of research are: Geographies of Race, Geographies of Violence, Animation of Public Space, and Critical Leisure Studies. Most recently published the book, *The Geographies of Threat and the Production of Violence: The City and State Between Us*, with Routledge in 2021.

Regenerative Tourism and Social Justice in a Dissonant Heritage Site: The Case of Krakow and Lublin, Poland

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Abstract:

The aim of the presentation is to present how regenerative tourism and social justice can be implemented in cities that were historically multicultural and nowadays, the legacy of various ethnic, religious and social groups is managed in such a way that the dissonant heritage becomes part of the space of leisure and creativity for tourists and local community. Interpreting difficult heritage requires respect for history, but forms of commemoration are also an expression of concern for nature and the well-being of residents.

This paper focus on tourism as a "catalyst" for work on the memory and the ways the past becomes present in the experiences of recipients, both guests and residents. Cultural events, performances and other activities inspired by facts, biographies of figures related to the region, literary and artistic tropes enable heritages (re)interpretion in the frame of the sustainable development paradigm. New forms of so-called "green commemoration" or outdoor events combining education with entertainment and recreation are offered. They are supposed to be a solution resulting from respect for conflicting needs and requirements and negotiations between various stakeholders involved in the development of tourism and recreation.

On the example of selected objects, trails and events in the south and south-eastern Poland, interpretative strategies created by photography, film and multimedia are identified. Two case studies are discussed: Krakow - one of the most frequently visited places in Poland, a city inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List and UNESCO City of Literature, and Lublin, actively promoting its historic multiculturalism in order to attract tourists and create a recognizable image and brand.

Key words: *dissonant heritage, interpretation, leisure, regenerative tourism, social justice, wellbeing.*

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Sabina Owsianowska, PhD is a Tourism Researcher and an Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Tourism and Leisure, University of Physical Education in Krakow (Poland). Her main areas of research, teaching and training include anthropology of tourism; tourism education from a humanistic perspective; social responsibility in leisure time organisations; multiculturalism and the interpretation of heritage, with focus on its dissonance, mainly in Central and Eastern Europe; visuality and the embodiment of travel experiences; health-oriented tourism. Recently, she co-authored monographs “Tourism Governance. A Critical Discourse on a Global Industry”, *De Gruyter Studies in Tourism* (De Gruyter, 2022), “Humanistic Tourism Education. Values, Norms and Dignity” (Routledge, 2021), “Brexit and Tourism. Travel, Borders and Identity” (Channel View Publication, 2020), “Lifelong Learning for Tourism” (Routledge, 2018) and co-edited “Anthropology of Tourism in Central and Eastern Europe. Bridging Worlds” (Rowman & Littlefield, 2018, with M. Banaszkiwicz).

Cultural Tourism in Las Vegas' Historic Westside: A community-based Approach

Marta Soligo and Claytee White, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, USA

Abstract:

During the first half of the 20th century, segregation in Las Vegas led to discrimination and inequality in the African American community, the Westside. Despite facing the many obstacles brought by redlining and too few federal loans to small businesses, the area experienced a cultural and economic revival between 1950 and 1970, with numerous Black business owners and performers like Sammy Davis Jr. mingling on Jackson Street, dubbed "the Black Strip." These international known stars were not allowed to stay in Strip hotels—even if they were selling out shows there—and lived in boarding houses in the Black community. From the 1980s onwards, after segregation ended and a consent decree mandated better jobs for Blacks, middle-class families left the neighborhood, which faced a decline due to urban issues such as gang violence, drugs, and the continued lack of economic investment.

As a result, despite hosting significant cultural and historical landmarks, the Westside has been constantly excluded from Las Vegas' broader tourism economy. The area has significant stories to tell and, according to the local stakeholders we interviewed during our qualitative study, it would be important to develop some community-based forms of cultural tourism. However, often locals expressed concerns over revitalization strategies accelerating gentrification and displacement processes. Such reflections included the necessity to understand if and how the effects of tourism planning could bring long-lasting benefits for residents and local businesses. Finally, community members declared that they hope that affirming the Historic Westside as a destination will support it becoming part of the broader Las Vegas tourism economy by creating virtual and physical "tourist corridors."

Marta Soligo is Assistant Professor in the William F. Harrah College of Hospitality and Director of Tourism Research at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas' (UNLV) Office of Economic Development. In this role, she is the academic lead of the UNLV Tourism Development, Diversification, and Resiliency Initiative, a project that aims at diversifying Las Vegas' tourism economy and its beneficiaries. Soligo's interests center around tourism and social justice, community development, and immigrant labor in tourism.

THE GREY SPACES OF POLLUTED LEISURE

Reckless Leisure? The Grey Spaces of Unauthorised 'Wild Swimming in the City'

Reid Allen, Nottingham Trent University, UK

Abstract:

Described as 'Britain's new craze', wild swimming has become a buzz-word in recent years as the activity has risen to a mainstream pastime. The benefits of outdoor swimming for health and wellbeing are well documented, and wild swimming has been described as a therapeutic, even spiritual, activity. However, as the summers get hotter and anthropogenic climate change accelerates, many urban residents are locked out of the limited and expensive options for swimming and are instead driven to find alternative blue spaces, spaces that are often polluted or involve trespass. There has been little critical consideration of outdoor swimming in polluted and/or unauthorised urban spaces, and how the embodied experience of swimming may differ in these environments.

This presentation will focus on the case of Shadwell Basin, a former dock in East London, that is a popular swimming destination despite a bylaw forbidding swimming, water quality concerns and a number of accidental drowning deaths in recent years (Hymer 2022; King 2020). This case study provides an opportunity to continue troubling the binary viewing of blue spaces as a 'threat to OR a benefit for health and wellbeing' (Evers & Phoenix 2022), considering Shadwell Basin's regularly characterisation as dirty (Davis 2018) and its previous drowning deaths. It also provides an opportunity to extend the concept of 'grey spaces'. 'Greyness' here refers to both the ambiguity and contradictions of social power arrangements in public space, and the grey materialities of the urban environment (O'Connor et al. 2022) and this presentation offers urban 'wild' swimming as a new way to explore the ambiguity of quasi-public spaces, risk and polluted leisure. It will also build on Borden (2001) and Kindynis's (2017) research, exploring unauthorised wild swimming as a 'spatial practice' (De Certeau 1984) by which authoritarian representations of space can be subverted.

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Reid Allen is a Research Assistant at Nottingham Trent University in the School of Social Sciences with a research interest in space and place-based thinking, leisure and ethnographic methods. I graduated from the MA Sociology (Urban Studies) programme at Goldsmiths University in 2022 and was published in The Sociological Review Magazine's December 2022 issue.

Reimagining Leisure in the Anthropocene: The Grey Spaces of Polluted Leisure

Tom Critchley, Goldsmiths University of London, UK

Abstract:

Leisure is often articulated in terms of green and blue spaces demonstrated to offer physical, well-being, pedagogical, and ecological benefits. However recent scholarship in leisure studies has offered new conceptual schema in terms of “grey spaces” attuned to practices and past times of “polluted leisure” largely taking place in the built environment amidst ecological degradation and wider social catastrophe (O’Connor et al. 2023; Evers 2019; Critchley 2022).

In doing so, polluted leisure activities are argued to exist in grey spaces of the city in which practitioners engage with materialities of concrete, asphalt, granite and grime serving as physical placeholders for the damage leisure has on the environment. Yet, greyness also serves as symbolic schema denoting leisure activities defined across ambivalence, nuance, liminality, contradiction and paradoxes reflecting wider social complexities of our times. This relationship between polluted leisure and grey spaces has been demonstrated, but not limited to, skateboarding studies in which practitioners often cite ecological sensibilities and resourceful practices yet often engage with leisure activities on concrete sites of pollution (O’Connor et al 2023; Glenney 2023). Here, polluted leisure provides unique prospects in which practitioners not only revel in pollution but provide unique means towards mediating environmental challenges that define the Anthropocene; we play in grey spaces but we also live in grey times.

As such, this workshop invites practitioners and researchers on grey spaces of leisure to present and unpack environmental ambiguities of their work towards more ecologically-just futures, but also demonstrate the wider social complexities that exist, and are mediated through, the polluted leisure of their choice.

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Tom Critchley (chair/presenter) is an Associate Lecturer and PhD student in the design department at Goldsmiths University of London. My PhD is looking at skateboarding's entry into development/humanitarian practices drawing insights into designing decolonially within transnational skateboarding communities. I am also one of the student reps for LSA For this session, I would present early research on "CitiBikeBoyz" – an inquiry into the phenomenon of "hacking" pay-as-you-ride city bikes towards DIY trail biking in city spaces as a means of exploring, negotiating and performing the post-capitalist city.

Grey Noise: Sonic Pedagogy and Inclusion in an East London Skate Space

Ben Dixon, Goldsmiths University of London, UK

Abstract:

Thinking through the work of Deleuze and Guattari, this paper discusses the contested issue of skateboard lessons in relation to inclusion at skateboard spaces. Based on 2 years of participant observation working with the delivery team for a recently built multi-use skate space in East London, I suggest that activation events such as ‘jams’, lessons, and workshops can provide opportunities for those who may have experienced barriers to participation in skateboarding to both learn and challenge the tacit knowledges which govern participants’ access to skate spaces. This learning process is, in part, one of deterritorialisation, through which participants enact a sonic pedagogy to explore ways of vibrationally and haptically activating and navigating the materiality of the urban space, whilst negotiating their own sense of belonging within it. Scholars have suggested that skateboarding practice engenders a ‘prefigurative’ politics of equality and inclusion, which is informally sustained and transmitted throughout skateboarding subcultures (O’Connor 2015). This paper works with and against this idea to suggest that whilst the act of learning to skateboard may ‘tune’ its participants to certain values, who has the opportunity to access this tacit, embodied knowledge in the first place is contested. I suggest that skateboarding practice can be understood not only as environmentally grey through its entanglement with the anthropocene, but also as socially grey; what skateboarding is, and who it is for, is constantly being reproduced and reconfigured through participants’ engagement with the built environment. The purpose of this paper is to explore some of the liminal, ‘grey’ moments and spaces within skateboarding out of which these reconfigurations can emerge.

Ben Dixon is a sound artist and anthropologist. He has an MA in Anthropology from Aarhus University and a BA in Social Science from the University of Manchester. Ben is a PhD researcher based in the Educational Studies department at Goldsmiths, UoL. Ben has a background in visual ethnography, practice research methods, and lifestyle sports subcultures, having previously done fieldwork with slackline highliners in Scandinavia. His current research

explores the placemaking practices of skateboarders in East London through sound and field recording. He has presented this research in conferences at San Diego State University and Vladimir Film Festival (Croatia), as well as giving guest lectures on sound and practice research in the Design departments at both Goldsmiths and Northeastern University London.

Rooftop Exploration and the Creation of Alternative Spaces in St Petersburg

Abi Karas, University of Nottingham, UK

Abstract:

This paper investigates the ways in which power relations organize and structure urban public space and privilege certain behaviors, while marginalizing others, and how these structures are challenged and resisted by young people through the creation of alternative spaces on the city's rooftops. It examines the activity of 'roofing' in St Petersburg, a popular youth culture practice of urban exploration whereby practitioners gain access to the city's roofs through courtyards, stairwells and, in extreme cases, freeclimbing. St Petersburg, perhaps more so than any other Russian city, has become a hub for roofing. This paper investigates the factors that have enabled the widespread flourishing of this activity throughout St Petersburg, despite its illegality. It explores how the rooftops offer a distinctive realm for the youth in modern-day St Petersburg to defy authority, reestablish their rights to the city, and counteract the escalating social, economic, and political control that has come to define Russia's public sphere during Putin's reign.

Abigail Karas completed her DPhil *On Top of the City: Rooftops, Rights to Space and the Fight for St Petersburg's Panoramas* at the University of Oxford in 2022 and defended her thesis with no corrections. Her research looks at the interaction between urban space and local identity in Russia and Moldova, material culture and anthropology of the built environment, with a focus on cities. She was awarded the 2022 Emerging Scholar Prize by the Society for Society of Historians of East European, Eurasian, and Russian Art and Architecture. Her work is cross-disciplinary, drawing predominantly from anthropology, urban history, and cultural studies. She is a Teaching Associate at the University of Nottingham and has previously taught at Liverpool John Moores University and the School of Slavonic and East European Studies, University College London and worked on module development for the University of Plymouth.

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